

ENCLOSURE
74 P

C O N F I D E N T I A L

CYW018: 29/0209 148C3994

FOR CWG

PRIORITY/PRIORITY 281600Z MAY 82

FROM COMMCEN FCO LONDON
TO MODUK
INFO CINCFLEET

Yil
a Sales
Section

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SIC ZOO/EEA/UBA

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BONN 281610Z MAY 82

TO PRIORITY MODUK

TELEGRAM NUMBER 281600Z OF 28 MAY

INFO ROUTINE FCO AND CINCFLEET

SIC ZOO/EEA/UBA

FOLLOWING FOR HEAD OF DS13, RMD4 AND DIC (ARGENTINE ARMS SUPPLY CELL) FROM COUNSELLOR (DEFENCE SUPPLY). FCO FOR DEFENCE DEPARTMENT. MY 251600Z: BLOHM AND VOSS FRIGATES.

1. I AM STILL WAITING FOR THE LIST OF BRITISH EQUIPMENTS WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN DELIVERED AND WHICH BLOHM AND VOSS HAVE PROMISED

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TO SEND ME. I HAVE HOWEVER HAD THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY ACCOUNT OF THE STATE OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE FOUR (NOT THREE AS IN YOUR SUBMISSION TO SECRETARY OF STATE) MEKO FRIGATES. THE FIRST SHIP IS NOW READY FOR SEA TRIALS. IF THE PROBLEMS HOLDING THESE UP (WHICH ARE ENTIRELY OF BRITISH MAKING) ARE RESOLVED, SHIP WOULD BE READY FOR DELIVERY ABOUT THE END OF THIS YEAR. SECOND SHIP IS NOW IN A VERY ADVANCED STAGE OF FITTING OUT AND WILL BE COMPLETED FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE FIRST. THE THIRD SHIP IS ALSO IN THE WATER BEING FITTED OUT AND WILL BE COMPLETED (SUBJECT TO RECEIPT OF OUTSTANDING BRITISH EQUIPMENT) FIVE MONTHS AFTER THE SECOND. THE FOURTH SHIP IS STILL ON THE SLIPWAY. IT WAS DUE TO BE LAUNCHED AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER. THE LAUNCH DATE HAS NOW BEEN POSTPONED FF INDEFINITELY PENDING DELIVERY OF THE MAIN GEAR BOX BY DAVID BROWN. THIS IS ALREADY SOME WEEKS OVERDUE AS A RESULT OF THE EMBARGO AND THE LAUNCH DATE SLIPS PROPORTIONATELY WITH ANY FURTHER DELAY.

TAYLOR

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