

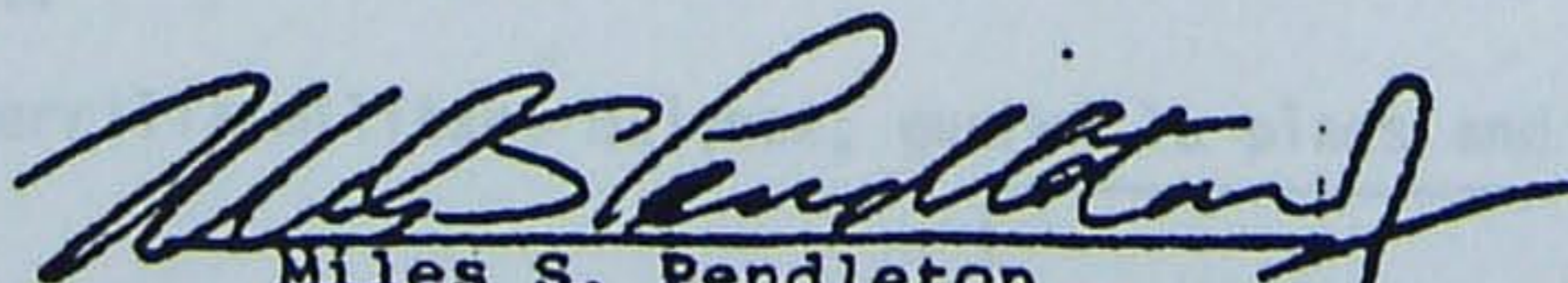
FALKLAND WORKING GROUP
Situation Report No. 41

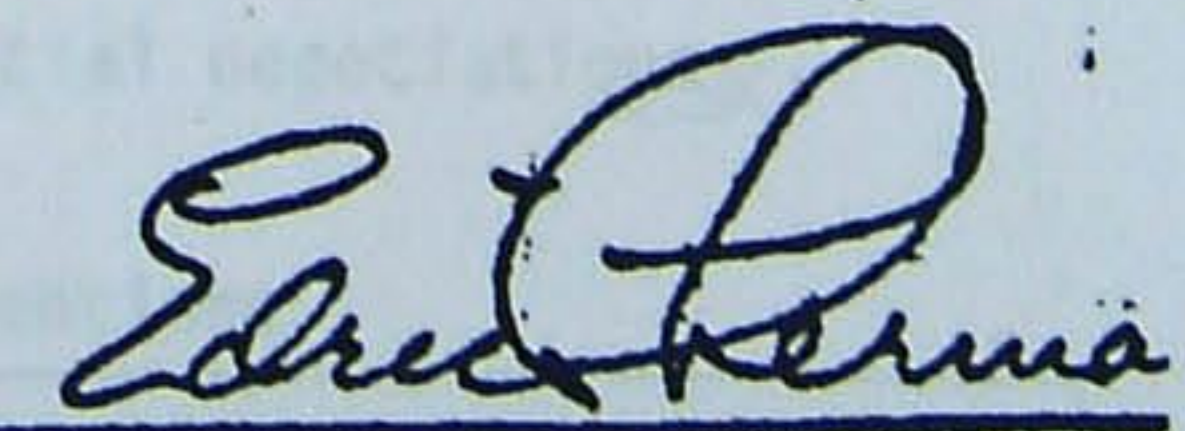
Falklands Situation as of 1700 EDT, April 29, 1982

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SIT REPS

1. US Proposal: A usually well informed Argentine newspaper reported today that the civilian/military working group in Buenos Aires studying the proposal decided "unanimously" that it is "unacceptable". Other Argentine media play the same theme. Speaking in Parliament today, British PM Thatcher praised Secretary Haig's efforts, but accused Argentina of intransigence, adding "the key to peace is in the hands of the Argentine government".
2. Situation in Argentina: Reuters reports that Argentina's military governor of the Falklands last night ordered a dusk to dawn curfew and blackout on the Islands, saying a British attack could come "at any moment". The Junta also issued a communique asking for calm. Despite scattered threats, there have been no incidents of anti-British violence and only a low level of anti-British rhetoric.
3. US Citizens. High-level members of the Argentine military have assured our Embassy in Buenos Aires that the GOA will do everything possible to pass to the 17 Amcits remaining on the Falklands our urgent advice that they leave prior to the establishment of the "total exclusion" zone on Friday. The Argentines also committed themselves to helping those who wish to depart. Our request for assistance has already been passed to General Menendez, Commander of Argentine Forces on the Falklands.
4. UN. Argentine Foreign Minister Costa Mendez went to New York today and probably will meet with officials at the UN. After conferring today with the Chairman of the OAS Meeting of Foreign Ministers, UN Security Council President Kamanda issued a personal appeal that both Argentina and Britain implement Resolution 502. Britain's Ambassador to the UN later termed Kamanda's statement unacceptable, saying he had placed "victim and aggressor" on the same level in the Falklands crisis.
5. Soviet Attitude. Soviet officials have denied to the UK that the USSR was providing any intelligence information to Argentina, but warned that if others were drawn into the situation, it would have unfortunate consequences. Argentine media have reported Soviet warnings to Britain through TASS that the USSR will not tolerate interference with its shipping in the South Atlantic. But Soviet media monitored by FBIS so far have not carried any such warning.


Miles S. Pendleton
Falkland Working Group


Edric Sherman
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State Dept. review completed