

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (36)

PS  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/MR ONSLOW  
PS/PUS  
MR ~~BULLARD~~ HANNAY  
SIR I SINCLAIR  
MR GIFFARD  
MR WRIGHT  
~~MR ADAMS~~  
LORD N G LENNOX  
LORD BRIDGES  
MR URE  
MR GILLMORE  
HD/PUSD  
HD/S AM D  
HD/DEF DEPT  
HD/NEWS DEPT  
HD/ERD  
HD/ECD(E)  
HD/UND  
HD/PLANNING STAFF  
MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60  
EMERGENCY ROOM  
~~RESIDENT CLERK~~  
HD/WED  
~~LEGAL ADVISER~~

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (2)  
PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE  
MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD  
PS/CHANCELLOR )  
MR ILETT ) TREASURY  
MR LITTLER )  
SIR R ARMSTRONG )  
SIR M PALLISER ) CABINET  
MR WADE-GERY ) OFFICE  
MR FULLER SAPU/DIO )  
DIO )  
IRM 8 FOR MODUK C IN C FLEET

[Passed to E.R.]

ADVANCE COPY

UNCLASSIFIED  
FM PARIS 131735Z MAY 82  
TO PRIORITY FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 486 OF 14 MAY 1982

MY TEL NO 482: FALKLANDS : ASTIZ  
1. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT ASTIZ IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON 12 MAY, CHEYSSON SAID THAT AS SOON AS THE CAPTURE OF ASTIZ WAS KNOWN (SIC) THE FRENCH HAD MADE ENQUIRIES OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. THE LATTER HAD CONFIRMED TWO HOURS EARLIER THAT DAY THAT ASTIZ WAS ONE OF THE PRISONERS. THE FRENCH HAD THEN MADE A DEMARCHE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES REQUESTING THEM TO DELAY THE RETURN OF ASTIZ TO ARGENTINA. CHEYSSON SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO PROOF, THERE WAS MUCH EVIDENCE POINTING TO ASTIZ'S RESPONSIBILITY NOT ONLY FOR THE HORRIFYING TREATMENT INFLICTED ON HIS OWN COMPATRIOTS BUT ALSO FOR THE DISAPPEARANCE OF TWO FRENCH NUNS.  
2. CHEYSSON CONTINUED: " IN A FIRST REPLY TO THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT INDICATED THAT IT WAS COMMITTED TO RETURNING ALL ARGENTINE PRISONERS THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF URUGUAY AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS IN THE SAME WAY AS THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT RETURNED ON 9 APRIL

OF URUGUAY AND UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS  
IN THE SAME WAY AS THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT RETURNED ON 2 APRIL  
THE BRITISH PRISONERS IT HAD TAKEN ON THE FALKLANDS. WE DO NOT  
KNOW WHAT ITS FINAL REPLY WILL BE, BUT GIVEN THE SERIOUSNESS OF  
THE MATTER WE HOPE THAT IT WILL BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER ITS  
POSITION.''

3. THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE PRESS INTEREST IN ASTIZ OVER  
THE PAST FEW DAYS.  
FRETWELL.

NNNN

SENT PARIS 14/  
TKS

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