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**Se refiere a:**

**ABR02 – DISCURSO GENERAL GALTIERI CAPTADO VIA MADRID (fco 7/4490)**

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Mr Fearn *[Handwritten signature]*

cc: PS  
PS/LPS  
PS/Mr Luce  
PS/PUS  
Sir A Acland  
Mr Giffard  
Mr Ure  
News Department

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

1. BBC Caversham have telephoned the following extract from the Argentine President's speech which they picked up on a direct relay via Madrid:-

'Our forces will only act to the extent strictly necessary. They will not disturb in any way the life of the inhabitants of the Islands. On the contrary, they will protect institutions and persons who coexist with us, but will not tolerate any attacks on the territory of the Islands or the mainland.'

*[Handwritten signature]*

2 April 1982

P J Weston

ALQ 50/5		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

see in Copy to Emergency Unit  
S.A.M.D. W25  
RH 5/4

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT READ BY AN ANNOUNCER

'The Military Junta, and the Supreme Organ of the State, today informed the people of the Argentine nation that the Republic, by means of its Armed Forces and by means of the successful realisation of a joint operation has recovered the Malvinas Islands, Georgia and the South Sandwich for the nation. In this way it has assured the exercise of Argentine sovereignty over all the territory of the aforementioned Islands and the maritime and aerospace corresponding to them. (Words indistinct ? It befalls) all the country to understand the profound and unequivocal national significance of this decision so that collective responsibility and endeavour could accompany this undertaking and promote, with God's help, to turn into a reality a legitimate right of the Argentine people, patiently and prudently postponed for almost 150 years. And now, from the White Room of Government House, His Excellency, the President of the Nation will address a message to the country in the name of the Military Junta. Lt General Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri will now speak.'

END OF OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Lt General Galtieri

'Compatriots, in the name of the Military Junta, in my capacity as President of the Nation, I speak at this crucial, historic moment to all the inhabitants of our soil in order to convey to them the basis of the resolution taken, (the meaning of this is unclear) the responsibility for which has been fully assumed by the Commanders and Forces of the Armed Forces who in this way interpreted the profound sentiments of the Argentine people. We have recovered, safeguarding the national honour, without resentment but with the firmness demanded by the circumstances, the Southern Islands which form part of the national heritage by legitimate right. This decision was

/dictated



dictated by the need to put an end to the interminable succession of evasions and delays which have been used by Great Britain to perpetuate its rule over the Islands and their zone of influence. This stance was considered by the National Government in the present circumstances as conclusive proof of its lack of goodwill before beginning serious negotiations, and without delay on the central object of the dispute, and acknowledging, once and for all, that its alleged rights have no other origin than an act of plunder. The situation which arose concerned the virtual ultimatum to a group of Argentines to leave the Georgia Islands where this group were legally carrying out a joint task, and in which their legal situation was protected by agreements established in their time by the two countries. The despatch of a naval force, and the peremptory conclusion it wished to impose, are clear demonstrations that it (Note: Britain) is persisting in basing the question with arguments based on force and only seek a solution in the straightforward repudiation of Argentine interests. In the face of this unacceptable claim, the Argentine Government cannot have any other response than the one which it has just made in the realm of peace.'

GENERAL GALTIERI'S ADDRESS TO THE ARGENTINE NATION

'The Argentine position can in no way be considered a form of aggression against the present inhabitants of the Island. Their rights and ways of life will be respected with the same largesse with which we respected those peoples' we liberated during our independence movement. Yet we will not yield to the intimidatory deployment of the British forces. Far from making use of a peaceful means of diplomacy, they have threatened to make indiscriminate use of those forces. Our forces will take actions only to the extent that these are strictly necessary. They will in no way disrupt the life of the Islanders. On the contrary, they will protect those institutions and persons who agreed to co-exist with us, but will not tolerate any excesses either in the Islands or on the mainland.

The important step which we have just taken was done without taking any political calculations into account. It has been taken in the name of each and every Argentine citizen without distinguishing sections or factions and with our minds set on all the governments, institutions and persons which in the past, without exceptions and for 170 years, have struggled for the defence of human rights.

I am aware, and we acknowledge it with great emotion, that the entire country is already experiencing the joy of a new achievement and is getting ready to defend what belongs to it, heedless of sacrifice, which we will possibly have to make, or insectional problems which, no matter how understandable they may be, will never be placed before the surpeme national interests where the existence or non-existence of the fatherland is at stake. With Christian faith I pray that those who are today our adversaries may understand in time their error and may deeply reflect before persisting in a position which is rejected by all the free peoples in the world and by all those who had their territory mutilated and endured colonialism and exploitation.



With Christian faith I pray for our men deployed to the southern seas, for your children, husbands, fathers, soldiers, non-commissioned officers and officers, who make up the frontlines of an effort which will not stop until final victory is achieved.

Invoking the protection of God and his Holy Mother, let us all commit ourselves to comply with our duty like the generations of the past century who did not mind harsh weather, long distances, disease or poverty when it came to defending freedom. By taking part in Belgrano's liberating mission to Paraguay, in those missions to Upper Peru - beyond the mountains - along the Pacific coast with general San Martin as their leader or to the desert, they did not hesitate in leaving their families and comfort whether they had much or little. Is our generation capable of emulating their example? Or are we not capable of doing so? I believe in you. We must all believe in ourselves and together raise our national banner high as a symbol of freedom so that it can wave sovereignly and definitively over our great fatherland.

This will not prevent us from persisting in our tradition as a peace-loving nation and from respecting all world nations, nor will it prevent us from resuming, through friendly gestures stemming from our natural generosity, dignifying diplomatic negotiations which may give an institutional basis to the situation which we have achieved, clearly safeguarding those legitimate interests we have always respected.

Our arms will always be extended to conclude noble commitments and to forget past offences for the sake of building a peaceful future for the civilised world. Glory to the great Argentine people. May this be God's will.'

END OF ADDRESS