

RAFO 001

Standard Distr

FLASH

RC

mt

h-a.

ZZ FCO

ZZ PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

GRS 180

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BUENOS AIRES 21/1410Z MAR 82

TC FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 850F 21 MARCH 1982

INFO FLASH PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

MY TELNO 84: ILLEGAL LANDING ON SOUTH GEORGIA

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 Cab. Office

1. BLANCO TELEPHONED AT MIDNIGHT (0300Z) WITH OFFICIAL ARGENTINE RESPONSE WHICH, WITHOUT PRONOUNCING ACTUAL APOLOGY, EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AFFAIR WOULD NOT BE EXAGGERATED. THE PARTY AND SHIP WOULD BE LEAVING SOUTH GEORGIA TODAY, HYYY WERE IN NO WAY OFFICIAL, HAD NO SERVING SERVICE PERSONEL OR MILITARY ARMS. I ASKED IF THEY WOULD CALL AT GRYTVIKEN AND WHAT ABOUT THE ARGENTINE FLAG, DEFACED NOTICES ETC? BLANCO WAS NOT SURE ABOUT THE FIRST AND SAID HE HAD NO REPEAT NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE OTHER MATTERS. THE BAS OBSERVERS MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN ABOUT THE SHOOTING, PERHAPS THEY WERE NOT ACCURATE OVER THE FLAG ETC EITHER. I SAID I WOULD REPORT WHAT HE SAID, MADE CLEAR THAT IF THE PARTY LEFT WITHOUT REGULARISING THEIR CONDUCT AT GRYTVIKEN THEY WOULD HAVE MADE AN ILLEGAL LANDING AND BE LIABLE TO ARREST AND, SPEAKING UNOFFICIALLY, ADMONISHED ABOUT ALLOWING SOMEONE LIKE DAVIDOFF TAKE ACTIONS WHICH, AS WAS CERTAINLY TRUE IN THIS CASE, PREJUDICED POLITICAL RELATIONS.

WILLIAMS