

Confidential

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Prime Minister

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I have just received a call from Monsieur Altali, speaking on the instructions of President Mitterrand who is now in Niamey in Niger.

The President wanted you to know that what he had said was not in any way intended to be critical of the British Government or of you personally, but was intended to emphasise that his total political solidarity with you, and France's with the United Kingdom, on the Falkland Isles was not affected by "little local" differences of opinion on the matter of the budget.

cc. Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary. RWA 19. v. 82