

FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (ADVANCES)

39 x 36 Argentina

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~~  
12 GOODISON  
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 )  
MISS M E CUND ) TREASURY  
MR LITTLER )

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

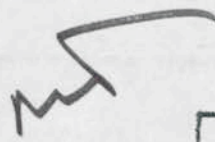
MR M A PATTISON, FID, ODA

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

~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

ADVANCE COPY

GRS 680  
UNCLASSIFIED  
(FM BERNE 250935Z)  
FM BIS BUENOS AIRES  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 311 OF 22 APRIL  
INFO IMMEDIATE MOD



IMMEDIATE

INFO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO SANTIAGO BRASILIA CARACAS WASHINGTON  
UKMIS NEW YORK AND CIVIL COMMISIONER PORT STANLEY.

PRESS SUMMARY

1. OSVALDO DESTEFANIS OF THE CENTRE OF VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FATHERLAND, YESTERDAY TOLD REPORTERS THAT HIS ORGANISATION WOULD DEFY BRITAIN'S BAN ON THEIR PLANNED VISIT TO THE ISLANDS BUT WOULD TURN BACK IF INTERCEPTED BY ROYAL NAVAL SHIPS. IF NOT ALLOWED TO REACH THE ISLANDS THEY WILL HOLD A RELIGIOUS CEREMONY IN HOMAGE TO THEIR DEAD JUST OUTSIDE THE PROTECTION ZONE. DESTEFANIS IS PREPARED TO SAIL UNDER AN ICRC FLAG AND USE ANOTHER SHIP, IF THE ICRC PROVIDE IT, BUT STILL INSISTS ON TAKING SIX MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS. HE HAS APPARENTLY RECEIVED CALLS OF SUPPORT FOR HIS VENTURE FROM SEVERAL OPPOSITION MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT INCLUDING TAM DALYELL, WHO ALLEGEDLY TOLD HIM THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO

~~WHO ALLEGEDLY TOLD HIM THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO BAN THE TRIP WAS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE MAJORITY OF THE BRITISH PUBLIC.~~ QUESTIONED BY THE PRESS, ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER AGUIRRE LANARI REPUDIATED THE BRITISH DECISION NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF THE VOYAGE BUT ALSO BECAUSE QUOTE AS ARGENTINES WE CAN NEVER ACCEPT THAT AN ARGENTINE FLAG WILL NOT FLY ON OUR LAND UNQUOTE.

2. THE SO-CALLED GIACCHINO COMMAND OR APRIL 2ND GROUP PHONED THE LOCAL REUTERS OFFICE YESTERDAY TO THREATEN THAT IF BRITAIN MAINTAINED ITS BAN ON THE VOYAGE IT WOULD EXECUTE BRITISH RESIDENTS AND TAKE ACTION AGAINST BRITISH FIRMS. SEVERAL PAPERS WHICH MISSED THE TRIPLE A THREAT STORY YESTERDAY CARRY IT IN TODAY'S EDITIONS. DESTEFANIS HAS CONDEMNED THE THREATS AS ABSURD AND CONTRARY TO THE HUMANITARIAN AIMS OF THE JOURNEY. HE ALLEGES BRITISH INTERESTS ARE TRYING TO LINK THE TRIPLE A TO HIS ORGANISATION TO DISCREDIT THEIR CAUSE.

3. THE EDITOR OF THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD JAMES NIELSEN WAS YESTERDAY GIVEN 48 HOURS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY OR BE EXECUTED, AND HAVE BOMBS PLACED IN THE HERALD OFFICES BY THE TRIPLE A. THREATS FROM APRIL 2ND COMMAND TO EXECUTE JIMMY BURNS OF THE FT AND TED OLIVER OF THE DAILY MAIL IF THEY DO NOT LEAVE THE COUNTRY WITHIN 24 HOURS WERE TELEPHONED TO BISBA AT 2000Z HRS YESTERDAY, AND AT 1400Z TODAY I WAS ORDERED BY THE GIACCHINO COMMAND TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY WITHIN 30 DAYS BECAUSE I WAS AN ENEMY.

4. INTERIOR MINISTER RESTON ANNOUNCED THAT THE ARMED FORCES DOCUMENT ON THE FIGHT AGAINST SUBVERSION WILL BE MADE KNOWN NEXT WEEK. THE NEW ELECTORAL LAW CURRENTLY UNDER STUDY SHOULD BE PASSED BY JUNE.

5. THE ANNUAL ARGENTINE NAVAL EXERCISES HAVE BEGUN. ALL VESSELS ARE TAKING PART, INCLUDING THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER "25 DE MAYO" WHICH IS CARRYING SUPER ETENDART AIRCRAFT.

6. A LIBYAN MISSION IS REPORTEDLY IN BUENOS AIRES TO DISCUSS AN INCREASE IN BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS ALLEGE THE VISIT WAS ORGANISED BY THE ARMED FORCES WITHOUT FOREIGN MINISTRY INTERVENTION. THE LIBYAN MISSION HAS APPARENTLY BEEN GIVEN DEMONSTRATIONS OF ARGENTINE-MADE MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND WAS TAKEN TO VISIT THE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT AT ATUCHA, PROVINCE OF BUENOS AIRES.

7. ALL MEMBERS OF THE VISITING IMF DELEGATION HAVE LEFT ARGENTINA BUT NO OFFICIAL INFORMATION ON THE VISIT HAS YET SURFACED.

JOY

POWELL-JOENS

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