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CONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON 141800Z MAY 82  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1756 OF 14 MAY  
INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

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7-5

ACTION

FALKLANDS

1. EAGLEBURGER HAS GIVEN ME, CONFIDENTIALLY, THE TEXT OF A MEMORANDUM WRITTEN BY MIDDENDORF, THE US AMBASSADOR TO THE OAS, RECORDING A CONVERSATION WITH THE ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO THE US ON MAY 11. THIS READS AS FOLLOWS:

TAKACS CALLED ME THIS MORNING AFTER, HE SAID TRYING UNSUCCESSFULLY TO REACH ME AT HOME LAST NIGHT. HE SAID THAT FOLLOWING A CONVERSATION HE HAD WITH DICK WALTERS MONDAY HE WAS AFRAID THE DEPARTMENT MISUNDERSTOOD THE GOA'S NEGOTIATING POSITION. THEREFORE, TAKACS SAID HE WANTED TO EMPHASIZE THAT THERE HAS BEEN A DEFINITE ARGENTINE CHANGE— ARGENTINA HAS DELIBERATELY DE-LINKED THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE FROM THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND HE ASKED THAT I PASS THIS MESSAGE ON. HE SAID THIS DE-LINKAGE WAS A MAJOR CONCESSION SINCE THE ARGENTINE PUBLIC FEELS STRONGLY THAT "NOBODY SHOULD TAKE US OUT OF OUR ISLANDS." TAKACS ADDED THAT HE FEELS WITH THIS DISPLAY OF ARGENTINE FLEXIBILITY THE BALL IS NOW IN THE BRITISH COURT. (I POINTED OUT TO TAKACS MY IMPRESSION THAT THE BRITISH ALSO HAD DISPLAYED FLEXIBILITY ON THE ISSUE OF THE FUTURE OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE ISLANDS.)

COMMENT: (WHILE TAKACS CLEARLY WANTED TO PORTRAY TO ME A FLEXIBLE GOA, PROBABLY IN HOPES WE WOULD PRESSURE THE BRITISH, HE ALSO SEEMED GENUINELY FEARFUL THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS MISREADING ARGENTINA ON THIS SCORE. AT LUNCH, MONDAY, MAY 18, WITH GOA OAS AMBASSADOR QUIJANO, I WAS THE RECIPIENT OF MUCH THE SAME MESSAGE. QUIJANO TOLD ME COSTA MENDEZ HAD CALLED HIM SATURDAY THE 8TH, TO ASK HIS VIEW ON WHAT SORT OF INSTRUCTIONS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ROS SHOULD HAVE FOR THE UN. QUIJANO SAID HE HAD TOLD COSTA MENDEZ THAT ROS SHOULD NOT BOTHER WITH THE UN UNLESS HE WAS ABLE TO PRESENT A REAL SEA CHANGE IN THE ARGENTINA POSITION, DE-LINKING SOVEREIGNTY FROM NEGOTIATIONS. QUIJANO TOLD ME HE STRONGLY BELIEVES THIS IS NOW THE GOA'S POSITION. I HAVE POLITELY REFRAINED FROM ASKING EITHER FOR ASSURANCES THAT THE JUNTA IS FIRMLY ON BOARD WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY



I HAVE POLITELY REFRAINED FROM ASKING EITHER FOR ASSURANCES THAT THE JUNTA IS FIRMLY ON BOARD WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY BUT I WOULD ADD THAT BOTH MEN, SO FAR AS I CAN RECALL, HAVE BEEN VERY STRIGHT WITH ME.)

ON OTHER RELATED SUBJECTS, TAKACS:

- THOUGHT IT A HOPEFUL SIGN THAT NEGOTIATIONS AT THE UN NOW ARE IN THEIR THIRD DAY:
- EXPECTS A CEASE-FIRE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE WEEKEND:
- SAID HENRY KISSINGER WAS TO MEET PYM TODAY TO URGE THE UK TO YIELD ON THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE:
- REPORTED THE GARCIA BUSTILLOS-HEADED VENEZUELAN DELEGATION IN BUENOS AIRES WILL OFFER MILITARY AID — BUT NOT TROOPS BECAUSE THE GOA HASN'T ASKED:
- STRESSED THAT ARGENTINA DOESNT WANT TO INTERNAIONALIZE THE WAR, SAYING, QUOTE AS YOU KNOW, WE'VE HAD OFFERS FROM OTHERS WHICH WE HAVE TURNED DOWN UNQUOTE
- SUGGESTED, THAT AS A SIGNAL TO THE LATINS THAT WE WISH TO AVERT THE GROWING BUILDUP OF ANIMUS AGAINST US, THAT THE US SEEK SOMEHOW TO RETURN TO A NEUTRAL POSITION BEFORE AN ACTUAL SETTLEMENT IS COMPLETED— QUOTE EVEN IF SUCH A RETURN TAKES PLACE ONLY FIVE MINUTES BEFORE ANNOUCEMENT OF A SETTLEMENT UNQUOTE
- EMPHASIZED (AS QUIJANO ALSO HAS DONE) THE NEED TO LOOK BEYOND THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM TO WAYS TO RE-BUILD HEMISPHERIC SOLIDARITY.

RETURNING TO THE PRESENT STATE OF HOSTILITIES AND PROSPECTS FOR A CEASE-FIRE, TAKACS CCLAIMED THE GOA HAS BEEN OBSERVING A CEASE-FIRE FOR SOMETIME— THAT THE ACTION AGAINST THE SHEFFIELD WAS ONLY IN RETALIATION FOR THE BELGRANO. HE ALSO SAID THAT CONTINUED BRITISH SHEELLING COULD BE A DISASTER, PROVOKING AN ESCALATION IN HOSTILITIES. HE SAID THUS FAR TEN ISLANDERS HAD BEEN KILLED; MANY MORE WERE IN PERIL IF THE BRITISH DO NOT STOP. HE SAID HE WAS VERY SVEPTICAL THAT BY CONTINUOUS SPELLING THE UK IMPROVES CHANCES FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT ALTHOUGH NO DOUBT THE BRITISH HAVE A DIFFERENT VIEWPOINT. HE SAID THAT IF NEGOTIATIONS GO ON OVER THE NEXT WEEK OR LONGER AND THE BRITISH AT THE SAME TIME SHOW NO



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SIGNS OF HALTING, HE WOULD HOPE THE US WOULD WEIGH IN AND ASK  
THE UK TO STOP.

HENDERSON

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THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT THE  
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING  
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