

*Replied*  
*C/S*

*Mr Fearn*  
*Mr Smith*  
*Mr Davies*  
*cc Res Dept*  
*WSD*  
*Mr Michael / Louis*  
*business.*

RESTRICTED

*1072*  
*OPS : 7*

TELETYPE

<i>AW 940/325/1</i>		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY NO. 13		
11 FEB 1981		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
INDEX	PA	Action Take
		<i>44/1</i>

*New Dept know*  
*of no Ronald Conway, but even*  
*if they did, 'Michael' is obvious*  
*pure fabrication. But Convicc*  
*is widely read & what it says*  
*may well be believed by the*  
*public* *5/2 c/s right*

DATE : 3 FEBRUARY 1981

FOLLOWING FOR  
OFFICE TO (BY BAG) G. C. BRIGHT, SOUTH AMERICA DEPT, FOR  
M. PROSCOTT, PORT STANLEY  
FROM R. H. T. COZNEY, BUENOS AIRES

FALKLANDS DISPUTE: ARGENTINE PRESS COMMENT

*3*

SINCE MY LETTER OF 29 JANUARY BRITAIN HAS BEEN FURTHER CRITICISED  
OVER ALLEGED POLICY TOWARDS THE FALKLANDS, THIS TIME IN AN EDITORIAL  
IN LA NACION ON 1 FEBRUARY. THE PAPER CRITICISES THE IDEA OF  
MOVING ST HELENIANS TO THE FALKLANDS BECAUSE THE INTENTION APPEARS  
TO BE TO REINFORCE THE SUPPOSED WISHES OF THE ISLANDERS, WHICH  
ACCORDING TO BRITAIN REMAIN STRONGLY OPPOSED TO REINTEGRATION WITH  
ARGENTINA, BY SENDING MORE PEOPLE THERE. NEITHER THE NUMBER NOR  
THE COLOUR OF THE PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT. THE ACTION SUGGESTS THAT  
THERE IS VERY LITTLE GOOD FAITH ON THE PART OF THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES,  
(IN DEALING WITH ARGENTINA IN THE NEGOTIATIONS).

2. THE PAPER GOES ON TO REPEAT THE FAMILIAR LINE THAT THE DISPUTE  
IS NOT A CASE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION AND THAT SINCE THE UNITED  
NATIONS HAS SAID THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO INNOVATION IN THE  
FALKLANDS WHILE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE BRITAIN MUST ACCEPT THIS.

3. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN A CURIOUS SIGNED ARTICLE IN THE NEWSPAPER  
CONVICTION, BY A JOURNALIST NOT KNOWN TO US, MARTIN RAYRO DE IRALA.  
HE RECOUNTS VERBATIM WHAT HE CLAIMS WAS A PRE-ARRANGED TALK IN AN  
OXFORD PUB BETWEEN HIM AND SOMEONE DESCRIBED AS AN IMPORTANT  
MEMBER OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND PERSONAL FRIEND OF THE  
PRIME MINISTER, BUT THE IDENTITY OF WHOM IRALA CANNOT DISCLOSE.  
HE GIVES HIM THE PSEUDONYM MICHAEL. MICHAEL MAKES THE POINT THAT

- (1) THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO A LIMITED BUT DEFINITE OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IN THE RECOVERY OF THE FALKLAND TERRITORIES AND ACCORDING THAT THE PROVISIONS WILL BE EXTENSIVE.
- (2) THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO A LIMITED BUT DEFINITE OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IN THE RECOVERY OF THE FALKLAND TERRITORIES AND ACCORDING THAT THE PROVISIONS WILL BE EXTENSIVE.
- (3) THE GREAT FUROR IN ARGENTINA ABOUT THE EVIDENCE OF RECOVERED FROM ST HELENA TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS. THE IDEA WAS FOR JUST TWO FAMILIES TO HAVE, ONE OF THEM A CHILDREN AND THE OTHER AN ELEGANT DAUGHTER.
- (4) ANY BRITISH DECISION ABOUT THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS WILL BE A COMPLIANCE WITH SOME MEMBERS HAVE IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS COMPANY. THERE IS A STRONG OPPOSITION FROM LEFT-TO-CENTRE AND THE RIGHT-TO-CONSERVATIVES.

6. WHEN THE JOURNALIST SUGGESTS THAT ARGENTINA COULD USE FORCE TO TAKE THE FALKLANDS, MICHAEL EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND SAID IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO HAVE THIS CONFIRMED BY CONGRESS (DAVID LI, TRIPLE NECESSARY PRESIDENT THE LEFT VIOLA, BACK IN EYE OF AIR).

7. THE EDITORIAL IN LA NACION, GIVE THE WEIGHT OF THE FACTS, TO THE MORE IMPORTANT OF THESE TWO PRESS CHECKS BUT THE QUOTE INTERVIEW QUOTE IN CONVICTION ATTRACTS ATTENTION BECAUSE OF ITS CURIOUS NATURE. WE SUSPECT THAT IT IS A COMPLETE FABRICATION, WHICH WOULD NOT BE OUT OF PLACE WITH THE TACTICS OF THE NEWSPAPER. APART FROM AN ILLUSTRATION BEHIND THE ISSUE IN THE PUBLIC EYE, THE FORCE OF THE BY QUESTIONING AT WHAT A SENIOR BRITISH OFFICIAL IMPLICATED THAT JAY AND ESPECIALLY AT HIS SURPRISE AT THE IDEA OF ACCEPTING THE FORCE, THAT THE ARGENTINE PARTIAL MINISTRY ARE AT THE END OF THE IMPRESSIVE WORK AS THE REPTILES OF THE CLAIM. (2) (3) HAD A LONG RUNNING CAMPAIGN OF CRITICISM OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE HERE.

THE CONVICTED JOURNALIST SAYS THAT HIS INTERVIEW WAS  
ARRANGED BY A BRITISH JOURNALIST, PHILIP COLLEY. IT MUST BE  
ASKING THE DEPARTMENT IF THIS NAME MEANS ANYTHING TO THEM.

SIGNED: R H T COLLEY

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SENT AT 14/5 1540Z JL

REC'D AT 14/ 1540Z JE