



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
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MO 5/21

2nd April 1984

Prime Minister.

Dear John,

A.C. 3/4.

FALKLANDS - ALLEGATIONS OF LANDINGS BY DESTEFANIS

The Prime Minister will have seen the press reports alleging that Senor Destefanis has landed on the Falkland Islands in a small boat and planted an Argentine flag. CBF Falkland Islands was alerted to these reports, and has carried out helicopter sweeps and foot patrols of the southern coast of West Falkland, where the landing is claimed to have been. These have found no evidence to substantiate Destefanis' claims. However, as the Prime Minister will know, the area is extensive, rugged and thinly populated and we cannot categorically rule out the possibility of a landing. We have always recognised that our garrison does not have the capability to detect a landing from a small boat for a short period, but unless hard evidence comes to light it seems likely that the claim is false, as has proved to be the case with Destefanis in the past.

We do not intend to divert efforts specifically to continue a search, but all our forces operating in the area have been instructed to remain vigilant. I shall let you know if there are any developments.

I am copying this letter to Peter Ricketts and Richard Hatfield.

Yours ever  
 Mick Evans

(N H R EVANS)

A J Coles Esq

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