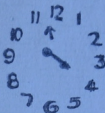


19 APR 1982



CONFIDENTIAL



Private Secretary

cc: PS/Mr Hurd Mr Weston
 PS/PUS Mr Mallaby
 Mr Wright Mr Warren Gash, PUSD
 Mr Giffard Mr Fearn
 Mr Gillmore News Dept
 Mr Ure

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ARGENTINE REQUEST FOR SATELLITE COVERAGE OF FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. Please refer to my submission of 18 April on this subject. You and other recipients of the submission will wish to see the final version of the line to take, a shorter version of which has now been submitted for defensive use in Parliament. A copy is attached. It incorporates an amendment requested, after further reflection, by the MOD, to the first sentence of the second paragraph of the text attached to my original submission.

CH/mbc

19 April 1982

H J S Pearce
Emergency Unit

ALQ 50/304/1		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

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ANNEX A

The media stories may spring from the fact that Argentina - like the UK and many other countries - participates in civilian satellite programmes run by the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). These programmes are not intelligence programmes and are not military in nature. Information collected by these programmes is unclassified and is available to the public. The Government believes that the Argentines would be unlikely to derive any significant military intelligence from these programmes.

2. The US Administration have made it clear that they are not providing Argentina with military intelligence about British actions in the Falkland Islands dispute. Secretary of State Haig said on 14 April that "since the onset of the crisis, the United States has not acceded to requests that would go beyond the scope of customary patterns of co-operation based on existing bilateral agreements. That will continue to be our stand while our efforts are under way."