

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (40)

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/PIIS *PS/MR RIFKIND*
SIR J BULLARD
SIR J SINCLAIR
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
LORD N GORDON LENNOX
LORD BRIDGES
MR URE
MR GILLMORE
HD/PUSD (2)
HD/S Am D
HD/DEFENCE D
HD/NEWS D
HD/ERD
HD/ECD(E)
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF
Ad/NEED
~~EMERGENCY UNIT~~
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 }

MISS DICKSON D/ENERGY

SIR R ARMSTRONG }
SIR M PALLISER } CABINET OFFICE
MR WADE-GERY }
MR FULLER SAPU/DIO }
DIO }

~~Room 8 FOR MODUK C IN C FLEET~~

[Passed to E.R.]

[Typists a.a.]

GRS 330

CONFIDENTIAL

FM PARIS 171715Z JUN 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 642 OF 17 JUNE 1982

INFO PRIORITY BONN, UKMIS NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON

INFO ROUTINE MODUK AND LIMA

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

YOUR TELNO 373: ARMS SUPPLIES FOR ARGENTINA

1. I TOOK ACTION ON YOUR TUR WITH MARTIN, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL AT THE QUAI. DORIN, DIRECTOR FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS, WAS PRESENT. I STRESSED THAT ARGENTINA WOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO CONTINUE OR RENEW HOSTILITIES IF SHE WERE NOW TO START RECEIVING ARMS.

2. MARTIN BEGAN BY SAYING THAT THE ARMS EMBARGO HAD CAUSED SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES FOR FRANCE. THE PERUVIANS HAD THREATENED TO BREAK OFF RELATIONS BECAUSE OF FRENCH REFUSAL TO RELEASE THE FOUR EXOCETS, AND HAD DEMANDED FINANCIAL COMPENSATION. HE ADDED HOWEVER THAT THE FRENCH WERE ALSO CONSCIOUS OF THE DIFFICULTIES FOR THE UK AND THE POTENTIAL RISKS. WHEN I ASKED WHY THE PERUVIANS WANTED THE ARMS SO URGENTLY, DORIN CLAIMED THAT THEIR INSISTENCE STEMMED FROM THEIR TOUCHY SENSE OF HONOUR. THEY FELT THAT THEIR WORD (IE PROMISE TO

TOUCHY SENSE OF HONOUR. THEY FELT THAT THEIR WORD (IE PROMISE TO RESPECT THE END-USER CERTIFICATES) WAS BEING QUESTIONED. DORIN ALSO SAID THAT THE PERUVIANS CATEGORICALLY DENIED HAVING TRANSFERRED MIRAGES TO ARGENTINA.

3. MARTIN THEN SAID HE WISHED TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT FOR THE PRESENT FRANCE WOULD CONTINUE TO RESPECT THE UK'S WISHES. CHEYSSON HAD ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO THAT EFFECT. HOWEVER HE (MARTIN) WANTED US TO UNDERSTAND THAT FRANCE'S STAND CAUSED GREAT PROBLEMS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY PERU.

4. BEFORE MY CALL ON MARTIN, FOUQUET, HEAD OF SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT, HAD LET SLIP WHEN ACTION WAS BEING TAKEN WITH HIM ON YOUR GUIDANCE TELNO 131 THAT THE FRENCH WERE THINKING OF MAKING A STATEMENT ON THE FALKLANDS WHICH WOULD CALL FOR APPLICATION OF SCR502. FOUQUET SAID THE STATEMENT WAS UNLIKELY TO BE MADE BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE TEN FOREIGN MINISTERS ON 21 JUNE. WE POINTED OUT THAT A STATEMENT OF THAT SORT WOULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD IN LONDON AND DREW HIS ATTENTION TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S REMARKS ON RESOLUTION 502 IN PARLIAMENT ON 15 JUNE. WHEN I ASKED MARTIN ABOUT A POSSIBLE FRENCH STATEMENT HE SAID AT FIRST THAT NONE WAS ENVISAGED. HE THEN ADDED THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE ONE AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER THE MEETING ON 21 JUNE.

FRETWELL

NNNN

SENT/RECD AT 17,- 1747Z DA