

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(30) + 7 CAB

IMMEDIATE

PS + 6
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

ED/S AM D (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)
ED/DEF D
ED/NEWS D
ED/UND
ED/PLANNING STAFF
MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60
RESIDENT CLERK

PS NO 10 DOWNING ST
PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
PS/CHANCELLOR)
SIR K COUZENS)
MR LITTLER)
MR HAWTIN)
MR PERETZ) TREASURY
MR ILETT)
MR McINTYRE)

MISS DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN
DIO CABINET OFFICE
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE
MR FULLER SAPU/DIO " "

SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE
SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

GR 220

CONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON 302318Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1549 OF 30 APRIL 1982

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

YOUR TELNO 333: FALKLANDS

1. THIS LOOKS TO ME LIKE STANDARD COSTA MENDEZ TACTICS WHICH ARE TO PRETEND THAT THE ARGENTINIANS ARE PREPARED TO WITHDRAW THEIR FORCES AND THEREBY COMPLY WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 502, WHILE THEY ARE IN FACT ONLY PREPARED TO DO SO IF THEY RETAIN A LARGE MEASURE OF DE FACTO CONTROL OVER THE ISLANDS AND THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY IS PRE-JUDGED IN THEIR FAVOUR.

2. THERE IS A NEED TO EXPOSE THESE TACTICS, AND THE FACT THAT COSTA MENDEZ REALLY COUNTS FOR NOTHING IN THIS AFFAIR, THE DECISIONS ARE MADE BY THE JUNTA AND THEY ARE TAKING A DIFFERENT LINE.

3. IN THE COURSE OF BACKGROUND BRIEFING TODAY, HAIG WAS ASKED ABOUT THESE STATEMENTS AND TOOK A SIMILAR VIEW. I UNDERSTAND FROM UKMIS THAT IN ANY CASE KAMANDA APPEARS TO HAVE MISINTERPRETED THE EXTENT TO WHICH COSTA MENDEZ WAS SAYING ANYTHING NEW

THESE STATEMENTS AND TOOK A SIMILAR VIEW. I UNDERSTAND
UKMIS THAT IN ANY CASE KAMANDA APPEARS TO HAVE MISINTERPRETED THE
EXTENT TO WHICH COSTA MENDEZ WAS SAYING ANYTHING NEW.

4. THERE IS ONE FURTHER POINT WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND. HAIG IS VERY
ANXIOUS THAT, ALTHOUGH THE AMERICANS HAVE DECLARED THEMSELVES FIRMLY
ON OUR SIDE, WE SHOULD NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE HAS GIVEN UP
COMPLETELY AND WE ARE SWITCHING TO SOME OTHER NEGOTIATOR. HIS HOPE
IS THAT AS A RESULT OF OUR FURTHER MILITARY PRESSURE, THE MOMENT
WILL COME WHEN IT MAY STILL BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO PLAY A ROLE IN
BRINGING ABOUT AN AGREEMENT WHICH COULD AVOID A FIGHT TO THE FINISH.

HENDERSON

NNNN