SECRET

FM WASHINGTON Ø2ØØ45Z

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELNO 1988 OF 1 JUNE 1982,

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK.



FALKLANDS

- 1. HAIG ASKED ME TO CALL THIS EVENING BEFORE HE SET OFF WITH THE PRESIDENT FOR EUROPE. HE HAD WITH HIM STOESSEL, EAGLEBURGER AND BURT. HE SAID THAT IN HIS ABSENCE, HE WISHED US TO REMAIN IN VERY CLOSE TOUCH WITH EAGLEBURGER ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UN. HE DID NOT EXPECT A RESOLUTION TO COME FORWARD FOR ANOTHER DAY OR TWO. THE ARGENTINIANS WERE STILL PUTTING FORWARD WHOLLY UNREALISTIC REQUIREMENTS FOR A CEASEFIRE, ASKING FOR MUTUAL WITHDRAWAL. BUT HE HOPED THAT WE COULD AGAIN MANOEUVRE, AS WE HAD SO SUCCESSFULLY IN LAST WEEK, TO AVOID A SITUATION IN WHICH WE AND THE AMERICANS WERE ISOLATED IN THE UN.
- 2. IT WAS AS USUAL CLEAR THROUGHOUT THIS CONVERSATION THAT HAIG HAS NO CONFIDENCE WHATEVER IN MRS KIRKPATRICK, WITH WHOM HE HAS JUST HAD ANOTHER MAJOR ROW ON THIS ISSUE, AND FORESEES MORE TROUBLE FROM HER. HE SEEMED UNCERTAIN ALSO ABOUT THE FRENCH: I ENCOURAGED HIM TO SPEAK TO THEM.
- 3. HAIG THOUGHT WE SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO WIN MILITARILY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE QUESTION WAS, HOW, AFTER THE GARRISON HAD SURRENDERED, TO BRING THE CONFLICT TO AN END. I SAID IT SEEMED CLEAR THAT THE ARGENTINIANS ACTUALLY PREFERRED MILITARY DEFEAT TO ANY DIPLOMATIC SETTLEMENT. I ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THEIR PROSPECTS OF CONTINUING WITH AIR ATTACKS WOULD BE MUCH DIMINISHED ONCE WE HAD RECOVERED CONTROL OF THE PORT STANLEY AIRFIELD. HAIG AGREED BUT SAID THE PRESIDENT WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER WAYS OF TRYING TO MEND FENCES WITH LATIN AMERICA AND LIMIT SOVIET OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLOIT THE AFTERMATH OF THE CRISIS. HE SAID AGAIN THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT INDEPENDENCE COULD BE A VIABLE SOLUTION. WE SHOULD BE IN NO DOUBT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S SYMPATHIES WERE FIRMLY WITH US.
- 4. HAIG ADDED IN PARENTHESIS THAT OUT LAST ATTACK ON THE AIRPORT HAD PUT THE ARGENTINIAN RADAR THERE OUT OF ACTION FOR A FEW HOURS: BUT IT WAS NOW BACK IN OPERATION.

HENDERSON

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]

FAIKLAND ISLAND GENERAL

FCO

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

S AM D

FAIRLAND ISLANDS

CABINET OFFICE

