

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (40;

PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/PIIS *PS/MR RIFKIND*
SIR J BULLARD
SIR I SINCLAIR
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
LORD N GORDON LENNOX
LORD BRIDGES
MR URE
MR GILLMORE
HD/PUSD (2)
HD/S Am D
HD/DEFENCE D
HD/NEWS D
HD/ERD
HD/ECD(E)
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF

EMERGENCY UNIT
RESIDENT CLERK

~~PS/No 10 DOWNING ST (2)~~
PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD
PS/CHANCELLOR }
MR ILETT } TREASURY
MR LITTLER }
MISS DICKSON D/ENERGY
SIR R ARMSTRONG }
SIR M PALLISER } CABINET OFFICE
MR WADE-GERY }
MR FULLER SAPU/DIO }
DIO }
Room 8 FOR MODUK C IN C FLEET

[Passed to E.R.]
[Typists a.a.]

CONFIDENTIAL

FM KATHMANDU 151000Z JUNE 82

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 86 OF 15 JUNE

INFO PRIORITY CBF HONG KONG, DELHI, UKMIS NEW YORK

MY TELNOS 78 AND 80. FALKLANDS: GURKHAS

MTUR QUOTED PRESS BRIEFING, WIDELY REPRODUCED HERE? BY AUS FOR EUROPE AND AMERICAS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (HAMAL). ON 15 JUNE WE ASKED HIM WHETHER SPECULATION (PARA 3 OF MY TELNO 80) THAT THE ARGENTINIAN DEMAND FOR A PULLOUT OF GURKHAS MIGHT AFFECT EARLIER NEPALESE POLICY. HAMAL SAID THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ANY ALTERATION. NEPALESE POLICY REMAINED AS STATED IN MY TELNO 78. GURKHAS WERE NOT MERCENARIES AND WERE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE BRITISH ARMY. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE NEPALESE LINE THAT QUOTE BRITAIN HAD THE RIGHT TO USE GURKHA TROOPS ANYWHERE UNQUOTE, ATTRIBUTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER IN A BBC INTERVIEW, STILL OBTAINED. HAMAL ALSO THANKED US FOR USEFUL MATERIAL ON THE DEFINITION OF MERCENARIES, WHICH HAD BEEN USED WIDELY.

2. HAMAL ASSUMED THAT BRITISH TROOPS WOULD REMAIN FOR SOME TIME

2. HAMAL ASSUMED THAT BRITISH TROOPS WOULD REMAIN FOR SOME TIME IN THE FALKLANDS BUT ASKED TO BE KEPT WELL UP TO DATE ON NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SETTLEMENT AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS. INFORMATION WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IN PREPARING ANSWERS FOR PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ON THE SUBJECT WHICH HE EXPECTED WHEN THE NATIONAL PANCHAYAT MEETS FROM 23 JUNE.

3. HAMAL NOTED THAT NO GURKHA LIVES HAD BEEN LOST BUT THAT 5 GURKHAS HAD BEEN WOUNDED.

DENSON

BT

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