

OO UKREP BRUSSELS

OO BONN

OO PARIS

OO ROME

OO DUBLIN

GRS 300

CONFIDENTIAL

FM COPENHAGEN 131530Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 126 OF 13 MAY

INFO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS, BONN, PARIS, ROME AND DUBLIN

MY TELNO 125: FALKLANDS: EC IMPORT BAN

1. ANOTHER LONG TALK WITH DIRECTOR, MFA, TODAY GAVE LITTLE GROUND TO HOPE THAT THE DANES WILL BE ABLE TO ACCEPT ACTION UNDER ARTICLE 113 ON SUNDAY, EVEN THOUGH THEY WANT THE BAN CONTINUED.

2. ALTHOUGH THEY SURVIVED BOTH THE FOLKETING DEBATE YESTERDAY AND THE FOREIGN POLICY COMMITTEE TODAY WITH THEIR HANDS UNTIED, THE MINISTERS CONCERNED HAD A VERY ROUGH RIDE INDEED IN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC GROUP. UP TO 15 LEFT-WING MEMBERS OF THE PARTY (25% OF THE TOTAL) THREATEN TO ABSTAIN TOMORROW EVEN ON THE ENDORSEMENT OF MR OLESEN'S STATEMENT YESTERDAY. IN THE HOPE OF BRINGING THEM INTO LINE, MR OLESEN HAS GIVEN A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS AFTERNOON, TAKING THE LINE THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT POSITION IS THAT ARTICLE 224 SHOULD BE USED ALSO FOR THE PROLONGATION OF THE ARGENTINE BAN. IN PARALLEL, HE HAS WRITTEN SIMILARLY TO MR TINDEMANS. IT SEEMS THAT MR OLESEN AND THE PRIME MINISTER HAVE BEEN VERY DEPRESSED AT THE EVIDENCE THAT THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP IS OUT OF CONTROL. THE DECISION WHETHER TO REMAIN IN OFFICE MAY WELL TURN ON THEIR SUCCESS IN MUSTERING SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE.

3. I AM ASSURED THAT MR OLESEN FULLY UNDERSTANDS THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FALKLANDS, WHICH I REITERATED FORCEFULLY TO EIGIL JOERGENSEN,

FOR THE FALKLANDS, WHICH I REITERATED FORCEFULLY TO EIGIL JOERGENSEN, AND DOES NOT (NOT) WANT TO PREVENT THE RENEWAL OF THE BAN. IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT HE WILL SEEK TO USE HIS FLEXIBILITY HELPFULLY, WITHIN LIMITS, E.G. BY ACCEPTING 14 DAY PROLONGATION (THE PREFERRED WORD) TO ALLOW NATIONAL ACTION UNDER ARTICLE 224 (PRESUMABLY WE COULD THEN PROPOSE A MONTH, BUT THIS MIGHT PROVE TOO LONG FOR HIM).

4. IT DOES NOT SEEM THAT ANY FURTHER APPROACH TO DANISH MINISTERS OR OTHER PARLIAMENTARIANS IS LIKELY TO HELP IN WHAT FOR THEM REMAINS FIRST AND FOREMOST A DOMESTIC PROBLEM. NEWS OF PROGRESS IN THE UN WOULD BE THE BEST HELP. I WILL CONSULT JOERGENSEN AGAIN AFTER TOMORROW'S VOTE AND REPORT FURTHER IF THERE IS ANYTHING TO ADD.

WARBURTON

NNNN

SENT AT 13/1606Z JK

LETTER TO WASHINGTON
IN WASHINGTON
BY AIRMAIL
ON 13/1606Z JK