

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

FM MEXICO CITY 142135Z JANUARY 1985

AMENDED DISTRIBUTION 15 JANUARY

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 33 OF 14 JANUARY

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, SAN JOSE

YOUR TELNO 43: VISIT OF MR KINNOCK: STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS

1. MR KINNOCK GAVE INTERVIEWS TO THE MEXICAN PRESS AT THE AIRPORT ON ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE, AND ALSO AT THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS CLUB ON THE DAY OF DEPARTURE, WHEN FOREIGN PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WERE PRESENT.
2. UNDERSTANDABLY ENOUGH IN PRESENT MEXICAN CIRCUMSTANCES, LOCAL REPORTING TENDED TO FOCUS CHIEFLY ON MR KINNOCK'S CALLS FOR REFORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SYSTEM. HE ALSO MADE SOME FORTHCOMING COMMENTS ABOUT ANGLO/MEXICAN RELATIONS. HIS REMARKS ABOUT CONTADORA AND CENTRAL AMERICA WERE GIVEN PROMINENCE. ON THE WHOLE MR KINNOCK SPOKE IN CONVENTIONAL TERMS ABOUT THESE AND CHIEFLY IN PRAISE OF MEXICAN EFFORTS IN THE REGION, THOUGH THE CRITICISM OF UNITED STATES POLICY ATTRIBUTED TO HIM BY QUOTE THE TIMES UNQUOTE WERE ALSO PUBLICISED HERE. HOWEVER, THEY WERE NOT GIVEN PARTICULAR PROMINENCE. WE CAN FIND NO REFERENCE TO THE REMARKS ABOUT QUOTE OLD FASHIONED IMPERIALISM UNQUOTE ATTRIBUTED TO MR KINNOCK BY THE GUARDIAN.
3. NOR DOES THE PRESS GIVE MUCH SPACE TO HIS REMARKS ABOUT THE FALKLANDS. ONLY THE LEFT WING DAILY QUOTE EL DIA UNQUOTE GIVES A FAIR SUMMARY OF MR KINNOCK'S STATEMENT THAT THE UK HAD ENJOYED SOVEREIGNTY FOR OVER 150 YEARS, THAT IT HAD BEEN NECESSARY TO THE UK TO RESPOND MILITARILY TO THE ARGENTINE INVASION, BUT THAT WITH THE OVERTHROW OF THE QUOTE FASCIST DICTATORSHIP IN ARGENTINA UNQUOTE, THE UK GOVERNMENT SHOULD PROPOSE DISCUSSION WITH THE DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED ARGENTINE ADMINISTRATION. EL DIA ADDS THAT MR KINNOCK WENT ON THE SAY THAT QUOTE THE COST OF MAINTAINING THE FALKLANDS, AND THE UNNECESSARY TENSION THAT THIS WOULD CAUSE BETWEEN BOTH PARTIES ARE ARGUMENTS IN FAVOUR OF A PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION UNQUOTE. HOWEVER MR KINNOCK'S SUBSEQUENT OBSERVATION THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD COMMAND WIDE PUBLIC SUPPORT IN THE UK WAS NOT REPORTED.
4. CUTTINGS BY BAG TO FCO AND MR KINNOCKS OFFICE.

JAMES

LIMITED

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST.]

MCAD

NAD

NEWS D

RES D

PUSD

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RENTON

PS/PUS

MR DEREK THOMAS

SIR W HARDING

MR DAVID THOMAS

COPIES TO:-

ASSESSMENTS STAFF CABINET OFFICE

MR LAWLESS ODA

APCD ODA

RESTRICTED