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MEETING OF INFORMATION GROUP ON THE FALKLANDS

9.45 AM FRIDAY 4 JUNE 1982

Present:

B Ingham	-	No 10
A Leys	-	COI
R Westbrook	-	FCO
M R C Pentreath	-	MoD
D Colvin	-	Cabinet Office
R Hatfield	-	Presentation Unit
K Long	-	Chancellor of the Duchy's Office
B Mower	-	No 10.

Military

MoD had no new information to impart about action in the Falklands. The Permanent Under Secretary is briefing defence correspondents today.

They had not been able to confirm whether leaflets had actually been dropped in the Falklands.

On the question of the Vulcan bomber, they are saying that it came down in Rio because of fuel shortage and had been doing aerial reconnaissance over the sea.

Diplomatic

FCO reported on activities in the United Nations where the Spanish/Panamanian Resolution was amended when it was clear that they would not get 9 votes. Ministers are now considering our further suggested amendments to the Resolution. The Security Council will meet again at about 8 pm our time. It is possible that further consideration of the draft might go on over the weekend but we may be forced into a lone veto tonight. Our line for today would be that the Spanish/Panamanian draft could not get the 9 votes and was thus amended. This was an improvement but at first sight probably not enough. It was being considered by Ministers today.

The Chairman told the meeting that our stance on the future of the Falklands was likely to be "self government" with multi-national guarantees and this line may well emerge after the Prime Minister's meeting with President Reagan. He confirmed that we would not be swayed in our military position by any US pressure.

Weekend Broadcasts

The Chancellor of the Duchy has agreed to be interviewed on Weekend World although not if they insisted on a three-way interview. As of now no Minister was available for World This Weekend.

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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Group will take place at 10 am on Monday 7 June 1982.

Brian Mower

BRIAN MOWER
4 June 1982

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