

Z 235/14

132

14 MAY

PP FCO

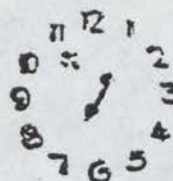
GRS 200

CONFIDENTIAL

FM CARACAS 141500Z MAY 82

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 167 OF 14 MAY



VENEZUELA AND FALKLANDS

1. FOLLOWING A MINISTERIAL MISSION TO BUENOS AIRES THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT ARE SENDING FURTHER MISSION TO SEVERAL EUROPEAN CAPITALS AT GALTIERI'S REQUEST. DATES GIVEN ARE 15-29 MAY. AT PRESENT PLANNED ITINERARY IS SPAIN, VATICAN, WEST GERMANY, BELGIUM, HOLLAND AND FRANCE, POSSIBLY ENDING UP IN USA. MISSION WILL BE LED BY DR GARCIA BUSTILLOS, MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY, AND WILL INCLUDE THE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER DR PAEZ PUMAR. THE GOVERNING COPEI PARTY, THE ACCION DEMOCRATICA OPPOSITION AND THE MAIN LEFT-WING PARTY MAS WILL ALSO BE REPRESENTED.
2. PURPOSE OF MISSION IS TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH ARGENTIN. IT WILL UNDERLINE APPARENT QUOTE FLEXIBILITY UNQUOTE SHOWN BY GALTIERI IN JOINT ARGENTINE/ VENEZUELAN DISCUSSIONS IN BUENOR AIRES, IT WILL SEEK THE LIFTING OF SANCIONS, AND IS CLEARLY AIMED AT ISOLATING UK FROM EUROPE. ITS MAIN IMPACT WILL PROBABLY BE ON INTERNAL OPINION HERE AS IT AT LEAST GIVES IMPRESSION THAT VENEZUELAN LEADERSHIP IS DOING SOMETHING POSITIVE.

SECONDE

SECRET