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AMENDED DISTRIBUTION - 21 MARCH 1982

TO RBDWDF/FCO LONDON

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ZEN/HMS ENDURANCE

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SIC

ILLEGAL LANDING ON S. GEORGIA

1. BASE COMMANDER GRYTVIKEN REPORTED LATE 19 MARCH THAT ONE OF HIS FIELD PARTIES OBSERVED ARGENTINE STN (EQUIVALENT OF ROYAL FLEET AUFNLIARY) VESSEL BAHIA BUEN SUCESE IN LEITH HAREOUR AND SIZEABLE PARTY OF CIVILAN AND MILITARY PERSONNEL ASHORE AT LEITH
2. FIELD PARTY REPORTED SHOTS FIRED ARGENTINE FLAG HOISTED NOTICES IN ENGLISH CHANGED TO SPANISH AND RADIC ESTABLISHED LEADER OF FIELD PARTY (BAS EMPLOYEE T EDWARDS) SPOKE TO TWO ARGENTINE CIVILIANS IN SHORE PARTY AND TOLD THEM THAT THEY SHOULD HAVE REPORTED FIRST TO GRYTVIKEN FOR CLEARANCE FORMALITIES THEY SAID THAT BRITISH EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES HAD GIVEN THEM PERMISSION TO LAND AT LEITH AND BASE COMMANDER GRYTVIKEN SHOULD HAVE BTEN NOTIFIED. RELATIONS WERE REASONABLY CORDIAL
3. I PRESUME THAT THESE ARE DAVIDOFFS MEN, IF NOT DAVIDOFF HIMSELF, AND I HAVE INSTRUCTED BASE COMMANDER TO PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO LEADER OF SHORE PARTY VIA EDWARDS, WHO IS STILL AT LEITH
  - A. YOU HAVE LANDED ILLEGALLY AT LEITH WITHOUT OBTAINING PROPER CLEARANCE
  - B. YOU AND YOUR PARTY MUST GO BACK ON BOARD THE BAHIA BUEN SUCESE IMMEDIATELY AND REPORT TO THE BASE COMMANDER AT GRYTVIKEN FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS
  - C. YOU MUST REMOVE THE ARGENTINE FLAG FROM LEITH
  - D. YOU MUST NOT INTEREERE WITH THE BAS DEPOT AT LEITH
  - E. YOU MUST NOT ALTER OR DEFACE ANY OF THE NOTICES AT LEITH
  - F. NO MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE ALLOWED TO LAND IN S GEORGIA
  - G. NO FIREARMS ARE TO BE TAKEN ASHORE
4. BAS FIELD PARTY HAVE BEEN INSTURCTED TO RETURN TO GRYTVIKEN ONCE THEY HAVE DELIVERED THIS MESSAGE
5. THIS IS THE SECCND TIME THAT DAVIDOFF HAS VIOLATED CUR IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS WITHIN 3

/ MONTHS

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MONTHS (THE FIRST TIME EMBARKED ON A WARSHIP WITHOUT DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE) AND I CONSIDER THAT, EVEN IF HE NOW COMPLIES WITH MY INSTRUCTIONS, HE SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO LEAVE S GEORGIA FORTHWITH IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THIS OPERATION (LIKE THE LAST) WAS CARRIED OUT CLANDESTINELY IN THE LATTER STAGES AND I SUSPECT THAT THE ARGENTINE NAVY ARE USING DAVIDOFF AS A FRONT TO ESTABLISH AN ARGENTINE PRESENCE ON S GEORGIA

6. I HAVE DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH CAPT BARKER AND AM SENDING THIS FROM HMS ENDURANCE IN STANLEY HARBOUR. PRESENT INTENTIONS ARE THAT ENDURANCE STICKS TO IMMEDIATE PROGRAMME IE ROULEMENT OF NP8901 FROM MONTEVIDEO BUT, IF MY INSTRUCTION TO ARGENTINES ARE NOT COMPLIED WITH, I RECOMMEND THAT ENDURANCE SAILS FOR S GEORGIA WITH MARINES EMBARKED ON 21 MARCH WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO ENSURE THAT ARGENTINES LEAVE S. GEORGIA

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