

D/DS12/18/68

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PS/S of S

Copy to

DUS(P)
AUS(D Staff)
Head of DS11

File

Derch

*Can you turn this
into a defensive
argument for withdrawal
as clear in DS12*

DP

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. The North Atlantic Council were meeting informally in Brussels this afternoon to discuss the Falkland Islands situation. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office have briefed Sir John Graham this morning by telephone. In addition, AUS(D Staff) is in UKDEL today on other business and has spoken to DUS(P) by telephone.

2. Should units which are declared to NATO leave the NATO area it will be necessary to inform the Major NATO Commanders concerned. It is not intended to take any such action until it is formally necessary to do so. This should not be necessary for some time since ships which are declared at the highest state of readiness (A1) are required to be available to fulfill their assigned mission within 48 hours. UKMILREP has been advised on the UK military preparations which are in hand but he has been instructed to take the line that Major NATO Commanders will be informed of the withdrawal of any NATO assigned UK units from the NATO area as they occur, and that he should not be drawn on the identity of the units which might be involved.

2 April 1982

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