

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(29)36+7 = 43

PS No.10 DOWNING ST.

PS (6)
PS MR HURD (3)
PS/MR ONSLOW
~~PS/MR BIRNHEAD~~
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

PS/CHANCELLOR
SIR K COUZENS
MR LITTLER
MR HAWTIN
MR PERETZ
MR ILETT
MR McINTYRE
H.M.TSY

ADVANCE COPY

Miss DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN

DIO CABINET OFFICE
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE
MR FULLER SAFU CABINET OFFICE
SIR M PALLISER, CABINET OFFICE
SIR R ARMSTRONG, DIO. CAB. OFFX

HD/SAMD (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)

HD/DEF D
HD/NEWS D
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF
~~HD/INCO~~

IMMEDIATE

RESIDENT CLERK

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

VZCZCDF A060 HH

OO RBDW DFA

DE RBTJCR 012 1140930

ZNY CCCCC

O 240810Z APR 82

FM GIBRALTAR

TO RBDW DFA/FCO LONDON

RBDW DFA/MADRID

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L UK COMMS ONLY

SIC

CYPHER CAT A

FROM GIBRALTAR 240810Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TEL NO PERSONAL 59 OF 24 APRIL
AND IMMEDIATE MADRID

SPANISH REACTION TO FALKLAND ISLANDS INVASION

1. AT MY REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING (23 APRIL) WITH HASSAN HE WAS IN A SOMBRE AND DEEPLY ANXIOUS MOOD. THE WELL-SUPPORTED SPANISH RIGHT WING DEMONSTRATION IN MADRID AND THE WIDE SPREAD (AND SEEMINGLY INCREASING) SUPPORT IN THE SPANISH MEDIA FOR ARGENTINA IS CAUSING

X
1720/24

MS

IN A SOBERE AND DEEPLY ANXIOUS MOOD. THE WELL-SUPPORTED SPANISH RIGHT WING DEMONSTRATION IN MADRID AND THE WIDE SPREAD (AND SEEMINGLY INCREASING) SUPPORT IN THE SPANISH MEDIA FOR ARGENTINA IS CAUSING CONSIDERABLE NERVOUSNESS IN POLITICAL CIRCLES HERE, IN ADDITION TO THE INEVITABLE PUBLIC APPREHENSION. HASSAN FEELS STRONGLY THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT MUST SOON MAKE A FORTHRIGHT PUBLIC STATEMENT, AS PSOE HAVE DONE, CONDEMNING SUGGESTIONS FOR THE USE OF FORCE AGAINST GIBRALTAR AND MAKING CLEAR THAT IT WILL TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT SUCH AN ACT. IF THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT DO SO, HE FEARS THEY WILL FIND IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO RESIST SUCH DEMANDS. IT MIGHT LEAD TO UNPLEASANT AND POSSIBLY VIOLENT INDIVIDUAL INCIDENTS, EG IN SPAIN WITH BRITISH TOURISTS AND IN GIBRALTAR WHEN THE FRONTIER OPENS, AT WORST WOULD ENCOURAGE THE MILITARY QUOTE MADMAN UNQUOTE.

2. SEEN FROM HERE, THERE IS MUCH VALUE IN TRYING TO GET THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT TO MAKE SUCH A STATEMENT AND I SUPPORT HASSANS SUGGESTION

3. HASSAN ALSO STRONGLY URGED THE FCO TO RESTORE THE BBC SPANISH SERVICE. HE IS UNHAPPY THAT THE BRITISH CASE IS GOING BADLY BY DEFAULT IN SPAIN BECAUSE SPANISH PUBLIC OPINION IS EXPOSED ONLY TO BIASED VIEWS FROM OTHER HISPANIC SOURCES. I AM SURE MR PARSONS WOULD SUPPORT HASSANS VIEW, FURTHER DETAILS OF WHICH ARE IN A LETTER TO ME (COPY BY BAG)

FCO PLEASE PASS

JACKSON

BT