

FALKLAND ISLANDS: FCO SITREP: 0730 HOURS, 8 MAY

UN

(a) 12-mile blockade

1. Sir A Parsons has assured Sr Perez de Cuellar that the MOD statement should not be seen as a dramatic escalation of the conflict but rather as a clarification of earlier announcements. Sr Perez de Cuellar will speak to the President of the Security Council to ensure that he does not panic. So far the Argentines have not asked for a meeting of the Security Council.

2. Sr Perez de Cuellar accepted the assurances he was given about the UK taking his initiative seriously.

(b) Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister in New York

3. Sr Ros, the Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister yesterday called on Sr Perez de Cuellar to offer "amplification" of the Argentine reply to the Secretary-General's initiative. Sr Perez de Cuellar asked him to call again today. He has further invited Sir A Parsons to call after Sr Ros has left.

(c) Argentina complains to the Security Council over 12-mile blockade

4. The Argentine Ambassador has written to the President of the Security Council (UKMIS New York telno 675) saying that this act endangers the security of the Argentine Republic. They therefore reserve the right to adopt defensive measures in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter.

Argentine Note to the ICRC

5. UKMIS Geneva has reported (telno 224 and 225) that on 7 May the ICRC received an Argentine Note which alleged that in a number of instances the UK had neglected its international obligations. UKMIS Geneva commented on an informal basis on the points raised in the Note. The ICRC accepted the comments and gave no sign that they expected to hear further from us.



8 May 1982

D T Healy
Emergency Unit