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OO PARIS
FM FCOLN TO PARIS
191500Z SEP
GRS 589

RESTRICTED
FM FCO
TO IMMEDIATE PARIS
TELNO 495

OF 191500Z SEPTEMBER 85

AND TO OTHER EC POSTS, WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, BISBA,
PORT STANLEY, BERNE, OTTAWA, CANBERRA, WELLINGTON, LISBON,
MADRID, OSLO, STOCKHOLM, HELSINKI, BRASILIA, MONTEVIDEO,
SANTIAGO, ASUNCION, LA PAZ, LIMA, QUITO, BOGOTA, CARACAS, SAO
PAULO, MEXICO CITY, BRIDGETOWN, PORT OF SPAIN, KINGSTON,
GEORGETOWN, NASSAU.

PARIS TELNO 763: MEETING BETWEEN MR KINNOCK AND PRESIDENT
ALFONSIN

1. TUR (NOW REPEATED) REPORTED MR KINNOCK'S MEETING WITH
PRESIDENT ALFONSIN IN PARIS ON 18 SEPTEMBER. FOLLOWING IS LINE
NEWS DEPARTMENT ARE TAKING IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS. (PARAS 9 AND
10 FOR DEFENSIVE USE ONLY).
2. THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE SOUNDS PLAUSIBLE AND MAKES THE PROBLEM
LOOK EASY. BUT MR KINNOCK HAS MADE ALL THE CONCESSIONS: THE
ARGENTINES HAVE MADE NO MOVEMENT AT ALL.
3. WHILE SEEKING MORE NORMAL RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA, HMG'S
POLICY THROUGHOUT HAS BEEN TO FULFIL OUR COMMITMENTS TO THE
ISLANDERS, AND IN PARTICULAR, THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION,
A POLICY PURSUED BY SUCCESSIVE BRITISH GOVERNMENTS. IT IS THIS
RIGHT THAT THE ARGENTINES HAVE STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO RECOGNISE.
4. MR KINNOCK AND PRESIDENT ALFONSIN SPOKE OF GUARANTEES FOR THE
ISLANDERS, AND REFERRED TO THE RIGHTS AVAILABLE UNDER THE

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DEMOCRATIC ARGENTINE CONSTITUTION. THE RELEVANCE OF THIS TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS CAN ONLY BE THAT MR KINNOCK AND PRESIDENT ALFONSIN ASSUME THAT THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS WILL COME UNDER ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY. IF SOVEREIGNTY IS CONCEDED IT IS EASY TO DO A DEAL.

5. IN THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE, NO REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE WISHES OF THE ISLANDERS NOR, ACCORDING TO MR KINNOCK, DID HE EVEN RAISE THIS QUESTION IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT ALFONSIN. HE HAS SINCE REFERRED TO THE WISHES OF THE ISLANDERS ON BBC RADIO. BUT, HOWEVER GOOD PRESIDENT ALFONSIN'S INTENTIONS, IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT THE ISLANDERS TO HAVE MUCH CONFIDENCE IN ARGENTINE GUARANTEES AFTER THE EVENTS OF 1982.

6. SINCE THE CONFLICT, THE GOVERNMENT HAVE TAKEN A SERIES OF INITIATIVES TO RESTORE NORMALITY BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ARGENTINA. SEVERAL OF THESE HAVE NOT EVEN HAD THE COURTESY OF A REPLY FROM THE ARGENTINES: OTHERS HAVE BEEN REJECTED. LAST YEAR AT BERNE, AT OUR INITIATIVE, WE MET THE ARGENTINES TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGING AGENDA. BUT THE ARGENTINES BROKE THE EXPLICIT AGREEMENT REACHED BEFOREHAND ON HOW THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY SHOULD BE HANDLED. THE TALKS WERE DEADLOCKED AS A RESULT.

7. AS FAR AS COMMERCIAL RELATIONS ARE CONCERNED, HMG HAVE MADE ALL THE RUNNING. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ARGENTINE REFUSAL SO FAR TO CO-OPERATE IN THIS FIELD, WE LIFTED UNILATERALLY OUR IMPORT RESTRICTIONS IN JULY. THE ARGENTINES HAVE FAILED TO RECIPROCATE.

8. ON THE QUESTION OF THE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES, WE HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT SUCH A DECLARATION WOULD GIVE A WELCOME IMPETUS TO THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS, BUT WE HAVE NOT SAID THAT IT SHOULD BE A PRE-CONDITION FOR THE FIRST STEPS IN THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION.

SQUARE BRACKET IF ASKED SQUARE BRACKET

9. ANY ANALOGY WITH SUEZ IS MISLEADING. THE BRITISH AND FRENCH ACTION IN 1956 WAS STRICTLY LIMITED IN SCOPE, AND OF A PURELY TEMPORARY NATURE. IT WAS NOT AIMED AT THE SOVEREIGNTY OF EGYPT.

SQUARE BRACKET

IF ASKED ABOUT DECISIONS ON THE FUTURE STATUS OF THE ISLANDS

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SQUARE BRACKET

10. PARLIAMENT REMAINS SOVEREIGN. BUT MINISTERS HAVE ALWAYS MADE CLEAR THEIR VIEW THAT IT WAS 'INCONCEIVABLE FOR PARLIAMENT TO TAKE A DECISION ON SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS'.

HOWE

FALKLAND ISLANDS

LIMITED

FID	NEWS D
DEF D	INFO D
S AM D	PLANNING STAFF
UND	ECON ADVISERS
ERD	RESEARCH D
MAED	PUSD
WIAD	PRU
MCAD	LEGAL ADVISERS
ECD(E)	PS
WED	PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RAISON
PS/MR EGGAR
PS/PUS
SIR W HARDING
MR DEREK THOMAS
MR GOODALL
MR DAVID THOMAS
MR DAUNT
SIR C TICKELL (ODA)
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