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Se refiere a:

MAY051505Z Y MAY051600Z – REPATRIACION DE PRISIONEROS ARGENTINOS (prem 19/624)

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ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

(30/31)

PS
 PS/MR HURD
 PS/MR ONSLOW
 PS/PUS
 MR GIFFARD
 MR WRIGHT
 MR ADAMS
 MR URE
 MR GILLMORE
 ED/S AM D (FCO DIST + A/D F/I)
 ED/DEF D
 ED/NEWS D
 ED/JRD
 ED/PLANNING STAFF
 MR ANTHONY WILLIAMS W60
 RESIDENT CLERK

PS NO 10 DOWNING ST
 PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
 PS/CHANCELLOR)
 SIR K COUZENS)
 MR LITTLER)
 MR HAWTIN) TREASURY
 MR PERETZ)
 MR ILETT)
 MR McINTYRE)

MISS DICKSON (EIP DIV) D/EX
 DIO CABINET OFFICE
 MR WADD-GERY CABINET OFFICE
 MR FULLER SAFE/DIO " "
 SIR M PALLISER CABINET OFFICE
 SIR R ARMSTRONG " "

(Copy passed to Emergency Staff)

GRS 55
 CONFIDENTIAL
 FM UKMIS GENEVA 05/1505Z
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO
 TELNO 214 OF 5 MAY 1982

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

INFO ROUTINE BERNE, MONTEVIDEO, WASHINGTON, MODUK(DS11 FOR FRANCIS)

YOUR TEL 140

FALKLANDS ISLANDS / ICRC

1. ICRC HAVE READILY AGREED TO THE SUGGESTION THAT THEY SHOULD VISIT ASCENSION ISLAND TO SEE THE ARGENTINIAN PRISONERS TAKEN ON SOUTH GEORGIA. THEY WELCOME YOUR OFFER OF TRANSPORT AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW PRECISELY WHAT IS ENVISAGED . THEY HAVE ASKED US TO CALL AT 1230Z ON 6 MAY TO DISCUSS MODALITIES.
2. GRATEFUL FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

MARSHALL

NNNN

CONFIDENTIAL

3701 - 1

OO WASHINGTON

GRS 353

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM FCO 051600Z MAY 82

TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 920 OF 5 MAY

INFO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA, MONTEVIDEO,

PRIORITY UKMIS GENEVA, BERNE

E.R.

-5 MAY 1982

11 12 1
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9 4 3
8 7 6 5 4

REPATRIATION OF POWS

1. AS YOU KNOW THE 151 POWS TAKEN ON SOUTH GEORGIA, TOGETHER WITH 39 CIVILIANS (THESE INCLUDE TWO CHILEANS, TWO URUGUAYANS AND ONE SPANIARD), ARE NOW ON THEIR WAY BY SHIP TO ASCENSION ISLAND. THEY ARE LIKELY TO ARRIVE AROUND 11 MAY. ONWARD TRAVEL FROM ASCENSION TO ARGENTINA PRESENTS US WITH A NUMBER OF PRACTICAL PROBLEMS. WE HAVE LOOKED CLOSELY AT THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE BEST ANSWER WOULD BE TO SEEK US ASSISTANCE IN THE SHAPE OF A CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT TO TRANSPORT THE PARTY EITHER TO BRAZIL (AS THE PROTECTING POWER) OR URUGUAY. A THIRD POSSIBILITY WOULD BE A DIRECT FLIGHT TO ARGENTINA, BUT WE SEE SOME DIFFICULTIES IN THIS. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO LEAVE IT TO THE AMERICANS TO DECIDE ON THE PRECISE ROUTE. ONE OF THE MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS IS THE PROBLEM OF SECURITY ON ASCENSION ISLAND: ACCESS BY AIRCRAFT FROM A THIRD COUNTRY WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE, WHEREAS THE USE OF AN AMERICAN PLANE CAUSES NO DIFFICULTIES. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD DISCUSS THIS URGENTLY WITH THE AMERICANS AND LET US HAVE THEIR REACTION. WE HAVE NOT SPOKEN ABOUT THESE POSSIBILITIES EITHER TO THE BRAZILIANS OR THE URUGUAYANS. THE ICRC ARE HOWEVER AWARE OF OUR PLANS AND SEE NO DIFFICULTY FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW. (THEY WILL HAVE REPRESENTATIVES AT ASCENSION AND WE MAY INVITE ONE OF THEM TO ACCOMPANY THE GROUP).
2. IF POSSIBLE WE WOULD LIKE ALL PASSENGERS TO BE ACCOMMODATED ON ONE FLIGHT, LEAVING ASCENSION AT NIGHT (FOR SECURITY REASONS) ON 11/12 OR 12/13 MAY.

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WE ARE ANXIOUS TO ARRANGE REPATRIATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
AND ANY DELAY BEYOND THESE DATES WOULD CAUSE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS.

3. (FOR BRASILIA). IF YOU THINK IT HELPFUL YOU MAY INFORM
THE BRAZILIANS OF THESE PLANS, IN VIEW OF THEIR ROLE AS
PROTECTING POWER.

4. (FOR MONTEVIDEO). THE URUGUAYANS MAY BE ANXIOUS TO HELP.
IF THE US SEE ADVANTAGE IN REPATRIATING THE PARTY THROUGH
MONTEVIDEO, WE ASSUME THAT THEY WILL MAKE THE NECESSARY
ARRANGEMENTS DIRECT WITH THE URUGUAY AUTHORITIES.

PYM