

NOTE TO PRESS OFFICERS

ASTIZ

On the record

Astiz remains at Ascension Island. He has been seen by a representative of the ICRC.

We have learnt from the Argentine Government and from Astiz himself that they are not prepared to have any approaches made to him in connection with the matters which are of concern to the Swedish and French Governments.

We shall continue to adhere closely to our obligations to prisoners of war under the Geneva Conventions.

We are in touch with the Swedish and French Governments.

No decision has been taken on the timing of his eventual repatriation to Argentina.

Unattributably

It is inconvenient to keep Astiz at Ascension Island. He is therefore being brought to the UK by sea.

For your own information

He is due to leave Ascension this evening and will arrive in this country on 6 or 7 June. He will then be held in British military custody in the Chicester area.

See also the attached green telegram.

PM

25 May 1982