

Subject filed on Argentina: Rebbins Pt 27.

Ops

RESTRICTED

14668 - 1

GRS 224

RESTRICTED

FM FCO 150942Z JULY 82

TO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 417 OF 15 JULY.

YOUR LETTER OF 18 JUNE TO FEARN: MESSAGE TO URUGUAYAN PRESIDENT

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO PRESIDENT ALVAREZ AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF HMS HYDRA. BEGINS.

THE VISIT TO MONTEVIDEO OF HMS HYDRA WAS THE LAST OCCASION ON WHICH WE SOUGHT YOUR HELP IN EVACUATING OUR PERSONNEL WOUNDED IN THE RECENT FIGHTING IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. I SHOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO YOU AND TO THE PEOPLE OF URUGUAY THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S PROFOUND GRATITUDE AND WARM ADMIRATION FOR THE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT HAVE SO EFFECTIVELY PROVIDED IN THE DIFFICULT MONTHS WHICH WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH. IT HAS BEEN A GREAT COMFORT TO US, AND PARTICULARLY TO THE RELATIVES OF OUR WOUNDED SERVICEMEN, TO KNOW THAT THEIR TRAVEL THROUGH MONTEVIDEO HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT WITH SUCH EFFICIENCY AND CONCERN. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS REMAIN DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT'S GENEROUS ASSISTANCE.

WITH WARM PERSONAL GOOD WISHES, MARGARET THATCHER. ENDS.

2. I SHOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION OF THE OUTSTANDING WORK WHICH YOU AND YOUR SMALL STAFF HAVE DONE, OFTEN IN VERY TRYING CONDITIONS, IN RECENT MONTHS. WE ARE ALL VERY GRATEFUL.

PYM

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T143 AA/82

FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL

FCO

FALKLANDS UNIT

CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

FALKLAND ISLANDS

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]

RESTRICTED