

ENCL No.
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

CH0005 15/0251 105B0333

FOR CWC

IMMEDIATE/IMMEDIATE 150030Z APR 8

FROM COMMCEN FCO LONDON
TO MODUK
INFO CINCFLEET

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SIC A3A/A2N/19F/U2J

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM MONTEVIDEO 150030Z APR 82
TO IMMEDIATE MODUK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 150030Z APRIL 1982.

SIC U2J/19F

FROM BRITDEFAT MONTEVIDEO.
FALKLANDS CRISIS - SITREP AND ASSESSMENT.

1. FURTHER MORE DETAILED DEBRIEFING OF OUR VISITORS AND TODAY'S PRESS (WHERE STATED BELOW) GIVE ME ADDITIONAL POINTS OF WHICH YOU SHOULD BE AWARE:

MARITIME.

- A. PRESS REPORTS GRANVILLE REFUELLING PUERTO BELGRANO 12 APR.
- B. LUXTON OF CHARTRES, WEST FALKLAND STATES THAT MV MONSOON IS NOW REQUISITIONED BY ARGENTINE FORCES - THUS HE SAID NO MEANS OF TPT IS NOW IN ISLANDERS HANDS TO MOVE BETWEEN W AND E.
- C. HE ALSO REPORTS THAT A VERY LARGE EXPLOSION WAS HEARD AT SEA BETWEEN SPEEDWELL AND FOX BAY PM 5 APR AND THAT SHIP CARRYING TROOPS JUST ARRIVED FOX BAY PUT TO SEA AGAIN AT ONCE HEADING FOR AREA. QUOTE HEAVY FIRING UNQUOTE WAS HEARD FOR SOME TIME THEREAFTER FROM SAME DIRECTION (COMMENT: AMMO CARRIER BLOWING UP?).

GROUND FORCES.

D. TROOPS AT FOX BAY COULD NOT (12 APR) COMMUNICATE WITH STANLEY EXCEPT BY ISLANDER RADIO NET.

E. UNIMOG VEHICLES AND PWD CATERPILLAR PLANT ABANDONED BOGGED DOWN DARWIN ROAD.

F. TROOPS IN STANLEY ARE EATING CATSA

G. EXTRA DEMAND AND WASTE OF WATER IS AFFECTING PRESSURE AT HIGHER POINTS IN STANLEY.

H. AT LEAST 2X0130 LOADS OF FIREWOOD FOR FIELD KITCHENS HAVE HAD TO BE FLOWN IN.

AIR.

I. LUXTON STATES THAT 900H (AS YET UNPREPARED) IS AVAILABLE FOR STRIP AT CHARTRES.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

K. RAF WERE TOLD THAT SOME MIRAGE WERE AT RIO GRANDE
(COMMENT: OR DAGGER EX TANDIL?)
L. SOME MIRAGE ALSO REPORTED RIO GALLEGOS.

2. ASSESSMENT.

CLEARLY THE TAIL IS TAKING A LONG TIME TO CATCH UP AND THIS REFLECTS THE HURRIED AND UNEXPECTED PLANNING WHICH HAS BEEN NECESSARY. AS AT YESTERDAYS DATE MORALE WAS GENERALLY REPORTED TO BE LOW AND LACK OF BASIC SERVICE SUPPORT WOULD HAVE SERIOUSLY IMPAIRED OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY. HOWEVER WHILST THE AIRSTRIP CONTINUES IN USE THE SITUATION WILL PROBABLY IMPROVE AS THE DAYS GO BY UNLESS THE WEATHER (HITHERTO APPARENTLY KIND) DETERIORATES.

HUTCHINSON
BT

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