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INDEX	PA	Action Taken

SECRET

POINTS ARISING FROM MINISTERS' DISCUSSION AT NO 10, 1 APRIL
(as reported by Mr Ure)

1. Task Force

Agreed that the Fleet should be placed on immediate readiness. There should be no immediate public admission of this until after an invasion had taken place when it would be referred to as a previous precautionary measure.

a) Discussed press line with MOD. Agreed that they should stick to line that we do not comment on movements of RN ships. These are confidential, operational matters.

b) Telegram sent to Washington confirming what Secretary of State told Mr Haig on the telephone about placing Fleet in readiness.

2. Resistance by marines at Port Stanley and South Georgia

No further instructions to be sent to Governor on how to use Marines. Acceptance of Marine Commander's dispositions in tel to CINCFLEET Z012200Z: to open fire to resist attempted landing over beach or by air.

3. MOD to inform Governor Port Stanley and Base Commander Grytviken of Argentine intention to attack Grytviken (action taken by MOD). Instructions to Marines at Grytviken to fire first.

Cabinet

To be at 0930 hours on 2 April: Statement in Parliament by LPS at 1100 hours.