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MIPT: FALKLANDS: BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF TEXT REFERRED TO IN MIPT.

BEGINS

THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED AT THE ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN PRESSING FORWARD TO A MILITARY SOLUTION WHICH WOULD IMPLY A HUMILIATING DEFEAT FOR ARGENTINA.

THIS ATTITUDE CREATES A SITUATION WHICH AGGRAVATES, IN AN UNPREDICTABLE MANNER, THE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES OF THE CRISIS IN INTERNAL TERMS IN ARGENTINA AND IN ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR LATIN AMERICA, FOR THE RELATIONS OF THE LATTER WITH THE UNITED STATES AND FOR THOSE WITH THE WESTERN WORLD. IN THESE CONDITIONS,

STATES AND FOR THOSE WITH THE WESTERN WORLD. IN THESE CONDITIONS, THERE WILL INEVITABLY BE A SERIOUS DESTABILISATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION IN ARGENTINA, PROBABLY ACCOMPANIED BY A RADICALISATION WHICH COULD AFFECT THE MOST VULNERABLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

THE STATEMENTS OF DEFENCE MINISTER AMADEO FRUGOLI AND THE MESSAGE SENT BY PRESIDENT GALTIERI TO PRESIDENT REAGAN INDICATE THAT THE RISKS FLOWING FROM THE GROWING ARGENTINE PERCEPTION THAT ITS TRUE FRIENDS AND ALLIES ARE THE SOVIET UNION, CUBA AND NICARAGUA SHOULD NOT BE UNDER-ESTIMATED. WE HAVE REASONS, BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM BUENOS AIRES, TO BELIEVE THAT THERE MAY ALREADY EXIST A DECISION OF THE JUNTA IN FAVOUR OF RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION, IN THE EVENT THAT THE CONFLICT, AS IT EVOLVES, CONTINUES TO PUSH THE ARGENTINES INTO A CORNER FROM THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY POINT OF VIEW

SUCH A PROBABILITY IS DIRECTLY CONTRARY TO THE PARTICULAR INTERESTS OF BRAZIL AND TO THE GENERAL INTERESTS OF THE WEST, WHICH INCLUDES GREAT BRITAIN HERSELF.

LIKEWISE, FROM THE BRITISH POINT OF VIEW IT SEEMS TO US THAT THE DANGER EXISTS, IN THE EVENT OF ARGENTINE/SOVIET MILITARY COLLABORATION (EVEN IF IT WERE RESTRICTED TO LOGISTIC SUPPORT AND THE PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT) THAT THE CONFLICT WILL CONTINUE - ALBEIT WITH LATENT MILITARY POSSIBILITIES - EVEN IN THE HYPOTHESIS OF A TOTAL DEFEAT OF THE ARGENTINE TROOPS ON THE ISLANDS. IN THIS EVENTUALITY, THE BRITISH WOULD BE OBLIGED TO MAINTAIN PERMANENTLY A COSTLY MILITARY APPARATUS IN THE ARCHIPELAGO, WITH THE RISK OF EVENTUAL HUMAN AND MATERIAL LOSSES, INCLUDING AMONG THE LOCAL CIVIL POPULATION. THERE IS, MOREOVER, THE ADDITIONAL DANGER OF AN ESCALATION WITH UTTERLY DISASTROUS RESULTS IN THE EVENT THAT THE UK DECIDES TO RIPOSTE BY ATTACKING THE CONTINENTAL BASES OF THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE.

ALARMING THOUGH THEY MAY BE, SUCH HYPOTHESES ARE IN NO WAY EXAGGERATED, SINCE THEIR PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY MENTIONED IN STATEMENTS BY THE HIGHEST ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES.

THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT HOPES, THEREFORE, THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, IN THE LIGHT OF THE VERY FAR-REACHING INTERESTS WHICH URGE US, WILL BE ABLE TO ACT WITH NECESSARY SPEED IN ORDER TO AVOID SUCH A SITUATION COMING TO PASS, AND TO ADOPT A POLITICAL

UNITE US, WILL BE ABLE TO ACT WITH NECESSARY SPEED IN ORDER
TO AVOID SUCH A SITUATION COMING TO PASS, AND TO ADOPT A POLITICAL
AND NEGOTIATING STANCE WHICH WOULD PERMIT AN HONOURABLE AND
REASONABLE SOLUTION TO THE PRESENT CRISIS.
ENDS.

HARDING

MINN

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