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FM WASHINGTON 141730Z JUN 82
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 2123 OF 14 JUNE
INFO MODUK

FALKLANDS: AWACS

- 1. NEW YORK TIMES HAVE REPORTED TWICE OVER THE WEEKEND, STARTING WITH A REFERENCE IN AN ARTICLE BY DREW MIDDLETON ON 11 JUNE, THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAVE APPROACHED THE U.S. FOR LOAN OF AWACS AIRCRAFT FOR AERIAL RECONNAISANCE OVER THE FALKLANDS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUNDAY EXPRESS RAN A SIMILAR STORY YESTERDAY.
- 2. WE HAVE TOLD THE NEW YORK TIMES BUREAU HERE UNATTRIBUTABLY THAT IT IS NOT TRUE THAT WE HAVE APPROACHED THE U.S. ABOUT AWACS. IT

IT IS NOT TRUE THAT WE HAVE APPROACHED THE U.S. ABOUT AWACS. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU OR MOD COULD FIND A SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THE SAME POINT TO DREW MIDDLETON SO THAT IT IS NOT REPEATED.

3. ADVANCE COPIES TO NEWS DEPT. AND MOD PLEASE.

THOMAS

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