

RESTRICTED

GR 130
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FM LILONGWE 070930Z APR 82
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 109 OF 7 APRIL

MY TELNO 108: FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. PRESIDENT BANDA HAS ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO MRS THATCHER IN ANSWER TO HER MESSAGE OF 3 APRIL HIS AND MALAWI'S WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT FOR BRITISH POSITION ON FALKLANDS AND TOTAL CONDEMNATION OF ARGENTINE INVASION. I GAVE HIM ACCOUNT OF LEGAL POSITION AND OF EVENTS IN FALKLANDS AND SOUTH GEORGIA LEADING UP TO DESPATCH OF NAVAL TASK FORCE. HE COMMENTED THAT SELF-DETERMINATION WAS UNIVERSAL RIGHT OF PEOPLES SUCH AS THOSE LIVING IN FALKLANDS. HMG SHOULD GO AHEAD WITH EFFORTS TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, BUT WOULD HAVE HIS MORAL BACKING IN USE OF FORCE IF OTHER METHODS FAILED.
2. PUBLIC STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT IS POSSIBLE. HE DID NOT RESPOND WHEN I SUGGESTED IT, BUT I AM SURE HE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO HIS MESSAGE TO MRS THATCHER BEING MADE PUBLIC SHOULD THIS SEEM HELPFUL. HE STRESSED HIS WISH TO BE HELPFUL IN ANY WAY OPEN TO HIM.

PETERS

THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
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