

CONFIDENTIAL

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

EHG(B2)(82)6 (Revise 1)

COPY NO. 1

23 June 1982.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL, BRUSSELS

28/29 JUNE 1982

EC/ARGENTINA

Brief by Foreign and Commonwealth Office

OBJECTIVE

1. To express appreciation for partners' support, stress the importance of the maintenance of their arms embargoes and reassure our partners that we share their objective of re-establishing good relations with Latin America.

POINTS TO MAKE

2. Our immediate objective is to secure Argentine agreement that all hostilities in the South Atlantic have now ended, and beyond that to ensure stable future for the Islands.

3. Greatly appreciate support partners have given us over economic measures including decision of Ten Foreign Ministers on 20 June (to react immediately if there were further acts of force in the South Atlantic) making it clear that normal EC/Argentine commercial relations depend on peace in South

../Atlantic

CONFIDENTIAL

Atlantic. Constructive relations hardly possible if major EC and major Latin American country engaged in hostilities with each other,

4. Share to the full objective of our partners in building up constructively our relations with Latin America, taking account of wider Western interests there and Soviet/Argentine relations which are of concern to us all.

5. Partners' agreement to maintain arms embargoes particularly valuable. Should be maintained until peaceful Argentine intentions clear and demonstrated.

BACKGROUND

6. After the Argentine surrender we asked our EC partners (and other countries which had taken economic measures against Argentina) to maintain sanctions until we had confirmation from Argentina of their agreement that all hostilities had ceased. On 20 June the Ten Foreign Ministers decided that, in the expectation that there would be no further acts of force in the South Atlantic, the economic measures against Argentina would be lifted (effective from 22 June). It was agreed that if this expectation were not fulfilled, a new situation would be created to which the Ten would have to react immediately. They also decided that arms embargoes imposed nationally by EC Member States will be maintained for the time being. The other countries with import bans have not yet decided what they will do.

CONFIDENTIAL

7. The lifting of the EC import ban does not affect our own economic measures against Argentina which pre-date the EC measures and were imposed separately under Article 224 of the Treaty of Rome (allowing national action in the event of war or serious international tension constituting a threat of war).

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

23 June 1982

CONFIDENTIAL