

TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (38) ~~(44)~~ (43)

(6)

PS/MR HURD
 PS/MR ONSLOW
 PS/PJS
 MR BULLARD
 SIR I SINCLAIR
 MR GIFFARD
 MR WRIGHT
 MR ADAMS
 LORD N:G LENNOX
 LORD BRIDGES
~~MR UPE~~
 MR GILLMORE
 HD/PUSD (2)
 HD/S AM D
 HD/DEF DEPT
 HD/NEWS DEPT
 HD/EPD
 HD/ECD(E)
 HD/USD
 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

Miss Dickson, D/ENERGY

[Passed to E.R.]

TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPY
 IMMEDIATE

GRS 350A
 RESTRICTED

FM COPENHAGEN 21/1330Z MAY 82
 TO PRIORITY FCO
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 143 OF 21 MAY

YOUR TELNO 41: FALKLAND ISLANDS: WINSTON CHURCHILL/ARGENTINE
 AMBASSADOR DEBATE

1. MR WINSTON CHURCHILL (WHOSE PROPOSED VISIT TO COPENHAGEN WAS REPORTED IN ADVANCE) CAME HERE TO GIVE A PUBLIC LECTURE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING INSTITUTE. AS TOO SMALL AN AUDIENCE WANTED TO HEAR MR CHURCHILL ON SECURITY OF THE WEST, HE SUGGESTED THAT HE SPEAK ON THE FALKLANDS CRISIS AND THE ORGANISER SUBSEQUENTLY TURNED THIS INTO A DEBATE WITH THE ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR WHICH ATTRACTED AN AUDIENCE OF SOME 300 PEOPLE AND EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE. DANMARKS TV DID NOT TRANSMIT ANY OF THE DEBATE, PREFERRING TO SHOW A

DID NOT TRANSMIT ANY OF THE DEBATE, PREFERRING TO SHOW A SEPARATE INTERVIEW WITH MR CHURCHILL. AS YOU KNOW, BBC TELEVISION WERE ALSO THERE. A FEW AMBASSADORS AND OTHER DIPLOMATS ATTENDED, WE WERE REPRESENTED BY SECOND SECRETARY.

2. THE INTEREST IN DENMARK REFLECTED THE FACT THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST SUCH DIRECT EXCHANGE SINCE THE ARGENTINE INVASION AND ALSO EXPECTATION OF FIREWORKS AS MR CHURCHILL IS KNOWN HERE AS A HAWK. THE POINT WAS TAKEN THAT MR CHURCHILL IS A BACK-BENCHER, NOT A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN. HE DECLINED BRIEFING IN THE FCO AND WE HAD TIME ONLY TO ADVISE HIM (WITH A VIEW TO RENEWAL OF THE IMPORT BAN) AGAINST SEEMING TO PREFER DRASTIC ACTION TO A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION. HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT WAS, IN FACT, RELATIVELY RESTRAINED, ALTHOUGH A LEADING MODERATE CONSERVATIVE WEEKLY PAPER HERE TODAY CRITICISES HIS EQUATION OF OUR CONFLICT WITH HITLER'S GERMANY AND WITH ARGENTINA AND COMPLAINS THAT HE WAS NOT WELL-INFORMED ON SPECIFICALLY FALKLAND MATTERS.

3. MR CHURCHILL WON THE DEBATE ON POINTS, THE AMBASSADOR BEING HANDICAPPED NOT ONLY BY HIS CASE BUT LINGUISTICALLY AND IN LACKING DEBATING EXPERIENCE. HE ALSO OVER-REACTED WHEN MR CHURCHILL ATTACKED HIS GOVERNMENT. THE EVENT WILL NOT HAVE DONE US ANY HARM AND PROBABLY SOME GOOD. BUT WE DOUBT WHETHER IT GREATLY INFLUENCED DANISH ATTITUDES TO THE FALKLANDS CRISIS, WHICH REMAIN LARGELY SYMPATHETIC TO US AND OPPOSED TO THE JUNTA.

WARBURTON

NNNN

SENT AT 21/1545Z MGD