

FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (ADVANCES)

39

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/MR RIFKIND
PS/PUS
SIR J BULLARD
SIR I SINCLAIR
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
LORD N G LENNOX
MR EVANS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

HD/PUSD (2)
HD/SAMD
HD/FID
HD/DEFENCE DEPT
HD/NEWS DEPT
HD/ERD
HD/ECD(E)
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (3)
PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD

PS/CHANCELLOR)
MR ILETT) TREASURY |
MR LITTLER)

SIR R ARMSTRONG)
MR A D S GOODALL) CABINET OFFICE
DIO)

MR M A PATTISON, FID, ODA

MR A TITCHENER)
MR C U ROBERTS, IAT) DOT

RESIDENT CLERK

ADVANCE COPY

UNCLASSIFIED

(F BERNE 151110Z)

FM BIS BUENOS AIRES
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 124 OF 14 MARCH
AND TO IMMEDIATE MOD
INFO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO SANTIAGO BRASILIA CARACAS WASHINGTON
UKMIS NEW YORK CIVIL COMMISSIONER PORT STANLEY

PRESS SUMMARY

1. CRITICAL COMMENT ON BIGNONE'S PERFORMANCE AT THE NAM SUMMIT CONTINUED OVER THE WEEK-END INCLUDING AN UNUSUALLY OUTSPOKEN LEADING EDITORIAL IN THE SOMEWHAT SYCHOPHANTIC LA NACION EXPRESSING SERIOUS CONCERN AT THE APPARENT ABOUT -TURN IN ARGENTINA'S FOREIGN POLICY. BIGNONE DEFENDED HIMSELF IN STATEMENTS MADE DURING STOPOVERS IN NAIROBI AND KINSHASA DURING HIS RETURN JOURNEY AND IN A PRESS CONFERENCE ON ARRIVAL AT EZEIZA LAST NIGHT, INSISTING THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN FOREIGN POLICY AND THE JUNTA KNEW IN ADVANCE THE CONTENTS OF HIS SPEECH. NONETHELESS MEDIA DOUBTS PERSIST. BIGNONE ALSO REFERRED IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE TO THE STATE OF HOSTILITIES WITH BRITAIN QUOTE HOSTILITIES WITH GREAT BRITAIN HAVE ENDED DE FACTO, AS THEY BEGAN. NO FORMAL DECLARATION BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IS NECESSARY. UNQUOTE.

2. THE GOVERNMENT CONFISCATED THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE QUORUM ON FRIDAY, WHICH WAS DEVOTED TO A HIGHLY CRITICAL ARTICLE ON QUOTE THE NAVY MECHANICAL SCHOOL 75 TO 78: THE HOT YEARS UNQUOTE. EDITOR JOSE PALOZZI TOOK REFUGE IN THE ITALIAN EMBASSY WHENCE HE WAS ASSISTED BY THE AUTHORITIES TO LEAVE FOR ROME.

~~WHENCE HE WAS ASSISTED BY THE AUTHORITIES TO LEAVE FOR ROME.~~

3. ECONOMY MINISTER WEHBE DISCUSSED THE ECONOMY WITH ARMY COMMANDER NICOLAIDES ON FRIDAY AND THE SATURDAY PAPERS REPORTED THE JUNTA WAS DEMANDING A CHANGE IN ECONOMIC POLICY, PARTICULARLY A REDUCTION IN INTEREST RATES. SIMULTANEOUSLY, LA PRENSA PUBLISHED THE FULL TEXT OF THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT'S MEMORANDUM TO THE IMF, OBTAINED, ACCORDING TO IGLESIAS ROUCO, FROM SOURCES ABROAD SINCE THE ECONOMY MINISTRY HAS REFUSED TO SUPPLY IT. AMBITO FINANCIERO TODAY SUGGESTS THE NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES WILL INCLUDE : PRICE LIMITS, A PRICES AND INCOMES AGREEMENT, SUBSIDIZED INTEREST RATES, PAY INCREASE, GREATER CONTROL OVER MARKETING OF FOOD PRODUCTS AND A NEW LAW PROMOTING EXPORTS : ALL AIMED TO SNATCH THE INITIATIVE IN ECONOMIC POLICY-MAKING FROM THE MULTIPARTIDARIA (FIVE - PARTY GROUPING).

4. LA PRENSA TODAY PUBLISHES A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FATHERS AND RELATIVES OF SERVICEMEN MISSING IN THE FALKLANDS, ISAIAS GIMENEZ (TRANSLATION BY BAG TO FCO). GIMENEZ LEAVES THIS WEEK FOR A TOUR OF EUROPEAN CAPITALS WITH FOUR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES: GONZALES, LEGAL ADVISOR, DR. JUAN CARLOS LEGASCUE, DR. JULIO MIGUEL MUNICOY, MEDICAL DOCTOR, AND JOSE MARIA DEL HIERRO, TO BRING PRESSURE UPON BRITAIN TO RELEASE MORE FACTS ABOUT MISSING ARGENTINE SERVICEMEN.. GIMENEZ SAID THE EUROPEAN TRIP IS FINANCED BY FUNDS COLLECTED FROM SERVICEMEN'S FAMILIES AND A CONTRIBUTION FROM THE ARGENTINE ARMY, BUT NOT THE AIRFORCE OR NAVY.

5. WITH BIGNONE'S RETURN AND A DEEPENING ECONOMIC CRISIS, WE ARE STARTING ON YET ANOTHER POSSIBLY CRUCIAL WEEK IN ARGENTINA'S CURRENT HISTORY. AS THE PARANA FLOOD WATERS APPROACH THE RIVER PLATE SO THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PICTURE DARKENS ALSO.

JOY

POWELL-JONES