



C O N F I D E N T I A L

CWC049 23/1545 08203419

FOR CWG

FLASH 231444Z MAR 82

FROM COMMCEN FCO LONDON
TO MODUK NAVY
CINCFLEET

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SIC W4A/LDQ/EAL/A3A (ALL SICs INSERTED BY DCC)

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BUENOS AIRES 23/1444Z MAR 82

TO FLASH FCO

TELGRAM NUMBER 89 OF 23 MARCH 1982

INFO FLASH PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR), MODUK (NAVY)
AND CINCFLEET

MY TELNO 87 AND PORT STANLEY TELNO 48: ILLEGAL LANDING ON SOUTH
GEORGIA

1. ROS SUMMONED ME LAST NIGHT TO SEE HIM THIS MORNING TO SAY
(A) COULD I TELL HIM WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED AT THE LADE OFFICE
IN STANLEY, ON WHICH SUBJECT TODAY'S ARGENTINE PRESS IS FULL OF THE

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WILDEST ALLEGATIONS. COULD I ASSURE HIM THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE
INVESTIGATED AND ANY BREACH OF THE PEACE DULY PUNISHED?

(B) COULD WE NOT BETWEEN US REDUCE THE LEITH HARBOUR INCIDENT
TO MORE REALISTIC PROPORTIONS? THE LANDING WAS NOT UNANNOUNCED OR
THE CLEARANCE OPERATION UNAUTHORISED. THE ONLY QUESTION SEEMS TO
BE A RATHER PEDANTIC ONE OF IMMIGRATION FORMALITY SOUNDING STRANGE
IN THIS WILD, LARGELY UNINHABITED AREA. THE MEN LEFT ARE SIMPLE
WORKMEN (DAVIDOFF IS IN BUENOS AIRES) INCAPABLE OF MAKING FINE
DISTINCTIONS ABOUT WHAT THEY CAN OR CANNOT DO WITHOUT PREJUDICING
ARGENTINE CLAIMS BUT ONLY TOO EASILY TURNED INTO MARTYRS BY
TRADE UNIONS ETC. THE STN CAPTAIN SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO
REQUEST PERMISSION TO CALL IN WHAT IS NOT RECOGNISED IN ARGENTINE
LAW AS FOREIGN TERRITORY AND THESE PROBLEMS SHOULD HAVE BEEN
FACED BEFORE THE SALVAGE CONTRACT WAS AUTHORISED.

2. I SUGGESTED THAT HE MIGHT INCORPORATE THESE POINTS IN A PER-
SONAL MESSAGE TO MR LUCE AND HE IS DISCUSSING THIS OPTION WITH
COSTA MENDEZ. I POINTED OUT THAT, AS FAR AS DAVIDOFF AND THE BUEN
SUCESO CAPTAIN WERE CONCERNED, THEY KNEW THEY WERE DOING SOMETHING

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OTHER THAN THEY HAD BEEN TOLD AND, IF THEY COULD NOT COMPLY,
SHOULD HAVE SAID SO EARLIER AND RESPECTED THE CONSEQUENCES. I WAS

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CONFIDENT THAT HMG WOULD ACCEPT HIS AND BLANCO'S ASSURANCES THAT NO CHALLENGE AT GOVERNMENT LEVEL WAS INTENDED AND HMG SHARED HIS WISH TO AVOID EXAGGERATION. HE MUST REALISE HOWEVER THAT QUESTIONS OF IMMIGRATION WERE MATTERS PRIMARILY FOR THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL AND THAT FEELINGS WERE RUNNING VERY HIGH IN STANLEY. WE LEFT IT THAT HE WOULD CONTACT ME AGAIN AFTER SPEAKING TO COSTA MENDEZ.

WILLIAMS

BT

DISTRIBUTION W4A

N
CAF 2 CGRM ACTION (CWV 1 RCDO(N))
CAS 2 CGRM(OAB)

DISTRIBUTION LDQ

N
CXU 2 DNOT ACTION (CXU 1 DNOT(D@))
C P 1 ACNS(O)
CAS 1 DNSC
CXR 1 DNW
C G 1 DS 5
CYK 1 STP(N)

DISTRIBUTION EAL

N
NO SDL

DISTRIBUTION A3A

N
CXK 4 COSSEC ACTION (CXK 1 DSC)
CAB 3 ACDS(Pol)
C J 1 AUS(D staff)
CAB 1 CAS
CWR 1 CDS
C T 1 CGS
CWS 1 CNS
CYL 1 CPR
CYG 1 DIC
CXU 2 DNOT
CWJ 1 DS 11/12
C J 1 DS 17
CWU 1 DS 6/7
CAB 1 DS 8
CXJ 1 DSC(AFDQ)
CWQ 1 DSC(NATO)
CXK 1 DSC(ROW)
CAB 1 DUS(P)
CA 1 GF 3
CAS 1 IP 2
CYR 1 Res Clerk
CAF 1 S of S