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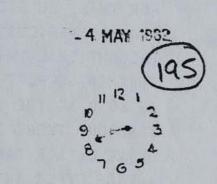
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TELEGRAM NUMBER 652 OF 4 MAY

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INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTO, PARIS, MADRID, DUBLIN, MOSCOW, WARSAW, ACCRA, KINSHASA, KAMPALA, AMMAN, TOKYO, PANAMA CITY, GEORGETOWN, PEKING.

MY TELNO 642: FALKLAND ISLANDS: SECURITY COUNCIL

1. THE IRISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO MOBILISE THE SECURITY COUNCIL (MY TELS NO 645 AND 647, NOT TO ALL) HAS CAUSED SOME CONSTERNATION HERE. THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE VIEW I HAVE PUT FORECFULLY AND REPEATEDLY TO DORR (IRELAND) THAT PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL WOULD BE SO ACRIMONIOUS THAT THEY WOULD EFFECTIVELY KILL THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S INITIATIVE. IN PUTTING FORWARD THIS VIEW, I HAVE STRESSED THAT I AM NOT TRYING TO BLOCK A MEETING BUT RATHER SUGGESTING THAT ITS TIMING SHOULD BE VERY CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT IT WILL NOT CUT ACROSS THE EFFORTS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. OR OTHERS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HIMSELF HOLDS THIS VIEW STRONGLY AND HAS WORKED HARD DURING THE DAY ON DORR AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL. EVEN TROYANOVSKY (USSR) TOLD THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT THE RUSSIANS FAVOURED A MEETING "PROVIDED IT DOES NOT UNDERMINE YOUR EFFORTS''. BUT. AS I FEARED. LING QING HAS FELT OBLIGED TO RESPOND TO THE IRISH REQUEST (WHICH WAS FORMALLY CONVEYED TO HIM IN THE EARLY AFTERNOON) AND HAS CONVENED INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL AT 2000 TOMORROW (5 MAY). 2. IN CONVERSATIONS THIS EVENING WITH DORR, OTUNNU (UGANDA) AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL I HAVE SUGGESTED THAT. NOW THAT SECURITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN LAUNCHED, THE BEST WAY OF MINIMISING THE DAMAGE WOULD BE FOR THE COUNCIL TO CONTINUE TO MEET INFORMALLY (IE IN PRIVATE), HEARING REPORTS FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ABOUT HOW HIS INITIATIVE IS FARING AND

THE COUNCIL COULD TAKE. THERE ARE PLENTY OF RECENT PRECEDENTS
FOR THIS, EG OVER THE US HOSTAGES IN IRAN, THE IRAN/IRAQ WAR
AND, AT VARIOUS TIMES, NAMIBIA. ALL THREE OF MY INTERLOCUTORS
THOUGHT THAL THIS WAS A GOOD IDEA. I SHALL TRY TO MUSTER
FURTHER SUPPORT FOR IT BEFORE THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS TOMORROW.
AS LONG AS THE COUNCIL DOES NOT MEET IN PUBLIC AND FORMAL
SESSION, THERE CAN BE NO VOTE ON A DRAFT RESOLUTION AND THUS NO
UK VETO: NOR CAN THE COUNCIL DO ANYTHING ELSE WHICH WOULD CUT
ACROSS OTHER INITIATIVES.

3. MEANWHILE, I HAVE AS INSTRUCTED IN YOUR TELNO 344 (NOT TO ALL), TGLD THE SECRETARY-GENERAL THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING ALL THE IDEAS WHICH YOU AND HE DISCUSSED ON 2 MAY AND THAT YOU HOPE TO GET COMMENTS TO HIM SHORTLY. WHEN HE ASKED HOW HE SHOULD INTERPRET 'SHORTLY', I SAID THAT I DID NOT THINK THAT YOUR COMMENTS WERE LIKELY TO REACH HIM BEFORE 6 MAY AT THE EARLIEST. HE SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED 'ENCOURAGING NOISES' FROM ROCA (ARGENTINA). 4. SEE MIFT (NOT TO ALL).

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