

FALKLAND ISLANDS : FCO SITREP (DETAILED VERSION): 0700 Hrs 25 MAY

UKMIS New  
York Tels.  
Nos.

U.N.

a) Security Council Debate

A. 836

1. The debate was resumed at 1530Z on 24 May. There were 7 speakers: Uganda, Zaire, Kenya, Laos, Liberia, Greece and China. The Kenyan contribution was magnificent; the other Africans were even-handed, calling for an immediate cease-fire and a new mandate for the Secretary-General. China leaned strongly towards Argentina but was not too bad. It would have been better if Greece had not spoken. The debate will be resumed today when Costa Mendez is to make a major statement. The President has called for informal consultations of the whole Council at 1400Z.

b) Draft Resolutions

B.832(Irish)  
C.833(Panama)  
D.835(Japan)  
E.839  
F.840(Brazil)  
G.842  
H.(NAM)

2. Throughout yesterday draft resolutions appeared from the Irish, Panamanians, Japanese and Brazilians. The last named was in the form of a letter from the Brazilian Foreign Minister to the President of the Security Council. Only the Irish draft has been tabled so far. The non-aligned members led by Uganda, have worked out amendments to the Irish draft, which they claim Panama (reluctantly) and the other Latin American Foreign Ministers, including Costa Mendez, would be prepared to accept.

c) Sir Anthony Parsons' assessment

I. 843

3. Sir Anthony Parsons has already made it widely known that we would have to veto the Irish draft as it stands and has urged the Americans and French to do likewise. The same goes for the Panamanian. The Japanese is far less objectionable; and the Non-Aligned's proposed amendments could possibly offer an acceptable way out of our problems at least for a short time.

H. 844

Sir Anthony has asked for instructions by 1400Z.

EC IMPORT EMBARGO

UKREP Brussels  
Tels. Nos.

J. 2063  
K. and 2076

4. The Foreign Ministers of the Ten meeting in Brussels yesterday agreed to extend the import ban on Argentine goods for an unspecified period until the situation should permit its removal. Ministers converted themselves into a Council to approve the regulation, which will come into force on 25 May. The Italians and Irish maintained their position as

/described

described in their statement of 18 May.

L.  
FCO Tel.No.  
456 to UKREP  
Brussels

U.S. ATTITUDE

Washington  
tels. nos.  
M. 1878  
N. 1881

5. Sir Nicholas Henderson spoke to Secretary of State Haig yesterday as instructed. Haig continued to express concern with the 'long-term issues at stake', but later telephoned Sir Nicholas, 'evidently in an easier frame of mind'. He said that he had had a chat with the President who was 'very solid, more so than those around him.' Haig said that he had sent messages to the Cubans and the 'other party' (Soviet Union?), and was proposing to send a personal message to the Secretary of State.

O. Washington  
telno. 1877

RIO TREATY MEETING

6. Our Embassy in Washington reported that the Argentines were expected to submit a formal note yesterday calling for the Foreign Ministers of the Rio Treaty signatories to reconvene in Washington on Thursday, 27 May to consider further action.

Bogota tels.  
nos.

COLOMBIAN ATTITUDE

P. 124,125  
Q. and 126  
R.

7. The Colombian President told our Ambassador yesterday that he had received a reply from President Galtieri to his message and that he looked forward to receiving the Prime Minister's reply. Our Ambassador has suggested that our reply should open by warmly thanking Turbay for the offer of his Government's assistance.

Montevideo  
tels. nos.

URUGUAYAN ATTITUDE

372 and  
S. 366  
T.

8. Our Ambassador in Montevideo has spoken as instructed to the Uruguayan Foreign Minister. He said that time was fast running out for the negotiation of a ceasefire, there was only one last chance, and that he was very worried about the American attitude. Our Ambassador referred to the strong press statement made by the Minister in which he condemned our invasion of the islands. He claimed that it was not 'all that strong' but that we 'must understand that Uruguay's policy had to take into account fast moving events'.

Tel Aviv tel.  
no. 198

ISRAELI ATTITUDE

U.

9. The Israeli Cabinet adopted a resolution at its meeting on 23 May, reportedly drafted by Prime Minister Begin personally, expressing deep concern with the hostilities and appealing for a ceasefire.

BBC PANORAMA

Minute  
V.

10. BBC Panorama last night carried an interview with Costa Mendez in New York, in which he spoke in standard terms.

/COMMENT

COMMENT

11. The position at the Security Council remains confused with a general reluctance to put forward resolutions which were certain of a British veto. However, a number of resolutions are now around, though only the Irish has yet been formally tabled. As summarised in para 9 of UKMIS New York telno 844, Sir A Parsons needs instructions by 1400Z today on the following:

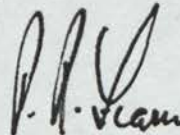
- (a) confirmation that he should vote against the Irish draft with an explanation of vote; ✓
- (b) confirmation that he should vote against the Panamanian draft with an explanation of vote; ✓
- (c) voting instructions on the Japanese draft. Sir A Parsons recommends voting for or against but not abstaining;
- (d) the position to be taken on the Irish draft as amended by the non-aligned (a version containing the NAM amendment, prepared by the Emergency Unit, is attached).

Flag W

12. We also need to consider further action in Paris and Washington to stiffen French and US positions on voting on the drafts.

13. Although Sir N Henderson's further meetings with Mr Haig showed a somewhat more resolute US attitude, the strength of American concerns about their relations with Latin America and about Soviet influence in the region was again firmly underlined. Mr Haig made clear that a US security guarantee for the Falkland Islands could not be expected if there were simply a return to the status quo ante in the Islands. Mr Haig is sending a personal message to the Secretary of State.

14. A meeting of the Rio Treaty states has now been called for 27 May. Mr Haig is particularly concerned that this will lead to a dangerous degree of US isolation in the region: We may need to consider further lobbying of Trinidad and Guyana in advance of the Rio Treaty meeting.



P R Fearn  
Emergency Unit

25 May 1982