

HD DS5 M.O.D.

CONFIDENTIAL

29547 - 1



GRS 212

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 241400Z

FM FCO 241220Z MARCH 82

TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES

TELEGRAM NUMBER 69 OF 24 MARCH

INFO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

PORT STANLEY TELNO 27 TO BUENOS AIRES: INCIDENTS AT LADE OFFICE

1. THE GOVERNOR IS CLEARLY RIGHT TO SAY THAT THERE IS NO PARALLEL IN SCALE BETWEEN THE ILLEGAL LANDING ON SOUTH GEORGIA AND THIS SILLY INCIDENT AT THE LADE OFFICE. HOWEVER, WE MUST DO WHAT WE CAN TO PREVENT THE ARGENTINES TRYING TO BUILD THIS UP AS SOME SORT OF COUNTERWEIGHT TO THE SOUTH GEORGIA SITUATION.

2. GRATEFUL THEREFORE IF YOU COULD EXPLAIN THE INCIDENT IN SUITABLE TERMS TO THE MFA AND EXPRESS HMG'S REGRET. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT, WHILE IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS' FEELINGS SHOULD RUN HIGH ABOUT THE LANDING ON SOUTH GEORGIA, WE NATURALLY DEPLORE THIS ACTION AGAINST ARGENTINE PROPERTY ON BRITISH SOIL: AND THAT THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES ARE INVESTIGATING.

3. FOR GOVERNOR. YOU MAY WISH TO INFORM VICE-COMODORO GAMEN OF THE ACTION BEING TAKEN IN BUENOS AIRES. HOWEVER TRIVIAL THIS INCIDENT, WE MUST AVOID EXACERBATION OF THE PRESENT VERY DELICATE POLITICAL SITUATION. WE HOPE THEREFORE THAT THE POLICE ENQUIRIES WILL BE CARRIED FORWARD AND YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER PROTECTION SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE LADE OFFICE.

CARRINGTON

STANDARD

SAM

MARTEL

UN

ENSTSI

SPI

CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTN:

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1

CONFIDENTIAL