



4/24 (5)

BRITISH EMBASSY

BUENOS AIRES

19 February 1982

I doubt this. The newspaper in the Argentine line for the New York letter was certainly for accurate to represent speculation.

Mr. Hickson
Mr. Chagel RR. 24/2.

This suggests a lesser degree of official in part than we had thought, but there are grounds for being sceptical about Rouco's veracity about his sources.
2/1
C. Mackenzie

C C Bright Esq
SAMD

Aww 040/325/3		
RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE		
24 FEB 1982		
DESK OFFICER		
INDEX	PA	

Dear Colin

'LA PRENSA' ARTICLES ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. Mike Hickson has been sending you translations of a series of articles which have appeared in 'La Prensa', written by Jesus Iglesias Rouco, and calling for an invasion of the Falkland Islands by Argentina. The latest of these appeared on 18 February.
2. David Joy and I had a chance to talk to Iglesias Rouco about these articles when the latter came to my flat for dinner last night, and it may be useful for you to have our views on what, if anything, is behind them. Iglesias Rouco was adamant that he represented his own opinion. He genuinely believed that the time was right for Argentina to take unilateral action to recover the Islands, that after many years of patient negotiation, Argentina could no longer expect results from negotiating, and that since the British Government was not in a position to force the issue vis-à-vis the Islanders, or to defend them, it fell to the Argentine Government to take the necessary action to solve the dispute once and for all.
3. Our own view following this discussion with him is that, having been given a lead on the story by one of his editors, as reported by secret sources, Iglesias Rouco has got a bit of a bee in his bonnet about the subject of the Falklands. The question is, as Iglesias Rouco himself said, whether anyone in the Argentine Government will listen to his advice.

Yours,

Ken Mackenzie

K J A MacKenzie

could this
not be
secret?