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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG
CABINET OFFICE

Falkland Islands Review

Thank you for your minute of 29 July about the meeting which Mr. Ridley had with the Prime Minister on the subject of the Falkland Islands. We have checked our records and it appears that no record was made of the meeting. I enclose a copy of FCO telegram number 585 to UKMIS New York which shows that Mr. Ridley had a meeting with the Prime Minister on 25 September, 1979 to discuss an OD paper on Argentina and the Falkland Islands. It may be that, since it was decided to take the whole question to an early meeting of OD, it was felt that there was no need for a record of the discussion.

A. J. COLES

30 July, 1982

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TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK

TELNO 585 OF 25/9/79

FOLLOWING FOR SECRETARY OF STATE FROM MR RIDLEY
 ARGENTINA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. FOLLOWING YOUR LUNCHTIME DISCUSSION AT CHEQUERS LAST SATURDAY, I HAVE TODAY DISCUSSED THE O D PAPER WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. SHE TAKES THE VIEW THAT WE CANNOT RUSH A DECISION OF PRINCIPLE ON OUR APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM, BUT SHOULD INSTEAD TAKE THE WHOLE QUESTION TO AN EARLY MEETING OF O D.
2. MEANWHILE, THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD PREFER THAT WHEN YOU SEE THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER YOU SHOULD CONFINE YOURSELF TO SAYING THAT HMG HAVE NOT COMPLETED THEIR CONSIDERATION OF THIS COMPLEX PROBLEM. AS I WARNED COMMODORE CAVANDOLI IN JULY, THE HOLIDAY SEASON AND THE PRESSURE OF OTHER URGENT BUSINESS (EG RHODESIA) HAVE CAUSED SOME DELAY IN THIS PROCESS. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE PREMATURE FOR YOU TO AGREE DATES WITH PASTOR FOR MY NEXT MEETING WITH CAVANDOLI: NOR WOULD IT BE APPROPRIATE TO SPEAK AT THIS STAGE ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS ON SOVEREIGNTY.

CARRINGTON

FILES

SAM D

PS

PS/LPS

PS/MR RIDLEY

PS/POS

SIR. A. DUFF

MR HARDING

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MR ALEXANDER, NO 10 DOWNING ST

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