

GRS 242

UNCLASSIFIED

FM FCO 241600Z JUN 82

TO PRIORITY CERTAIN MISSIONS AND DEPENDENT TERRITORIES  
GUIDANCE TELEGRAM NUMBER 140 OF 24 JUNE 1982

## LIFE IN THE FALKLANDS BEFORE LIBERATION

1. WE ARE SENDING A BACKGROUND BRIEF ON THIS SUBJECT. MEANWHILE YOU CAN DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS.
2. THE INHABITANTS OF GOOSE GREEN, INCLUDING ELDERLY AND VERY YOUNG PEOPLE, WERE SHUT UP IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR 30 DAYS: SOME ARE IN POOR PHYSICAL CONDITION AS A RESULT.
3. THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF MILITARY OPERATIONS TO REPOSSESS THE FALKLANDS, BRITISH FORCES ATTACHED THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO ENSURING THE SAFETY OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF THE ISLANDS. THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF PROTECTING NON-COMBATANTS IS THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEUTRALISED ZONE. WE PRESSED THROUGHOUT FOR AN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC) PRESENCE ON THE ISLANDS. HOWEVER, THE ARGENTINES BLOCKED ICRC ATTEMPTS TO VISIT THE ISLANDS UNTIL 10 JUNE. THE ICRC THEN PROPOSED A NEUTRALIZED ZONE. WE AGREED AT ONCE BUT THE ARGENTINES ONLY DID SO AFTER FURTHER DELAY.
4. CLEARING UP THE DEBRIS LEFT BY THE OCCUPYING FORCES WILL BE A MAJOR TASK. LAND HAS BEEN MINED, BUT THE ARGENTINES FAILED TO MARK MINEFIELDS OR TO KEEP A PROPER RECORD OF WHERE MINES WERE LAID. UNSTABLE AMMUNITION WAS LEFT BEHIND AND ANTI-PERSONNEL DEVICES WERE SCATTERED UNDISCRIMINATELY BY ARGENTINE HELICOPTERS ON HILLS AND BEACHES ROUND STANLEY. PRIVATE HOUSES IN THE CAPITAL WERE USED TO STORE MORTAR BOMBS.

PYM

BY BAG:

BONN	STRASBOURG (UKDEL)	WASHINGTON	LIMA
BRUSSELS	ROME	CARACAS	MONTEVIDEO
BRUSSELS (UKREP,EEC)	GENEVA (UKMIS)	MEXICO CITY	SANTIAGO
BRUSSELS (UKDEL,NATO)	MADRID	BRASILIA	TOKYO
COPENHAGEN	STOCKHOLM	SAO PAULO	OTTAWA
THE HAGUE	VIENNA	RIO DE JANEIRO	CANBERRA
LISBON	NEW YORK (UKMIS)	(IO)	WELLINGTON
PARIS	NEW YORK (BIS)	BOGOTA	NEW DELHI

[ALL PRIORITY]

ANKARA	PANAMA	LIBREVILLE	NAIROBI
ISTANBUL	QUITO	CAPE TOWN	SALISBURY
ATHENS	SAN JOSE	JOHANNESBURG	KAMPALA
LUXEMBOURG	SANTO DOMINGO	(CG)	PORT LOUIS
OSLO	TEGUCIGALPA	ISLAMABAD	KINGSTON
DUBLIN	AMMAN	KATHMANDU	PORT OF SPAIN
HELSINKI	JEDDA	MANILA	GEORGETOWN
MOSCOW	KUWAIT	PEKING	BRIDGETOWN
HAVANA	CAIRO	DACCA	BELMOPAN
ASUNCION	KINSHASA	ACCRA	HONG KONG
LA PAZ		LAGOS	GIBRALTAR
			(PERSONAL)

[ALL ROUTINE]

AND SAVING TO CERTAIN OTHER POSTS

FCO/WHITEHALL  
INFORMATION D

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION  
GUIDANCE  
COPIES TO:  
MR N TAYLOR MOD PRESS OFFICE