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CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY ∅1∅9∅∅Z
FM WASHINGTON 3∅2356Z APR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1555 OF 3∅ APRIL 1982
INFO PRIORITY MODUK

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IMMEDIATE

TELNOS 1553 AND 1554 US MILITARY EXPORTS TO ARGENTINA

1. MINISTER HAS DRAWN THESE POTENTIAL LOOPHOLES TO THE ATTENTION
OF EAGLEBURGER. THOMAS SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD FROM THE MUNITIONS
CONTROL PEOPLE IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT THEY HAD ISSUED
INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE THAT ALL APPLICATIONS FOR
LICENCES FOR EXPORT TO MILITARY END-USERS IN ARGENTINA MUST BE
PASSED TO STATE DEPARTMENT BEFORE APPROVAL. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT
THE STATE DEPARTMENTS INTENTION WAS TO HOLD UP ALL DUAL USE
EQUIPMENT THAT HAD A SERIOUS MILITARY APPLICATION, SUCH AS AERO-
ENGINES. BUT THE POSITION SEEMED LESS CLEAR ABOUT APPARENTLY MORE
INNOCENT-LOOKING ITEMS, SUCH AS GENERAL PURPOSE ELECTRONIC
EQUIPMENT.

2. THOMAS TOLD EAGLEBURGER THAT IF ANYTHING WAS ALLOWED TO GO TO
MILITARY END-USERS IN ARGENTINA IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS

2. THOMAS TOLD EAGLEBURGER THAT IF ANYTHING WAS ALLOWED TO GO TO
MILITARY END-USERS IN ARGENTINA IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS
WOULD BE REGARDED BY US AS A STAB IN THE BACK. EAGLEBURGER FULLY
UNDERSTOOD. EAGLEBURGER HAS NOW GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS THAT ALL SUCH
CASES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO HIM PERSONALLY.

3. WE WILL CONTINUE TO URGE ON THE AMERICANS THAT THEY SHOULD FIND
A MORE SATISFACTORY WAY OF DEALING WITH SUCH EXPORTS. AS SUGGESTED
IN MY TELEGRAM NO 1538 THIS IS SOMETHING YOU MAY LIKE TO RAISE
WITH HAIG WHEN YOU ARE HERE.

HENDERSON

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