

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL  
FM FCO 231445Z APR 82  
TO FLASH BERNE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 64 OF 23 APRIL  
INFO IMMEDIATE TO WASHINGTON (FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY)  
UKMIS NEW YORK, UKDEL NATO, ATHENS, BONN, BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN,  
DUBLIN, THE HAGUE, BRASILIA, MONTEVIDEO, SANTIAGO, OTHER  
NATO POSTS, MODUK, PARIS, ROME AND UKREP BRUSSELS.

1. PLEASE ASK THE SWISS TO CONVEY URGENTLY TO THE ARGENTINE  
GOVERNMENT THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION FROM HMG:-  
BEGINS

IN ANNOUNCING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MARITIME EXCLUSION ZONE  
AROUND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, HMG MADE IT CLEAR THAT THIS MEASURE  
WAS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE RIGHT OF THE UK TO TAKE WHATEVER  
ADDITIONAL MEASURES MAY BE NEEDED IN THE EXERCISE OF ITS RIGHT  
OF SELF-DEFENCE UNDER ARTICLE 51 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER.  
IN THIS CONNECTION, HMG NOW WISHES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT ANY  
APPROACH ON THE PART OF ARGENTINE WARSHIPS, INCLUDING SUBMARINES,  
NAVAL AUXILIARIES, OR MILITARY AIRCRAFT WHICH COULD AMOUNT TO A  
THREAT TO INTERFERE WITH THE MISSION OF BRITISH FORCES IN THE  
SOUTH ATLANTIC WILL ENCOUNTER THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE.  
ALL ARGENTINE AIRCRAFT INCLUDING CIVIL AIRCRAFT ENGAGING IN  
SURVEILLANCE OF THESE BRITISH FORCES WILL BE REGARDED AS  
HOSTILE AND ARE LIABLE TO BE DEALT WITH ACCORDINGLY.  
ENDS

2. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT HMG REGARD THE TERMS OF THIS  
COMMUNICATION AS HAVING IMMEDIATE EFFECT. PLEASE REPORT  
WHEN THE SWISS HAVE DELIVERED THE COMMUNICATION TO THE  
ARGENTINES. WE SHALL THEREAFTER CONSIDER WHETHER TO ANNOUNCE  
IT PUBLICLY AND TO DELIVER IT MORE WIDELY VIA THE DIPLOMATIC  
CHANNEL.

PYM

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No. 10 DOWNING STREET

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION  
FALKLAND ISLANDS

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