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EVACUATION OF BAS PERSONNEL FROM SOUTH GEORGIA

- 1. Instructions have now been sent to CINCFLEET to arrange for the evacuation of the 13 remaining British Antarctic Survey (BAS) personnel, and Misses Buxton and Price of Anglia television, from South Georgia. It is proposed that they will be taken to Ascension Island by HMS ANTRIM and will be leaving South Georgia either today or tomorrow. They will arrive in Ascension Island in about a week and will then be flown back to UK, probably by RAF VC10.
- 2. HMS ANTRIM will be escorting RFA Tidespring, which will be taking the Argentinian prisoners to Ascension Island. We are exploring the various possibilities for their return to Argentina, probably using Brazil as a third country, and a separate submission on this will be made shortly.
- 3. Appropriate material on the above has been included in the supplementary briefing provided by DS11 for top day questions today, and a copy included in the Prime Minister's brief. The BAS and Lord Buxton have been informed of the evacuation of the BAS personnel.

27 Apr 82

P M W FRANCIS DS11

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