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TO PRIORITY FCO  
ELNO 537 OF 17 DECEMBER  
INFO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO SANTIAGO BRASILIA WASHINGTON  
UKMIS NEW YORK CIVIL COMMISSIONER PORT STANLEY

PRESS SUMMARY

1. YESTERDAY'S MULTIPARTIDARIA-ORGANISED MARCH DOMINATES TODAY'S FRONT PAGES TO THE VIRTUAL EXCLUSION OF ANY OTHER NEWS. THE PRESS AND MARCH ORGANISERS AGREE ON AN ESTIMATED 100,000 PLUS ATTENDANCE (THE POLICE AN UNREALISTIC 25,000) FOR THE RALLY, WHICH WAS MARRIED BY VIOLENCE IN ITS FINAL STAGES. ONE DEMONSTRATOR WAS KILLED BY AN UNIDENTIFIED GUNMAN, DOZENS, INCLUDING POLICE, WERE INJURED AND MORE THAN 100 WERE DETAINED. THE GOVERNMENT HAS BLAMED LEFT WING AGITATORS FOR THE VIOLENCE AND STATED THE EPISODE DOES NOT AFFECT THEIR AIM TO BRING THE COUNTRY TO DEMOCRACY. LATE LAST NIGHT THE MULTIPARTIDARIA ISSUED A DOCUMENT PLACING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLASHES ON THE GOVERNMENT AND DEMANDING AN INVESTIGATION INTO POLICE REPRESSION. SOME VIOLENCE WAS EXPECTED AND LEFT WING PERONIST YOUTH ELEMENTS SEEM TO HAVE BEGUN IT AND PROVOKED READY RETALIATION. WE SHALL SEE MORE OF THE SAME.

2. THE MILITARY JUNTA YESTERDAY DECIDED TO ASK THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS TO ENSURE THE RULES OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION WERE ADHERED TO CONCERNING ARGENTINE DEADS ON THE FALKLANDS. MEANWHILE THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES WILL CONSULT WITH RELATIVES TO DISCOVER THEIR WISHES OVER THE REPATRIATION AND BURIAL. THE JUNTA ALSO DISCUSSED THE EXTERNAL DEBT AND THE MULTIPARTIDARIA'S MARCH.

Joy  
POWELL-JONES

( Repetition to PORT STANLEY  
referred for departmental decision,  
repeated as requested to other posts. )

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