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21 MAY 1982

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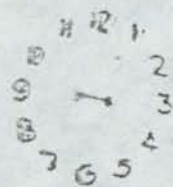
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FM UKMIS NEW YORK 200113Z MAY 82

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 792 OF 19 MAY

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON



FALKLANDS: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S INITIATIVE

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOLLOWING THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL THIS EVENING (19 MAY) (SEE MY TEL NO 792):

" I MUST STATE THAT WE ARE AT A VERY DANGEROUS POINT IN THE EFFORTS FOR AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE UK. THE TIME LEFT FOR NEGOTIATIONS MUST NOW BE MEASURED IN HOURS. IN MY JUDGEMENT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE OVER THE PAST TWO WEEKS. THIS WILL BE LOST IF THE PRESENT OPPORTUNITY FOR NEGOTIATIONS DISAPPEARS. I HAVE SUGGESTED CERTAIN IDEAS WHICH I BELIEVE MIGHT BE OF ASSISTANCE IN OVERCOMING THE REMAINING POINTS OF DIFFERENCE.

THIS AFTERNOON, I HAVE SPOKEN TO BOTH PRESIDENT GALTIERI AND PRIME MINISTER THATCHER TO EXPRESS MY VIEWS AND MY VERY GREAT CONCERN. THE COST OF FAILURE IN TERMS OF HUMAN LIFE AND SUFFERING IS TOO HIGH TO PERMIT US TO GIVE UP OUR EFFORTS.

AT THIS DECISIVE MOMENT, THE LAST URGENT EFFORT IS NEEDED TO REACH THE ACCOMMODATION NECESSARY FOR A REASONABLE SETTLEMENT. I AM PERSUADED THAT THIS CAN BE DONE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE RIGHTS, CLAIMS OR POSITION OF EITHER PARTY. WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK FOR PEACE WITHOUT JEOPARDY TO PRINCIPLE."

PARSONS