

Prime Minister

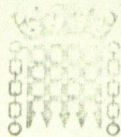
FALKLAND ISLANDS - BRIEFING FOR MINISTERS
NOT IN THE CABINET

1. Herewith letter dated 6th June from Jock, together with a copy of my reply.
2. May we please have a word about this? You would do it so much better than Francis, but I hesitate to add to your burdens.
3. I think that other Ministers - apart from Jock - would welcome this.
4. You have agreed to see the Executive of the 1922 Committee, and this is now been arranged in your room at the House at 3.10 p.m. on Monday, 14th June.

9th June 1982

IAN GOW

Jock Bruce-Gardyne, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

June 6th 1982

Ian Gow, Esq., MP
PPS to the Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street
SW

Shortly after the start of the Falklands affair the Prime Minister held (I believe) a couple of briefings for Junior Ministers. These - or at least the one I attended - were very helpful, for as she said we junior Ministers sometimes feel rather ignorant and cut off in circumstances such as these, when backbenchers are briefed at meetings we can't attend, and Cabinet Ministers are of course briefed in Cabinet.

Hence I wondered if it would be possible to stage a repeat? I would hesitate to seek to impose such an additional burden on the PM. But perhaps one of the other members of the 'War Cabinet'?

9th June 1982

Many thanks for your letter of 6th June.

I will certainly discuss your suggestion with the Prime Minister.

There is obvious merit in your suggestion and the question is one of timing, and whether any further briefing meeting of the kind which you suggest should be done by the Prime Minister or by Francis.

IAN GOW

Jock Bruce-Gardyne Esq MP