

Foreign and Commonwealth Office London SW1A 2AH

19 August 1982

Prie Musta

Deer Tim,

Sporting Policy Towards Argentina

At the time of the Falklands crisis we agreed with the DOE that sporting contacts between the United Kingdom and Argentina in either country should be discouraged and that the Sports Council should be advised not to offer financial support for such events. With the ending of overt hostilities in the Falklands and following our decision to end visa restrictions, we have decided, again in consultation with the DOE, to lift these restrictions, and that our sporting policy towards Argentina should be the same as towards any other country except South Africa.

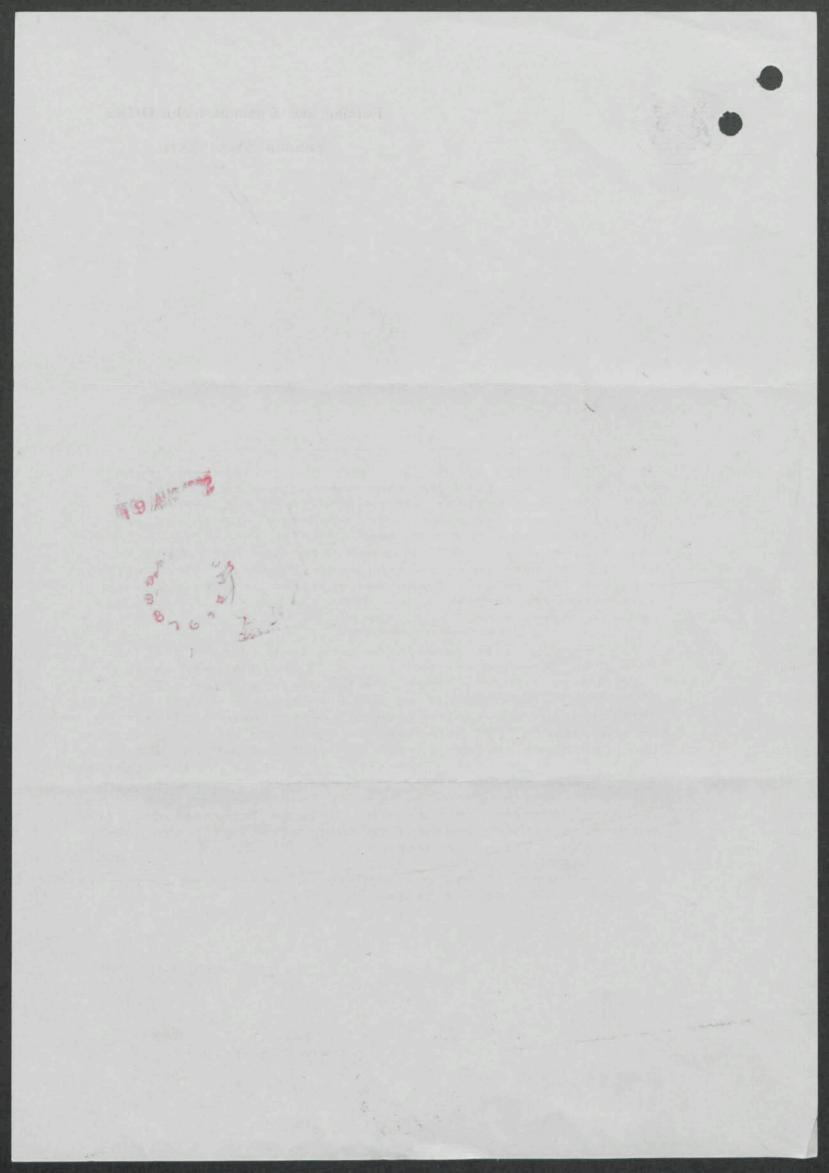
I mention this because we have just learned that an Argentine team has arrived in the UK to take part in the World Cycling Championships due to begin in Leicester on 23 August. I suppose it is possible that Argentine participation could give rise to some adverse publicity or even demonstrations. If necessary we shall say to the press that the Government no longer consider it necessary to discourage sporting contacts with Argentina and that it follows that there is no reason why an Argentine team should not participate in the World Cycling Championships at Leicester next week which is being organised by the Union Cycliste Internationale (the international body responsible for cycling) with the help of the British Cycling Federation.

I am copying this to the Private Secretaries to the Home Secretary and to the Minister for Sport.

> Your eve for Homes (J E Holmes)

Private Secretary

T Flesher Esa 10 Downing Street





Ce Ko Sport

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

25 August 1982

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Thank you for your letter of 19 August about sporting policy towards Argentina which the Prime Minister has noted without comment.

I am copying this letter to John Halliday (Home Office) and Warwick Smith (DOE (Sport)).

TIMOTHY FLESHER

John Holmes Esq Foreign and Commonwealth Office