

T 18  
PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 558/82

ZCZCWAG022  
OO WTE24  
DE WTE £1641 0920232  
O 020245Z APR 82  
FM THE WHITE HOUSE  
TO CABINET OFFICE, LONDON  
ZEM  
S E C R E T VIA CABINET OFFICE CHANNELS WHO1641

+ 3 copies to p.a.  
Duplicate into  
Frank Clee. Inter  $\frac{2}{4}$

APRIL 1, 1982

DEAR MARGARET,

I HAVE JUST TALKED AT LENGTH WITH GENERAL GALTIERI ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THE FALKLANDS. I CONVEYED TO HIM MY PERSONAL CONCERN ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ARGENTINE INVASION. I TOLD HIM THAT INITIATING MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WOULD SERIOUSLY COMPROMISE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ARGENTINA AND I URGED HIM TO REFRAIN FROM OFFENSIVE ACTION. I OFFERED OUR GOOD OFFICES AND MY READINESS TO SEND A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO ASSIST IN RESOLVING THE ISSUES BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE GENERAL HEARD MY MESSAGE, BUT GAVE ME NO COMMITMENT THAT HE WOULD COMPLY WITH IT. INDEED, HE SPOKE IN TERMS OF ULTIMATUMS AND LEFT ME WITH THE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT HE HAS EMBARKED ON A COURSE OF ARMED CONFLICT. WE WILL CONTINUE TO COOPERATE WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT IN THE EFFORT TO RESOLVE THIS DISPUTE, BOTH IN ATTEMPTING TO AVERT HOSTILITIES AND TO STOP THEM IF THEY SHOULD BREAK OUT. WHILE WE HAVE A POLICY OF NEUTRALITY ON THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE, WE WILL NOT BE NEUTRAL ON THE ISSUE OF ARGENTINE USE OF MILITARY FORCE.

WARMEST WISHES,

RON

0246  
£1641