

Duty Officer  
N° 10 Danny SA.

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FM FCO 071915Z MAY 1982

TO FLASH BERNE

TELEGRAM NUMBER 91 OF 7 MAY

AND TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK, BRASILIA, MONTEVIDEO,  
ALL NATO POSTS, DUBLIN, UKREP BRUSSELS, SANTIAGO, OTTAWA,  
CANBERRA, WELLINGTON.

INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN MOD STATEMENT MADE  
IN LONDON THIS AFTERNOON.

BEGINS

1. THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY MADE CLEAR IN HIS STATEMENT IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS THIS MORNING THAT HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT'S HIGHEST PRIORITY IS TO ACHIEVE AN EARLY NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THE CURRENT CRISIS: BUT THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA DID NOT SHOW THE SAME READINESS AND DESIRE TO REACH A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, IT SHOULD BE IN NO DOUBT THAT HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT WOULD DO WHATEVER MAY BE NECESSARY TO END THE UNLAWFUL ARGENTINE OCCUPATION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.
2. IN THIS CONTEXT, HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT WISHES TO RECALL THAT ON 23 APRIL IT INFORMED THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA THAT ANY APPROACH ON THE PART OF ARGENTINE WARSHIPS, SUBMARINES, NAVAL AUXILIARIES OR MILITARY AIRCRAFT WHICH COULD AMOUNT TO A THREAT TO INTERFERE WITH THE MISSION OF BRITISH FORCES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC WOULD ENCOUNTER THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE. IN ADDITION, ALL ARGENTINE AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING CIVIL AIRCRAFT, ENGAGING IN SURVEILLANCE OF THESE BRITISH FORCES, WOULD BE REGARDED AS HOSTILE AND WERE LIABLE TO BE DEALT WITH ACCORDINGLY.
3. IN ADDITION, HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAS MADE CLEAR THAT

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ALL ARGENTINE VESSELS, INCLUDING MERCHANT VESSELS, OR FISHING VESSELS, APPARENTLY ENGAGING IN SURVEILLANCE OF OR INTELLIGENCE GATHERING ACTIVITIES AGAINST BRITISH FORCES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC WOULD ALSO BE REGARDED AS HOSTILE AND WERE LIABLE TO BE DEALT WITH ACCORDINGLY.

4. FROM 1100 GMT ON 30TH APRIL HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED A TOTAL EXCLUSION ZONE AROUND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ENFORCE THIS EXCLUSION ZONE WHICH APPLIES NOT ONLY TO ARGENTINE WARSHIPS AND ARGENTINE NAVAL AUXILIARIES BUT ALSO TO ANY OTHER SHIPS, INCLUDING MERCHANT AND FISHING VESSELS WHICH ARE OPERATING IN SUPPORT OF THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS BY ARGENTINE FORCES: AND THIS ALSO APPLIES TO ANY AIRCRAFT, WHETHER MILITARY OR CIVIL, WHICH IS OPERATING IN SUPPORT OF THAT ILLEGAL OCCUPATION.

5. HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAS CONSISTENTLY MADE CLEAR THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM HAS THE RIGHT TO TAKE WHATEVER ADDITIONAL MEASURES MAY BE NEEDED IN EXERCISE OF ITS INHERENT RIGHT OF SELF-DEFENCE UNDER ARTICLE 51 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER. HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC IN THE SELF-DEFENCE OF BRITISH SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT ENGAGED IN OPERATIONS AND IN RE-SUPPLYING AND REINFORCING BRITISH FORCES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC. BECAUSE OF THE PROXIMITY OF ARGENTINE BASES AND THE DISTANCES THAT HOSTILE FORCES CAN COVER UNDETECTED, PARTICULARLY AT NIGHT AND IN BAD WEATHER, HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT WARNS THAT ANY ARGENTINE WARSHIP OR MILITARY AIRCRAFT WHICH ARE FOUND MORE THAN 12 NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE ARGENTINE COAST WILL BE REGARDED AS HOSTILE AND ARE LIABLE TO BE DEALT WITH ACCORDINGLY.

ENDS

PLEASE ASK THE SWISS TO CONVEY THIS URGENTLY TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT, ADDING THAT HMG REGARD IT AS HAVING IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

(OTHER INFORMATION RECIPIENTS). PLEASE BRING THE TEXT OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OR AUTHORITIES TO WHOM YOU ARE ACCREDITED. ITS MAIN PURPOSE

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