

SECRET.

9-11-68

Flash Tube

→ Emergency Plan.

BRANSFIELD → S. GEORGIA.

Ref TD/1/30/7/82 of an PAC of file 9/1/9
Talked Col Loxley & Mr Morris (DI 4).



Not possible to give an accurate assessment of military position in & around S. Georgia - no int resources deployed in area, therefore no knowledge of what is happening.

From ENDURANCE we believe 40-50 Arg marines form garrison, but unconfirmed Arg reports put number as high as 350.

No intel on what orders they have been issued with - Chilean attaché in BA believes Arg. prepared to sacrifice garrison, but similar force on S. Thule have been ordered to resist to the death unless odds are overwhelming.

No intel. on Arg. naval units in area - but doesn't mean there are none.

Morris thought Arg. might ^{open} fire if BRANSFIELD suddenly appeared in the area & considered any attempt to send her in without agreeing such a move through the Swiss would be fraught with danger.

Loxley was much more non-committal - refused to give an assessment because not enough intel.

Have advised FCO (G. Hoos) that we feel it would be dangerous for B to return to S. Georgia & that in any event we advise strongly against (might prejudice PARADOX).

J.S.