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**Se refiere a:**

**05MAY82 1725Z – UKE Paris a FCO. Actitud de Francia sobre Malvinas.**

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[TYPISTS AA]

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ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(30/3) (32) (35)

IMMEDIATE

PS  
 PS/MR HURD  
 PS/MR ONSLOW  
 PS/PUS  
 MR GIFFARD  
 MR WRIGHT  
 MR ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ BULLARD  
 MR UPE  
 MR GILLMORE  
 MR EVANS  
 ED/S AM D (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)  
 ED/DEF D  
 ED/NEWS D  
 ED/UND  
 ED/PLANNING STAFF  
 MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60  
 RESIDENT CLERK  
 HD/WED  
 HD/ERS  
 HD/TRED  
 (Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

PS NO 10 DOWNING ST  
 PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE  
 PS/CHANCELLOR )  
 SIR K COUZENS )  
 MR LITTLE )  
 MR HAWLIN ) TREASURY  
 MR PERETZ )  
 MR ILETT )  
 MR McINTYRE )  
 MISS DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN  
 DIO CABINET OFFICE  
 MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE  
 MR FULLER SAFT/DIO " "  
 SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE  
 SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

ADVANCE COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 051930Z

FM PARIS 051725Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 425 OF 5 MAY 1982

INFO PRIORITY UKREP BRUSSELS

INFO ROUTINE OTHER EC POSTS

YOUR TELNO 96 TO BRUSSELS: ARGENTINA: IMPORT BAN

1. THE FRENCH POSITION SEEMS TO BE SHIFTING SOMEWHAT IN RESPONSE TO CLASHES AROUND THE FALKLANDS IN THE LAST FEW DAYS. I AM REPORTING SEPARATELY THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER TODAY'S MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE COMMUNIQUE WITH GUTMANN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE QUAI.

2. IN ESSENCE THE FRENCH ARE MAINTAINING THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE BASIC UK POSITION, BUT ARE PLACING INCREASING EMPHASIS ON THE NEED FOR A CONVINCING GESTURE BY THE UK WHICH WILL CONFIRM OUR INTENTION TO ACHIEVE A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION. THEY CONTINUE TO AFFIRM PRIVATELY THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEED FOR THE UK TO TAKE MILITARY ACTION, BUT HAVE EVIDENTLY BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE WEIGHT OF HOSTILE COMMENT



BUT HAVE EVIDENTLY BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE WEIGHT OF HOSTILE COMMENT IMPLICIT IN FRENCH PRESS REPORTS ON RECENT INCIDENTS AND ARE THEREFORE TAKING A PUBLIC POSITION IN FAVOUR OF THE IMMEDIATE ENDING OF HOSTILITIES.

3. LOGICALLY THIS POSITION SHOULD IMPLY FRENCH READINESS TO MAINTAIN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, SINCE WITHOUT THEM THERE WOULD BE NO REASON FOR THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO WITHDRAW OR TO SEEK A GENUINE NEGOTIATED SOLUTION. THE LESS THEY CAN PUBLICLY ENDORSE MILITARY ACTION, THE MORE THEY SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ENDORSE THE CONTINUED NEED FOR ECONOMIC ACTION. ANY OTHER COURSE WOULD RUN COUNTER TO THE ORIGINAL DECISION OF PRESIDENT MITTERRAND, WHICH HAS BEEN REGULARLY REAFFIRMED BY MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS HERE, TO GIVE FIRM BACKING TO THE UK. THERE MAY HOWEVER BE A DISPOSITION TO ARGUE THAT ANY RENEWAL OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A MORE DEFINITE COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATIONS.

4. TO THE EXTENT THAT WE REQUIRE A FRENCH LEAD IN ORDER TO HELP CONVINCING OTHER EC GOVERNMENTS, IT WOULD BE WORTH CONSIDERING A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO MITTERRAND TO ENLIST HIS SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUATION OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS. THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER OF 26 APRIL THANKING MITTERRAND AND CHEYSSON FOR THE ACTION THEY TOOK WITH THE JAPANESE ONLY ARRIVED IN PARIS BY BAG YESTERDAY. IT HAS BEEN IN LARGE PART OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS AND WOULD NOW BE MORE USEFUL IF IT WERE UPDATED TO DEAL WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION ON SANCTIONS. IT MIGHT ALSO REFER TO THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON THE PROSPECTS FOR NEGOTIATION. I WILL HOLD THE LETTER UNTIL I RECEIVE FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

FRETWELL

NNNN

SENT/RECD AT 051808Z JC/RR