



CABINET OFFICE

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MENAD
 HA/Emergency Unit for aft rpdypse
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 HA/Defence Dept
 Sir J. Leahy
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Sir Antony Acland, KCVO, CMG,
 Permanent Under-Secretary of State,
 Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

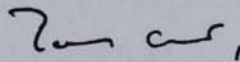
4 May 1982.

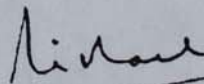
Dear Antony,

ISRAEL AND FALKLANDS

1. Lord Sieff spoke to me about this at the weekend. He said that his Israeli contacts had told him that there was much concern in Jerusalem about allegations here, and particularly in the British press, that Israel was continuing to supply military equipment to Argentina. He understood that the official Israeli position as conveyed to us was that existing contracts would be fulfilled but that there would be no new supplies of military equipment pending the end of the Falklands crisis. He had also been assured in confidence that, on Mr Begin's instructions, the Israelis were doing all they could by administrative means to hinder supplies of such equipment, even if they were being made in fulfilment of an existing contract. But this was being done in confidence and the Israeli Government were concerned that it should not be publicly known. In short, the message which he had been asked to convey to us was that the Israeli Government were doing and would continue to do everything they could to prevent the supply of military equipment from Israel to the Argentine; and the less that was said about this here in public the easier it would be for them to do it in practice.

2. I thanked him for this information and said that I would ensure that it was passed on to the proper quarter.





(Michael Palliser)

Copies: Sir R Armstrong, Cabinet Office.
 Mr Coles, No. 10