

IMMEDIATE

(37)

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(37) + 7 CMB

PS ~~MR~~ (6)
 PS/MR HURD
 PS/MR ONSLOR
 PS/PUS
 MR GIFFARD
 MR WRIGHT
 MR ADAMS
 MR URE
 MR GILLMORE
 ED/S AN D (PCO DIST + A/D P/1)
 ED/DEF D
 ED/NEWS D
 HD/UND
 ED/PLANNING STAFF
 MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60
 RESIDENT CLERK
 HD/SAFD

NO 10 DOWNING ST
 PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
 PS/CHANCELLOR)
 SIR K COUZENS)
 MR LITTLE)
 MR HAFTIN)
 MR PERETZ) TREASURY
 MR LEFT)
 MR MCINTYRE)
 MISS DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/ES
 DIO CABINET OFFICE
 MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE
 MR FULLER SAPU/DIO " "
 SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE
 SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

ADVANCE COPY

SECRET

FM CAPE TOWN EMBASSY 010900Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE F C O

TELEGRAM NUMBER 302 OF 1 MAY

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON UKNIS NEW YORK PRETORIA AND NODUK CINCFLEET

MY TELNO 301: FALKLANDS: ARMS SALES

1. THE CAPE TIMES THIS MORNING (1 MAY) CARRIES A REPORT FROM NEW YORK THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAVE PROMISED ARGENTINA ALL THE HELP IT NEEDS, AND THAT A DELEGATION OF SOVIET OFFICIALS YESTERDAY HAD A MEETING WITH THE JUNTA IN BUENOS AIRES. THE REPORT ALSO SAYS THAT THE CUBANS HAVE OFFERED MILITARY AND TECHNICAL AID, AN OFFER WHICH THE JUNTA HAVE NEITHER ACCEPTED NOR REJECTED.

2. THE MOST EFFECTIVE ARGUMENT WE HAVE TO DISSUADE THE SOUTH AFRICANS FROM SUPPLYING THE ARGENTINIANS WITH AMMUNITION OR OTHER DEFENCE EQUIPMENT WOULD BE THAT THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA ARE ALSO DOING

SO, I AM DUE TO MAKE MY INITIAL CALL ON PIK BOTHA ON MONDAY (3 MAY) AND COULD MAKE GOOD USE OF THIS PRESS REPORT. IT WOULD BE ALL THE MORE TELLING IF I COULD SAY THAT WE WERE ABLE TO CONFIRM IT OR, BETTER STILL, ADD TO IT. IF THIS IS POSSIBLE, GRATEFUL FOR TELEGRAM DESKBY 031000Z (SEE ALSO MY TELNO 300).

3. THE SOUTH AFRICANS WILL ALSO NO DOUBT BE INFLUENCED BY THE AMERICAN DECISION TO CUT OFF ALL MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ARGENTINA. THIS IS NOT AN ARGUMENT WHICH IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO USE WITH PIK BOTHA. BUT, IF THE AMERICANS ARE AWARE OF, OR COULD BE MADE AWARE OF, OUR SECRET INFORMATION, THEY MIGHT PERHAPS BE PREPARED TO SPEAK TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS THEMSELVES.

FCO PSE PASS EXCEPT PRETORIA.

FERGUSSON