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OO MONTEVIDEO

GRS 191

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FM FCO 302115Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE MONTEVIDEO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 310 OF 30 MAY 1982

AND TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS GENEVA

REPEATED FOR INFO: PRIORITY BRASILIA, PRIORITY BERNE

MODUK (DS 11, DS8, DS5)

REPATRIATION OF ARGENTINE CASUALTIES

1. FOLLOWING THE OPERATIONS AT PORT DARWIN AND GOOSE GREEN, WE NOW HAVE A LARGE NUMBER OF ARGENTINE PRISONERS AND CASUALTIES. WE NEED TO REPATRIATE ARGENTINE CASUALTIES (ONLY REPEAT ONLY CASUALTIES) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE HECLA IS A USEFUL PRECEDENT. WE NOW NEED TO ESTABLISH COMPREHENSIVE DIP. CLEARANCE FOR BRITISH HOSPITAL SHIPS TO ENTER MONTEVIDEO FOR THE DISCHARGE OF CASUALTIES.
2. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SAY HOW MANY OR HOW FREQUENTLY THESE TRANSFERS MIGHT BE MADE. BUT EACH SHIP WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE FOUR DAYS' NOTICE OF ARRIVAL AT MONTEVIDEO. THIS SHOULD ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE.
3. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD APPROACH THE URUGUAYAN AND ICRC AUTHORITIES TO ESTABLISH WHETHER THIS IS ACCEPTABLE IN PRINCIPLE.
4. OUR TELEGRAM NO.308: YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT HMS HECLA HAS NO NIGHT FLYING CAPABILITY AND THAT TRANSFER OF ICRC REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD THEREFORE BE DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS.

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