

16 JUN 82

RS 275

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BRASILIA 17:0430Z JUN 82

TO FLASH FCO

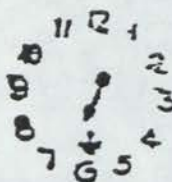
TELEGRAM NUMBER 232 OF 17 JUNE

AND TO FLASH MODUK CINCFLEET

REPEATED TO INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON DESKEY 171300Z,

UKMIS NEW YORK DESKBY 171300Z, BERNE DESKBY 170800Z

IMMEDIATE MONTEVIDEO, SANTIAGO



YOUR TELNO 119 TO BERNE AND MY TELNO 280: FALKLANDS CEASEFIRE

1. MFA HAVE RECEIVED FROM BRAZILIAN EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES THE TEXT IN SPANISH OF A NOTE DATED 15 JUNE WHICH READS (IN OUR TRANSLATION) AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINS

(USUAL BEGINNING)

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IS READY TO RECEIVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE ARGENTINE PERSONNEL WHO ARE NOW IN THE HALVINAS ISLANDS. FOR THIS PURPOSE, IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PROCEDURE FOLLOWED UP TO THIS MOMENT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFLICT SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE APPLIED.

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL CONFORM IN THIS RESPECT TO THAT WELL-TRIED PROCEDURE, CARRIED OUT IN COOPERATION WITH THE URUGUAYAN GOVERNMENT AND WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS, WHICH HAS ENABLED TRANSFER IN A VERY FEW HOURS TO ARGENTINE TERRITORY.

ANY ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE UNILATERALLY OTHER CONDITIONS OF A POLITICAL CHARACTER ASIDE FROM THE HUMANITARIAN PURPOSE IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. OTHERWISE, THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WILL BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR USING THE FATE OF THESE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

(USUAL ENDING)

ENDS.

2. ITAMARATY WERE UNABLE TO OFFER ANY COMMENT ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS OBVIOUSLY UNHELPFUL REPLY TO YOUR MESSAGE PASSED TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT THROUGH BOTH THE BRAZILIANS AND THE SWISS ON 15 JUNE.

3. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, WE HAVE NOT YET MADE IT CLEAR EITHER TO THE

3. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, WE HAVE NOT YET MADE IT CLEAR EITHER TO THE BRAZILIANS OR TO THE ARGENTINES THAT THE SS CANBERRA CANNOT ENTER MONTEVIDEO (YOUR TELNO 369 TO MONTEVIDEO AND PARAGRAPH 2 OF MY TELNO 278 REFERS). YOU MAY WISH TO INSTRUCT ME TO MAKE THIS POINT CLEAR TO THE BRAZILIANS. OTHERWISE, THEY WILL CONSIDER THIS UNCOMPROMISING ARGENTINE REPLY AS CLOSING THE DOOR TO THE PARTICIPATION OF BRAZIL - OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY, SAVE URUGUAY - IN THE REPATRIATION PROCESS.

HARDING

NNNN

SENT/RECD AT 17:0515Z AD//KJM