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YEAR STAMP 1979.

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DEPT. or POST SOUTH AMERICA.

FILE No. ALW 026/1 **(Part** **)**

TITLE: VISIT TO P. STANLEY / B AIRES BY MR. N. RIDLEY, MINISTER OF STATE

5A 497

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PART

FILE No. ALW 026/1

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Date 1/6/87

H.M. DIPLOMATIC SERVICE

DEPT. or POST SOUTH AMERICA

FILE No. ALW 026/1 (Part)

TITLE: VISIT TO P. STANLEY / B. AIRES BY MR. N. RIDLEY, MINISTER OF STATE

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FILE No. ALW 026/1 PART

USEFUL INFORMATION RELATED TO CONTENTS OF THIS FILE

LAST FILE:

NEXT FILE:

OTHER RELATED FILES:

502 Miss Davies

(119)

LAST PAPER

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

17th September 1979

From The Minister of State

ALW 026/1
RECD 24 SEP 1979
INDEX

Dear Ted

(112)

Thank you for your letter of 9 September about my visit to the Falkland Islands and Argentina.

I enjoyed my visit to the Islands and I am sure that it was right to show our concern for the Islanders' welfare and opinion in this way. The Islanders remain anxious for a solution and I firmly believe - as I think you did - that the present stalemate benefits no-one. We are currently examining the various policy options open to us and I hope it will be possible to continue the dialogue with the Argentines in a constructive spirit within the terms of reference established in 1977.

There is not a great deal more I can say just now. But I would like to mention two points which I made to Councillors and which I imagine would have your wholehearted support: namely that we will continue to keep the Islanders fully informed of developments which affect their interests; and that any proposals about the future of the Islands would have to be acceptable to the Islanders.

You asked for copies of statements etc: the only ones of significance so far are the communiques issued in Buenos Aires on 27 July at the time of my visit, and the announcement of our decision to reinstate Ambassadors in Parliament on the same day. Copies are enclosed.

Do call in at the Office for a chat, when other impressions of the Islands could be exchanged.

Yours ever Nick

Nicholas Ridley

Mr Ted Rowlands MP
House of Commons
SW1A 0AA

CONFIDENTIAL

(117)

(118)

RESTRICTED

MINISTERS'S PROGRAMME

FALKLAND ISLANDS 20-25 JULY

Friday 20 July	1210	Arrive Port Stanley - met by Governor and Mrs Parker and Island Councillors
	Lunch	At residence
	Evening	Reception at Government House
Saturday 21 July	Morning	Meeting with Executive and Legislative Councils (Exco and Legco)
	Lunch	Buffet lunch
	Afternoon	Tour of Stanley and aid projects
	Evening	Dinner at Government House
Sunday 22 July		Visit West Falkland Settlements. Overnight stay
Monday 23 July		Visit East Falkland Settlements. Overnight stay
Tuesday 24 July	Morning	Return to Stanley
	Afternoon	Discussions with sheepowners Association, General Employees Union and Falkland Islands Committee
	Evening	Public reception in Town Hall
Wednesday 25 July	Morning	Round-up meeting with Councillors
	Afternoon	Depart 1550

CONFIDENTIAL

NISTER'S PROGRAMME

ARGENTINA

Thursday 19 July	0855	Arrive Ezeiza Airport
	1030	(Approx) Arrive at residence Rest of morning free
	1330	Lunch at residence with Mr Bob Cox, Editor of Buenos Aires Herald,
	1630	Mr Ridley to meet Chancery staff
	1730	Discussion with senior staff
	1945	Informal dinner with British business representatives
Friday 20 July	0540	Leave residence for Aeroparque Airport
	0630	Depart on AR 161

VISIT FALKLAND ISLANDS 20-25 JULY

Wednesday 25 July	2140	Arrive Aeroparque Airport on AR 639 from Comodoro
	2215	(Approx) Arrive residence
	2300	Light supper if required
Thursday 26 July	0900	Discussion in Chancery with GEC representatives
	or 0930	about the nuclear contract
	1100	Courtesy call on Foreign Minister (if Pastor is not in Geneva)
	1130	Discussion with Cavandoli and Oliveri Lopez (Head of Falklands and Antarctic Department of MFA)
	1300	Lunch hosted by Cavandoli
	1630	Round-up with senior Embassy staff
	1800	Call on the Minister of Economy
	1830	Reception at the residence followed by informal dinner if feasible
Friday 27 July	0800	Depart for Rio AV084

MINISTERS PROGRAMME

RIO DE JANEIRO 27-29 JULY

Friday 27 July

1055	Arrive from Buenos Aires on AV 084; proceed to Hotel.
1300	Lunch - Chamber of Commerce.
1500	Call on Mr Eric Bruell, President of Souza Cruz (subsidiary of British American Tobacco and the largest British invetsment in Brazil).
1600	Call on Peter Landsberg.
1700	Return to Hotel.
1930	Reception given by Acting Consul General.

Saturday 28 July

	Free for sightseeing.
1900	Informal drinks with Acting Consul General for UK based staff and wives.

Sunday 29 July

0815	Leave for airport.
0930	Depart for Brasilia RG 200.

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FCO 408/504/1

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

FOR THE VISIT OF

MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY, MP

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND

COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN

18 JULY TO 9 AUGUST 1979

PLACE AND DATE

1. Mr Nicholas Ridley, MP, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, accompanied by Mrs Ridley and Mr K D Temple, Private Secretary, will visit Latin America and the Eastern Caribbean from 18 July to 9 August 1979.

TRAVEL

2. (a) Full details of travel arrangements are given in the attached Appendix.

(b) The Alcock and Brown Suite, Terminal 3, London Airport, has been reserved for both the outward and return journeys.

(c) Tickets for the journey will be sent separately by Conference Section.

PASSPORTS AND HEALTH

3. (a) Each member of the party should be in possession of a valid passport.

(b) Visas are required for Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Mexico and the United States.

(c) Each member of the party should be in possession of valid certificates for Smallpox, Cholera and Yellow Fever. Mexico is in the malarial area and Paludrine tablets, together with instructions, have already been sent to the members of the party by Conference Section.

INSURANCE

4. The insurance of baggage at the expense of HMG is not permissible. In the case of loss of personal baggage while travelling or while in receipt of subsistence allowance, claims may be submitted up to a maximum of £200 (no one article to exceed £50) provided that the loss is not covered by an existing policy.

TRANSPORT

5. Transport to and from London Airport will be arranged by the Minister's office.

6. SECURITY

6. SECURITY

Mr Temple will be documented as Special Courier for the journey. All classified material carried on the journey must be entered on the Courier's Waybill. Mr A S Chapman, Communications Operations Department (233-3706) should be contacted about the issue of a Courier's passport.

7. FINANCE

(a) Costs for the visit should be charged to the DCS Vote C3(2)(e).

(b) Subsistence

(i) Standard Class A subsistence rates are as follows:

Antigua	EC$276	EC$5.835	= £1
Buenos Aires	Pesos 47.293	Pesos 2.813	= £1
Brazil	Rio de Janeiro CR.1055 Brasilia CR.1075	CR55.26	= £1
Falkland Islands	£16.50		
Caracas	BS 463.00	BS 9.277	= £1
Mexico City	Pesos 561.00	Pesos 49.31	= £1
Barbados	BD$115.00	BD$4.04	= £1

(ii) When staying with colleagues Mr Ridley and Mr Temple will receive one third of the standard Class A rate of subsistence per night.

(iii) When staying in an hotel, if the cost of the room, standard breakfast, service charge and tax is more than half the Class A rate of subsistence, the Embassy/High Commission/Consulate General will pay these costs and advance Mr Ridley and Mr Temple half of the standard Class A subsistence to cover all other expenses.

(iv) Mrs Ridley will receive three quarters of the amount paid to Mr Ridley.

8. ADMINISTRATION

Any enquiries on the above should be addressed to the undersigned.

B D Davis

Miss B D Davis
Conference and Visits Section
Protocol and Conference
Department (233 3102)

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

5 July 1979

502 Miss Davis

(17)

APPENDIX

IRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Wednesday, 18 July	Mr Ridley Mrs Ridley Mr Temple	RG763 (F)	ETD LAP ETA Rio De Janeiro	2130 0640
Thursday, 19 July		AR 113 (F)	ETD Rio De Janeiro ETA Buenos Aires	0730 1010
Friday, 20 July		AR 616 (Y)	ETD Buenos Aires ETA Comodoro	0630 0840
		LD 200 (Y)	ETD Comodoro ETA Port Stanley	0940 1210
Wednesday, 25 July		LD 351 (Y)	ETD Port Stanley ETA Comodoro	1550 1710
		AR 639 (Y)	ETD Comodoro ETA Buenos Aires	1910 2140
Friday 27 July		AV 084 (F)	ETD Buenos Aires ETA Rio De Janeiro	0800 1055
Sunday, 29 July		RG 200 (Y)	ETD Rio De Janeiro ETA Brasilia	0930 1105
~~Monday,~~ Tuesday 31 July		~~VP 283~~ RG 806 ~~(Y)~~	~~ETD Brasilia~~ ~~ETA Rio De Janeiro~~	~~1910~~ 2359 ~~2040~~
		~~RG 802~~ (F)	~~ETD Rio De Janeiro~~ ETA Caracas	~~2350~~ 0440 on ~~31 July~~ 1 Aug.
Thursday 2 August		VA 840 (F)	ETD Caracas ETA Mexico City	1000 1300
Monday 6 August		MX 301 (Y)	ETD Mexico City ETA Miami	0810 1425
		EA 965 (F)	ETD Miami ETA Antigua	1555 1925
~~Tuesday~~ Wed. 8 August		Charter to Barbados to connect with		
		BA 254	ETD Barbados ETA LAP	2330 1235 on 9 August

Baggage Allowance : First Class 30 Kgs
Economy Class (Y) 20 Kgs

- 2 -

(17)

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DISTRIBUTION

PS/Lord Privy Seal
PS/Mr Ridley (3)
Sir Antony Duff
Sir Anthony Parsons
Mr G E Hall
Mr R J Stratton
Communications Operations Department - Mr L T Charrington
Mr A S Chapman OBR - 1
Mexico and Caribbean Dept - 3
South America Dept - 3
Finance Dept - Pay Section
News Dept - 1
- Mr J Carroll - 1
Permanent Under-Secretary's Dept - Mr R G Beer - 1
Protocol and Conference Dept - 10
- Finance Section
West Indian & Atlantic Dept
Resident Clerks
Security Dept - Mr S G Attwood

British Embassy Brasilia - 3
Buenos Aires - 3

Caracas - 3
Mexico City - 3
British High Commission - Bridgetown - 3
British Consulate-General - Rio de Janiero - 3

Deputy British Government Representative - Antigua
Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Falkland Islands

EACH MEMBER OF THE PARTY

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(117)

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Mr Harding

PS/Mr Ridley

14/9.

AZW 026/1
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 13
30 OCT 1979
INDEX PA

FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA: LETTER FROM MR TED ROWLANDS, MP

1. I submit a draft reply for Mr Ridley's signature to Mr Rowland's letter of 9 September about the Minister's visit to and about current policy on the Falklands.

2. There is not a great deal that can be said to Mr Rowlands at the moment on policy. But it is clear that Mr Rowlands' interest in the dispute and in the Islands has not lessened. It would therefore seem appropriate to be as forthcoming as possible. The Minister may also want to keep in touch with Mr Rowlands who could well be helpful in the coming months, as we face difficult decisions in the dispute; he might want to consider suggesting in due course that Mr Rowlands call in for a discussion when the way is clearer.

G A Duggan
South America Department

13 September 1979

I agree. W. Rowlands is clearly maintaining his keen personal interest in this dispute and it will be helpful to keep him on side.

14 Sept.

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(117)

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(116)

5 Am A.

ALW 026/1

14 SEP 1979

Mr Hall

P.S. for Mr Ridley

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA: PRESS COMMENT

1. The Minister of State might like a brief summary of the press coverage of his visits to Falkland and Argentina.

A ALW 801/1

2. The only paper in the Falklands, the roneo-ed Falkland Islands Times, highlighted the visit in its August issue with a front page article and an article on page 9 by the editor on the future of the Islands which shows that the editor himself accepts closer co-operation with Argentina as a fact of life. The Falklands Islands Times circulates widely in the Islands and copies are distributed in this country. The editor, Mr Colville (born in the UK) took over the paper comparatively recently and attempts a somewhat humorous account of news events although the final result is frequently somewhat juvenile. The Governor has said that the poor quality of the newspaper is a source of embarrassment to many Islanders.

3. In Argentina, coverage of Mr Ridley's visit was extensive although editorial comment sparse, possibly reflecting a lack of direction from official quarters. The press found it hard to decide which aspect it should emphasise, some reports stressing the agreement to restore relations to Ambassadorial level and others referring to the proposed meeting of Foreign Ministers in New York, seen as the next step in the Falklands negotiations. There were also some references to the remarks attributed to Mr Ridley about Argentine affairs.

B 4. The most substantial editorial comment was carried by Clarin (a popular tabloid mass circulation daily) which welcomed the decision to restore Ambassadors; and emphasised that economic co-operation - the paper referred specifically to hydrocarbons - should be matched by progress on sovereignty.

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C 5. The Buenos Aires Herald (an influential, well-balanced small circulation daily newspaper published in English) argues that the integration of the Falklands into Argentina is in everyone's interest although the future well-being of the Islanders must be of principal concern. This paper also mentions Mr Carless and expresses relief that the opportunity to restore relations at Ambassadorial level will not be lost through the Argentine refusal to grant him agrement.

D 6. The Review of the River Plate (a specialised journal published in English read primarily in business and economic circles) also refers to an Argentine veto on Mr Carless and concludes that it is difficult to see what progress could be made over the Falklands so long as the UK maintains the line that nothing will happen without the approval of the Islanders.

7. A somewhat sour note, however, was struck by an insulting article which appeared in Radiolandia 2000 (a weekly, approximating to our TV Times, which although widely read is not taken seriously).

E This article was very much the exception since the Argentine press coverage overall was generally friendly and moderate in tone.

G A Duggan
South America Department
5/9

5/IX

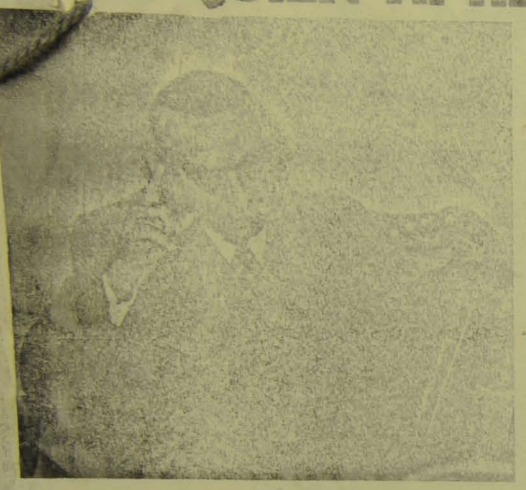
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LAS EXTRAÑAS DECLARACIONES DEL VICECANCILLER INGLES CAUSARON ESTUPOR EN TODOS LOS SECTORES DE NUESTRO P

¿CON QUIEN APRENDIO DIPLOMACIA NICHOLAS RIDLEY? ¿CON IDI AMIN



"RETIRAR LA AYUDA". Para el almirante Rojas, la cooperación con los pobladores de las Malvinas ha sido inútil. No ha provocado distensión sino gastos al patrimonio nacional. Los ingleses retiraron la pista.

El flamante miembro del gabinete de Margaret Thatcher visitó las Islas Malvinas en su luna de miel. A su llegada recibió un cálido recibimiento y muchos reclamos de los isleros. Durante su retorno a Buenos Aires hizo declaraciones que implican una intromisión en nuestros problemas internos. Sobre las negociaciones entre ambos países, entrevistamos al almirante Isaac Francisco Rojas. "Soy pesimista –dijo– los ingleses tratan de ganar tiempo y sacarnos ventajas"

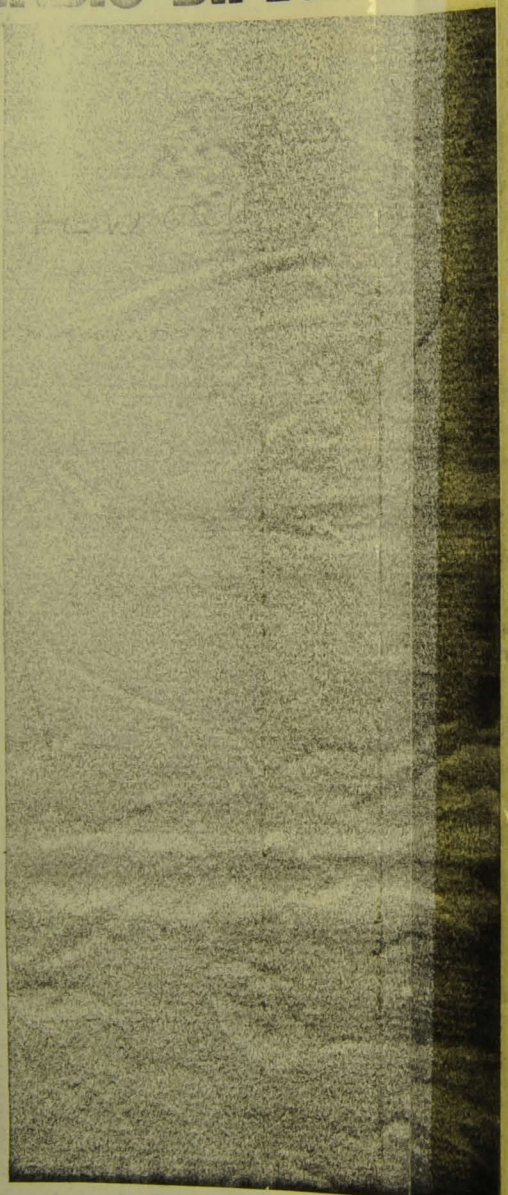
"YO pienso que las Falkland son un país real y efectivamente democrático. Un sistema abierto, donde se eligen los concejales, y dentro de este sistema el comité puede desarrollar sus ideas políticas. Tal vez la Argentina –buena tierra– pueda copiar el sistema de las islas, donde no hay nadie que esté detenido por cuestiones políticas y los derechos humanos son respetados..."

Los periodistas argentinos que recibieron esta declaración de parte del vicecanciller británico Nicholas Ridley, no podían creer lo que escuchaban. Estas declaraciones fueron recogidas y grabadas por el enviado especial de "Clarín".

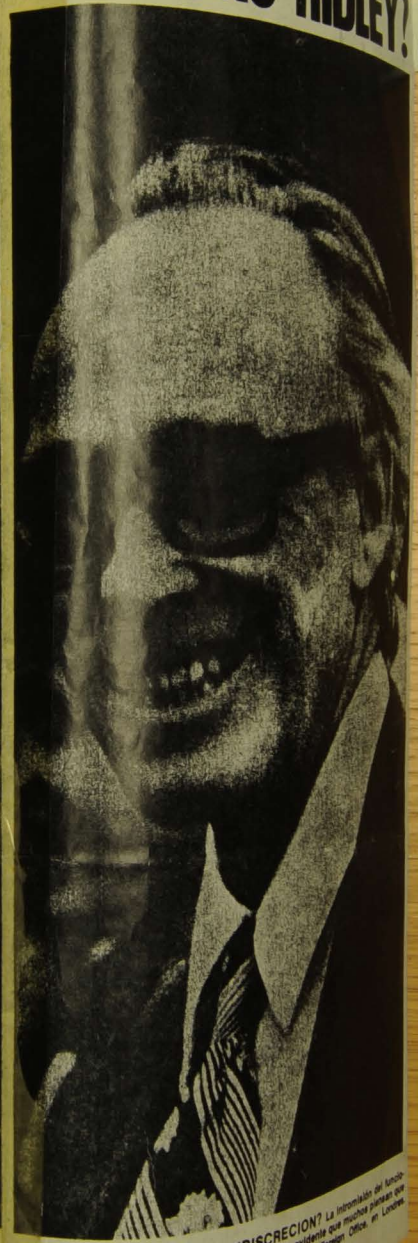
El funcionario inglés continuó con sus insólitas reflexiones a bordo de un avión de LADE que lo traía de regreso a Buenos Aires. Su visita –la primera de un miembro del gabinete de Margaret Thatcher– había suscitado expectativas entre los malvineros y los diplomáticos argentinos: pero lo que comenzó como "visita de buena voluntad" terminó como cualquiera de las agresiones diplomáticas del otrora jerarca de Uganda, el mariscal Idi Amin Dada.

"REFIRMACION DE LA USURPACION"

Para ajustar el significado



RECUERDOS DE IDI AMIN. Durante muchos años el público mundial se acostumbró a las explosiones verbales del presidente ugandés. Su falta de diplomacia era quizás comparable a la del vicecanciller Ridley.



¿INEXPERIENCIA O INDISCRECION? La intromisión del funcionario en nuestra política interna fue tan evidente que muchos piensan que era "una lección aprendida" en oficinas del Foreign Office, en Londres.

(1A)

ALW 02611
RECEIVED
14 SEP 1979
PRIVATE

EDITORIAL FROM CLARIN, TUESDAY 31 JULY 1979

RELATIONS WITH THE UK

During the recent visit of the British Minister of State, Nicholas Ridley, the agreement to resume relations at Ambassadorial level was confirmed. The event is particularly significant since the two countries are negotiating the restoration of the Malvinas Islands to Argentina, thus abiding by the request of the UN General Assembly.

Since the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have released no information on the subject, the public are ignorant of the present state of the negotiations. However, it is known that they cover sovereignty and economic co-operation. Progress in one aspect should be matched by progress in the other. This is only natural. To talk of economic co-operation, implies that there are British interests in the area, interests established over 146 years of illegitimate occupation. To talk of sovereignty is to admit that the era of colonialism and occupation by force of territories belonging to other States has come to an end, that in its place the period of historic redress has started. It is for the negotiators to find the right balance. That balance, however, must be within the ambit of the restoration of the Islands (to Argentina).

The Ambassadors were recalled when the British Government engaged in activities which, instead of helping to make progress towards an agreement, showed an insistence on widening their de facto jurisdiction in the South. As such, those activities were considered unfriendly. One may now wonder whether sufficient progress has been made in the negotiations to modify this attitude. The steps taken seem to indicate that this is so, but the authorities have not informed public opinion. People would welcome the news that London had given up its reluctance to go forward on the subject of sovereignty and was ready to lead the international community, which urges that it should leave the Southern Islands, so far from its territory and its area of influence.

This would open the way to co-operation that is perfectly conceivable even in the field of oil. The UK has the necessary capital, business organisation, technology and expertise to undertake the exploitation of oil in the Islands. Argentina is the rightful owner of the Islands and their maritime extension, and has the necessary supporting infrastructure for the operation. To come to an agreement as regards this potential would be a problem of maturity and balance. Everybody knows that the exploitation of oil would involve an extremely costly investment and a difficult enterprise in view of the prevailing conditions. Thus there is a real possibility of combining the interests of the two parties.

/However,

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However, it will not be possible to attain any such solution if the Argentine negotiating position is weakened, for whatever reason. Therefore the defence of the basic thesis of this issue is as important as attention to its formal aspects. Only in an atmosphere of mutual respect will it be possible to overcome the obstacles still in the way of an agreement. And even though the negotiations are a delicate matter and therefore kept confidential, it is necessary to offer some general information to the public because the problem is a national one and is everybody's concern. Everybody is committed to a fervent defence of the Republic's sovereignty and dignity.

(17)

AKW 0261

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 13

30 OCT 1979

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

9th September, 1979

Mr.Nicholas Ridley, M.P.
Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
King Charles Street,
London S.W.1.

Dear Nick,

As I was away on holiday I missed all the press reports, communiques etc. of your visit to the Falklands and Argentina.

I should be grateful if you would give me an idea as to how things stand, the position on negotiations, are there any new terms of reference etc.

I would be grateful also for any copies of statements etc. so that I am up to date on the position.

Best wishes,

Ted

TED ROWLANDS, M.P.

1. Acknowledged ..... 12/9 .....
2. Minister of State has/has not seen
3. ...S.Amd..... Department for advice and draft reply from Mr Ridley by 12/9.

0261

1979

26 July 1979

Minister of State

'Ted' Rowlands
Hookers Point
to meet Nicholas
eption party
hich had taken
It was 11.05am
in the row was
econd Francis
Ridley, an engineer,
educated at Eton
d off the plane.
ng a red carnation
a man in his fifties.
ker, Mr McMillan,
ad smile, and his
he old dark red
car are two Royal

untry, despite the
body came out to
lacard or flag.
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re, most of them
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body was even
are a map of the

Islands was drawn and the words 'We Want Our 200 Miles' and 'Falkland Fish are British' written in red and black. But Ridley could not see all this during the first of his five days on the Islands.

Mr King

Desmond George Buckley King, 56, with blue eyes and grey hair, a Briton from Arkley Barnet, is the owner of the Upland Goose, the only hotel in Port Stanley, His two daughters, Barbara and Anne, were also with him at the airport that cold morning. They had gone to the airport, as they do every Wednesday and Friday, to meet and see off passengers to and from Argentina. They invite the passengers to get into the 12-seater Land Rover, put the luggage in another vehicle, and leave for the hotel. Even though they have been accommodating almost none but Argentine

/visitors

CONFIDENTIAL

502
Miss Evans

Ref my letter 353/492/6 of 28 August
to Growcott, copied to you

With the compliments of

CHANCERY

R Gozney

BRITISH EMBASSY
BUENOS AIRES

21

AZW 026/1

24 SEP 1979

NTE" MAGAZINE, 26 July 1979

Ridley, British Minister of State

STENED AND LEFT

go, when Edward 'Ted' Rowlands
ople gathered at Hookers Point
persistent rain, to meet Nicholas
he FCO. The reception party
's Fokker F-27, which had taken
½ hours earlier. It was 11.05am
The first person in the row was
Parker, and the second Francis
etary. Nicholas Ridley, an engineer,
Viscount Ridley, educated at Eton
practically jumped off the plane.
ace and was wearing a red carnation
s remarkable for a man in his fifties.
't wing of the Fokker, Mr McMillan,
lso wearing a broad smile, and his
pen the door of the old dark red
Austin. The only identification plates on the car are two Royal
crests.

To Ridley it was just arriving home, to his country, despite the fact that, unlike two and a half years ago, nobody came out to the streets or to the road to wave a welcome placard or flag. However, there were small notices neatly placed in the windows of some houses or small stores with the same words printed as when Rowlands came to the Islands. What is more, most of them had been kept from those days: 'God Save The Queen', 'God Bless our Queen', 'Keep the Falklands British'. Somebody was even more daring, and on a piece of cloth 80 cm square a map of the Islands was drawn and the words 'We Want Our 200 Miles' and 'Falkland Fish are British' written in red and black. But Ridley could not see all this during the first of his five days on the Islands.

Mr King

Desmond George Buckley King, 56, with blue eyes and grey hair, a Briton from Arkley Barnet, is the owner of the Upland Goose, the only hotel in Port Stanley. His two daughters, Barbara and Anne, were also with him at the airport that cold morning. They had gone to the airport, as they do every Wednesday and Friday, to meet and see off passengers to and from Argentina. They invite the passengers to get into the 12-seater Land Rover, put the luggage in another vehicle, and leave for the hotel. Even though they have been accommodating almost none but Argentine

/visitors

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AZW 026/1

RECEIVED 24 SEP 1979

TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE FROM "GENTE" MAGAZINE, 26 July 1979

In the Malvinas, with Nicholas Ridley, British Minister of State

HE CAME, HAD A LOOK AROUND, LISTENED AND LEFT

Just as two and a half years ago, when Edward 'Ted' Rowlands visited the Islands, twelve people gathered at Hookers Point Airport, under a grey sky and persistent rain, to meet Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the FCO. The reception party lined up by the steps of LADE's Fokker F-27, which had taken off from Comodoro Rivadavia 2½ hours earlier. It was 11.05am and the temperature was 2°C. The first person in the row was Governor James Roland Walter Parker, and the second Francis Eustace Baker, the Chief Secretary. Nicholas Ridley, an engineer, the youngest son of the third Viscount Ridley, educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford, practically jumped off the plane. He had a broad smile on his face and was wearing a red carnation in his lapel. His dynamism is remarkable for a man in his fifties. Five metres away from the left wing of the Fokker, Mr McMillan, another man in his fifties, also wearing a broad smile, and his police uniform, was holding open the door of the old dark red Austin. The only identification plates on the car are two Royal crests.

To Ridley it was just arriving home, to his country, despite the fact that, unlike two and a half years ago, nobody came out to the streets or to the road to wave a welcome placard or flag. However, there were small notices neatly placed in the windows of some houses or small stores with the same words printed as when Rowlands came to the Islands. What is more, most of them had been kept from those days: 'God Save The Queen', 'God Bless our Queen', 'Keep the Falklands British'. Somebody was even more daring, and on a piece of cloth 80 cm square a map of the Islands was drawn and the words 'We Want Our 200 Miles' and 'Falkland Fish are British' written in red and black. But Ridley could not see all this during the first of his five days on the Islands.

Mr King

Desmond George Buckley King, 56, with blue eyes and grey hair, a Briton from Arkley Barnet, is the owner of the Upland Goose, the only hotel in Port Stanley, His two daughters, Barbara and Anne, were also with him at the airport that cold morning. They had gone to the airport, as they do every Wednesday and Friday, to meet and see off passengers to and from Argentina. They invite the passengers to get into the 12-seater Land Rover, put the luggage in another vehicle, and leave for the hotel. Even though they have been accommodating almost none but Argentine

/visitors

CONFIDENTIAL

visitors for a long time, their attitude is still categorical: they will only speak English. They do not seem to understand Spanish. And I say that they do not seem to understand it because after the inevitable talk at the Upland Goose pub or in the dining room I noticed that it is only make believe. Not only for Mr King but also for his daughters, (Anne was educated in Uruguay) and his wife, who is in charge of the meals at the Hotel. Even though her attitude is not strict, when somebody asks for a dish in Spanish, she expects him to order it in English.

Mr King is, in principle, an interesting character. There are almost 1,000 people in Stanley and they all know him well. In group discussion he always takes the lead. There is always somebody to listen to him. But there is something that must be taken into account: he was a candidate for the Town Council in elections that were held three years ago, and obtained only a dozen votes. This is Mr King, the same who was sitting very close to Ridley at the public meeting at the Town Hall on the Saturday. At one point he said, 'I want to invest £10,000 in a hotel and need to know what is going to happen with the Islands. I would like you to tell me!

Ridley raised his shoulders and said; 'Invest, that is my answer, invest'.

The Farmer

'And what did you ask the Minister?' I asked one of the few farmers who were present at the public meeting with Ridley. 'The question is this,' he said, 'After shearing the wool there are two options for us. We either sell it to the FIC (the Falkland Islands Co) or sell it at the free wool market in London. If we choose the latter option we run the usual risks of any market - we might get very good prices but equally we might get very bad ones - therefore we prefer to be on the safe side with the FIC price. But co-operation with Argentina can be interesting.'

At some time in the past there was an exchange of livestock, when 518 Malvinas sheep were sent to Deseado. The Islands' farmers know that Argentina can supply fodder, timber, wire and other things that the FIC will never give them.

Two Malvinas Sweaters

Judith Ridley, 35, elegant and pretty, has been Nicholas Ridley's second wife since earlier this year. Soon after 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, when it stopped snowing, she asked Deirdre Parker, the Governor's wife, to go shopping with her. The driver, one of the 49 British marines that defend the Islands, dropped the two ladies at the door of the Falkland Islands Home Industries, a small store on Ross Road. They spent 20 minutes there and

/together

together with the owner of the place, Betty Miller, they had a look at all the materials in the store. Finally Judith chose two sweaters made of Malvinas wool and paid £13 (some 30 dollars) each.

On the Sunday there was no time for shopping. At 0915 the Ridleys boarded a small Beaver plane and went to a farm in Darwin, some 95 km from Stanley. They had lunch with their hosts, the Hardcastles, and in the afternoon they left for Hill Cove, where they stayed with Mr and Mrs Blake for the night. On the Monday they had lunch at Mr Lee's farm at Port Howard, and when he returned to Stanley at 4 o'clock Ridley visited the FIC offices.

What is the FIC?

Perry Nielsen is the pilot on the Monsunen, the green boat that calls at all the FIC farms to collect their wool. Of course Ridley knew that at some time during his 10 minute visit to the deck and the hold of the boat, Perry would clearly let him know that he would like everything to stay as it is now, 'because there is no reason why things should change'. However, it is not equally easy to know what Ridley discussed with Terry Spruce, one of the owners of the FIC. But in fact it is not hard to guess what Spruce asked the Minister: the FIC holds a monopoly over the Islands; everything has to be done through it; every ship calling at port must moor at the Company's dock, provided she gets authority to do so. The FIC is a member of the Charrington Industries Holdings Group, and the company's headquarters are in London. It has been established in the Malvinas for 128 years and it own 46% of the land. Everything that reaches the Islands comes through the FIC, and the company is also the owner of the Stanley bank and several stores. It exports two million kilos of wool per year. Every three months the Monsumen and another boat, the Anette Danielsen, which is chartered by the FIC, sail across the ocean and take the Islands' produce to the Bradford wool market. Two and a half years ago, Harry Milne, the FIC General Manager, told Rowlands "people on the Islands want to remain British. And to change the sovereignty is to commit an outrage against the Islanders' rights". What Terry Spruce said to Ridley was not too different.

Living Here is Hard

A group of Argentine young men are working for YPF on the installation of two fuel tanks at the airport to allow LADE planes to have their tanks filled on the runway. They live on Ross Road, near the Anglican church. Every day, when they come back home after work, a group of teenagers, particularly girls, start to roam around the place, just like petrels or swallows. The reason is quite simple. "We enjoy talking to the Argentines", they say, "They are interesting. And our

/parents

parents have no objections. Or rather, they cannot have any objections because we are not doing anything wrong." There is some integration; however, a different aspect of reality becomes evident right away. Ignacio Durante, 22, is a painter. I asked him whether he would like to stay there for good. "No", he said. "This is all very nice and they are treating us better now, but no, I would never stay for good. It is very hard, because of the weather and everything else. I have been here for four months, and I am already longing to go back home. The only thing one can do here is go to a pub and have drinks until 10 o'clock. After that everything is closed."

Juan Vaca, 28, is also a painter and he agrees with his friend. "I arrived here on 27 April. We work 7 hours a day every day of the week. We get 850,000 pesos plus our allowances, but nevertheless it is hard. I was born in Jujuy and even though I lived in Buenos Aires for a while, I have lived in Mendoza most of my life. I am not necessarily a man of a big city, but this is maddening. I would come here on a good contract for no more than a couple of years. But I would never come here to stay!"

The Islands' Fishermen

On Monday evening Nanette King served crab cocktail, duck with orange sauce and hot peach pie. Finally there was coffee. Nicholas Ridley, Judith, and Ken Temple could not help but agree: "Mrs King is a very good cook, and her sweets are delicious". Mr King took this opportunity to talk to the Minister again. "We people here do not want to be Argentine, I want to be clear: I think the Islands can be independent, have their own 200-mile zone, and not allow Japanese, Russian, Polish and Czechoslovakian vessels to take away all their fish. I would rather allow the Argentines to exploit our resources, but I insist, we do not want to be Argentine. As a last resort, British."

Ridley listened to him once again and made no comments. He listened attentively, as usual, as he had listened to the Marines at the Moody Brook base, the young people of the Islands and the old executive and legislative members of the Council at Government House. He listened to what the Islanders had to say at the Stanley Social Club, and to the members of the political committee. He listened to everybody. But he never risked an opinion or a comment.

Disappointment and Three Flags

In 1975, when sending off his mail, Manuel Vera (54) used to insist in writing "Malvinas Islands, Argentina" on the back of his envelopes, even though he knew the post office clerk would cross it out and write "Falkland Islands" in red. Now he does no more. "It is sad to admit it, but it is true. I arrived on 19 January to run the YPF Antares Plant, and will probably stay

/until

until November. But I must admit that I am not as enthusiastic about staying as I used to be. This is really hard. I would never be able to stay here permanently. This I compare to Comodoro Rivadavia in the 1924-30 period. The oil boom was only starting and there was a boat, the Florentino Ameghino, moored at port at all times. It used to be called the mad people's boat, because only the lonely would go south. It was terribly desolate. This looks the same."

María Ana Fernández, his wife, arrived on the Islands over two months ago with their two daughters, María Cristina (22) and Claudia Marcela (17), and they are finding it even harder. "Life here is difficult, with so much drinking and no cinemas. Everything is tinned, one has to get used to eating nothing but lamb and speaking a language that is not one's own. It is too big an effort."

This is one side of reality, although there is the other one, the only exception to the rule. Vicecomodoro (Wing Commander) Eduardo Canosa is the Argentine representative on the Islands. He is always ready to work for closer relations with the Islanders, and he does so, partly by talking, but basically through the services he renders. The enthusiasm and strength of mind of his wife, Silvia Peralta Astudillo, and his son Eduardo (14) are really the other side of the coin.

At this household they talk of living on the Islands for good. They are really three Argentine flags flying here.

Ridley's Farewell

Ridley is leaving. He attempts to wave his hand for the last time behind the window of LADE's Fokker. By the time the engines start to run at full speed there is nobody on the runway. Governor Parker and his small party have taken refuge in the airport building. Under the eaves, McMillan waves his hand and smiles. From his seat, Margaret Thatcher's Minister smiles back. After the take off, Ridley said what the reporters knew he would say. "I came to the Malvinas to see what the Islanders' views on their situation are. But before I can say anything I must have discussions with my Government. You know how it is..."

This was the end of another chapter in this story that is 146 years old now, a story that started when the British occupied the Malvinas Islands.

cc M W Growcott Esq
FORT STANLEY

J R Cowling Esq
SAmD
FCO

CONFIDENTIAL

BRITISH EMBASSY
BUENOS AIRES

353/102/6

4 September 1979

AZW 026/1
11 SEP 1979
INDEX

G A Duggan Esq
SAmD
FCO

Dear Gordon

VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF STATE

1. In continuation of Richard Gozney's letter (353/102/6) of 16 August about the Minister of State's visit in late July and subsequent press comment, you should know that Clarín's action in telescoping Mr Ridley's informal remarks has, in fact, had wider political repercussions than we at first suspected.

2. In late August, when the Chargé d'Affaires and Oliver Bridges, our Honorary Consul in Tierra del Fuego, were down in that territory, the Naval Commander at Ushuaia declined to receive them officially on account of what he alleged were the "palabras inoportunas" of Mr Ridley. On the other hand, the Governor warmly received the Chargé, had him to dinner and came to a return dinner with him the following evening.

3. On 30 August when Lord Nelson of GEC called on Admiral Fracassi, the Chief of Naval Staff, and talked of the catalytic effect which the winning by a British company of part of the nuclear contract now under adjudication might have on broader British-Argentine relations, Fracassi referred to Mr Ridley's remarks as having been unhelpful.

4. Our comment is:-

a) There may have been a paragraph in one of the Navy's weekly circulations to senior officers about the inopportune nature of Mr Ridley's alleged remarks.

b) Although the matter has probably been forgotten by most people, some will remember it as evidence to be used against the British.

c) You may wish to consider warming the Minister of State.

Yours ever,

Andrew

A R Murray
(Head of Chancery)

cc: HE Mr J R W Parker CMG OBE
Governor
Port Stanley

CONFIDENTIAL

To Malcolm
To Dawson 10/9.

Discussed with R Dugson
No further action for
moment.
R 10.9.

Mr Gowling 115

Lb
7/9

(114)

ARW 0261

14 SEP 1979

BRITISH EMBASSY

BUENOS AIRES

353/492/6

28 August 1979

M W Growcott Esq
PORT STANLEY

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT : ARTICLES BY ARGENTINE JOURNALISTS

1. It has taken a while to have translated articles written by the Argentine journalists who went to Port Stanley for the Minister of State's visit but I now enclose 3 which are representative of "Clarín's" and "La Nación's" coverage. As you will see it was almost all conjecture and padding. The one article that appeared in a weekley, "Gente", will follow in the next bag.

R Gozney

cc J R Cowling Esq
SAMD
FCO

La Nacion's article is downright misleading; the 1st Clarin one (flag B) is largely factual narrative; but the 2nd one from Clarin (flag C) is interesting in that it concludes that joint exploitation of hydrocarbon wealth would be a good thing provided UK first made the right gestures on sovereignty

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TRANSLATION OF AN ARTICLE IN LA NACION, 26 JULY 1979

AN UNNOTICED PRESENCE, SOME INCIDENTS AND A DELAYED RETURN

By César A Corbellini Rosende

Port Stanley (by a special envoy). Minister Ridley's visit to the Malvinas has officially ended, even though his departure for Comodoro Rivadavia and Buenos Aires is delayed until today because the weather prevented LADE's plane from taking off.

His stay, as we have already mentioned, went almost unnoticed, at least as far as Stanley was concerned, and did not match the expectations that the announcement raised in Buenos Aires.

The Islanders showed an apparent lack of interest in his presence, even though the Minister visited no less than four places in Soledad and Gran Malvina Islands, and had a number of working meetings with the Executive and Legislative Councils, which assist the Governor, the British Crown's delegate; with the civil servants and private workers unions; with the young people (where the youth of just Stanley was represented); with the managers of the Falkland Islands Company; and with the members of the Falkland Islands Committee which are the FIC's "staff" on the Islands.

On Tuesday evening Mr Ridley attended his last public function. It was at the Town Hall where every week there is a dance for all the members of the Stanley community, with no social distinctions. This particular dance was different in two ways: first, it had been organised by the Falkland Islands Committee, and second, because there was a bar, only people over 18 were admitted.

This did not affect the happy atmosphere of the party because nobody attended it with the idea of getting votes for the Falkland Islands Committee, but just to have a good time, as they do every week, openly and with much British sense of humour. And it is true that the jokes and the atmosphere were similar to those prevailing at many parties which this correspondent attended at schools and clubs of the British community in the past.

/And

And the youngest son of the third Viscount Ridley, educated at Eton and Balliol College Oxford, a member of the Conservative Party, (naturally), and now a member of HBM's Government, went to the dance in the company of the senior members of the Islands' Government of occupation, but remained seated in the bar. His presence went unnoticed to the dancers and even to those who were at the bar, and not because of lack of goodwill, but because all his visit was like that - silent.

On the other hand, some of the requests made to him and some of the situations that arose among the members of the Falkland Islands Committee during their meeting with the visitor are well known. In general terms, funds were requested from the central Government for the project of industrialisation and marketing of Malvinas fisheries and the Islanders' concern about the development of negotiations on the Islands between our country and the UK was brough to the Minister's attention. He was told that the official information released is not sufficient.

Furthermore, sources connected with Governor James Parker said yesterday that at the meeting between Ridley and the senior members of the local branch of the Falkland Islands Committee, the organisation upheld its typical intransigent anti-Argentine position although it was admitted that there was some disagreement among its members. That is, for the first time, the organisation was not adopting a unanimous criterion in respect of the negotiations that are being held with Argentina.

The same sources said that this time the Falkland Islands Committee had to promote its position and encountered some disagreement, that took the form of a resignation and a street incident, all of which was covered up. The resignation was that of Mr Graham Bond, a member of the Committee from the countryside, and the incident was that the windows of a car owned by a relative of Bond's were smashed while the car was parked in a Stanley street.

TRANSLATION

CLARIN, 28 July 1979

A PICTURE OF THE ISLANDS

by Eduardo van der Kooy

One has to fly over the montonous scenery of the Atlantic ocean for two hours before, suddenly, one sees land cut into a thousand bits. This land is desolate and barren, and its shores take the most unexpected shapes. Only when the plane tilts its wings to the right is it possible to see a bunch of houses with green and red roofs.

Thus one starts to get acquainted with the reality of Port Stanley: a small, quiet, sleepy town which has, however, an impressive natural beauty. It is not difficult to discover the town: after leaving the small but comfortable airport all one has to do is follow the one and only peat-lined road which leads to the avenue along the shore, Stanley's main road, along which the town has developed.

The town is made up of a number of wooden houses, almost all of which have gable roofs, are nicely decorated and always have a winter garden. The first impression one gets is the right one, the only one Stanley produces: that of a typical London suburb.

This is the style of St Mary's Catholic Church, the Anglican Cathedral, the Upland Goose Hotel (where all visitors necessarily have to stay) and Governor James Parker's residence, and even the old building which houses the Falkland Islands Company, in the eastern part of the town, near the docks.

This is, in generallines, Stanley's X-ray. This is the scenery where some 900 Islanders, many of which are Britons or New Zealanders, live. The question, therefore, seems obvious: how do these people live? This is not an easy task when one takes into account that the population is not large and that the people are not talkative.

But one must not mislead. The Islanders are friendly and cordial in formal relations, but reluctant to speak about their private lives - lives that are spent amidst the silence and the wealth of an inexhaustible wildlife.

It is not easy to talk to the local people. Anywhere else in the world it is natural to walk around the streets and find the opportunity to put a thousand different questions to the people. In Stanley one can walk down the main road without running into anybody.

/The

CONFIDENTIAL

The best thing, therefore, is to go to the famous pubs, the only meeting places, where people play darts and where litres and litres of drinks (and not exactly soft drinks), are consumed. This is the place where one can obtain all the necessary information to work out the life of an Islander, be he a child or an adult.

Children have to attend school between the ages of 5 and 15. The educational system on the Islands revolves around two elementary and secondary schools, one in Stanley and the other in Darwin. Spanish is taught as a second language at the two of them, and the teaching is done by an Argentine teacher.

Experience has shown, however, that many children are not interested in learning the language. There is no need to look for an intricate explanation to this: it is enough to remember that in Argentina there are lots of children who, for example, do not like to study English or French.

Adults, on the contrary, are interested in learning, and take Spanish lessons. Even though they will not admit to it - God knows why - there are no Islanders under the age of 20 who cannot understand our language. Thus many an Argentine are in for a surprise if they are not ready to be prudent and restrained on the Islands.

Probably the biggest problem is posed to young people when they reach the age of 15. At that age, they acquire certain expectations - now encouraged by a permanent contact with the mainland - which the setting cannot meet. Many young people then choose to travel to Argentina, Uruguay or, mostly, Great Britain to continue their education.

The rest must necessarily find a job. Opportunities, to be quite honest, are not plentiful. They can choose between shearing and working for the Government.

Thus an Islander can earn 500 dollars a month, a sum which is obviously too low for our country, but is good enough on the Islands where salaries have not yet lost their value. With that money they can buy new clothes and other things they like; they can go to the cinema twice a week, buy a copy of the newspaper which is published every 20 days, (the editor is Patrick Watts, the only journalist on the Islands), go to the races twice a year, go to the pubs or, why not, plan a trip.

As is evident the chances are not really exciting, and for that reason the Islander has a very distinctive attitude to life. He usually marries early in life and also divorces early. One of his major concerns is to adapt himself to Port Stanley's timetables: stores open from 9 to 12 am and 2 to 5 pm. The post office will take no mail after 3 pm. Cinema shows are

/held

held on Saturday and Sunday evenings, telephone calls abroad can only be made from 3 am to 4 pm, and the pubs, except for a place where the marines go, close at 10 pm sharp.

Surely a man who is used to the life of a big city will frown at this state of affairs. He can do so. The Islands, however, offer the unknown, something which has to be discovered. And it would be hard to find their peace and quietness anywhere else.

TRANSLATION

CLARIN, 30 July 1979

THE WEALTH OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS

THE OIL, by Eduardo van der Kooy

It is an almost unavoidable habit in Stanley to listen to talks about the potential wealth of the Malvinas Islands. The average Islander is not a fervent person or an expert in this field, but he does sense the value of the southern region.

Politically-minded groups, on the contrary, use the question of the potential wealth of the region as a rallying point. Some of them use it merely as a warning about our country, aiming to show that Argentina is now interested in the Islands with a view to undertaking economic exploitation from which she can derive benefits in the future.

But there are others who say that, should the existence of that wealth be confirmed, the Islands could ask for their independence after a few years.

Either theory seems to be alien to reality - Argentina's claim - but revolves around a vital question: the economic potential of the Islands.

The existence of large fisheries is well known and so is an incipent seaweed industry. The truth about oil, the most valuable element of all, however, is unknown.

Much has been said about the existence of hydrocarbons in the Islands and nowadays one could say that the basins of the southern region are made up of millions of barrels of oil. But it seems that nobody dares specify exactly where and how to start oil prospecting. Despite all this there is some background information. In 1975 a report from the US Geological Service said that the Argentine continental shelf (which includes the Malvinas) contained oil reserves of the order of 200 million barrels.

The British magazine "Latin American Economic Report" quoted a survey conducted by the University of Birmingham as showing the existence of oil fields between the Islands and Burwood Bank, which is only 15 fathoms deep. This area would be ideal for exploitation.

The fact is that the Islanders seem to be rather concerned because nobody dares verify and exploit this potential wealth. The Islands themselves cannot contribute much to this research

/process

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process. In any case, it would be necessary to grant licences to companies and it would be at least six months before they could start conducting the first surveys in the region. The first step would be to produce two seismic tests and make the first drilling. Then it would be necessary to make two extra drillings to establish the actual scope of the hydrocarbon fields.

Each well would demand an average investment of 6 million dollars. Later on the installation of a real infrastructure would be necessary but it is not possible to calculate the expenditure that would be required. In any case, it is enough to recall that 10 years ago more than 10 million dollars had to be invested in the North Sea fields to provide this.

It is thought that this process would immediately produce change on the Islands. To begin with, exploration work would require the presence of 400 working groups and this would increase the population of the Islands by 1,000 people. This would generate, not without problems, further development. One sees then that the research and exploration process would require a great expenditure which, in turn, would involve a very high economic and political risk. Great Britain cannot take the chance of unilateral action because, in view of the fact that the area is under dispute, as confirmed by international organisations, she would run the risk of losing everything. A joint action, however, would be applicable both in this and in other matters. Great Britain or any of her very strong companies could offer capital and technology and Argentina could provide the continental support to start prospecting in the field of hydrocarbons.

This alliance, however, would require an inescapable commitment: our country should be certain that the Malvinas, even if gradually, would be restored to our territory.

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CONFIDENTIAL

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

ALW 026/1

London SW1A 2AH

11 SEP 1979

23 August 1979

H M Carless Esq CMG
BUENOS AIRES

Dear Hugh,

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA: JULY, 1979.

1. Thank you for your despatch of 8 August which we are arranging to have printed in the Departmental Series.

2. The despatch was most useful and timely and we were able to draw on it on our submission to Ministers seeking agreement to a resumption of negotiations in the Autumn.

3. As you point out, we have failed to move the Argentines on fisheries co-administration around the Dependencies and given our inability to sign the Scientific Co-operation Agreement new proposals will be needed to keep the Argentines in play. Mr Ridley is convinced that it is important to keep up the momentum. He feels that we should now abandon the attempt to solve the problem piecemeal, and that a serious effort should be made to go for an overall solution - possibly lease-back or possibly involving a special status for the Falklands (which might involve, as you suggested, drawing ideas from both the Spitzbergen and Aaland precedents).

4. We shall be in touch again as soon as we have Ministerial approval for the resumption of negotiations.

Yours ever,
John.

J B Ure
South America Department

John
We now have to get the despatch processed. The forms for departmental series are below. CONFIDENTIAL
Will you please put action in hand. J.R Cowan 24 8.

CONFIDENTIAL

ALW 07 61
8 OCT 1979
DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY
INDEX | PA | Action/Info
BRITISH EMBASSY, BUENOS AIRES.

AL (112A)

CONFIDENTIAL

VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP, MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, TO ARGENTINA: JULY 1979

SUMMARY

1. In his short visit Mr Ridley saw the Foreign Minister, had two working meetings with the deputy Foreign Minister and met with the Economy Minister. The principal result, as planned, was the announcement that Britain and Argentina would restore Ambassadors to respective capitals. The discussions also covered the possible timetable for the next round of the Falkland Islands negotiations, the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees and bilateral commercial relations. (Paragraphs 1-6)

2. The Argentines were relieved to have confirmation of the reinstatement of Ambassadors, and the assurance that the new British administration wished to continue the Falkland Islands negotiations. For us, the visit maintained the dialogue. (Paragraphs 7 and 8)

3. In the Falklands, Mr Ridley found the territorial dispute with Argentina at the root of the difficulties faced by the Islanders. The next steps in the negotiations depend on political decisions in Britain. If negotiations are to be played long and any compromise over sovereignty avoided, then new proposals will need to be offered to Argentina. But agreement under the sovereignty umbrella to cover fishing off the Falklands would be difficult and agreement to cover exploration for oil probably impossible. (Paragraphs 9-12)

4. If negotiations are to aim for an overall settlement, then of the options a leaseback arrangement offers better prospects than either a freezing of the dispute or a system of joint administration. (Paragraphs 13 and 14)

5. A possible way forward, combining the need for time and an examination of potential overall solutions, would be a study of models for special territorial status for the Falkland Islands. The Argentines could be expected to revive their plan for joint administration and the British side might develop models based on the examples of Hong Kong, Spitzbergen and the Aaland Islands. (Paragraphs 15-20)

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BRITISH EMBASSY,
BUENOS AIRES.

353/492/6

8 August 1979

The Right Honourable
The Lord Carrington PC KCMG MC MP
etc etc etc

Sir

VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP, MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, TO ARGENTINA: JULY 1979

1. The short visit, which the Honourable Nicholas Ridley, MP, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, made to Argentina during his current tour of Latin America had a limited object. Within its framework, it enabled the Minister to lay the basis for improved relations between Britain and Argentina without being drawn into a substantive exchange on the Falkland Islands dispute so early in the life of this government.

I NARRATIVE

2. The Minister of State, who was accompanied by Mrs Ridley and his Private Secretary, Mr Kenneth Temple, spent the night of 19 July here on his way to the Falkland Islands and then returned for what was intended to be two nights, but was in fact compressed into 24 hours because of bad flying conditions in Patagonia, on 26-27 July. Nevertheless, he was able to call on the Foreign Minister, Brigadier Pastor, have two working sessions with Pastor's deputy, Comodoro Cavándoli, and a useful exchange of views with the Minister of Economy, Dr Martínez de Hoz.

/At

CONFIDENTIAL

At the dinner and the reception which I gave for them, Mr and Mrs Ridley also met a cross section of Argentines and British residents. I was most grateful to both of them for finding the time to visit the Embassy and talk with virtually all our 74 British and local staff.

3. The details of what was said at Mr Ridley's meetings with Argentine ministers have been reported separately by telegram and record. At the Foreign Ministry, the principle topics covered were the restoration of Ambassadors to London and Buenos Aires (confirmation of which was announced in an agreed communiqué issued on 27 July) and a possible timetable for the continuation of negotiations over the Falkland Islands where it was agreed and made public that you and Brigadier Pastor would probably meet at the United Nations General Assembly in September.

4. The Foreign Ministry meetings also allowed the Minister of State to raise the problem of Vietnamese refugees. The Argentines showed an apparent willingness to take a number of their 1,000 families from Hong Kong. On bilateral commercial relations, Mr Ridley mentioned GEC's tender of equipment for Argentina's nuclear programme. Another point to emerge from the meetings was Argentine appreciation of the role which the United Kingdom is playing in negotiations in the Antarctic Treaty forum. At the Minister's request, I expressed our interest in the human rights case of Srta Daisy Hobson which is now under judicial review.

5. Although the Argentines scarcely mentioned the Falkland Islands during these meetings, on Mr Ridley's departure from the

/airport

airport on 27 July, they produced for him without any prior warning an Aide Memoire on the state of the negotiations making clear their hope for a change of approach on the part of HMG to get round the impasse reached during the last round at official level in March.

6. With Dr Martínez de Hoz, Mr Ridley was quickly able to establish a wavelength for an informal exchange about the territorial dispute, and also to press the case for GEC and the offer of possible British nuclear collaboration with Argentina.

II CONCLUSIONS

7. The Argentines had been setting much store by the restoration of Ambassadors and were relieved that your willingness to do so was finally confirmed and made public despite a series of deliberate and mischievous leaks to the press during the preceding fortnight. It was also important for them to obtain an assurance that the new British administration would continue the negotiations for which the terms of reference were agreed in April 1977. Mr Ridley was able to provide that assurance by following up your letter of 14 June to Brigadier Pastor and holding out the hope for a round of negotiations in the autumn. They read as a hopeful sign the Minister's statement that his visit to the Falklands had convinced him of the need to talk with Argentina about the dispute.

8. On the British side, the visit enabled us to maintain the dialogue with the Argentines, to emphasis HMG's support for GEC and to hold out the prospect of an improving, across the board bilateral relationship.

/III

III REFLECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

9. What comes next? The Minister of State formed the tentative view that the dispute with Argentina lay at the root of the difficulties faced by the Falkland Islanders in developing the potential of the Islands and their surrounding seas and that, if a solution to this dispute could be found which satisfied the minimum demands of both Argentina and the Islanders, then for the sake of the latter the sooner the negotiations tackled a global solution, the better. You, Sir, will now wish to consider the strategic desirability and political feasibility of preparing the ground in Britain for reaching a settlement with Argentina in the next few years. I can only advise you on the likely Argentine reaction to different approaches to the negotiations and on the extent to which the Argentine Government might be willing to compromise.

10. Temporising Measures. Should you decide to play the negotiations long and to avoid conceding a compromise over even nominal sovereignty, then new proposals to offer to the Argentines to keep them at the negotiating table will be needed in the wake of the shelving this spring of the proposed agreements (under the sovereignty umbrella) covering scientific cooperation in the Falkland Islands Dependencies and the administration of their maritime zones.

11. It is hard to see what these new schemes could cover and also be acceptable to all parties. The maritime zones of the Falkland

/Islands

Islands themselves, from which a Polish fishing fleet is currently taking millions of pounds worth of fish without paying licence fees to anyone, offer an attractive possibility for cooperation at first glance. But, since the Argentines have already rejected the idea of joint administration over the maritime zones of the Dependencies under the sovereignty umbrella, I doubt whether they would accept a similar scheme for Falklands waters unless they believed it to be a step towards something more advantageous. They would probably argue that such a scheme amounted to a new proposal for economic cooperation without parallel progress being offered in the political field. They have, in this connection, made it clear in previous rounds that agreements under the sovereignty umbrella can only be interim ones.

12. Oil. Cooperation over exploration for oil would be much harder to secure. As Argentina does not allow that islands generate continental shelves and maintains that what we consider to be the continental shelf of the Falkland Islands does not form part of the dispute, I can see no prospect of an interim agreement under the sovereignty umbrella which would encourage oil companies to drill exploratory wells should further seismic studies predict that they were worthwhile. The Argentine attitude is firm and, if anything, hardening as nationalistic tendencies over oil deposits become more evident. Any cooperation over oil will surely have to await an overall settlement.

/13. An Overall

13. An Overall Settlement. If, however, you decide that the time is politically right to go for an overall settlement of the sovereignty dispute, then we should have to decide what to aim for and how to persuade the Argentines that their minimum requirement should be pitched low enough for it to receive serious consideration by the Falkland Islanders. Of the available options:-

a. the most satisfactory outcome would be Argentine agreement to freeze the dispute for say 20 or 30 years. But we could be sure that the carrot of exploitation of economic resources, however large, would not at present persuade them to do so;

b. a second theoretical possibility would be some form of joint administration or condominium. I believe the last would be fraught with difficulties. Apart from the political acceptability of joint administration, British and Argentine bureaucracies are incompatible;

c. this leaves a lease-back solution which, with a long term of say 99 years, could provide security for the Islands long enough for development to take place and by the end of which the nature of life on the Islands and of the dispute would probably have altered radically.

14. The indications are, however, that lease-back, which left the affairs of the Islands under British administration, would

/not

not be enough to satisfy Argentine honour. Mr Ridley took this impression away with him from Buenos Aires (Brasilia telegram number 143 to you). Sovereignty is an over-used word in Argentina but not many Argentines stop to analyse what they mean by it. If they did, they might say that above all it meant the possession of territory, and add as something of an after-thought that it also meant the ability to exert control over what happened in the territory. Straightforward lease-back could be presented as satisfying the first requirement but nothing of the second. There may however be possibilities for modifying a lease-back arrangement to make it acceptable here.

15. A Possible Interim Gambit. A conceivable way forward, which might (at least for a year or so) combine the potential advantage of both playing for time and also moving towards an overall settlement, began to emerge from Mr Ridley's discussions. It takes the form of discussing a special territorial status for the Falklands. (In this connection, Dr Martínez de Hoz made the personal suggestion that the negotiators might consider some such special status for the Islands within the framework of Argentina's federal constitution. Various models might be drawn up, he said, for comparative study). Were they to do so, the most likely Argentine model would link the Falklands - through joint administration - to their southernmost federal unit: the National Territory of Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica and Islands of the South Atlantic. It might well be an adaption of their paper on joint administration handed to this Embassy in

/September

September 1977, as a follow-up to the first round of negotiations in Rome in July that year.

16. On the British side, more than one model might be put forward, for example:-

i. the Hong Kong (with modifications);

ii. the Spitzbergen (Norwegian sovereignty with economic access for the Soviet Union);

iii. the Aaland Islands (Finnish sovereignty, local autonomy, Swedish language and custom).

17. Safeguards and guarantees, which could if necessary be international, for the Islanders would of course be entrenched in all and any models proposed by HMG; and model making could both provide the content for several further rounds of negotiations and also help to increase Islander understanding of the negotiating parameters.

18. The major steps forward in such an exercise could, from a local point of view, best be timed to fall within the period of the present system of military government which seems likely to continue until 1984.

19. As I suggested in my telegram number 213 of 6 August, a prime advantage for HMG in starting a tactical exercise in comparing models for a special Falklands status would be to give you, Sir, time in which to judge if and when conditions for a

/settlement

settlement were ripening.

20. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Governor in Port Stanley.

I am

Sir

Yours faithfully

Hugh Carless.

H M Carless

RESTRICTED

112

British Embassy
BUENOS AIRES

353/492/6

16 August 1979

ALW 02611

J R Cowling Esq
South America Department
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
LONDON SW 1

Dear [illegible] 23/8.

VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF STATE: COMMENT TO JOURNALISTS ON THE RETURN JOURNEY FROM PORT STANLEY

You should know for the record that Mr Ridley's remarks as reported in "Clarin" on 27 July (Buenos Aires telegram no. 193 repeated to Port Stanley) created a stir in the press here, occasional ripples from which we are still seeing.

2. "Clarin" somewhat twisted what the Minister said in that his reference to political detainees and human rights was something of a throw-away remark made after his answer to the question had been translated. But this did not stop "Clarin" returning to the charge on 28 and 29 July after Mr Ridley's statement that he had no intention of referring to Argentine internal affairs. 'Clarin" justified their initial report on the basis of a tape recording made on the plane. By far the worst press article was the enclosed from the weekly magazine "Radiolandia 2000". Most recently, and perhaps the last word on the subject, has come from the Argentine Centre of Engineers. They put out a statement on the Falklands issue on 11 August which included criticism of Mr Ridley's remarks describing them as erroneous and inappropriate. This is not the first time the Centre of Engineers have made a public statement on political issues; they caught the limelight last year with a pronouncement on sovereignty over the Beagle Channel.

3. The other point of interest about the Falklands in the press of the past week was contained in a special supplement on the Islands issued by "La Opinion" on

/10 August

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10 August. At the end of a piece describing the history of the negotiations the article said that during Mr Ridley's visit here in July he and Comodoro Cavándoli agreed to hold a new round of negotiations before the end of the year "possibly in October". No source was given and this may amount to no more than guesswork on the part of the paper.

Yours ever,

Richard.

R H Gozney

Enc.1

cc:

M W Growcott Esq
PORT STANLEY

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Reference AL W 026/1

Mr Cowling

REPORT ON MR RIDLEY'S FALKLANDS VISIT

1. Please let me have a very short draft covering submission for Mr Parker's despatch of 7 August. I do not think there is any call to print this but I would like to see a suggested distribution and also a draft reply from me.

J B Ure
South America Department

13 August 1979

Mr Duggan
Mr Ure

1. I submit:

a) draft submission:

b) draft acknowledgement.

I suggest there is no need to give the Governor's despatch any more than strictly limited circulation. Buenos Aires already have a copy and I recommend that further copies go only to Montevideo, UKMIS, New York. We are, of course, giving Mr Temple's comprehensive records full distribution within the ~~Embassy~~ Office. I see no need to duplicate this.

J R Cowling
SAmD

14 August 1979

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/Mr Ure

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Mr Ure

I have redrafted both the submission and the letter to the Governor. I suggest that we do give the Governor's despatch reasonably wide circulation, even though the records of the Minister's discussions are also being distributed, for the reasons which I have set out in the first paragraph of the submission. I suggest that the following should receive a copy:

PS/Mr Ridley
PS/PUS
~~Sir A Parsons~~
Mr Hall
ESSD
~~M & D~~ N and P.D.
M & VD
Research Department
Legal Adviser
Chancery, Montevideo
Chancery, UKMIS New York
ODA (Mr Baxter)

G A Duggan
South America Department

15 August 1979

Reg

If arrange for distribution of Mr Parker's despatch as above. But consult me before taking action.

17/8

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CONFIDENTIAL

ALW 026/1 SAMD.

Telephone Leven (0333) 26159

7 SEP 1979

cc Minister

DESK OFFICE INDEX PA

MONTRAVE,
LEVEN,
FIFE.
KY8 5NY

28th August, 1979.

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(106)

Many thanks for your letter of 21st August. Unfortunately, I am away on the 10th of September almost until Christmas so I will have to leave Alastair Duncan Millar to make his own arrangements to meet up with you.

John Gilmour

The Hon. Nicholas Ridley, M.P.,
Minister of State,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
Whitehall,
London, SW1.

Reg
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PA

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visit.

5. I will remain in touch with News Department on this.

J R Cowling
South America Department

22 August 1979

Mr Duggan

News Dept have decided to submit to PS/Mr Ridley (cc SAMD) along the lines of para 2 above

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Mr Ure

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15 August 1979

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PE arange for distribution of Mr Parker's despatch as above. But consult me before taking action.

[illegible] 17/8

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Reference

Mr Duggan o/r

What is the position?

Mr Ure

[illegible] 22/8 AZLW026/1

13 SEP 1979

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28/8

MR RIDLEY'S PRESS BRIEFING

1. As you will recall, News Department felt that to attract Fleet Street's attention it would be necessary to offer a peg for this briefing - such as the forthcoming visit to London by the Chilean Foreign Minister. This Department have political reservations and these have been made known to News Department.

2. News Department are still of the view that there will be little press interest if the purpose of the briefing is merely for the Minister to give an account of his impressions of Latin America. Mr Ridley should, in the view of News Department, be prepared to take direct questions relating to the new administration's policy; for example, human rights in Latin America, the Falklands, Belize and the Caribbean. If the Minister does not want to take questions like this, then News Department would wish to advise him against meeting the press.

3. News Department will now talk to Mr Temple on his return to the Office next Tuesday. If a final decision is taken to go ahead, News Department will co-ordinate briefing as necessary.

4. If the press briefing is to take place, we as a department should presumably have a say as to its timing having regard to the Chilean Foreign Minister's visit.

5. I will remain in touch with News Department on this.

J R Cowling
South America Department

22 August 1979

Mr Duggan

News Dept have decided to submit to PS/Mr Ridley (cc SAMD) along the lines of para 2 above.

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W108

Private Secretary. Mr Goulding.

Mr Hall

P.S. Mr. Ridley 25/8

ALW 026/1
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FALKLAND ISLANDS: DESPATCH BY THE GOVERNOR ON THE MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT.

1. I submit Mr Parker's despatch on Mr Ridley's visit to the Islands. This brings out the Islanders' appreciation of a Ministerial visit so soon after the election (para 3); their satisfaction on hearing the Minister's assurance that no changes will be introduced that are not acceptable to them (para 4); the increased willingness of the Islanders, as a result of the visit, to contemplate an early compromise settlement of the dispute which would enable them to maintain their British way of life (para 5); and the greater mood of optimism in the Islands (para 7).

2. These are positive and welcome developments and offer an opportunity for pressing ahead, with Islander support, with the negotiations. I am submitting separately on this. Of course, a solution will still not be easily reached: the Islanders, though more optimistic, are still apprehensive about their future (para 7) and retain all their old suspicions and dislike of the Argentines. The extent to which Councillors will be able in the months ahead to play a positive role in leading Island opinion still remains to be seen; in the past they have not always been as helpful or as effective as we had hoped. But Mr Ridley has clearly managed to bring them to face some of the harsher aspects of their situation and the Governor writes encouragingly of "sensible and less emotionally motivated attitudes" (para 7).

J B Ure
South America Department

16 August 1979

A successful visit.
J Hall 16/VIII

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various groups and individuals

/who

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE
PORT STANLEY

026/1

7 August 1979

The Right Honourable
The Lord Carrington KCMG MC
etc etc etc

ACW 026/1
14 SEP 1979

Sir

THE MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS: 20-26 JULY 1979

1. For the record, I enclose a copy of the programme undertaken by the Minister and Mrs Ridley, accompanied by the Minister's Private Secretary, Mr K D Temple, during their familiarisation tour of the Islands.

2. In spite of some very uncertain weather, the party arrived at Stanley Airport slightly ahead of time, in a cold and blustery rainstorm, and managed to complete the planned tour of outlying settlements by sea-plane, dodging some heavy snow squalls on the way round. In between, the Islands produced some hours of their sunniest winter weather, and one or two glorious sunsets - and sunrises! Unfortunately (or fortunately for those of us enjoying Mr and Mrs Ridley's company) bad weather on the mainland delayed their departure for one day, but I understand the subsequent programme of visits elsewhere on the Continent was more or less retrieved with the help of the Argentine Air Force in providing a special flight from Comodoro Rivadavia.

3. In planning to get the most advantage from the Minister's presence, and to accommodate as many as possible of those various groups and individuals in Stanley and the settlements

/who

who were pressing to have the opportunity to meet him, it was perhaps not realised how arduous the programme would turn out to be. Both Mr and Mrs Ridley, however, undertook it all in good spirit and their willingness to mingle and talk freely wherever they went was very much appreciated. Although there was initially some inevitable apprehension about what the Minister might have to say, as the tour progressed, the frankness of his approach, and the warmth with which it was welcomed, made the visit the undoubted success it was.

4. All in all, the Minister met the greater part of the population of Stanley, and all the people at three major settlements; Mr Temple separately visited a fourth.
Mr Ridley's farewell broadcast message, in which he firmly repeated the assurance that nothing will be done in the attempt to reach a settlement with the Argentines which will not be acceptable to the people of the Islands, was listened to with careful attention, and satisfaction, by everyone.

5. Mr Temple has drafted an excellent record of the discussions which took place with Councillors, and separate telegrams have summarised both Mr Ridley's and my initial impressions and conclusions. The main points are, I think, that the Islanders are now much more prepared than they were for an early compromise settlement of the dispute with the Argentines, which, while facing up to the realities both of their situation and that of Britain, would enable them to pursue

/their

their lives in their own way, as British subjects under their own democratic Government, to realise the benefits of the development of their own economy and, under some form of co-operation with Argentina which does not diminish their autonomy, to exploit the resources potentially available around them. In his discussions Mr Ridley identified the main constraints upon an expanded future as the dispute itself, the lack of access to capital finance and credit, and the availability of manpower. He privately added a fourth: the dominant position of the Falkland Islands Company in the Colony's agriculture, and its virtual monopoly of all commercial activities, where its weak performance, under the present ownership, exercises a stultifying influence on development.

6. On two other matters about which the Islanders feel keenly - the continuance of aid and nationality - Mr Ridley explained the difficulties the British Government would face in an attempt to meet in full what Islanders felt to be their special needs, but promised to discuss them with his Ministerial colleagues so that, as regards aid, on-going projects would continue, and any future projects of a reasonable nature would be sympathetically considered within the limits which now have to be imposed on Britain's overall aid programme, and that as regards full British nationality, or more especially the right of entry into Britain, some possible administrative arrangement could be explored which might meet the Islanders' particular case. For their part, the Islands' Councillors agreed to admit a number of Vietnamese refugees as their

/contribution

contribution to the international relief effort in the resettlement of these unfortunate people.

7. The fact that Mr Ridley's visit could be arranged so soon after he had assumed his new responsibilities, and that it took place in so understanding and amicable a spirit, has been widely appreciated here. It undoubtedly helped focus people's minds more sharply on their needs and essential objectives, and while it has not left the Islanders in a mood of ebullient certainty their problems can easily be overcome, and their deep-seated worries about their future still remain, there is now a greater mood of optimism. They will be hard to convince about any solution which appears to conflict with what they traditionally understand by the concept of sovereignty; but more have come to realise that by adopting sensible and less emotionally motivated attitudes in support of the Minister's effort to reach a constructive settlement with the Argentines, a better and more secure existence could be achieved for themselves and for their children. If it fails, as the Minister warned them it might, we will all be in for a difficult time.

8. I am sending a copy of this record to HM Representative at Buenos Aires.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant

J.K.W. Parker

VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF STATE AND MRS NICHOLAS RIDLEY
ACCOMPANIED BY MR K D TEMPLE
20-26 JULY 1979

Friday 20 July

1110	Arrive at Stanley Airport: met by His Excellency the Governor, Mrs Parker and Councillors and wives
1300	Luncheon at Government House with Chief Secretary and Mrs Baker
1630	Discussion with the Financial Secretary, Mr Harold Rowlands, at Government House
1900-2030	Reception at Government House

Saturday 21 July

*0930	Meeting with Executive and Legislative Councillors in the Council Chamber at Government House
*1045	Coffee break in the Governor's Office
*1300	Buffet luncheon with Councillors
*1500	Tour of Stanley including visits to principal aid projects (Grasslands Trials Unit, Ashworth Dairy, School Hostel, Darwin-Stanley Road and MV "Monsunen")
1800-1930	Public Reception at the Town Hall (open invitation)
2000	Government House Dinner

Sunday 22 July

0915	Depart Stanley for visit to Goose Green/Darwin; visit Settlement School and luncheon with Mr and Mrs Hardcastle
1400	Depart Darwin for Hill Cove for overnight stay with Mr and Mrs Blake

Monday 23 July

1000	Depart Hill Cove for Port Howard: visit Settlement and luncheon with Mr and Mrs Lee
1430	Depart Port Howard for Stanley
1500	Arrive Stanley
*1645	Discussions with delegation of Falkland Islands Civil Servants Association at the Rose Hotel

/cont.

*1730-1830	Meet the Executive Committee of the Falkland Islands General Employees Union at Union Headquarters
1945	Farmers Week reception given by the Acting Stanley Manager of the Falkland Islands Company
2100	Dinner given by the Chief Secretary at the Upland Goose Hotel

Tuesday 24 July

0900	Depart Stanley for Green Patch Farm) Mr K D Temple
1115	Depart Green Patch for Stanley)
1130	Depart seaplane hangar for short visit to the Royal Marine Detachment at Moody Brook Camp
*1430	Discussion with members of the Sheepowners' Association in the Court and Council Chamber at the Town Hall
*1630-1730	Tea with 'young Islanders' group at Stanley Social Club
1830	Farmers Week reception given by Grasslands Trials Unit
1930-2100	Discussion with members of the Falkland Islands Committee
	Supper at Government House
2300-2400	Falkland Islands Committee Dance at Town Hall

Wednesday 25 July

0930	Round-up meeting with Executive and Legislative Councillors in the Council Chamber at Government House
1100	Recording of Farewell Broadcast
1450	Scheduled departure from Stanley Airport: prevented by bad weather

Thursday 26 July

1115	Departure from Stanley Airport

* Separate programme for Mrs Ridley (see attached)

MRS RIDLEY'S SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAMME

Saturday 21 July

0930	Visit Home Industries Ltd
1030	Morning coffee given by Mrs Jean Morrison (wife of the Deputy Chief Secretary) to meet wives of Heads of Departments etc
1230	Luncheon given by Mrs Connie Baker (wife of the Chief Secretary) to meet Councillors' wives
1430	Visit to King Edward Memorial Hospital

Monday 23 July

1600-1700	Tea at Government House to meet members of the Corona Society, Red Cross Society and Encounter Group

Tuesday 24 July

0930	"Doctors Call" at R/T Station
1430-1600	Visit to Junior and Senior Schools

FALKLAND ISLANDS BROADCASTING SERVICE

EXTRACT FROM INTERVIEW GIVEN BY MINISTER OF STATE, MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP (21 July 1979).

..... We have made it abundantly clear and I repeat it, and I repeat it with all the authority of a Minister of the Government of the United Kingdom, that we will not do anything which will not be acceptable to the people who live in these Islands for the future and that is the overriding pledge which I give. On the other hand, I detect that there is a very strong desire for us to try and improve relations with the Argentines and to come to some settlement which will enable these Islands to develop in peace. To what extent this is different to the last Government's policy is not for me to say except that I think that I have stated very clearly it is more important to settle this dispute than to let it run on, if that is possible. Now it may not prove to be possible and so I am not at all sure what the outcome will be, but I think in terms of the difference between the last Government's policy and this Government's policy I can see little change except perhaps that in the years that have gone by people here have come to the conclusion that the dispute is really damaging and the time has come to try, try again I should say, to achieve a settlement. .....

****

Mr Watts: Sovereignty in my terms would mean that perhaps people would be asked to change nationality. Is this a possibility?

Mr Ridley: I do not think that would be acceptable to the people of these Islands. I have said, and I repeat it for the second time, that nothing that is not acceptable will be done and I do not believe for one moment that they would change their nationality.

read out a paper on behalf of the Councillors, copy attached.

3. Mr Ridley, taking up Mr Wallace's reference to tax levels in the Islands, said that there were parallels in the UK. Taxes were too high; the new Government was reducing them and cutting Government expenditure. This included aid. Therefore the aid

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RECORD OF MEETING BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF STATE AND FALKLAND ISLAND COUNCILLORS, AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PORT STANLEY, 21 JULY 1979, AT 9.30

Present

The Hon Nicholas Ridley MP
Mr K D Temple
Mr R H Gozney

HE Mr J R W Parker CMG OBE
Mr F E Baker OBE
Chief Secretary
Mr D R Morrison OBE
Deputy Chief Secretary
Mr H T Rowlands OBE
Financial Secretary
Mr W R Luxton
Mr W H Goss MBE JP
Mr D S Evans
Mr H Bennett OBE JP
Mr A B Monk JP
Mr W E Bowles
Mr S B Wallace
Mr T J D Miller
} Councillors
Mr W A Etheridge
Clerk of Councils

1. The Governor opened by welcoming Mr Ridley to the Falkland Islands. Mr Monk echoed this welcome on behalf of the Councillors. He stressed that it was warmly and genuinely meant to both the Minister and Mrs Ridley. Mr Ridley replied that both he and his wife were delighted to be present. After being appointed Minister, he had made an early resolve, to make a visit to the Falkland Islands, since they had had a difficult and dangerous time; he wanted to come to discuss their problems, and to assure them that the new Government was no less resolved than its predecessor to be firm in t the South Atlantic.

2. Mr Wallace read out a paper on behalf of the Councillors, copy attached.

3. Mr Ridley, taking up Mr Wallace's reference to tax levels in the Islands, said that there were parallels in the UK. Taxes were too high; the new Government was reducing them and cutting Government expenditure. This included aid. Therefore the aid

/climate

climate was not as easy as he would like from the Falkland Islands' point of view. But he stressed that this would not have immediate effects on projects here. He wanted to see a prosperous future for the Islands, not economically dependent on the UK. The major impediments to growth must be tackled. For example, to take fishing (which had been mentioned in the Councillors' paper), it would be excellent to declare a 200 mile zone; but such a declaration would provoke the Argentines to escalate the conflict. In other words one was immediately up against the underlying political problem. The same was true of oil; if oil were found in exploitable quantities, a political accommodation was needed with Argentina. We now had the results of the seismic surveys. One area was promising to the extent of warranting further detailed surveys, which could perhaps be carried out in present circumstances, but subsequent test drilling would require a political settlement.

4. Mr Ridley was looking forward to learning about the Islands' agriculture. If it could be improved, clearly it would continue to be the biggest revenue earner. Perhaps reform of landholding and an adjustment of the position of the Falkland Islands Company were necessary. The Councillors' paper had also touched on the question of population. Clearly general development required increased labour. He wanted to ask whether the Councillors would find acceptable the idea of taking in, say, up to 20 Vietnamese refugee families. They were good people, and there would be UNHCR financial backing to settle them. They would be people who volunteered to come to the Islands, not drafted.

5. He wished to mention the question of the house for the LADE Manager. It was necessary to co-operate with the Argentines on matters of this sort. A "fortress Falklands" attitude was unreal.

6. Concerning nationality questions, (which the Councillors had raised) Mr Ridley explained that the Green Paper of the last Government was now overtaken. The Home Secretary was preparing new proposals, and Mr Ridley would feed in the Islanders' point of view, to make sure that their case was appreciated. But, there were difficult problems in defining who had right of abode in the UK.

7. The Governor was grateful to Mr Ridley for covering so many problems. He suggested that Councillors might take up the question of the LADE house. Indeed, the Falkland Islands Government had agreed to lease a plot, for 30 years; EXCO had decided this three times but there had been a public outcry. Mr Wallace explained that there was widespread popular feeling that LADE should not have an increased presence in the Islands, because they were Argentine. Some people would demonstrate that feeling physically. Mr Ridley understood this, but stressed that air communications depended on LADE. HMG could not replace this service. This was a test case of co-operation with Argentina. To take a more important issue,

/oil

oil development would need to be carried out in co-operation with Argentina. It might be, for example, that the development of an oil industry would involve having up to 500 Argentines living and working on the Islands. The exclusion of Argentines from the Islands was not consistent with developing the Islands. It was necessary to lead and inform public opinion. Mr Monk had personally always supported leasing a house to the LADE Manager. He felt that public feeling against the idea was smaller than supposed, and that it should be made clear to them that their stance was doing great disservice. The Governor reminded Mr Ridley that the background to the public attitude on this question was one of constant pin pricks by the Argentines, who constantly flaunted their sovereignty claim.

8. Mr Ridley moved to the wider question of co-operation generally. He gave his own assessment of the Argentine position. As a general principle countries governed by Generals were stupidly governed. Argentina had three foreign policy preoccupations: the concern for Brazilian exploitation of the Paraná region, the Beagle dispute, and the Falkland Islands. The first two were currently frozen, and he feared that greater attention might be turned to the Falkland Islands question. The Argentines had been charming to him, and he did not wish to suggest that they had demonstrated any belligerence; nevertheless, he judged that if we did not talk seriously to Argentina concerning the Islands, their patience would run out, and they would adopt confrontational postures. On 26 July there would be an announcement in Buenos Aires of agreement in principle to restore Ambassadors between Britain and Argentina, although names would not be announced at this stage. He stressed that the fact of having Ambassadors did not indicate approval of a particular regime, or indeed, necessarily denote having good relations; for example we had an Ambassador in Vietnam. Later this year he would like to start talks with the Argentines on the whole range of issues concerning the Falkland Islands. It would be more difficult for him if the Islanders refused the LADE house, or rejected the draft scientific co-operation agreement. As to Argentine objectives concerning the Islands, he did not believe that the Argentines wanted to populate them. It was a question only of face. He would like to find a formula, such as the earlier terminology with which the Councillors were aware, making a distinction between sovereignty over land and sovereignty over people, which would save Argentine face and safeguard the Islanders' position. But he stressed that he would do nothing against the wishes of the Islanders. He had said all this to indicate a way of thinking; in no way was he going to let down the Islanders, but it was essential to get out from under the dead hand of the dispute. Mr Evans said that what the Minister had told them was not unexpected, but he was very disturbed by it. For him the question of the LADE house was not a real problem; but turning to oil, if development of it meant having three or four hundred Argentines in the Islands, then the Islanders would leave, since they wanted to remain British. Mr Ridley said that it was not certain if there was

/oil,

oil, or if there was where it would be. But if it existed, its development would certainly involve people in large numbers. This required co-operation with Argentina. The choice was for the Islanders; did they want the search for oil to continue? As we had seen in the Shetland Islands, its development was a traumatic experience. Mr Evans understood. But what use would the Islands be if they were unrecognisable? He wondered whether there was any other solution, without Argentines. It was specifically them that the Islanders were afraid of. The same fears underlay their attitude to fishery development; they did not want an agreement which allowed the Argentine Navy into Falklands waters. Mr Ridley stressed that he understood. Perhaps he had exaggerated his remarks, in order to get reactions. But what was the alternative to co-operation with Argentina? British aid would not be able to develop the Islands; private enterprise would not come in force without an accommodation with Argentina; indeed the Argentines might even invade the Islands, and Britain could not stop them. Therefore there must be an agreement; this required concessions on both sides. Mr Bowles asked how interested the Argentines were in yielding. Mr Ridley said they would not yield, but perhaps a face saving device could be found. Mr Bowles replied that there was total uncertainty amongst Islanders as to their future. If the British Government could make a statement that the Islands would always remain British, that would raise confidence. Mr Ridley repeated that nothing would be done without Islander agreement. But this put the ball back in the Islanders' court; it was not possible to guarantee Britishness, and development, if the Islanders decided against co-operation with Argentina. Mr Goss asked whether the British Government believed the Argentine claim was just. Mr Ridley stressed that the contrary was true. The British were prepared to submit the issue to arbitration.

9. Mr Luxton had understood Mr Ridley to assume that no co-operation was possible with Argentina without concessions. He wondered if it was possible to find a formula acceptable to both sides. Mr Ridley said this was precisely what he wanted. He remarked that the Islanders should do a better public relations job for their point of view in Buenos Aires. He suspected that the Argentines had a totally false impression of the Islanders, and thought that the problem was simply British intransigence. The Islanders needed to convince the Argentines that they were a thriving community which wanted to stay British. Mr Monk accepted the need for co-operation with Argentina. But his preference was for a moratorium on the issue for perhaps 30 or 40 years. Mr Ridley agreed that this was certainly a possibility. Mr Monk remarked that Hong Kong was a parallel. Mr Ridley agreed; the lease in Hong Kong benefited both the people of Hong Kong, and the Republic of China. He personally believed that if the Chinese were now given the option to renew that lease, they would do so. A lease like that was, in his view, an ideal solution for the Islands. But a co-operative attitude on smaller issues was a necessary preparation. But certainly this was the sort of approach which might work.

10. The meeting then adjourned for a short coffee break.

11. When the meeting resumed, the Governor raised the question of Vietnamese refugees, and whether the Islands could accommodate some. Mr Monk was strongly in favour; such people would be of great benefit, as market gardeners, shopkeepers, etc. Mr Miller supported this. Mr Monk thought that ten families would be about the limit. Concerning public opinion on the issue, Mr Miller thought that the majority would be either for it or open-minded.

12. Discussion turned to the draft scientific co-operation agreement. Mr Goss and Mr Miller described the concern which Councillors had felt when they learnt of the details. It infringed sovereignty; it included South Georgia; and it did not require prior notification of Argentine intentions to set up further bases. Briefly, it was too open-ended. Moreover, there was a general lack of faith in verbal assurances from the Argentines (such as their commitment not to set up further bases). Mr Ridley saw the base on Southern Thule as a fact. The draft agreement would prevent the repetition of such incidents. Moreover, if the Councillors could signify their agreement on this, it would help the whole context of negotiations. Mr Rowlands was strongly opposed. The agreement would erode our whole position in the Antarctic. Mr Bowles saw the Southern Thule base as part of an Argentine ring closing around the Islands. Mr Luxton added that the Argentine radio station on Southern Thule had broadcast that they were permanent. This had been heard and resented by Islanders. Mr Ridley repeated that the Argentines were there; they were therefore infringing sovereignty; moreover they could repeat the tactic if they wished to put pressure on. Surely it was better to regularise their position through the agreement. Mr Monk asked whether it would be possible to include a requirement on the Argentines to give prior notification in the agreement. Mr Temple commented that we would have to make the same concession. Mr Gozney believed it was an open question whether the Argentines would attempt to set up further stations under the agreement. It was possible that they might consider doing so, as they were under the Antarctic Treaty to create bargaining counters against the day when the Antarctic Treaty ran out. Mr Miller asked what benefit the joint agreement gave the Islanders. Mr Luxton echoed this; there was a feeling that all concessions in the negotiations were by the Islands. Mr Rowlands, bringing this phase of the discussion to an end, recalled that Councillors had at least agreed to leave the draft on the table.

13. The Governor returned the discussion to the parallels between the Falkland Islands and Hong Kong. Mr Miller's immediate reaction was that the land of Hong Kong belonged to China. Mr Ridley asked, for the sake of discussion, whether it would be satisfactory if we could obtain a hundred year lease for the Islands and the waters surrounding them. To Mr Bennett this acknowledged Argentine sovereignty. Mr Ridley accepted this, but asked whether the actual title mattered. Councillors had stressed the importance of Britishness in the Islands, and doing things in their own way.

/Mr Goss

Mr Goss did not believe that the Argentines would accept such a deal. He believed they wanted a Government and an Administration in the Islands. Mr Ridley disagreed; in his judgment, the Argentines wanted to meet their nationalist pretensions. Perhaps Mr Monk's idea of a freeze would be the best solution, but that he did not think would be acceptable to the Argentines. Some discussion followed on whether parallels might arise between leased Falkland Islands and the Egyptian seizure of the Suez Canal. It was pointed out that there would need in this case to be international guarantors of a lease back arrangement. Mr Ridley summed up the advantages of such a scheme; the Argentines would agree the status of the Islands, the Islands could do what they wanted, and the sovereignty question would be solved for the period of the lease.

14. Mr Evans was appalled by the whole idea. Mr Miller wondered how much of the Argentine attitude was bluff. For example the Brazilians had stood up to the Argentines and the latter had backed down. Mr Ridley said that frankly Britain could not stand up to the Argentines on this question. He could not ask the British Government for frigates, a garrison, etc, as we simply did not have the resources to do this. Mr Monk understood this and accepted the need for negotiations rather than confrontation. The Governor saw great difficulties in conveying such ideas to the Islanders, who would be totally bewildered. Mr Ridley said that clearly discussion of these ideas would be as slow as possible. Perhaps the concept would not succeed. But if it were possible to postpone negotiations with the Argentines into next year, the Councillors might be able to discuss the general ideas with their constituents. But he stressed that the concept might be insufficient for the Argentines.

15. Mr Ridley commented that sovereignty depended on the ability to defend it. In Britain we had managed to defend our sovereignty against several recent attempts to take it away. In the case of the Falkland Islands he did not want the situation to become more menacing. But he repeated the assurance he had made earlier, that the British Government would not do what the Islands did not want. This was surely as cast iron an assurance as they could wish. But the disadvantages of making no progress towards a settlement were becoming increasingly severe. Mr Evans had been right to put the political alternative of having nothing to do with such a concept; this was a real alternative. In the long run, the Islands faced a choice, and he admitted that it was a foul choice. All he wanted at present from the Councillors, and the Islanders as a whole, was the right to explore the possibilities. Mr Monk thought that the Minister should be given that right. Mr Rowlands and several others appreciated Mr Ridley's straight talking. Mr Miller echoed this sentiment; the facts might not be pleasant, but it was necessary to face them. Mr Gozney referred again to the Argentine attitude. They tended to blow hot and cold, depending on their other preoccupations. But they were completely convinced of the rightness of their claim. Mr Ridley added that the change of President, due in 1981, might increase the danger for the Islands, because attention would be focused on the lack of progress (in Argentine eyes) on the question.

16. Mr Ridley explained that in the next few days he would meet many people; he would want to listen to their views, but did Councillors want him to talk widely over the political questions? Mr Gozney suggested that there should not be public discussion of the draft scientific agreement, because the Argentine press were focusing on Mr Ridley's visit.

17. Discussion turned to the banking facilities in the Islands. Mr Ridley wondered whether the Islanders had ever considered floating their own pound, with their own central bank. He had the impression that the whole banking system in the Islands was inadequate. Mr Miller recalled that the idea of borrowing was alien to Islanders' thinking. Mr Rowlands said that it had been proposed that he should visit London; perhaps he could discuss this question with the Islanders' Fiscal Adviser.

18. As a last thought, Mr Miller wondered whether the British Government had ever considered incorporating the Falkland Islands into Westminster. Mr Ridley replied that until recently such an idea had been totally impossible, because of the large numbers of Dependent Territories. But it was an interesting idea.

19. The meeting ended at 12 noon.

CONFIDENTIAL

FURTHER SESSION WITH COUNCILLORS, HELD IN GOVERNMENT HOUSE, 25 JULY, AT 9.30

1. The same participants were present as for the earlier meeting except that Councillor Goss was absent.

2. Mr Ridley gave his impressions. On the personal side, he had had five marvellous days; he was amazed at the beauty of the Islands and the welcome and courtesy of the people. He was sure it had been right to come as early as possible after the UK Election.

3. On the political side he had identified three themes. The first was that the dispute with Argentina overhung everything; this was true of agriculture, but more especially of developing fish and oil resources. Since coming to the Islands he had become convinced that it was right to work for an early settlement; the tactic of playing the negotiations long was wrong. Secondly, he was struck by the shortage of capital in the Islands. British aid, averaging £1 million per annum, was high; but in terms of the overall needs this was woefully inadequate. It would be better to improve access to commercial capital. He believed that FIC activities were not helpful, in that the Company took money out, and did not sufficiently encourage agricultural development. His third impression concerned the labour shortage. The population trend was of course tied up with the dispute with Argentina and the shortage of capital, but he suggested that Islanders could perhaps be more active in recruitment. There were other points he could discuss, but at this stage he would mention only the question of immigration to the UK. He would convey Islanders' wishes to the Home Office, but he had already told Councillors of the difficulties of protecting their right of immigration to the UK in law; it was impossible to include Falkland Islanders, but exclude, for example, colonial subjects from Hong Kong. Moreover, he felt that to concentrate on the immigration issue was defeatist, because it was not compatible with the intention to develop the Islands.

4. It was of course difficult to be bullish about the future. No-one could know the outcome of negotiations; if they failed, there would be a period of difficulty with Argentina, and therefore expectations should not be raised too far. He felt it was better to say rather little in public about the prospects for the negotiations at this stage. This problem was inevitable in tripartite negotiations, but he had come first to the Islands, because it was their people who mattered.

5. His aim was to deal with all aspects of the dispute with Argentina in a global settlement, an international treaty internationally underwritten. He repeated his twin assurances a) that he would conclude no agreement which did not meet Islanders' wishes, and b) that he would keep Councillors fully informed through the Governor. The constraints were strong - primarily the clearly understood Islanders' wish to remain

/"British"

"British" - and there was little room for manoeuvring. He was far from believing he had found the answer.

6. Mr Bowles spoke briefly on behalf of all the Councillors. They much appreciated the Minister's visit, and his frankness. They were grateful for British aid. They were unanimously in favour of a moratorium or freeze. They welcomed the assurance the Minister had given concerning right of abode; they were aware of the problems for Britain, but felt that the Islanders were unique. On the Scientific Co-operation Agreement, they believed it should be redrafted and left on the table. The house for the LADE manager could go ahead at the same time as local housing schemes. The Councillors agreed to accept ten Vietnamese families (which in population terms was compatible with Argentina taking 1,000 families!). They would welcome further direct talks with the Minister in London before negotiations with Argentina.

7. Mr Ridley was happy for Councillors to participate in negotiations, provided there were no leaks. But perhaps a final decision should be left until we knew how and when talks might take place. The Governor believed that earlier doubts concerning Councillors' participating in talks with the Argentines were now disappearing.

8. Mr Miller hoped that UK aid would be maintained in order to keep up morale in the Islands. Mr Ridley said that although he was not the Minister in charge of aid, he would make sure that any worthwhile projects which were put up were not stopped; he had simply drawn the Councillors' attention to the general climate of opinion in Britain concerning aid. He was himself keen on economic assistance taking place commercially.

9. Mr Evans said he had been very depressed at the end of the first meeting with the Minister. But he was now most reassured to hear what the Minister had said. Had Councillors been required to go round the Camp talking about the negotiations, the population drift would have increased.

10. Some discussion followed concerning the School Hostel. Mr Monk regarded it as unfortunate that the contractors, a local venture, had made such a mess. The Governor said that he would take a fresh look at the whole project.

11. Concerning Vietnamese refugees, Mr Miller hoped the British Government would publicise the Islanders' effort. Mr Gozney said it was important to inform the Argentines before making this public.

12. Mr Luxton expressed views on several points. Concerning immigration, did not Irish citizens have complete access to the UK? Therefore could not the Falkland Islanders be similarly written into Britain's new Nationality Act? He strongly hoped that the Grasslands Trials Unit would continue to receive support since its work was invaluable. Finally, concerning negotiations generally,

he feared that when they got under way hard things would be said in the Islands against HMG, and against Mr Ridley personally. He hoped Mr Ridley would always remember that he was talking about the Islanders' homes. Mr Ridley, responding to these points, explained that Ireland had had preferential immigration provisions to the UK; now the Irish were EEC members, they were covered by the Treaty of Rome which allowed free movement of labour within the Community. On nationality, to write into an Act special exception for Falkland Islanders would be interpreted in Britain as racial discrimination. The best way to deal with Islanders' worries was probably through the discretion allowed to Ministers concerning individual cases. He knew of no threat to the GTU, and suggested that farmers could do more to steer its activities. He recognised of course that he would be talking about the future of the Islanders in negotiations; this was why he had given the guarantees he had. But speaking personally, his own political life had for twenty years been tied up with the question of British entry to the EEC; this had raised many arguments about sovereignty, and some now believed that Britain had given sovereignty away. But this had not made any difference to the British way of life. In other words, it was possible to reach solutions to problems where "sovereignty" was in question; he felt the word was used in the Islands in a confusing way. What he believed the Islanders wanted was: to remain under British control, with British links, and with the right to conduct their affairs in their own way.

13. Some discussion followed on how public opinion could be tested on a settlement package. Mr Wallace believed that Councillors would have to resign if the moratorium option did not run, and a package was based on the lease-back proposal. Mr Ridley thought that perhaps the Governor would believe an election or referendum was necessary anyway, if matters got that far. But until then he needed the Councillors' support. The Governor said that Councillors had assured him that they would stand again in an election, campaigning in favour of a successfully negotiated package. Mr Ridley was very grateful.

14. Mr Rowlands took a strong view on sovereignty. He felt that the whole question should be widely discussed in the Islands, by Councillors in an informal way. People were adult enough to understand the issues. For Councillors to be abreast of Islanders' views would help towards a solution. Mr Ridley had to leave this decision to Councillors. But it was important that he himself said nothing in public and that particular solutions should not be attributed to him; opinions should be tested on a whole range of possibilities.

15. Mr Morrison said he had been concerned to hear Mr Ridley remark that Britain could not defend the Islands. If Britain was not behind the Islanders, perhaps people should consider wrapping up now. Mr Ridley said the problems of defence were practical ones. The British Navy was heavily committed elsewhere; if there were

/special

special aggravations a special force could be sent to the Islands, but what was certainly out of the question was a continuing state of confrontation between the Islands and Argentina. Nevertheless, were the Islands invaded tomorrow, of course Britain would react.

16. Finally, Mr Ridley sought Councillors' advice on what he should say in the broadcast he was about to record for the Island Radio Service.

17. Mr Monk brought the discussion to a close on behalf of the Councillors, by repeating that all had appreciated the Minister's frankness. He had clarified minds on a number of points, and his visit had been most useful. Although there were many rumours and misconceptions he believed the Islanders generally would feel reassured, not discouraged. Mr Ridley was most grateful. He had much enjoyed the kindness and hospitality he had received everywhere, and now felt intensely involved in the Islands as a place. His parting wish was that the Islanders should regard the guarantee he had given, as a British Government Minister, that nothing would be done against their wishes, as being as cast iron a bond as could be given.

Circulation

PS
PS/LPS
PS/Mr Marten
PS/Mr Ridley
PS/PUS
Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
SAmD
SED
MAED
SEAD
ESSD
M&TD
M&VD
Legal Advisers
News Department
ODA (Mrs Rosser)
Port Stanley
Buenos Aires
UKMIS New York
Research Department

PAPER FOR PRESENTATION BY FALKLAND ISLAND COUNCILLORS TO THE

HON. NICHOLAS RIDLEY M.P., MINISTER OF STATE

We would like to first thank the Minister for coming to see and hear from Falkland Islanders about our hopes and aspirations for the future.

Councillors have supported talks with Argentina during the last two years, and are prepared to continue doing so, as long as it is understood that we could not agree to any agreement which would compromise our British sovereignty in any way.

The Falkland Islands Government and the people of the Islands are appreciative of the monetary and other forms of assistance which Her Majesty's Government have made available, which have enabled us to move towards implementing the recommendations contained in the Shackleton Report. However precisely because we are endeavouring to implement these recommendations and are consequently involved in development projects which are essential for the future of the Islands, our economic outlook is not good. These aid projects involve increasing recurrent expenditure which at present must be met from Colony funds. The inescapable fact is that, with current revenue sources, the community cannot continue to bear this burden. Indeed in the absence of any other revenue earning activity we will become increasingly less able to finance even our essential services. In an attempt to meet the cost of these services personal taxation levels have been progressively increased to what is considered to be a maximum acceptable level.

The Falkland Islands Government believe there is an urgent need to implement those recommendations which would result in increased revenues accruing to the Colony.

The most immediate possibility of a second major industry appears to be offered by the marine resources of this area. The Falkland Islands Government therefore place prime importance on the early declaration of a 200 mile exclusive economic zone around the Falkland Islands with a view to licensing fishing vessels in that area.

Although recognising that new revenue must be found, we feel that we cannot allow our economic situation to dictate a course which would inevitably erode our sovereignty position.

The Falkland Islands Government wish to tap every possible revenue earning potential, and to strengthen the already existing industry. The help of Her Majesty's Government in this regard is appreciated. It does seem however that progress with some major studies is surprisingly slow. The report on the feasibility of inshore fishing is still awaited, as are the results of seismic studies carried out about which nothing has been heard. The Falkland Islands Government feel that

/encouragement....

...ocal....

encouragement should be given to companies wishing to explore the possibilities of onshore drilling for oil in the Falkland Islands. Tourism has immediate possibilities which in our view should be urgently investigated, the appointment of an adviser in this field for a limited period would be welcomed. The Falkland Islands Government has supported Mr. Julian Fitter in his inter Island tourist vessel venture to the tune of £25,000 and would hope that Her Majesty's Government would give this venture its support.

The increased pace of our internal development has been an encouragement to Islanders. A cause of concern, however, is the ever increasing cost to the Colony as we are asked to pick up "tail-end" costs of our infra-structure projects. We are happy to do everything in our power to push ahead with these projects. We will provide £180,000 as our contribution towards the cost of the first stage of an island all weather track system. The progress of the Stanley/Darwin section has been made more difficult by the acquisition in the first instance, of dilapidated equipment which continually breaks down necessitating long and costly repairs.

The school hostel, which is central to all our educational plans has frankly not gone as well as hoped. However we are confident that the Overseas Development Administration, who were directly responsible for selecting the contractors, will ensure that the hostel is satisfactorily completed as soon as possible. The provision of ancillary buildings and facilities for the hostel, without which our whole secondary education programme will suffer, also gives cause for anxiety.

The ongoing work of the Grasslands Trials Unit is appreciated and is vital to any future development in the farming industry. This Government has arranged the purchase from the Falkland Islands Company of the Green Patch Farm which is to be made available in six units to individual Falkland Islanders. This project has generated enormous support underlining the desire of Falkland Islanders to have the opportunity to own and develop their own land.

The dominant position of the Falkland Islands Company is the cause of some anxiety, in particular the manner in which it's ownership changes. We believe that with the success of the Green Patch Scheme the pressures on large land owners to divide their holdings will increase as a natural consequence of people's need to own or work the land.

Despite the undoubted advances we have made by our own efforts, and with the aid of Her Majesty's Government in many fields people are still leaving the Islands, and we are unable to receive those who wish to immigrate to the Falklands.

/The political....

The political situation is a major factor in this, but it is not the only reason. The Royal Marines Detachment contribute to this problem, and we would ask that urgent consideration be given to making this posting one for married marines. If new barracks are to be built we hope that this will be married quarters. Housing is also a problem, we have recently borrowed £100,000 from our Savings Bank, but this money will only allow us to build 5 or 6 houses, which are not enough. Any support for the construction of further houses would be welcome.

A major preoccupation is the fact that not all Falkland Islanders may enter and live in the United Kingdom as of right. Indeed families have already left, to live in the UK, because had they not, their children would later have been unable to live in Britain. This is a divisive factor here. It would greatly settle many Falkland Islanders if every Falkland Islander had the rights of a citizen of the UK. We understand that the Green Paper on British Nationality is now under consideration and it is our wish that under any new legislation Falkland Islanders be treated as a special case and given full British Citizenship - we are a unique community, and indeed the numbers involved are small; were we not to have full British Citizenship ultimately no Falkland Islander would be able to live in their mother country.

Lastly we would again express our gratitude to the Minister for his visit, we feel that such close consultation between this Government and that of Her Majesty is of the utmost importance.

Stanley

21st July 1979

Reference

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

From The Minister of State

21st August 1979

AZW 02611
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
22 AUG 1979
DESPATCH | REGISTRY
INDEX | FA | Action Taken

Dear John

Thank you for your letter of 10 August commending Alastair Duncan Millar in connection with the Falkland Islands. He in fact wrote to me himself and I enclose a copy of my reply. Perhaps you and he could get together to agree a convenient day to call here.

Yours ever
Nicholas

Nicholas Ridley

Sir J Gilmour
Montrave
Leven
Fife
KY8 5NY

Reference

104

105

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

21st August 1979

From The Minister of State

ARW 02611
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
22 AUG 1979
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INDEX | PA | Action Taken

PA

See 106

108

See W103

W103

Dear Mr Millar

Thank you for your letter of 8 August letting me know of your interest in the development of the Falkland Islands.

I have indeed recently returned from a most interesting and enjoyable visit to the Islands. I was able to meet a good cross-section of Islanders and discover for myself how they see their future. Despite indifferent weather I managed to visit three camp settlements and was much impressed by what I saw. I am convinced that the agricultural potential of the Islands is considerable and we will be looking at ways in which to help the Islanders develop this vital industry.

It was kind of you to offer to meet and compare notes. Unfortunately your letter arrived after I had left for Scotland (for a fishing holiday) but I hope that it might be possible for us to get together when you are next in London. Perhaps you could ring my Private Secretary (01 233 7825) before you next come down.

I am sending a copy of this reply to John Gilmour who wrote commending you to me and expressing an interest in calling together with you.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Ridley

Nicholas Ridley MP

I A Duncan Millar Esq CBE MC DL
Remony
Aberfeldy
Perthshire
PH15 2HR

COVERING CONFIDENTIAL Reference

(104)

AMW .02611
RECEIVED
22 AUG 1979
DESK
INDEX

Mr Davies
Mr Duggan

MR RIDLEY: PRESS BRIEFING

1. I have discussed this with Mr McCrory in News Department.

2. On past form, the British media have shown little interest in such briefings but News Department will do their best. What they propose - and they will now send a minute to this effect to Mr Ridley's Office - is, in effect, two separate sessions. There will be one for the British media; and another for the Latin Americans. News Department favour this approach since the Minister will be able to speak much more freely to Fleet Street which will be more inclined to respect that what he says is unattributable, than would the Latin Americans who show little respect for the term.

3. On timing, News Department think that Mr Ridley will win a larger audience if the briefing can be linked to some specific Latin America topic - such as the forthcoming visit to London by the Chilean Foreign Minister. This seems right in News Department's terms but possibly awkward for SAmD Mr Davies will no doubt wish to comment.

J R Cowling
South America Department

17 August 1979

CODE 18-77

ALW 02611

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
22 AUG 1979

DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

APS/Mr Ridley

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15/8.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. Mr Duncan Miller has written to the Minister of State asking if they might meet to discuss the Falkland Islands. I submit a draft reply for Mr Ridley's signature.

2. Mr Duncan Miller is not known to this Department and we have no information on his visit to the Islands.

G A Duggan
South America Department

15 August 1979

I.A. Duncan Millar, CBE, MC, DL,
REMONY,
ABERFELDY,
PERTHSHIRE.
PH15 2HR

TEL: KENMORE 209

8th August, 1979.

Nicholas Ridley Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
Westminster,
LONDON S.W.1.

Dear Mr. Ridley,

Falkland Isles

You have, I know, recently returned from your visit to the Falkland Isles.

My wife and I, partly because of our friendship with Sir John Gilmour and hearing of his experiences there on the last but one Parliamentary Commission, spent several weeks in the Falklands earlier this year, living with the people, some of whom you will have met. I had also particular interest in fishing, including the proposed salmon ranching experiment recommended by Shackleton, and in sheep farming as a sheep farmer myself, and an ex-Director of the Hill Farming Research Organisation. The visit was a private one.

Because we were fortunate to spend some time with the Islanders and made many friends, we gained some knowledge of their problems and would be very glad to give them any help we could. We also met the Governor, and I attended meetings of the Legislative Council.

Should you feel it might be of value for us to meet you briefly to discuss these matters from a 'worms eye' view point, we would be glad to cooperate, and I write now in case you may be visiting Scotland (as John Gilmour suggests may be the case), and we could meet there.

Yours sincerely,

Alastair Duncan Millar

I.A. Duncan Millar.

should make a closer scrutiny of the travel plans of ODA officials. For far too long it has been the pattern - /not

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

MONTRAVE,

DUNCAN MILLAR, Ian Alastair, MC; CEng, MICE, JP, DL; Convener, Tayside Regional Council, since 1975 (Councillor and Chairman, 1974-75); Director: Macdonald Fraser & Co. Ltd, Perth, since 1961; Hill Farming Research Organisation, since 1966; Member, Royal Company of Archers (Queen's Body Guard for Scotland), since 1956. *b* 22 Nov. 1914; *s* of late Sir James Duncan Millar and Lady Duncan Millar (*nee* Forester Paton); *m* 1945, Louise Reid McCosh; two *s* two *d*. *Educ:* Gresham's Sch., Holt; Trinity Coll., Cambridge (MA). Served with Corps of Royal Engineers, 1940-45 (Major; wounded; despatches); 7th Armoured Div., N Africa and Normandy; 51 (Highland) Div., France and Germany. Contested Parly Elections (L): Banff, 1945; Kinross and W Perthshire, 1949 and 1963. Deputy Chm., North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Bd, 1970-72 (Mem., 1957-72); Chm., United Auctions (Scotland) Ltd, 1967-74. Mem. Ct, Dundee Univ., 1975-. Perth CC 1945-75; Chm. Planning Cttee, 1954-75; Convener, 1970-75; Chm. Jt CC of Perth and Kinross, 1970-75. DL 1963, JP 1952, Perthshire. *Recreations:* studying and catching salmon, shooting, meeting people. *Address:* Remony, Aberfeldy, Perthshire. *T:* Kenmore 209. *Clubs:* Royal Automobile; Royal Golfing Society (Perth).

He would, of course, come to see you in London after Parliament re-assembles, but I wondered whether there was any possibility of your being in Scotland during the Summer, and whether there was any possibility, therefore, of arranging a meeting.

As I have also been to the Falkland Islands, I would, of course, be interested in /

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You may be sure that I shall sow the seeds of this both with the
Administration and with my successor before I hand over.

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CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

not to be floated

MONTRAVE,
LEVEN,
FIFE.
KY8 5NY

10th August, 1979.

Dear Nicholas,

A friend of mine, Major Alastair Duncan-Millar, paid a visit to the Falkland Islands early this year at his own expense, and took a considerable interest in the possibility of the breeding of salmon in the Falkland Islands, and I know that he would very much appreciate the possibility of having an opportunity to discuss the Falkland Islands situation with you.

Alastair Duncan-Millar has until recently been Convener of Tayside Region, is in fact an active member of the Liberal Party and stood against Alec Douglas-Home in the By-Election of 1963. Notwithstanding this, he is an extremely knowledgeable and interesting person, and has also been Vice-Chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board.

He would, of course, come to see you in London after Parliament re-assembles, but I wondered whether there was any possibility of your being in Scotland during the Summer, and whether there was any possibility, therefore, of arranging a meeting.

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coming to meet you with him.

The Hon. Nicholas Ridley,M.P.,
Minister of State,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
Whitehall,
LONDON.

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

(102)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

J R W Parker Esq CMG OBE
PORT STANLEY

14 August 1979

A2 W 02611
22 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY

Dear Jim, (101)

Many thanks for your personal letter of 7 August. I had been intending to write to you by this bag in any case about the aftermath of Mr Ridley's visit.

2. Firstly, I hope you will allow me to congratulate you on how well everything went. It is very clear from talking to Mr Ridley (who only got back to the Office for a single day at the end of last week, and is now on holiday) that you had made an excellent impression on the Minister and that he left with very considerable affection for the Islands and their inhabitants. Incidentally, this was in marked contrast to his comments about the Argentines - whom he found a tiresome bunch!

3. You are of course quite right in postulating that I shall shortly be moving on myself: News Department are announcing tomorrow my appointment as Ambassador in Havana. I am naturally pleased at this promotion, particularly since everyone tells me that the Cuban dimension is a not insignificant one in the East/West, Rhodesian, Caribbean and other contexts. But I am genuinely sorry to be leaving South American affairs, especially at a moment when we look like moving into a new phase in the Falklands saga. (I should add that I shall not be off until about the end of November, so I shall be much involved with all the immediate deployments.)

4. Had I not known that I was under starter's orders, I should have made a strong bid (which Ken Temple was encouraging me to do) to have accompanied the Minister on his recent visit to you. But I am sure you will agree that what would be really useful would be a visit by the incoming Head of Department, rather than by the outgoing one. You may be sure that I shall sow the seeds of this both with the Administration and with my successor before I hand over.

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CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

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not only in the Falklands - that there is a stream of junior and middle-ranking ODA visitors to distant posts which are hardly ever reached by those with overall responsibilities in the geographical departments of the FCO.

6. I am now much occupied with preparing a Paper for the Secretary of State to submit to his Cabinet colleagues about the next steps vis-a-vis Argentina and the Falklands. Our proposals will be based on the responses Mr Ridley received during his recent tour. It looks as if we may obtain agreement to show rather more of our hand - both to the Argentines and to the Islanders - than we have done before. The next round will be played out between Lord Carrington and Brigadier Pastor in New York next month, and will be followed up between Mr Ridley and Commodore Cavandoli. We shall keep you closely in the picture. Meanwhile the value of the confidence which the Islanders - more particularly the Councillors - clearly have in you is an asset which will not be overlooked in calculations here. You may also be sure that I realise this confidence is a finite commodity and we shall try to avoid asking you to do or say anything which risks expending that commodity improvidently.

Best wishes to you both.
Yours ever
John.

J B Ure

(195)

(101)

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PERSONAL

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

7 August 1979

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22 AUG 1979
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J B Ure Esq MVO
SAMD
FCO

Dear John.

1. I have written a separate personal note about the record of the Minister's visit. Perhaps I might now mention one related but slightly different thing. I have noticed that practically everyone in the Office who has had any past experience of Island affairs, at first hand, has left the scene; and I have had some inkling that you, too, might soon depart. Except for the Minister and Ken Temple (who, incidentally, became very much liked during his short stay here, and I think reciprocated this affection), no-one will therefore be left at any official level who has seen the place for what it is and, to quote the Minister, no-one can fully appreciate what the situation really is like until one has experienced it for oneself. Valuable, though the visit has therefore been in this regard, it would be an added advantage if, at some time soon, your successor (if, as I fear, you are to go on to other things), or someone else in the Department, should pay us a visit - it has been remarkable how often the ODA people have seemed able to find the fares to get down here, and we have been warned of another jaunt to come later this year.

2. In the meantime we are contemplating sending Harold Rowlands, our Financial Secretary, home for a few weeks consultation to deal with a number of matters in his sphere. We mentioned this to the Minister and he asked Harold to let him know when he would be around. The Minister's visit has given us a great deal to think about and, if we are to take advantage of some of his suggestions, to do; Harold's visit would be a start. I will telegraph more about this later.

Yours ever,
Jim

J R W Parker

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UNCLASSIFIED

BRITISH EMBASSY
BUENOS AIRES

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3 August 1979

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J R Cowling Esq
SAmD
FCO

Dear Roy

PRESS COMMENT ON THE MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT

1. Our telegram number 205 of 30 July (repeated to Port Stanley) referred to the sparse editorial comment on the visit. Since then, we have seen comment only in a Clarín editorial, (translation enclosed), and a piece in the Review of the River Plate of 31 July (also enclosed).

2. The Clarín editorial, though firm in note, is directed at the Argentine Government as much as HMG and the Review of the River Plate ploughs its own furrow as always.

Yes
M Daggett 7/8

The "Rosa" article is quite good.

Yours ever,

Richard

R H Gozney

cc: M Growcott Esq
Port Stanley

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UNCLASSIFIED

EDITORIAL FROM CLARIN, TUESDAY 31 JULY 1979

RELATIONS WITH THE UK

During the recent visit of the British Minister of State, Nicholas Ridley, the agreement to resume relations at Ambassadorial level was confirmed. The event is particularly significant since the two countries are negotiating the restoration of the Malvinas Islands to Argentina, thus abiding by the request of the UN General Assembly.

Since the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have released no information on the subject, the public are ignorant of the present state of the negotiations. However, it is known that they cover sovereignty and economic co-operation. Progress in one aspect should be matched by progress in the other. This is only natural. To talk of economic co-operation, implies that there are British interests in the area, interests established over 146 years of illegitimate occupation. To talk of sovereignty is to admit that the era of colonialism and occupation by force of territories belonging to other States has come to an end, that in its place the period of historic redress has started. It is for the negotiators to find the right balance. That balance, however, must be within the ambit of the restoration of the Islands (to Argentina).

The Ambassadors were recalled when the British Government engaged in activities which, instead of helping to make progress towards an agreement, showed an insistence on widening their de facto jurisdiction in the South. As such, those activities were considered unfriendly. One may now wonder whether sufficient progress has been made in the negotiations to modify this attitude. The steps taken seem to indicate that this is so, but the authorities have not informed public opinion. People would welcome the news that London had given up its reluctance to go forward on the subject of sovereignty and was ready to heed the international community, which urges that it should leave the Southern Islands, so far from its territory and its area of influence.

This would open the way to co-operation that is perfectly conceivable even in the field of oil. The UK has the necessary capital, business organisation, technology and expertise to undertake the exploitation of oil in the Islands. Argentina is the rightful owner of the Islands and their maritime extension, and has the necessary supporting infrastructure for the operation. To come to an agreement as regards this potential would be a problem of maturity and balance. Everybody knows that the exploitation of oil would involve an extremely costly investment and a difficult enterprise in view of the prevailing conditions. Thus there is a real possibility of combining the interests of the two parties.

/However,

However, it will not be possible to attain any such solution if the Argentine negotiating position is weakened, for whatever reason. Therefore the defence of the basic thesis of this issue is as important as attention to its formal aspects. Only in an atmosphere of mutual respect will it be possible to overcome the obstacles still in the way of an agreement. And even though the negotiations are a delicate matter and therefore kept confidential, it is necessary to offer some general information to the public because the problem is a national one and is everybody's concern. Everybody is committed to a fervent defence of the Republic's sovereignty and dignity.

are not subject, but local industrialists are nevertheless better off with the low-cost fuels than without them.

THE ECONOMIC PROGRAMME

Gradualism in Reverse

As remarked in our political note the economic plan now in force is due for reconsideration and possible revision, before the end of the year; the Minister Dr. Martínez de Hoz, stated this at the 37th. Anniversary Lunch of the Business and Marketing Management Association (ADLAD), during the course of a seventy minute session replying to written questions previously submitted by members. One of the most interesting answers concerned indexation. "We have always been aware, from the very first day, that this system can cause trouble if it is not confined to isolated sectors, and that the moment it becomes generalised, it can bring with it the danger of institutional inflation, or become a factor for feeding existing inflation." There was a need to "react against this technique and proceed towards gradual disindexation." There were two major contributors towards inflation, apart from indexation. One was the external sector, and the other the pressure upon the economy of the public works programme, much of which had been inherited from the previous regime, and had to be finished. There was an almost inevitably contradictory attitude involved here. The public wanted, rightly, telephones that worked, a decent road system and an adequate supply of electricity, etc. But since none of these services had been kept up to date, any effort to meet this demand called for more expenditure than the economy was able to support, and the result was inevitably inflationary. There had been widespread misinterpretation of Dr. Alemann's recent remarks, which had been taken as an attitude of resignation towards living with inflation. What was meant was, that certain political decisions having been taken on April 2, 1976, they had to be followed through by other political decisions, all the time, and there had to be coherence between decisions taken by the government, and what public opinion was asking for. In the end, inflation depended upon the availability of resources and the demands made upon them.

It is difficult to summarise so lengthy a session, the more so since the answers were given but not the questions. It is also easy enough to extract facile conclusions by generalising from specific replies. For example, "there is a general idea that the process of turning State controlled companies over to private enterprise has not gone on fast enough." But this was now complete, in the cases of companies that had previously been private, that had been taken over because they had collapsed, and in the cases of total bankruptcy, it was the judicial process that had taken time.

The Minister could hardly have killed two birds with one stone by saying that vast State-owned factories that ate money were outside his control, and that these were being increased by such projects as SIDINSA, or that Municipal motorways and car parks, apart from destroying houses and making the lives of those "privileged" to live near such public works a misery, were a highly inflationary addition to demand, but it appears that he might have meant this.

There will be much satisfaction over the possible selective ending of indexation—provided this does not mean that taxes will always be indexed, and official debts to suppliers and taxpayers will not. Anyhow, the basic message is that economic policy is under constant consideration, the major effort has already been made, "and I am sure that the final triumph is not too far distant."

ISLAND DIPLOMACY

And Some Unsolved Riddles

Mr. Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, has just returned from a visit to the Falkland Islands where he has been acquainting himself with the nature of the problem, in the physical and demographic sense, and the views of the islanders about Argentine claims. He is not the first Minister to do so, and if present attitudes do not change considerably, he will not be the last. As long as the British Government takes the line that the islands cannot possibly be handed over (back) to Argentina without the approval of the inhabitants, it is very difficult to see what progress can be made at ministerial level. Admittedly, a great deal can still be done lower down in the form of easier communications with the mainland, scholarships at Argentine schools, and a mass of other administrative actions that would make life on the islands less bleak and more in keeping with the nearby presence of a rich neighbour who at present appears to the islanders as a threat rather than a Potential fairy godmother, and one that increases the sense of isolation.

Argentina wants sovereignty, and does not seem particularly interested in such mundane details as how, and what pace, economic co-operation leading to eventual integration should take place, with, on this view, sovereignty being the last piece in the jigsaw puzzle to fall into place. It is quite easy to demonstrate that in the modern world, where all actions interact, there is no such creature as a sovereign state and hence that sovereignty does not exist, except as an empty concept. Transfer of sovereignty might therefore seem to be a gesture that would cost the islanders very little, but might merely lead to neglect because there would be no incentive to do any more for them. If Argentina were a little more flexible on this, she might get what she wants quicker.

The atmosphere of negotiations has not been improved by the strange rumour published in a normally impeccably well informed newspaper that the Argentine Government had refused its *placet*

or the appointment of Mr. Hugh ... he Chargé d'Affaires, as ambassador if and when normal relations with the United Kingdom are resumed. This was later printed as news in other papers, but has now been roundly denied. There has been much speculation about who planted the story and why, with a kind of consensus of opinion forming that the real object of the attack was Dr. Carlos Ortiz de Rosas, the leading candidate for the Argentine embassy in London. If so, whoever it was appears to have succeeded for the moment. This ugly little performance has set the ambassador question back by at least six months, and this is another example of how mistaken tactics can delay the achievement of desired objectives. The claim that Mr. Carless was not senior enough to be ambassador in Argentina is not only absurd but is evidently a mere smoke screen—and no one knows for what purpose. His arrival here constituted the first occasion in British diplomatic history on which a Chargé d'Affaires has been appointed to succeed another Chargé d'Affaires and the evident intention was his subsequent formal promotion to a substantive rank that he holds anyway.

There is no obvious connexion between the Ministerial visit and the planted newspaper story, but in both cases insistence on form rather than substance is delaying desired (and desirable) objectives being reached.

RELOCATION OF INDUSTRIES IN BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE

Thinning Out the Industries and Population of GBA

The Buenos Aires Province government's new ordinance prohibiting the establishment of new environment-polluting plants in Greater Buenos Aires (GBA) and outlying municipal districts, and obliging those already there to undertake relocation within ten years, is a long-overdue step toward decentralising industry and population away from an area whose services they already overtax, and toward improving the environment of the entire metropolitan area.

It also obliges new industries not included in the 15 "pollutant" categories to obtain a special authorisation to set up shop in the 29 municipal districts mentioned. This presumably will be forthcoming only if they are technology-intensive, low-manpower and non-pollutant—the attributes of enterprises capable of producing quality products at competitive prices for the domestic market and for export.

When the ordinance is reglamented, it will reportedly specify tax incentives (and exemptions in some cases) for the firms that will have to relocate. The attraction of these would be strengthened by the perks offered by the increasingly competitive municipal districts which have established industrial zones. The province will abstain from suggesting new locations. However, it did abstain from including the Brandsen, Cañuelas, Exaltación de la Cruz and General Las Heras areas in its ordinance.

The problem of housing for the workers who will be uprooted from GBA to follow their jobs out into the province will be undertaken by the province in the form of long-term loans, or by "contributions" from the province and the firm concerned. The new infrastructure, or the expansion of such, needed for the influx of population into towns in the province will be undertaken by the provincial government -- presumably with more speed and completeness than that employed to date by many GBA districts, where the drinking water, sewage mains, electricity and paved roads deficits are notorious.

The intentions behind the ordinance—decentralisation of the population, improvement of the environment of the metropolitan area, and modernisation of industry on the whole—are laudable, but care will have to be taken to see that this does not result in a spread of the "shantytown look" throughout the province, the incidence of plant relocation and housing costs on the prices of manufactured products, and in further migration from the "poor" provinces and bordering countries to the new industrial centres.

These negative results can be avoided if good housing in or near established communities is used to entice most of the "pollutant" industries' present GBA labour force to move out of the city and back to the country. Unemployment is very low, and as many of these firms' workers own their own homes (or shanties), if they are not offered very favourable home purchase terms, they may be tempted to remain in GBA.

Thus, the labour market in the new industrial zones would be left open to a new influx of migrants similar to the one that caused all GBA's infrastructure problems in the first place, and unemployment in the metropolitan area would rise to levels that incite demagoguery.

At the same time, full tax exemptions should be offered only to modern plants (which thus might turn out to be more efficient than they were in their old location).

Only this combination of modernised industry and a contented labour force that *does* follow it out into the province will produce the easing of the population pressure on GBA that the provincial government desires and, in the end, sustain and increase industrial production.

TECHNICAL TRANSLATIONS

The REVIEW can sometimes put subscribers in contact with persons willing to undertake Spanish-English translations involving scientific or technical terminology. Enquiries should preferably be made in advance with a sample—if possible—of the type of work needed.

With the compliments of

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S

Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

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22 AUG 1979
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BRITISH EMBASSY
BUENOS AIRES

CONFIDENTIAL

THE MINISTER OF STATE, FCO AND
MY: AT BUENOS AIRES ON 26 JULY 1979

ey MP Dr José Martínez de Hoz

ALW 026/1

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3. Mr Carless mentioned as a possible model, among others, the solution which Sweden and Finland had found to differences over sovereignty in the Aaland Islands. Dr Martínez de Hoz enquired about the arrangements which had been made for Britons to retain their nationality in parts of the Empire which had been granted independence.

4. Mr Ridley said Britain hoped to participate in the Argentine nuclear programme. In parenthesis he expressed misgiving that the award of any contract to a British firm, the General Electric Company, might be drawn in more than one way into the context of the dispute over the Falkland Islands. Dr Martínez de Hoz assured him that the dispute should not be an issue. Competing offers would be studied on their merits, only if there was little to choose between them, would other considerations be taken into

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This is not helpful:
the islands belong to Finland
but the inhabitants speak
Swedish!

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORD OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF STATE, FCO AND THE ARGENTINE MINISTER OF ECONOMY: AT BUENOS AIRES ON 26 JULY 1982

Those present: Mr Nicholas Ridley MP
Mr Carless
Mr Chick

Dr José Martínez de Hoz

1. Mr Ridley said that he had found the Falkland Islanders worried about the future, their ability and that of their children to continue the way of life to which they were accustomed. There were, however, signs of a greater disposition to recognise that a settlement of the dispute was needed. But for the British Government any settlement would have to be acceptable to the Islanders. It was not easy to see how a settlement could be achieved, but it was in the interest of Britain and Argentina to discuss ways of resolving the issues, and of exploiting the resources of the South West Atlantic for their mutual benefit rather than leaving them to others.

2. Dr Martínez de Hoz agreed that a solution should be sought through the continuation of the talks. Relations with Britain had suffered because of the dispute. Britain had not developed her commercial relations with Argentina to the extent that other countries had. Some form of special territorial status for the Islands could be studied. Perhaps some models could be drawn up. If so, the Argentines would wish to consider them in relation to their Federal Constitution. In any scheme embracing joint administration, Argentines would look for a tangible part in the administration.

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the islands belong to Finland
but the inhabitants speak
Swedish!

account, such as the bilateral balance of trade or Argentina's wish to see that large contracts were distributed over a number of suppliers.

5. GEC's fortunes were linked to those of the Canadians. There were still difficulties with the latter over the financing of the Río Tercero plant. These difficulties were the result of poor Canadian management and failure to cover the foreign exchange risk in a large overseas construction project. GEC would be well-advised to see that there were no such weaknesses in their joint offer with the Canadians. Mr Ridley took note and handed over a piece of paper about the British company's offer and official support for it.

6. Dr Martínez de Hoz explained how Argentina's high level of inflation was the effect of ingrained habits of mind in the public and private sectors, and the strong inflow of funds stemming from the surplus on the current account. A further difficulty was that the effect of the measures the Government should now take to control inflation in the longer term would fuel inflation in the months ahead, for instance in raising the prices of fuel and electricity.

British Embassy
BUENOS AIRES

27 July 1979

PS/Minister of State

cc: PS
PS/PUS
Mr Hall
South America Dept
Joint Nuclear Unit

(95)

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Davy

From	ir John Galsworthy	To Mr A N Whiting	Copies
Company			
Location			
Reference	SJG/ml		
SUBJECT			Date 29 June 1979

The Minister of State, Foreign Office, Mr Nicholas Ridley, is visiting the Argentine, Brazil and Mexico, in the immediate future and may possibly care to have the following notes on Davy's interests and activities in those t[illegible]ee countries.

1. The Argentine

Sidinsa

Davy have done little work in this country in the past but are currently pursuing a major steelworks project known as Sidinsa (Siderurgica Integrada SA) which could be of great importance to the UK both from the financial and employment aspects.

The present installed capacity of the Argentine steel industry is 4.2 million tons per year, which means that about half of the present consumption has to be met by import. Both on economic and nationalistic grounds, the present Argentine Government are determined eventually to achieve self-sufficiency. Insofar as any large scale development is concerned, steel falls within the sphere of influence of Fabricaciones Militares, the organisation which controls and directs those wide sectors of the economy which are regarded as the preserve of the Army. Sidinsa, which at present exists only as a concept, is one of the military's pet projects and is designed to increase capacity in four stages by approximately 3.8m TPA, over an 8 year period.

Although both the military and civilian elements of the government agree upon the long term desirability of self sufficiency in steel, there is a dichotomy of view about how and when this should be achieved. The military are pressing hard for an early start to be made with the Sidinsa project, but the powerful civilian Minister of the Economy (Dr Martinez de Hoz) is not at present prepared to give the green light. He would prefer to close the gap over the next few years by completing the expansion of another State owned steelworks (Somisa), which is already in existance, and by strengthening one or two private steel plants. He sees Sidinsa as likely to be set in motion in about five years, with certain preparatory work possibly commencing in four.

There is evidence that the military (who, of course, have the last word in the present Argentine regime), are increasing their pressure in favour of Sidinsa and that Dr Martinez de Hoz may be slightly modifying his opposition. Basically, the one single element likely to get the project off the ground soon would be if sufficient private capital (both domestic and foreign) could be raised to finance at least the first two stages.

Interest has been shown in the project from Belgium, Italy, Germany and Japan. However, after lengthy negotiations Davy succeeded in signing a Letter of Intent on 1 March 1979. In effect, this commits us to carry out a thorough review of the project as at present planned and to come forward with specific proposals for its execution (and for an equity participation) sometime in September. It would be our intention to invite participation from other , (e.g. German and possibly Japanese concerns) who would also, of course, have to be prepared to take up their share of the equity. A D/E ratio of 70:30% is envisaged. The total cost of the whole project was estimated in 1976 at $3,529 million. Given the change in the exchange rate since then, the total will now be nearer $4,400 million. These are, however, only approximate figures as Sidinsa are currently engaged in revising, stream-lining and slimming the entire project.

It is estimated that 70% of the equipment required would be imported and the offshore work would amount to some 150,000 man years. If Davy were able to secure a substantial proportion of the work, the impact on employment in Stockton and elsewhere in the UK would clearly be very considerable.

Recommendations :

In pursuing this question with senior Argentine Ministers and Military personalities, we have stressed :

a) the need to create a nucleus of reciprocal economic interests as the basis for an improvement in relations between the UK and the Argentine;

b) the extent to which the formation of such a nucleus could generate the right climate for an eventual settlement of outstanding political questions;

and

c) the impact which a large joint collaborative venture with a Group of the size and international prestige of Davy might be expected to have on other potential investors.

3/

It is not recommended that the Minister should, in any conversations with the Argentinian Ministers, attempt to urge the project forward. But it would undoubtedly be most helpful if he could find the opportunity, especially in talking to Dr. Martinez de Hoz, of saying that he has noted with pleasure that a British company has signed a Letter of Intent for what could become a major Anglo-Argentine achievement. It is also important that he should say the same thing in any press conferences or interview since otherwise the supporters of Sidinsa in the Argentine Government will conclude that British interest in this massive project is purely superficial.

2. MEXICO

AHMSA

Different parts of the Davy Group have done work in Mexico over the past 10 years in the fertilizer and synthetic fibre fields, but by far the most important job we have undertaken was the expansion of the largely State-owned steel company, Altos Hornos de Mexico SA (AHMSA). This contract was won in 1974 and successfully completed in the record time of 29 months by Davy Ashmore at Stockton. The final value of the contract was £80 million.

AHMSA has now issued enquiries for an extension to the basic oxygen furnace shop which is urgently required to realize the full potential of the original investment. Davy submitted a detailed tender and under normal circumstances would have expected the order as we have both technical and price advantages. However, in the last few weeks the French put forward a finance proposal which threathens the Davy position. In addition to offering normal export credit for French supply, the French have also included an element of credit which can be financed over 20 years at 3½% interest. The Mexicans have asked us to match these terms and we are seeking HMG's assistance to enable us to do so.

The total cost of the project will be £25 million, of which approximately £18 million will be in respect of UK goods and services. The Davy company responsible for this contract, if it is awarded to us, will be Davy International at Stockton-on-Tees. At the present time this company exports approximately 75% of its total turnover. The current contract is not large but it will provide badly

(95)

~~PERSONAL~~ : RESTRICTED

(97)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

16 August 1979

J R W Parker Esq CMG OBE
The Governor
Government House
Port Stanley
Falkland Islands

A-W 026/1
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 15
20 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY
INDEX | PA | Action Taken

My dear Governor

(96)

1. Thank you for your personal letter 026/1 of 7 August covering your despatch on Mr Ridley's visit. We are not having this printed but are arranging for copies to be circulated widely in Whitehall and to posts.

2. The despatch was welcome since it conveniently summarised the key points and gives us a clear idea of feelings on the Islands in the wake of the Ministerial visit. It also helpfully pulls together the points made in your telegrams and Temple's records of the Minister's discussions with Councillors.

3. Given the prospect of a resumption of negotiations before too long, we should welcome any further thoughts you may have, now or in the future, on policy, with special reference to how we might best ensure that we take the Islanders with us and how best Councillors can help us in that. I shall keep you posted on Ministerial thinking here.

Yours ever

John.

J B Ure
South America Department

~~PERSONAL~~ : RESTRICTED

(195)

J. Robert
SAmD

With the compliments of

THE MINISTER OF STATE
Nicholas Ridley

for info.

Chris Wright 13/8

FOREIGN and COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

LONDON, S.W.1

...nwealth Office

Telephone 01-

ALW 026/1
RECEIVED 20 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICE ... REGISTRY
ACTION TAKEN
INDEX | PA

Your reference

Our reference

Date

13 August 1979

...lic that Mr Ridley received in
...s recent visit, along with the

...c forward these replies, retaining
...s. Copies have been sent to

As you can see, one of the replies is unaddressed. Unfortunately this is because we do not know who the sender is, but no doubt you are better placed to do so.

Yours ever

Chris Wright

C D Wright
Registrar
Nicholas Ridley's Office

502
Nuis Da

(195)

ALW 026/1
RECEIVED 20 AUG 1979
REGISTRY
DESK OFFICER
INDEX
PA
Action Taken

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01-

PA to the Governor
Government House
STANLEY

Your reference

Our reference

Date

13 August 1979

I enclose letters from the public that Mr Ridley received in the Falkland Islands during his recent visit, along with the replies.

I would be grateful if you could forward these replies, retaining the inward letters on you files. Copies have been sent to South American Department.

As you can see, one of the replies is unaddressed. Unfortunately this is because we do not know who the sender is, but no doubt you are better placed to do so.

Yours ever

Clive Wright

C D Wright
Registrar
Nicholas Ridley's Office

(195)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 August 1979

Dear Sirs,

Mr Ridley has asked me, on his return to the UK, to thank you for your communication of 20 July 1979. I understand that your members had an opportunity to meet the Minister of State and I know that he valued this.

Yours faithfully,

Asst Private Secretary to
Nicholas Ridley MP

Falkland Islands Committee
(Local Branch)
Stanley
Falkland Islands
South Atlantic

(195)

FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE
(LOCAL BRANCH)

Stanley, Falkland Islands,
South Atlantic.

.....20th July..... 1979..

MR. NICHOLAS RIDLEY

WELCOME TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. WE HOPE YOU AND YOUR WIFE WILL ENJOY YOUR STAY AND THAT YOU WILL FIND THESE ISLANDS AND THEIR PEOPLE WORTH REMEMBERING.

Keep the Falkland Islands
British

WE STILL BELIEVE AN EXTENSION TO THE AIRFIELD TO BE ESSENTIAL IF THESE ISLANDS ARE TO RECEIVE THE INVESTMENT SO DESPERATELY NEEDED TO KEEP THEM FINANCIALLY VIABLE.

The Falkland Islands
are British

Keep them British

THE WOOL INDUSTRY OF THIS COLONY HAS PUT MILLIONS OF POUNDS INTO YOUR COFFERS THROUGH HARD CURRENCY AND TAXATION. WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL HELP TO DIVERSIFY OUR ECONOMY AND INCREASE OUR REVENUE.

Keep the Falkland Islands
British

WE ARE PREPARED TO CONDUCT NORMAL TRADING RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA.

The Falkland Islands
are British

Keep them British

WE DO NOT WANT ANY FURTHER ARGENTINE INFILTRATION IN THESE ISLANDS.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE IS AS FOREIGN TO US AS THE ORIENTAL ONE IS TO BRITAIN. OUR CULTURE? LAWS? POLITICS? LANGUAGE ETC ARE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT. IF WE WANTED THE SOUTH AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE WE COULD GO THERE AND LIVE.

The Falkland Islands
are British

Keep them British

WE COMPLETELY REPUDIATE ANY ARGENTINE CLAIM TO THESE ISLANDS. THEY ARE A PART OF OUR BRITISH HERITAGE WHICH WE MEAN TO KEEP. WHEN GREAT BRITAIN'S HERITAGE WAS AT STAKE IN TWO WORLD WARS OUR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WENT TO YOUR AID. QUITE A FEW GAVE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE - THEIR LIVES. WE ASK YOUR SUPPORT NOW.

Keep the Falkland Islands
British

WE DEPLORE THE OCCUPATION OF SOUTHERN THULE IN THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS, A DEPENDENCY OF THE FALKLANDS, BY THE ARGENTINES. IT IS TANTAMOUNT TO OCCUPATION OF A PART OF THESE ISLANDS. SOUTH SANDWICH GROUP IS NOT PART OF THE BRITISH ANTARCTIC TERRITORY AND THEREFORE NOT COVERED BY THE ANTARCTIC TREATY. OF WHAT USE IS THE SOVEREIGNTY UMBRELLA WHEN SOUTHERN THULE HAS BEEN OCCUPIED WITH PERMISSION NONETHELESS?

The Falkland Islands
are British

Keep them British

WE DEEM IT VITAL THAT BRITAIN DECLARES A 200 MILE ZONE AROUND THESE ISLANDS. TO THE WEST WE APPRECIATE AGREEMENT WITH OUR NEIGHBOUR IS NECESSARY ON A DEMARCATION LINE. THE 50,000 TONNES (POLES ALONE) PLUS, OF GOOD FISH TRANSFERRED IN PORT WILLIAM COULD HAVE BEEN REAPING HANDSOME REWARDS FOR US. WE URGE YOU TO DEVELOP A BRITISH FISHING INDUSTRY BASED IN THESE WATERS WITHOUT DELAY. WE HOPE THE HARVESTING OF KELP MIGHT YET ADD ANOTHER SOURCE OF INCOME TO OUR FLAGGING ECONOMY.

(95)

FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE
(LOCAL BRANCH)

Stanley, Falkland Islands,
South Atlantic.

- 3 - ..... 19.....

THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER PROVIDES FOR THE SELF DETERMINATION OF PEOPLE. ABOVE ALL ELSE WE WANT TO KEEP THE FALKLANDS PRITISH. THEY ARE YOUR GATEWAY TO THE ANTARCTIC. TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER BRITISH SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS WE COULD BE YOUR SOURCE OF FOOD, PROTEIN, FERTILISER, ETC. ALL BEING BRITISH AND IN THE STERLING AREA YOU COULD SAVE MILLIONS IN HARD CURRENCY AND EASE YOUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION CONSIDERABLY.

Keep the Falkland Islands
British

YOU OWN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS

TELL THE WORLD YOU OWN THEM AND MEAN

TO KEEP THEM

USE THEM TO THE ADVANTAGE OF US ALL.

(195)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 August 1979

Dear Sirs,

Mr Ridley has asked me, on his return to the UK, to thank you for your communication of 21 July 1979. I understand that your members had an opportunity to meet the Minister of State and I know that he valued this.

Yours sincerely,

Asst Private Secretary to
Nicholas Ridley MP

Falkland Islands Committee
Goose Green and Walker
Creek Local Branch
Goose Green
Falkland Islands
South Atlantic

(195)

FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE

Goose Green and Walker Creek Local Branch

Passed in the F.I.s but never submitted MR

GOOSE GREEN
FALKLAND ISLANDS
SOUTH ATLANTIC

21st JULY 1979.

MR. NICHOLAS RIDLEY.

WELCOME TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. WE ALL HOPE YOU AND YOUR WIFE WILL ENJOY YOUR STAY HERE. YOU WILL FIND I'M SURE THAT WE KELPERS ARE BRITISH AND PROUD OF IT.

WE CONSIDER THE ARGENTINE CLAIM TO OUR TERRETORIAL WATERS TO BE AN INFRINGEMENT OF OUR SOVEREIGNTY AND IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT A CLAIM TO OUR 200 MILE LIMIT BY BRITAIN BE ACTIVELY AND FORCEABLY PERSUED. TO THE WEST, WE APPRECIATE AGREEMENT WITH OUR NEIGHBOUR, IS NECESSARY ON A DEMARCATION LINE.

WE URGE YOU TO DEVELOP A BRITISH FISHING INDUSTRY BASED IN THESE WATERS WITHOUT DELAY. THE POLES ETC. ARE REAPING MONEY FOR THEIR COUNTRY WHEN WE AND BRITAIN COULD BE DOING THE SAME.

WE ARE PREPARED TO CONDUCT NORMAL TRADING RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA BUT WE DO NOT WANT FURTHER INFILTRATION IN THESE ISLANDS.

THE WOOL INDUSTRY OF THIS COLONY HAS PUT MILLIONS OF POUNDS INTO YOUR COFFERS THROUGH HARD CURRENCY AND TAXATION. WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL HELP TO DIVERSIFY OUR ECONOMY AND INCREASE OUR REVENUE. WE THANK YOU FOR THE AID WE HAVE SO FAR RECEIVED, BUT THAT WE REALLY NEED , IS AID TO HELP OUR WOOL INDUSTRY, MORE SO THAN ROADS WHICH OUR COLONY HAS TO TRY AND MAINTAIN ON A TIGHT BUDGET.

SIGNED MRS, S.MIDDLETON CHAIRMAN LOCAL BRANCH.
H.L. WHITNEY COMMITTEE MEMBER.

(95)

Middleton

J Middleton.

T.M. Bentley

T Ford

Kevin Browning

Kevin Browning

Kenneth Jaffray

Ingrid Jaffray

Violet Clark

Loania Clark

Jackie May

Diana Berntsen

Kevin Browning

Christine Morrison

Grahame Morrison

Margaret SMITH

Jennifer SMITH

William D. Morrison

Charles Finlayson

R Bowron

Elizabeth

Bowron

Rutherford

(195)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

10 August 1979

From The Minister of State

Thank you for taking the trouble to write to me on 12 July. I found everything that was said to me of value in building up my overall impressions of the Islands.

I was sorry not, in the event, to be able to meet you but I hope you heard my radio broadcast before I left summarising my impressions and conveying my thanks to all of you.

Nicholas Ridley
(Dictated by Mr Ridley
and signed in his absence)

Private Secretary

(95)

Fitzroy.

Mr. Ridley
Government House
Stanley.

12th July
1979

As a private individual within a few years of pension and in this $1000-a-year-at-manual-labour-bracket I would like to re-mention what I mentioned in a letter to Mr. Boulands when he came here. It's that all Atlantic islands, Azores to South Georgia, are more oceanic than offshore to Africa and S. America and have always been associated with European countries and are valuable due to the surrounding sea bed etc. One imagines this value could be a surplus to island populations and this European association is more likely to produce sensible results from it than any other system. In Africa and S. America they seem to spend a lot of time at some sort of civil war.

502
Mrs D

(195)

A local feature is that bird watching tourism seemed to crop up here on its own. Birdwatchers don't usually go in for packs: the World Wildlife Fund has a lot to do with attracting them here: and the formation of Tailand Co-operative Industries enlists practically anyone to get a return from tourism. It does not all go to a few magnates where development money can come into this is in setting up facilities for this kind of tourism. We had a good time with the "World Discoverer" passengers last summer. Our base of supply is in the building called the Gymnasium next to the Town Hall.

Hoping these remarks will be of some interest

L. Dearlove

(197)

502

(195)

Mrs K Bertrand

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

From The Minister of State

10 August 1979

Dear Mrs Bertrand,

Thank you very much for your letter of 14 July and for having gone to the trouble of letting me know your views. I found everything that was said to me, verbal and written, of great value in forming my overall impressions of the Islands' situation.

I am sorry we did not in the event get to meet but I hope you managed to hear my radio broadcast summarising my impressions and conveying my deep thanks to all of you. Mrs Ridley and myself found our visit very worthwhile indeed.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas Ridley
(Dictated by Mr Ridley
and signed in his absence)

Private Secretary

Mrs K Bertrand
Caracas Island
West Falkland Islands

(195)

Mrs K Bertrand
Carcass Island
West Falkland Islands.
14th July 1979

N Ridley Esq
c/o The Falkland Islands Committee
STANLEY

Dear Mr. Ridley,

First, I would like to say 'Welcome to the Falkland Islands' I am very glad you have managed to come and visit us so soon after the Conservatives came to power.

I understand that you are here on a fact finding mission and wish to meet and hear the views of as many people as possible. As I cannot meet you in the time available I thought I would write my views.

My wish, like those of other Falkland Islanders, is first and foremost to keep the Falkland Islands British. We do not want 'close ties with Argentina'- why should we wish for such ties with the claiming power? I think the extent of our relations with Argentina should be trade and normal friendly relations. I think we should also be free to trade with other countries, especially Chile and Uruguay with whom we have had friendly relations and trade for something like 100 years or more. Above all we do not want to sever our links with Britain.

Most of us would like to see the Stanley Airfield extended so that we can fly out to other countries without being forced to go through Argentina whenever we wish to go in or out of our country. At the present no woman or child can travel outside this Colony without first going through Argentina. Some men can do so, but only by joining some ship which calls between here and Britain. We know it will cost money to keep up, but so will the present one, (without the advantages an International Airport would bring.) This was one of the first priorities in the Shackleton Report.

I think every effort should be made to interest the British Fishing fleets in the Falkland Islands. It is quite absurd to continue to talk of a fact finding mission on the number of fish available in and around our waters. The Poles have not been fishing for moonshine all these months, if Britain does not soon do something about it the Poles will have fished the waters out by the way things are going. If it pays Poland to send these factories and trawlers all this way why would it not pay Britain to do the same.

I hope we never see an oil industry here and I think serious consultation should take place before any such thing is contemplated, with the IUCN WWF and other conservation bodies. There is already oil polution in various degrees round our shores. Not very serious yet but a beginning.

Our tourist industry is slowly growing but no tourists will come here if there is no wildlife to see. I also think that oil will spoil the Falkland Islands in other ways, one only has to hear what has happened to the Shetland Islands to know the effect it would have.

I think it is a great pity the Darwin road was ever started, the majority of Falkland Islanders did not want it, houses would have been more useful and would at least have allowed young people to remain in Stanley if they so wished. I think a Grant of that nature should only be given for something which will make money or induce people to remain in the Colony and furthermore that there should be a Referendum to find out if the people want it. I do not know who wanted the Darwin

road and it is not of first importance, it could have come later. We need more people here, people from Britain who really like this free peaceful life and to have people we need more houses. A fishing industry would mean the need for more houses, any new enterprise of any importance will need housing.

I also think more attention should be given to saving money by using our natural resources. Peat for fuel could be encouraged and also wind generators to lessen the use of oil. An 'Expert' came to look into the question of wind generators, I do not know what happened about that I suppose there is a'feasibility study' going on somewhere. I listened to the interview with this man and I was rather surprised that no mention was made of the fact that small wind-generators were in use for lighting houses and charging accumulators in nearly all Camp houses before the second World War. I can only think that the young man who interviewed him did not know himself how successful these little wind-generators had been.

I would hope we have about finished with the streams of 'Experts' who have been coming to this Colony for a number of years now, I do not really see why the British taxpayer should be expected to provide free passages for these people, however well meaning they may be. I can think of only two things that would be really helpful right now and which would bring fairly quick returns and those are- someone to teach us how to cure bacon properly and how to make good cheese. In both cases I think it would be better for a young Falkland Islander to go to Britain and learn there and then return here to teach us. At least we would then save a little of our imported inflation and who knows , in years to come we might be able to export those items.

I hope the weather permits you to visit Hill Cove and Port Howard as planned, it is unfortunate that it is winter time but up until now we have had very mild weather. You will find that people may be slow to get up and ask questions or air their views, however if you have sufficient time to give them time I think they will speak. Ted Rowlands apparently did all the talking when he visited the Camp and few people had the chance to ask anything.

I have run on long enough, I hope some of this letter is of use to you, I may add that a great many people share the views I have expressed.

Best wishes to you and Mrs Ridley for a pleasant visit.

Please help us to continue to 'Keep the Falklands British'

Yours very sincerely

Harry Bertrand

(95)

(96)

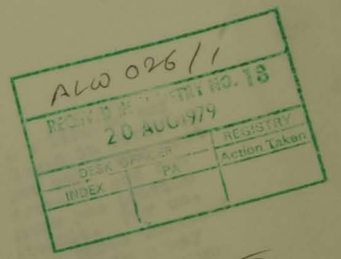
RESTRICTED

PERSONAL

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

7 August 1979

Our Ref: 026/1



J B Ure Esq MVO
SAMD
FCO

Dear John

See (98)

1. I have been in several minds how to summarise the essential facts and outcome of the Minister's visit - whether in the form of a formal Despatch or a short letter for the file. I felt it perhaps premature (and presumptuous), with policy in so fluid a state, to offer any subjective thoughts of my own as to how that policy should proceed, although I would like, later, to submit something of a think-piece as I see how things are likely to turn out, and when the dust of this latest exercise has settled a bit.

2. In the end I am leaving it to you to decide - whether the attached should be treated as merely a saving letter or a despatch for the record and not for print; if the latter, I would be grateful if you could have any extra copies needed run off on a photocopier (I have sent one to Hugh at Buenos Aires).

Yours ever

Jim.

J R W Parker

P.S. You may like to have the attached copy of the transcript of the press conference during the Ministerial broadcast - dealing with the assurances.

J

RESTRICTED

(AR)

(95)

John.

pls pass on
Mr Ridley's visit
file.

13/8.

With the compliments of

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY
TO THE
MINISTER OF STATE

Nicholas Ridley

ALW 026/1
REGISTRY
20 AUG 79
INDEX PA Action Taken
FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
LONDON SW1A 2AH

1979

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you provide
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three thousand
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Thank you once again ... best wishes.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
EMBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

SBA

for info.

NR

as

re-

alized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

(95)

30 July 1979

John Ayres Esq
Falkland Islands Government Air Service
Port Stanley

Judy and I wanted to drop you a line to say thank you for the part you played in ferrying us around the Islands. I must say I was most impressed with the Beaver aircraft, and can now see that the communications you provide within the Islands are invaluable. For us, seeing the Islands from two or three thousand feet impressed on us their beauty in a way which would have been impossible staying on the ground!

Thank you once again and very best wishes.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
MBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

for info.
NR

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DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
MBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

30 July 1979

Mr Sydney Miller CBE
Acting Chairman
Falkland Islands Sheepowners Association

I am writing to you as Chairman of the Sheepowners Association, to thank you for allowing me to come to meet your members last Tuesday. It was particularly useful, having at that stage visited four different settlements in the Islands, to be able to share some of my thoughts with you concerning the problems of developing agriculture in the Falklands. I am more and more convinced that the potential is enormous, and feel that it will be more easily realised if we can somehow improve the access of people like yourselves to commercial capital. I thought our discussion that afternoon was most worthwhile, and I was very grateful for your frankness.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

alized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
MBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

30 July 1979

Miss Rose-Marie Allan
Hon Secretary
Stanley Social Club

Just a short note to say thank you to you and to Lewis Clifton for arranging the meeting with the Young Islanders last Tuesday afternoon. It was useful to discuss the problems of the Islands from the perspective of young people in Port Stanley, and I felt that our discussion was most worthwhile. In particular, I was encouraged that only one person there said that he was considering emigrating from the Islands. I hope your members found the discussion as enjoyable as I did.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

alized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
MBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

30 July 1979

Mr Les Harris
Chairman
Falkland Islands Civil Servants Association

Thank you for arranging the meeting I was able to have with your Association at the Rose Hotel last Monday. As you know, I came to the Islands wanting to hear the views of as many people as possible, and it was helpful to share in the thinking of your Association.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

alized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
MBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

30 July 1979

Mrs Velma Malcolm
Hon Secretary
Falkland Islands Committee
Port Stanley

I am writing to thank you for arranging the meeting last Tuesday evening with members of the Falkland Islands Committee. I was very pleased to hear your views, and I thought that our discussion was most worthwhile.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

alized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
EMBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

30 July 1979

Mr and Mrs Campbell Kerr
Grasslands Trials Unit
Port Stanley

I am writing from Brasilia to say thank you for all you did for Judy and me when we were in the Islands. I very much enjoyed my visit to your offices, and was most impressed with the work that you and your staff are doing. Thank you also for inviting us to the party you gave on Tuesday evening.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

alized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
EMBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

30 July 1979

Jim Kerr Esq
Falkland Islands Government Air Service
Port Stanley

I wanted to write to say how much Judy and I appreciated what you did for us in flying us to Goose Green and Hill Cove last week, despite the snow storms. The Beaver is really a most comfortable and versatile aircraft. Ken Temple also wants to thank you for taking him where you did after Green Patch.

It was a great pleasure to meet you.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

alized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
EMBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

30 July 1979

Mr and Mrs Terry Spruce
Falkland Islands Company
Port Stanley

Thank you very much for the most enjoyable reception last Monday evening. Judy and I enjoyed it very much, as indeed we did all the hospitality given to us in the Islands. I was glad that we had a good discussion after dinner at Government House on Saturday.

Very best wishes

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

...American country. He did so because, as ...ead of the Latin American department at the foreign office, he realized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

ALU 026/1 BUENOS AIRES HERALD

26 JUL 1979

DEPARTAMENTO
de INFORMACION
EMBAJADA BRITANICA
DR LUIS AGOTE 2412
BUENOS AIRES

Reg

Copies on:
① Relations with Argentina
② Mr Ridley's visit 026/1
③ Falklands Policy.

14/8

11 keep on file

for info.

NR

Question of status

THE integration of the populated islands of the South Atlantic with the mainland is in everyone's interest. Britain will not be able to administer the islands it calls the Falklands for ever and independence is not a viable solution for the islanders, regardless of the question of sovereignty. It makes good sense, both economically and socially — and, even strategically, in an increasingly insecure world — from everyone's point of view to find a solution to an issue that has harmed Anglo-Argentine relations for far too long and has kept the Kelpers living in isolation. The principal concern, of course, in all negotiations (and this should apply to Argentina as much as Britain) must be the wellbeing of the islanders. They are the most important natural resource, more valuable by far than the other legendary riches beneath the sea, whether fish protein or oil and minerals.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Mrs Thatcher's assistant foreign secretary for Latin American affairs, is returning today from the Falkland Islands where he has been sounding out the "Kelpers" on the future. In Britain, it is the future of the settlers, not sovereignty and certainly not economic resources, which is politically important. No British government — and least of all a Conservative administration — could afford to appear indifferent to the wishes of the islanders who, in an overwhelming majority, will have told Mr Ridley that they want to remain British. The solution to the long-standing problem — the only remaining bone of contention in the long Anglo-Argentine love-hate relationship — calls for a degree of tact, deplomacy and commonsense which is rare enough. With the ever-present threat of aggressively nationalistic attitudes from all parties, it is a remarkable tribute to the Argentine and British diplomats who have been handling the issue since the thaw began almost a decade ago that so much progress has been made towards a solution that will resolve the islanders fears and realize the islands' economic potential without destroying their peace and wild beauty.

Mr Ridley's visit here underlines the existing opportunity to re-establish relations at ambassadorial level and pick up again the lost momentum in reaching an understanding over the islands' future. It would be a tragedy if misinformation or a misunderstanding of the status of the current British representative should set the islands' integration back once again. The British Chargé d'Affaires, Mr Hugh Carless, chose Buenos Aires post in preference to an ambassadorial posting in another South American country. He did so because, as head of the Latin American department at the foreign office, he realized the importance of this country — and the challenge of the job to be done here — and fully expected relations to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during a debate in parliament, where the decision to restore ambassadorial relations was discussed, criticism of the move by critics of alleged human rights violations in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr Carless's outstanding qualifications for the job. Fortunately, reports that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St James's by not granting Mr Carless's placet have been denied.

(68) (94)

A. Wordell

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY
7 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY
INDEX | FILE | ACTION TAKEN

Mr Hayman 8/8
Ken Looking.

This seems satisfactory. You wish to note the new date. 7/8

Bell 23 8

Mr Ure

(85)

1. I sent you a copy of the letter of 31 July from Sir John Barlow at the Falkland Islands Office to the Minister, along with a copy of my subsequent telegram to Ken Temple. (86)

2. Mr Temple replied giving Mr Ridley's agreement to meeting the delegation from the Falkland Islands Office on the first possible day (Friday 10 August) before he goes on holiday. I was also authorised to tell the Falkland Islands Office that the contents of Sir John's letter make it clear that wires appear to have been crossed.

3. I have accordingly spoken to Ms O'Farrell, "general secretary" at the Falkland Islands Office. After consulting Sir John Barlow and others, she called back to say that they regretted they would not be able to take up Mr Ridley's offer for Friday the 10th (most of them would be on holiday). I firmly registered the point that wires appear to have been crossed and asked if they were content to wait until Mr Ridley returned from his holiday at the end of the month or whether they would wish to send anyone to see him on their behalf on Friday.

4. After consulting further with Sir John Barlow, Ms O'Farrell called back to say that they were in the circumstances content to wait until the end of the month to meet Mr Ridley, and that my point about wires having been crossed had been noted. We have accordingly agreed that a delegation from the Falkland Islands Office will called on Mr Ridley on this matter on Tuesday, 28 August at 11.0 am. Ms O'Farrell will be sending details of the composition of this delegation in due course.

J W Yapp
6 August 1979

cc: Mr Hall
Mr Temple o.r.

(AR)
(92)

TOP COPY

Reference (93)/1

Transferred to ALW 123/1

CODE 16-78

R RIDLEY
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KING AND CREDIT
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HERE AS LITTLE MORE THAN A SHALLOW PRETENCE. IN SPITE OF BEING GIVEN GENEROUS TIME TO DO SO, THE COMPANY HAVE MADE NO EFFORT TO COMPLY WITH THE LESS THAN ONEROUS REQUIREMENTS OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE, PARTICULARLY THE NEED TO SHOW REASONABLE FINANCIAL BACKING IN THE SUM OF POUNDS STERLING 250,000. AS A DEFENSIVE PLAY, MITCHELL HAS CONSTANTLY TRIED TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF THE COMMISSION CHARGED ON REMITTANCES, A POINT THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH

/NEITHER

CONFIDENTIAL

(LR)
(92)

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CONFIDENTIAL

GR 300
CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY 090900Z AUG
FM PORT STANLEY 081941Z AUG 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 145 OF 8 AUGUST

AHW 026/1

9 AUG 1979

FOR URE, SAMD
MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE COMMITTEE

1. WHEN THE MINISTER MEETS THE LONDON COMMITTEE, MR RIDLEY MIGHT BE BRIEFED TO EXPECT ATTEMPTS BY THE COMMITTEE TO SUGGEST, SHOULD HE MENTION THE ISLANDS' NEEDS FOR BETTER BANKING AND CREDIT FACILITIES, THAT THEY SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE ARRANGEMENTS. THEY HAVE SEVERAL TIMES TRIED TO CLAIM THAT THEY ARE IN TOUCH WITH VARIOUS, AND ALWAYS UNIDENTIFIED, GROUPS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INTERESTS, MERCHANT BANKS, AND EVEN ARAB INVESTORS, WHO COULD, GIVEN THE RIGHT ENCOURAGEMENT, RUSH DOWN HERE WITH POTS OF MONEY. THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY HAVE ALSO MADE SIMILAR NOISES. WHEN PRESSED, HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN A REMARKABLE ELUSIVENESS ABOUT DETAILS AND THE ONLY CERTAINTY IS THAT THESE SO-CALLED CONNECTIONS HAVE BEEN INTIMATED PURELY AS PROPAGANDA PLOYS. AS IN OTHER MATTERS WHERE THEY HAVE TRIED IT, THE COMMITTEE, IN THE GUISE OF FROW'S HOLLOW FIRADA SET UP, WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LIKE TO MUSCLE IN ON WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY GOVERNMENT BUSINESS WITH, ONE CAN BE CERTAIN, UNFORTUNATE RESULTS.

2. AS REGARDS THE OUT-DATED PROPOSAL MADE BY THE COMPANY TO SET UP A BANK, WHICH MIGHT ALSO BE MENTIONED, THIS AGAIN HAS BEEN SEEN HERE AS LITTLE MORE THAN A SHALLOW PRETENCE. IN SPITE OF BEING GIVEN GENEROUS TIME TO DO SO, THE COMPANY HAVE MADE NO EFFORT TO COMPLY WITH THE LESS THAN ONEROUS REQUIREMENTS OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE, PARTICULARLY THE NEED TO SHOW REASONABLE FINANCIAL BACKING IN THE SUM OF POUNDS STERLING 250,000. AS A DEFENSIVE PLAY, MITCHELL HAS CONSTANTLY TRIED TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF THE COMMISSION CHARGED ON REMITTANCES, A POINT THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH

/NEITHER

CONFIDENTIAL

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NEITHER THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY NOR THE FISCAL ADVISER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO COMPREHEND. GOVERNMENT HAS THEREFORE DECIDED TO GO AHEAD GRADUALLY IN SETTING UP THEIR OWN BANKING FACILITIES, ALTHOUGH ACCESS TO A REPUTABLE CREDIT SOURCE WILL STILL BE GREATLY NEEDED.

PARKER

.....

FILES
SAMD
PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

2

CONFIDENTIAL

(LR)
(91)

RESTRICTED

TOP COPY
A W 026 11
RECEIVED 9 AUG 1979
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GRPS 33
RESTRICTED
FM BUENOS AIRES 08/1936Z AUG 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 216 OF 8 AUGUST 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

YOUR TELNO 147, BRASILIA TELNO 144 AND MEXICO CITY TELNO 2 : FALKLANDS

1. MR RIDLEY'S MESSAGE DELIVERED THROUGH BLOOMER-REEVE AND ACTION TAKEN AS SET OUT IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE FIRST TUR.

CARLESS

FILES
SAMD
NEWS D
PS
PS/LPS
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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(AR)

(90)

ALW 026/1

9 AUG 1979

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CRPS 38

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FM BUENOS AIRES 08/1820Z AUG 1979

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER U/N SVC OF 8 AUGUST 1979

1. YOUR TELNO 188 (86) TO MEXICO CITY, GRATEFUL FOR REPEAT.

CARLESS

See ~~93~~ See ALW 023/1

FILES

S AM D
PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

502
Mrs Da

CONFIDENTIAL

(LR)

(89)

GR 300
CONFIDENTIAL
FM PORT STANLEY 061355Z AUG 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 142 OF 06 AUGUST
INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES

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ALW 0261
RECEIVED IN
7 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICE
MED. | S.A. | S.E. | MISC.

FCO TELNO 188 TO MEXICO CITY: THE MINISTER'S VISIT AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE

1. ON FIRST READING YAPP'S TELEGRAM I HAD HOPED SIR J BARLOW'S INFORMATION MIGHT TURN OUT TO HAVE COME FROM SOME OTHER MISCHIEVOUS SOURCE, BUT I REGRET TO SAY IT IS NOW PRETTY CERTAIN THAT, HALF-WAY THROUGH THE VISIT, ONE COUNCILLOR DID TELEGRAPH THE LONDON COMMITTEE, ON THE LINES INDICATED BY BARLOW, APPARENTLY WITH THE STUPID INTENTION OF PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE MINISTER THROUGH WHAT HE THOUGHT MIGHT PROVOKE SENSATIONAL NEWSPAPER COMMENT.

2. I, FOR ONE, AM GRATEFUL BARLOW HAS HAD THE GOOD SENSE TO SEEK TO CLARIFY THE MATTER AND, IF A MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED, DOUBTLESS THE MINISTER WILL QUICKLY BE ABLE TO CORRECT THE UTTER DISTORTION OF HIS VIEWS, AND TO ASSURE BARLOW THAT THE ISLANDERS, RATHER THAN BEING DESPONDENT OVER THE VISIT, ARE AS RELAXED NOW AS I HAVE EVER KNOWN THEM TO BE.

3. ALTHOUGH I HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO GET HIM IN TO TACKLE HIM ABOUT IT, THE CULPRIT IS ALMOST CERTAINLY TIM MILLER. HOW HE COULD HAVE RECONCILED HIS APPRECIATIVE REMARKS AT THE END OF THE VISIT WITH HIS EARLIER ACTION DEFIES EXPLANATION: HE PROBABLY HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT IT. WELL-MEANING BY NATURE, HE IS AT TIMES INCREDIBLY IMMATURE IN HIS THINKING. GREATLY INFLUENCED BY THE LONDON COMMITTEE, HE IS ALSO DOMINATED BY HIS IMPULSIVE OLD FATHER AND MORE BY HIS EXCITABLE MOTHER: AND THERE, I SUSPECT, LAY THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE - A VERITABLE STORM IN A COFFEE CUP.

4. WHATEVER INSPIRED IT, THE FEW OTHER COUNCILLORS I HAVE SO FAR BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO ARE AS APPALLED AS I AM TO CONTEMPLATE WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE CONSEQUENCES OF MILLER'S STUPIDITY, AND THEY JOIN ME, AS I AM SURE WILL THE OTHERS, IN EXPRESSING REGRET FOR

/THIS

CONFIDENTIAL

THIS DISGRACEFUL DISREGARD OF COURTESY AND CONFIDENCE. SHOULD IT BECOME NECESSARY THEY WILL PUBLICLY DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM IT.

5. THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PASS TO PS/MR RIDLEY, IF POSSIBLE.

PARKER

FILES
SAmD
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR.A.PARSONS
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

(88)

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8 AUG 1979

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FROM FCO 021051Z AUG 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 149 OF 2 AUGUST
INFO PRIORITY MEXICO CITY FOR PS/MR RIDLEY PORT STANLEY

YOUR TELNO 1 TO MEXICO CITY:
ARGENTINE AIDE-MEMOIRE.
WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SENTENCE.

CARRINGTON

F I L E S
S AM D
NEWS D
OID
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

RESTRICTED

Sir John Barlow
WSS

CV

PS/Mr Ridley

(86)
(87)

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IMMEDIATE

AZW 026/1
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 13
6 AUG 1979
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MEX/WASH ØØ2/Ø3

CO FCO

PP PORT STANLEY

See 86 85

GRS 35
UNCLASSIFIED
FM MEXICO CITY Ø315ØØZ AUG 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 187 OF 3 AUGUST
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FROM TEMPLE FOR APS/MR RIDLEY
YOUR TELNO 188: BARLOW
1. YOUR PARA 3: YES TO BOTH POINTS.

COX

NNNN

APS/Mr Ridley
Hd S AM D
Mr Hall
RC.

Commonwealth meeting with HS Ridley now arranged for 28 August.

Mr Cowie
What's this?
6/8

(86)

PS/Mr Ridley

S. Am. D.

GP BUENOS AIRES

See (85) (87) (93)

GPS 275

RESTRICTED
FM F.C.O. 091411Z AUG 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 153 OF 9 AUGUST.

AWN 026/1
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY
10 AUG 1979
DESK OFF.
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FOR MR CARLESS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM NOW REPEATED TO YOU AT REQUEST OF MR RIDLEY'S OFFICE
WAS SENT TO MEXICO CITY TELEGRAM NUMBER 188 OF 2 AUGUST
INFO PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR).

PERSONAL FOR PS/MR RIDLEY FROM YAPP.

1. MINISTER HAS RECEIVED LETTER DATED 31 JULY FROM SIR JOHN BARLOW AT FALKLAND ISLANDS OFFICE (FROW'S LOT) WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE
DURING YOUR RECENT VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, MY COMMITTEE HEARD FROM A MEMBER OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WHO SAID YOU HAD TOLD ISLANDERS THAT BRITAIN DOES NOT WANT FALKLAND FISH OR OIL, AND WAS NOT PREPARED TO DECLARE A 200 MILE ZONE OR ASSIST WITH AID TO COUNTERACT ARGENTINE THREATS. WE WERE ASKED TO PUBLICISE THIS ALLEGED STATEMENT, BUT IN VIEW OF YOUR DEPARTMENT'S PREVIOUS ASSURANCES AND YOUR OWN INFORMAL COMMENTS, WE WERE NOT PREPARED TO DO THIS UNTIL WE COULD MEET TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT.
WE FELT THAT YOU COULD HAVE BEEN MISREPORTED OR MISUNDERSTOOD OR SOMETHING YOU SAID TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A MEETING WITH YOU IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE TO ENABLE [illegible] TO ALLAY THE FEARS OF ISLANDERS WHO ARE, WE ARE TOLD, SOMEWHAT

The United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee
Chairman Sir John D Barlow Bt Vice Chairman Sir Miles Clifford KBE CMG ED Hon FRCS
Members D G Ainslie Mrs D J Barton John Biggs-Davison MP J Broadbent-Jones C R Buxton Mrs Anne Cameron E Clarke William Clark MP
Bernard Conlan MP L Daillie J Dodwell ACA Sir Nigel Fisher MC MP W J Grierson MBE E W Hunter Christie BL Michael Clark Hutchison MP David James MBE DSC MP
James Johnson MP Russell Johnston MP Clifford Kenyon CBE JP Air Marshal Sir John Lapsley KBE CB DFC AFC RAF Retd R R Merton F G Mitchell Eric Ogden MP
Captain R Pennefather RN Leolin Price QC Sir Peter Scott CBE DSC Major R Spafford R A Rt Hon Donald Stewart MP Mrs E J White M J Dodds (Northern Branch Committee)
South Atlantic Fisheries Committee
President James Johnson MP Chairman E W Hunter Christie
Falkland Islands Research and Development Association Limited
Vice presidents The Right Honourable the Viscount Boyd of Merton CH PC The Right Honourable the Viscount Thurso of Ulbster JP Sir John Barlow Bt
Sir Cosmo Haskard KCMG MBE Sir Miles Clifford KBE CMG ED Hon FRCS Executive board of directors E W Hunter Christie BL J Dowling R R Merton
L Daillie J Broadbent-Jones M V Summers BA J R Spencer FCA Michael Clark Hutchison MP J Dodwell ACA D G Ainslie BA
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SO TO ALLAY THE FEARS OF ISLANDERS WHO ARE, WE ARE TOLD, SOMEWHAT DESPONDENT OVER THIS APPARENT CHANGE OF POLICY.
AT THIS MEETING WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO DISCUSS THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RESUMPTION OF FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AND YOUR INTENTIONS OVER FUTURE TALKS WITH ARGENTINA.

UNQUOTE.

2. I CONSIDER THAT IF I ACKNOWLEDGE SAYING THAT MINISTER WILL NOT EFFECTIVELY BE BACK IN OFFICE UNTIL 23 AUGUST, BARLOW AND CO. MAY FEEL LESS CONSIDERATE ABOUT CHECKING WITH HIM AND WILL GO TO PRESS WITH WHAT THEY HAVE.

3. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF I CAN OFFER A SHORT MEETING ON FRIDAY 10 AUGUST AND SAY AT THE SAME TIME, IF YOU AGREE, THAT WIRES DEFINITELY APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN CROSSED.

4. GRATEFUL REPLY BY MONDAY.

CARRINGTON

NNNN

(88)

(85)

The Falkland Islands Office

2 Greycoat Place, Westminster, London SW1P 1SD
Telephone 01-222 1871 01-222 0028 Telex 888164

Director General Air Commodore B G Frow DSO DFC

Our Ref: FIO/4D

1. Tel to Mr Temple (copies to Mr Hall / SAmD) Secret.
2. Copy this letter to Mr Hall / SAmD)
3. BU Monday July 2/8.

ADW 02611
RECEIVED 10 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICER
REGISTRY
INDEX
PA
Action Taken

31st July 1979

The Right Honourable Nicholas Ridley A.M.I.C.E. M.P.
Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Whitehall
London S.W.1

See (86) (87)

My Dear Nicholas,

During your recent visit to the Falkland Islands, my Committee heard from a Member of the Falkland Islands Legislative Council, who said you had told Islanders that Britain does not want Falkland fish or oil,and was not prepared to declare a 200 mile zone or assist with aid to counteract Argentine threats. We were asked to publicise this alleged statement, but in view of your Department's previous assurances and your own informal comments, we were not prepared to do this until we could meet to discuss the subject.

We felt that you could have been misreported or misunderstood or something you said taken out of context. Accordingly, we would like to have a meeting with you in the immediate future to enable us to allay the fears of Islanders who are, we are told, somewhat despondent over this apparent change of policy.

At this meeting we would also like to discuss the implications of the resumption of full diplomatic relations and your intentions over future talks with Argentina.

Yours ever
John

Sir John Barlow

The United Kingdom Falkland Islands Committee
Chairman Sir John D Barlow Bt Vice Chairman Sir Miles Clifford KBE CMG ED Hon FRCS
Members D G Ainslie Mrs D I Barton John Biggs-Davison MP J Broadbent-Jones C R Buxton Mrs Anne Cameron E Clapp William Clark MP
Bernard Conlan MP L Daillie J Dodwell ACA Sir Nigel Fisher MC MP W J Grierson MBE E W Hunter Christie BL Michael Clark Hutchison MP David James MBE DSC MP
James Johnson MP Russell Johnston MP Clifford Kenyon CBE JP Air Marshal Sir John Lapsley KBE CB DFC AFC RAF Retd R R Merton F O Mitchell Eric Ogden MP
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ALW 02611

6 AUG 1979

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(89)

GRS 40

UNCLASSIFIED

FM MEXICO CITY 031520Z AUG 79

TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES

TELEGRAM NUMBER 002 OF 3 AUGUST

INFO PRIORITY FCO AND PORT STANLEY

FROM PS/MR RIDLEY

YOUR TELNO 001 AND FCO TELNO 149 BOTH TO MEXICO CITY (74)

1. MR RIDLEY AGREES ADDITION.

CDX

FILES

SAMD

PS

PS/LPS

PS/MR RIDLEY

PS/PUS

SIR A PARSONS

MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

(83)

ALW 0261/1

6 AUG 1979

TO COPY

GR 660
CONFIDENTIAL
FM PORT STANLEY 021930Z AUG 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 138 OF 2 AUGUST
AND TO IMMEDIATE MEXICO CITY (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)
INFO BUENOS AIRES

(73)

YOUR TELNO 91: MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO THE FALKLANDS

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF INDICATION OF WHAT I CAN JUDGE TO BE THE GENERAL MOOD IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE MINISTER'S VISIT, WHICH WENT EXTREMELY WELL, AND WAS WARMLY WELCOMED. WE WERE, INDEED, GRATEFUL THAT BAD WEATHER ON THE MAINLAND ALLOWED US AN EXTRA DAY OF MR AND MRS RIDLEY'S COMPANY.

2. THE WIDESPREAD FEELING OF SATISFACTION WITH THE VISIT HAS SEEMED LITTLE DISTURBED BY THE PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT THE QUOTE LEASEBACK UNQUOTE IDEA, WHICH FIRST BECAME EXTENSIVELY KNOWN, THE DAY AFTER THE MINISTER LEFT, THROUGH A BALD REFERENCE BY THE BBC CORRESPONDENT IN BUENOS AIRES TO A QUOTE PROPOSED UNQUOTE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY AND HONG KONG TYPE SOLUTION. THIS CAUSED SOME INITIAL ALARM BUT A SUBSEQUENT BROADCAST HELPED TO COOL THINGS OFF BY THE INCLUSION OF A NON-COMMITTAL REMARK ATTRIBUTED TO MR RIDLEY. IT IS DIFFICULT TO KNOW PRECISELY WHY THIS SHOULD BE SO, AND WHEN THE FULL FINANCIAL TIMES ARTICLE TURNS UP HERE WE MAY HAVE TO HAVE MORE RECOURSE TO THE SIMPLE QUOTE PURE SPECULATION UNQUOTE LINE: BUT, SO FAR, THE ATTITUDES I HAVE ENCOUNTERED, DURING A BUSY ROUND OF SOCIAL AND OTHER FUNCTIONS OVER LAST WEEK-END AND THROUGH THIS WEEK, HAVE BEEN NOTICEABLY RELAXED AND CORDIAL.

3. DURING A QUOTE COUNCILLORS FORUM UNQUOTE ON THE LOCAL RADIO THIS WEEK, MONK AND WALLACE FOBBED-OFF A QUESTION ON THE SUBJECT AND WENT ON TO SPEAK APPRECIATIVELY OF THE DISCUSSIONS THEY HAD HAD WITH THE MINISTER, THE WAY IN WHICH HE HAD DRAWN ATTENTION TO THE REALITIES OF THE SITUATION, AND THE NEED FOR AN ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION OF THE ARGENTINE DISPUTE SO THAT THE BENEFITS OF DEVELOPMENT COULD BE REALISED, AND A MORE PROSPEROUS FUTURE LOOKED TO. ONE (NON-COUNCILLOR) MEMBER OF THE PANEL AFFIRMED HIS CONVICTION THERE WOULD BE NO QUOTE SELL OUT UNQUOTE IN THE LIGHT OF THE MINISTER'S ASSURANCES.

4. THE LOCAL COMMITTEE DID NOT ACCEPT AN INVITATION TO TAKE PART IN THE PANEL, AN OMISSION TO WHICH MONK TRENCHANTLY DREW ATTENTION. THE COMMITTEE STALWARTS SEEMED IN FACT TO HAVE BEEN KNOCKED OFF BALANCE DURING THE VISIT, AND HAVE NOT YET RECOVERED FROM SOME DISSENSION IN THEIR RANKS. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT THE LONDON COMMITTEE MAY NOT STILL TRY TO MAKE MISCHIEF, BUT IT WOULD BE HOPED THEY COULD BE DISSUADED FROM IT: ANY ATTEMPT TO SPEAK AS THE SOLE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ISLANDERS COULD NOW BE UNPOPULAR.

5. THE MINISTER'S WILLINGNESS, JOINED BY THAT OF MRS RIDLEY, TO MINGLE AND TALK FREELY AMONG ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY, DURING WHAT WAS REALISED TO BE AN ARDUOUS PROGRAMME, WAS WIDELY APPRECIATED, AND HIS FAREWELL BROADCAST MESSAGE, WHICH HE RECORDED SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE, MADE A VERY GOOD IMPRESSION FOR ITS FRANKNESS, AS WELL AS FOR THE REAFFIRMATION OF THE ASSURANCE THAT NO SETTLEMENT WOULD BE REACHED WHICH DID NOT MEET THE WISHES OF THE ISLANDERS.

6. IN RETROSPECT, I NOW THINK THAT EXPOSURE, HOWEVER SPECULATIVE, TO THE QUOTE LEASEBACK UNQUOTE IDEA MAY HAVE DONE MORE GOOD THAN HARM, EVEN THOUGH IT MAY NOT IN THE END BE AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. ADDED TO THE VISIT ITSELF, AND MR RIDLEY'S INSISTENCE THAT THE ISLANDERS SHOULD CLARIFY WHAT THEY MEAN FOR THEIR FUTURE BY THE LOOSE USE OF THE WORD QUOTE SOVEREIGNTY UNQUOTE, THEY HAVE BEEN BROUGHT SHARPLY ON TO A NEW LEVEL OF THOUGHT IN THE SEARCH FOR A REALISTIC SOLUTION TO THEIR PROBLEMS. OPINIONS ABOUT WHAT THAT SHOULD BE MAY STILL VARY, BUT A FREQUENT COMMENT MADE TO ME HAS BEEN THAT MR RIDLEY HELPED EVERYONE SEE THEIR SITUATION IN A CLEAR LIGHT INSTEAD OF THROUGH THE OBSCURITY WITH WHICH THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY PREFERRED TO LOOK AT IT: HOWEVER STARK, THEY NOW REALISE IT IS NOT WITHOUT HOPE, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE STILL FIRMLY OF NO MIND TO HAVE THE ARGENTINES COME ANY CLOSER IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THEIR AFFAIRS THAN THE SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES STRETCH OF SEA BETWEEN

THEM. APART FROM THIS THERE IS NOTHING ELSE I WOULD FEEL ABLE TO ADD OF MY OWN TO THE EXCELLENT SUMMARY (GIVEN IN BRASILIA TELNO 143 TO THE FCO) OF MR RIDLEY'S INITIAL IMPRESSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.

7. I HAVE CONVEYED TO COUNCILLORS THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE WHICH HE SENT ME IN TELNO ØØ1 FROM BRASILIA. IT HAS BEEN MUCH APPRECIATED.

PARKER

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Reference
AZW 026/1
6 AUG 1979
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Mr Ure c/r

MR RIDLEY'S MOVEMENTS

1. Mr Ridley is scheduled to return on the afternoon of Thursday 9 August. He might come into the Office that afternoon and will be here on Friday 10 August. He departs on leave on Saturday 11 August, returning to the Office on Thursday 23 August.

2. I have mentioned to Mr Yapp that we would hope there will be an opportunity for the Minister to brief us about his tour before he goes on leave. Mr Yapp cannot at this stage give us an exact time but has noted the requirement.

3. The Secretary of State will have returned from Lusaka by the time Mr Ridley returns and there is therefore, theoretically, an opportunity for Mr Ridley to see him on 10 August, should time permit. Mr Ridley will probably also want to discuss with Mr Hurd the question of the timing of Mr Parker's departure from Port Stanley.

G A Duggan
South America Department

2 August 1979

cc: APS/Mr Ridley
Mr Hall
✓Mr ~~Cowling~~

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Mr Ridgeon, Guidance Section, OID

SUMMARY OF OVERSEAS EVENTS FOR HM THE QUEEN

1. We spoke and you agreed that you would welcome a brief reference to Mr Ridley's overseas tour with special reference to the Falkland Islands. I now offer the following to be incorporated in your summary:

> "Mr Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the FCO, paid a 6-day visit to the Falkland Islands (20-26 July) at the start of a familiarisation tour which also includes visits to Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico. This is the first visit to Latin America by a member of the new Government. During his stay in the Falklands, Mr Ridley emphasised the Government's concern for the Islanders' welfare and future and our recognition and acceptance of their wish to remain British. During Mr Ridley's subsequent visit to Buenos Aires (26/27 July) it was announced that both Governments had agreed on the need to restore relations to Ambassadorial level".

J R Cowling
South America Department

1 August 1979

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1 AUG 1979
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INDEX PA

GRS 110
CONFIDENTIAL
FROM BRASILIA 31:1225Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 145 OF 31 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES AND PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FROM PS/MR RIDLEY
OUR TELNO 144
YOUR TELNO 147 TO BUENOS AIRES: ARGENTINE AIDE-MEMOIRE

1. TURS CROSSED.

2. MR RIDLEY IS BY NO MEANS TOTALLY COMMITTED TO THE WORDING OF THE PROPOSED MESSAGE SUGGESTED IN FIRST TUR. BUT HE BELIEVES THAT AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE IS NECESSARY TO REGISTER THAT WE DO NOT ACCEPT THE ARGENTINE POSITION. HE ALSO FEELS THAT SOME FORM OF QUOTE THANK YOU LETTER UNQUOTE TO CAVANDOLI CAN DO NO HARM.

3. AS SEEN FROM HERE, THE WORDING OF HIS PROPOSED MESSAGE IS NOT (NOT) INCONSISTENT WITH THE POINTS MADE IN PARA 3 OF SECOND TUR, AND ANY NOT COVERED BY MR RIDLEY COULD PERHAPS BE MADE WHEN OCCASION ARISES BY THE EMBASSY IN BUENOS AIRES.

STATHAM

[COPY SENT TO RIO DE JANEIRO AT REQUEST OF BUENOS AIRES]

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PS/LPS
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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GRS 300A
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FM CARACAS 302115Z JULY 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 2 OF 30 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE RIO DE JANEIRO, INFO PRIORITY FCO

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FOR PS/MR RIDLEY
MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT

1. THE LIKELY PROGRAMME FOR MR RIDLEY'S VISIT IS AS FOLLOWS:

WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST
0440 ARRIVAL. TO RESIDENCE FOR REST/BRIEFING.
0900 MEETING WITH ENERGY MINISTER, DR CALDERON BERTI.
1000 CALL ON PRESIDENT HERRERA.
1200 POSSIBLE MFA VIN D'HONNEUR OR LUNCH.
1230 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCH (UNLESS THE MFA DO A LUNCH).
1500 TOUR OF THE EMBASSY TO MEET STAFF FOLLOWED, IF TIME ALLOWS, BY A QUICK VISIT TO POSSIBLE NEW EMBASSY OFFICE PREMISES IN AN IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING BUILDING.
1600 MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, DR ZAMBRANO VELASCO OR THE VICE-MINISTER DR LEON MORALES.
1800 INTERVIEW BY INTERNATIONAL EDITOR OF EL NACIONAL, ONE OF THE TWO MAIN CARACAS DAILY NEWSPAPERS, OR POSSIBLY A MEETING WITH A WIDER GROUP OF PRESS CORRESPONDENTS. GRATEFUL FOR URGENT CONFIRMATION THAT MR RIDLEY WOULD BE CONTENT TO TAKE ON THESE.
2030 DINNER PARTY IN MR AND MRS RIDLEY'S HONOUR BY THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AT THE RESIDENCE.

THURSDAY 2 AUGUST
0800 LEAVE RESIDENCE FOR AIRPORT.
1000 DEPART VA 840 FOR MEXICO CITY (BOOKED ON ECONOMY CLASS, WAITLISTED FIRST CLASS SEATS).

2. FOR MRS RIDLEY THERE WILL BE A LADIES LUNCH HOSTED BY SENORA DE HALVORSSEN, WIFE OF A VENEZUELAN BUSINESSMAN, AT HER HOME. WE ARE ALSO WAITING ON THE MFA TO SEE IF THEY WILL ARRANGE A SIGHTSEEING TOUR FOR MRS RIDLEY. IF NOT, AND SUBJECT TO MRS RIDLEY'S WISHES, WE WILL ARRANGE ONE OURSELVES ACCOMPANIED BY A SENIOR EMBASSY WIFE.

/ 3. THE

3. THE MFA HAVE STILL TO GIVE US FINAL CONFIRMATION OF SOME OF THE ITEMS IN THE ABOVE PROGRAMME. IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL DIFFICULTIES WE EXPERIENCE, THE PROBLEMS OF THE MFA HAVE BEEN COMPOUNDED BY THE SUDDEN VISIT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO NICARAGUA OVER THE WEEKEND AND IT IS NOT YET KNOWN IF HE WILL BE BACK BY MID-WEEK. SINCE THE MINISTER AND MANY OF HIS STAFF ARE MUCH CONCERNED WITH EVENTS IN NICARAGUA IT MAY BE THAT THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, DR RAFAEL LEON MORALES (WHO IS IN ANY EVENT COMING TO THE DINNER), WILL BE GIVEN THE LEADING ROLE IN THE PROGRAMME.

HEAP

FILES:
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PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

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FM F.C.O. 311153Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 119 OF 31 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES, PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

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FOR P.S./MR RIDLEY

YOUR TELNO 144: ARGENTINE AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE FALKLANDS

1. YOU WILL BY NOW HAVE SEEN F.C.O. TELNO 147 TO B.A. ALTHOUGH WE HAD NOT SUGGESTED A MESSAGE, WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO THE DELIVERY OF ONE IN THE TERMS PROPOSED.

2. WHILE THIS MESSAGE WOULD RELIEVE MR CARLESS OF THE NECESSITY TO SPEAK ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE ISLANDERS, WE STILL THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR HIM TO SAY SOMETHING AT THE APPROPRIATE MOMENT ABOUT THE FORMULA USED IN MR CALLAGHAN'S MESSAGE, SINCE THE ARGENTINES HAVE CONSISTENTLY TRIED TO OBTAIN OUR ACQUIESCENCE IN THE MISREPRESENTATION OF THIS POINT.

CARRINGTON

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PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A. DUFF
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

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Sir A. Parsons To issue.

Mr Hall

MR RIDLEY AND THE FALKLANDS

A 1. In the light of Brasilia telno 144 and my subsequent conversation with you, I submit a draft telegram supplementing

B FCO telno 147 to BA.

J B Ure
South America Department

31 July, 1979

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GRS 270
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FROM BRASILIA 301904Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 144 OF 30 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES AND PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FROM PS/ MR RIDLEY
BUENOS AIRES TELEGRAM NUMBER 198: ARGENTINE AIDE-MEMOIRE ON THE FALKLANDS.

1. MR RIDLEY WISHES TO REACT TO THE DELIVERY OF THE ARGENTINE AIDE MEMOIRE BROADLEY ON THE LINES MR CARLESS HAS SUGGESTED. SUBJECT TO YOUR ADVICE, HE WOULD LIKE CARLESS TO DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO CAVANDOLI, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BEGINS
QUOTE
I HAVE NOW BEEN ABLE TO READ A TRANSLATION OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH SR BLOOMER REEVE HANDED TO MY PRIVATE SECRETARY ON OUR DEPARTURE FROM BUENOS AIRES. I MUST SAY I WAS A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO GIVE IT TO ME EARLIER SO THAT I COULD STUDY IT, OR TO WARN ME THAT IT WAS COMING. AT LEAST I NOW HAVE THE BENEFIT OF YOUR VIEWS. OF COURSE THEY RAISE IMPORTANT ISSUES, AND THE FOREIGN SECRETARY OR I MAY WISH TO SEND YOU A FULLER REPLY AFTER FURTHER CONSIDERATION. I WOULD HOWEVER STRESS ONE POINT AT THIS STAGE. I AM MOST ENCOURAGED TO READ THAT YOU ALSO CONSIDER THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS MUST BE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS. WHEN I WAS IN THE ISLANDS, I MADE IT CLEAR TO EVERYONE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD CONCLUDE NO SETTLEMENT OF THE SOVEREIGNTY DISPUTE WHICH DID NOT MEET THE WISHES OF THE ISLANDERS.
I MUST TELL YOU THAT FOR US THIS IS A FUNDAMENTAL POINT IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS, AND IT WILL NOT CHANGE. IT IS ALSO NECESSARY FOR THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE ON SOME ASPECTS OF THE POSITION.

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IT WAS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO MEET YOU AGAIN. I AM SORRY THAT OUR ARRIVAL WAS DELAYED, AND I WAS MOST GRATEFUL FOR THE ARRANGEMENTS YOU MADE TO REVISE MY PROGRAMME IN BUENOS AIRES. I LOOK FORWARD TO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU, BELIEVING THAT IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF US ALL TO REACH A SETTLEMENT TO THIS PROBLEM WHICH, AS YOU SAY, IS AN IMPEDIMENT IN OUR RELATIONS.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY. UNQUOTE.

ENDS.

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TEXT OF MR RIDLEY'S REPLY TO ARGENTINE AIDE MEMOIRE OF 28 JULY 1979

I have now been able to read a translation of the Aide Memoire which Sr Bloomer Reeve handed to my Private Secretary on our departure from Buenos Aires. I must say I was a little disappointed that you had not been able to give it to me earlier so that I could study it, or to warn me that it was coming. At least I now have the benefit of your views. Of course they raise important issues, and the Foreign Secretary or I may wish to send you a fuller reply after further consideration. I would however stress one point at this stage. I am most encouraged to read that you also consider that the interests of the Falkland Islanders must be taken fully into account in our negotiations. When I was in the Islands, I made it clear to everyone that the British Government would conclude no settlement of the sovereignty dispute which did not meet the wishes of the Islanders.

I must tell you that for us this is a fundamental point in our negotiations, and it will not change. But I would stress that, on the basis of my visit to the Islands, I do not believe that our commitment to Islander wishes shuts the door to satisfactory solutions to the whole problem. It is also necessary for the Argentine Government to be more flexible on some aspects of the position.

It was a great pleasure for me to meet you again. I am sorry that our arrival was delayed, and I was most grateful for the arrangements you made to revise my programme in Buenos Aires. I look forward to further discussions with you, believing that it is in the interests of us all to reach a settlement to this problem which, as you say, is an impediment in our relations.

Nicholas Ridley
2 August 1979

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FROM BRASILIA 30:1515Z JUL 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 143 OF 30 JULY

INFO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY AND BUENOS AIRES

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FROM PS/MR RIDLEY
FALKLANDS

1. THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY AND MR CARLESS WILL NO DOUBT BE SENDING THEIR CONSIDERED ASSESSMENTS OF MR RIDLEY'S VISITS TO THE ISLANDS AND TO BUENOS AIRES. THE FOLLOWING ARE MR RIDLEY'S INITIAL IMPRESSIONS: HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THEM WITH YOU ON RETURN.

2. DURING HIS FIVE DAY PROGRAMME IN THE ISLANDS HE WAS WARMLY WELCOMED. IN MEETINGS WITH COUNCILLORS AND OTHER BODIES IN PORT STANLEY, AND IN FOUR SETTLEMENTS IN THE CAMP, PEOPLE DISCUSSED OPENLY AND REALISTICALLY THE PRESENT EFFECTS ON THE ISLANDS OF THE DISPUTE WITH ARGENTINA. CLEARLY THERE IS DISSATISFACTION AT THE PRESENT UNCERTAINTY: MR RIDLEY'S PRIMARY IMPRESSION IS THAT THERE IS WIDESPREAD CONSENSUS THAT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD RESUME SOON, AIMED AT A GLOBAL SETTLEMENT, RATHER THAN THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH OF THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT. HE REGARDS THE LATTER AS NOT PERMITTING PROPER DEVELOPMENT, NOR LIKELY TO AGHIEVE RESULTS. IN SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS, NOT ONLY WITH COUNCILLORS, HE EXAMINED WHAT PRECISELY ISLANDERS MEANT BY THE TERM QUOTE SOVEREIGNTY UNQUOTE: HE BELIEVES THAT AT THE BOTTOM THEY WANT TO REMAIN UNDER BRITISH CONTROL, WITH BRITISH LINKS, AND WITH THE RIGHT TO CONDUCT THEIR AFFAIRS IN THEIR OWN WAY: COUNCILLORS DID NOT DISSENT FROM THIS ANALYSIS. HE CONTINUALLY REPEATED THE ASSURANCE THAT NO SETTLEMENT WOULD BE CONCLUDED WHICH DID NOT SATISFY THE ISLANDERS. POSSIBLE NEGOTIATING POSITIONS WERE DISCUSSED ONLY WITH COUNCILLORS. THEIR PREFERENCE WAS FOR A FREEZE (FOR A PERIOD OF SAY 50 YEARS). MR RIDLEY FELT THIS WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ARGENTINA AND PREFERRED TO DISCUSS THE LEASE-BACK OPTION ON WHICH THE FINANCIAL TIMES SPECULATED: COUNCILLORS ACCEPTED THIS AS A POSITION FROM WHICH TO EMBARK ON NEGOTIATIONS, BUT MR RIDLEY WAS AT PAINS TO POINT OUT THAT HE WAS BY NO MEANS HOPEFUL OF A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME.

3. THE TALKS IN BUENOS AIRES WITH CAVANDOLI DID NOT PERMIT ANY SERIOUS EXPLORATION OF THE ARGENTINE POSITION. BUT IN THE LIGHT OF INTERESTING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MINISTER OF THE ECONOMY, MARTINEZ DE HOZ, AND WITH OLIVERI LOPEZ, MR RIDLEY FEARS THAT EVEN LEASE-BACK FOR AN ACCEPTABLE PERIOD (99 YEARS) MAY NOT PROVE NEGOTIABLE. IN CASE IT DOES NOT, HE IS NOW TENTATIVELY CONSIDERING WHETHER WE COULD WORK OUT A THIRD OPTION, TO MEET THE MINIMUM ARGENTINE POSITION MORE EASILY. THIS COULD INVOLVE A SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL STATUS FOR THE FALKLAND ISLANDS IN WHICH SOVEREIGNTY OF THEIR TERRITORY WOULD BE CEDED BY BRITAIN TO ARGENTINA, AND THE ISLANDERS WOULD LEASE IT BACK ON THEIR OWN BEHALF UNDER A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL POSITION WHEREBY THEY WOULD RECEIVE ADMINISTRATIVE HELP FROM BRITAIN BUT WOULD BE UNDER INTERNATIONAL SECURITY GUARANTEES. THIS IDEA IS NOT YET CLEARLY FORMED IN MR RIDLEY'S MIND, AND HE WOULD NOT (NOT) WISH IT TO BE MENTIONED TO THE COUNCILLORS.

4. HOWEVER WE DECIDE TO PLAY THE HAND, MR RIDLEY IS KEEN TO BRING THE NINE MORE POSITIVELY INTO THE DISPUTE. HE ALSO BELIEVES THAT WE COULD PERHAPS INVOLVE THE POPE, IN SOME WAYS PERHAPS ANALOGOUS TO HIS MEDIATION IN THE BEAGLE CHANNEL DISPUTE BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND CHILE.

5. APART FROM HIS CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING THE SOVEREIGNTY DISPUTE MR RIDLEY HAS FORMED THE BELIEF THAT UNDER-DEVELOPMENT (PARTICULARLY IN AGRICULTURE) IS CAUSED PARTLY BY A SERIOUS DEFICIENCY IN THE COLONY'S ACCESS TO FINANCIAL CAPITAL. HE DISCUSSED THIS POINT WIDELY IN THE ISLANDS, AND WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMERCIAL BANKING ENTERPRISE THERE. HE WISHES TO TAKE THIS PROPOSAL FURTHER ON HIS RETURN TO LONDON.

6. CONNECTED WITH THIS IS HIS CONCERN AT THE WEAK PERFORMANCE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY. MR RIDLEY FEARS THAT ITS DOMINANCE IN THE COLONY'S AGRICULTURE AND ITS VIRTUAL MONOPOLY IN SHIPPING, WOOL MARKETING AND COMMERCE WITHIN THE ISLANDS IS HARMFUL.

/7. MANY

7. MANY ISLANDERS SEEMED DISTRESSED BY THE REGULATIONS ON RIGHT OF ABODE IN UK. MR RIDLEY EXPLAINED THE PRESENT PROVISIONS CONCERNING PATRIALITY, AND THAT THE HOME SECRETARY WAS PREPARING NEW PROPOSALS INTO WHICH IT WOULD BE LEGISLATIVELY IMPOSSIBLE TO WRITE IN SPECIAL PRIVILEGES FOR FALKLAND ISLANDERS, VIS A VIS OTHER COLONIAL SUBJECTS. BUT HE UNDERTOOK TO PASS ON THEIR WORRIES TO HOME OFFICE MINISTERS, AND HINTED THAT SINCE THEIR NUMBERS WERE SO SMALL IN PRACTICE THEIR NEEDS MIGHT BE MET UNDER THE DISCRETIONARY PROVISIONS WHICH A NEW ACT WOULD PROBABLY INCLUDE.

8. FULL RECORDS OF MEETINGS WITH COUNCILLORS WILL ISSUE AFTER OUR RETURN TO LONDON.

9. WE ARE TELEGRAPHING SEPARATELY CONCERNING THE ARGENTINE AIDE-MEMOIRE (BUENOS AIRES TELS 198 AND 199).

STATHAM

F I L E S
S AM D — PS/MR RIDLEY
MAED — PS/PUS
N AM D — SIR A PARSONS
UND — SIR A DUFF
PS — MR HALL
PS/LPS — MISS BROWN

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GRS 240
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FROM BRASILIA 30:1855Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 001 OF 30 JULY
INFO PRIORITY FCO AND BUENOS AIRES

FROM PS/ MR RIDLEY
MR RIDLEY'S VISIT
1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM MR RIDLEY TO THE COUNCILLORS:

QUOTE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE KIND RECEPTION WHICH YOU, AND INDEED ALL THE ISLANDERS I MET, GAVE ME DURING THE SIX DAYS I WAS WITH YOU. AS I TOLD YOU DURING OUR SECOND MEETING, I NOW FEEL PART OF THE ISLANDS, AND I AM CERTAIN THAT IT WAS THE RIGHT DECISION TO VISIT YOU AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE BRITISH GENERAL ELECTION.

2. I HAD TWO SETS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ARGENTINE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, COMODORO CAVANDOLI, IN BUENOS AIRES, BUT I WAS NOT ABLE TO PROBE THE CURRENT ARGENTINE THINKING VERY DEEPLY. THEY DID HOWEVER HAND ME AN AIDE-MEMOIRE AS I WAS ON THE POINT OF DEPARTING WHICH SET OUT SOME OF THEIR VIEWS. AS I TOLD YOU, LORD CARRINGTON WILL BE IN NEW YORK AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER FOR THE OPENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY: THE ARGENTINES HOPE THAT THEIR FOREIGN MINISTER, CHANCELLOR PASTOR, WILL HAVE A MEETING WITH HIM THERE. THEY THINK THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA FOR ME TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING WITH CAVANDOLI BEFORE THAT DATE, BUT I VERY MUCH DOUBT IF THERE WILL BE TIME (GIVEN THAT AUGUST IS VERY MUCH OUR HOLIDAY PERIOD) TO SET THINGS UP FOR THIS.

3. I HAVE SENT TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY AN ACCOUNT OF MY IMPRESSIONS, VERY MUCH AS I DESCRIBED THEM TO YOU AT OUR SECOND MEETING, AND I WILL HOPE TO DISCUSS THEM WITH HIM ON MY RETURN TO LONDON. I WILL OF COURSE KEEP YOU CLOSELY INFORMED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS.

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4. ONCE AGAIN, MY VERY GRATEFUL THANKS FOR ALL YOU DID FOR MRS RIDLEY AND ME.

YOURS VERY SINCERELY

NICHOLAS RIDLEY
UNQUOTE.

STATHAM

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TO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY.
TELNO 91 OF 27 JUL
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES

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YOUR TELEGRAMS NO 133 TO FCO AND 39 TO BA:

FINANCIAL TIMES ARTICLE

1. WE AGREE THAT THE GENERAL LINE IN THE FIRST OF YOUR TEL UNDER REFERENCE IS THE RIGHT ONE TO TAKE WITH THE COUNCILLORS AND IN ANY OTHER CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFINGS, AND INDEED THERE MAY BE SOME ADVANTAGE IN OBTAINING FURTHER REACTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS TO THESE IDEAS. WE WOULD SUGGEST HOWEVER THAT YOU LEAVE THEM TO COMMENT ON THE QUOTE YEARS MENTIONED UNQUOTE.

2. HOWEVER IN PRESS BRIEFINGS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS WE THINK YOU WOULD DO WELL TO STICK TO THE NEWS DEPT LINE OF NO COMMENT, OR AT MOST LIMIT YOURSELF TO POINTING OUT THAT THE ARTICLE IS BASED ON PURE SPECULATION. ANY ON THE RECORD COMMENT ON LEASE BACK POSSIBILITIES, AND MORE PARTICULARLY ON TERMS OF YEARS, MIGHT PROVE A HANDICAP TO NEGOTIATIONS AT SOME LATER STAGE EITHER WITH THE ARGENTINES OR WITH THE ISLANDERS.

CARRINGTON

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PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL
RESIDENT CLERK

CONFIDENTIAL

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ARW 0261
1 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY
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GRS 130 RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED
FROM BRASILIA 301200Z JUL 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 005 OF 30 JULY

FROM PS/MR RIDLEY FOR GOZNEY
RECORDS OF STANLEY MEETINGS

1. I HAVE CHECKED THE DRAFTS, AND MADE TEXTUAL IMPROVEMENTS WHICH DO NOT ALTER THE SENSE OF THE TEXT AS YOU HAVE IT. BUT PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

A) I HAVE CROSSED OUT THE SECOND HALF OF THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 5, OF THE FIRST RECORD:

B) IN THE SECOND RECORD, IN PARA 13, MR RIDLEY'S REMARK SHOULD QUOTE NEEDED UNQUOTE NOT QUOTE NOTED UNQUOTE.

C) FINAL SENTENCE OF PARA 16 IN SECOND RECORD SHOULD READ QUOTE THE ISLANDERS SHOULD REGARD THE GUARANTEE HE HAD GIVEN AS A BRITISH GOVERNMENT MINISTER, THAT NOTHING WOULD BE DONE AGAINST THEIR WISHES, AS BEING AS CAST IRON A BOND AS COULD BE GIVEN UNQUOTE.

2. BAG SERVICES MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SEND DRAFTS TO F.C.O. AHEAD OF OUR RETURN. NEVERTHELESS COULD YOU SEND COPIES OF DRAFTS AS YOU HAVE THEM, INCORPORATING ABOVE POINTS, TO THE GOVERNOR? FINAL VERSIONS WILL OF COURSE BE ISSUED FROM LONDON.

STATHAM

REPETITIONS
S AM D
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
1 AUG 1979
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GRPS 90
RESTRICTED
FM BUENOS AIRES 30/2044Z JULY 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELNO 205 OF 30 JULY 1979
INFO PORT STANLEY AND MEXICO CITY (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)

RESTRICTED.

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT: PRESS COMMENT

1. COVERAGE OF THE FINAL DAY OF MR RIDLEY'S VISIT WAS EXTENSIVE. BUT THE PRESS FOUND IT HARD TO DECIDE WHICH ASPECT WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT. SOME REPORTS STRESS THE AGREEMENT TO RESTORE FULL RELATIONS, SOME THE PROPOSED MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN NEW YORK (SEEN AS THE NEXT STEP IN THE FALKLANDS NEGOTIATIONS), AND ONE OR TWO THE REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO MR RIDLEY ABOUT ARGENTINE AFFAIRS (OUR TELNO 199).

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN SPARSE, AND MAY BE AWAITING A LEAD FROM OFFICIAL QUARTERS. BUT LA NACION CONCLUDES THAT THE OUTCOME OF MR RIDLEY'S BRIEF VISIT IS THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE. THE POSSIBILITY OF A HONG KONG SOLUTION FOR THE FALKLANDS HAS BEEN ALMOST IGNORED (PERHAPS AT OFFICIAL BEHEST).

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PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS.
SIR A PARSONS.
MR HALL
MISS BROWN.

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(68)
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ALW 026/1
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3 AUG 1979
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PS

A

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

1. Mr Pattison's letter of 3 July to you reported that the Prime Minister wished to see a shorter itinerary for Mr Ridley's visit to Latin America. Mr Pattison asked for alternative proposals.

2. Given existing airline schedules (and particularly the fact that there are only 2 flights a week from Argentina to the Falkland Islands) there are two realistic ways in which Mr Ridley's absence from London could be made shorter, while still maintaining the dual objective of making an early visit to the Falkland Islands and going to the major countries of Latin America on the one visit. One abbreviates the time spent in the Falkland Islands, the other omits Peru altogether.

3. These would involve the following:

A. (Leaving London 5 days later than planned)

16 July	Depart London
17 July	In Buenos Aires
18 July	Fly to Falkland Islands (arriving early afternoon)
20 July	Leave Islands (in afternoon, arriving Buenos Aires morning of 21 July)
22 July	To Rio de Janeiro and Brasilia
25 July	To Lima
30 July	To Caracas
1 August	To Mexico City
6 August	To Antigua
8 August	Return to London (arriving lunchtime 9 August)

B. (Leaving London 7 days later than planned)

18 July	Depart London
19 July	In Buenos Aires
20 July	Buenos Aires to Falkland Islands
25 July	Falkland Islands to Buenos Aires
27 July	Buenos Aires to Rio
29 July	Rio to Brasilia
31 July	Brasilia to Caracas (overnight)
2 August	Caracas to Mexico City

Remainder of itinerary as in Option A.

/Both

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Both options reduce time spent in Brazil, and mean that the industrial city of Sao Paulo must be omitted. Option A carries the disadvantage that only 48 hours would be spent in the Falkland Islands, instead of the 5 days originally proposed. Option B reduces the time spent in Caracas to one working day.

4. Apart from these, Mr Ridley considers both alternatives to have other disadvantages. On the one hand he is advised that it is important to spend a reasonable length of time in the Falkland Islands if he is travelling so far to see them; the islanders might resent his spending only 48 hours there whereas his predecessor on a similar visit spent 5 days. On the other hand our Ambassador in Lima believes the Peruvian Government will be disappointed if Lima is dropped from the itinerary; UK Ministerial visits there are not frequent. The Secretary of State might agree however to his making a later visit to Andean Pact countries, if Peru is omitted on this occasion.

B

5. Although PS/Lord Privy Seal has written to No 10 proposing that Lord Trefgarne represent the Government at the inauguration of the new President of Ecuador on 10 August, Mr Ridley has asked me to say that he would have been prepared, in order to save expense, to include this chore at the end of his tour. He understands that it would be possible to leave Quito on the morning of Saturday 11 August, arriving in London on the morning of Sunday 12 August. But as it is thought the itinerary is already too long, he feels it would be best if he did not offer to do this.

K D Temple
PS/Mr Ridley

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(68)

S. AMD

Commonwealth Office

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PS/Mr Ridley

cc PS/D
S Am Dept

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 July, 1979.

Dear Margaret

Thank you for your letter of 25 June about Mr. Ridley's revised plans for his visit to Latin America from 11 July to 9 August.

The Prime Minister is content subject to Parliamentary and Government business.

I am copying this letter to Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office) and William Austen (Government Whips' Office).

Yours ever

Mike Pattison

Miss Margaret Turner,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

(68)

S. AMD

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

AZW 026/1
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
3 AUG 1979
DESP. NUMBER | REGISTRY
INDEX | PA | Action Taken

9 July 1979

Dear Mike

In your letter of 3 July you reported that the Prime Minister wished to see a shorter itinerary for Mr Ridley's proposed visit to Latin America, than that which I set out in my letter to you of 25 June (copy enclosed for ease of reference).

We have looked again at the possibilities. The Secretary of State would still like Mr Ridley to visit the major countries of Latin America on the one visit, but this objective can be met by an itinerary leaving London a week later than originally planned, omitting only a visit to Peru.

Mr Ridley would travel as follows:

18 July	Depart London
19 July	In Buenos Aires
20 July	Buenos Aires to Falkland Islands
25 July	Falkland Islands to Buenos Aires
27 July	Buenos Aires to Rio de Janeiro
29 July	Rio de Janeiro to Brasilia
31 July	Brasilia to Caracas (overnight)
2 August	Caracas to Mexico City
6 August	To Antigua
8 August	Return to London (arriving lunchtime 9 August)

I should be grateful for your urgent confirmation that the Prime Minister is content.

I am sending copies of this letter to Murdo MacLean (Government Whip's Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely

Margaret Turner

Margaret Turner (Miss)
Private Secretary

Mike Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 June 1979

Dear Mike

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has asked the Minister of State, Mr Ridley, to visit the Falkland Islands and a number of more important Latin American countries with which he deals to try to establish whether there are any commercial opportunities which we should be pursuing.

Mr Ridley plans to leave Britain on 11 July visiting the Falkland Islands (13/18 July), Argentina (18/20 July), Brazil (20/25 July), Peru (25/30 July), Venezuela (30 July - 1 August), Mexico (1/6 August) and returning via Antigua and St Kitts/Nevis (6/9 August). He would be accompanied by his Private Secretary, but no other officials.

The purpose of the visit overall would be exploratory. In the Falkland Islands it would be important for Mr Ridley to establish personal contact with the Islanders, to get some insight into their thinking, and to be able to obtain a first-hand account of their views. In the Latin American capitals, Mr Ridley would have meetings with appropriate Ministers. In Argentina he would undertake no negotiations with the Foreign Minister over the Falkland Islands; Lord Carrington intends to embark on no such action before the autumn. Additionally in Brazil, Mr Ridley's visit may provide the occasion for a formal meeting under the Memorandum of Understanding for "consultations on matters of common interest". In Mexico, as well as meeting members of the Mexican Government, he would attend some functions of the British Cultural Festival which opens in early August.

Mr Ridley would like to take the opportunity to return to London via the Eastern Caribbean. The Antiguans have asked for preliminary constitutional talks, as a further step towards independence. Also we have a commitment to settle the constitutional differences between St Kitts and Nevis before the end of the year, and a brief visit there would encourage the islanders to accelerate progress.

I would be grateful for your confirmation that the Prime Minister has no objection.

Lord Carrington believes that there would be advantage if Mrs Ridley travels with the Minister of State. Particularly in the visit to the Falkland Islands, but also in the other stages

/of

Mike Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

of the tour, her presence and interest will help to generate goodwill. Lord Carrington hopes that on this occasion the Prime Minister will approve the payment of Mrs Ridley's fare from public funds.

I am copying this letter to William Austen (Government Whip's Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely

Margaret Turner

Margaret Turner (Miss)
Private Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 July 1979

AZW 026/1

RECEIVED 3 AUG 1979

PS PS/Mr. Ridley PS/PUSD

cc PS/Mr. Biggs, Mr. Lankester

Dear Margaret

The Prime Minister has seen your letter of 25 June, setting out your Secretary of State's proposals for a visit by Mr. Ridley to Latin America and the Caribbean. She also discussed this proposed visit with the Secretary of State last week.

The Prime Minister agrees in principle to the tour, and she is content that Mrs. Ridley should accompany her husband. But she would much prefer to see a somewhat shorter itinerary, preferably with a smaller proportion falling whilst the House is sitting. I realise that this may be difficult if the timing of the visits to the Falkland Islands and Argentina have special significance. Perhaps you could let me know what adjustments might be possible.

I am sending copies of this letter to William Austen (Government Whips' Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

Mike Pattison

Miss Margaret Turner,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 June 1979

AZW 02611
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
3 AUG 1979
DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY
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/of

Mike Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street

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I am copying this letter to William Austen (Government Whip's Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely

Margaret Turner

Margaret Turner (Miss)
Private Secretary

(65)

AR-W 026/1

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
1 AUG 1979

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GR 220
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FM F C O 301504Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 147 OF 30 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)
PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

YOUR TELNOS 198 AND 199: MR RIDLEY AND FALKLANDS.

1. DISCONCERTING AS WAS THE TIMING OF DELIVERY OF THIS AIDE MEMOIRE TO MR RIDLEY, WE NOTE THAT IT REFERS TO THE LETTER TO PASTOR, AND DOUBTLESS THE ARGENTINES WOULD CLAIM THAT IT WAS A REPLY WHICH COULD NOT HAVE BEEN DELIVERED EARLIER. WE ALSO NOTE THAT NONE OF THE SUBSTANTIVE POINTS IN THE AIDE MEMOIRE ARE UNEXPECTED: ALL OF THEM WERE MADE AT NEW YORK IN MARCH.

2. OUR FIRST REACTION IS THEREFORE NOT TO HASTEN TO REPLY BUT TO ANSWER THESE POINTS SUBSTANTIVELY WHEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE SEES PASTOR AT NEW YORK IN THE AUTUMN.

3. MENAWHILE YOU MAY WISH TO TAKE ANY APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO RE-STATE OUR POSITION AND IN PARTICULAR TO REMIND THE ARGENTINES THAT WHEN MR CALLAGHAN AND BRITISH OFFICIALS EARLIER REFERRED TO DISCUSSION QUOTE OF THE NATURE OF A HYPOTHETICAL FUTURE CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ARGENTINA UNQUOTE THIS DID NOT IMPLY ANY PRIOR COMMITMENT TO CONCEDING SOVEREIGNTY: IT MERELY BROUGHT SOVEREIGNTY WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND THUS LED ON TO THE EXCHANGE OF CONSTRUCTIVE IDEAS. AS FAR AS QUOTE THE WILL OF THE ISLANDERS UNQUOTE IS CONCERNED OUR POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED AT ALL: WE AGREE THAT THEY ARE NOT A THIRD PARTY TO THE DISPUTE, BUT HAVE ALWAYS MADE IT CLEAR, PUBLICLY AND IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, THAT ANY SETTLEMENT MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO THEM.

CARRINGTON

FILES
SOMID
NEWS D.
PS
PS/LPS
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A. DUFF
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HAAK

CONFIDENTIAL

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(64)

Sir A. Lawson

Mr Hall

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MR RIDLEY AND THE FALKLANDS

A, B

1. I doubt if we need respond as sharply as Mr Carless suggests (BA telno 198) to the aide memoire (BA telno 199) which the Argentines gave to Mr Ridley on his departure. I submit a self-explanatory draft telegram.

J B Ure
South America Department

30 July, 1979

I agree. I have amended para 3 to include the exact passage to which the Argentines are referring and to deal with the question of "the will of the Islanders". Whilst we do not need to react sharply we should not let the Argentines believe that silence until the Ministerial meeting implies consent.

J Hall 30/VII

30/7.

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CONFIDENTIAL

(64)

Sir A Lawson

Mr Hall

A2W 0261
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1 AUG 1979
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MR RIDLEY AND THE FALKLANDS

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J Hall 30/VII

30/7.

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DESKBY 3[illegible]Z
FM BUENOS AIRES 2815[illegible]7 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 193 OF 28 JULY
AND TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)
INFO PORT STANLEY

ALW 02611
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
30 JUL 1979
DESK OFFICER'S SECRETARY
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MIPT : VISIT OF MY RIDLEY AND FALKLANDS

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE. BEGINS

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR SATISFACTION AT SEEING THE INTENTION, SHARED BY BOTH PARTIES, TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE FALKLANDS ISSUE, WITHIN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AGREED BY THE TWO PARTIES IN APRIL 1977.

IN AGREEMENT WITH WHAT MINISTER RIDLEY HAS SAID, WE BELIEVE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE AT A MORE DYNAMIC PACE, WHICH WOULD CORRESPOND WITH THE SENSE OF URGENCY WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS HAS DECIDED MUST BE GIVEN TO A SOLUTION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY DISPUTE OVER THE ISLANDS.

IN THIS RESPECT WE WERE PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO SEE THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE, LORD CARRINGTON, IN HIS MESSAGE TO THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER, EXPRESSED HIS CONFIDENCE IN BEING ABLE TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS QUOTE IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT AND WITH THE SINCERE INTENTION OF RESOLVING THE DIFFERENCES UNQUOTE. TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF WHAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS UNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE TO BE REFERRING, IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE BRITISH SIDE TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE OVER SOME ASPECTS OF THE POSITION THEY ADOPTED AT THE NEW YORK MEETING LAST MARCH. THIS POSITION, FAR FROM OFFERING POSSIBILITIES FOR PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BY BRINGING VIEWS CLOSER TOGETHER AND SEARCHING FOR POINTS OF AGREEMENT, CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS A REGRETTABLE STEP BACKWARDS.

A MODIFICATION OF THE STAND ADOPTED BY THE UK IN MARCH OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WOULD FIT THE LINE OF THINKING EXPRESSED BY THE PRIME MINISTER MR CALLAGHAN IN HIS MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL CUIJANO IN MARCH 1976, AND THE PAPER HANDED TO SUBSECRETARY ALLARA

CONFIDENTIAL / BY MR EDMONDS

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DISKBY 3449/17Z

FM BUENOS AIRES 2816457 JUL 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 193 OF 28 JULY

AND TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)

INFO PORT STANLEY

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BY MR EDMONDS (SIC) IN ROME IN JULY 1977 AND FORMALISED SOME MONTHS LATER IN THE NEW YORK MEETING OF DECEMBER THAT YEAR. THE PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN SUBSECRETARY CAVANDOLI AND MINISTER RIDLEY IN BUENOS AIRES SUGGESTS THAT THE LATTER IS GUIDED BY A SIMILAR CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT.

ANOTHER SOURCE OF CONCERN IS THE FATE OF THE AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION, THE RESULT OF A BRITISH INITIATIVE AND THE OUTLINES OF WHICH WERE AGREED IN THE MEETING LAST DECEMBER. THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HOPE THAT THIS AGREEMENT CAN STILL BE CARRIED FORWARD IN THE TERMS AGREED IN GENEVA.

THE REASON GIVEN BY THE BRITISH SIDE FOR SUSPENDING THE AGREEMENT, BASED ON THE WILL OF THE ISLANDERS, IS A FURTHER SOURCE OF CONCERN FOR THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT. THE UNITED KINGDOM KNOWS OUR POSITION WELL. WE MAINTAIN THAT THE INHABITANTS OF THE ISLANDS ARE NOT PART OF THE DISPUTE AND THUS ALTHOUGH THEIR INTERESTS MUST BE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT, THEY MUST NOT BECOME A THIRD PARTY IN NEGOTIATIONS DESIGNED TO SOLVE THE DISPUTE.

ASIDE FROM THE POSITION OF PRINCIPLE, THE PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S INSISTENCE ON MAKING ANY RESULT OF NEGOTIATIONS CONDITIONAL UPON THE WILL OF THE ISLANDERS WILL BE NEGATIVE, AND WILL SURROUND WITH UNCERTAINTIES THE AGREEMENTS WHICH COULD BE REACH BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

IN VIEW OF THE CONSIDERATIONS SET OUT ABOVE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT BELIEVE THAT THE BRITISH SIDE SHOULD RECONSIDER THESE ASPECTS OF THEIR APPROACH TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, AS EVIDENCE THAT THEY REALLY ASPIRE TO BROAD CO-OPERATION WITH ARGENTINA ON THE BASIS OF A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO A DISPUTE WHICH DISTURBS OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS IN ALL FIELDS.

CARLESS

FILES:
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PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A. PARSONS
SIR A. DUFF
MR HALL
MISS BROWN

(WBO) 62

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DESKBY 2815[illegible]Z
FM BUENOS AIRES 2815[illegible]Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 198 OF 28 JULY
AND TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)
INFO PORT STANLEY

ALW 026/1
30 JUL 1979
REGISTRY
Action Taken

VISIT OF MR RIDLEY : FALKLANDS

1. AT MR RIDLEY'S SECOND MEETING WITH CAVANDOLI YESTERDAY THE QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WAS ONLY MENTIONED IN PASSING. BUT AS THE MINISTER OF STATE WAS LEAVING THE AIRPORT YESTERDAY EVENING BLOOMER REEVE, (PASTOR'S PRIVATE SECRETARY), PRODUCED FOR THE MINISTER AN UNDATED AIDE MEMOIRE IN SPANISH WHICH SET OUT ARGENTINE PRIORITIES AND DEMANDS IN THE FALKLANDS NEGOTIATIONS. TRANSLATION IN MIFT.

2. THE AIDE MEMOIRE CONTAINS SOME SHARPLY WORDED PHRASES AND I BELIEVE ITS PURPOSE TO BE TWOFOLD:
(A) TO PLACE ON RECORD FOR FUTURE USE, FOR EXAMPLE IN ANY MEETING YOUMAY HAVE WITH PASTOR AT THE UN IN SEPTEMBER, THE MAIN POINTS OF PRESENT ARGENTINE CONCERN:
(B) TO BE ABLE TO CLAIM TO THE ARGENTINE MILITARY, TO WHOM THE AIDE MEMOIRE WILL PROBABLY BE CIRCULATED, THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY EXERTED PRESSURE ON MR RIDLEY DURING HIS VISIT.

3. THE SLY MANNER IN WHICH THIS DOCUMENT WAS WITHHELD FROM MR RIDLEY UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE FOR HIM EVEN TO GLANCE AT IT, IS A BAD COMMENT ON THE CONDUCT OF DIPLOMATIC BUSINESS HERE. AT NO STAGE DURING THE FIVE OR SIX HOURS THAT CAVANDOLI SPENT WITH MR RIDLEY DID HE OR HIS ADVISERS MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A DOCUMENT OR TO THE POINTS CONTAINED IN IT.

 / 4. I RECOMMEND

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4. I RECOMMEND THAT THE MINISTER OF STATE SHOULD REACT ROBUSTLY. ONE WAY OF DOING SO WOULD BE FOR HIM TO SEND ME A MESSAGE FOR DELIVERY TO CAVANDOLI SAYING THAT WHILE HE FOUND HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LATTER OF VALUE HE WAS SHOCKED TO BE HANDED, AS HE WAS STEPPING ON TO THE PLANE AND WITHOUT ANY PRIOR WARNING, A DOCUMENT SETTING OUT ARGENTINE VIEWS ON THE FALKLANDS DISPUTE, AND THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER REPLYING TO THE POINTS IT RAISED IN DUE COURSE.

SEE MIFT.

CARLESS

F I L E C:
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PS
PS/LPS
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A. PARSONS
SIR A. DUFF
MR HALL
MISS BROWN

CONFIDENTIAL

(W60)

(61)

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FM BUENOS AIRES 27/1956Z JULY 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 163 OF 27 JULY
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

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RECEIVED NO. 10
30 JUL 1979
DESC ACKNOWL ... REGISTRY
INDEX PA ... Action Taken

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA

1. CLARIN OF 27 JULY, IN REPORTING A QUESTION PUT TO MR RIDLEY ABOUT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE, IN THE AIRCRAFT RETURNING FROM THE ISLANDS, ATTRIBUTED TO HIM THE ANSWER BELOW :

QUOTE I THINK THAT THE FALKLANDS IS A GENUINELY DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY. AN OPEN SYSTEM WHERE THEY ELECT THEIR COUNCILLORS AND WITHIN WHICH THE COMMITTEE CAN DEVELOP ITS POLITICAL IDEAS. PERHAPS ARGENTINA ..... COULD COPY THE SYSTEM OF THE ISLANDS, WHERE NO-ONE IS DETAINED FOR POLITICAL REASONS, AND HUMAN RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED. UNQUOTE

2. AT THE TALKS AT THE MFA ON 27 JULY, CAVANDOLI EXPRESSED THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT'S CONCERN AT THIS REPORT THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH HAD BEEN BROADCAST. MR RIDLEY AGREED TO ISSUE A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS :

QUOTE THE MINISTER OF STATE, MR RIDLEY WISHES TO CLARIFY THAT DURING HIS STAY IN ARGENTINA HE HAD NO INTENTION OF MAKING ANY REFERENCE TO THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ARGENTINA AND IS DISTRESSED BY CERTAIN REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO HIM BY A SINGLE DAILY NEWSPAPER. UNQUOTE

CARLESS

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION:
LATIN AMERICA

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PS/LPS
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

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(W60)

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA: COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY ARGENTINE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 27 JULY, 1979

During his visit to Argentina, the Minister of State, Mr Nicholas Ridley, accompanied by the Charge d'Affaires, Mr Hugh Carless, and officials, held friendly and constructive working meetings with the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Comodoro Carlos R Cavandoli and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 26 and 27 July.

Relations between the two countries were discussed, with particular reference to the level of diplomatic representation, and to possible dates and forms of the next round of negotiations over the Falkland Islands, taking into account the wish expressed by the two Foreign Ministers that they might meet in New York during the opening sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. There was also an exchange of views on the subject of bilateral commercial and economic relations, and on the Antarctic Treaty negotiations on the Conservation of Marine Resources.

In a wider context the problem of refugees from South East Asia and other matters of mutual and international interest were considered.

/Mr Ridley

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Mr Ridley was received by HE the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brigadier Carlos Pastor. On this occasion the earlier agreement of both Governments to exchange Ambassadors was confirmed, it being accepted that diplomatic relations should be raised to this level as soon as possible, and that the two Governments would seek agrement for their respective candidates in due course in accordance with established procedure.

Mr Ridley was also received by HE the Minister of Economy Dr Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz.

ALW 026/1

RECEIVED 30 JUL 1979

DESPATCH	REGISTRY
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(60)

GRPS 344
UNCLASSIFIED
FM BUENOS AIRES 27/2114Z JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 198 (1) OF 27 JULY 1979
INFO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY

FOR RESIDENT CLERK : PLEASE PASS TO COWLING SAMD, THIS EVENING IF POSSIBLE

MY TELNO 195

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA : COMMUNIQUE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED BY MFA AT 1944 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON 27 JULY.

BEGINS :

DURING HIS VISIT TO ARGENTINA, THE MINISTER OF STATE, MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY, ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, MR HUGH CARLESS, AND OFFICIALS, HELD FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE WORKING MEETINGS WITH THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, COMODORO CARLOS R CAVANDOLI AND OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 26 AND 27 JULY.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WERE DISCUSSED, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE LEVEL OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION, AND TO POSSIBLE DATES AND FORMS OF THE NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE WISH EXPRESSED BY THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS THAT THEY MIGHT MEET IN NEW YORK DURING THE OPENING SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. THERE WAS ALSO AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT OF BILATERAL COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND ON THE ANTARCTIC TREATY NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CONSERVATION OF MARINE RESOURCES.

IN A WIDER CONTEXT THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES FROM SOUTH EAST ASIA AND OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL AND INTERNATIONAL INTEREST WERE CONSIDERED.

MR RIDLEY WAS RECEIVED BY H E THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, BRIGADIER CARLOS PASTOR. ON THIS OCCASION THE EARLIER AGREEMENT OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS WAS CONFIRMED

WAS CONFIRMED, IT BEING ACCEPTED THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SHOULD BE RAISED TO THIS LEVEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WOULD SEEK AGREMENT FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE CANDIDATES IN DUE COURSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED PROCEDURE.

MR RIDLEY WAS ALSO RECEIVED BY H E THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY DR JOSE ALFREDO MARTINEZ DE HOZ.

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FALKLAND ISLANDS

ALW 02611
Rec'd 24 SEP 1979
MINISTRY
To | PA | Action Taken

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA: COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY ARGENTINE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 27 JULY, 1979

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Relations between the two countries were discussed, with particular reference to the level of diplomatic representation, and to possible dates and forms of the next round of negotiations over the Falkland Islands, taking into account the wish expressed by the two Foreign Ministers that they might meet in New York during the opening sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. There was also an exchange of views on the subject of bilateral commercial and economic relations, and on the Antarctic Treaty negotiations on the Conservation of Marine Resources.

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/Mr Ridley

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Mr Ridley was also received by HE the Minister of Economy Dr Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz.

(56)

ARGENTINA: NORMALISATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Baroness EMMET of AMBERLEY asked Her Majesty's Government:

Whether they will make a Statement on normalisation of their diplomatic relations with Argentina.

Lord CARRINGTON: During his current visit to Buenos Aires, my honourable friend the Minister of State discussed the question of relations between our two countries with the Argentine Government. Both Governments have now agreed on the need to restore relations to Ambassadorial level and will be seeking agreement for their respective candidates in due course.

27. 7. 79
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(56)

Argentina

Mr. Grylls asked the Lord Privy Seal if he will make a statement on normalisation of our diplomatic relations with Argentina.

Sir Ian Gilmour: During his current visit to Buenos Aires my hon. Friend the Minister of State discussed the question of relations between our two countries with the Argentine Government. Both Government's have now agreed on the need to restore relations to ambassadorial level and will be seeking agrément for their respective candidates in due course.

27 7 79
COMMONS'
HANSARD

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FALKLAND ISLANDS BROADCASTING SERVICE

EXTRACT FROM INTERVIEW GIVEN BY MINISTER OF STATE, MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP (21 July 1979).

..... We have made it abundantly clear and I repeat it, and I repeat it with all the authority of a Minister of the Government of the United Kingdom, that we will not do anything which will not be acceptable to the people who live in these Islands for the future and that is the overriding pledge which I give. On the other hand, I detect that there is a very strong desire for us to try and improve relations with the Argentines and to come to some settlement which will enable these Islands to develop in peace. To what extent this is different to the last Government's policy is not for me to say except that I think that I have stated very clearly it is more important to settle this dispute than to let it run on, if that is possible. Now it may not prove to be possible and so I am not at all sure what the outcome will be, but I think in terms of the difference between the last Government's policy and this Government's policy I can see little change except perhaps that in the years that have gone by people here have come to the conclusion that the dispute is really damaging and the time has come to try, try again I should say, to achieve a settlement. .....

****

Mr Watts: Sovereignty in my terms would mean that perhaps people would be asked to change nationality. Is this a possibility?

Mr Ridley: I do not think that would be acceptable to the people of these Islands. I have said, and I repeat it for the second time, that nothing that is not acceptable will be done and I do not believe for one moment that they would change their nationality.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

9th September, 1979

Mr.Nicholas Ridley, M.P.
Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
King Charles Street,
London S.W.1.

Dear Nick,

As I was away on holiday I missed all the press reports, communiques etc. of your visit to the Falklands and Argentina.

I should be grateful if you would give me an idea as to how things stand, the position on negotiations, are there any new terms of reference etc.

I would be grateful also for any copies of statements etc. so that I am up to date on the position.

Best wishes,

Ted

TED ROWLANDS, M.P.

1. Acknowledged 12/9
2. Minister of State ~~has~~/has not seen
3. S.Amb Department for advice and draft reply from Mr Ridley 12/9.

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CRPS 260

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BUENOS AIRES 27/1405Z JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 196 OF 27 JULY 1979
INFO ROUTINE PORT STANLEY

ALW 026/1
RECEIVED 30 JUL 1979
DESPATCHED
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MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT

1. DESPITE HIS LATE ARRIVAL THE MINISTER OF STATE HAS CARRIED OUT ALMOST ALL HIS PROGRAMME. HE SPENT AN HOUR WITH CAVANDOLI YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, AND THEN PAID A SHORT COURTESY CALL ON PASTOR, DURING WHICH HE HANDED OVER YOUR LETTER OF 19 JULY.

2. DURING DISCUSSION WITH CAVANDOLI, WHICH WILL CONTINUE LATER THIS MORNING, HE AGREED TO ISSUE A COMMUNIQUE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS BUT LEFT THE TEXT FOR TODAY. MR RIDLEY LEFT CAVANDOLI IN NO DOUBT AS TO HIS DISPLEASURE OVER THE LEAK ABOUT AMBASSDORS AND CAVANDOLI WAS APOLOGETIC.

3. THE OTHER SUBSTANTIVE POINT WAS AN ARGENTINE SUGGESTION THAT YOUR POSSIBLE MEETING WITH PASTOR IN NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER MIGHT BE PRECEDED BY A PREPARATORY MEETING BETWEEN CAVANDOLI AND THE MINISTER OF STATE. MR RIDLEY BELIEVED THAT, IN VIEW OF HOLIDAYS IN BRITAIN, THERE MIGHT NOT BE TIME TO MAKE SUCH A PREPARATORY MEETING WORTHWHILE. HE WOULD FURTHER CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY IN LONDON.

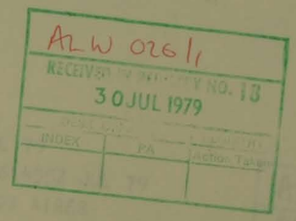
4. MR RIDLEY HAD A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY, MENTIONED GEC'S INTEREST IN THE NUCLEAR PROJECT AND LEFT A PIECE OF PAPER. MARTINEZ DE HOZ'S MAIN COMMENT WAS THAT THE CANADIANS WERE STILL IN TROUBLE OVER THE RE-FINANCING OF THEIR PRESENT CONTRACT FOR THE RIO TERCERO DAM. I WILL BE REPORTING FURTHER ON THIS.

CALLESS

FILES PS/NR RIDLEY
SAMD PS/PUS
SNU SIR A PARSONS
ES VS D SIR A DUFF
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FM BUENOS AIRES 27/1434Z JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 197 OF 27 JULY 1979

INFO PORT STANLEY

FOR NEWS DEPARTMENT AND SAMD
MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS AND ARGENTINA

1. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT MR RIDLEY HAS AGREED, IF TIME ALLOWS, TO GIVE A SHORT INTERVIEW TO BRILEY, BBC LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT, BEFORE LEAVING FOR RIO THIS AFTERNOON. THE TOPIC WILL BE LATIN AMERICA IN GENERAL, BUT TOUCHING ON THE FALKLANDS.

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PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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GR 50
UNCLASSIFIED
DESKBY 261630Z JUL 79
FM PORT STANLEY 261455Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 38 OF 26 JULY
INFO PRIORITY FCO

YOUR TELNO 38: MINISTER'S TRAVEL

AZW 026 1
RECEIVED IN
31 JUL 1979
DESK OFFICER
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PA

1. LADE PLANE LEFT HERE FOR COMODORO RIVADAVIA AT 1100 LOCAL TIME (1200 ARGENTINE TIME). PARTY WERE EXPECTING TO CONNECT EITHER WITH LD 307 ETD COMODORO 1300 ETA AEROPARQUE 1725 OR A SPECIAL DIRECT FLIGHT IF AIR FORCE HAVE LAID ONE ON.

PARKER
FILES
SAMD
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

JAW 026

26 JUL 1979

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00 RIO DE JANEIRO DESKBY 252230Z

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DESKBY 252230Z
FM PORT STANLEY 252145Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE RIO DE JANEIRO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 003 OF 25 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES

FROM PS/MR RIDLEY
MINISTER OF STATE'S ITINERARY

1. MOST REGRETTABLY OUR DEPARTURE FROM PORT STANLEY HAS BEEN DELAYED UNTIL THE MORNING OF 26 JULY, BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER IN COMODORO. ARRIVAL IN BUENOS AIRES WILL NOT NOW BE UNTIL TOMORROW AFTERNOON, PROBABLY NOT THEREFORE ALLOWING SUFFICIENT TIME THE SAME DAY FOR MEETINGS WITH THE MFA.

2. WE FEAR THEREFORE THAT WE MUST LEAVE AT LEAST FRIDAY MORNING FREE IN BUENOS AIRES. THE EMBASSY ARE LOOKING URGENTLY AT THE AVAILABILITY OF SEATS ON CRUZEIRO SC 933 ETA 1735, AEROLINEAS AR 220 ETA 1840, AR 114 ETA 1930, OR (IN EXTREMIS) BR 622 ETA 2215. WE REALISE THAT THIS WILL UPSET THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AS WELL AS THE CALLS ARRANGED FOR THE AFTERNOON. SADLY THERE SEEMS NO ALTERNATIVE: WOULD THERE BE ANY PROSPECT OF THE CHAMBER REVIVING THEIR LUNCH ON SATURDAY? I IMAGINE THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SEE BRUELL AND LANDSBERG SOMETIME ON SATURDAY ALSO. PLEASE REPLY TO BUENOS AIRES.

3. VERY MANY APOLOGIES FOR THIS LATE ATTEMPT TO RESCHEDULE THINGS, WHEN YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE SO ONCE. WE ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE WEATHER.

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DESKBY 261900Z RIO DE JANEIRO
DESKBY 261900Z BRASILIA
FM BUENOS AIRES 250115Z JULY 79
TO FLASH PORT STANLEY
TELNO 38 OF 25 JULY 1979
INFO IMMEDIATE RIO DE JANEIRO AND BRASILIA
INFO PRIORITY FCO.

ARW 0261
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
31 JUL 1979
DESPATCHED | REGISTRY
INDEX | PA | Action Taken

YOUR TELNO 36: MINISTER OF STATE'S TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

1. WE HAVE PUT IT TO THE ARGENTINE MFA THAT, IN VIEW OF THE MINISTER'S DELAY IN PORT STANLEY ON ACCOUNT OF BAD WEATHER, THE PROGRAMME FOR BUENOS AIRES MIGHT BE RE-ARRANGED IN ONE OF TWO WAYS.

2. FIRST, THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE COULD SEND AN AIRCRAFT TO MEET THE PARTY IN COMODORO RIVADAVIA AND BRING THEM BACK TO B.A. BY ABOUT 1400 HOURS ON 26 JULY, ASSUMING THAT THE MINISTER CAN FLY TO COMODORO EARLY ON THE SAME DAY. THIS MIGHT ENABLE THE MINISTER IN THE AFTERNOON TO HOLD THE TWO HOURS OF TALKS WITH COMODORO CAVANDOLI WHICH HAD BEEN ARRANGED FOR THE MORNING. IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO FIT IN THE CALL ON THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY (1800 HOURS). BUT THE MINISTER COULD ATTEND THE LARGE RECEPTION ARRANGED FOR THE EVENING.

3. FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF PUBLIC PRESENTATION IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE THAT THE MINISTER SHOULD SPEND MORE THAN ONE AFTERNOON IN BUENOS AIRES. BUT THE ARGENTINE CABINET MEETS ON FRIDAY AND WE DO NOT YET KNOW WHETHER MINISTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE. IF THEY ARE, WE WONDER WHETHER THE MINISTER OF STATE WOULD AGREE TO DEFER HIS DEPARTURE TO RIO UNTIL, SAY, 1750 HOURS (THE BRITISH CALEDONIAN FLIGHT).

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4. THE SECOND POSSIBILITY IS THAT, THE MINISTER AND PARTY FLY FROM COMODORO BY THE AEROLINEAS FLIGHT ARRIVING 1945 AND JUST MAKE THE RECEPTION. THE REST OF THE PROGRAMME, CABINET MEETINGS PERMITTING, COULD BE ROLLED ON TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. THE PROVISO REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS IS HOWEVER LIKELY TO BE THE DETERMINING FACTOR.

5. THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT WE WILL HAVE DEFINITE NEWS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PREFERENCE BEFORE THE MINISTER OF STATE LEAVES PORT STANLEY.

CARLESS

FILES:
S AM D
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

GR 180
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DESKBY 252230Z
FM PORT STANLEY 252135Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 37 OF 25 JULY

ALW 026/1
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY
31 JUL 1979
DESK OFFICER | REGISTRY
INDEX | PA | Action Taken

FROM PS/MR RIDLEY
MY TELNO 36: MINISTER OF STATE'S ITINERARY

1. PLANE WILL NOT LEAVE HERE UNTIL 9.30/10.00 AT EARLIEST. LADE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH BLOOMER REEVE, AND HOPE TO ARRANGE A SPECIAL FLIGHT TO TAKE US TO BUENOS AIRES.

2. AS SEEN FROM HERE, ARRIVAL IN BUENOS AIRES COULD NOT BE BEFORE MID AFTERNOON, EVEN IF WEATHER IN COMODORO IS FINE. MR RIDLEY CONSIDERS IT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE UNHURRIED TALKS WITH MFA, AND ACCEPTS THAT DEPARTURE FOR RIO ON 27 JULY MUST BE POSTPONED. PLEASE EXPLORE WITH MFA POSSIBILITIES FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH PASTOR AND CAVANDOLI, EITHER TOMORROW EVENING, OR FRIDAY MORNING. IF POSSIBLE MR RIDLEY WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CALL ON MARTINEZ DE HOZ.

3. I AM TELEGRAPHING RIO, COPIED TO YOU. IF IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE MFA TO FIT US IN BEFORE LUNCH ON FRIDAY, MINISTER IS PREPARED TO FURTHER DELAY DEPARTURE FOR RIO.

4. GOZNEY HAS ESTABLISHED THE FOLLOWING FLIGHTS ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON TO RIO:
SC 933 ETD 1400
AR 220 ETD 1500
AR 114 ETD 1700.
DEPENDING ON WHEN THE MFA CAN RECEIVE US, GRATEFUL YOU EXPLORE AVAILABILITY OF SEATS APPROPRIATELY. SHOULD WE NEED TO STAY INTO FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OR NONE OF THE ABOVE FLIGHTS BE AVAILABLE, THERE IS THE BRITISH CALEDONIAN FLIGHT ETD 1755.
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PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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AW 026/1
25 JUL 1979
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JULY 1979
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GRPS 110
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FM BUENOS AIRES 23/2000Z JULY 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 188 OF 23 JULY 1979
AND TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

MY TELNO 184 : MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT

1. PRESS COVERAGE OF MR RIDLEY'S STOPOVER IN BUENOS AIRES AND OF HIS ACTIVITIES IN THE FALKLANDS HAS BEEN PLENTIFUL, THOUGH MAINLY SPECULATIVE.

2. THE REPORTING MAKES IT PLAIN TO THE ARGENTINE READER THAT SOVEREIGNTY IS ONLY ONE OF THE MANY ISSUES OF CURRENT CONCERN TO THE ISLANDERS, AND THAT ECONOMIC QUESTIONS ARE IMPORTANT. LA NACION'S CORRESPONDENT SEES NO EARLY SOLUTION OF THE ANGLO-ARGENTINE DISPUTE. NONETHELESS, MUCH OF THE REPORTING ENCOURAGES THE EXPECTATION THAT THE MINISTER'S TALKS ON 26 JULY WITH THE ARGENTINE COULD PRODUCE PROGRESS.

CARLESS

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PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL
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25 JUL 1979

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FM FCO 181100Z JULY 79
TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 352 OF 18 JULY.
REPEATED IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES, PORT STANLEY
UKMIS NEW YORK TELNO 335: FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. THE FCO SPOKESMAN (YOUR PARAGRAPH 3) ANSWERING QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT ON 13 JULY OF MR RIDLEY'S FORTHCOMING VISIT SPOKE AS FOLLOWS:

'ON EXCHANGING AMBASSADORS WITH ARGENTINA, HE SAID AS HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THE FCO WAS ACTIVELY CONSIDERING THE MATTER. HE HAD NO STATEMENT TO MAKE. ASKED ABOUT POSITION ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION REMAINED THE SAME AS THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT'S. THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY WAS NOT NEGOTIABLE. THERE WOULD BE NO SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES ON THE FALKLANDS ISSUE ON THE PRESENT VISIT'.

2. IF QUESTIONED ABOUT THE REMARK ON SOVEREIGNTY, NEWS DEPARTMENT WILL SAY UNATTRIBUTABLY (BUT IF NEED BE ON THE RECORD) THAT THIS WAS 'SHORTHAND'. FOR A DEFINITION OF OUR FORMAL POSITION THEY WILL REFER TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS AS ANNOUNCED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON 26 APRIL 1977 WHICH REMAIN UNALTERED.

3. YOU AND BUENOS AIRES SHOULD TAKE A SIMILAR LINE IF THE ARGENTINES RAISE THE MATTER.

CARRINGTON

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PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

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25 JUL 1979
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FM BUENOS AIRES 17/1445Z JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 179 OF 17 JULY 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

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News Dept
wire reply
18/7.

VISIT OF MR RIDLEY : PRESS COVERAGE

1. CLARIN TODAY REPORTS THAT AN FCO SPOKESMAN MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS YESTERDAY ABOUT MR RIDLEY'S VISIT :

(A) HE WOULD DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLANDS WITH THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES, MAINTAINING THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE LABOUR ADMINISTRATION :
(B) THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT WOULD REFUSE TO CONCEDE SOVEREIGNTY QUOTE WITHOUT THE EXPLICIT CONSENT OF THE PEOPLE OF THE ISLANDS WHO WISH TO REMAIN IN THE SPHERE OF THE COMMONWEALTH UNQUOTE :
(C) IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IT WAS PROBABLE THAT MR RIDLEY WOULD AGREE TO A FURTHER ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

2. GRATEFUL FOR CLARIFICATION.

3. YESTERDAY'S PRESS STATEMENT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (MY TELNO 178), OMITTED MENTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ISSUE.

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PSD
PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HAHN

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AW 026/1.

17 JUL 1979

PP PORT STANLEY

GR 100

RESTRICTED
FM FCO 161605Z JUL 79
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 76 OF 16 JULY

PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR FROM URE.
YOUR LETTER OF 11 JULY: MINISTERIAL VISIT.

1. I APPRECIATE AND REGRET YOUR DIFFICULTIES. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION, OUR PROBLEM WAS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE LENGTH OF MR RIDLEY'S TOUR AND WE HAD TO REVISE THIS AND RE-SUBMIT TIME TABLES TO HER. PLANNING HAD TO GO AHEAD WHILE ALL THIS WAS IN HAND. I DID NOT SEND YOU INTERMEDIATE MESSAGES BECAUSE I WISHED TO AVOID THE QUOTE ORDER, COUNTER-ORDER, DISORDER UNQUOTE SITUATION. I AM SINCERELY SORRY IF THIS LANDED YOU IN ANY EMBARRASSMENT. MR RIDLEY IS MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS VISIT: GOOD LUCK WITH IT ALL.

CARRINGTON

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RECEIVED REGISTRY NO. 18
17 JUL 1979

FM FCO 161730Z JULY 79
TO ROUTINE PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 77 OF 16 JULY 1979
YOUR TELNO 126: COMMUNICATIONS
1. YOUR PARAGRAPH 2: YES.

CARRINGTON

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FM BUENOS AIRES 162247Z JULY 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 178 OF 16 JULY 1979

YOUR TELNO 145 : VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS :
(A) CAVANDOLI WILL HAVE A GIFT FOR MR RIDLEY. IN ADDITION MRS CAVANDOLI PLANS TO PRESENT SOMETHING TO MRS RIDLEY. IF MR RIDLEY PRESENTS THE COMODORO BOOK ON FLY FISHING I SUGGEST THAT MRS RIDLEY MIGHT LIKE TO GIVE A PIECE OF CHINA, PERHAPS WEDGEWOOD, TO MRS CAVANDOLI.
(B) NO SPECIAL CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS HERE.
(C) MINISTER'S PROGRAMME STANDS AS IN MY TELNO 165 AMENDED BY MY TELNO 172.

2. COMODORO CAVANDOLI AND BLOOMER-REEVE INTEND, AS A COURTESY, TO MEET MR AND MRS RIDLEY ON ARRIVAL ON 19 JULY AT EZEIZA AIRPORT.

3. COMODORO CAVANDOLI'S LUNCH ON 25 JULY IS LIKELY TO INCLUDE AMBASSADOR LUPIZ, (POLITICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL), OLIVERI LOPEZ, BLOOMER-REEVE, AMBASSADOR ORTIZ DE ROZAS AND AMBASSADOR MOLINA SALAS (HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS).

4. THE WEEKEND PRESS CARRIED THE LONDON PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT (YOUR TELNO 70 TO PORT STANLEY, AMENDED) AND SPECULATED THAT MR RIDLEY'S DISCUSSIONS WITH CAVANDOLI HERE WOULD COVER THE RESTORATION OF AMBASSADORS AND PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR A NEW ROUND OF FALKLAND ISLANDS NEGOTIATIONS.

5. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ARE ISSUING A PRESS STATEMENT TODAY WHICH WE HAVE SEEN IN DRAFT. IT REFERS TO MR RIDLEY'S STOP-OVER IN TRANSIT ON 19-20 JULY AND SAYS THAT ON HIS RETURN HE WILL HOLD WORKING MEETINGS WITH CAVANDOLI WHICH WILL COVER BILATERAL QUESTIONS INCLUDING THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ISSUE. IT ALSO SAYS THAT MR RIDLEY WILL PAY A COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR.

CONFIDENTIAL

6.

CONFIDENTIAL

6. NINE BUENOS AIRES-BASED JOURNALISTS HAVE SO FAR TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OR OURSELVES THAT THEY INTEND TO VISIT PORT STANLEY WITH MR RIDLEY. THEY ARE : FINANCIAL TIMES CORRESPONDENT, BBC LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT, A JOURNALIST FROM CLARIN, 4 JOURNALISTS FROM THE WEEKLY MAGAZINES GENTE AND SOMOS, AND 2 FROM VISNEWS.

CARLESS

FILES
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PCD
NEWSD
PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

2

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

47

AW 022/1

GR 330
RESTRICTED
DESKBY 160900Z JUL 79
FM PORT STANLEY 141613Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 127 OF 14 JULY
INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES

MY TELNO 125 (45)
PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER'S VISIT

1. ON ARRIVAL MR AND MRS RIDLEY WILL BE MET AT THE AIRCRAFT BY COUNCILLORS. THERE MAY ALSO BE A WELCOMING GATHERING ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE AND AN INDIVIDUAL WORD OR TWO AND A FEW HANDSHAKES WILL PLEASE PEOPLE.

2. CHIEF SECRETARY AND MRS BAKER WILL JOIN US FOR LUNCHEON. A RESTFUL AFTERNOON CAN THEN BE SPENT AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE WITH PERHAPS A CHAT OVER TEA WITH FINANCIAL SECRETARY ROWLANDS. AFTER THE EVENING RECEPTION (ABOUT 80 GUESTS) A QUIET SUPPER CAN BE FOLLOWED BY AN EARLY BED IF WISHED.

3. AFTER THE MEETING AND LUNCHEON WITH COUNCILLORS ON SATURDAY, THE AFTERNOON WILL BE KEPT FREE FOR SIGHTSEEING UNTIL THE TOWN HALL PUBLIC RECEPTION AT 6 O'CLOCK, WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

4. SUNDAY MORNING, TAKE-OFF AT 9 O'CLOCK FOR THE LARGE SETTLEMENT AT GOOSE GREEN. LUNCHEON WILL BE GIVEN AT DARWIN BY BROOK AND EILEEN HARDCASTLE, FICO GENERAL MANAGER. IN THE AFTERNOON, PROCEED TO HILL COVE IN WEST FALKLAND TO OVERNIGHT WITH TIM AND SALLY BLAKE, MANAGER BLAKE AND HOLMSTEAD.

5. ON MONDAY, RETURN TO STANLEY VIA PORT HOWARD: LUNCHEON WITH ROBIN AND SUSAN LEE, MANAGER WALDRONS. IN THE AFTERNOON, DISCUSSIONS WITH CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION AND THEN WITH GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION. FICO ARE GIVING A FARMERS WEEK RECEPTION IN THE EVENING, FOLLOWING WHICH SECRETARIAT MEMBERS WISH TO ENTERTAIN MR AND MRS RIDLEY TO DINNER AT UPLAND GOOSE HOTEL.

RESTRICTED

/6.

6. TUESDAY MORNING, FLY TO GREEN PATCH, MANAGER JOCK AND JUNE MCPHEE. RETURN TO STANLEY FOR PRE-LUNCH DRINKS WITH MAJOR LADE, NP8901 MOODY BROOK. LUNCHEON AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE FOLLOWED BY SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS WITH SHEEPOWNERS ASSOCIATION AND YOUNG ISLANDERS GROUP. EVENING MEETING WITH FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE AND THEN QUIET SUPPER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

7. WEDNESDAY MORNING, ROUND-UP MEETING WITH COUNCILLORS, FOLLOWED BY RECORDING OF BROADCAST MESSAGE, IF WISHED.

8. THE ABOVE PROGRAMME IS OF COURSE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER. WHEN IN STANLEY, MRS RIDLEY MIGHT CARE TO FOLLOW A SLIGHTLY SEPARATE PROGRAMME, WHICH CAN BE SUITABLY ARRANGED.

PARKER

FILES
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PS|MR RIDLEY
PS|PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

AW 026/1
17 JUL 1979
TOP COPY

46A

GR 25
UNCLASSIFIED
FM PORT STANLEY 131610Z JUL 79
TO ROUTINE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 126 OF 13 JULY

FOR SAMD
VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE: COMMUNICATIONS

1. WE HAVE ARRANGED WITH CABLE AND WIRELESS THAT, DURING THE PERIOD OF THE MINISTER'S VISIT, THEY EXTEND THEIR OPERATING HOURS TO COVER THE PERIOD 1100Z TO 2400Z.

2. WILL THIS BE ADEQUATE?

PARKER

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COD
PS|MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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PS 75
RESTRICTED
FM BUENOS AIRES 12/1444Z JULY 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 172 OF 11 JULY 1979
INFO ROUTINE PORT STANLEY

JW 026/1

FOR SAMD (44)
YOUR TELNO 163 TO BRASILIA : VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. MFA NOW INFORMED OF FIRM DATES AND OF TEXT OF PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT.

2. UNLESS ADVISED OTHERWISE, WE PROPOSE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BUENOS AIRES SECTION OF THE VISIT ON THE LINES SET OUT IN (42) OUR TELNO 165, THE DATES OF COURSE BEING ADVANCED BY ONE WEEK AND THE PARTY'S ARRIVAL TIME ON 19 JULY AMENDED.

CARLESS

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PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
MR HALL

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AMW 026/1

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
17 JUL 1979
ACTION ASSIGNED — REGISTRY
INDEX | PA | REGIST TARGET

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PP CARACAS
GRS 160
CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 1217057 JUL 79
TO PRIORITY BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 105 OF 12 JULY
AND TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES, CARACAS, MEXICO CITY, RIO DE JANEIRO.

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, IN FINALISING ARRANGEMENTS, TO HAVE YOUR GUIDANCE ON FOLLOWING WHERE APPROPRIATE:

A) WILL GIFTS BE EXCHANGED: IF SO, WHAT SHOULD MINISTER BRING? (FOR BUENOS AIRES PARA 5 OF YOUR TEL 165. IS IT LIKELY CAVANDOLI WILL HAVE GIFT FOR MR RIDLEY?)

B) IF NOT ACCOMMODATED WITH YOU, ADDRESS OF HOTEL ETC INTO WHICH MINISTER AND PARTY ARE BOOKED.

C) WHETHER MINISTER NEEDS A DINNER JACKET AND WHETHER THERE ARE ANY OTHER SPECIAL CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS FOR HIM OR MRS RIDLEY.

D) (EXCEPT MEXICO CITY) A SCHEDULE OF THE MINISTER'S PROGRAMME AS IT NOW STANDS WITH TIME AND AN INDICATION OF MINISTERS HE WILL CALL ON AND/OR MEET.

CARRINGTON

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PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HARR

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GR 130
RESTRICTED
FM PORT STANLEY 112105Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 125 OF 11 JULY
INFO BUENOS AIRES

(44)

YOUR TELNO 103 TO BRASILIA
VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

TOP COPY

AW 026/1

12 JUL 1979

1. I AM INFORMING COUNCILLORS OF THE REVISED DATES WHICH SHOULD NOT (NOT) INCONVENIENCE THEM.

2. THE VISIT WILL NOW COINCIDE WITH THE SHEEP OWNERS ASSOCIATION'S QUOTE FARMERS WEEK UNQUOTE WHEN MOST FARM MANAGERS AND SOME UNION DELEGATES WILL BE IN STANLEY. THIS WILL ENABLE THE MINISTER TO MEET A WIDER CIRCLE OF PEOPLE AT THIS LEVEL BUT WILL MAKE CAMP VISITING A LITTLE MORE DIFFICULT. WE WILL HOWEVER ARRANGE A SUITABLE PROGRAMME AFTER DISCUSSING IT WITH THE ASSOCIATION AND SPEAKING TO AVAILABLE HOSTS ON THE RADIO TELEPHONE.

3. THE FIRST DAY (FRIDAY) WILL REMAIN MUCH AS IN MY TELNO 110 WITH A DISCUSSION AND LUNCHEON WITH COUNCILLORS ON SATURDAY MORNING AND A ROUND-UP MEETING ON WEDNESDAY.

4. I WILL TELEGRAPH FURTHER DETAILS BY MONDAY NEXT.

PARKER

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P&CD
NEWS.D
M&CD
WIAD
PS

PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

44A

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Our Ref: 026/1

11 July 1979

J B Ure Esq MVO
SAMD
FCO

JBW 026/1

RECEIVED 17 JUL 1979

Tel to P.S.
pa CWD 17/7.

MINISTER'S VISIT

1. I have no doubt you have had more than your fair share of trouble over the arrangements for this visit, and mine, as the days went by in a mist of uncertainty, might seem small beer by comparison.

2. However, it does seem to have been the worst kept confidence one could imagine. The first I knew about its possibility was when Oliveri Lopez breezed in here on 30 May saying, in front of others, that he supposed I was busily engaged in preparing for the Minister's visit. I could then honestly deny all knowledge of it.

3. Not too much concern was aroused here by all the subsequent leaks in the Buenos Aires press, but then letters began to turn up from members of the Committee in London giving a fair idea of what was in train (who told them!). The last straw came with the local LADE office putting it about quite openly that flight bookings for the party had come in from Buenos Aires, and giving names and dates. Throughout, the Councillors have maintained a discreet, if embarrassed, silence, but our credibility gap has yawned wide.

4. My particular problem, when I unsuccessfully telephoned yesterday morning, was to know what to advise Councillors, who had been standing by to fly in early this morning for briefing discussions and to be sure of being on hand to greet the Minister if the weather turned nasty. All we knew at that point was that the visit might be cut short (FCO telno 74 of 5 July). However, we subsequently learned, by a chance telephone conversation in the afternoon with Richard Gozney about bag arrangements, that the Embassy had been told last week the visit would probably be put off until Friday 20th. I therefore stood the Councillors down by radio, and will make an open broadcast myself as soon as we get firm news.

/5. The

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

5. The only lesson, I suppose, to be drawn from all this is that the public - and particularly a sensitive little one like ours - has some right to know what is going on, and the earlier they are told the better. With all the last minute cliff-hangers there have been in the past, I should have learnt by now, but I have no doubt that whatever little brouhaha has been stirred up, it will soon be forgotten once the Minister is here.

Yours ever,

Jim.

J R W Parker

asked whether the Order could apply to Mr Ian Smith, Spokesman said that was a hypothetical question. He added UNATTRIBUTABLY that the Order empowered the Foreign Secretary to designate the persons to whom it should apply. It could be used to enable anyone concerned to come to London for consultations in connection with a settlement. END UNATTRIBUTABLE. Asked when the order came into effect, SPOKESMAN said UNATTRIBUTABLY that it was effective immediately but an affirmative resolution would need to be moved in both Houses of Parliament within 28 days. END UNATTRIBUTABLE.

VISIT TO FALKLAND ISLANDS AND LATIN AMERICA BY MINISTER OF STATE.

Spokesman made the following announcement;

"Mr Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State, will make a familiarization visit to the Falkland Islands, Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico 18 July to 6 August 1979. It will be the first visit of a Minister of the present Government. Mr Ridley will meet Ministers as appropriate. He will also have the opportunity of meeting Falkland Islanders. He will be accompanied by his wife."

Asked about the position on exchanging Ambassadors with Argentina, Spokesman said that as had been said on a number of occasions FCO was actively considering the matter. He had no statement to make. Asked about the position on the Falkland Islands, Spokesman said that the Government's position remained the same as the previous government's. The question of sovereignty was not negotiable. There would be no substantive exchanges on the Falklands issue on the present visit.

INDO CHINA REFUGEES

Spokesman was asked to clarify the position on the number of Indo-Chinese refugees to be admitted to Britain and the amount of finacial aid the government would make available. He replied that he had nothing to say before the statement expected to be made in Parliament next week.

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12 JUL 1979

GRS 325
RESTRICTED
FM FCO 1112ÓOZ JULY 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 103 OF 11 JULY
AND TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES, CARACAS, LIMA, PORT STANLEY,
RIO DE JANEIRO, SAO PAULO (BRASILIA PSE PASS), MEXICO CITY
OUR TELNO 98 TO BRASILIA: VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. MR RIDLEY'S VISIT HAS NOW BEEN RESCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:

18 JULY	DEPART LONDON
19 JULY	BUENOS AIRES ETA 1010 (AR 113)
20 JULY	BUENOS AIRES TO FALKLAND ISLANDS
25 JULY	FALKLAND ISLANDS TO BUENOS AIRES
27 JULY	BUENOS AIRES TO RIO DE JANEIRO ETA 1055 (AV 084)
29 JULY	RIO DE JANEIRO TO BRASILIA ETA 1105 (RG 200)
31 JULY	BRASILIA TO CARACAS ETA 0450 (RG 802)
2 AUGUST	CARACAS TO MEXICO CITY ETA 1300 (VA 840)
6 AUGUST	TO ANTIGUA (SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION)

2. YOU SHOULD NOW INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS AND SAY THAT MR RIDLEY VERY MUCH REGRETS THE INCONVENIENCE CAUSED BY THE RESCHEDULING OF HIS VISIT AND THE DIFFICULTIES IT HAS CAUSED AND HOPES THAT A WORTHWHILE PROGRAMME CAN BE CONSTRUCTED FOR THE NEW DATES. (THE VISIT TO CARACAS IN PARTICULAR IS NOW VERY ABBREVIATED, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO WAY TO AVOID THIS.)

3. FOR LIMA. AS FORESEEN IN OUR TELNO 56, MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO PERU HAS HAD TO BE DROPPED. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO PERUVIANS THAT MR RIDLEY HAS HAD TO POSTPONE HIS DEPARTURE FROM LONDON BECAUSE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITMENTS. HE HAS THEREFORE HAD TO SHORTEN HIS VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND MUCH REGRETS NOT BEING ABLE TO VISIT PERU ON THIS OCCASION. THE PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR HERE (WHO HAD ASKED TO CALL ON MR RIDLEY) HAS BEEN TOLD.

4. FOR SAO PAULO. MINISTER IS SORRY HE WILL NOT NOW BE VISITING SAO PAULO AND REQUESTS THAT YOU CONVEY HIS APOLOGIES TO THOSE INVOLVED WITH HIS PROGRAMME.

PRESS RELEASE

1s.

5. WE PROPOSE TO MAKE PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON FRIDAY 13 JULY USING THE TEXT CONTAINED IN MY TELNO 70 TO PORT STANLEY. DATE OF DEPARTURE SHOULD BE AMENDED TO 18 JULY AND 'FOUR WEEKS' TO 'THREE WEEKS'. PERU SHOULD BE DELETED.

CARRINGTON

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MVCD
WIAD
PS
PS/MR. RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

AZW 0264
RECEIVED IN
1 AUG 1979
DEPARTMENT
INDEXING

Mr Hall 10/VII

Mr Osborne.
Briefs (excluding Peru) can now be typed up in final form. JBU 10/7

BRIEFS FOR MR RIDLEY'S SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR

1. I submitted drafts of the first batch of briefs at the end of last week. I now submit a draft steering brief and all the outstanding draft briefs with the exception of the following:

Brief No 5: Falkland Islands Oil (on which ESSD are drafting following BNOC presentation)

Brief No 19: Exchange of Ambassadors (which needs revision following yesterday's meeting and subsequent follow up).

Brief No 26: Nuclear Cooperation with Argentina (on which JNU are drafting and tell us the situation is still fluid).

Brief No 35: Venezuela and OPEC (on which ESSD are drafting to take account of the recent OPEC meeting).

2. If the Brazilians decide to hold MOU exchanges during Mr Ridley's visit, some further briefs may be required in connection with this.

3. I apologise for the somewhat untidy state of some of the drafts but thought you would agree that it was better to postpone re-typing until you had glanced at these.

J B Ure
South America Department

10 July, 1979

CONFIDENTIAL Reference (424)

AMW 5LL/1

12 JUL 1979

Mr Ure

BRIEFS FOR MR RIDLEY

1. I now attach the draft of the Steering Brief and the bulk of the remaining briefs for the country visits to Brazil, Peru and Venezuela.

2. Still outstanding are the following briefs:

35: Venezuela and OPEC (ESSD are drafting to take account of the recent OPEC meeting).

19 — ~~Exchange of Arms~~

20: Co-operation with Argentina and the Antarctic (Dr Heap should be able to provide immediately on his return from Washington next week).

26: Nuclear co-operation with Argentina (JNU are drafting but the situation is currently quite fluid).

5: Falkland Islands Oil (ESSD drafting following BNOC presentation)

3. The brief for the visit to Mexico is also attached; ~~but~~ M&CD will arrange duplication. It remains to be seen whether any further general briefs (e.g. on North/South matters) are to be added; if the Brazilians do decide on MOU exchanges, on which we are still waiting to hear, clearly a number of further briefs will be required.

G A Duggan
South America Department

6 July 1979

Submitted.

10/7

CONFIDENTIAL

CODE 18-77

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

FM BUENOS AIRES Ø6/1945Z JULY 1979

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 155 OF 6 JULY 1979

INFO RUTINE PORT STANLEY

TOP COPY

YOUR TELNO 98 TO BRASILIA : VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. AS ARRANGED SOME DAYS AGO I DISCUSSED THE VISIT WITH CAVANDOLI THIS MORNING. IF THE MINISTER DOES NOT (REPEAT NOT) CHANGE THE DATES FOR THE BUENOS AIRES LEGS, THE SUGGESTED PROGRAMME WOULD STAND AS FOLLOWS :

12 JULY	Ø855	ARRIVE EZEIZA AIRPORT
	1Ø3Ø	(APPROX) ARRIVE AT RESIDENCE
		REST OF MORNING : FREE
	133Ø	LUNCH AT RESIDENCE WITH MR BOB COX, EDITOR OF BUENOS AIRES HERALD, INVITED
	163Ø	MR RIDLEY TO MEET CHANCERY STAFF
	173Ø	DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR STAFF
	1945	INFORMAL DINNER WITH BRITISH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES
13 JULY	Ø54Ø	LEAVE RESIDENCE FOR AEROPARQUE AIRPORT
	Ø63Ø	DEPART ON AR 616 FOR COMODORO RIVADAVIA
18 JULY	214Ø	ARRIVE AEROPARQUE AIRPORT ON AR 639 FROM COMODORO
	2215	(APPROX) ARRIVE RESIDENCE
	23ØØ	LIGHT SUPPER IF REQUIRED
19 JULY	Ø9ØØ	DISCUSSION IN CHANCERY WITH GEC REPRESENTATIVES
	OR Ø93Ø	ABOUT THE NUCLEAR CONTRACT
	11ØØ	COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER (IF PASTOR IS NOT IN GENEVA)
	113Ø	DISCUSSION WITH CAVANDOLI AND OLIVERI LOPEZ (HEAD OF FALKLANDS AND ANTARCTIC DEPARTMENT OF MFA)
	13ØØ	LUNCH HOSTED BY CAVANDOLI
	163Ø	ROUND-UP WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF
	18ØØ	CALL ON THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY
	193Ø	RECEPTION AT THE RESIDENCE FOLLOWED BY INFORMAL DINNER IF FEASIBLE

2. RECEPTIONS HERE START LATE AND FINISH LATE AND THUS A DINNER FOLLOWING THE RECEPTION (FCO TELNO 112) WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE AT THE RESIDENCE, BUT COULD BE ARRANGED AT A RESTAURANT.

3. PROGRAMME FOR 19 JULY HAS BEEN LEFT FAIRLY LIGHT IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE MINISTER TIME TO CALL ON TEMPORINI (AND PERHAPS OTHER SERVICE CHIEFS OF STAFF) IF INVITED TO DO SO.

4. DINNER JACKETS WILL NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE REQUIRED.

5. A PRESENT OF A BOOK ON FLY FISHING OR A PIECE OF CHINA FOR CAVANDOLI WOULD I BELIEVE GO DOWN WELL.

6. IF DATES ARE UNCHANGED, GRATEFUL IN DUE COURSE FOR CLARIFICATION OF THE PARTY'S FLIGHT TO BRAZIL ON 20 JULY. YOUR TELNO 102 SAID THAT THE MINISTER WOULD BE LEAVING ON AV0804 FOR RIO BUT YOU R TELNO 112 IMPLIED THAT HIS FIRST STOP IN BRAZIL WOULD BE SAO PAULO.

CARLESS

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PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

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CRPS 120
CONFIDENITIAL CONFIDENTIAL
FM BUENOS AIRES 06/1520Z JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 161 OF 6 JULY 1979

FOR SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT
YOUR TELNO 98 TO BRASILIA : VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. TODAY CAVANDOLI ASKED ME TO CONFIRM BY 9 JULY , (DESPITE IT BEING A PUBLIC HOLIDAY), WHETHER MR RIDLEY WOULD BE HERE IN BUENOS AIRES ON 19 JULY. HE NEEDS TO KNOW BECAUSE THE FOREIGN MINISTER WILL BE AWAY FROM 14-15 JULY AND THEY MUST DECIDE ON 9 JULY WHICH OF THEM IS TO LEAD THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION TO THE UN CONFERENCE ON REFUGEES AT GENEVA ON 21 JULY.

2. IF MR RIDLEY IS LIKELY TO VISIT ARGENTINA DURING THE PERIOD OF THAT CONFERENCE CAVANDOLI WOULD REMAIN HERE TO RECEIVE HIM.

3. IF THEREFORE YOU CAN LET ME HAVE CONFIRMATION BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM ON 9 JULY I WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL ALTHOUGH I REALISE THAT YOU MAY ONLY BE ABLE TO TELL ME THAT THE TIMING OF THE JOURNEY STILL REMAINS TO BE DECIDED.

CARLESS

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PS/MR.RIDLEY
MR.HALL

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FM BUENOS AIRES Ø6/1445Z JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 166 OF 6 JULY 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

RESTRICTED

FOR SAMD
YOUR TELNO 98 TO BRASILIA : VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. WE SHOULD REMIND YOU THAT 9 JULY IS A PUBLIC HOLIDAY HERE. THUS ANY REVISION OF ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH LOCAL OFFICES, (PARTICULARLY TRAVEL) WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL TUESDAY.

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PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

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GRS 162

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 051700Z JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 74 OF 5 JULY
FROM SAMD
MY TELEGRAM NUMBER 98 TO BRASILIA

1. IF MR RIDLEY'S DEPARTURE IS DELAYED, IT MAY MEAN A SHORTER VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. WE HOPE IT WILL NOT WORK OUT THIS WAY BUT THOUGHT THAT WE SHOULD TELL YOU NOW. YOU SHOULD NOT MENTION THIS TO COUNCILLORS.

2. THE MINISTER IS MEANWHILE VERY CONTENT WITH THE PROGRAMME OUTLINED IN YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 65 (ALBEIT IN A 5 DAY BASIS)AND HAS FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS IN YOUR LETTER OF 27 JUNE TO URE:

A) MR RIDLEY WOULD LIKE YOU TO ACCOMPANY HIM ON A TOUR OF CAMP SETTLEMENTS: HE THINKS THIS WORLD HELP CREATE A BETTER ATMOSPHERE AND IMPRESSION.

B) YOUR PARAGRAPH 3: NO OBJECTION.

C) YOUR PARAGRAPH 4: MR RIDLEY IS PERFECTLY CONTENT WITH THE PROPOSED PUBLIC RECEPTION, GIVEN HIS WISH TO MEET AS MANY FALKLAND ISLANDERS AS POSSIBLE.

CARRINGTON

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PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

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GRS 83
CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 091600Z JULY 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 118 9 JULY
FROM SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT
YOUR TELNO 161: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. THE DETAILS OF MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA ARE STILL SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL FROM NUMBER 10. BUT YOU CAN TELL THE ARGENTINES THAT THE MINISTER OF STATE NOW PLANS TO LEAVE LONDON ON 18 JULY AND WOULD EXPECT TO BE IN BUENOS AIRES FOR TALKS ON 25/26 JULY AFTER HIS VISIT TO THE ISLANDS.

2. WE HOPE TO CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS SHORTLY.

CARRINGTON

FILES
SAMD
PCD
NEWS D
PS/MR. RIDLEY
MR. HALL

VISIT BY M.A RIDLEY etc

BRIEF no. 18 : TRADE & ECONOMIC RELATIONS

ARGENTINA

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION WITH DR MARTINEZ DE HOZ - ECONOMY MINISTER

1 The UK looks to continued expansion of trade with Argentina. The increased number of trade missions this year is evidence of the renewal of interest on both sides. How does Dr Martinez de Hoz see UK/Argentine trade developing over the next few years?

2 Pleased that so much interest was shown in the Seminar in May organised by Canning House; we hope this interest will be maintained. The British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association (BEAMA) plan to hold a seminar in Buenos Aires next year.

3 We hope UK firms will play an increasing part in contributing to Argentina's development plans. In particular we look for British successes in Argentina's energy generation and transmission programmes.

4 We are pleased that Argentina is liberalising her trade. Does Dr Martinez de Hoz see this as playing a major contribution in reducing inflation? UK committed to open trading system.

5 (If raised) The question of a double taxation agreement is still being considered. We would hope that mutually satisfactory terms could be worked out.

ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

1 Argentina has the third highest GNP per capita in South America (US$ 1,730 in 1977) and is emerging from 'developing country' status. The economy has traditionally been based on agriculture, which still accounts for 12% of GDP and 70% of exports. The main products are cereals(principally wheat),oil seeds and beef, although exports of beef have been hit by the EEC's import restrictions. However , manufacturing capability, which includes some heavy industry, is growing and industry currently accounts for almost 35% of GDP.

2 Argentina has diverse energy resources. Domestic oil production now satisfies over 80% of demand and the Argentines hope to achieve self sufficiency by 1985. The 1978-85 Energy Plan also envisages increases in the production of gas, coal, hydroelectricity and nuclear power. A number of hydroelectric projects are currently planned or under construction and four nuclear power stations are planned.

3 Because of restrictive mining laws, there has been very little exploitation of ~~mineral~~ mineral reserves and only about 10% of the area of Argentina has been properly geologically surveyed. There known to be considerable mineral reserves, including uranium and copper.

4 Following the military takeover in March 1976, when the country was in social and economic chaos, Dr Martinez de Hoz was appointed Economy Minister. Under his direction the external sector has improved considerably and inflation has been reduced from 800% in March 1976 to 170% last year; but the problems of inflation persist and domestic industry remains uncompetitive. A package of measures was introduc at the end of 1978 including a reduction of tariffs over the next five years and a gradual devaluation of the peso agaist the dollar. Foreign borrowing has also been curtailed to curb monetary expansion. Net foreign borrowing in 1978 was about US$ 800 million, bringing the total foreign debt to US$ 9.3 billion and the debt service ratio to 44%.

UK/ARGENTINA TRADE

5 After many years of neglect by British firms, Anglo-Argentine trade has started to show signs of reviving:-

	£ million							
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	Jan-May 1978	Jan-May 1979
UK Exports	42	49	68	63	130	114	44	48
UK Imports	106	98	54	90	120	153	58	46
Balance in favour of UK	- 64	-49	14	-27	10	-39	-14	2

Source; UK Overseas Trade Statistics

6 UK Exports Argentina is our third largest market in South America, after Brazil and Venezuela, but our share of the market(4.3%) is far behind those of the USA (19%), West Germany (11%), Japan (8%), Brazil(8%) and Italy(5%). Our exports are mainly sophisticated machinery and plant, transport equipment, chemicals, electrical apparatus and appliances, iron and steel and whisky.

7 UK Imports In recent years imports have consisted mainly of agricultural products such as meat and meat products, cereals, textile fibres, oil seeds, leather and leather manufactures, and amount only to 0.4% of total UK imports.

8 UK Investment In 1976 UK investments were valued at US$ 437 million - 9.5% of total foreign investment registered in Argentina. This is far behind the United States who lead with 39%, but slightly ahead of our main European rivals. The level of UK investment is relatively static and by March 1978 our share had fallen to 8.8%. Principal British investors in Argentina include ICI, British Steel, GEC, Unilever, Dunlop, Babcock and Wilcox, J and P Coates, Shell, Brookebond Leibig and Lloyd's Bank International.

9 Double Taxation Agreement Attempts in the past to negotiate a double taxation agreement with Argentina have not been pursued to finality by Inland Revenue because of doubts over the terms the Argentines would insist upon and the lack of a positive response from British industry.

10 Trade Promotion In March 1979, Sir Frederick Catherwood as Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board visited Argentina to promote UK interests. At the beginning of May 1979, Dr Martinez de Hoz, Economy Minister, visited the UK as a guest of the BOTB to address delegates at a business seminar on Argentina, organised by Canning House. He was accompanied by four ministers and by members of the public and private sectors, including Ing Brunella, Argentine Secretary of State for Energy (who was also a guest of the BOTB). Following the Seminar Dr Martinez de Hoz expressed the view that Argentina should seek to develop a preferential partnership with Britain for the acquisition of markets and advanced technology. His personal view, not necessarily shared within the Junta, is that economic co-operation in the South West Atlantic is the way forward in the Falklands dispute. During the course of 1979 there will have been several trade missions both to and from Argentina.

11 Projects Current Argentine development plans (mainly in the energy sector where there are ambitious plans for generation and distribution) point to opportunities for UK industry. Major projects where there are UK interests are the hydroelectric scheme at Yacyreta-Apipe(Boving and Co -£24 million) and the nuclear power plant Atucha II (GEC - £105 million). Vosper Thorneycroft have recently lost an order for 7 naval frigates (valued at US$ 700 million) to the German firm of Blohm and Voss. But there is still a possibility that UK firms (Rolls Royce, David Brown etc) may be able to supply some equipment for this contract.

Davy International have recently acquired full ownership of the American company, McKee, in Argentina and are energetically pursuing the major Sidinsa (state owned) steelworks project, worth about $3½ billion. Davy signed a letter of intent in March to review project plans and put forward proposals for implementation and finance.

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LH 384D

From: B J Todd, Assistant Director
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
Defence Sales Organisation Sales 2b
Stuart House 23 Soho Square London W1V 5FJ
Telex 23605 Direct line 01-632
Switchboard 01-632 3333

37

AW 024/1 Your reference

Our reference

T Malcolmson Esq
South America Department
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Date
3 July 1979

Dear Tom,

As requested I enclose a brief for the visit of Mr Nicholas Ridley MP, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to Argentina, Brazil and Peru.

Yours sincerely

Peter Armstrong

pp B.J. Todd

R.P.A 9/7

Important brief

Copy to:
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deferred several times, was expected at the end of 1978. The
purchase by the FAA of 26 refurbished Mirage V aircraft from Israel will
probably now have further deferred this project to 1980/81.

Other equipment in which the Argentines have expressed interest:

a. Argentine Army. Tigercat and Blowpipe (Short Bros), communications equipment (MEL and RACAL).

b. Argentine Air Force. Ex-RAF Canberras; head-up displays (Marconi Avionics).

c. Argentine Navy. 12 Lynx helicopters (Westlands); Mine Counter Measures Vessels (Vosper Thornycroft); Sea Skua and Sea Dart (BAe).

Enclosure

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VW

BRIEF FOR VISIT TO ARGENTINA AND BRAZIL BY MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP, MINISTER OF STATE FCO

ARGENTINA

Frigates

Following the 1969 order for two Type 42 Sea Dart Destroyers from Vickers Shipbuilding Ltd the Argentine Navy (ARA) in 1974 accepted Vosper Thornycroft's tender for the supply of kits for 6 Type 21 Frigates to be built in Argentina.

Protracted negotiations ensued during which Vosper Thornycroft and the ARA could not reach agreement over a number of important issues, and in 1977 the latter approached various European Shipbuilders for details of alternative vessels, ostensibly to check Vosper Thornycroft's prices.

In the summer of 1978 the ARA decided to pre-select Blohm & Voss of West Germany for the construction of its Frigates and it is understood that the relevant contracts have now been signed. British Shipbuilders attempted to retrieve the situation by discussing a counter proposal with the ARA but it was all to no avail.

Efforts are now being directed towards ensuring that as much British equipment as possible is selected for the vessels. An ECGD backed line of credit of US $ 200M has been offered to the ARA and they have expressed interest in British equipment valued at approximately US $100M. Rolls Royce gas turbine engines and David Brown gears are the main British equipment provisionally selected by the ARA.

Hawk

The Argentine Air Force (FAA) has a requirement for an advanced trainer/strike aircraft to replace its ageing MS 760s and has considered a number of alternatives. The requirement is for 60 aircraft which would be delivered in kit form for assembly in the Argentine Aircraft Factory at Cordoba, and the extent to which contenders permit local assembly and participation is expected to be a major factor in negotiations. This is a particularly valuable contract because whoever wins will be involved in the development of the Argentine Aerospace Industry for the next decade and will clearly be well placed to win further orders.

British Aerospace (BAe) have been negotiating with the FAA for some time, but there is intense competition from the Franco - German Alpha Jet. It is believed that Hawk and Alpha Jet are the only remaining contenders on the final short list and a decision, which has already been deferred several times, was expected at the end of 1978. The recent purchase by the FAA of 26 refurbished Mirage V aircraft from Israel will probably now have further deferred this project to 1980/81.

Other equipment in which the Argentines have expressed interest:

a. Argentine Army. Tigercat and Blowpipe (Short Bros), communications equipment (MEL and RACAL).

b. Argentine Air Force. Ex-RAF Canberras; head-up displays (Marconi Avionics).

c. Argentine Navy. 12 Lynx helicopters (Westlands); Mine Counter Measures Vessels (Vosper Thornycroft); Sea Skua and Sea Dart (BAe).

Ealam

General

Training demands from the Argentine Armed Forces are not heavy, but we receive a large number of visitors to MOD establishments and firms, especially from CITEFA (the Argentine Armed Forces tri-service Research & Development organisation), who are seeking to obtain technical information for the setting up or improvement of their own service facilities.

Line to Take

Political considerations have meant that sales of defence equipment to Argentina during the past 2 years have fallen well short of their true potential. We should therefore now be seeking to improve our relations and to rectifying this situation by assisting British companies to make up the ground they have lost to foreign competitors.

(36)

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FM BUENOS AIRES 051938Z

TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

COPIED TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 001 OF 5 JULY 1979

YOUR TELNO 32: TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MINISTERIAL VISIT

1. POINT WELL TAKEN. WE RAISED IT WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN OUR INITIAL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE VISIT AND THEY AGREED TO ARRANGE FOR LADE TO HOLD THE F27 IN COMODORO IF NECESSARY. WE SHALL CONFIRM WITH LADE COMODORO, AS WELL AS LADE HERE, AS SOON AS THE VISIT IS ANNOUNCED

CARLESS

FILES

SAMD
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A.PARSONS
MR HALL

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RECEIVED IN REGISTRY 18
-9 JUL 1979
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FM PORT STANLEY 051358Z JULY 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 32 OF 5 JULY
INFO FCO (FOR SAMD)

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RECEIVED IN REGISTRY
-9 JUL 1979

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MINISTER'S VISIT: TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT AT THIS TIME OF YEAR EARLY MORNING FOG CAN DELAY DEPARTURES FROM AEROPARQUE FOR SOME HOURS. APPARENTLY THIS HAPPENED LAST FRIDAY, PREVENTING PASSENGERS MAKING THE F27 CONNECTION FROM COMODORO TO STANLEY.

2. THE ALTERNATIVE TO A THURSDAY OVERNIGHT STOP AT COMODORO, WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE CONVENIENT AND LESS EXHAUSTING, WOULD BE TO ASK LADE TO HOLD UP THE CONNECTION TO STANLEY UNTIL THE FRIDAY MORNING FLIGHT ARRIVES FROM BUENOS AIRES, BEARING IN MIND THAT THE F27 HAS TO RETURN TO COMODORO THAT AFTERNOON AND THERE MAY BE PASSENGERS HOPING TO MAKE THEIR NORTH-BOUND CONNECTIONS.

3. A REQUEST FROM YOUR END MIGHT BE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN ONE FROM HERE.

PARKER

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SAMD
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

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AW 026/1

-6 JUL 1979

Mr Ure

Mr Hall

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

1. The Prime Minister, while agreeing in principle to Mr Ridley's tour, has asked whether a shorter itinerary, preferably with a smaller proportion falling while the House is sitting, would be possible. Mr Temple is preparing proposals for Mr Ridley which involve leaving a week later (possibly 18 July), either omitting Peru and shortening the time in Brazil or shortening the time in the Falkland Islands. It seems increasingly unlikely that Mr Ridley will depart as originally scheduled on 11 July.

2. Meanwhile, I attach the briefs for the Falkland Islands/Argentina as on the attached list and will be submitting separately soon the briefs for his visits to other countries.

3. The preparation of the steering brief is also in hand.

G A Duggan
South America Department

6 July 1979

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FM BUENOS AIRES 04/1244Z JULY 1979

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 155 OF 3 JULY 1979

INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FOLLOWING FOR SOUTH AMERICA DEPT

VISIT OF MR RIDLEY : COMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT MATTERS

1. DOUBTLESS YOU ARE PREPARING BRIEFS ON THE COMMUNICATIONS AIR SERVICE AND YPF AGREEMENTS. AS FAR AS WE CAN GAUGE, COMODORO CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS ARE UNLIKELY TO SPRING ANY SURPRISES ON THESE SUBJECTS, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF THE GRANT OF A LEASE TO LADE FOR A PLOT OF LAND TO ENABLE THE ARGENTINE REPRESENTATIVE IN PORT STANLEY TO BUILD A NEW HOUSE. THE BACKGROUND IS WELL KNOWN TO YOU : THE ARGENTINES ARE AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY BUT HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR A YEAR FOR THE LEASE AND MAY DECIDE TO RAISE IT WITH MR RIDLEY.

2. OTHERWISE THE ARGENTINES MAY TALK ABOUT THE EXPENSE TO YPF OF THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT FOR DRUMMED FUEL AND THE DETERIORATION OF THE UNUSED YPF PLANT. BUT AFTER A YEAR'S SILENCE FROM THE AIR FORCE ON THEIR ABILITY TO CONSTRUCT AN OIL JETTY THE BALL IS IN THE ARGENTINE COURT. SIMILARLY WE ARE WAITING ON THEM TO TAKE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ABOUT A FORMULA COVERING THE FLYING OF COURTESY FLAGS BY YPF TANKERS : IN ANY CASE THIS ISSUE IS ACADEMIC UNTIL WE ARE CLOSER TO A TIME WHEN YPF TANKERS CAN DISCHARGE THEIR CARGO IN PORT STANLEY.

3. I ASSUME THAT MR RIDLEY WILL NOT NEED TO DISCUSS TRAVEL CARDS SINCE THE NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR NON-RESIDENTS SEEMS TO BE WORKING SATISFACTORILY AND SINCE , FROM THE SOVEREIGNTY POINT OF VIEW, WE ARE COVERED BY THE PROTEST NOTE HANDED OVER IN DECEMBER.

CARLESS

FILES
S AM D
PS/MR. RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A PARSONS
MR. HALL

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FM PORT STANLEY 021334Z JUL 79

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 120 OF 2 JULY

INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES

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FOLLOWING FOR URE SAMD

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE: BRIEFING

1. I HAD THOUGHT I SHOULD GIVE YOU A FAIRLY FULL IDEA OF WHAT I THOUGHT THE COUNCILLORS WOULD BRING UP IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE MINISTER, BUT I MIGHT THEN ANTICIPATE IN MY OWN WORDS WHAT MR RIDLEY WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY PREFER TO DISCOVER FOR HIMSELF FROM ISLANDERS ABOUT THEIR WORRIES AND HOPES. IN THE LIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S KNOWLEDGE OF MOST POINTS PERHAPS I COULD THEREFORE CONFINE MYSELF TO A BRIEF LIST, WITHOUT MUCH EXPLANATION, OF THE MAJOR TOPICS COUNCILLORS WILL WISH TO TALK OVER WITH THE MINISTER.

2. FIRST, THE QUESTION OF MARITIME ZONES AND EXTENDED FISHING LIMITS TO SECURE ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM LICENSING AND SHORE-BASED FACILITIES.

3. THE POSSIBILITIES OF IN-SHORE AND NEAR-SHORE FISHERIES, ON WHICH WE AWAIT THE REPORT OF LAST NOVEMBER'S PRELIMINARY ODA SURVEY.

4. THE RESULTS, IF ANY ARE YET KNOWN, OF THE SEISMIC SURVEYS OF POSSIBLE MARINE OIL DEPOSITS CARRIED OUT LAST YEAR.

5. THE DEPRESSING EFFECT THAT WORLD RECESSION, CAUSED BY HIGH OIL COSTS, COULD HAVE ON WOOL PRICES, OUR MAJOR SOURCE OF INCOME AT PRESENT.

6. ODA WILL PRESUMABLY BRIEF ON THE CURRENT PROGRESS OF OUR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. A LOT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE SAID ABOUT THE SAD STATE OF THE SCHOOL HOSTEL PROJECT, AND THE POOR PERFORMANCE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY'S CONTRACTING SUBSIDIARY.

/ 7. A LAST

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7. A LAST MAJOR TOPIC WILL BE THE QUESTION OF THE ISLANDERS' STATUS UNDER ANY NEW BRITISH NATIONALITY LEGISLATION, BUT THE DEPARTMENT IS NOW WELL BRIEFED ON THE ISLANDERS' WISHES IN THIS CONNEXION.

8. FINALLY, I SHALL ENCOURAGE COUNCILLORS TO CLARIFY THEIR VIEWS, TO REMOVE ANY MISUNDERSTANDING, ABOUT THE DRAFT DEPENDENCIES SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT AND ON THE WRETCHED LITTLE QUESTION OF THE HOUSE FOR THE LADE REPRESENTATIVE. IN THIS GENERAL CONNEXION OF ARGENTINE RELATIONS, POSITIVE COMMENTS OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AN ANGLO/ARGENTINE DIALOGUE, WITH THE HOPE THAT SOME COOPERATIVE PROPOSALS OF REAL BENEFIT TO THE ISLANDS WILL EMERGE, WERE MADE IN THE RECENT LEGCO DEBATE.

PARKER

F I L E S:
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PS/LPS
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL
MR STRATTON
MR BUTLER
MISS BROWN
MR FIGG

Arg 026/1

(31)

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FM BUENOS AIRES 29/2035Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELNO 152 OF 29 JUNE 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

YOUR TELNOO 70 (24) TO PORT STANLEY: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE
TUR RECEIVED THIS AFTERNOON

2. THANK YOU FOR ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT. SINCE THIS IS A TEXT WHICH ONLY HMG WILL ISSUE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT, IN THEIR ANNOUNCEMENT, WILL UNDOUBTEDLY EMPHASISE MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES AND HIS EXCHANGES WITH PASTOR AND CAVANDOLI.

3. I DO NOT (REPEAT NOT) PROPOSE TO GIVE THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TEXT IN TUR UNTIL IT IS CONFIRMED AND UNTIL YOU HAVE DATE AND TIME FOR ITS RELEASE. GRATEFUL THEREFORE FOR AS MUCH ADVANCE NOTICE AS POSSIBLE OF THE TIMING (IDEALLY 48 HOURS) .FOREIGN MINISTRY CAN THEN TIME THEIR OWN PRESS BRIEFING TO COINCIDE.

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TO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 25 OF 29 JUNE.

YOUR TEL NO 61. (27)

UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO SCOPE FOR THIS AS MR RIDLEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS RIDLEY AND PRIVATE SECRETARY ONLY.

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FILES
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PS/MR RIDLEY

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FM BUENOS AIRES 2917ØØZ JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELNO U/N OF 29 JUNE 1979
AND TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

FOLLOWING FOR HALL, ~~AMSS~~.

MY TELNO 151. (26)

PARA 2. FOURTH LINE. FOURTH WORD. PLEASE AMEND QUOTE PURSUING UNQUOTE TO READ QUOTE PRESSING UNQUOTE.

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FM PORT STANLEY 301525Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 119 OF 30 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES

(24)

YOUR TELNO 70 OF 27 JUNE (RECEIVED 29 JUNE): VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE: PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

1. I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT: WE SHALL ALSO OF COURSE DRAW QUIETLY ON PARAGRAPH 3 OF TUR. I TAKE IT WE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE THE EXACT DATES OF THE VISIT WHEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE.

2. WE WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO MRS RIDLEY'S PRESENCE WITH THE MINISTER: IT WILL ADD GREATLY TO THE PLEASURE OF THE VISIT, AND WILL BE MUCH APPRECIATED HERE.

3. BRIEFING SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW.

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TO PRIORITY FCO.
TELEGRAM NUMBER 61 OF 25 JUNE

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RECEIVED 2 JUL 1979
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INDEX | MAP | TRACE

FOR COPY

INFO BUENOS AIRES

(20)

YOUR TELEGRAM NO. 24: MINISTER OF STATE'S PROPOSED TOUR.

1. POINTS TAKEN. MY MAIN CONCERN IS TO IMPROVE CLIMATE FOR TRADE. IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY OF MEMBER OF MINISTER'S PARTY CROSSING TO MONTEVIDEO? FLIGHT TIME IS ONLY 30 MINUTES AND VISIT COULD BE MANAGED WITHIN ONE DAY OR, IF DINNER PARTY DEEMED SUITABLE GIVEN LEVEL OF OUR RELATIONS, IN AFTERNOON AND NIGHT OF ONE DAY.

PETERS

FILES
S AM D
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NEWS D
ES & SD
FRD
DEF D
P & CD
PS/MR.RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR.G.HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

PS 456
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FM BUENOS AIRES 28/2110Z JUNE 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 151 OF 28 JUNE 1979
AND TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

TOP COPY
ALW 026/1

FOLLOWING FOR HALL, AUSS
VISIT OF MR RIDLEY

1. I HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING WHAT GUIDANCE I CAN OFFER YOU TO HELP BRIEF MR RIDLEY FOR HIS EXCHANGES WITH CAVANDOLI ON 19 JULY.

2. I BELIEVE MR RIDLEY MAY FIND THE ARGENTINES TAKING A FIRM LINE OVER WHAT THEY WOULD EXPECT FROM ANY FUTURE ROUNDS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. WITH MORE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS PRESENT AND THE LOCAL PRESS PURSUING HIM TO ACHIEVE RESULTS, CAVANDOLI IS LIKELY TO TAKE A TOUGHER ATTITUDE THAN HE DID IN LONDON. WE KNOW THAT, FOLLOWING THE MARCH ROUND OF TALKS IN NEW YORK, OLIVERI LOPEZ HAD SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT CONTINUING THE TALKS ON THE PRESENT LINES, AND THAT THE ARGENTINES ARE NOW ACUTELY AWARE THAT THE VIEWS OF THE FALKLAND ISLAND COUNCILLORS ARE THE KEY TO ANY PROGRESS.

3. PRESUMABLY MR RIDLEY WILL NOT WANT TO GO INTO DETAILS ABOUT ANY FUTURE ROUND OF THE TALKS, OR THE TOPICS THAT THEY MIGHT COVER, BEFORE RETURNING TO LONDON. HE WILL, I IMAGINE, WISH TO GIVE CAVANDOLI SOME IDEA OF HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE FALKLANDS, AND I BELIEVE HE SHOULD DO SO, WHETHER OR NOT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY LIKE ALL HE MAY HAVE TO SAY. IN ADDITION, I THINK IT WOULD HELP TO KEEP ARGENTINES IN PLAY, AND TO REVIVE THEIR INTEREST IN THE TALKS, IF MR RIDLEY COULD GIVE AS POSITIVE AS POSSIBLE AN INDICATION OF WHAT HE FINDS IN THE WAY OF ISLANDER WILLINGNESS FOR CO-OPERATION WITH ARGENTINA. DESPITE THE ARGENTINE OBJECTIONS TO ANY SCHEME UNDER THE SOVEREIGNTY UMBRELLA WHICH DID NOT INCLUDE THE TERRITORY OF THE DEPENDENCIES, THE JOINT MANAGEMENT OF OFFSHORE FISHERIES STILL SEEMS THE MOST PROMISING FIELD. I WONDER IF COUNCILLORS HAVE FORMED A COLLECTIVE VIEW ON THE SUBJECT, HOW THEY MIGHT BENEFIT FROM A SCHEME AND WHAT LIMITATIONS THEY WOULD IMPOSE ON IT ?

/4. I EXPECT THE

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4. I EXPECT THE GOVERNOR WILL BE ENCOURAGING COUNCILLORS AND OTHERS TO COLLECT THEIR THOUGHTS ON A RANGE OF MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE MINISTER, INCLUDING OF COURSE THE IMPORTANT INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. WITHOUT WISHING TO TRESPASS ON HIS DOMAIN, I WONDER IF IT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE ENCOURAGING THEM TO CRYSTALISE THEIR THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE AREAS FOR CO-OPERATION WITH ARGENTINA, AS WELL AS ON OTHER TRADITIONAL AND TOPICAL ISSUES.

5. IF MR RIDLEY IS UNABLE, ON 19 JULY, EITHER TO SAY ANYTHING NEW OR TO RELAY SOME ISLANDER THOUGHTS ON CO-OPERATION HIS EXCHANGES HERE WILL BE DIFFICULT. THE RESULT WOULD NOT AUGUR WELL FOR EITHER THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S PROPOSED MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR IN SEPTEMBER, OR ANY FUTURE ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

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FM MEXICO CITY 282200Z JUN 79
TO PRIOTITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 153 OF 28 JUNE

(24)

YOUR TELEGRAM TO PORT STANLEY NO 70 OF 27 JUNE: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE PROPOSED PRESS ANOUNCEMENT IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE.

2. I DISCUSSED MR RIDLEY'S VISIT WITH MANUEL TELLO THIS MORNING. HE SEEMED CONTENT THAT THE EMBASSY SHOULD ORGANIZE IT, AS CLEARLY HE IS VERY MUCH IN THE PROCESS OF RE-ESTABLISHING HIMSELF HERE (HIS WIFE HAS NOT YET RETURNED FROM LONDON).

3. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE WEEKEND ARRANGEMENTS OUTLINED IN MY TELEGRAM NO 109 OF 11 JUNE, TELLO SUGGEWTED THAT MR AND MRS RIDLEY MIGHT LIKE TO SPEND THE WEEKEND BY THE SEA, FLYING DIRECT FROM GUADALAJARA TO PUERTO VALLARTA OR TO LAS HADAS (A NEWLEY-DEVELOPED RESORT AND ONE OF MEXICO'S SHOWPIECES). THIS WOULD MEAN SKIPPING THE BALLET ON SATURDAY NIGHT, 4 AUGUST. THE RETURN COULD BE EITHER SUNDAY OR MONDAY MORNING, DEPENDING ON THE DEPARTURE TIME FROM MEXICO CITY.

4. TELLO ASKED ME TO INFORM THE MFA OFFICIALLY ABOUT MR RIDLEY'S VISIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS THEY WOULD WISH TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A WORKING SESSION AND A LUNCH. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE SHOULD HAVE DETAILS OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE DUCHY OF LANCASTER'S TRAVEP PLANS BEFORE INFORMING THE MFA SINCE THERE IS OTHERWISE A RISK OF INVOLVING THEM IN POSSIBLY CONFLICTING COMMITMENTS.

5. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IFOR VIEWS ON THE PROGRAMME SUGGESTIONS.

COX

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(24A)

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

AW 026/1

RECEIVED 11 JUL 1979

Our Ref: 026/1

27 June 1979

3. enter
1. Tel sent
2. Mr Osborne 9/7
4. Miss Sampson

J B Ure Esq MVO
SAMD
FCO

Dear John.

1. I hope the programme for the Minister of State's visit which I outlined in my telno 65 is about right; we shall begin to make arrangements on this basis as soon as an announcement is made. There are, however, one or two questions in connection with it to which you might let me have quick telegraphic answers when you receive this letter.

2. I would be very pleased to accompany Mr Ridley on his tour of the Camp settlements and, indeed, I think I should be there when he goes to the large, and politically rather boisterous, settlement at Darwin/Goose Green. It occurs to me, however, that Mr Ridley might prefer to be more or less on his own - accompanied by his Private Secretary and a Secretariat aide to look after the arrangements. Either way, I would be quite happy, and perhaps you could sound out Mr Ridley's wishes.

prefer ✓

3. Similarly, the Councillors whose constituencies he will be visiting have also offered to accompany him. I take it Mr Ridley will have no objection to this; they can be relied upon to keep in the background.

✓

4. As regards the public reception in the Town Hall - commonly known as a beer and sherry party - these occasions can be somewhat crowded and noisy affairs, but they are now very much in the tradition of things here, and people like the opportunity of having at least a sight of, and perhaps a few words with their visitor. His presence at such a function would be popularly appreciated, but I will not commit him to it if he might, understandably, find it irksome.

meet as many as possible ✓

/5. I shall

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

(24A)

AW 026/1

11 JUL 1979

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Our Ref: 026/1

27 June 1979

3. enter
1. Tel sent
2. Mr Ridley 29/7
4. Miss Sampson

J B Ure Esq MVO
SAMD
FCO

Dear John.

1. I hope the programme for the Minister of State's visit which I outlined in my telno 65 is about right; we shall begin to make arrangements on this basis as soon as an announcement is made. There are, however, one or two questions in connection with it to which you might let me have quick telegraphic answers when you receive this letter.

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meet as many as possible ✓

/5. I shall

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

5. I shall be telegraphing a list of those topics which may come up in discussion, and on which you will wish to brief Mr Ridley.

6. I had hoped, by the way, that an official announcement about the visit would have been made by the time of writing this but, having mentioned it twice, I did not want to press the point. The mail will be in today, with the BA papers and their leaked information about it (Buenos Aires telno 136). But I have warned the Councillors, and we shall cope as best we may with any interest that might be excited.

Yours ever,

Jim

J R W Parker

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

(24)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALW 026/1

-2 JUL 1979

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GPO 200
CONFIDENTIAL
FROM FCO 271758Z
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 70 OF 27 JUNE
AND TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES, BRASILIA, LIMA, CARACAS, MEXICO
INFO SAO PAULO (BRASILIA PSE PASS) RIO DE JANEIRO

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. ONCE FORMAL APPROVAL FOR MINISTER'S VISIT IS OBTAINED, WE PROPOSE ISSUING A SHORT GENERAL PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON FOLLOWING LINES:

QUOTE THE PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED TO A SUGGESTION BY THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY THAT THE MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FCO, MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY, SHOULD MAKE A FAMILIARISATION VISIT TO A NUMBER OF THE COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA WITH WHICH HE DEALS. MR RIDLEY ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, WILL DEPART ON 11 JULY AND WILL BE AWAY FOR SOME ~~FOUR~~ WEEKS, DURING WHICH HE WILL VISIT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, ~~PERU~~, VENEZUELA AND MEXICO UNQUOTE.

2. UNATTRIBUTABLY WE WOULD ADD THAT THE MINISTER WOULD HOPE TO MEET MINISTERS AS APPROPRIATE AND TO HAVE EXCHANGES ON CURRENT BILATERAL QUESTIONS: BUT THE MINISTER'S MAIN PURPOSE IS TO OBTAIN SOME FIRST HAND IMPRESSIONS, TO LOOK AT THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND TO REPORT BACK TO HIS COLLEAGUES.

3. (FOR PORT STANLEY AND BUENOS AIRES)
WE WOULD STRESS MINISTER'S WISH TO HAVE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH ISLANDERS ANDMAKE POINT THAT WITH ARGENTINES THERE WOULD BE NO QUESTION OF ANY SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES ON THE FALKLANDS ISSUE AT THIS EARLY STAGE.

4. GRATEFUL FOR ANY COMMENTS.

5. WE SHALL

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CONFIDENTIAL

5. WE SHALL INFORM YOU BY TELEGRAM BEFORE THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE BY NEWS DEPARTMENT TO ENABLE YOU TO CLEAR THE VISIT WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT IN ADVANCE.

CARRINGTON

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RESTRICTED

(23)

AMW 026/1

29 JUN 1979

PS/Mr Ridley

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT OF MR RIDLEY'S LATIN AMERICAN TOUR

1. No 10 have still to reply to the letter from the Private Office seeking the Prime Minister's formal approval for Mr Ridley's absence. Meanwhile, news of what is proposed is beginning to leak quite widely. It would be sensible, therefore, to have ready a press statement. This would need, if only for courtesy reasons, to be cleared with the Governments of the countries which Mr Ridley is proposing to visit.

2. I recommend that we send a telegram to posts and attach a draft. This has been agreed by M & CD, WIAD, and News Department.

3. The draft as it now stands omits mention of the Caribbean, as recommended by WIAD. This could of course be added as necessary later.

G A Duggan
South America Department

27 June, 1979

Tel sent See (24)

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GRS 80
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(22)

FM FCO 261658Z JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 112 OF 26 JUNE

TOP COPY

ARG 026/1

FOLLOWING FROM ACTING HEAD OF SAMD

YOUR TELNO 148. (19)

1. THANK YOU FOR THESE HELPFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS.

2. WE REALISE PERIOD IN ARGENTINA WILL BE SHORT. BUT MINISTER HAS ALREADY RE-ARRANGED HIS PROGRAMME WITHIN BRAZIL, INVOLVING HIM IN CALLS AND VISITS IN SAO PAULO ON 20 AND 21 JULY AND IN RIO DE JANEIRO FROM 21-23 JULY. I FEAR THAT HE CANNOT NOW CHANGE THESE.

3. ON SUGGESTIONS IN YOUR PARA 2, WE HAVE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

(I) AGREED: IT IS LIKELY NOW ALSO THAT MINISTER WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS RIDLEY.

(II) AGREED.

(III) MINISTER WOULD WELCOME A CALL ON MARTINEZ DE HOZ AND WOULD OF COURSE FALL IN WITH CAVANDOLI'S WISHES.

(IV) MINISTER IS INCLINED TO OPT FOR A RECEPTION TO ENABLE HIM TO MEET MORE PEOPLE IF A RECEPTION AND A DINNER WERE BOTH POSSIBLE SO MUCH THE BETTER.

(V) MINISTER WILL GLADLY DO WHATEVER YOU ADVISE.

CARRINGTON

FILES
S AM D
PS/MR.RIDLEY
MR.HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

AUW 026/1

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 June 1979

Dear Mike

The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has asked the Minister of State, Mr Ridley, to visit the Falkland Islands and a number of more important Latin American countries with which he deals to try to establish whether there are any commercial opportunities which we should be pursuing.

Mr Ridley plans to leave Britain on 11 July visiting the Falkland Islands (13/18 July), Argentina (18/20 July), Brazil (20/25 July), Peru (25/30 July), Venezuela (30 July - 1 August), Mexico (1/6 August) and returning via Antigua and St Kitts/Nevis (6/9 August). He would be accompanied by his Private Secretary, but no other officials.

The purpose of the visit overall would be exploratory. In the Falkland Islands it would be important for Mr Ridley to establish personal contact with the Islanders, to get some insight into their thinking, and to be able to obtain a first-hand account of their views. In the Latin American capitals, Mr Ridley would have meetings with appropriate Ministers. In Argentina he would undertake no negotiations with the Foreign Minister over the Falkland Islands; Lord Carrington intends to embark on no such action before the autumn. Additionally in Brazil, Mr Ridley's visit may provide the occasion for a formal meeting under the Memorandum of Understanding for "consultations on matters of common interest". In Mexico, as well as meeting members of the Mexican Government, he would attend some functions of the British Cultural Festival which opens in early August.

Mr Ridley would like to take the opportunity to return to London via the Eastern Caribbean. The Antiguans have asked for preliminary constitutional talks, as a further step towards independence. Also we have a commitment to settle the constitutional differences between St Kitts and Nevis before the end of the year, and a brief visit there would encourage the islanders to accelerate progress.

I would be grateful for your confirmation that the Prime Minister has no objection.

Lord Carrington believes that there would be advantage if Mrs Ridley travels with the Minister of State. Particularly in the visit to the Falkland Islands, but also in the other stages

/of

Mike Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

of the tour, her presence and interest will help to generate goodwill. Lord Carrington hopes that on this occasion the Prime Minister will approve the payment of Mrs Ridley's fare from public funds.

I am copying this letter to William Austen (Government Whip's Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely

Margaret Turner

Margaret Turner (Miss)
Private Secretary

(20)

AW 024/1

27 JUN 1979

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FM FCO 251855Z JUN 79

TO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 24 OF 25 JUNE

INFO BUENOS AIRES (1) AW 020/1

YOUR TELNO 59: MINISTER OF STATE'S PROPOSED TOUR.

1. WE REGRET THAT A VISIT TO MONTEVIDEO WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE. PURPOSE OF MR RIDLEY'S PROPOSED TOUR IS TO SPEND SOME TIME IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND TO VISIT MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES (ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND MEXICO). OUR RELATIONS WITH URUGUAY ARE NOT AT SUCH A LEVEL AS TO WARRANT THE INCLUSION OF URUGUAY IN SUCH A TOUR NOW (THERE ARE SPECIFIC AND SPECIAL REASONS FOR INCLUDING PERU).

2. IF ASKED, YOU SHOULD SAY THAT TIGHTNESS OF MINISTER'S SCHEDULE AND LENGTHY AND ARDUOUS NATURE OF TOUR REGRETFULLY MAKE A VISIT TO URUGUAY IMPOSSIBLE. MINISTER INDICATED THUS TO URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR WHEN LATTER CALLED ON 6 JUNE (RECORD COPIED TO YOUR CHANCERY).

CARRINGTON

FILES
SAMD
TREA
NEWS.D.
ESSD
FRD
DEFENCE.D.
PSD
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A.PARSONS
MR HAHN

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CRPS 180 CONFIDENTIAL

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FM BUENOS AIRES 25/1915Z JUNE 1979

IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 148 OF 25 JUNE 1979

FOLLOWING FOR HEAD OF SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT

YOUR TELNO 136 AND MY TELNO 145 : VISIT OF MR RIDLEY

1. THE MINISTER OF STATE WILL BE HERE FOR TOO BRIEF A PERIOD TO OBTAIN MORE THAN A PARTIAL IMPRESSION OF ARGENTINA. IS THERE ANY CHANCE OF HIS AGREEING TO STAY UNTIL SATURDAY 21 JULY ? IF THERE WERE, WE COULD ARRANGE A PLEASANT DAY FOR HIM AT AN ESTANCIA ON 20 JULY OR HE COULD FLY THAT DAY UP TO THE IGUAZU FALLS, SPEND THE NIGHT THERE AND THEN CONTINUE ON THE DAILY FLIGHT TO BRASILIA VIA SAO PAULO WHICH LEAVES AT 10.10 AND GETS HIM IN AT 16.05.

2. AS FOR THE REST OF HIS TIME HERE, I HAVE THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS WHICH I WOULD BE GLAD IF YOU WOULD PUT TO HIM IF APPROPRIATE :

(I) ON 12 JULY LUNCH WOULD BE WITH JUST MY WIFE AND ME UNLESS MR RIDLEY WOULD LIKE ME TO INVITE ROBERT COX THE EDITOR OF THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD, WHO IS AN OUTSTANDING COURAGEOUS AND WELL INFORMED MAN :

(II) FOR THE INFORMAL DINNER THAT EVENING I WOULD PROPOSE TO INVITE SIX BRITISH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES MAKING A TABLE OF TEN :

(III) ON 19 JULY I BELIEVE THAT CAVANDOLI MAY PREFER TO OFFER MR RIDLEY A LUNCH RATHER THAN DINNER THAT EVENING. I RECOMMEND THAT MR RIDLEY SHOULD CALL ON MARTINEZ DE HOZ DURING THE AFTERNOON :

(IV) IF CAVANDOLI DOES OFFER LUNCH (RATHER THAN DINNER WHICH IS STILL A POSSIBILITY) I WOULD THEN BE GLAD TO GIVE A RECEPTION OR A DINNER FOR MR RIDLEY, WHICHEVER HE WOULD PREFER :

(V) WOULD THE MINISTER OF STATE AGREE TO SPEND AN HOUR IN CHANCERY DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 19 JULY EITHER MEETING THE STAFF OR ADDRESSING THEM BRIEFLY ? I RECOMMEND THE LATTER.

CARLESS

FILES

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REGISTRY REGISTERED NO. 18
26 JUN 1979

TOP COPY

GR 50
CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 251648Z JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 111 OF 25 JUNE (17)
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
YOUR TELNO 145: VISIT OF MR RIDLEY.
1. FOR THE REASONS IN MY TELNO 106, WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID FORMAL CONTACTS WITH ARGENTINES UNTIL AFTER MINISTER HAS VISITED FALKLAND ISLANDS.

CARRINGTON

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NEWS)
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

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25 JUN 1979 TOP COPY

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DESKBY FCO 2512002
FM BUENOS AIRES 2221242 JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 145 OF 22 JUNE 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

YOUR TELNO 116: VISIT OF MR RIDLEY (16)

ACTION TAKEN WITH COUNSELLOR GARCIA PINTO OF MALVINAS DEPARTMENT, OLIVERI LOPEZ HAVING LEFT FOR THE ANTARCTIC TREATY MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON.

2. GARCIA PINTO TOOK NOTE. THE DEPARTMENT HAD NOT (REPEAT NOT) HEARD FROM THE ARGENTINE CHARGE THAT MR RIDLEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR DISCUSSIONS ONLY ON 19 JULY.

3. AS YOU KNOW, THE ARGENTINES ATTACH MUCH IMPORTANCE TO FORM. THEY WILL REMEMBER THAT MR ROWLANDS CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER GUZZETTI ON HIS WAY SOUTH IN FEBRUARY 1977. I BELIEVE THEY WILL TAKE IT BADLY AMISS IF THE MINISTER OF STATE FAILS TO MAKE A SIMILAR BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON THE DAY HE TRANSITS BUENOS AIRES. TO MY RECOLLECTION, MR ROWLAND'S CALL DID NOT CREATE ANY DIFFICULTY FOR HIM WITH FALKLAND ISLAND COUNCILLORS, WHO HAD PRIOR NOTICE OF IT.

4. THERE HAS BEEN A FURTHER PRESS STORY ON THE VISIT. FOLLOWING CAVANDOLI'S DISCLOSURE TO JOURNALISTS ON 18 JUNE (MY TELNO 136), QUOTE CLARIN UNQUOTE RAN A STORY ON 22 JUNE ON MR RIDLEY'S PLANS TO VISIT THE FALKLANDS AND BUENOS AIRES IN JULY.

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PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL.

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(16A)

enter

Ian Hall discussed these points with Ian Ridley. Tels out on (b) (c) (d), (a) await no 10; (e) not on.

ACW 011/1
-2 JUL 1979

Mr Hall

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

1. I attach a set of the telegrams about the visit and a schedule of the itinerary.

2. A number of questions arise from posts' replies:

(a) Press announcement:
We still await the formal authority from No 10 for the visit and an announcement cannot be made until this has been received. Nevertheless, it is clear that the BA press have already published a pretty accurate forecast of the Minister's movements, possibly based on comments from Commodore Cavandoli on his return. I imagine that our release would be a fairly general statement, but we would probably have to let posts, e.g. especially BA, see the text.

(b) Who should accompany the Minister:
Both Port Stanley and BA have suggested that a member of our mission in BA (eg Mr Gozney) might accompany the Minister to the Falklands. We have hitherto assumed that the Minister would receive all the necessary support in other countries from our missions, although there is a possible additional need of support from London (DOT?) in Brasilia for any exchanges under the MOU heading.

(c) Programme on 12 June in BA:
The Minister arrives after an arduous overnight journey in mid morning. Mr Carless has suggested a lunch (with British businessmen) and a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Pastor, plus a reception in the evening. This might be too much. The Minister would have all of Thursday, 19 July in BA on his return. The Falkland Islanders might well not like to have the Minister holding 'discussions' in BA on his way out before he had spoken to them.

(d) Brasilia:
I sent a telegram to Brasilia last night (copies have yet to be circulated) asking whether the programme in Brasilia might be changed as discussed by Mr Egerton and the Minister of State yesterday afternoon. The attached draft itinerary incorporates these proposals as an alternative.

/(e) ...

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(e) Ecuador:
President-elect Roldos's inauguration is on Friday, 10 August, and the Ecuador Ambassador is lobbying for high level attendance. No other Ministers are scheduled to be in the area at the time (Mr Parkinson's dates are 7-26 September and Mr Walker's are tentatively two weeks in October). It might be possible for the Minister to return to Ecuador after Antigua, although in the wrong direction.

G A Duggan
South America Department

20 June, 1979

(b)+ On Nov, Mr Owen (DOT) adds that they are urgently examining, now, what matters of substance in our bilateral trading relations they would consider it worth raising at a July Nav meeting. If there were any (and they were not immediately apparent to him), DOT would probably wish to be represented. He will discuss with Mr Treble.

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FM FCO 201730Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 106 OF 20 JUNE
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

AW 026/1

(14)

YOUR TELNO 138: VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. MR RIDLEY DOES NOT LIKE IDEA OF COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR BEFORE HE VISITS THE THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. HALL HAS ALREADY TOLD ARGENTINE CHARGE THAT MR RIDLEY WOULD ONLY BE AVAILABLE TO MEET ARGENTINES ON HIS RETURN JOURNEY. THURSDAY 19 JULY APPEARS TO OFFER ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES.

2. PLEASE EXPLAIN TO OLIVEIRI LOPEZ THAT MINISTER WOULD PREFER NO FORMAL ENGAGEMENTS ON 12 JULY GIVEN THAT HE WILL ARRIVE LATE IN THE MORNING AFTER A LONG ARDUOUS OVERNIGHT JOURNEY AND THAT HE WILL BE LEAVING FOR COMODORO VERY EARLY ON FRIDAY, 13 JULY. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT MR RIDLEY LOOKS FORWARD TO HIS CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND HIS EXCHANGES WITH COMMODORE CAVANDOLI ON 19 JULY.

3. MR RIDLEY IS NOT HOWEVER ADVERSE TO A SMALL INFORMAL PRIVATE DINNER WITH BRITISH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EVENING OF 12 JULY.

4. NO FCO OFFICIALS, OTHER THAN HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, WILL BE ACCOMPANYING MR RIDLEY FOR HIS VISITS TO BA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. MR RIDLEY WELCOMES THE SUGGESTION IN YOUR PARAGRAPH 4(C) AND IN PARAGRAPH 6 OF PORT STANLEY TELNO 110 (REPEATED TO YOU) THAT GOZNEY FROM YOUR EMBASSY SHOULD JOIN HIS PARTY FOR HIS VISIT TO THE FALKLANDS.

5. WE ARE STILL NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE ANY FORMAL PRESS STATEMENT BUT WE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE NEED (PARAGRAPH 2 OF PORT STANLEY TELNO 110) TO WORD THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAREFULLY TO ALLAY FALKLANDS' ANXIETIES.

CARRINGTON
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PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

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AW 026/1

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 18
22 JUN 1979
DEPT DIVISION
INDEX
TOP COPY

GR 80
CONFIDENTIAL
FM PORT STANLEY 201337Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 111 OF 20 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES

MY TELNO 110
VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. I SPOKE YESTERDAY TO COUNCILLORS (12) ON THE HELPFUL LINES OF YOUR TELNO 65.

2. THEY RECEIVED THE NEWS OF MR RIDLEY'S VISIT AND THE DECISION ON THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS VERY WELL INDEED. THEY WILL NOW BEGIN TO PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR WHAT THEY LOOK FORWARD TO AS BEING USEFUL AND REWARDING DISCUSSIONS.

3. THEY, TOO, EXPRESSED THE HOPE THE VISIT COULD BE MADE PUBLIC SOON TO AVOID ANY FURTHER SPECULATIVE DISCLOSURES ELSEWHERE.

PARKER

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GR 420 CONFIDENTIAL

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FM PORT STANLEY 191430Z JUN 79

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 110 OF 19 JUNE

INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 65

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. COUNCILLORS ARE ARRIVING IN STANLEY FOR THE LEGCO MEETING TOMORROW (20) AND I SHALL CALL THEM TOGETHER THIS AFTERNOON TO INFORM THEM CONFIDENTIALLY OF THE MINISTER'S VISIT WHICH I AM SURE THEY WILL APPRECIATE AND WELCOME.

2. FOLLOWING THE RECENT LEAKS IN THE BUENOS AIRES PRESS THERE HAS BEEN A GOOD DEAL OF SPECULATION HERE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A JULY VISIT SO IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE. I HOPE WE CAN SOON MAKE IT PUBLIC IN A SUITABLY WORDED STATEMENT TO ALLAY ANY ANXIETY ABOUT ITS PURPOSE.

3. A NUMBER OF FARM MANAGERS ARE ON OVERSEAS LEAVE AND THE WEATHER IN JULY IS UNPREDICTABLE FOR FLYING, BUT BOTH BEAVER SEAPLANES ARE IN SERVICE AND WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ARRANGE VISITS TO AT LEAST TWO SETTLEMENTS EACH ON THE EAST AND THE WEST (INCLUDING PORT HOWARD WHOSE PRINCIPAL OWNER, WALDRON, IS I BELIEVE KNOWN TO MR RIDLEY).

4. A TENTATIVE OUTLINE PROGRAMME WOULD BE:-

FRIDAY AFTERNOON:	PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
EVENING:	RECEPTION TO MEET COUNCILLORS, OFFICIALS ETC
SATURDAY MORNING:	DISCUSSION WITH JOINT COUNCILS FOLLOWED BY BUFFET LUNCHEON
AFTERNOON:	TOUR OF STANLEY AND AID PROJECTS
EVENING:	DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
SUNDAY MORNING:	VISIT TO WEST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS
	OVERNIGHT STAY
MONDAY MORNING:	VISIT TO EAST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS
	OVERNIGHT STAY

CONFIDENTIAL / TUESDAY

TUESDAY MORNING:	RETURN TO STANLEY
AFTERNOON:	DISCUSSIONS WITH SHEEPOWNERS ASSOCIATION, GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION, FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE ETC
EVENING:	PUBLIC RECEPTION IN TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY MORNING:	ROUND-UP MEETING WITH COUNCILLORS
AFTERNOON:	DEPART.

5. IT HAS BECOME THE CUSTOM FOR IMPORTANT VISITORS TO MEET THE PEOPLE OF STANLEY AT EITHER A TOWN HALL PUBLIC MEETING OR AN INFORMAL RECEPTION. I WOULD SUGGEST THE LATTER ON TUESDAY AS BEING MORE APPROPRIATE ON THIS OCCASION IF IT WOULD MEET WITH MR RIDLEY'S WISHES.

6. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE IN THE PARTY ACCOMPANYING MR RIDLEY. FOR ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER REASONS A MAXIMUM OF TWO WOULD FIT IN BEST. MY ASSISTANT WILL HOWEVER HAVE DEPARTED BY THEN ON RE-POSTING AND IF A LARGE PRESS FOLLOWING IS EXPECTED I WOULD APPRECIATE HELP IN FIELDING THEM, SHOULD, SAY, GOZNEY BE AVAILABLE TO COME AS A STANLEY LONGSTOP.

7. DINNER JACKETS WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED BUT WARM SLACKS, PULLOVERS, ANORACKS OR WINDCHEATERS AND STOUT SHOES ARE ADVISABLE FOR CAMP TRAVELLING.

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GRS 323
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DESKBY FCO 2000Z
FM BUENOS AIRES 19/2125Z JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 138 OF 19 JUNE 1979
INFO PORT STANLEY.

AW 026/1
22 JUN 1979
TOP COPY

(12) (11)

YOUR TELNOS 65 TO PORT STANLEY AND 102 TO BUENOS AIRES: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. I AM DELIGHTED THAT MR RIDLEY WILL BE VISITING ARGENTINA AND THE FALKLANDS NEXT MONTH AND HOPE THAT HE WILL STAY WITH ME WHILE IN BUENOS AIRES.

2. I SUGGEST THAT THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR HIS TIME HERE MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

12 JULY

AM:	ARRIVAL
LUNCH:	AT RESIDENCE WITH FOUR OR FIVE LOCAL BRITISH BUSINESSMEN (E.G. SHELL REPRESENTATIVE).
PM:	COURTESY CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF.
EARLY EVENING: (SAY 7.30-8.30)	RECEPTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AND SOME PROMINENT ARGENTINES AND THEIR WIVES.

13 JULY

EVENING:	QUIET SUPPER AT THE RESIDENCE ON RETURN FROM COMODORO.

14 JULY

AM:	EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH COMODORO CAVANDOLI AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
	WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS EITHER AT RESIDENCE OR ELSEWHERE.
EVENING:	DINNER (AND PERHAPS A SHOW) TO BE HOSTED BY THE ARGENTINES.

CONFIDENTIAL

3. I CALLED TODAY ON OLIVERI LOPEZ TO GIVE HIM THE TENTATIVE DATES. HE AGREED THAT A COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR ON THE 19TH AND THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR THE 19TH SEEMED THE MOST APPROPRIATE. HE ALSO AGREED THAT THE PROPOSED DATES SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AT THIS STAGE AND THAT WE SHOULD CONSULT CLOSELY ABOUT AN EVENTUAL PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT.

4. GRATEFUL TO KNOW IN DUE COURSE:

A. WHICH OFFICIALS WILL BE ACCOMPANYING THE MINISTER.
B. THE LINE TO TAKE IN RESPONSE TO ANY ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS HERE WHO SHOW AN INTEREST IN ACCOMPANYING HIM TO THE FALKLANDS.
C. WHETHER, SUBJECT TO THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY, YOU WOULD WISH A MEMBER OF THIS EMBASSY TO JOIN THE MINISTER OF STATE'S PARTY IN THE FALKLANDS. FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, IT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO SEND SOMEONE. IN PARTICULAR, HE COULD KEEP AN EYE ON THE ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN PRESS.

CARLESS

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22 JUN 1979

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ORPS 84
UNCLASSIFIED
FM BUENOS AIRES 19/1924Z JUNE 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 136 OF 19 JUNE 1979
INFO PORT STANLEY

AUA 353/3 (22)

MY TELNO 133 : FALKLANDS AND COMODORO CAVANDOLI

1. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, COMODORO CAVANDOLI YESTERDAY CONFIRMED TO JOURNALISTS THAT MR RIDLEY WOULD BE VISITING BUENOS AIRES NEXT MONTH.

2. HE IS REPORTED AS SAYING THAT THERE HAD BEEN NOTHING NEW ON THE SUBJECT OF THE ANGLO-ARGENTINE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE THE NEW YORK ROUND IN MARCH AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO TIME FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS IN LONDON, BUT THAT THE NEXT STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE ANNOUNCED SOON, PERHAPS DURING THE VISIT OF MR RIDLEY TO BUENOS AIRES IN JULY.

CARLESS

F I L E S
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OID
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PS/LPS

PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

(12a)

Typing 25/6. AMW 026/1

RECEIVED REGISTRY 27 JUN 1979

✓ C 22.6

speak to M Ridley about his wife

Secretary of State

Paras 3 & 6 in particular

Redraft attached 29/6 Steffle

Mr Hall

P.S. to Mr Ridley

MINISTER OF STATE'S LATIN AMERICAN TOUR

1. Formal permission is required for the Minister of State's absence from the UK. I submit a self-explanatory draft letter to Number 10. WIAD and M&CD concur.

G A Duggan
South America Department

18 June 1979

18/VI

CONFIDENTIAL

5102 MISC A

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(12)

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22 JUN 079

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CONFIDENTIAL
FM F C O 151810Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 65 OF 15 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES.

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. MR RIDLEY IS PLANNING TO VISIT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS NEXT MONTH, TRAVELLING VIA BA AND ARRIVING FROM COMODORO AT 1140 HOURS ON 13 JULY. HE WOULD STAY IN THE FALKLANDS UNTIL WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY, DEPARTING FOR COMODORO AT 1330 HOURS.

2. MR RIDLEY'S PURPOSE WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL CONTACT AT AN EARLY STAGE WITH THE ISLANDERS AND TO OBTAIN A FIRST HAND ACCOUNT OF THEIR VIEWS. HE WOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE HAVE ANY PARTICULAR POLICY SUGGESTIONS TO PRESS BUT WOULD WANT TO BE ABLE TO REPORT FULLY TO HIS COLLEAGUES ON HIS RETURN ABOUT THE SITUATION.

3. GRATEFUL FOR YOUR FIRST SUGGESTIONS ON A PROGARMME WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: ATTENDANCE AT A JOINT EXCO/LEGCO: INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH COUNCILLORS: VISITS TO EAST FALKLAND AND WEST FALKLAND: OTHER ENGAGEMENTS IN STANLEY.

4. ON RETURN JOURNEY, MR RIDLEY HOPES TO TAKE OPPORTUNITY OF MAKING CONTACT WITH ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES IN BA. WHEN ARGENTINE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CAVANDOLI PASSED THROUGH LONDON THIS WEEK, MR RIDLEY TOLD HIM OF MY DECISION TO AGREE TO THEIR REQUEST TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THIS MIGHT BE ANNOUNCED WHEN MR RIDLEY VISITS BA AND THE AGREEMENT IS CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL THEN. MR RIDLEY ALSO GAVE CAVANDOLI A LETTER FROM ME TO FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR CONTAINED IN MIFT.

5. YOU SHOULD TELL COUNCILLORS AT THIS STAGE IN STRICT CONFIDENCE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN ON AMBASSADORS THAT WE ARE RESPONDING TO AN ARGENTINE REQUEST: IT WAS THEY WHO ORIGINALLY WITHDREW THEIR AMBASSADOR FROM LONDON AND ASKED

/ FOR.

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CONFIDENTIAL

FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF OURS AND THE FIRST MOVE FOR A RESTORATION OF AMBASSADORS HAS PROPERLY COME FROM THEM. WHAT WE ARE AGREEING TO IS SIMPLY A RETURN TO NORMAL FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR DOES NOT CONVEY APPROVAL OF A REGIME OR ITS POLICIES. NOR DOES IT BETOKEN ANY CHANGE OF POLICY ON OUR PART. WE REGARD AMBASSADORS AS AN ESSENTIALLY FUNCTIONAL POINT OF CONTACT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS: THERE ARE OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES IN HAVE SUCH ACCESS, PARTICULARLY WHEN WE ARE IN DISPUTE WITH THEM.

CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DIST.
SAMD
NEWS.D.
PCD.
PS|MR Ridley
SIR.A.Parsons
PS|PUS.
MR HALL

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CONFIDENTIAL

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RECEIVED 15 JUN 1979

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CONFIDENTIAL
FM F C O 151810Z JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELNO 102 OF 15 JUNE
INFO PORT STANLEY.

(12)

MY TELNO 65 TO PORT STANLEY: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE PRESENT PLAN IS FOR MR RIDLEY TO ARRIVE BA ON IB 993 FROM MADRID, ETA 0855 THURSDAY 12 JULY. HE WOULD DEPART FOR COMODORO ON AR 616 AT 0630, 13 JULY TO LINK WITH FLIGHT AT 0930 TO PORT STANLEY. HE WOULD RETURN FROM PORT STANLEY ON WEDNESDAY 18 JULY, ETA BA 2140, DEPARTING BA ON FRIDAY 20 JULY ON AV 084 ETD 0800 FOR RIO EN ROUTE TO BRASILIA.

2. THURSDAY 19 JULY IN BA, WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH ARGENTINES. THIS WAS MENTIONED TO CAVANDOLI.

CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DIST:
SAMD
PCD.
NEWS.D.
PS|MR Ridley
SIR.A.Parsons
MR HALL.

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RESTRICTED

Mr Ure

cc: Mr Hall

FALKLAND ISLANDS

During the course of the lunch given by Mr Ridley yesterday for Comodoro Cavandoli, I was asked by Mr Hunter Christie whether Mr Ridley would be able to visit the Falkland Islands in due course. I replied that he very much hoped to, and that although there were no firm plans yet, I thought that it would be sooner rather than later.

K D Temple
15 June 1979

RESTRICTED

STATE'S

Arrive

05.50 (12th)

10.10

08.40

12.10

17.10

21.40

10.55

14.15

SC 454

Tuesday 24 July

Brasilia/Sao Paolo
QD 303

p.m. SAO PAULO/RIO

17.30

18.50

MON 23 July

p.m. RIO/BRASILIA

/Wednesday

Mr Ogburne

POSSIBLE ITINERARY/OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

	Depart	Arrive
Wednesday 11 July		
London/Rio RG 765	20.35	05.50 (12th)
Thursday 12 July		
Rio/Buenos Aires	07.30	10.10
Friday 13 July		
Buenos Aires/Comodoro AR 616	06.30	08.40
Comodoro/Stanley LD 200	09.40	12.10
Wednesday 18 July		
Stanley/Comodoro LD 351	15.50	17.10
Comodoro/Buenos Aires AR 639	19.10	21.40
Friday 20 July		
Buenos Aires/Rio AV 084	08.00	10.55
Rio/Brasilia SC 434	12.00	14.15
Tuesday 24 July		
Brasilia/Sao Paolo QD 303	17.30	18.50

FRI OR
BA / SAO PAULO
SAT 21 July
p.m. SAO PAULO / RIO
MON 23 July
p.m. RIO / BRASILIA

/Wednesday

...SECRETARY AND HIS OFFICIALS

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	OR	Depart	Arrive
Wednesday 25 July	Wed. BRASILIA / RIO RIO / LIMA		
Sao Paolo/Lima RG 830		19.15	00.10
Monday 30 July			
Lima/Caracas PL 630		09.00	15.45
Wednesday 1 August			
Caracas/Mexico City AM 420		18.50	23.15

4 August

Mexico / Antigua.

7 August to U.K.

(? 10 August

Ecuador)

GRPS 324
CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY FCO 2[illegible]Z
FM BUENOS AIRES 19/2125Z JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 138 OF 19 JUNE 1979
INFO PORT STANLEY.

YOUR TELNOS 65 TO PORT STANLEY AND 102 TO BUENOS AIRES: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. I AM DELIGHTED THAT MR RIDLEY WILL BE VISITING ARGENTINA AND THE FALKLANDS NEXT MONTH AND HOPE THAT HE WILL STAY WITH ME WHILE IN BUENOS AIRES.

2. I SUGGEST THAT THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR HIS TIME HERE MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

12 JULY

AM: ARRIVAL

LUNCH: AT RESIDENCE WITH FOUR OR FIVE LOCAL BRITISH BUSINESSMEN (E.G. SHELL REPRESENTATIVE).

PM: COURTESY CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF.

EARLY EVENING: (SAY 7.30-9.30) RECEPTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AND SOME PROMINENT ARGENTINES AND THEIR WIVES.

18 JULY

EVENING: QUIET SUPPER AT THE RESIDENCE ON RETURN FROM COMODORO.

19 JULY

AM: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH COMODORO CAVANDOLI AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY

WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS EITHER AT RESIDENCE OR ELSEWHERE.

EVENING: DINNER (AND PERHAPS A SHOW) TO BE HOSTED BY THE ARGENTINES.

/3. I

[illegible] CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

3. I CALLED TODAY ON OLIVERI LOPEZ TO GIVE HIM THE TENTATIVE DATES. HE AGREED THAT A COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR ON THE 19TH AND THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR THE 19TH SEEMED THE MOST APPROPRIATE. HE ALSO AGREED THAT THE PROPOSED DATES SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AT THIS STAGE AND THAT WE SHOULD CONSULT CLOSELY ABOUT AN EVENTUAL PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT.

4. GRATEFUL TO KNOW IN DUE COURSE:

A. WHICH OFFICIALS WILL BE ACCOMPANYING THE MINISTER.
B. THE LINE TO TAKE IN RESPONSE TO ANY ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS HERE WHO SHOW AN INTEREST IN ACCOMPANYING HIM TO THE FALKLANDS.
C. WHETHER, SUBJECT TO THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY, YOU WOULD WISH A MEMBER OF THIS EMBASSY TO JOIN THE MINISTER OF STATE'S PARTY IN THE FALKLANDS. FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, IT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO SEND SOMEONE. IN PARTICULAR, HE COULD KEEP AN EYE ON THE ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN PRESS.

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PORT STANLEY 191430Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 110 OF 19 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 65
VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. COUNCILLORS ARE ARRIVING IN STANLEY FOR THE LEGCO MEETING TOMORROW (20) AND I SHALL CALL THEM TOGETHER THIS AFTERNOON TO INFORM THEM CONFIDENTIALLY OF THE MINISTER'S VISIT WHICH I AM SURE THEY WILL APPRECIATE AND WELCOME.

2. FOLLOWING THE RECENT LEAKS IN THE BUENOS AIRES PRESS THERE HAS BEEN A GOOD DEAL OF SPECULATION HERE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A JULY VISIT SO IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE. I HOPE WE CAN SOON MAKE IT PUBLIC IN A SUITABLY WORDED STATEMENT TO ALLAY ANY ANXIETY ABOUT ITS PURPOSE.

3. A NUMBER OF FARM MANAGERS ARE ON OVERSEAS LEAVE AND THE WEATHER IN JULY IS UNPREDICTABLE FOR FLYING, BUT BOTH BEAVER SEAPLANES ARE IN SERVICE AND WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ARRANGE VISITS TO AT LEAST TWO SETTLEMENTS EACH ON THE EAST AND THE WEST (INCLUDING PORT HOWARD WHOSE PRINCIPAL OWNER, WALDRON, IS I BELIEVE KNOWN TO MR RIDLEY).

4. A TENTATIVE OUTLINE PROGRAMME WOULD BE:-

FRIDAY AFTERNOON:	PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
EVENING:	RECEPTION TO MEET COUNCILLORS, OFFICIALS ETC
SATURDAY MORNING:	DISCUSSION WITH JOINT COUNCILS FOLLOWED BY BUFFET LUNCHEON
AFTERNOON:	TOUR OF STANLEY AND AID PROJECTS
EVENING:	DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
SUNDAY MORNING:	VISIT TO WEST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS OVERNIGHT STAY
MONDAY MORNING:	VISIT TO EAST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS OVERNIGHT STAY

TUESDAY MORNING:	RETURN TO STANLEY
AFTERNOON:	DISCUSSIONS WITH SHEEPOWNERS ASSOCIATION, GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION, FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE ETC
EVENING:	PUBLIC RECEPTION IN TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY MORNING:	ROUND-UP MEETING WITH COUNCILLORS
AFTERNOON:	DEPART.

5. IT HAS BECOME THE CUSTOM FOR IMPORTANT VISITORS TO MEET THE PEOPLE OF STANLEY AT EITHER A TOWN HALL PUBLIC MEETING OR AN INFORMAL RECEPTION. I WOULD SUGGEST THE LATTER ON TUESDAY AS BEING MORE APPROPRIATE ON THIS OCCASION IF IT WOULD MEET WITH MR RIDLEY'S WISHES.

6. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE IN THE PARTY ACCOMPANYING MR RIDLEY. FOR ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER REASONS A MAXIMUM OF TWO WOULD FIT IN BEST. MY ASSISTANT WILL HOWEVER HAVE DEPARTED BY THEN ON RE-POSTING AND IF A LARGE PRESS FOLLOWING IS EXPECTED I WOULD APPRECIATE HELP IN FIELDING THEM, SHOULD, SAY, GOZNEY BE AVAILABLE TO COME AS A STANLEY LONGSTOP.

7. DINNER JACKETS WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED BUT WARM SLACKS, PULLOVERS, ANORACKS OR WINDCHEATERS AND STOUT SHOES ARE ADVISABLE FOR CAMP TRAVELLING.

PARKER

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ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION:
FALKLAND ISLANDS

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 280
CONFIDENTIAL
FM BRASILIA 15:1900Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 103 OF 15 JUNE
INFO ROUTINE LIMA, CARACAS, RIO DE JANEIRO
INFO SAVING SAO PAULO

FOR URE, SAMD,
YOUR TELNO. 76.
POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. I SHOULD WELCOME VISIT BY MR. RIDLEY AT THE TIME YOU SUGGEST. IF YOUR OUTLINE ITINERARY IS FOLLOWED MINISTER WOULD HAVE FIVE AND A HALF DAYS IN BRASILIA INCLUDING WEEKEND. POSSIBLE ENGAGEMENTS (DEPENDING EVIDENTLY ON AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS HERE AND ACEPTABILITY TO BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES) WOULD BE A PROPER MOU MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, CALLS ON OTHER MINISTERS FROM AMONG PLANNING FINANCE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE AGRICULTURE INTERIOR AND TRANSPORT, CALLS AT SENATE AND CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES WHO WILL HOWEVER PROBABLY NOT BE IN SESSION. I WOULD HOPE MINISTER AND PARTY WOULD STAY WITH ME AND I WOULD GIVE FORMAL DINNER ONE NIGHT. PROBABLY ITAMARATY COULD BE RELIED UPON FOR ONE LUNCH. BUT FRANKLY THERE IS NOT ENOUGH FOR FIVE DAYS EVEN WITH WEEKEND. IF MINISTER WANTS A REAL REST AT WEEKEND AS OPPOSED TO SIGHTSEEING THEN BRASILIA IS BEST, OTHERWISE HE MIGHT WISH TO STAY IN RIO (THOUGH CG WILL STILL BE ON LEAVE). IN ANY CASE I SHOULD LIKE HIM TO HAVE A DAY IN SAO PAULO TO GET AN IDEA OF WHAT BRAZIL IS ABOUT. HE COULD TRAVEL TO SAO PAULO PM 24 JULY AND TO LIMA BY FLIGHT YOU PROPOSE ON 25 JULY.
2. IF OUTLINE ITIMERARY IN YOUR TUR IS TO BE MAINTAINED I RECOMMEND HIS CATCHING A LATER PLANE SAY 1400 HRS RIO/BRASILIA 20 JULY AND EARLIER PLANE BRASILIA/RIO 25 JULY SINCE TIME AVAILABLE IN RIO ON FLIGHTS YOU PROPOSE IS IN EACH CASE INADEQUATE TO BE CERTAIN OF ONWARD FLIGHT EVEN THOUGH ONLY GALEAO AIRPORT IS INVOLVED.

STATHAM

FILES
SAMD
PCD
MVCD
WIAD

PS/MR. RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HAAL

CONFIDENTIAL

...AVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
FM LIMA 151600Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 94 OF 15 JUNE

FOR URE SAMD
POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. I SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMME IN PERU:

(I) THURSDAY 26 JULY
AM LIMA - VISIT CHANCERY AND BRITISH COUNCIL OFFICES.
- CALLS ON FOREIGN MINISTRY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY AND POSSIBLY MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.
- LUNCH PROBABLY GIVEN BY THE PERUVIANS.
PM - VISIT MUSEUMS IN LIMA.
- COCKTAIL AT RESIDENCE OR PHOENIX CLUB FOR SENIOR BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
- DINNER AT RESIDENCE FOR PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES.
NIGHT - AT RESIDENCE.

(II) FRIDAY 27 JULY
AM - FLY TO CUZCO THENCE HELICOPTER TO CUSICHACA AND MACHU PICCHU AND RETURN TO CUZCO.
PM - REST IN CUZCO (NB ALTITUDE EFFECTS)
NIGHT - IN CUZCO

(III) SATURDAY 28 JULY
(NATIONAL HOLIDAY IN PERU)
- SIGHTSEEING IN CUZCO REGION
NIGHT - IN CUZCO

(IV) SUNDAY 29 JULY
AM - RETURN BY AIR TO LIMA
PM - NO ENGAGEMENTS (RECOVER FROM ALTITUDE)
NIGHT - AT RESIDENCE

(V) MONDAY 30 JULY
AM 0900 - FLIGHT PL 630 TO CARACAS.

/2.

CONFIDENTIAL

...CT WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

CONFIDENTIAL

2. CUZCO IS LIKELY TO BE PARTICULARLY CROWDED ON 27 - 29 JULY, THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY WEEKEND. IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO ACCOMPANY MR RIDLEY THERE, AS I SHOULD HAVE LIKED, BECAUSE THE USUAL PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE IN LIMA AT NOON ON 28 JULY.

3. WILL MRS RIDLEY ACCOMPANY THE MINISTER OF STATE? WHAT ABOUT YOU?(EXCLAM)

HARDING

FILES
SAMD

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CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 300 RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED
FM CARACAS 151900Z JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 124 OF 15 JUNE

FOR URE, SAMD
YOUR TELNO 76: POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. WE GREATLY WELCOME THIS PROPOSAL. THE VISIT WOULD HELP TO CONSOLIDATE OUR RELATIONS WITH THE NEW COPEI GOVERNMENT.

2. WE WOULD AIM TO ARRANGE A CALL ON PRESIDENT HERRERA: ALSO ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER WITH WHOM WE MIGHT HOPE TO ARRANGE A WORKING SESSION FOR A BROAD EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH OFFICIALS PRESENT AND ALSO PEREZ GUERRERO ON THAT OCCASION OR SEPARATELY AS PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND EX CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE CIEC PARIS CONFERENCE. MR RIDLEY MIGHT MEET WITH ONE OTHER MINISTER PERHAPS THE FINANCE MINISTER FOR A REVIEW OF THE ECONOMY, OR THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES WHO COULD GIVE VENEZUELA'S VIEW OF OIL AND OPEC RELATED MATTERS. I HOPE THE VENEZUELANS WOULD MAKE IT AN OFFICIAL VISIT AND WOULD OFFER A LUNCH OR DINNER AND WE MIGHT PERHAPS OFFER A RECEPTION IN RETURN TO GET A WIDER SPREAD OF GUESTS.

3. IN VIEW OF OUR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS HERE WE COULD HOPE TO ARRANGE A LUNCH WITH THE ANGLO-VENEZUELAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE MINISTER TO LEARN MORE OF OUR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS AND PROSPECTS. THIS COULD EITHER TAKE THE FORM OF A FULL MEETING WITH A SHORT ADDRESS FROM THE MINISTER (ANTICIPATED AUDIENCE, IN JULY, ABOUT 50) OR A MORE INFORMAL GATHERING WITH THE BOARD OF THE CHAMBER (ABOUT 12) WITH PERHAPS A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION.

4. THE LAYING OF A WREATH AT THE TOMB OF SIMON BOLIVAR IS A REQUIREME REQUIREMENT FOR ALL OFFICIAL VISITORS.

5. I SUGGEST A MEETING WITH THE PRESS SHORTLY BEFORE MR RIDLEY'S DEPARTURE.

RESTRICTED /6. THERE

...RKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

6. THERE WOULD HARDLY BE TIME AVAILABLE FOR TRIPS OUTSIDE CARACAS, EITHER SIGHT-SEEING OR INDUSTRIAL. WE COULD OF COURSE ARRANGE A SHORT TOUR OF CARACAS IF THE MINISTER WOULD WELCOME THAT ALTHOUGH HE SHOULD BE WARNED IF HE HAS NOT BEEN HERE BEFORE THAT THERE IS LITTLE OF HISTORICAL OR SCENIC INTEREST.

7. WE CANNOT AT THIS STAGE BE CERTAIN ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL MINISTERS SINCE THE VISIT WOULD FALL IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON. NEVERTHELESS I AM SURE THAT WE COULD PUT TOGETHER A WORTHWHILE PROGRAMME.

8. I WILL HAVE LEFT CARACAS BY THE TIME OF THE VISIT TO TAKE UPP MY APPOINTMENT IN THE HAGUE. PETER HEAP (WHO WAS TO HAVE RETURNED FROM A SHORT HOME LEAVE ON 31 JULY AND WHO WILL NOW RETURN A FEW DAYS EARLIER) WILL BE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AT THE TIME.

TAYLOR

FILES
S AM D
PS
PS/MR RIDLEY
PS/PUS
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL
SIR A DUFF

GRS 100

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
FM F C O 151810Z JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELNO 102 OF 15 JUNE
INFO PORT STANLEY.

MY TELNO 65 TO PORT STANLEY: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE PRESENT PLAN IS FOR MR RIDLEY TO ARRIVE BA ON IB 993 FROM MADRID, ETA 0855 THURSDAY 12 JULY. HE WOULD DEPART FOR COMODORO ON AR 616 AT 0630, 13 JULY TO LINK WITH FLIGHT AT 0930 TO PORT STANLEY. HE WOULD RETURN FROM PORT STANLEY ON WEDNESDAY 18 JULY, ETA BA 2140, DEPARTING BA ON FRIDAY 20 JULY ON AV 084 ETD 0800 FOR RIO EN ROUTE TO BRASILIA.

2. THURSDAY 19 JULY IN BA, WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH ARGENTINES. THIS WAS MENTIONED TO CAVANDOLI.

CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DIST:
SAMD
PCD
NEWS.D.
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR.A.PARSONS
MR HALL.

CONFIDENTIAL

WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 360

CONFIDENTIAL
FM F C O 151810Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 65 OF 15 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES.

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. MR RIDLEY IS PLANNING TO VISIT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS NEXT MONTH, TRAVELLING VIA BA AND ARRIVING FROM COMODORO AT 1140 HOURS ON 13 JULY. HE WOULD STAY IN THE FALKLANDS UNTIL WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY, DEPARTING FOR COMODORO AT 1330 HOURS.

2. MR RIDLEY'S PURPOSE WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL CONTACT AT AN EARLY STAGE WITH THE ISLANDERS AND TO OBTAIN A FIRST HAND ACCOUNT OF THEIR VIEWS. HE WOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE HAVE ANY PARTICULAR POLICY SUGGESTIONS TO PRESS BUT WOULD WANT TO BE ABLE TO REPORT FULLY TO HIS COLLEAGUES ON HIS RETURN ABOUT THE SITUATION.

3. GRATEFUL FOR YOUR FIRST SUGGESTIONS ON A PROGARMME WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: ATTENDANCE AT A JOINT EXCO/LEGCO: INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH COUNCILLORS: VISITS TO EAST FALKLAND AND WEST FALKLAND: OTHER ENGAGEMENTS IN STANLEY.

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5. YOU SHOULD TELL COUNCILLORS AT THIS STAGE IN STRICT CONFIDENCE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN ON AMBASSADORS THAT WE ARE RESPONDING TO AN ARGENTINE REQUEST: IT WAS THEY WHO ORIGINALLY WITHDREW THEIR AMBASSADOR FROM LONDON AND ASKED

/ FOR.

CONFIDENTIAL

WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

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CONFIDENTIAL

FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF OURS AND THE FIRST MOVE FOR A RESTORATION OF AMBASSADORS HAS PROPERLY COME FROM THEM. WHAT WE ARE AGREEING TO IS SIMPLY A RETURN TO NORMAL FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR DOES NOT CONVEY APPROVAL OF A REGIME OR ITS POLICIES. NOR DOES IT BETOKEN ANY CHANGE OF POLICY ON OUR PART. WE REGARD AMBASSADORS AS AN ESSENTIALLY FUNCTIONAL POINT OF CONTACT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS: THERE ARE OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES IN HAVE SUCH ACCESS, PARTICULARLY WHEN WE ARE IN DISPUTE WITH THEM.

CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DIST.
SAMD
NEWS.D.
P.C.D.
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A. PARSONS
PS/PUS.
MR HAKH

-2-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

GRS 150

CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 131747Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NO 76 OF 13 JUN
AND TO IMMEDIATE LIMA CARACAS
INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES MEXICO CITY RIO DE JANEIRO.

FROM URE, SAMD.
POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE
1. THE MINISTER OF STATE IS PLANNING A TOUR OF MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING VISITS TO BRZIL, PERU AND VENEZUELA, FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS IN EARLY JULY. HE HAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE FOLLOWING ITINERARY:

	DEPART	ARRIVE
FRIDAY 20 JULY		
BUENOS AIRES/RIO DE JANEIRO		
AV 084	08.00	10.55
(IF SAME AIRPORT)		
RIO DE JANEIRO/BRASILIA		
SC434	12.00	14.15
WEDNESDAY 25 JULY		
BRASILIA/RIO DE JANEIRO		
RG201	18.30	20.00
(IF SAME AIRPORT)		
RIO DE JANEIRO/LIMA		
RG 830	21.00	00.10
MONDAY 30 JULY		
LIMA/CARACAS		
PL 630	09.00	15:45
WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST		
CARACAS/MEXICO CITY		
AM 420	18.35	23.00

WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

2. GRATEFUL FOR URGENT PROGRAMME SUGGESTIONS BY TELEGRAM, BEARING IN MIND THAT MR RIDLEY HAS ASKED FOR ONE OR TWO REST PERIODS E.G. OVER WEEKEND.

3. THESE PLANS SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE BE DIVULGED TO YOUR HOST GOVERNMENT (THOUGH MR RIDLEY HAS MENTIONED TO THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR THAT HE HOPES TO VISIT BRAZIL IN JULY.)

4. LIMA ONLY. MR RIDLEY WANTS TO SEE MACHU PICHU. CAN HE ALSO PLAN FOR VISIT CUSICHACA AND CALL ON APPROPRIATE MINISTERS.

CARRINGTON

FILES
S AM D
P & CD
M & CD
WIAD
PS/MR.RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR.HALL

CONFIDENTIAL
GRPS 250
CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY 120800Z
FM MEXICO CITY 120035Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 130 OF 11 JUNE

FOLLOWING FOR M AND CD

YOUR IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM NO 109 OF 11 JUNE: POSSIBLE VISIT TO MEXICO BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A POSSIBLE PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT:

2 AUGUST-COURTESY CALLS ON MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINISTER /DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, PRESIDENTS SPECIAL ADVISER ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (MOCTEZUMA CID).
-LUNCH WITH LEADING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
-MEET EMBASSY STAFF.
-OPENING PERFORMANCE OF ROYAL BALLET (ROMEO AND JULIET) AT BELLAS ARTES.
-RECEPTION AT BELLAS ARTES.

3 AUGUST-A.M. INDUSTRIAL VISIT (WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES) AND LUNCH.
-P.M. DEPART BY AIR FOR GUADALAJARA.
-RECEPTION AT THE ANGLO MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN GUADALAJARA, FOLLOWED BY DINNER WITH LEADING LOCAL PERSONALITIES.

4 AUGUST-SIGHTSEEING IN GUADALAJARA AND AREA AND LUNCH. RETURN BY AIR TO MEXICO CITY EARLY P.M.
-EVENING: ROYAL BALLET PERFORMANCE (BIRTHDAY OFFERING: MONTH IN THE COUNTRY: ELITE SYNCOPATION).

5 AUGUST-GO TO VALLE DE BRAVO BY CAR (SAILING/WALKING/GOLF ARE POSSIBILITIES). SPEND NIGHT AT VALLE DE BRAVO.

6 AUGUST-RETURN EARLY A.M. BY CAR TO MEXICO CITY.

 / 2. WHETHER ALL

WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

2. WHETHER ALL COURTESY CALLS LISTED FOR 2 AUGUST CAN BE FITTED IN WILL DEPEND, OF COURSE, ON THE AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS AND THE TIMES WHICH WE ARE OFFERED. THE PRESIDENT MAY ATTEND THE OPENING PERFORMANCE OF THE ROYAL BALLET. HIS WIFE ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL.

3. THE VISIT TO GUADALAJARA HAS BEEN INCLUDED BECAUSE I WAS PLANNING TO GO THERE WITH SIR CHARLES TROUGHTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL, WHO WILL BE IN MEXICO AT THE SAME TIME AS MR RIDLEY. IT IS MEXICO'S SECOND CITY AND IS THRIVING AND INTERESTING. THE ANGLO-MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IS DOING REMARKABLY WELL AND DESERVES EVERY ENCOURAGEMENT.

4. I THINK THAT ON SATURDAY NIGHT, 4 AUGUST, WE SHOULD ONCE AGAIN SUPPORT THE ROYAL BALLET AT BELLAS ARTES.

5. THE WEEKEND AT VALLE DE BRAVO CAN BE COMPLETELY RELAXING. THE RETURN ON MONDAY MORNING NEEDS TO BE RELATED TO THE PLANE DEPARTURE TIME. MAY I PLEASE HAVE FLIGHT NUMBER AND E.T.D.

COX

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CRD
MR HALL

FCO 27/19

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RR PORT STANLEY

ADVANCE COPY

IMMEDIATE

PS/Mr Ridley
PS/PUS
Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
Mr Statham
PCD
News
RC
C Dobbs

78

ORPS 324
CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY FCO 2[illegible]Z
FM BUENOS AIRES 19/2125Z JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 138 OF 19 JUNE 1979
INFO PORT STANLEY.

YOUR TELNOS 65 TO PORT STANLEY AND 102 TO BUENOS AIRES: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. I AM DELIGHTED THAT MR RIDLEY WILL BE VISITING ARGENTINA AND THE FALKLANDS NEXT MONTH AND HOPE THAT HE WILL STAY WITH ME WHILE IN BUENOS AIRES.

2. I SUGGEST THAT THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR HIS TIME HERE MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

12 JULY

AM: ARRIVAL

LUNCH: AT RESIDENCE WITH FOUR OR FIVE LOCAL BRITISH BUSINESSMEN (E.G. SHELL REPRESENTATIVE).

PM: COURTESY CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF.

EARLY EVENING: (SAY 7.30-9.30) RECEPTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AND SOME PROMINENT ARGENTINES AND THEIR WIVES.

13 JULY

EVENING: QUIET SUPPER AT THE RESIDENCE ON RETURN FROM COMODORO.

19 JULY

AM: EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH COMODORO CAVANDOLI AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY

WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

2. WHETHER ALL COURTESY CALLS LISTED FOR 2 AUGUST CAN BE FITTED IN WILL DEPEND, OF COURSE, ON THE AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS AND THE TIMES WHICH WE ARE OFFERED. THE PRESIDENT MAY ATTEND THE OPENING PERFORMANCE OF THE ROYAL BALLET. HIS WIFE ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL.

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COX

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MR HALL

FCO 27/19

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RR PORT STANLEY

ADVANCE COPY

IMMEDIATE

PS/Mr Ridley
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ORPS 324
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FM BUENOS AIRES 19/2125Z JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
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2. I SUGGEST THAT THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR HIS TIME HERE MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

12 JULY

AM:	ARRIVAL
LUNCH:	AT RESIDENCE WITH FOUR OR FIVE LOCAL BRITISH BUSINESSMEN (E.G. SHELL REPRESENTATIVE).
PM:	COURTESY CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF.
EARLY EVENING: (SAY 7.30-9.30)	RECEPTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AND SOME PROMINENT ARGENTINES AND THEIR WIVES.

18 JULY

EVENING:	QUIET SUPPER AT THE RESIDENCE ON RETURN FROM COMODORO.

19 JULY

AM:	EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH COMODORO CAVANDOLI AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
	WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS

WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS EITHER AT RESIDENCE OR ELSEWHERE.

EVENING: DINNER (AND PERHAPS A SHOW) TO BE HOSTED BY THE ARGENTINES.

3. I CALLED TODAY ON OLIVERI LOPEZ TO GIVE HIM THE TENTATIVE DATES. HE AGREED THAT A COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR ON THE 12TH AND THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR THE 19TH SEEMED THE MOST APPROPRIATE. HE ALSO AGREED THAT THE PROPOSED DATES SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AT THIS STAGE AND THAT WE SHOULD CONSULT CLOSELY ABOUT AN EVENTUAL PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT.

4. GRATEFUL TO KNOW IN DUE COURSE:

A. WHICH OFFICIALS WILL BE ACCOMPANYING THE MINISTER.
B. THE LINE TO TAKE IN RESPONSE TO ANY ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS HERE WHO SHOW AN INTEREST IN ACCOMPANYING HIM TO THE FALKLANDS.
C. WHETHER, SUBJECT TO THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY, YOU WOULD WISH A MEMBER OF THIS EMBASSY TO JOIN THE MINISTER OF STATE'S PARTY IN THE FALKLANDS. FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, IT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO SEND SOMEONE. IN PARTICULAR, HE COULD KEEP AN EYE ON THE ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN PRESS.

CARLESS

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SENT AT 19/2030Z NSC
RECD AT 19/2030Z 2230 DE

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CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY 111800Z
FM F C O 111700Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE MEXICO CITY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 109 OF 11 JUNE

FROM M AND CD

POSSIBLE VISIT TO MEXICO OF MINISTER OF STATE
1. TENTATIVE PLANS ARE BEING MADE FOR A TOUR BY MR RIDLEY OF THE MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING A VISIT TO MEXICO FROM THE EVENING OF 1ST TO 4TH OR 6TH AUGUST. HE WOULD TRAVEL TO MEXICO FROM VENEZUELA. THESE PLANS SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE BE DIVULGED TO THE MEXICANS.
2. THE VISIT WOULD NOT (NOT) BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR THAT OF THE MINISTER FOR THE ARTS, WHICH CRD ARE STILL PURSUING. NEVERTHELESS WE ASSUME THAT THERE WOULD BE ADVANTAGE IN MR RIDLEY ATTENDING THE OPENING OF THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL AND/OR ONE OF THE EARLY PERFORMANCES.
3. WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR PROGRAMME.

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FM F C O 191830Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 83 OF 19 JUNE
INFO PRIORITY RIO DE JANEIRO AND SAO PAULO

FROM SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT.
YOUR TELNO 103: POSSIBLE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE.
1. IN LIGHT OF YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND FOLLOWING CALL ON THE MINISTER OF STATE BY CONSUL GENERAL, RIO, MR RIDLEY HAS ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON FOLLOWING RE-ARRANGED ITINERARY:-
FRIDAY 20 JULY
FROM BA, TRAVEL DIRECT TO SAO PAULO FOR PROGRAMME OF CALLS, FACTORY VISITS ETC.
SATURDAY 21 JULY
SAO PAULO/RIO DE JANEIRO IN TIME FOR DINNER GIVEN BY ACTING CONSUL GENERAL TO MEET BANKERS, ETC.
SUNDAY, 22 JULY
FREE FOR SIGHTSEEING.
MONDAY, 23 JULY
VISIT EMAQ SHIPYARD.
LUNCH WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
LATER RIO DE JANEIRO/BRASILIA.
TUESDAY 24 AND WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY
IN BRASILIA. DEPART 25 JULY TO CATCH FLIGHT AT 2100 FROM RIO/LIMA.
2. WOULD THIS SCHEDULE STILL ENABLE MR RIDLEY TO CARRY OUT WORTHWHILE PROGRAMME IN BRASILIA ON LINES YOU SUGGESTED?

CARRINGTON

FILES
SAmD
PUSD
PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

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ALW 026/1
16 JUN 1979

(9)

Mr Hall

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. We have yet to inform the Governor of Mr Ridley's visit. We should also inform BA of the travel arrangements.

2. Mr Ridley's visit has still formally to be cleared with No 10 and the Whips Office. The Secretary of State's minute to the Prime Minister and OD colleagues is expected to issue today.

3. I attach draft telegrams.

G A Duggan
South America Department

15 June, 1979

Telegrams to issue
15/VI

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Reference (8)



Miss Oldershaw P&CD

(6)

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. I attach, as discussed, a copy of Mr Ure's submission of 12 June.

2. The itinerary has now been approved by Mr Ridley and I should be grateful if you would go ahead with the bookings. Mr Ridley is to be accompanied by his Private Secretary, Mr Temple.

3. I understand that WIAD have still not finalised arrangements for Mr Ridley's visit to Antigua. They will be contacting you separately.

4. As we discussed, there is financial provision for Mr Ridley's visits to the Falklands and Argentina but not, it would seem, for his visits to Venezuela, Brazil and Peru. I am pursuing this.

C W Osborne
South America Department

14 June 1979

cc:
M&CD
WIAD

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(7)

Aw 024/1
15 JUN 1979
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FM FCO 131747Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NO 76 OF 13 JUN
AND TO IMMEDIATE LIMA CARACAS
INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES MEXICO CITY RIO DE JANEIRO.

FROM URE, SAMD.
POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE
1. THE MINISTER OF STATE IS PLANNING A TOUR OF MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING VISITS TO BRZIL, PERU AND VENEZUELA, FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS IN EARLY JULY. HE HAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE FOLLOWING ITINERARY:

	DEPART	ARRIVE
FRIDAY 20 JULY		
BUENOS AIRES/RIO DE JANEIRO	08.00	10.55
AV 084		
(IF SAME AIRPORT)		
RIO DE JANEIRO/BRASILIA	12.00	14.15
SC434		
WEDNESDAY 25 JULY		
BRASILIA/RIO DE JANEIRO	18.30	20.00
RG201		
(IF SAME AIRPORT)		
RIO DE JANEIRO/LIMA	21.00	00.10
RG 830		
MONDAY 30 JULY		
LIMA/CARACAS	09.00	15.45
PL 630		
WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST		
CARACAS/MEXICO CITY	18.35	23.00
AM 420		

2. GRATEFUL FOR URGENT PROGRAMME SUGGESTIONS BY TELEGRAM, BEARING IN MIND THAT MR RIDLEY HAS ASKED FOR ONE OR TWO REST PERIODS E.G. OVER WEEKEND.

3. THESE PLANS SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE BE DIVULGED TO YOUR HOST GOVERNMENT (THOUGH MR RIDLEY HAS MENTIONED TO THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR THAT HE HOPES TO VISIT BRAZIL IN JULY.)

4. LIMA ONLY. MR RIDLEY WANTS TO SEE MACHU PICHU. CAN HE ALSO PLAN FOR VISIT CUSICHACA AND CALL ON APPROPRIATE MINISTERS.

CARRINGTON

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M & CD
WIAD
PS/MR.RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR.HALL

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enter (6)

ARW 024/1
14 JUN 1979

PS/Mr Ridley

MR RIDLEY"S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. I attach a schedule for Mr Ridley's visit to Latin America. It does not contain detailed suggestions as to how Mr Ridley should spend his time in Venezuela, Brazil and Peru. We will consult these posts, once the Minister has agreed the itinerary, bearing in mind Mr Ridley's request for one or two rest periods. A possible programme for Mr Ridley's visit to Mexico is contained
A in Mexico City's tel no 130.

2. If Mr Ridley is going to take in Antigua en route to Buenos Aires/Falkland Islands, this will entail his departure
B from London on Tuesday, 10 July, as indicated below.

3. M & CD concur.

J B Ure
South America Department

12 June, 1979

Copies to:

Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
M & CD
P & CD
WIAD

Mr Ure, SAmD.

Provided there is no easier way of getting to Buenos Aires than by spending 11 hours in Madrid (a long transit, if necessary, would be more useful if it were in a country in the Minister's parish), Mr Ridley is generally content.

Mr Ridley is agreeable to WIAD's preference that he visit Antigua on his way home from Mexico.

cc Mr Angst, WIAD.

Mr Japp. 13/6.

Spoke to Japp: the Madrid stop is 5½ hours and the Ambassador might well be able to offer hospitality. 13/6

OR

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J. Oldeshaw 7820

Betty Davis

POSSIBLE ITINERARY/OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

	Depart	Arrive
Wednesday 11 July		
London/~~Madrid~~ Rio ~~BA 454~~ RG 765-2035.	2035 ~~15.25~~	0550 (12th) ~~18.30~~
Thursday 12 July		
~~Madrid~~ Rio/Buenos Aires Lunch at Residence	0730 ~~00.05~~	@ 1010. ~~1130~~

pm Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)

Friday 13 July		
Buenos Aires/Comodoro AR 616	06.30	08.40
Comodoro/Stanley Lunch at Government House LD 200	09.40	~~11.40~~ 12.10.

pm Informal meeting with Councillors

Saturday 14 July

Joint Exco/Legco meeting

Sunday 15 July

Visit East Falkland

Monday 16 July

Visit West Falkland

OR

Tuesday 17 July

Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc)

/Wednesday

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	Depart	Arrive
Wednesday 18 July		
Stanley/Comodoro CD351.	15.50 ~~13.30~~	17.10..
Comodoro/Buenos Aires AR639	1910	21.40
Thursday 19 July		
Meeting with Argentines		
Friday 20 July		
Buenos Aires/Rio de Janeiro AV 084	08.00	10.55
Rio de Janeiro/Brasilia SC 434	~~1400~~ 12.00	14.15
Rio/S'Paulo QD323 p.m. Tuesday 24 daily S.P.		
Wednesday 25 July		
Brasilia/~~Rio de Janeiro~~ SC 201	~~18.30~~	~~20.00~~
S'Paulo ~~Rio de Janeiro~~/Lima RG 830	19.15. ~~21.00~~	00.10
Monday 30 July		
Lima/Caracas PL 630	09.00	15.45
Wednesday 1 August		
Caracas/Mexico City AM 420 (all economy).	18.~~35~~ 50	23.~~00~~ 15.
Saturday 4 August		
Mexico City/London BA 266	12.15	0730* (Sunday)
OR **Monday 6 August**		
Mexico City/London PA 52/PA 2	08.00	06.40 (Tuesday)

* This flight is preferable to the Pan Am flight on 6 August.

7820

	Depart	Arrive
Wednesday 18 July		
Stanley/Comodoro CD351	15.50 ~~13.30~~	17.10
Comodoro/Buenos Aires AR639	1910	21.40
Thursday 19 July		
Meeting with Argentines		
Friday 20 July		
Buenos Aires/Rio de Janeiro AV 084	08.00	10.55
Rio de Janeiro/Brasilia SC 434	~~1700~~ 12.00	14.15
Rio/S'Paulo QD303 p.m. Tuesday 24 July S.P.	1730	~~1850~~
Wednesday 25 July		
~~Brasilia/Rio de Janeiro~~ SC ~~RG~~ 201	~~18.30~~	~~20.00~~
S'Paulo ~~Rio de Janeiro~~/Lima RG 830	19.15. ~~21.00~~	00.10
Monday 30 July		
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London/Madrid BA 454	15.25	18.30
Thursday 12 July		
Madrid/Buenos Aires Lunch at Residence	00.05	11.30
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pm Informal meeting with Councillors		
Saturday 14 July		
Joint Exco/Legco meeting		
Sunday 15 July		
Visit East Falkland		
Monday 16 July		
Visit West Falkland		
Tuesday 17 July		
Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc)		

/Wednesday

ALTERNATIVE ITINERARY IF MINISTER VISITS ANTIGUA

	Depart	Arrive
Tuesday 10 July		
London/Antigua BA 251	10.25	13.35
Wednesday 11 July		
Antigua/Miami BW 404	14.00	17.05
Miami/Buenos Aires AR 325	21.30	10.40 (12th)

early August.

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DESKBY 120800Z
FM MEXICO CITY 120035Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 130 OF 11 JUNE

FOLLOWING FOR M AND CD

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-LUNCH WITH LEADING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
-MEET EMBASSY STAFF.
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-RECEPTION AT BELLAS ARTES.

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/ 2. WHETHER ALL

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YOUR IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM NO 109 OF 11 JUNE: POSSIBLE VISIT TO MEXICO BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A POSSIBLE PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT:
2 AUGUST-COURTESY CALLS ON MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINISTER /DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, PRESIDENTS SPECIAL ADVISER ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (MOCTEZUMA CID).
-LUNCH WITH LEADING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
-MEET EMBASSY STAFF.
-OPENING PERFORMANCE OF ROYAL BALLET (ROMEO AND JULIET) AT BELLAS ARTES.
-RECEPTION AT BELLAS ARTES.

3 AUGUST-A.M. INDUSTRIAL VISIT (WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES) AND LUNCH.
-P.M. DEPART BY AIR FOR GUADALAJARA.
-RECEPTION AT THE ANGLO MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN GUADALAJARA, FOLLOWED BY DINNER WITH LEADING LOCAL PERSONALITIES.

4 AUGUST-SIGHTSEEING IN GUADALAJARA AND AREA AND LUNCH. RETURN BY AIR TO MEXICO CITY EARLY P.M.
-EVENING: ROYAL BALLET PERFORMANCE (BIRTHDAY OFFERING: MONTH IN THE COUNTRY: ELITE SYNCOPATION).

5 AUGUST-GO TO VALLE DE BRAVO BY CAR (SAILING/WALKING/GOLF ARE POSSIBILITIES). SPEND NIGHT AT VALLE DE BRAVO.

6 AUGUST-RETURN EARLY A.M. BY CAR TO MEXICO CITY.

/ 2. WHETHER ALL

CODE 18-77

2. WHETHER ALL COURTESY CALLS LISTED FOR 2 AUGUST CAN BE FITTED IN WILL DEPEND, OF COURSE, ON THE AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS AND THE TIMES WHICH WE ARE OFFERED. THE PRESIDENT MAY ATTEND THE OPENING PERFORMANCE OF THE ROYAL BALLET. HIS WIFE ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL.

3. THE VISIT TO GUADALAJARA HAS BEEN INCLUDED BECAUSE I WAS PLANNING TO GO THERE WITH SIR CHARLES TROUGHTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL, WHO WILL BE IN MEXICO AT THE SAME TIME AS MR RIDLEY. IT IS MEXICO'S SECOND CITY AND IS THRIVING AND INTERESTING. THE ANGLO-MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IS DOING REMARKABLY WELL AND DESERVES EVERY ENCOURAGEMENT.

4. I THINK THAT ON SATURDAY NIGHT, 4 AUGUST, WE SHOULD ONCE AGAIN SUPPORT THE ROYAL BALLET AT BELLAS ARTES.

5. THE WEEKEND AT VALLE DE BRAVO CAN BE COMPLETELY RELAXING. THE RETURN ON MONDAY MORNING NEEDS TO BE RELATED TO THE PLANE DEPARTURE TIME. MAY I PLEASE HAVE FLIGHT NUMBER AND E.T.D.

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MR HALL

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ALW 024/1
RECEIVED REGISTRY No. 18
12 JUN 1979
PEAR OFFICE | CYPHER UNIT
INDEX | FILE | PACKET

Mr Duff

cc: Mr Stratton
Mr Rushford, Legal Advisers
South America Dept

INDEPENDENCE FOR ANTIGUA

Mr Ridley has seen your submission of 7 June along with Mr Stratton's subsequent minute of 8 June. The Minister agrees in principle to having these talks and is inclined to have them without delay if at all possible. Before agreeing to invite the Antiguans to London however, he wonders whether he could not have the talks in Antigua on route for Buenos Aires at the start of his Falklands/Latin American tour which, on present plans, is due to commence on 11 July.

J W Yapp
11 June 1979

Mr Macdonald -
How is the Minister's time table getting on?
Can this be worked in? Please speak.
PBR 11/6.

CODE 18-77

POSSIBLE ITINERARY/OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

	Depart	Arrive
Wednesday 11 July		
London/Madrid BA 454	15.25	18.30
Thursday 12 July		
Madrid/Buenos Aires Lunch at Residence	00.05	11.30
pm Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)		
Friday 13 July		
Buenos Aires/Comodoro AR 616	06.30	08.40
Comodoro/Stanley Lunch at Government House	09.40	11.40
pm Informal meeting with Councillors		
Saturday 14 July		
Joint Exco/Legco meeting		
Sunday 15 July		
Visit East Falkland		
Monday 16 July		
Visit West Falkland		
Tuesday 17 July		
Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc)		

/Wednesday

CODE 18-77

	Depart	Arrive
Wednesday 18 July		
Stanley/Comodoro	13.30	
Comodoro/Buenos Aires		21.40
Thursday 19 July		
Meeting with Argentines		
Friday 20 July		
Buenos Aires/Rio de Janeiro AV 084	08.00	10.55
Rio de Janeiro/Brasilia SC 434	12.00	14.15
Wednesday 25 July		
Brasilia/Rio de Janeiro RG 201	18.30	20.00
Rio de Janeiro/Lima RG 830	21.00	00.10
Monday 30 July		
Lima/Caracas PL 630	09.00	15.45
Wednesday 1 August		
Caracas/Mexico City AM 420	18.35	23.00
Saturday 4 August		
Mexico City/London BA 266	12.15	0730* (Sunday)
OR **Monday 6 August**		
Mexico City/London PA 52/PA 2	08.00	06.40 (Tuesday)

* This flight is preferable to the Pan Am flight on 6 August.

CODE 18-77

ALTERNATIVE ITINERARY IF MINISTER VISITS ANTIGUA

	Depart	Arrive
Tuesday 10 July		
London/Antigua BA 251	10.25	13.35
Wednesday 11 July		
Antigua/Miami BW 404	14.00	17.05
Miami/Buenos Aires AR 325	21.30	10.40 (12th)

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FM MEXICO CITY 120035Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 130 OF 11 JUNE

FOLLOWING FOR M AND CD

YOUR IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM NO 109 OF 11 JUNE: POSSIBLE VISIT TO MEXICO BY MINISTER OF STATE.

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M AND C D
S AM D
CRD
MR HALL

CODE 18-77

Mr Cowley

POSSIBLE ITINERARY OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA

Option A

11 July Wednesday

	Depart	Arrive
London/Madrid* BA 454	15.25	18.30

12 July Thursday

Madrid to Buenos Aires	00.05	11.30

Lunch at Residence.

pm Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)

13 July Friday

Buenos Aires to Comodoro AR 616	0630	0840
Comodoro to Stanley	0940	1140

Lunch at Government House.

pm Informal meeting with Councillors.

14 July Saturday

Joint Exco/Legco meeting.

15 July Sunday

Visit East Falkland.

17 July Monday

Visit West Falkland.

18 July Tuesday

Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc).

19 July Wednesday

	Depart	Arrive
Stanley to Comodoro	13.30	
Comodoro to Buenos Aires		21.40

/Thursday

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20 July Thursday

Meeting with Argentines.

Friday

	Depart	Arrive
Buenos Aires to London	17.55	15.35 (Sat)

* Direct flights between London/Buenos Aires are on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays, timings which do not tie in with the Friday morning flights to Stanley.

CODE 18-77

Reference

Reference

Reference (4)

RESTRICTED

AW 026/1

Copy to Mrs Temple Done 8/6
7/ Mans Lepr.

Mr Ure

Mr Cowling 6.6.79.

FALKLAND ISLANDS: MINISTERIAL VISIT

1. Miss Patricia Napier of Sallingbury Ltd, the Falkland Islands Committee public relations firm, telephoned me to ask whether it was true that Mr Ridley was planning to visit the Falkland Islands in July. She said that she had received word from the Islands that this was a possibility. She said that the rumours were apparently based on a report in the Argentine newspaper "La Nacion" of 22 May. I told Miss Napier that there was at present no firm plans for Mr Ridley to visit the Falkland Islands and that the newspaper article, which I had not seen, was speculation.

C W Osborne
South America Department

7 June 1979

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3A

AlW 022/1

15 JUN 1979

Mr Macdonald

Ian Gow

Now a possible itinerary for Mr Ridley which allows for recuperation weekends in Brasilia and Lima (and Mex. City if required). It would also allow him to attend the Brit. Cultural Month opening in Mexico on 2 Aug. I have not checked these dates finally with P&CD as I leave it to you to take on from here?

JR 7/6

FLIGHT DETAILS FOR MR RIDLEY'S PROPOSED VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA

1. Jennifer Oldershaw, P&CD, has given me the flight details for the ininerary and dates you discussed with me yesterday. The details are set out below.

Friday 20 July	Buenos Aires - Rio - Brasilia	
Flight AV 084	Dep BA 0800	Arrive Rio 1055
Flight SC 434	Dep Rio 1200	Arrive Brasilia 1415
Wednesday 25 July	Brasilia-Rio-Lima	
Flight RG 201	Dep Brasilia 1830	Arrive Rio 2000
Flight RG 830	Dep Rio 2100	Arrive Lima 0010
Monday 30 July	Lima - Caracas	
Flight PL 630	Dep Lima 0900	Arrive Caracas 1545
Wednesday 1 August	Caracas - Mexico City	
Flight AM 420	Dep Caracas 1835	Arrive Mexico City 2300
Saturday 4 August	Mexico City - London	
Flight BA266	Dep Mexico City 1215	Arrive London 0730* (Sunday)
OR		
Monday 6 August		
Flight PA 52/PA 2	Dep Mexico City 0800	Arrive London 0640 (Tuesday)

* This flight is preferable to the Pan Am flight on 6 August.

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2. Miss Oldershaw requested that P&CD should be informed immediately about the visit if P&CD were to pay for it. A copy of all submissions on this proposed visit should be sent to Nancy Deeves, P&CD. She also advised South America Department that the visit, if it were to take place, should appear in the department's financial estimate, even if it had to be a supplementary entry. I undertook to inform you of this.

for F Paterson (Miss)
SAmD

6 June 1979

Reference
Reference
Reference

(3)

Copies to: H.M.G.D.
: M Macdonald

Mr Cowling

MR RIDLEY'S SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR

1. Mr Temple tells me that Mr Ridley would now be grateful if we could work out a programme for his proposed tour. He plans to leave London on 11 July and follow the longer of the two itineraries which you have already devised for the Falklands and Argentina. Thereafter he would wish to visit Brasilia, Caracas and Mexico City, probably for two or three days in each. He plans to be away from London for approximately three weeks. He would like his tour to include one or two rest periods - possibly over weekends - in places where some recreation or tourism would be possible.

2. I would be grateful if you would now work out a programme based on current air time-tables. You will need to consult with Mexico and Caribbean Department about the last stage of the journey. Please let me have a draft programme for Mr Ridley fairly soon.

J B Ure
South America Department

4 June, 1979

CODE 18-77

Reference
Reference

Mr Cowling

MR RIDLEY'S SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR

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J B Ure
South America Department

4 June, 1979

M Percival : M C D (We also spoke).

Could you please let me have your Dept's contribution i.e. an outline of how long Mr Ridley should spend in Mexico and a general idea of who he should see and what he might do. We will take care of the air time-tables consulting you as appropriate J.R. Cowling 6/6

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Reference

Original at: ALA 026/1
This Copy for: ALW 026/1
Information only / Action on
Para(s)

0 013/17 GRPS 190

UNCLASSIFIED

ALW026/1.
2 MAY 1979

TO: FCO

UNCLASSIFIED

FILE NO: 020/5 DATE: 16 MAY 1979

FOLLOWING FOR: J R COWLING ESQ, SAMD

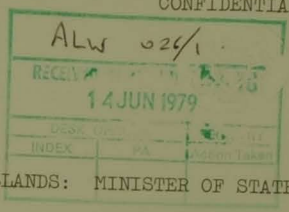
FROM: R GOZNEY, BUENOS AIRES

MINISTERIAL VISIT AND EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS : PRESS SPECULATION
1. WRITING ON 16 MAY IN LA OPINION, HAROLDO FOULKES CONTINUES HIS SPECULATION ABOUT THE NEXT MOVES IN ANGLO/ARGENTINE RELATIONS.
2. HE REPORTS THAT IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM A FINANCIAL TIMES JOURNALIST ON 14 MAY THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD BEEN TO SOUTH AMERICA HE DID NOT, UNFORTUNATELY, KNOW ARGENTINA. BUT HE CONSIDERED IT APPROPRIATE TO SEND ONE OF HIS PRINCIPAL ASSISTANTS TO LOOK AT THE PRESENT STATE OF ANGLO/ARGENTINE RELATIONS. FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S ANSWER CARRIED IN THE RETRACT SERIES FOULKES IS CLEARLY MISQUOTING, BUT HE GOES ON TO SPECULATE THAT THE MINISTER OF STATE, MR RIDLEY WILL QUITE POSSIBLY VISIT BUENOS AIRES IN JUNE OR JULY.
3. ON THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS, FOULKES REPEATS THAT ARGENTINA WILL NOMINATE ORTIZ DE ROZAS. AS FAR AS THE BRITISH NOMINATION IS CONCERNED, HE SAYS, THE ADVENT OF THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT MAKES IT LESS LIKELY THAT HUGH CARLESS WILL BE NOMINATED. HE ADDS THAT IF HE WERE, THE NOMINATION WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED IN THE FORIEGN MINISTRY GIVEN CARLESS' EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY. BUT, HE SAYS, OTHER SECTIONS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ARE HOPING FOR MORE OF A GESTURE FROM LONDON AND THE NOMINATION OF A LONG TERM HEAD OF MISSION OF THE HIGHEST DIPLOMATIC RANK.
4. ALL THIS POINTS, FOULKES SAYS, TO A PERIOD OF WAITING UNTIL THE SECRETARY OF STATE COMPLETES HIS ANALYSIS OF THE COMPLEX GROUP OF INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS OF CONCERN TO THE UK.

(SIGNED) R GOZNEY

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL (1)



M Osborne Mr Courtney Exeter (2)

FALKLAND ISLANDS: MINISTER OF STATE'S MEETING, 16 MAY

Present:

Mr Ridley MP
PS/Mr Ridley
APS/Mr Ridley
Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
Mr Ure SAmD
Mr Duggan SAmD
Mr Cowling SAmD
Mr Osborne SAmD

Visit to Falkland Islands and Argentina

1. Mr Ridley said that early discussion of the important Falklands issue seemed necessary from his reading of the department's submissions. It would be a mistake for the new Government to hedge or prevaricate further with the Argentines who knew we had been doing so in the past. To continue would make them think that the new Government was not in earnest and might make them more inclined to act foolishly. He thought there was a possibility of getting them to accept a continuation of UK sovereignty if we acted in a friendlier fashion and tried to help them in other areas, for example the Antarctic. He therefore felt it was right to visit the Islands soon to reassure them of our wish to help and to obtain their authority to continue the negotiations. He could at the same time make a courtesy call on the Argentine authorities. On his return, we could work out a more detailed strategy for a resumption of negotiations in the autumn.

2. Sir A Parsons thought that it would be difficult to go through Buenos Aires and restrict contact with the Argentines to a mere courtesy call: some broad decisions of principle should be

/taken

taken in advance of the visit. The Argentines would be likely to seek confirmation that the new Government would continue the negotiations and from the point reached at the last round.

3. Sir A Parsons said that the Minister might be pressed to confirm that the "lease back option" still remained a possibility. Mr Hall thought a direct reference to lease back unlikely; it had never been mentioned in so many words in the negotiations. From the Argentine stand-point, negotiations had to include sovereignty; they had to see some possibility of progress and of obtaining sovereignty over both the Dependencies and the Falklands, or there would be an unpredictable but strong reaction. On the basis of his experience in the negotiations to-date, he thought there was a narrow path between the two positions; to avoid a breakdown in the negotiations and to give the moderates on the Argentine side some support, it was important that this chink should be left open. Mr Ridley said he felt that it would be premature to mention lease back to the Argentines which would be interpreted as capitulation by the Islanders and in Argentina. We should continue talking to them about a general condominium of economic interests (e.g. in the Antarctic) and try to get a package together which would divert attention from the sovereignty issue. Everything could be included, except sovereignty over which it was difficult to compromise given Parliamentary and public opinion. Mr Hall suggested that it was important to tell the Argentines that the new Government was prepared to negotiate within the existing terms of reference as announced in April 1977. So long as the Argentines clearly understood our insistence on sovereignty over the Islanders, then progress in the negotiations might be possible.

4. Mr Hall suggested that the department should put forward a draft minute for the Secretary of State to send to his OD colleagues explaining that it was necessary to enter fairly quickly into further negotiations with the Argentines and that it

/was

was important to get the support of the Falkland Islanders for this. This meant a Ministerial visit to both Argentina and the Falklands. Mr Hall said that the new Argentine Ambassador might arrive before the end of June and would probably bring instructions to raise the Falklands issue: this underlined the need for an early visit. Mr Duggan recalled that the Argentine Foreign Minister was hoping to talk to the Secretary of State in the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York in late September. Mr Ridley looked at two possible schedules for a visit. He thought that if he was going to go to the trouble of visiting the Falklands it should be done properly and he should spend some time there. He said he would like to leave on 11 July after the visit of the Colombian President. This would give ample time for briefing the Secretary of State before any meeting with the Argentine Foreign Minister in New York. Mr Hall thought that the Argentines would be unlikely to press for a further full negotiating round until probably December. Mr Ridley felt that his visit to Buenos Aires and the Falklands would buy time and that in the meantime we should show friendliness wherever possible.

Exchange of Ambassadors with Argentina and Chile

5. Sir A Parsons believed that Ambassadors should be exchanged before the Ministerial visit. Mr Ridley agreed; he felt that we should also consider restoration of Ambassadors with Chile soon. There was much to be said for getting Ambassadors back into Chile and Argentina at the same time.

6. Mr Hall mentioned that we had already gone some way down the road with the Argentines who had a nominee ready. The restoration of Ambassadors with Chile posed a rather different problem. It had been HMG who had withdrawn her Ambassador from Chile whereas in the case of Argentina our Ambassador had been withdrawn at the

/Argentine's

Argentine's request. It had to be a political decision for Ministers. Mr Hall saw no great advantage to our interests in moving quickly or in doing it concurrently with the Argentines. Mr Ridley felt that, if we were able simultaneously to restore relations with Argentina and Chile at Ambassadorial level, it would have the advantage of avoiding criticism that any one country had been treated preferentially; we should whip Chile through. Sir A Parsons agreed; he mentioned however, that there were implications for Nicaragua which would need to be considered. Mr Ure said that the department would be submitting also on another aspect of our relations with Chile, the resumption of medium term ECGD cover; he proposed covering both in one paper before the weekend. Mr Ridley welcomed this.

Visits to Other Countries

7. Mr Ridley said that if Brazil, Venezuela and possibly Mexico were to be included in the same trip, as the department was suggesting, this could mean a total absence of perhaps three weeks, returning to London in early August. Sir A Parsons felt this should be acceptable. August was a quiet month and he could see no difficulty in leaving serious consideration on the future of our negotiations with the Argentines until September.

Action

8. It was agreed that:

a) approval should be sought for a Ministerial visit to the Falklands and Argentina leaving London on 11 July. The department would prepare a draft minute for the Secretary of State to send to OD colleagues explaining the basis for the visit;

/b)

/Thursday

b) once this had been agreed, arrangements would be made to include Brazil, Venezuela (and possibly Mexico) in the same trip, entailing a total absence of about three weeks;

c) the possibility of resuming Ambassadorial relations simultaneously with both Chile and Argentina should be examined: and

d) the Department would submit on policy towards Chile as it affected ECGD medium-term cover and the restoration of Ambassadors.

Distribution

PS/Mr Ridley
Sir A Parsons
Mr J R Freeland - Legal Advisers
Miss G G Brown
Mr G E Hall
Mr J B Ure - SAmD
Mr J W R Shakespeare - M&CD
Mr D H A Hannay - ESSD
Mr W E H Whyte - News Department
Mr M R Morland - MAED

/Thursday

Reference

POSSIBLE ITINERARY OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA

Option A

Wednesday 11th

	Depart	Arrive
London/Madrid* BA 454	15.25	18.30

Thursday

Madrid to Buenos Aires Lunch at Residence.	00.05	11.30

pm Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)

Friday

Buenos Aires to Comodoro AR 616	0630	0840
Comodoro to Stanley Lunch at Government House.	0940	1140

pm Informal meeting with Councillors.

Saturday

Joint Exco/Legco meeting.

Sunday

Visit East Falkland.

Monday

Visit West Falkland.

Tuesday

Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc).

Wednesday

	Depart	Arrive
Stanley to Comodoro	13.30	
Comodoro to Buenos Aires		21.40

/Thursday

Thursday

Meeting with Argentines.

Friday

	Depart	Arrive
"		
Buenos Aires to London	17.55	15.35 (Sat)

* Direct flights between London/Buenos Aires are on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays, timings which do not tie in with the Friday morning flights to Stanley.

POSSIBLE ITINERARY OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA

Option B

Monday

	Depart	Arrive
London/Buenos Aires	19.15	09.00 (Tues)

Tuesday

Meeting with Embassy/Argentines.

Wednesday

	Depart	Arrive
Buenos Aires to Comodoro LD 306	07.30	11.50
Comodoro to Stanley	12.30	13.50

pm Joint meeting of Exco/Legco.

Thursday

Visit settlement in East or West Falkland.

Friday

Stanley to Comodoro LD 201	14.30	17.00

Overnight Comodoro.

Saturday

Comodoro to Buenos Aires AR 633	09.20	- am

pm Meeting with Argentines.

Sunday

Buenos Aires to London	19.30	14.05 (Mon)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference

(1)

ALW 026/1

RECEIVED
14 MAY 1979

Mr Duggan

MINISTER OF STATE'S PROPOSED VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES/ PORT STANLEY

1. Steering briefs aside (and which will need to be considered nearer the time of the visit) briefs will be required to cover the following points:

a) Negotiations
(i) Background to current negotiations (i.e. outline of steps which led to joint announcement of negotiations of 26 April, 1977).
(ii) Current stage of negotiations together with summary of what transpired in previous negotiating rounds
(iii) Islander participation/consultation
(iv) Southern Thule - factual background

b) Falklands
(i) Factual piece on Islands
(ii) Communications Agreement
(iii) Note on Falkland Islands Company
(iv) Islands development post Shackleton Report
(v) Note on fishing/oil potential
(vi) Falkland Islands Committee

c) Argentina
(i) General background
(ii) Political/economic/trade
(iii) Human Rights/British Consular cases

d) Antarctic Treaty
(i) Basic note reflecting recent developments

e) Beagle Channel
(i) Basic note

2. With your agreement, I propose to set in hand the preparations of draft briefs consulting you as appropriate, on individual points concerning content and overall presentation.

J R Cowling
SAmD

14 May 1979

CONFIDENTIAL

CODE 18-77