



Mr Giffard

ALQ 050/13		
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FALKLAND ISLANDS: UNITED NATIONS

1. I spoke to Sir A Parsons on the telephone at 2100 tonight. He had already received FCO telegram 297 which gives the press line and contingency material for use by the press on the submarine incident earlier in the day.
2. I brought him up-to-date with the latest state of play which included the announcement of the surrender of Argentine forces in Grytviken.
3. As regards the United Nations, Sir A Parsons thought it would be necessary for him to inform the Security Council by letter that British administration had been restored in South Georgia. This could not be done at present, since the MOD's announcement concerned only the recapture of Grytviken. He was, therefore, strongly inclined to leave this until tomorrow. It would not matter, he thought, if the Argentines issued a 'bleat' first.
4. Sir A Parsons was about to appear on the News Night programme on which he would be interviewed live through a satellite link. We agreed that if he was questioned about whether we would be calling the Security Council, he should say that we had no intention of doing so at present. Indeed we saw no need to do this. Argentina had had three weeks in which to comply with SC 502 and had given no indication of its intention to do so. We had given Argentina full and fair warning of our intentions. Noone should be surprised if we carried them out. If asked whether he thought others might call a meeting with the Security Council he would say that he frankly had not the faintest idea, and would sound generally discouraging about the prospects that ~~much~~ could be achieved through the Security Council at this time.

25 April 1982

D Gillmore
D Gillmore
Emergency Unit

cc: PS/PUS
Mr Wright
Mr Ure
Mr Fearn

Mr Weston
Mr Mallaby
Emergency Unit
Political Desk and Defence Desk

Sir A. Parsons, who was questioned aggressively by Mr Peckee, was an even most effective on the TV, playing his hand dead pan with complete command of the matter in hand

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