

TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(29)

PS No.10 DOWNING ST.

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ps/m Hurd  
PS/MR ONSLOW  
~~PS/MR DICKSON~~  
PS/PUS  
MR GIFFARD  
MR WRIGHT  
MR ADAMS  
MR URE  
MR GILLMORE

IMMED

PS/CHANCELLOR  
SIR K COUZENS  
MR LITTLER  
MR HAWTIN  
MR PERETZ  
MR ILETT  
MR McINTYRE  
H.M.TSY

HD/SAMD (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)  
HD/DEF D  
HD/NEWS D  
HD/UND  
HD/PLANNING STAFF  
~~HD/...~~

Miss DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN  
DIO CABINET OFFICE  
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE  
MR FULLER SAPU CABINET OFFICE  
DIO  
SIR M. PALLISER CABINET OFFICE  
SIR R. ARMSTRONG DIO CABINET OFFICE

RESIDENT CLERK

(Copies passed to Emergency Staff, MOD Sitcen and CinC Fleet)

GRS 300

UNCLASSIFIED

FM CANBERRA 270116Z APR 82  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 175 OF 27 APRIL

FALKLAND ISLANDS

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED BY AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER ON 26 APRIL

QUOTE

ADVICE HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT OF THE OPERATION WHICH WAS MOUNTED BY UK FORCES ON 25 APRIL ON SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO USE FORCE TO RE-ESTABLISH ITS ADMINISTRATION IN SOUTH GEORGIA IS A NATURAL CONSEQUENCE OF THE INVASION OF THE FALKLANDS AND SOUTH GEORGIA BY ARGENTINE FORCES, AND THE FAILURE OF ARGENTINA TO COMPLY WITH THE DEMANDS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL TO WITHDRAW ITS FORCES. ARGENTINA HAS REFUSED TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION TO SETTLE THE DISPUTE BY PEACEFUL MEANS AND HAS IGNORED REPEATED WARNINGS

ARGENTINA HAS REFUSED TO TAKE EFFECTIVE ACTION TO SETTLE THE DISPUTE BY PEACEFUL MEANS, AND HAS IGNORED REPEATED WARNINGS FROM THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES JUSTIFIED THE USE OF FORCE. THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT CONTINUED TO REINFORCE ITS MILITARY PRESENCE IN THE FALKLANDS.

THE BRITISH MILITARY ACTION SHOULD THEREFORE NOT HAVE COME AS A SURPRISE.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS I HAVE RECEIVED, THE MILITARY OPERATION WAS RESTRICTED AND MET WITH LIMITED RESISTANCE. ARGENTINE FORCES HAVE SURRENDERED AND IT APPEARS THAT CASUALTIES WERE LIMITED. NEVERTHELESS THE MILITARY ACTION EMPHASISES THE DANGER INHERENT IN THE FALKLANDS SITUATION. IT IS A DANGER TO WHICH I DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION IN MY STATEMENT ON 3 APRIL WHEN I CALLED UPON THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER MOST CAREFULLY POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF ITS ACTION.

THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS HAVE EMPHASISED THE NEED FOR EVEN GREATER EFFORTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE DISPUTE AS CALLED FOR IN RESOLUTION 502. I WELCOME IN THAT REGARD PRESIDENT REAGAN'S SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUATION OF SECRETARY HAIG'S MEDIATION EFFORTS. IT IS A MATTER OF GREAT REGRET THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT INITIATED MILITARY ACTION IN THIS DISPUTE, AND HAS NOT ALLOWED IT TO BE SETTLED BY PEACEFUL MEANS.

UNQUOTE.

MASON

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