

TYPISTS

ANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

30
(29)

IMMEDIATE

PS

PS/MR ONSLOW
 PS/MR RIFKIND
 PS/PUS
 MR GIFFARD
 MR WRIGHT
 MR ADAMS
 MR URE
 MR GILLMORE
 Ld. GORDON LENNOX
 HD/SAmD (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)
 HD/DEF D
 HD/NEWS D
 HD/UND
 HD/PLANNING STAFF
 HD/HKGD
 HD/CONS D.
 RESIDENT CLERK

PS No.10 DOWNING ST.

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

H.M.TSY

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

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

(FM BERNE 201325Z)

TO IMMEDIATE FCC

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM BISBA — British Interest Section, Buenos Aires

TEL NO 19 OF 19 APRIL: MORE ATMOSPHERICS

1. THE ATMOSPHERE CONTINUES TENSE AND EXPECTANT. EVERYONE IS HANGING ON THE LATEST NEWS OF HAIG'S NEGOTIATIONS AND THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO OTHER TOPIC OF CONVERSATION. THE MEDIA PURSUE THEIR MILITARISTIC CAMPAIGN WITH THE MALVINAS SONG (QUOTE I AM YOUR FATHERLAND AND MAY NEED YOU TO DIE FOR ME UNQUOTE) PLAYED EVERY FIVE MINUTES OR SO ON SOME RADIO STATIONS. THERE IS NO APPARENT LET UP IN THE GOVERNEMENT'S DETERMINATION TO HANG ON TO THE SOVERIGNTY OF THE ISLANDS.

2. BUT THERE ARE A FEW SIGNS OF A DAWNING REALISATION THAT THIS IS NOT MERELY A GAME BUT IN DEADLY EARNEST AND THAT THE STAKES ARE VERY HIGH. THE POPULAR DAILY "CLARIN" CARRIED AN ADVERTISEMENT LAST WEEK BY A SMALL BUT INFLUENTIAL EXTREME RIGHTWING GROUP, THE ASSOCIATION FOR TRADITION, FAMILY AND FATHERLAND, RAISING THE SPECTRE OF A THIRD WORLD WAR WITH ARGENTINA'S ONLY ALLY BEING THE SOVIET UNION, AND POINTING UP THE POTENTIALLY STARK CHOICE BETWEEN RECOVERY OF THE MAL-

UP THE POTENTIALLY STARK CHOICE BETWEEN RECOVERY OF THE MAL-
VINAS AND PRESERVATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE NATION AS A
WHOLE. IN CONTRAST TO THE MOTHERS APPEARING ON TELEVISION
PATRIOTICALLY OFFERING THEIR SONS AS CANNON-FODDER, I HAVE REC-
EIVED FIRST HAND REPORTS OF HEAVY PASSENGER AIR TRAFFIC
NORTHWARDS OUT OF THE PROSPECTIVE BATTLE-ZONE. THERE IS A
GROWING SENSE OF INEVITABILITY ABOUT THE COURSE OF EVENTS.
GALTIERI AND THE JUNTA HAVE EMBARKED, WITHOUT ADEQUATE THOUGHT, ON
A VENTURE WHOSE CONSEQUENCES THEY DID NOT FORESEE AND CANNOT
CONTROL.

3. THERE HAVE BEEN A FEW UNSUBSTANTIATED REPORTS OF ANTI-
BRITISH FEELING (EG TWO PEOPLE ORDERED OFF A BUS FOR SPEAKING
ENGLISH), THOUGH NONE OF ANY SERIOUSNESS EXCEPT A SERIES OF
TELEPHONE THREATS TO THE BRITISH EDITOR OF THE BUENOS AIRES
HERALD AND HIS FAMILY WHO HAVE NOW MOVED OVER TO URUGUAY.

4. ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT OUR APPEAL TO U.K. CS TO LEAVE
HAS BEEN WIDELY HEDED BUT WE ARE MOUNTING A RE-REGISTRATION
CAMPAIGN THIS WEEK TO TRY TO ESTABLISH MORE PRECISELY THE
POTENTIAL SIZE OF ANY EVACUATION PROGRAMME. AN APPROPRIATE
BBC WORLD SERVICE MESSAGE WOULD BE HELPFUL.

5. STAFF ARE IN GOOD HEARTH BUT THERE WAS A WAVE OF APPRE-
HENSION WHEN SECURITY SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES CALLED ON SOME
OF OUR DIRVERS' HOMES LAST WEEK, ALLEGEDLY TO ENSURE ADEQUATE
PROTECTION. PAST SECURITY SERVICE EXCESSES DO NOT ENCOURAGE
CONFIDENCE IN THIS RESPECT.

JOY. 19.4.
UNQUOTE

LEE

NNNN

SENT AT RECD AT 201448Z TWPM
/HK