

TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(30x20) (32)

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

IMMEDIATE

D/B 061700Z
(rec'd 1655Z)

ED/S AM D (FCO DIST + A/D E/I)
ED/DEF D
ED/NEWS D
ED/UND
ED/PLANNING STAFF
MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60
RESIDENT CLERK

PS NO 10 DOWNING ST (2)

PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE

PS/CHANCELLOR)
SIR K COUZENS)
MR LITTLER)
MR HAWTHIN) TREASURY
MR PERETZ)
MR ILETT)
MR McINTYRE)

MISS DICKSON (HIP DIV) D/EN

DIO CABINET OFFICE
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE
MR FULLER SAP/DIO " "

SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE
SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

ADVANCE COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 061700Z

FM UKMIS GENEVA 061600Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 217 OF 6 MAY 1982

INFO BERNE, MONTEVIDEO, WASHINGTON, BRASILIA

YOUR TELNO 143: REPATRIATION OF POWS

1. ADAMS CALLED ON ICRC TODAY TO DISCUSS THEIR VISIT TO ASCENSION ISLAND. THEY HAD ALREADY RECEIVED DETAILS FROM THE BRITISH RED CROSS.

2. HOCKE SAID THAT ICRC GLADLY ACCEPTED THE ARRANGEMENTS PROPOSED. THE TEAM OF TWO DELEGATES PLUS A DOCTOR (NAMES TO BE NOTIFIED TO US ON 7 MAY) WOULD ALL BE EXPERIENCED VISITORS OF POWS AND WOULD ARRIVE IN LONDON IN TIME TO LEAVE FOR ASCENSION ON NIGHT OF 8/9 MAY. ICRC ASKED THAT TWO OF THE TEAM SHOULD ACCOMPANY THE PRISONERS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE JOURNEY. THEY WOULD PREFER THE THIRD TO GO AS WELL IF POSSIBLE.

3. HOCKE ASKED IF THE INJURED SAILOR AND THE BODY OF THE DEAD ARGENTINIAN WERE ON THE SHIP. HE STRESSED THE NEED TO RETURN THE BODY AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

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4. PASQUIER ASKED IF WE HAD CONSIDERED USING A CHARTERED AIRCRAFT, WITH RED CROSS MARKINGS, TO TAKE THE PRISONERS ON FROM ASCENSION. ICRC WOULD PREFER THIS. THE NEUTRALITY OF SUCH AN AIRCRAFT WOULD BE IN NO DOUBT AND SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD SOLVE ANY DIFFICULTIES OVER THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF THE PLANE. HE THOUGHT HE COULD ARRANGE SUCH AN AIRCRAFT WITHIN 48 HOURS IF WE WISHED. HE MENTIONED THE DUTCH CHARTER COMPANY, MARTINAIR. ADAMS UNDERTOOK TO SEEK YOUR VIEWS.

5. HOCHE WONDERED WHETHER ICRC OR BRITISH RED CROSS WOULD PROVIDE ITEMS SUCH AS FOOD, CLOTHES ETC, TO THE PRISONERS ON ASCENSION. THIS WAS A MATTER OF PRESENTATION. IT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL BOTH FOR THE UK AND ICRC IF THE PRISONERS LOOKED WELL CARED FOR WHEN THEY ARRIVED IN A THIRD COUNTRY AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANT WHEN THEY REACHED ARGENTINA.

6. PASQUIER POINTED OUT THAT THE ICRC TEAM'S REPORTS ON THEIR INSPECTION OF THE PRISONERS WOULD ISSUE SOON IN DUPLICATE TO US AND THE ARGENTINIANS. THESE REPORTS WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL AND ICRC WOULD NOT (NOT) WISH THEM TO BE PUBLISHED.

7. HOCHE ASKED WHEN THEY COULD LET THE ARGENTINIANS KNOW OF THE ICRC TRIP TO ASCENSION. THE ARGENTINE MISSION HERE WAS PRESSING THEM HARD AFTER SEEING PRESS REPORTS THAT THE PRISONERS HAD LEFT SOUTH GEORGIA. SO FAR ICRC HAD SAID NOTHING.

8. ICRC ARE STILL ANXIOUS TO PUT A TEAM ON THE FALKLANDS AND NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ARGENTINIANS ARE CONTINUING. THEY WOULD PREFER TO SAIL FROM AN ARGENTINIAN PORT SO SAVING TIME WHICH WOULD BE LOST NEGOTIATING WITH A THIRD COUNTRY. PASQUIER THOUGHT THAT THE BEST TIME TO TRAVEL WOULD BE DURING AN OFFICIAL CEASE FIRE. THEY ARE AWARE OF MOD'S NEED FOR SAILING DETAILS AND 36 HOUR NOTICE. (YOUR TELNO 110). THEY WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO THE BOAT BEING CHECKED AT SEA.

MARSHALL

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CCRN PARA 2 LINE 1 SHOULD READ

2. HOCHE SAID THAT ICRC GLADLY ETC ETC ETC