

HD/SAMD

GRS 160

DEDIP

SECRET

SECRET

FM BRASILIA 20:2025Z APRIL 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

AND TO IMMEDIATE MODUK FOR AUS AIR STAFF

TELEGRAM NUMBER 116 OF 20 APRIL

8

YOUR TELNO 76: VICTOR RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS

1. THANK YOU FOR THIS WARNING.
2. IF THE AIRCRAFT HAD TO DIVERT TO BRAZIL, I EXPECT THAT THE AUTHORITIES WOULD ALLOW IT TO LAND. BUT THEY MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT DETAIN IT, DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE FALKLANDS DISPUTE AND BRAZIL'S POSTURE IN RELATION THERETO AT THE TIME.
3. IN ANY EVENT, I WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT THE CREW ARE BRIEFED TO COME AS CLEAN AS POSSIBLE TO THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES.

WHY SHOULD THEY NOT, FOR INSTANCE, SAY THAT THEY HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC AND HAD BEEN OBLIGED TO LAND DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES? THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD CERTAINLY INSIST ON SEARCHING THE AIRCRAFT AND WOULD FIND ANY PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OTHER EQUIPMENT IT WAS CARRYING.

4. SINCE THE LANDING OF SUCH AN UNUSUAL AIRCRAFT WOULD BE LIKELY TO BE SPOTTED BY THE PRESS, I RECOMMEND THAT THE CREW SHOULD BE BRIEFED TO DISCUSS WITH THE FAB AN AGREED PRESS LINE, WHICH MIGHT WELL BE THE ONE SUGGESTED IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF YOUR PARA 4.

HARDING

MINIMAL

HD/SAMD
HD/DEFENCE

SECRET

ALQ 062/3		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken