

SECRET

Prime Minister

AR 28/4.

FALKLAND ISLANDS: FCO SITREP: 0730, 28 APRIL

OVERNIGHT DEVELOPMENTS

US

1. On 27 April Mr Haig told Sir N Henderson of President Galtieri's great interest in the US proposals; the junta had referred the matter to the corps commanders. Mr Haig said he would keep the Argentines to deadlines and would give up the idea of a further visit to Buenos Aires.
2. Mr Haig telephoned Sir N Henderson in the early hours of 28 April to say that the deadline had passed and that they had not heard a word. Mr Haig added that there were rumours that the Army and Air Force members of the junta were in favour of accepting but the Navy were opposed.
3. Resolutions in support of the UK are likely to be introduced soon in both Houses in the US Congress.

OAS MEETING

4. Argentina had a bad day at the OAS meeting on 27 April. Only Guatemala and Nicaragua endorsed the Argentine invasion and a number of speakers, including Mexico, Trinidad, Costa Rica and Colombia specifically criticised Argentina for abusing fundamental international principles concerning the non-use of force to settle disputes. A drafting group is considering three draft resolutions (of which the only one which does not refer to UNSCR 502 is that submitted by Argentina) and it does not seem likely that the Rio signatories will endorse any specific action against the UK.

FALKLAND EVACUATION

5. A party of 16-23 Islanders is expected to transit Buenos Aires en route to Montevideo on 28 April.

SOUTH GEORGIA

6. Both the ICRC and the Argentines (through the Swiss) have asked for information about the identity and health of Argentine forces on South Georgia and our intentions towards them. The Uruguayans have also asked for information concerning two of their citizens on South Georgia.

BRAZIL

7. On 27 April the Acting Foreign Minister told HMA that the Brazilian Government wished to transmit to HMG its concern over the report that an invasion of the Falklands was imminent and its hope that no move would be made which might impede the negotiating process.

SECRET

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SECRET

BRITISH SHIPPING

8. It seems that port workers in Peru, Venezuela, Colombia and Moscow are boycotting British ships and/or refusing to handle British cargo.

28 April, 1982

E. J. Hughes

E J Hughes
Emergency Unit

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