

TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

31  
(29)

PS No.10 DOWNING ST

PS/MR ONSLOW  
PS/MR RIFKIND  
PS/PUS  
MR GIFFARD  
MR WRIGHT  
MR ADAMS  
MR URE  
MR GILMORE

PS/CHANCELLOR  
SIR K COUZENS  
MR LITTLER  
MR HAWTIN  
MR PERSTZ  
MR ILETT  
MR McINTYRE

H.M.TSY

HD/S&D (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)  
HD/DEP D  
HD/NEWS D  
HD/UND  
HD/PLANNING STAFF  
HD/HKGD  
H/S  
RESIDENT CLERK

Miss DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN  
*Sir R. Armstrong Cab Office*  
DIO CABINET OFFICE  
MR WADE-GEPY CABINET OFFICE  
MR FULLER *SAPU* CABINET OFFICE  
*D/C*

(Copies passed to Emergency Staff, MOD Sitten and CinC Fleet)

Location

OO FCO DESKBY 171000Z

ADVANCE COPY

OO WASHINGTON DESKBY 171300Z

IMMEDIATE

GRS 300  
CONFIDENTIAL  
DESKBY 171000Z  
FM CANBERRA 170800Z APR 82  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 163 OF 17 APRIL  
INFO WASHINGTON DESBY 171300Z

*Handwritten notes:*  
H. S. ...  
must check this.

MPT: FALKLAND ISLANDS: THE AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM MR FRASER TO PRESIDENT REAGAN NOW BEING TRANSMITTED THROUGH THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

QUOTE I AM SURE THE WHOLE WORLD IS GRATEFUL FOR THE ENORMOUS EFFORTS WHICH YOU PERSONALLY, AND THROUGH AL HAIG, HAVE BEEN DEVOTING TO FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS CRISIS. I RECOGNISE THE ISSUES OF HEMISPHERE RELATIONS WHICH FORM PART OF THE BASIS FOR THESE UNREMITTING EFFORTS. WHILE AT THE TIME OF WRITING I CAN NOT BE SURE OF THEIR OUTCOME I VERY MUCH HOPE FOR YOUR SUCCESS.

SHOULD YOUR BEST EFFORTS FAIL, HOWEVER, IT SEEMS TO ME OF ENORMOUS IMPORTANCE THAT EVERY ONE SHOULD BE CLEAR AS TO WHERE THE UNITED STATES STANDS. BRITAIN HAS BEEN A VICTIM OF UNPROVOKED AGGRESSION. IT HAS RECEIVED THE MORAL AND PRACTICAL SUPPORT OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES. ITS DEMAND THAT THE ARGENTINIAN FORCES WITHDRAW HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY A RESOLUTION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS. BRITAIN STANDS SUPPORTED BY THE COMMUNITY OF WESTERN NATIONS AS A VICTIM OF AN ACT BY A COUNTRY WHICH HAS OF ITS OWN VOLITION CHOSEN TO FOLLOW THE PATH OF AGGRESSIVE FORCE AND TO SET ASIDE THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION.

IN THE AFTERMATH OF A FAILURE OF AL HAIG'S EFFORTS MANY COUNTRIES WOULD WATCH TO SEE AND BE GUIDED BY THE STAND THE UNITED STATES TOOK. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES IT WOULD AMOUNT TO A SERIOUS BLOW TO WESTERN VALUES, AND TO THE WESTERN ALLIANCE ITSELF, IF THE UNITED STATES DID NOT UNEQUIVOCALLY SUPPORT BRITAIN. FOR QUITE OTHER REASONS THE ALLIANCE IS ALREADY FACING SERIOUS STRAINS AND IS DUE SHORTLY TO HOLD TWO MOST IMPORTANT MEETINGS. OVER THE YEARS BRITAIN HAS BEEN AMERICA'S CLOSEST ALLY. THE FUTURE COHESION OF OUR WESTERN COMMUNITY OF NATIONS WOULD BE AT STAKE.

I HOPE YOU DO NOT MIND THE BLUNT TERMS OF THIS MESSAGE, I AM ENCOURAGED TO SEND IT BECAUSE OF THE UNIQUE TIES WHICH EXIST BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND BRITAIN AND BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES SEMI COLON AND I FEEL THAT THE SITUATION IS FAR TOO SERIOUS FOR ME TO STAY SILENT. UNQUOTE.