

29/4

C9-3A

STATEMENT BY MOD SPOKESMAN 29/4/82

"We have chartered Saxonia, a solid support ship owned by Cunard and it will be used to take dry provisions to replenish the RFAs. She is currently in Bremerhaven. Going on, I would to elaborate a little but not change what I said yesterday about the Tidepool. I said yesterday that she was in the ~~process~~ process of being delivered to the Chilian Government but that delivery was postponed. I should make it very clear that at the time of the decision to postpone delivery the vessel was flying a blue ensign and was under a UK master. Chilian agreement to the postponement was not needed since there was an emergency provision in the contract of sale to cover such a contingency. We did, of course, notify the Chilian authorities. As I said, the Tidepool is manned by a British crew and there are no Chilians aboard - that is positive.

On the general aspect I have really nothing more to add to my usual "on route and on time" and nothing more as to the disposition of the Argentine forces".

*Stu Rod.*

*Drc (M)*

*1400 29.4.82*