

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL 42

PS HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/MR RIFKIND
PS/PUS
SIR J BULLARD
SIR I SINCLAIR
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
LORD N G LENNOX
LORD BRIDGES
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

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)
MR A D S GOODALL)
MR FULLER SAPU/DIO) CABINET OFFICE
DIO)

HD/PUSD (2)
HD/S AM D
HD/FALKLANDS UNIT (2)
HD/DEFENCE DEPT
HD/NEWS DEPT
HD/ERD
HD/ECD(E)
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF
RESIDENT CLERK

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IMMEDIATE
ADVANCE COPY

C O N F I D E N T I A L
SIC CSN

TELEGRAM NO29 FALKLAND ISLANDERS MORALE

1. I VISITED GOOSE GREEN, DARWIN, FITZROY AND BLUFF COVE LAST WEEK AND WAS MUCH REASSURED BY WHAT I SAW PD MORALE IS EXCELLENT PD THE GURKHAS WHO ARE STATIONED AT GOOSE GREEN HAVE DONE A GREAT JOB IN CLEANING UP THE MESS AND HAVE WON THE HEARTS OF THE LOCAL POPULATION PD THERE ARE PROBLEMS - EG THE ARGENTINES TOOK AWAY ALL RADIO TRANSCEIVERS AND RAN THE SETTLEMENTS LAND ROVER TO A STANDSTILL (THEY DID NOT BOTHER WITH ROUTINE MAINTENANCE LIKE OIL AND WATER) PD BUT THESE ARE SUPERABLE AND IT IS REMARKABLE HOW QUICKLY THE PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED BADLY DURING THE WAR (115 AT GOOSE GREEN LOCKED UP FOR 4 WEEKS IN THE CLUB WITH TOTALLY INADEQUATE SANITATION CMM LACK OF FOOD ETC) AND PICKING UP THE THREADS PD BWM STANLEY MORALE IS TWO WEEKS BEHIND GOOSE GREEN PD MANY TOWNSFOLK ARE DEPRESSED AND STILL IN SOME SHOCK PD THERE IS LETHARGY IN

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GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND E FEELING IN SOME QUARTERS THAT IT IS ALL TOO DIFFICULT PD THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE GIVEN THE DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS AND THE GENERAL SQUALOR IN THE TOWN (ARGENTINE CONSCRIPTS LEFT EXCREPENT IN DRAWS CMM BATHS CMM SINKS AND ON BEDS CMM CHAIRS AND KITCHEN TABLES) PD THERE IS TOO MUCH BACKBITING - THOSE WHO LEFT STANLEY ARE ACCUSED OF RUNNING AWAY CMM THOSE WHO STAYED OF COLLABORATING - AND THE SILLY STORIES PERSIST ABOUT THE TWO COUNCILLORS WHO WENT TO THE NEW YORK TALKS KNOWING IN ADVANCE ABOUT THE INVASION PD BUT THINGS ARE IMPROVING PD SUPPLIES IN THE SHOPS ARE PLENTIFUL PD THERE IS NO SHORTAGE OF FOOD OR DRINK (ALTHOUGH CMM AS I HAVE REPORTED THERE ARE SOME PROBLEMS OVER FUEL) AND RELATIONS WITH THE MILITARY CMM WHO ARE SHOWING SENSITIVITY AS WELL AS GREAT ENERGY IN HELPING WITH REHABILITATION CMM REMAIN VERY GOOD

3. I SEE MY MOST IMPORTANT IMMEDIATE TASKS AS THE RESTORATION OF MORALE AND UNITY AND ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNMENT MACHINE INTO EFFECTIVE ACTION PD MUCH WILL DEPEND ON THE SPEED AND EFFICIENCY WITH WHICH YOU CAN MEET MY REQUESTS FOR MATERIAL AND STAFFING ASSISTANCE PD ONLY ONE OR TWO ISLANDERS HAVE SO FAR TALKED ABOUT LEAVING FOR GOOD BUT I WOULD NOT EXCLUDE THAT THIS NUMBER COULD GROW IF IMPROVEMENTS ARE NOT SEEN QUICKLY PD

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4. IT WILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE I CAN OFFER ANY ASSESSMENT OF HOW THE ISLANDERS SEE THEIR POLITICAL FUTURE PD MOST HAVE NOT GOT ROUND TO THINKING ABOUT IT PD BUT OF ONE THING I AM SURE: THEY WILL NOT IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE SANCTION ANY SUGGESTION OF ANY SORT OF NEGOTIATION WITH THE ARGENTINES ON THEIR FUTURE

5. PLEASE REPEAT AS NECESSARY

HUNT

BT