

TYPISTS

36+7
(29)

DSY 250800Z

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

PS (6)
PS/MR HURD (3)

ADVANCE COPY

IMMEDIATE

PS No.10 DOWNING ST. —

PS/MR ONSLOW
~~PS/MR REDWOOD~~
PS/PUS
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

PS/CHANCELLOR
SIR K COUZENS
MR LITTLER
MR HAWTIN
MR PERETZ
MR ILETT
MR McINTYRE
H.M.TSY

HD/SAMD (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)
HD/DEF D
HD/NEWS D
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF
~~HD/INOD~~

Miss DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EN
DIO CABINET OFFICE
MR WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE
MR FULLER SAPU CABINET OFFICE
SIR M PALLISER, CABINET OFFICE
SIR R ARMSTRONG, DIO. CAB. OFF.

RESIDENT CLERK

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

MT

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 250800Z

FM UKMIS NEW YORK 242350Z APR 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 559 OF 24 APRIL

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON.

MY TELNOS 520 AND 542: FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. THESE HELPFUL INDICATIONS FROM THIRD WORLD MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH ARE VALUABLE TO US HERE IN THE DEVELOPING CAMPAIGN OVER THE TWO QUESTIONS OF SUBSTANCE, NAMELY ARGENTINE USE OF FORCE AND WHETHER OR NOT SELF-DETERMINATION IS APPLICABLE TO THE ISLANDERS. THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF OCCASIONS IN THE DAYS TO COME FOR US TO DEPLOY OUR CASE ON BOTH ASPECTS MORE FULLY.

2. HOWEVER, NONE OF THIS ALTERS MY VIEWS ON THE QUESTION OF FURTHER RECOURSE TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WHICH I HAVE HAD CONFIRM THAT THE LONGER WE CAN KEEP OUT THE COUNCIL THE BETTER. THE NON-ALIGNED MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE ALREADY FEELING SLIGHTLY UNEASY THAT A COMBINATION OF OUR TACTICS AND PANAMANIAN/ ARGENTINE CLUMSINESS LED THEM TO SUPPORT A RESOLUTION WHICH CONTAINED NOTHING ABOUT THE ARGENTINE CASE ON SOVEREIGNTY. I HAVE ALSO HAD RELIABLE CONFIRMATION THAT, IF WE USE FORCE, AND PARTICULARLY IF WE INFLICT CASUALTIES, THERE WILL BE AN IMMEDIATE

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I HAVE ALSO HAD RELIABLE CONFIRMATION THAT, IF WE USE FORCE, AND PARTICULARLY IF WE INFLICT CASUALTIES, THERE WILL BE AN IMMEDIATE RETURN TO THE COUNCIL, PROBABLY AT THE INSTIGATION OF THE PRESIDENT IF THE LATIN AMERICANS DO NOT ACT FIRST, AND THAT WE WILL BE SERIOUSLY ISOLATED. THIS WILL COME AS NO SURPRISE TO YOU. I HAVE HAD FURTHER CONFIRMATION THAT, IF THE HAIG MISSION COLLAPSES, SOMEONE IS BOUND TO CALL THE COUNCIL FAIRLY SOON AND THERE WILL BE PRECISELY THOSE CALLS ON US WHICH WE WISH TO AVOID, EG THE SUSPENSION OF MILITARY PREPARATIONS COMBINED WITH SOME TIME-CONSUMING AND INEFFECTIVE MECHANISM SUCH AS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S GOOD OFFICES.

3. ALL THE ABOVE REINFORCES MY CONVICTION THAT WE SHOULD FOR THE MOMENT CONTINUE TO SOLDIER ON HERE FOR AS LONG AS WE CAN, KEEPING THE DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE AND AVOIDING RECOURSE TO THE COUNCIL, UNLESS WE ARE PREPARED TO PUT FORWARD IN THE COUNCIL A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS FOR A SETTLEMENT WHICH (A) WOULD BE FULLY AND PUBLICLY ACCEPTABLE TO US AND (B) WOULD HAVE A CHANCE OF GETTING THROUGH THE COUNCIL, IN ORDER AT BEST TO GET RESULTS OR AT LEAST TO WRONGFOOT THE ARGENTINES IN THE DIPLOMATIC VACUUM WHICH WOULD FOLLOW THE FAILURE OF THE HAIG MISSION.

4. THERE IS ALSO THE POSSIBILITY OF OUR MAKING A "BOMBSHELL" STATEMENT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AS OUTLINED IN MY TELNO 505. HOWEVER, THE MEMBERSHIP ARE ALREADY CONDITIONED TO THE LIKELIHOOD THAT HOSTILITIES WILL BREAK OUT PIECEMEAL, BOTH BY CURRENT PUBLICITY ABOUT A POSSIBLE ASSAULT ON SOUTH GEORGIA AND BECAUSE MANY OF THEM HAD WORKED OUT IN THEIR OWN MINDS THAT THIS WAS THE COURSE WE WERE MOST LIKELY TO TAKE. THESE EXPECTATIONS WILL BE REINFORCED WHEN THEY RECEIVE THEIR COPIES OF YOUR NOTIFICATION TO THE ARGENTINES OF YESTERDAY (YOUR TELNO 64 TO BERNE).

IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, THE QUOTE BOMBSHELL UNQUOTE WOULD TURN INTO A TRANSPARENT PLOY AND WOULD NOT HELP US TO CLAIM THAT WE HAD MAINTAINED THE DIPLOMATIC PROPRIETIES TO THE END.

PARSONS

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