

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (37)

PS  
PS/MR HURD  
PS/MR ONSLOW  
PS/PUS  
MR BULLARD  
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

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 )  
RM 8 FOR MODUK C IN C FLEET

*[Handwritten signature]* [Passed to E.R.]

[Typists a.a.]

GRS 280  
CONFIDENTIAL  
FROM UKMIS GENEVA 171452Z MAY 82  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELNO 251 OF 17 MAY  
INFO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA, MONTEVIDEO, BERNE

ADVANCE COPY  
IMMEDIATE

YOUR TELNO 168: FALKLANDS: REPATRIATION OF POWS

1. HEAD OF CHANCERY TOOK ACTION WITH HOCHE, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF OPERATIONS AND PASQUIER, DELEGATE-GENERAL FOR LATIN AMERICA AT ICRC.

2. ON THE COSTS OF THE SOUTH GEORGIA REPATRIATION, HOCHE AND PASQUIER SAID THAT THE NORMAL PRACTICE WAS FOR THE DETAINING POWER TO PAY ALL COSTS UNTIL THE FRONTIER OF THE PRISONERS' HOME COUNTRY. THEY RECOGNISED THE JUSTICE OF YOUR SUGGESTION THAT THE ARGENTINIANS SHOULD PAY A SHARE, BUT WERE EMPHATIC THAT IT HAD BEEN CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD DURING ALL THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE SOUTH GEORGIA REPATRIATION VIA ASCENSION ISLAND THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD PAY THE COSTS OF THE AIRCRAFT. WE HAD AFTER ALL

PRESCRIBED THE MEANS OF TRAVEL AND ROUTE TO BE USED. IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE ICRC WOULD NOT (NOT) BE WILLING TO FORWARD THE MARTINAIR BILL TO THE ARGENTINIANS, AND THAT THEY INTEND INSTEAD TO SEND IT TO US.

3. AS FOR FUTURE REPATRIATIONS AND THE CREW OF THE NARWAL, ICRC TOOK NOTE AND COMMENTED THAT THEY DID NOT THINK THAT IT WAS NOT THE PROVISIONS OF THE SECOND GENEVA CONVENTION WHICH WOULD CAUSE DIFFICULTIES, BUT RATHER THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF DELIVERY. THEY WERE ATTRACTED TO THE IDEA OF USING HOSPITAL SHIPS BUT EMPHASISED THAT FOR FUTURE TRANSFERS IT WOULD BE OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO HAVE CLEAR AND ACCURATE LISTS BEFOREHAND OF PRISONERS TO BE RELEASED. THEY THINK THAT WE SHOULD THEREFORE PUT FORWARD OUR CONCRETE PROPOSALS ON MEANS OF REPATRIATING THE NARWAL AND FUTURE PRISONERS, WHICH THEY WOULD BE GLAD TO CLEAR WITH THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES. THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER WHETHER THEY CAN OFFER ANY FURTHER GUIDANCE.

MARSHALL

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SENT / RECD AT 17/1513Z IM/JM