

FLASH
ADVANCE COPY

419

Prime Minister
To see
Mr. Lopez
Duty Chk.
28/3/82

BAFO 002/28

ZZ FCO

ZZ PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR)

ZZ MODUK NAVY

ZZ CINCFLEET

GRS 350

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BUENOS AIRES 28/1406Z MAR 82

TO FLASH FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 115 OF 28 MARCH 1982

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

MY TELNO 113 : SOUTH GEORGIA

Head Slem D
Head Jef D
Head Naves D
Ps (6)
Ps KPs (3)
Ps / Mr. Ford
Ps / Mr. Luce
Ps / Mr. ...
Mr. Gubbard
Mr. ...
Calc Office

No 10
Rc

1. COSTA MENDEZ TELEPHONED ME YESTERDAY EVENING TO SAY THAT HIS MESSAGE TO YOU WOULD BE READY AT 0930 (1230Z) TODAY AND I HAVE JUST COLLECTED IT. OUR TRANSLATION OF FULL TEXT IS IN MY IFT. IN ESSENCE IT SAYS THAT WE ARE MAKING TOO MUCH FUSS OVER A MATTER IN ADMITTEDLY DISPUTED TERRITORY SEMI COLON THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT CANNOT BUT TAKE THE PRECAUTIONS REQUIRED BY PRUDENCE AND ITS RIGHTS AND THAT THE WORKMEN SHOULD CONTINUE ON SOUTH GEORGIA SINCE THEY HAVE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION.

2. IN CONVERSATION COSTA MENDEZ AND ROS EXPLAINED THAT THE LAST PHRASE MEANT THAT, IN THEIR VIEW (AND ROS WAS ONE OF THE NEGOTIATORS) SOUTH GEORGIA IS (REPEAT IS) INCLUDED IN THE WHITE CARD REGIME BY THE 1971 AGREEMENT. IN THE SAME CONVERSATION COSTA MENDEZ TRIED RATHER LAMELY TO RECONCILE HIS CONFLICTING STATEMENTS ABOUT THE BAHIA PARAISO BUT STILL PROFESSED IGNORANCE ABOUT THE PRESENCE ON BOARD OF ARGENTINE MARINES AND CAPITAN TROMBETTA. SINCE TODAY'S PRESS IS FULL OF STATEMENTS THAT A BRITISH WARSHIP, JOHN RISCOE, IS ON ITS WAY TO THE AREA I TOLD COSTA MENDEZ IN