

TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(29)

PS
PS/MR HVED
PS/MR ONSLOW
~~PS/MR BIRKEND~~
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

ADVANCE COPY

IMMEDIATE

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
SIR M PALLISER, CABINET OFFICE

SIR R ARMSTRONG, DIO. CAB. OFFICE

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

~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

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

Prince Harald

Norwegians remain

with us post South Georgia

ARy
24

CONFIDENTIAL

FM OSLO 261137Z APR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 81 OF 26 APRIL

INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, UKMIS GENEVA.

INFO ROUTINE UKDEL NATO, UKREP BRUSSELS, BRUSSELS.

INFO SAVING COPENHAGEN, STOCKHOLM, HELSINKI.

YOUR TELEGRAMS NO 106 TO ATHENS AND 296 TO UKMIS NEW YORK:
FALKLANDS: MILITARY OPERATIONS

1. I MADE INITIAL CONTACT WITH EIVINN BERG, STATE SECRETARY AT MFA, ON EVENING OF 25 APRIL. WE AGREED THAT SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WAS BETTER LEFT UNTIL MORE INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE AND MEANWHILE HE WOULD REFRAIN FROM PUBLIC COMMENT. I THEREFORE SAW BERG AT 0715Z TODAY. WE WERE NOTIFIED DURING OUR CONVERSATION OF ARRIVAL OF MESSAGE IN YOUR TELNO 100 TO ANKARA, WHICH IN THE ABSENCE OF STRAY HIMSELF I WAS ABLE TO READ TO BERG AND WAS MOST TIMELY.

2. I GAVE BERG BOUT DE PAPIER DRAWING ON MOST OF THE POINTS

2. I GAVE BERG BOUT DE PAPIER DRAWING ON MOST OF THE POINTS IN YOUR TUR TO ATHENS (BUT NOT REPEAT NOT PARAS 7 OR 10). TEXTS OF MOD STATEMENT IN YOUR TUR TO UKMIS NEW YORK AND OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR DEFENCE'S SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCEMENT OUTSIDE NO 10 YESTERDAY WERE ATTACHED. I EMPHASISED OUR CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATIONS FOR DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION.

3. BERG'S INITIAL COMMENT WAS THAT RE-CAPTURE OF SOUTH GEORGIA HAD NOT COME AS A SURPRISE. HE COULD APPRECITE STRATEGIC, TACTICAL AND LOGISTICAL REASONS FOR OUR ACTION. BUT HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT IT HAD TAKEN PLACE WHILE AMERICAN ATTEMPTS TO MEDIATE WERE STILL UNDER WAY. APART FROM STRESSING IN THE BOUT DE PAPIER THAT THE ARGENTINIANS HAD SHOWN NO SIGNS OF COMPLYING WITH RESOLUTION 502 AFTER THREE WEEKS, I POINTED OUT THAT YOUR VISIT TO WASHINGTON WAS ONE OF NUMEROUS CONFIRMATIONS OF IMPORTANCE WE ATTACHED TO AMERICAN CONTRIBUTION TO SEARCH FOR NEGOTIATED SOLUTION, BUT YOU HAD COME AWAY PESSIMISTIC. I HOPED THAT SOUTH GEORGIA ACTION WOULD HELP INDUCE A GREATER SENSE OF REALISM IN ARGENTINA.

4. AFTER REFLECTION, BERG'S REACTION BECAME MORE SOLID. HE SAID THAT SOUTH GEORGIA ACTION DID NOT ALTER NORWEGIAN VIEW THAT ARGENTINE INVASION OF FALKLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES WAS FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL BEHAVIOUR. HE MUCH WELCOMED REASSURANCE THAT WE REMAIN DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT AND THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT WE HAD CARRIED OUT A SUCCESSFUL ACTION WITH MINIMUM USE OF FORCE AND WITHOUT FATAL CASUALTIES. YOUR MESSAGE TO STRAY, WHICH ARRIVED JUST AS BERG WAS MAKING THIS POINT, HE DESCRIBED AS QUOTE MOST HELPFUL UNQUOTE. HE HOPED THAT QUOTE THE ONE EVENT IN SOUTH GEORGIA WOULD HAVE A SOBERING EFFECT ON THE ARGENTINE LEADERS UNQUOTE AND THUS MAKE VITAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEACE PROCESS YOU MENTIONED IN THE MESSAGE.

5. BERG STRESSED THAT NORWEGIAN DECISION TO BAN IMPORTS FROM ARGENTINA WAS SEEN BY GOVERNMENT PRIMARILY AS CONTRIBUTION TO PRESSURE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION. THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF GOING BACK ON IT, ALTHOUGH HE ENVISAGED POSSIBLE DIFFICULTIES BEING RAISED IN STARTING NOW THAT THERE HAS BEEN A MILITARY ENGAGEMENT. OUR USE OF MINIMAL FORCE WOULD CERTAINLY HELP GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH THIS. THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK ACTIVELY TO CLEAR PARLIAMENTARY FORMALITIES REQUIRED BEFORE IMPORT BAN FINALLY BECOMES LAW. BERG ESTIMATED THIS WOULD TAKE A FURTHER 2-3 WEEKS.

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BERG SAID NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT RUSH INTO A STATEMENT OF THEIR REACTIONS, BUT WOULD HAVE TO RESPOND TO ENQUIRIES TODAY. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT PUBLIC LINE WOULD REFLECT MUCH OF HIS OWN THINKING, INCLUDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT BRITIAN REMAINS COMMITTED TO PEACEFUL SOLUTION IF POSSIBLE.

7. STATE SECRETARY ALSO REFERRED TO STRONG NORWEGIAN HISTORICAL INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTH GEORGIA WHALING STATIONS AND IN ANTARCTIC, WHICH GAVE EXTRA DIMENSION TO NORWEGIAN PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE CRISIS.

8. WE THUS RETAIN THE SUPPORT OF NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT AND I BELIEVE THAT, IF WE CAN CONTINUE TO PRESENT OUR CASE ON PRESENT BASIS WITH MINIMUM USE OF FORCE AND EMPHASIS ON OUR COMMITMENT TO DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS, WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO KEEP THEM WITH US.

9. MEDIA COVERAGE HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE BUT SO FAR EXCLUSIVELY FACTUAL. SOME PAPERS CARRY COMMENT BY BRITISH OPPOSITION POLITICIANS AS WELL AS THOSE OF OUR OWN MINISTERS.

FCO PLEASE PASS INFO SAVING TO COPENHAGEN, STOCKHOLM AND HELSINKI

BROWN

NNNN

SENT AT 261406Z WEJP