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IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

TELEGRAM NUMBER PERSONAL 37 OF 22 MARCH

INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 41: ILLEGAL LANDING IN SOUTH GEORGIA

1. NEWS DEPARTMENT ARE ISSUING THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT 1230Z TODAY: BEGINS. THE COMMANDER OF THE BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY BASE AT GRITVIKEN ON SOUTH GEORGIA (ONE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES) REPORTED ON 19 MARCH THAT AN ARGENTINE COMMERCIAL PARTY HAD ESTABLISHED A CAMP AT LEITH. THEY HAD BEEN PUT ASHORE BY CARGO VESSEL OPERATED BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT FOR NAVAL TRANSPORT WITHOUT HAVING OBTAINED THE NECESSARY CLEARANCE FROM THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES. AN ARGENTINE FLAG WAS HOISTED. THE BASE COMMANDER REQUESTED THE PARTY TO LEAVE LEITH IMMEDIATELY AND, IF THEY WISHED TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK, TO SEEK THE APPROPRIATE PERMISSION FROM THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES. HMG SOUGHT IMMEDIATE CLARIFICATION OF THIS INCIDENT FROM THE ARGENTINE AUTHOIES IN BUENOS AIRES AND THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY IN LONDON. THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOW INFORMED US THAT THE SHIP LEFT SOUTH GEORGIA ON 21 MARCH. WE ARE AWAITING CONFIRMATION OF FROM THE BASE COMMANDER. ENDS.

2. WE ACCEPT THAT YOU WILL NEED TO ADDRESS ISLANDERS ABOUT THIS INCIDENT. WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO USE WORDING SIMILAR TO OURS.

CARRINGTON

STANDARD
SAM D
MA E D
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ES & SD
SP D
CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTN
FALKLAND ISLANDS