

FALKLAND ISLANDS

C2-7

Press Statement -

cleared by the duty SIO

" On Friday 23rd April at 1720 Buenos Aires time the Swiss conveyed to the Argentine Government the following communication from HMG:

"In announcing the establishment of a Maritime Exclusion Zone around the Falkland Islands, HMG made it clear that this measure was without prejudice to the right of the UK to take whatever additional measures may be needed in the exercise of its right of self-defence under Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. In this connection HMG now wishes to make clear that any approach on the part of Argentine warships, including submarines, naval auxiliaries or military aircraft which could amount to a threat to interfere with the mission of British Forces in the South Atlantic will encounter the appropriate response. All Argentine aircraft, including civil aircraft engaging in surveillance of these British Forces will be regarded as hostile and are liable to be dealt with accordingly."

The president of the Security Council of the United Nations was subsequently informed that this message had been delivered. "

Stu Reed

DPO(N)

0100 25.4.82.

Sources

DS11
F&CO
RES CLERK
APS/Sofs

DCPR
Head of Chancery NY
Brit Ambassador New York