

JOHN COLES

Arrived in No.10 in December 1981

Background -

The Gunners and Magdalen, Oxford before
the FCO

The school of Arabic (MECAS) with
George Blake!

Served in Khartoum, Dubai, Cairo and
Brussels.

Some characteristics -

Craving for a whisky and a cigarette at
all moments of crisis - and most other
moments.

Contempt for the press, the Treasury, and
non-experts who dabble in foreign affairs

Friendly disagreements with David Wolfson
on Arab-Israel.

A taste for night spots on the last night
of overseas tours.

/Crises survived -

Crises survived -

Falklands (and Franks report!)

Lebanon

Grenada

1 CHOGM

2 Summits

8 European Councils

10 away bilaterals and about the same
number of home fixtures

Visits to Japan, China, Hong Kong, the
Falklands, Canada, Washington, Hungary,
Moscow and Portugal.

2 Lord Mayor's Banquets and countless *other*
speeches.