

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/MR RIFKIND
PS/PUS
SIR J BULLARD
SIR I SINCLAIR
MR GIFFARD
~~MR WRIGHT~~
MR ADAMS
LORD N G LENNOX
~~MR EVANS~~
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

HD/PUSD (2)
HD/SAMD
HD/FID
HD/DEFENCE DEPT
HD/NEWS DEPT
HD/ERD
HD/ECD(E)
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (3)

PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD

PS/CHANCELLOR)
MR ILETT) TREASURY
MR LITTLER)

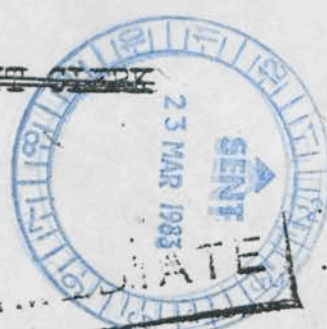
SIR R ARMSTRONG)
MR A D S GOODALL) CABINET OFFICE
DIO)

MR M A PATTISON, FID, ODA

MR A TITCHENER)
MR C U ROBERTS, IAT) DOT

*We must
do it now this
matter very soon
I mean the only
possible procedure would
be under the
provisions of the
Act.*

~~RESIDENT STAFF~~



*See my
letter to
Fico.*

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM PORT STANLEY 231135Z MAR 83
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 197 OF 23 MARCH

ADVANCE COPY

YOUR TELNO 34 TO BUENOS AIRES: ARGENTINE NEXT-OF-KIN

1. I HOPE THAT YOU HAVE CONSIDERED THE FULL IMPLICATIONS OF ACCEDING TO A "REASONABLE-SOUNDING ARGENTINE PROPOSAL" FOR NEXT OF KIN TO VISIT ARGENTINE GRAVES AT DARWIN.
2. MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE ARGENTINE INVASION LAST YEAR INVALIDATED OUR 1971 AND SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENTS. THERE IS THEREFORE NO SOVEREIGNTY UMBRELLA AND NO "WHITE CARD" PROCEDURE. ARGENTINES, LIKE ANY ALIENS, WOULD REQUIRE A VISA BEFORE SETTING FOOT ON BRITISH SOVEREIGN TERRITORY IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, JUST AS THEY WOULD BEFORE ENTERING THE UK. THEY WOULD BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO NORMAL IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES IN

SETTING FOOT ON BRITISH SOVEREIGN TERRITORY IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, JUST AS THEY WOULD BEFORE ENTERING THE UK. THEY WOULD BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO NORMAL IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES IN THE SAME WAY THAT RELATIVES OF MISSING ARGENTINE SERVICEMEN NOW VISITING EUROPE ARE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO NORMAL IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES BEFORE ENTERING THE UNITED KINGDOM.

3. I PRESUME THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT WISH THEIR CITIZENS TO COMPLY WITH OUR NORMAL IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES BEFORE ENTERING THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, AS THIS WOULD IMPLY RECOGNITION OF BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY. BY THE SAME TOKEN, IF WE WERE TO ALLOW THEM TO SET FOOT ON FALKLANDS SOIL WITHOUT COMPLYING WITH OUR NORMAL IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES, THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT COULD INTERPRET THIS AS BRITISH RECOGNITION OF ARGENTINE SOVEREIGNTY.

← 4. NOR WOULD IT STOP AT ONE VISIT. HAVING BEEN ALLOWED IN ONCE, THEY WOULD TRY TO MAKE A REGULAR ANNIVERSARY VISIT AND BRING IN MORE NEXT-OF-KIN. WITH SO MANY UNIDENTIFIED BODIES, FURTHER REQUESTS WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO RESIST.

5. IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF ARGENTINA ALLOWING THE NEXT-OF-KIN TO COMPLY WITH OUR IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES, I AM CERTAIN THAT COUNCILLORS WOULD DIRECT ME UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE TO DECLARE THEM PROHIBITED IMMIGRANTS.

6. WITH ALL THESE COMPLICATIONS, I CONSIDER THAT WE SHOULD REST OUR CASE ON THE FACT THAT WE HAVE REBURIED THEIR DEAD WITH DIGNITY ON CONSECRATED GROUND AND THAT WE STAND READY TO SHIP THEM BACK TO ARGENTINA WHENEVER THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT SAY THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THEM. WE SHOULD POINT OUT THAT WE HAVE TAKEN BETTER CARE OF ARGENTINE SERVICEMEN DEAD THAN THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT DID ALIVE.