

SECRET

FALKLAND ISLANDS: FCO SITREP: 0730 HOURS, 30 APRIL, 1982

ARGENTINA

1. On 29 April, the Argentine Government announced that with immediate effect Argentina would enforce a 200 mile exclusion zone against British shipping and aircraft. The zone is to extend from the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, the Sandwich Islands and the Argentine mainland.

UNITED STATES

2. There have been a number of communications between Mr Haig and London. Sr Costa Mendez has informed Mr Haig that the US proposals fall short of Argentine demands and are unsatisfactory. Mr Haig's announcement of the failure of his mediation is expected at 1200 hours Washington time today.

3. A consignment of US arms for Argentina has been held up by the Customs at San Francisco.

UN

4. Sir A Parsons reports that on 29 April there was no sign that members of the Security Council were contemplating calling the Council into session; but this might well change when Mr Haig announces the failure of his Mission on 30 April.

5. Argentina has circulated a letter to the Security Council about our TEZ which asserts that HMG cannot invoke the right of defence under Article 51.

6. At the UN Decolonisation Committee Meeting on 29 April, Soviet and Czech. delegates referred to British attempts to perpetuate colonialism in the South Atlantic; our Mission replied in strong terms. Surprisingly neither Cuba nor Venezuela followed up an Argentine attack on us in this Committee.

ICRC

7. The ICRC have made some progress in their discussions with the Argentines and they hope that an ICRC visit to the Falklands will be possible soon.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE MINISTERIAL MEETING

8. The communique issued on 29 April included a reference to the urgent need for the implementation of UNSCR.502.

*E. J. Hughes*  
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Emergency Unit

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