

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM UKMIS GENEVA 181030Z JUN 82

TO FLASH FCO

TELNO 341 OF 18 JUNE

INFO FLASH MODUK, CINC FLEET, IMMEDIATE MONTEVIDEO, BERNE, BRASILIA
WASHINGTON, SANTIAGO, PRIORITY UKMIS NEW YORK

MY TEL 338 (NOT TO ALL): REPATRIATION OF POWS

1. AS EXPLAINED TO THE EMERGENCY UNIT, ICRC TELL US THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED TWO NOTES FROM THE ARGENTINE MISSION HERE THIS MORNING. THE FIRST AGREES TO THE CANBERRA AND THE NORLAND DISEMBARKING POWS IN MONTEVIDEO.
2. THE SECOND, RECEIVED ONE HOUR LATER, ACKNOWLEDGES A NOTE FROM THE SWISS EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES, NOTES THAT OUR WISH TO RETURN POWS QUICKLY IS BASED ON HUMANITARIAN CONCERN AND, BEARING IN MIND THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS RELATING TO POWS, OFFERS AN ALTERNATIVE. BOTH SHIPS MAY DISEMBARK POWS AT PUERTO MADRYN OR, IF WE PREFER, THE NORLAND COULD DOCK AT PUERTO QUILLA.
3. THE NOTE CONTINUES BY SAYING THAT DISEMBARKATION AT COMODORO RIVADAVIA WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE AS THERE ARE INSUFFICIENT FACILITIES THERE. THE ARGENTINES OFFER THE USE OF TWO OF THEIR HOSPITAL SHIPS. BAHIA PARAISO AND ARANTE IRIZAR PLUS THE CABO SAN ANTONIO (AUXILIARY SHIP) TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXERCISE IF WE WISH.
4. THE NOTE LAYS DOWN THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:
 - A) SHIPS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT CARRY ARMS
 - B) THEY SHOULD NOT BE ESCORTED BY WARSHIPS
 - C) HOSPITAL SHIPS SHOULD CARRY NORMAL HOSPITAL EMBLEMS
 - D) OTHER SHIPS SHOULD BE MARKED PG OR PW
 - E) DURING THE NIGHT SHIPS SHOULD SAIL WITH LIGHTS ON
 - F) SHIPS WILL BE GRANTED FULL SECURITY BETWEEN PORTS OF DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL.
 - G) TO FACILITATE IDENTIFICATION FULL DETAILS OF ROUTES AND ESTIMATED ARRIVAL DATES AND TIMES SHOULD BE PROVIDED
 - H) SHIPS WILL BE GUARANTEED USE OF ALL HARBOUR FACILITIES FOR EMBARKING AND DISEMBARKING POWS.
5. THE NOTE ENDS BY CONFIRMING THAT ARGENTINA WILL REQUEST FULL ICRC PARTICIPATION IN THE EXERCISE. IT SEEKS AN EARLY UK REPLY TO THE PROPOSAL.

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MARSHALL

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SENT / RECD AT 18/1830XZ IM/VRJ