

TYPISTS ✓

DB141400

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(28)

PS  
PS/LPS  
PS/MR ONSLOW  
PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/PUS  
MR GIFFARD  
MR WRIGHT  
MR ADAMS  
MR URE  
MR GILLMORE

PS No.10 DOWNING ST.

PS/CHANCELLOR  
SIR K COUZENS  
MR LITTLER  
MR HAWTIN  
MR PERETZ  
MR ILETT  
MR McINTYRE

H.M.TSY

HD/SAMD (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)  
HD/DEF D  
HD/NEWS D  
HD/UND  
HD/PLANNING STAFF  
HD/HRGD

Miss DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN  
DIO CABINET OFFICE  
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE  
MR FULLER .SAFU CABINET OFFICE

~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

(Copies passed to Emergency Staff, MOD Sitcen and CinC Fleet)

00 FCO (DESKBY 141400Z)

GR 800

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 141400Z

FM MONTEVIDEO 141320Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 115 OF 14 APRIL

FOLLOWING FROM BAKER. YOUR TELNO 93 OF 14 APRIL.  
FALKLANDS SITREP 13 APRIL 82

PARTY OF 35 WHICH LEFT STANLEY 13 APRIL INCLUDED CHIEF SECRETARY  
CHIEF POLICE OFFICER, REGISTRAR GENERAL AND TWO R.A.F. SECONDED  
TECHNICIANS ALL BEING DEPORTED. IN ADDITION EXCO MEMBER AND LAND  
OWNER BILL LUXTON AND WIFE DEPORTED ON POLITICAL GROUNDS. TWO  
OTHERS, G CHEEK AND S WALLACE (EX LEG CO) WERE WARNED THAT THEY  
WERE POLITICALLY SUSPECT AND MIGHT BE DEPORTED IF THEY DID NOT  
TOE THE LINE.

UNTIL THEN WE HAD SUCCEEDED IN MAINTAINING ESSENTIAL SERVICES  
FOR THE ISLANDS I.E. MEDICAL, WATER, ELECTRICITY, TELEPHONES, CIVIL  
POLICE, SAVINGS BANK AND TREASURY AND CERTAIN ASPECTS OF PUBLIC

UNTIL THEN WE HAD SUCCEEDED IN MAINTAINING ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR THE ISLANDS I.E. MEDICAL, WATER, ELECTRICITY, TELEPHONES, CIVIL POLICE, SAVINGS BANK AND TREASURY AND CERTAIN ASPECTS OF PUBLIC WORKS. HOWEVER INTERNAL AIR SERVICE WAS INTERDICTED AND ARGENTINES HAD RECENTLY CLAMPED DOWN ON R.T. SYSTEM. PRIVATE OVERSEAS TELEGRAMS WERE STILL AVAILABLE BUT CLOSELY MONITORED AND OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS BY C.S. VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE.

FEAR THAT YESTERDAY'S DEPARTURES MAY LEAD TO REDUCTION IN ESSENTIAL SERVICES, C.S. CIVIL POLICE MAY NOW BE TAKEN OVER BY ARGENTINE MILITARY WITH DEPRESSING EFFECT ON PUBLIC MORALE. HAROLD ROWLANDS, FINANCIAL SECRETARY, HAS ASSUMED FORMAL C.S.'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND WILL ENDEAVOUR TO KEEP GOING WHAT HE CAN FOR BENEFIT OF ISLANDERS.

POPULATION SHARPLY DIVIDED (SINCE BBC PUBLICATION OF "PROTECTING POWER" LETTER AND LONDON RESPONSE) BETWEEN HARD LINERS WHO WANT ARGENTINIANS EXPELLED AT WHATEVER COST AND THE REST WHO WANT A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. LATTER INCLUDE SOME WHO SIMPLY DO NOT WANT TO BE CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE (AS THEY SEE IT) AND OTHERS WHO FEEL THAT THEY WOULD RATHER GIVE UP THEIR WAY OF LIFE (AND PERHAPS ALL THEY OWN) THAN SEE THE FALKLANDS PROBLEM CAUSE MAJOR CONFLICT OR PERHAPS EVEN ESCALATE TO WIDER HOSTILITIES. PERHAPS SIGNIFICANT THAT MOST HARD LINERS ARE OLDER AGE GROUPS AND SOME WHO DID NOT ACTUALLY WITNESS THE INVASION. MOST PEOPLE WITH YOUNG FAMILIES AND EVEN SOME PREVIOUSLY WELL KNOWN HARD LINERS ARE NOW SAYING THAT THE SITUATION HAS NOW CHANGED SO MUCH THAT FURTHER FIGHTING IS NOT JUSTIFIED. MY ESTIMATE AS AT TIME OF DEPARTURE IS THAT GIVEN THE CHANCE 80 PERCENT WOULD BE IN FAVOUR OF A TEMPORARY EVACUATION BEING OFFERED. HOWEVER, THIS SEEMS PURELY ACADEMIC TO ME AS IN SPITE OF FREQUENT ASSURANCES THAT THEY INTEND TO AVOID FIGHTING IN THE TOWN ARGENTINIANS ARE PROCEEDING WITH DEFENSIVE DISPOSITIONS AROUND STANLEY AND I DOUBT VERY MUCH IF THEY WOULD ALLOW ANY "TOTAL" EVACUATION WHILE THE BRITISH TASK FORCE IS STILL A THREAT. NEVERTHELESS THEY HAVE ALLOWED A LARGE NUMBER (LOCAL ESTIMATE IS 40 PERCENT) TO LEAVE FOR THE CAMP WHERE SO FAR THE ONLY KNOWN CONCENTRATIONS OF TROOPS ARE 120 AT GOOSE GREEN AND 150 AT FOX BAY EAST. THUS PEOPLE FEEL, PERHAPS ERRONEOUSLY, THAT THERE MAY BE LITTLE OR NO ACTION IN THE RURAL AREAS.

ARGENTINIANS SAY REASON FOR THE DEFENSIVE DISPOSITIONS AROUND STANLEY IS DEFENCE OF AIRPORT ONLY AND THEY SEEM TO BE MAKING PREPARATIONS TO BUILD A TEMPORARY STRIP ELSEWHERE AS A RESERVE. SO FAR IMPOSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN WHERE THIS WOULD BE BUT GOOSE GREEN, FOX BAY EAST OR CHARTRES SEEM POSSIBILITIES. THERE HAS BEEN CONTINUOUS AIR TRAFFIC AND SO LONG AS C130S AND OLDER AIRCRAFT SUCH AS LOCKHEED ELECTRAS COME AND GO UNHINDERED I DO NOT SEE THE

INUOUS AIR TRAFFIC AND SO LONG AS C130S AND OLDER AIRCRAFT SUCH AS LOCKHEED ELECTRAS COME AND GO UNHINDERED I DO NOT SEE THE NAVAL BLOCKADE HAVING ANY PRACTICAL EFFECT.

HITHERTO ARGENTINE TROOPS MORAL HAS SEEMED LOW WITH TROOPS, SOME VERY YOUNG, BEGGING FOOD FROM THE LOCAL POPULATION AND SEEMING COMPLETELY BEWILDERED. HOWEVER IMPRESSIONS YESTERDAY WERE THAT SUPPLIES WERE BETTER ORGANISED. FRESH TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT WERE ARRIVING AND DURING HOURS WAIT AT AIRPORT WE NOTICED NEW OFFICERS (MAJOR/COLONEL RANK) BEING WELCOMED AND MORE CHEERFUL ATMOSPHERE AMONG TROOPS.

DETAILED MILITARY INFORMATION BEING PASSED TO COL. LOVE BUT IT WAS OBVIOUS EVEN TO LAYMAN YESTERDAY THAT ARGENTINIANS ARE BEEFING UP THEIR DEFENSIVE PRECAUTIONS BOTH IN TERMS OF MATERIAL AND MEN.

ISLANDERS CONTINUE GENERALLY CALM AND SEEING OFF PARTY YESTERDAY WERE IN GOOD SPIRITS. APART FROM ISOLATED BREAK-INS AND THEFTS MILITARY CONDUCT CONTINUES TO BE CORRECT BUT I DOUBT IF THIS WOULD LAST LONG IF FOOD SUPPLIES WERE DRASTICALLY REDUCED. I WOULD THEN FORESEE GRAVE PROBLEMS IN MAINTAINING DISCIPLINE AND ENSURING SAFETY OF CIVILIAN POPULATION AND PROPERTY.

HUTCHISON

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