

SUBJECT

OUT TELEGRAM

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9905*

Classification and Caveats

CONFIDENTIAL

Precedence/Deskby

FLASH

ZCZC
GRS
CLASS
CAVEATS
DESKBY
FM FCO
PRE/ADD
TEL NO

1 ZCZC
2 GRS
3 CONFIDENTIAL
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6 FM FCO 27 MAY 82
7 TO FLASH MEXICO CITY
8 TELEGRAM NUMBER

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 114A/82**

9 INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON, UKMIS NEW YORK
10 YOUR TELNO 432: FALKLANDS: MESSAGE TO LOPEZ PORTILLO
11 1. Please deliver following message to President Lopez Portillo
12 from the Prime Minister.
13 Begins.
14 Your Ambassador in London has told the Foreign and Commonwealth
15 Secretary of your continuing deep concern about the situation in
16 the Falklands.
17 I entirely share Your Excellency's concern. Throughout the past
18 seven weeks I have greatly appreciated the constructive
19 contributions which you personally and your Government have made
20 in order to resolve this tragic crisis. It is a matter of the
21 deepest disappointment to me that ~~the~~ ^{all our} efforts ~~which we have all~~
22 ~~made~~ have come to nothing because of Argentine obduracy.
23 As you, Mr President, will be fully aware, the conflict which is
24 taking place has not been of our ^{making} ~~seeking~~. It was the Argentine
25 forces' unprovoked invasion of the Falkland Islands ~~nearly eight~~

NNNN ends
telegram

BLANK

Catchword

~~weeks~~ which

File number

Dept

CMU

Distribution

FALKLANDS GENERAL

Drafted by (Block capitals)
P R Fearn

Telephone number
233 4692

Authorised for despatch

Comcen reference

Time of despatch

J. Holmes 26/5

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2 ~~weeks ago~~ which ~~has~~ brought about the present situation. Despite

3 all the attempts by the international community, for which we are

4 most grateful, Argentina has stubbornly refused to withdraw from

5 the Islands, end her aggression and bring peace to the region. ^{she} ~~is~~

6 ^{has} disregarded ~~the~~ the clear expression of ~~the~~ international will

7 contained in Security Council Resolution 502. ^{confrontation} ~~The problem~~ could

8 have been ^{avoided} ~~resolved~~ at any time through a withdrawal of Argentine

9 forces.

10 It is not Britain's wish or practice to use force to end disputes:

11 but when an aggressor refuses to heed attempts to achieve

12 peaceful solutions, we are obliged to act in defence of our ^{rights and}

13 interests, as provided for in Article 51 of the UN Charter. In

14 doing so, we are defending not only the rights of the Falkland

15 Islanders: we are showing to the world that aggression cannot be

16 allowed to succeed.

17 We are conscious that the Argentine Government has been attempting

18 to suggest that British action on the Falklands somehow involves

19 Latin America as a whole. This is not the case. Our dispute is

20 with the Argentine Military ^government. ~~It is not~~ It is not with the

21 Argentine people and certainly not with the other countries of

22 the region. We recognise the very important role which the

23 countries of Latin America play in the international community and

24 value very highly our relations with them. We wish to preserve

25 and strengthen them. It is in all our interests that Argentine

26 attempts to widen the scope of the dispute should not be allowed

27 to succeed. I hope that it will not be forgotten at the planned

28 meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of American

29 States that it was Argentina who committed the aggression and

30 Britain who was the victim.

31 With warm personal good wishes.

32 Ends.

33 2. In delivering this message, you should also draw as

34

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NNNN ends telegram	BLANK	Catchword appropriate
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 appropriate on the points in my telno 68 to Asuncion.
 PYM
 NNNN

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