

CONFIDENTIAL

FM THE HAGUE 181327Z JUN 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 168 OF 18 JUNE

TO IMMEDIATE UKREP BRUSSELS AND LUXEMBOURG
INFO SAVING OTHER EC POSTS

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ACTION COPY

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. I TOOK VAN WALSUM, DIRECTOR FOR WESTERN HEMISPHERE AT THE MFA, THROUGH THE POINTS SET OUT IN PARA 1 OF YOUR TELNO 153 TO BRUSSELS THIS MORNING. HE STRESSED THAT THOSE IN (I) AND (III) WERE PARTICULARLY WELCOME TO THE DUTCH. I ASKED THAT THE POINTS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF DUTCH MINISTERS, IN PARTICULAR OF WHOEVER WOULD BE REPRESENTING THE NETHERLANDS AT THE COUNCIL ON 21/22 JUNE (ALMOST CERTAINLY VAN AGT). VAN WALSUM UNDERTOOK TO ENSURE THAT THIS WAS DONE.
2. I ASKED VAN WALSUM ABOUT REPORTS IN THIS MORNING'S PRESS THAT THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT WANTED COMMUNITY SANCTIONS AGAINST ARGENTINA LIFTED NOW THAT THE FALKLANDS WERE AGAIN UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION. VAN WALSUM SAID THAT THESE REPORTS CORRECTLY REFLECTED THE DUTCH ATTITUDE. THEY WERE IN LINE WITH WHAT VAN AGT HAD TOLD THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE SECOND CHAMBER ON 17 JUNE, AND WITH DUTCH MESSAGES TO PARTNERS SENT ON THE COREU NET-WORK EG CPE BIL ETR 266 OF 17 JUNE. THE BACKGROUND WAS THAT THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT WAS UNDER VERY STRONG PRESSURE BOTH FROM INDUSTRY AND IN PARLIAMENT TO ENSURE SANCTIONS WERE LIFTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SHOULD ARGENTINA UNEXPECTEDLY RESUME HOSTILITIES, "A NEW SITUATION WOULD ARISE".
3. VAN WALSUM ADDED THAT A FURTHER FACTOR WAS THE CONCERN THE DUTCH FELT ABOUT THE TOUGH ATTITUDE THEY BELIEVED THE UK WAS NOW TAKING IN RULING OUT NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT THE ISLANDS' FUTURE EXCEPT WITH THE ISLANDERS THEMSELVES. AN ARGUMENT ON THIS POINT LED VAN WALSUM TO STRESS THAT THE CONCERN FELT BY THE DUTCH ORIGINATED WITH VAN AGT. I SUGGESTED THAT THAT MADE IT THE MORE IMPORTANT THAT HE SHOULD HIMSELF ATTEND THE COUNCIL ON 21/22 JUNE WHEN YOU WOULD NO DOUBT WISH TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL TO YOUR COLLEAGUES THE BACKGROUND TO OUR THINKING.
4. I ALSO TOOK UP WITH VAN WALSUM THE QUESTION OF FUTURE ARMS SUPPLIES FOR ARGENTINA (YOUR TELNO 373 TO PARIS). VAN WALSUM TOOK CAREFUL NOTE. HE AGREED THAT THE QUESTION OF ARMS EMBARGOES WAS DISTINCT FROM THAT OF SANCTIONS. THERE WAS NO REASON AT THIS

CAREFUL NOTE. HE AGREED THAT THE QUESTION OF ARMS EMBARGOES
WAS DISTINCT FROM THAT OF SANCTIONS. THERE WAS NO REASON AT THIS
STAGE FOR THE DUTCH TO CHANGE THEIR PREVIOUS POLICY.

FCO PLEASE PASS TO SAVING ADDRESSEES.

HERVEY

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SENT AT 18/1401Z AW