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John Neagle

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Argentina & Britain Agree To Formal Talks, Scheduled For October In Madrid

by John Neagle

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On Aug. 18, director general of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, Lucio Garcia del Solar, and British Ambassador Sir Crispin Tickell announced in a joint communique that the two governments had agreed to hold talks in Madrid on Oct. 17-18 aimed at restoring diplomatic ties. Diplomatic relations were severed in 1982 during the war over sovereignty claims to the South Atlantic archipelago, the Malvinas/Falklands islands. The level of the talks in Madrid is to be decided later. The agreement was announced after two days of talks in New York. [Results from a recent national poll conducted by the Union Studies Center for the New Majority indicated that 41.6% of respondents favored the President Carlos Menem's overtures to Britain toward reopening diplomatic and trade relations. Of the total, 9% were neutral; 11.6% opposed the new policy, and 37.3% declined to respond or said they were not informed of the government's actions and policy regarding Britain.] (Basic data from AP, Notimex, 08/18/89; Xinhua, 08/21/89)

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