

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(30)

[Typists]

PS  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/MR ONSLOW  
PS/PUS  
MR GIFFARD  
MR WRIGHT  
MR ADAMS  
MR URE  
MR GILLMORE

ADVANCE COPY

IMMEDIATE

HD/S AM D (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)  
HD/DEF D  
HD/NEWS D  
HD/UND  
HD/PLANNING STAFF  
MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60  
RESIDENT CLERK

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PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE  
PS/CHANCELLOR )  
SIR K COUZENS )  
MR LITTLER )  
MR HAWTIN )  
MR PERETZ ) TREASURY  
MR ILETT )  
MR McINTYRE )

MISS DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN  
DIO CABINET OFFICE  
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE  
MR FULLER SAPU/DIO " "

SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE  
SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

CONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON 052310Z MAY 82  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1622 OF 5 MAY  
INFO PRIORITY MODUK

MY TELNO 1553 AND 1559: AIRCRAFT ENGINES FOR ARGENTINA

1. THE STATE DEPARTMENT TOLD US TODAY THAT THE US CUSTOMS HAVE NOW FORMALLY SEIZED IN SAN FRANCISCO THE J65 AERO ENGINES (BELIEVED TO TOTAL 32) DESTINED FOR ARGENTINA.

THE CUSTOMS DID SO ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE ENGINES WERE NOT SPARE PARTS AS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPORT DOCUMENTS. THE EXPORTER HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SEEK ANOTHER, CORRECT EXPORT LICENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ASSURED US IN CONFIDENCE THAT CONSIDERATION OF ANY NEW LICENCE WILL BE DELAYED.

2. THE CUSTOMS ACTION IN SEIZING THE ENGINES HAS AROUSED CONSIDERABLE PRESS INTEREST. IN RESPONSE TO ENQUIRIES WE SHALL WELCOME THIS DECISION BY THE US AUTHORITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIONS STATEMENT OF 30 APRIL ANNOUNCING THE SUSPENSION OF ALL MILITARY EXPORTS TO ARGENTINA. IF ASKED ABOUT OUR INVOLVEMENT, WE SHALL CONFIRM THAT WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE US AUTHORITIES ABOUT THIS MATTER.

HENDERSON