

CONFIDENTIAL

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FLASH
ADVANCE COPY

*Ps/no.10, Downing St.,
DIO, Cabinet office,
Sir R. Armstrong, Cabinet Office,
Sir M. Fallick, " "
R.c., (ux).*

ZZ UKMIS NEW YORK
ZZ WASHINGTON
GRS 275
CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 251230Z APR 82.
TO FLASH UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 296 OF 25 APRIL
AND FLASH TO WASHINGTON AND OTHER POSTS.

MY TELNOS 99 TO ANKARA, 106 TO ATHENS AND 43 TO BUCHAREST
(ONLY ONE OF WHICH WILL HAVE BEEN REPEATED TO EACH POST):

FALKLANDS: MILITARY OPERATIONS.

1. THE MOD ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT AT 11.00 GMT TODAY:
BEGINS

IN PURSUANCE OF OUR INHERENT RIGHT OF SELF DEFENCE UNDER
ARTICLE 51 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER BRITISH HELICOPTERS
TODAY ATTACKED A HOSTILE ARGENTINIAN SUBMARINE IN THE VICINITY
OF SOUTH GEORGIA. THERE IS NO FURTHER INFORMATION AS YET.
ENDS.

2. FOLLOWING THIS INCIDENT YOU SHOULD DO WHATEVER YOU CAN AS
APPROPRIATE TO ENCOURAGE THE GOVERNMENT OR AGENCY TO WHICH YOU
ARE ACCREDITED TO SUPPORT OUR POSITION, AND TO
MINIMISE ANY ADVERSE OFFICIAL OR PUBLIC REACTION. IN ADDITION
TO DRAWING THE TELEGRAM YOU WILL HAVE BEEN SENT YESTERDAY,
YOU SHOULD EMPHASISE THAT WE ARE EXERCISING OUR INHERENT
RIGHT OF SELF DEFENCE UNDER ARTICLE 51 OF THE UNITED NATIONS
CHARTER, AND THAT WE GAVE ARGENTINA DUE WARNING IN A MESSAGE
PASSED TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT ON 23 APRIL THAT
QUOTE ANY APPROACH ON THE PART OF ARGENTINE WARSHIPS
INCLUDING SUBMARINES, NAVAL AUXILIARIES OR MILITARY AIRCRAFT
WHICH COULD AMOUNT TO A THREAT TO INTERFERE WITH THE MISSION
OF BRITISH FORCES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC WILL ENCOUNTER THE
APPROPRIATE RESPONSE. UNQUOTE. THIS WARNING WAS ALSO
COMMUNICATED ON 24 APRIL TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL FOR CIRCULATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND YESTERDAY'S

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PUBLIC REACTION TO THE WARNING BY THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES
DEMONSTRATES CLEARLY THAT THE WARNING HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND
DULY NOTED.

PYM