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ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

PS +6  
PS/KE HURD  
PS/MR ONSLOW  
PS/PUS  
MR GIFFARD  
MR WRIGHT  
MR ADAMS  
MR URE  
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PS/CHANCELLOR )  
SIR K COUZENS )  
MR LITTLE )  
MR HAFTIN ) TREASURY  
MR PERETZ )  
MR TLETT )  
MR McINTYRE )

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

SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE  
SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

CONFIDENTIAL

FM TOKYO 211300Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 213 OF 21/5/82

AND REPEATED IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON PRIORITY UKVIS NEW YORK,

AND UKREP BRUSSELS.

AND SAYING TO ALL EC POSTS.

1. IN VIEW OF THE SHIFT IN THE AMERICAN POSITION MINISTER THIS MORNING CONTACTED KATO, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN AFFAIRS BUREAU IN THE MFA, AND CLARK, MINISTER AT THE US EMBASSY. WITH KATO WHITEHEAD TOOK THE LINE THAT HE HOPED THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADOPT MEASURES WHICH WOULD BRING THEM INTO LINE WITH THE POSITION OF THE EC, UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES AND WITH CLARK THAT WE HOPED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOW LEAN ON THE JAPANESE TO THIS END. CLARK SUBSEQUENTLY TELEPHONED TO SAY THAT A MESSAGE FROM HAIG HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO SAKURAIUCHI IN TOKYO AT MIDDAY OUR TIME, THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH WAS ALMOST IDENTICAL TO THE PUBLIC STATEMENT MADE BY THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE YESTERDAY (WASHINGTON TELEGRAM NO 1533). THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN NO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WHEN THE MESSAGE WAS PASSED ON( SEE PARAGRAPH 5 BELOW).

2. KATO SUMMONED MINISTER THIS EVENING AFTER ALL DAY DISCUSSIONS IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HE SAID THAT HE HAD JUST BRIEFED THE JAPANESE PRESS ABOUT THE POSITION OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND THE MEASURES WHICH THEY HAD TAKEN. IT WAS CLEAR FROM HIS READING OF THE NOTES FOR THAT BRIEFING THAT HE HAD MADE A STRONG POLITICAL PITCH IN DENOUNCING ARGENTINE AGGRESSION AND CALLING FOR IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL BUT THE SUBSTANCE OF WHAT HE HAD TO SAY AS REGARDS ECONOMIC MEASURES TALLIED ALMOST WORD FOR WORD WITH THE POINTS CONTAINED IN MR SUZUKI'S SECOND MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER (F O O TELEGRAM NO 161). THERE IS NO OFFICIAL TEXT OF KATO'S PRELIMINARY REMARKS TO THE PRESS AND THE LIST OF MEASURES WHICH WERE HANDED OUT TO THE PRESS ARE IN SUBSTANCE IDENTICAL WITH THOSE CONTAINED IN MY TELEGRAM NO 199.

3. WHITEHEAD SAID THAT, WHILE WE WELCOMED THIS PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION, HE THOUGHT THERE WAS BOUND TO BE CONTINUING DISAPPOINTMENT ON THE PART OF HMG AT THE COMPLETE LACK OF FURTHER MOVEMENT ON ECONOMIC MEASURES. THE PROSPECT OF A MILITARY CLASH WAS NOW IMMINENT AND THIS WAS A TIME WHEN WE MUST EARNESTLY LOOK

AND THIS WAS A TYPICAL REACTION TO LIKE-MINDED AND FRIENDLY COUNTRIES FOR SUPPORT AND ABOVE ALL FOR STRONG PRESSURE ON ARGENTINA TO WITHDRAW HER TROOPS. IT HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE ( F O C TELEGRAM NO 162 ) THAT THE MEASURES SO FAR TAKEN BY JAPAN DID NOT YET MATCH UP TO WHAT WE FELT WE COULD EXPECT AND WE WERE THEREFORE DISAPPOINTED.

4. KATO REPLIED THAT HE RECOGNISED THIS BUT THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION YET AGAIN OVER IMPORTS FROM ARGENTINA (HIS LINE ON THIS VACILLATED DURING THE DISCUSSION FROM STATEMENTS THAT "WE CANNOT COMPLY WITH YOUR REQUEST TO RESTRICT IMPORTS; ON SUBSTANCE WE CANNOT GO BEYOND WHAT WE HAVE DONE ALREADY" TO A REMARK THAT "I WOULD NOT SAY IT IS OUT OF THE QUESTION BUT IT IS VERY DIFFICULT"). THE BRIEFING APPEARS TO HAVE CONFUSED THE ISSUE AS FAR AS SOME OF THE PRESS ARE CONCERNED SINCE THE PUBLIC TELEVISION STATION, NHK, IS TAKING THE LINE THAT THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT POSITION ON ECONOMIC MEASURES IS BROADLY IN LINE WITH THAT OF OTHER INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES.

5. THIS WAS NOT A HELPFUL MEETING. IT WAS CLEAR THAT KATO HAD BEEN GIVEN NO LEeway TO MAKE ANY MOVE ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT WHICH SUGGESTS THAT HIS SENIORS IN THE MFA ARE NOT PREPARED TO DO BATTLE WITH ENTRENCHED ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND SUPPORTING LEGALISTIC QUIBBLES FROM OTHER MINISTRIES. KATO TOOK THE POINT THAT WITH POTENTIAL HOSTILITIES IMMINENT THIS WAS A TIME FOR POLITICAL WILL BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT SO FAR THIS WILL DOES NOT EXIST IN THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT ONE FINAL EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY HERE TO TRY TO SHIFT THE JAPANESE FURTHER. IF THIS IS TO BE EFFECTIVE IT WILL HAVE TO BE ON THE BASIS OF SPECIFIC FRESH INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON SINCE THE US EMBASSY HERE APPEAR TO BE STICKING VERY MUCH TO THE BOOK AND HAVE NOT YET STARTED TO PUT ANY PRESSURE ON THE JAPANESE. THE DIFFICULTY OVER SUCH A COURSE IS THAT, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT THE AMERICANS LIKE THE JAPANESE ARE

... THE AMERICANS, LIKE THE JAPANESE, ARE  
TAKING NO ACTION ON IMPORTS FROM ARGENTINA. FAILING  
ON PRESSURE, HOWEVER, WE THINK THAT THE  
PROSPECTS OF MOVING THE JAPANESE FURTHER ARE NOW SLIM.

DO PLEASE PASS ~~SAYING~~ TO ALL EC POSTS.

*Copy to RL*

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