

Prime Minister

will land, the second Coastal
will be in port by late May.

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PRIME MINISTER

Your Private Secretary's letter of 12th January asked for the timetable for the despatch of the second accommodation barge to the Falklands.

2. We have reached agreement with a UK consortium of firms known as BASE to build this second floating hostel. Building will be undertaken in Lowestoft providing jobs for about 1,000 men. The contract delivery date in the United Kingdom is 2nd April. It will then take some three weeks to ship to the Falkland Islands and, depending upon the weather, about a further month before she is moored and occupied.

3. This is later than the Commander British Forces or we would wish, but no other British firm could offer an earlier delivery. The contract terms will include bonus and penalty clauses to encourage early delivery and Mr Wiggin is meeting the head of the consortium next week to stress the importance of their meeting the deadline and specifications in the contract. There are other (unfortunately foreign) Coastals available to meet the deadline should the British consortium appear unlikely to do so.

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27th January 1983

Ministry of Defence



31 JAN 1988



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 February 1983

A. J. COLES

The Prime Minister has noted the contents of your Secretary of State's minute of 27 January about the timetable for the despatch of the second accommodation barge to the Falklands.

A. J. COLES

Richard Mottram, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

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