

GRS 360

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TO PRIORITY FCO

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OF 061510Z NOVEMBER 85

INFO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO, SANTIAGO, WASHINGTON, CC STANLEY,  
MOD (SIC A3A)

FALKLANDS - TRIAL OF MILITARY COMMANDERS

1. THE TRIAL OF 16 ARGENTINE OFFICERS FOR INFRACTIONS OF MILITARY LAW ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED DURING THE FALKLANDS CONFLICT WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER BEFORE A COURT OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE ARMED FORCES.

2. THOSE CHARGED ARE:

ARMY

LT GEN L GALTIERI: GEN O GARCIA: BRIG GENS M B MENENDEZ, O JOFFRE AND O PARADA: COLS E REPOSSI AND J MABRAGANA: LT COL I PIAGGI.

NAVY

ADM J ANAYA: VICE-ADMIRALS J LOMBARDO AND L SUAREZ DEL CERRO: CAPT L LAGOS: LT A ASTIZ.

AIR FORCE

BRIG GEN B LAMI DOZO: BRIG MAYOR H WEBER: COMM W PEDROZO.

3. GALTIERI, ANAYA AND LAMI DOZO ARE IN PREVENTIVE DETENTION. THE OTHERS ARE NOT DETAINED BUT MUST BE AVAILABLE TO THE COURT DURING THE TRIAL. OF THE 16 OFFICERS ALL ARE RETIRED EXCEPT LAGOS, ASTIZ AND PEDROZO.

4. THE TRIAL HAS ITS ORIGIN IN A DECREE ISSUED ON 2 DECEMBER 1982 BY THE MILITARY JUNTA AT THAT TIME, ORDERING AN EVALUATION OF THE FALKLANDS CONFLICT. FOR THIS PURPOSE IT ESTABLISHED A COMMISSION UNDER THE LATE GENERAL RATTENBACH WHICH PRESENTED ITS SECRET REPORT IN SEPTEMBER 1983. ON THE BASIS OF THAT REPORT THE FOURTH MILITARY JUNTA UNDER GENERAL BIGNONE ORDERED IN OCTOBER 1983 THE TRIAL OF THOSE CONSIDERED RESPONSIBLE FOR INFRACTIONS OF MILITARY LAW.

5. DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS EVIDENCE HAS BEEN GATHERED BY THE PROSECUTING AND DEFENCE LAWYERS. THE FORTHCOMING TRIAL WILL BE THE CULMINATION OF THIS LENGTHY PROCESS. IT WILL NOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (UNLIKE THE HUMAN RIGHTS TRIAL), BUT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, THE ARMED FORCES AND PARLIAMENTARY DEFENCE COMMITTEES WILL BE PRESENT. IT IS EXPECTED TO LAST 10 DAYS. SENTENCES TO BE SOUGHT BY THE MILITARY PROSECUTION ARE EXPECTED TO RANGE FROM IMPRISONMENT TO DISCIPLINARY MEASURES. GENERAL RATTENBACH IS SAID TO HAVE DISAGREED WITH THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF HIS COMMISSION AND PUBLICLY STATED THAT IN HIS OPINION BOTH GALTIERI AND ANAYA SHOULD BE SHOT.

SHARKEY

RICH

FALKLAND ISLANDS

LIMITED

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