

SUBJECT

CONFIDENTIAL

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cc MARK

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One.

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 241035Z APR 82
TO IMMEDIATE FREETOWN
TELEGRAM NUMBER 44 OF 24 APR

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME
MINISTER TO PRESIDENT STEVENS.

BEGINS:

DEAR PRESIDENT STEVENS

I SHOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY VERY SINCERE GRATITUDE FOR ALL THE
HELP YOU ARE PROVIDING TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DURING THESE
DIFFICULT TIMES. THE ASSISTANCE WHICH YOU AND YOUR
GOVERNMENT HAVE GIVEN IN ALLOWING SOME BRITISH VESSELS ATTACHED
TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS TASK FORCE TO REFUEL AT FREETOWN IS
DEEPLY APPRECIATED.

I AM ALSO GRATEFUL FOR THE EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT WHICH YOUR
GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN IN CONDEMNING THE ACT OF AGGRESSION BY
THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS SO CLEARLY EXPRESSED IN
THE SECURITY COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION NO 502. YOUR SUPPORT, AND
THAT OF OUR OTHER COMMONWEALTH FRIENDS, HAS BEEN VERY
ENCOURAGING TO ME AND MY COLLEAGUES. IT IS A POSITIVE
EXPRESSION OF THE COMMONWEALTH'S PRINCIPLES OF THE RIGHT
SELF-DETERMINATION AND ITS STAND ON THE NON-ACQUISITION OF
TERRITORIES BY FORCE AND ON THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF
DISPUTES.

I CARRY VERY PLEASANT MEMORIES OF YOUR VISIT HERE IN NOVEMBER
1980.

YOURS SINCERELY.

MARGARET THATCHER

ENDS

2. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN MESSAGE HAS BEEN PASSED.

PYM

FCO
WAD
S AM D
CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION
FALKLAND ISLANDS

COPIES TO

PS/CHANCELLOR }
SIR K COUZENS }
MR LITTLE } TREASURY
MR HAWKIN }
MR PEREZ }
MR LLETT }

SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE
MISS DICKSON (EIP DIVN) D/ENERGY
PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST

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