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TO IMMEDIATE FCO DESKBY 050900Z APR  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 29 OF 1 APRIL

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

1. FOLLOWING IS A TRANSLATION OF A DECLARATION UNDER THE SIGNATURE OF JORGE E ILLUECA, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHICH APPEARED IN TODAY'S PRESS:

OPEN QUOTES - BEGINS

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA RECOGNISES THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC OVER THE MALVINAS, INCLUDING THE ISLANDS OF SOUTH GEORGIA AND SOUTH SANDWICH AND REAFFIRMS ITS POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ARGENTINE REVINDICATION ALREADY EXPRESSED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC, DOCTOR ARISTIDES ROYO, BEFORE THE XXXVI GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS.



THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT SHARES THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY THE INTER-AMERICAN JURIDICAL COMMITTEE OF 1976 DECLARING THAT THE ARGENTINE HOLDS SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE MALVINAS AND THAT, IN ITS JUDGEMENT, WHAT REMAINED TO BE RESOLVED WAS THE PROCEDURE ENGLAND (SIC) MUST FOLLOW IN ORDER TO RESTORE THE TERRITORY OF THE SAID ISLANDS TO THE ARGENTINE.

THE UNITED NATIONS' DECLARATION ON DECOLONISATION AND THE PRONOUNCEMENTS OF THE CONFERENCES OF THE HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES CONFIRM THE FULL INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND THE SOLID LEGAL AND POLITICAL BASIS FOR THE ARGENTINE CLAIM.

THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, PANAMA AMONGST THEM, CANNOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO AN ANACHRONISTIC COLONIAL SITUATION THAT HAS NO RIGHT TO PERSIST IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD BECAUSE IT IS DAMAGING TO THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND THE DIGNITY OF THE ARGENTINE NATION. THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT CHERISHES THE HOPE THAT IN KEEPING WITH RESOLUTION 2065 (XX) OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL REACH NEGOTIATED FORMULAS WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT FOR THE PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE QUESTION OF THE MALVINAS.

THE DECISION OF THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT TO GIVE ITS FULL SUPPORT TO THE RESTORATION OF ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE MALVINAS HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMANDER AND GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES.

CLOSE QUOTES - ENDS

2. THE COMMUNIQUE HAS NOT BEEN COMMUNICATED TO ME OFFICIALLY.

STEPHENSON

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