

CONFIDENTIAL

Argentinian



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1
Telephone 01-~~960 7022~~ 218 2111/3

MO 5/21

22nd July 1982

Now see parliamentary

Dear Jim,

answer.

A.S.C. 22/7

FALKLAND ISLANDS : LIFTING OF THE
TOTAL EXCLUSION ZONE

p.a.

You told us this morning that the Prime Minister wished to announce in Parliament this afternoon the lifting of the TEZ and the 12 mile restriction on Argentine naval forces. You also told us that the Prime Minister wished to include in her statement a reference to the zone of 150 miles around the Falklands from which all Argentine naval and air forces would be excluded, and within which they would be liable to attack.

I attach the draft of an Answer on this subject which the Prime Minister might use. The draft has been discussed with John Weston in the FCO and Henry Steel in the Attorney General's Office. I am bound to say that FCO officials would prefer both that the announcement was made in a lower key as originally proposed, and that it should not include a reference to the 150 mile zone. They point out that the original intention was to take a further significant step publicly to de-escalate the situation in the South Atlantic, which will be beneficial internationally, while making the situation as clear as possible privately to the Argentines to minimise the risk of inadvertent conflict. This was the purpose of the original combination of a public announcement about the TEZ and a private warning about the 150 mile zone. However I take it that these points were taken into account by OD Ministers this morning in taking their decision and that the Prime Minister would wish to use the announcement as attached.

I am copying this to John Holmes (FCO), Henry Steel in the Attorney General's Office, the Private Secretaries of OD FAF Ministers and to David Wright.

your ever
Mich Evans

(N H R EVANS)

A J Coles Esq

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D R A F T _ A N N O U N C E M E N T

There have been no further hostilities in the South Atlantic since the surrender of Argentine forces on the Falkland Islands on 14 June. We have therefore concluded that Argentina now accepts, as we do, that active hostilities have ended. On that basis, we have arranged for the repatriation of all remaining Argentine prisoners of war in accordance with Article 118 of the Third Geneva Convention.

We have ~~also now~~ decided to lift the Total Exclusion Zone of 200 nautical miles around the Falkland Islands, which was established on 30 April. Port Stanley harbour and Port Stanley airfield, together with the three mile territorial sea around the Falklands, nevertheless remain closed to commercial shipping and aircraft until further notice for reasons of safety.

Our warning of 7 May that any Argentine warship or military aircraft found more than 12 miles from the Argentine coast would be regarded as hostile similarly no longer applies.] But British forces continue to have authority to take all necessary measures to protect themselves against attack anywhere in the South Atlantic and to defend the Falkland Islands and the dependencies, in accordance with the inherent right of self defence recognised in Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. In particular and to minimise the risk of misunderstandings or inadvertent clashes



we have asked the Argentine Government via the Swiss Government to ensure that their warships and military aircraft do not enter a zone 150 miles around the Islands where they would pose a potential threat to our forces. Argentine civil aircraft and shipping have also been requested not to enter this zone unless by prior agreement with the British Government and also to stay clear of other British dependencies in the South Atlantic.

We have informed the Government of Argentina, via the Swiss Government through the diplomatic channel, about how these measures will be applied, in the interests of avoiding any future misunderstandings now that hostilities have ended.

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PS
PS/MR HURD
PS/MR ONSLOW
PS/MR RIFKIND
PS/PUS
SIR J BULLARD
SIR I SINCLAIR
MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR ADAMS
LORD N G LENNOX
LORD BRIDGES
MR URE
MR GILLMORE

IMMEDIATE

PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (2)
PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
MR J STEWART AUSD STAFF MOD
PS/CHANCELLOR)
MR ILETT) TREASURY
MR LITTLER)
MISS DICKSON D/ENERGY
SIR R ARMSTRONG)
SIR M PALLISER)
MR A D S GOODALL) CABINET OFFICE
DIO)

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HD/PUSD (2)
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HD/NEWS DEPT
HD/ERD
HD/ECD(E)
HD/UND
HD/PLANNING STAFF
RESIDENT CLERK

ROOM 8 FOR MODUK C IN C FLEET

Mr. COLIN ROTH, LAEPD, ODA
MR. BORDEN, LAEPD, ODA.

IMMEDIATE

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FM BERNE 231930Z

Telegram No 228 of 23 July

TO IMMEDIATE FCO ~~AND REPEATED~~ INFORMATION IMMEDIATE TO UKMIS
NEW YORK UKMIS GENEVA WASHINGTON MONTEVIDEO BRASILIA UKREP
BRUSSELS.

YOUR TELNO 631 TO UKMIS NEW YORK

FALKLAND ISLANDS: PRIME MINISTERS STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON
LIFTING OF TEZ AND 12 MILE LIMIT.

THE FOLLOWING IS OUR TRANSLATION OF A TELEGRAM FROM THE SWISS
EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES WHICH THE SWISS FDFA PASSED TO US THIS
EVENING (23 JULY) :

BEGINS

1. CONVEYED CONTENTS OF YOR 323-13 (SWISS TELEGRAM NUMBER)
IN NOTE FORM TO BAQUERIZA (DEPUTY FOR KELLER-SARIEMTO WHO IS
AT PRESENT IN ITALY)
2. ASKED BAQUERIZA FOR ARGENTINA'S REACTION TO BRITISH REDUCTION
OF TEZ. HE HANDED ME PRESS COMMUNIQUE GIVEN TO THE MEDIA
YESTERDAY (TEXT BELOW). HE EXPLAINED THAT THEY HAVE PAID
PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE COMMUNIQUE BECAUSE
PRIME MINISTER THATCHER HAD SPOKEN OF PROTECTION OF THE TASK

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AT PRESENT IN ITALY)

2. ASKED BAQUERIZA FOR ARGENTINA'S REACTION TO BRITISH REDUCTION OF TEZ. HE HANDED ME PRESS COMMUNIQUE GIVEN TO THE MEDIA YESTERDAY (TEXT BELOW). HE EXPLAINED THAT THEY HAVE PAID PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE COMMUNIQUE BECAUSE PRIME MINISTER THATCHER HAD SPOKEN OF PROTECTION OF THE TASK FORCE QUOTE EN QUALQUIER PARTE DEL ATLANTICO SUR UNQUOTE WHICH WAS NOT COVERED IN OUR NOTE OF 21 JULY AND IS NOW CLARIFIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE NEW NOTE.

IN GENERAL ARGENTINA CONSIDERED GREAT BRITAIN'S REACTION AS TOTALLY UNSATISFACTORY. WHAT HIS COUNTRY EXPECTED CAME OUT IN THE LAST SENTENCES OF THE PRESS RELEASE. IN ANY CASE ONE COULD NOT LURE THEM WITH SUCH REDUCTIONS. THE WISHES OF THE EEC (INCLUDING BRITAIN) WERE EQUALLY UNSATISFACTORY (FOR A RESUMPTION OF TRADE), FOR A RETURN TO A NORMALISATION OF RELATIONS. TOO MUCH BLOOD HAD FLOWN AND THE ENGLISH REACTION SINCE 2 APRIL HAD BEEN TOO BRUTAL. ARGENTINA WISHED TO SEE POLITICAL STEPS AND GESTURES MADE. ALTHOUGH THEY (ARGENTINES) KNEW THAT THEY COULD NOT PROCEED WITHOUT NORMAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE AND FRG, THIS WOULD TAKE TIME.

3. (PERSONAL REMARK OF THE SWISS AMBASSADOR IN BUENOS AIRES): THE FUTURE WILL SHOW WHAT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC PRESSURES AND POLITICAL WISHES WILL BE. ENDS.

4. SPANISH TEXT OF PRESS COMMUNIQUE AS FOLLOWS:
BEGINS:

1.
EL GOBIERNO BRITANICO, POR INTERMEDIO DE LA EMBAJADA SUIZA EN BUENOS AIRES, HA HECHO LLEGAR UNA COMUNICACION AL GOBIERNO ARGENTINO CONTENIENDO APRECIACIONES Y DEFINICIONES UNILATERALES RELATIVAS A LA SITUACION PLANTEADA EN EL ATLANTICO SUR EN ESTA ETAPA DEL CONFLICTO.

2. EN DICHA COMUNICACION SE AFIRMA QUE LAS HOSTILIDADES HAN TERMINADO, PERO AL MISMO TIEMPO SE DAN A CONOCER MEDIDAS DE CLARO CARACTER BELICISTA QUE IMPORTAN EL MANTENIMIENTO CON ALGUNAS MODIFICACIONES - DE LAS ZONAS DE EXCLUSION O BLOQUEO ESTABLECIDAS ANTERIORMENTE POR GRAN BRETANA EL 30 DE ABRIL. EN EFECTO, TODO BUQUE O AERONAVE QUE INCURSIONE DENTRO DE LO QUE SE DENOMINA "ZONA DE PROTECCION", LIMITADA POR UN CIRCULO DE 150 MILLAS NAUTICAS DE RADIO ALREDEDOR DE LAS ISLAS, SERA CONSIDERADO HOSTIL Y TRATADO EN CONSECUENCIA. MAS AUN, EL

GOBIERNO BRITANICO SE RESERVA EL DERECHO DE LLEVAR A CABO
OPERACIONES MILITARES "EN CUALQUIER PARTE DEL ATLANTICO SUR"
EN EL CASO EN QUE LAS JUZGUE NECESARIAS PARA LA PROTECCION DE
SUS FUERZAS.

3. SE PROCURA ASI, MEDIANTE ACTOS Y DECLARACIONES UNILATERALES,
CREAR UNA SITUACION QUE PERMITA CONSOLIDAR Y HACER ACEPTABLE
LA OCUPACION MILITAR BRITANICA Y LA PRESENCIA COLONIALISTA
DEL REINO UNIDO EN LA ZONA. FRENTE A ELLO, LA CANCELLERIA AR-
GENTINA HACE SABER QUE NO ACEPTA, COMO NO HA ACEPTADO EN EL
PASADO, LA EXISTENCIA DE ZONAS DE EXCLUSION, NI DE LIMITED DE
NINGUNA NATURALEZA EN MARES QUE PERTENECEN A LA JURISDICCION
ARGENTINA, Y QUE CUALQUIER INCIDENTE QUE SE PRODUZCA CON MOTI-
VO DE SU ESTABLECIMIENTO SERA DE LA EXCLUSIVA RESPONSABILIDAD
DEL REINO UNIDO. AL MISMO TIEMPO, REAFIRMA QUE, COMO QUEDA DE-
MOSTRADO POR LA ACTITUD ASUMIDA POR GRAN BRETANA, NO EXISTE
EN LA ZONA UNA CESACION DEFINITIVA DE HOSTILIDADES SI NO UNA
SUSPENSION DE HECHO DE LAS MISMAS. LA PRECARIA SITUACION RE-
SULTANTE, UNICAMENTE PODRA DERIVAR EN UNA PAZ EFECTIVA, SI
GRAN BRETANA DEJA SIN EFECTO LAS MEDIDAS MILITARES Y ECONOMICAS
QUE HA TOMADO Y SE AVIENE A NEGOCIAR CON LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA,
EN EL MARCO DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS Y CONFORME CON LAS RE-
SOLUCIONES PERTINENTES, LA SOLUCION DEFINITIVA DE LA DISPUTA.

ØPOWELL-JONES

NNNNN

PARA 4 AFTER BEGINS QM SHD READ

1. EL GOBIERNO