

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE

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*From the Secretary of State*

George Walden Esq  
Private Secretary to the  
Secretary of State for Foreign  
and Commonwealth Affairs  
Downing Street  
LONDON  
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*H. G. P. 24/9*  
21 September 1979

*Dear George*

Falkland Islands

As my Secretary of State is at present on an official visit to Australasia, I have not been able to show him Lord Carrington's minute of 20 September to the Prime Minister.

Whilst I am sure that Mr Nott would not object to the proposal that your Secretary of State should indicate to the Argentine Foreign Minister in New York that we are willing to enter into negotiations fairly soon, I must enter a reservation on the substance and tactics of the negotiations which he will no doubt wish to have an opportunity to consider. I presume that the timetable which is envisaged for the full negotiations will allow this closer examination of the proposals before they are floated with the Argentinians.

I am sending copies of this letter to Michael Alexander (No 10), the Private Secretaries to other members of OD, the Secretary of State for Energy and the Attorney General, and to Martin Vile (Cabinet Office).

*Yours sincerely,*  
*Stuart Hampson*

S HAMPSON

Private Secretary

SEP 1979

