

Q 052306Z MAY 82
FM BRITDEFAT LIMA
TO MODUK
BT
SECRET
SIC 19F/U2J
FOR DI4A2

SECRET

ENCL No.
151

not
1) LTD
2) file

REF:

- A. YR 19F/U2J 051133Z MAY 82
- B. MY AAA/UA 271543Z APR 82
- C. MY UEJ 242315Z APR 82
- D. MY U2J 122357Z APR 82

1. NAVY. OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY - NO CHANGE REF B. ONE LUPO ANCHORED OFF CALLAO. VERY LIKELY ONE SUBMARINE OPERATING OFF COAST CHILE.

2. AIR FORCE.

A. CURRENT NEWSPAPER REPORTS SUGGEST AIRCRAFT IN REF C CONTAINED RUSSIAN BUILT MOBILE SAM 3 MISSILES.

B. VERY STRONG ARMY AND AIRFORCE SUPPORT AMONGST OFFICER CLASS SUGGEST THEY ARE WILLING TO GIVE ACTIVE SUPPORT ARGENTINA BUT IN VIEW GOVERNMENT POSITION STILL MOST UNLIKELY THIS WILL BE ACTIVATED.

C. COMMENT. IF REPEAT IF MILITARY WISH ACTIVELY TO SUPPORT ARGENTINA IS FORCED ON GOVERNMENT, REACTION IN PARA 2A IS LEAST PROVOCATIVE IF DEPLOYED TO ARGENTINA MAINLAND AND THEREFORE IS POSSIBLE BUT CANNOT CONFIRM. VERY UNLIKELY MANY MISSILES DEPLOYED IN VIEW OF PERUVIAN PREOCCUPATION WITH CHILIAN THREAT. MOST UNLIKELY SUKHOI S22 DEPLOYED DUE TO SUPPORT PROBLEMS AND DIFFICULTY OF CONCEALING DEPLOYMENT. HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF DEPLOYMENT OF COMMON EQUIPMENT SUCH AS CANBERRA AND MIRAGE BUT RUMOURS ABOUND. LOCAL AGENTS REPORT NO INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR SPARES FOR BRITISH EQUIPMENT COMMON WITH ARGENTINIANS.
BTO

FCO PLEASE PASS

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

FCO

S AM D

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