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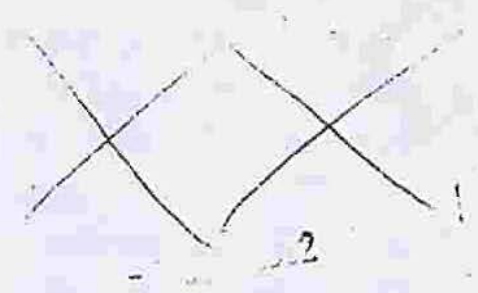
**Se refiere a:**

**01JUN82 2135Z – UKE Washington a FCO.** Lo que ha significado el apoyo de USA.

(PREM 19/633-19/723) (desclasificado diciembre 2012)

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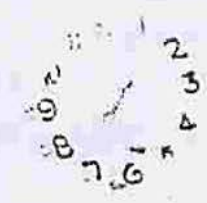
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FM WASHINGTON 012135Z JUN 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1977 OF 1 JUNE

INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK (FOR P/S S OF S AND CD5).

FALKLANDS: WHAT USA SUPPORT HAS MEANT.

1. IT IS NOW A LITTLE MORE THAN A MONTH SINCE THE ADMINISTRATION MADE ITS PUBLIC DECLARATION OF U S SUPPORT IN THE FALKLANDS CRISIS AND PROMISED MATERIEL ASSISTANCE. THE DECISION ANNOUNCED BY HAIG ON 30 APRIL WAS NOT AUTOMATIC GIVEN OTHER U S INTERESTS AT STAKE. AS WILL BE EVIDENT FROM THE ACCOUNTS WE HAVE SENT YOU OF THE DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE U S ADMINISTRATION, IT WAS NOT ARRIVED AT WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. ON THE OTHER SIDE THERE WERE THOSE WHO ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PRESERVATION OF U S RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA; THE NEED TO GIVE THE RUSSIANS AND CUBANS NO OPPORTUNITIES IN THIS HEMISPHERE; THE GENERAL ANTI-WAR SENTIMENT IN THE AFTERMATH OF VIETNAM; AND THE WIDELY HELD VIEW, HOWEVER UNREASONABLE, THAT THE FALKLANDS ARE A QUOTE COLONIAL UNQUOTE PROBLEM. ALL THESE FACTIONS WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THE U S TO CONTINUE TO SIT ON THE FENCE. PRESERVING ITS ROLE AS A MEDIATOR.

2. THE U S ADMINISTRATION HAVING TAKEN ITS DECISION HAS STOOD FIRMLY BY IT, THOUGH MRS KIRKPATRICK AND THE LATIN AMERICAN SPECIALISTS IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE NSC HAVE CONSTANTLY AND MORE OR LESS PUBLICLY QUESTIONED THE WISDOM OF CONTINUING PUBLIC



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AND MORE OR LESS PUBLICLY QUESTIONED THE WISDOM OF CONTINUING PUBLIC  
SUPPORT. U S PUBLIC OPINION WHILE GENERALLY VERY SUPPORTIVE HAS ON  
OCCASIONS SHOWN SOME SIGNS OF WAVERING, WITH CONCERN ABOUT THE LOSS  
OF LIFE AND DAMAGE TO U S INTERESTS. HAIG PUT UP A COURAGEOUS  
PERFORMANCE IN THE OAS LAST WEEK WHERE U S POLICY WAS UNIVERSALLY  
DENOUNCED. THE PRESIDENT HAS REMAINED FIRM IN SUPPORT OF HIS  
DECISION, THOUGH SOME OF THOSE AROUND HIM HAVE NOT. U S SUPPORT  
HAS BEEN ESSENTIALLY ATTRIBUTABLE, HOWEVER TO THE EFFORTS OF HAIG  
AND WEINBERGER.

3. HAIG HAS I REALISE AN EXTREMELY DISCONCERTING TENDENCY TO SHIFT  
HIS POSITION FROM DAY TO DAY. HE IS HYPERACTIVE AND ANXIOUS TO GET  
INTO THE ACT AND EVER READY TO COME UP WITH SOME PLAN. THE  
CONTRADICTIONS WE GET IN HIS THINKING ARE ALSO A FUNCTION OF HIS  
CONCERN TO CONFIDE IN US AT EVERY STAGE, EVEN WHEN HIS IDEAS ARE  
HALF-FORMED.

4. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND IT IS I THINK IMPORTANT TO BEAR IN MIND  
THAT U S ASSISTANCE SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED; THAT IT REQUIRES  
CONSTANT WORKING ON THE U S ADMINISTRATION, CONGRESS AND PUBLIC  
OPINION TO KEEP THEM IN THE RIGHT POSITION; AND THAT ITS VALUE TO  
US IS VERY GREAT.

5. I DO NOT NEED TO GO INTO DETAILS ABOUT THE VALUE OF THE  
INTELLIGENCE COOPERATION WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN, THE FULL EXTENT OF  
WHICH IS WELLKNOWN TO THE JIC. SO FAR AS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES  
ARE CONCERNED, THE AMERICANS HAVE MADE ESPECIALLY AVAILABLE  
SATELLITE COMMUNICATION CHANNELS AT CONSIDERABLE COST TO THEIR OWN  
OPERATIONS, COMMUNICATION SETS FOR OUR SPECIAL FORCES ON THE ISLANDS,  
SECURE SPEECH FACILITIES WITH THE FLEET AND SATELLITE WEATHER  
INFORMATION. SO FAR AS EQUIPMENT IS CONCERNED, WE HAVE OVER THE  
LAST MONTH PROCURED AT LEAST DOLLARS 120 MILLION OF U S MATERIEL  
MADE AVAILABLE AT VERY SHORT NOTICE AND FREQUENTLY FROM STOCKS  
NORMALLY EARMARKED FOR U S OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS. THIS EQUIPMENT  
HAS INCLUDED THE LATEST AIR TO AIR SIDE-WINDER MISSILES URGENTLY  
REQUIRED FOR USE BY THE HARRIERS, THE VULCAN PHALANX ANTI-MISSILE  
GUN SYSTEM FOR HMS ILLUSTRIOUS, 4700 TONS OF AIRSTRIP MATTING FOR  
PORT STANLEY AIRPORT ONCE IT HAS BEEN RECAPTURED, CONVERSION OF THE  
SS STENA INSPECTOR FOR USE AS A REPAIR SHIP IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC,  
SHRIKE MISSILES FOR USE BY THE VULCANS, HELICOPTER ENGINES,  
SUBMARINE DETECTION DEVICES FOR USE BY THE SEA KING HELICOPTERS.



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6. AS YOU KNOW, THE ADMINISTRATION IS ANXIOUS THAT THE DETAILS OF THE HELP THEY HAVE GIVEN SHOULD NOT OFFICIALLY BE MADE PUBLIC, DESPITE THE MANY LEAKS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE. BUT I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE FULL EXTENT OF THEIR ASSISTANCE WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN THE CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN AND HAIG. THEY CERTAINLY FEEL THAT IN TERMS OF PRACTICAL SUPPORT AND IN WAYS THAT REALLY MATTER THEY HAVE, DONE, AS THEY COULD BE EXPECTED TO, A VERY GREAT DEAL TO ASSIST US.

7. F C O PLEASE PASS TO NO. 10 DOWNING ST.

HENDERSON

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