

Aw 048/325/5

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OO PORT STANLEY DESKBY 312000Z

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DESKBY 312000Z PORT STANLEY BUENOS AIRES HMS ENDURANCE  
FM FCO 311830Z DECEMBER 81  
TO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 150 OF 31 DECEMBER  
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES AND HMS ENDURANCE  
(VIA MOD UK NAVY)

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YOUR TELNO 204: SOUTH GEORGIA: ARGENTINE SHIPS VISIT

1. IT SEEMS TO US THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DAVIDOFF AND/OR MASTER OF ARGENTINE NAVAL VESSEL WOULD RISK PROVOKING A MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT WHICH COULD ESCALATE AND HAVE AN UNFORESEEABLE OUTCOME. MOREOVER, ON THE EVIDENCE IN YOUR TUR. EVEN IF PROCEEDINGS COULD BE BROUGHT AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL, IT MUST BE DOUBTFUL WHETHER THEY WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.
2. BASE COMMANDER SHOULD THEREFORE NOT, REPEAT NOT, ATTEMPT TO INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS. INSTEAD:
  - A) IF DAVIDOFF AND PARTY PRESENT THEMSELVES AT GRITVIKEN AND REQUEST ENTRY CLEARANCE IN APPROPRIATE MANNER, BASE COMMANDER SHOULD GRANT CLEARANCE SUBJECT TO FULFILMENT OF NORMAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.
  - B) IF ARGENTINE VESSEL IS NAVAL, THEN UNLESS PARTY ALSO FORMALLY SEEK CLEARANCE FOR HER, BASE COMMANDER SHOULD DELIVER A FORMAL WRITTEN PROTEST AGAINST HER UNAUTHORISED ENTRY INTO BRITISH TERRITORIAL WATERS.
  - C) IF DAVIDOFF AND PARTY ATTEMPT TO LAND AT GRITVIKEN WITHOUT PROPER CLEARANCE, THEY SHOULD BE ORDERED TO DEPART IMMEDIATELY, BUT WITHOUT USING THREATS.
  - D) IF THEY REFUSE TO COMPLY, INCIDENT SHOULD BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY TO FCO FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.
3. BASE COMMANDER MAY AT HIS DISCRETION ALSO QUESTION DAVIDOFF ABOUT THE REPORTED LANDING AT LEITH. IF DAVIDOFF ADMITS THE OFFENCE, BUT IS OTHERWISE COMPLYING WITH IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS, BASE COMMANDER SHOULD ADMONISH HIM NOT TO REPEAT THE OFFENCE

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BUT TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION.

4. WE SHALL PROBABLY WISH IN DUE COURSE TO MAKE A PROTEST TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT ABOUT THIS INCIDENT AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR PARA 4, BUT WILL FIRST WISH TO SEE WHAT TRANSPIRES AT GRITVIKEN AND TO HAVE AS FULL A REPORT AS POSSIBLE OF THE FACTS.

CARRINGTON

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