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CINCSO AND CINCLANT ALSO FOR INTAFF

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PRL, PBTS, UK, AR
SUBJECT: BRITISH FALKLANDS ANNOUNCEMENT: NOV. 5:
REACTIONS AND MOOD

2. ~~766~~ SUMMARY. IN A FORCEFUL BUT DISPASSIONATE ADDRESS TO THE NATION NOVEMBER 4, FOMIN CAPUTO EMPHASIZED THAT ARGENTINA REJECTS THE USE OF FORCE IN THE FALKLANDS/MALVINAS DISPUTE, REJECTS BRITISH EFFORTS TO USE MULTILATERAL CONSERVATION MEASURES TO INDUCE SOVEREIGNTY RECOGNITION, AND IS MOVING TO SOLVE SOUTH ATLANTIC OVER-FISHING THROUGH BILATERAL FISHING ACCORDS. THE ADDRESS IS GOOD NEWS ON THE USE OF FORCE, BUT HOLDS OUT LITTLE HOPE ON FUTURE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS NOVEMBER 4, THE ARGENTINE NAVAL CHIEF AGAIN DOWNPLAYED POSSIBILITY OF AGGRESSIVE NAVAL ACTIVITIES, LABOR LEADER UBALDINI ENDORSED STRONGLY THE GOA'S EFFORTS, AND A PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR CLAIMED HE WAS STUDYING POSSIBLE EXPROPRIATION OF BRITISH-OWNED REAL ESTATE IN THAT PROVINCE. CANADIAN EMBASSY HERE PUT OUT A COMMUNIQUE DESCRIBING BRITISH ACTION AS "INOPPORTUNE." OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE NATIONAL MOOD IN ARGENTINA IS THAT PASSIONS HAVE COOLED. THE GOA HAS DIRECTED THE NATION'S EXPECTATIONS TOWARD DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS, AND THE PUBLIC IS WAITING TO SEE WHAT COMES OF THEM.

3. ~~766~~ IN CONVERSATION WITH DCN NOV 5, CHIEF OF BRITISH INTERESTS SECTION (SHARKEY) SAID GOA REACTION TO BRITISH OCTOBER 28 ANNOUNCEMENT HAD BEEN MUCH STRONGER THAN HE HAD EXPECTED. SHARKEY ALSO SAID HMG WOULD NOT ACTUALLY PATROL PORTION OF FISHING ZONE WHERE INCIDENTS WITH ARGENTINE UNITS WOULD BE MOST LIKELY. END SUMMARY.

4. ~~766~~ CAPUTO ADDRESS TO THE NATION.

FOREIGN MINISTER CAPUTO DELIVERED A MAJOR TELEVISION AND RADIO ADDRESS TO THE ARGENTINE NATION THE NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 4 ON THE FALKLANDS/MALVINAS. SPEAKING FORCEFULLY BUT DISPASSIONATELY, AND REFERRING OFTEN TO A MAP OF ARGENTINA AND THE FALKLANDS/MALVINAS, CAPUTO STRESSED THREE POINTS:

-- ARGENTINA REJECTS THE USE OF FORCE. THE GOA WILL NOT YIELD TO "BRITISH AGGRESSION," BUT WILL RESIST PEACEFULLY. CAPUTO CRITICIZED EQUALLY THOSE ARGENTINES WHO WISH TO YIELD TO BRITISH CLAIMS AND THOSE WHO WISH TO RESORT TO FORCE. HE ASSERTED THAT ARGENTINA WOULD PURSUE ITS INTERESTS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES AT THE EC, NAM, OAS, AND UN.

-- THE BRITISH "CONSERVATION MEASURE" IS REALLY ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO FORCE INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE FALKLANDS/MALVINAS. CAPUTO ANALOGIZED THE BRITISH IN THE FALKLANDS/MALVINAS TO A USURPER WHO FIRST SEIZED AN ARGENTINE HOUSE (1833) AND NOW TRIES TO GRAB THE SURROUNDING ARGENTINE GARDEN AS WELL. THOSE WHO WISH TO FISH IN THE FALKLANDS FISHING ZONE AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 1987 MUST, IN ESSENCE, RECOGNIZE BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLANDS. CAPUTO EXPLAINED THAT THE HMG SUPPORT FOR A MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENT ON FISHING UNDER FAD ASPIRES WAS ALSO AN ATTEMPT TO STRENGTHEN BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY CLAIM OVER ISLANDS.

-- ARGENTINA RECOGNIZES OVER-FISHING AS A SOUTH ATLANTIC PROBLEM, BUT IS DEALING WITH THE ISSUE ON IT OWN THROUGH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. THE GOA, CAPUTO ASSERTED, HAD SIGNED BILATERAL ACCORDS WITH THE SOVIET

UNION AND BULGARIA AND PLANNED SIMILAR ACCORDS WITH THE OTHER STATES FISHING SOUTH ATLANTIC WATERS.

5. ~~766~~ NAVAL CHIEF DOWNPLAYS AGGRESSIVE ACTIVITIES.

AT A PRESS ENCOUNTER NOVEMBER 4 AT THE MAR DEL PLATA INTER-AMERICAN NAVAL CONFERENCE, ARGENTINE NAVAL CHIEF ARDRA AGAIN DOWNPLAYED POSSIBILITIES OF AGGRESSIVE NAVAL ACTIVITIES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC. HE CONFIRMED THE ARGENTINE NAVY HAS NO PLANS TO VARY HEAD- (INCREASE) ITS OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES IN THE REGION. BT

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