



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone 01-218 (Direct Dialling)

01-218 9000 (Switchboard)

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Prime Minister

for information.

A.S.C. 1/2

D/US of S(AF)/JW/25/5/7/9

1 February 1983

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

mf

Dear John,

In my note of 15 December covering disbursements from the South Atlantic Fund I mentioned that the winding up of donations to the Fund was under consideration by the Trustees and a note would follow.

The Trustees considered the question of closing the Fund to donations in September following fears that funds might possibly be being diverted from the established Services Charities. They reached the view that as the Fund was set up purely to receive the spontaneous and generous donations which started flowing in during the Operation, so long as the Fund was in being (its life by Trust Deed is a maximum of five years) no donation should be refused.

The Trustees further considered that much of the money donated to the South Atlantic Fund was money that would not otherwise have been sent to a Service Charity, that the South Atlantic Fund would be relieving the Service Charities of a considerable amount of work they would otherwise have to bear; and that ultimately they would benefit by the distribution of any funds remaining when the work of the Fund was complete.

However, having taken the above into account, the Trustees decided to issue a Press Statement on 5 November prior to British Legion Poppy Day. The text of this is attached. In the event it received minimal media coverage but this did not detract from the British Legion achieving record receipts, and indeed the other Service Charities are receiving increased donations undoubtedly due in part to the sympathy and publicity generated by the South Atlantic Fund.



The Trustees have recently reconsidered the position and saw no reason to change their views but they are continuing to emphasise the important on-going work of the main Service Charities with a view to diverting attention back to them from the South Atlantic Fund. A further attempt to achieve coverage in the Press is being considered but the Trustees believe that this needs to be delayed until significant disbursements as a result of the complex assessment process have been achieved; the statement can then be combined with a general updating for the public on the work of the Fund.

Yours Ever,

Private Secretary



PRESS RELEASE

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FUND

The Trustees of the South Atlantic Fund are most grateful to all those who have given so generously and who have so enthusiastically organised fund-raising activities. The Fund has now reached the splendid total of £13,493,062.

The Trustees believe that the Fund is now at a level where, in conjunction with the Principal Service and associated Charities, it is able to make a substantial contribution towards meeting the needs of those who have suffered as a result of the South Atlantic Operation, and who, in the years ahead, will be in continuing need of assistance.

The Trustees recognise that a number of fund-raising activities are still under way, and contributions will of course continue to be gratefully received. However, they would now like to draw attention to the invaluable work that is carried out on a continuing basis by the established Service and associated Charities. They have over many years provided for Servicemen, ex-Servicemen and their dependents who have suffered in previous conflicts and will continue to offer assistance to those who experience misfortune in the future. The Trustees hope therefore that, now that the needs of those who suffered as a result specifically of operations in the South Atlantic have been so generously provided for, support will return to the established charities.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

1 FEB 1954

FEB 1 1954

Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a memorandum or letter, with some lines underlined. The text is mirrored across the page, suggesting bleed-through from the reverse side.

CONFIDENTIAL

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From: Mr D O Arnold-Forster
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone 01-218 2452 (Direct Dialling)

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PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)JW 25/5/7/9

Prime Minister

A.J.C. ^{14.}/₂

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

14 February 1983

Dear John,

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I attach the latest record of payments made by
the South Atlantic Fund since 14 January.

Yours Ever,

David

Private Secretary

SOUTH ATLANTIC FUND - REPORT OF PAYMENTS SINCE 14 JANUARY 1983

A total of £3,970,454 has now been disbursed by the Fund in grants.

Interim Grants to Bereaved

A further £3,000 in three separate payments has been paid in respect of children. The total paid now amounts to £1,840,000.

Interim Grants to Injured (excluding those leaving the Services)

One further interim grant of £500 has been paid out from the Fund. Some grants have been returned by units as the cause of the injuries is the subject of investigation. £515,300 has now been paid out in 254 separate payments, an average of £2,029.

Interim Grants to those Leaving the Forces

*Passage deleted and closed, 60 years,
under FOI Exemption*

*Wayland
19 February 2013*

A total of £7,600 has now been paid out in grants to those leaving the Forces.



Payments to Charities

No further payments have been made to charities.

Other Payments

The Fund has paid out £9,549 to meet the cost of the hampers given to widows at Christmas. In addition to the verbal thanks at Christmas received through Regiments, a number of letters of thanks have been received from widows expressing appreciation and gratitude that they are still being thought about.

Arrangements are in hand to provide four specially converted Mini Metros to disabled men of the Royal Marines and the Commando Squadron RE. It is expected these will be available in late February. This is in addition to four modified cars already provided for disabled men in the Welsh and Scots Guards by the Army Benevolent Fund from SAF money.

The Assessment Process

The assessment of long term needs is continuing and documentation on 695 cases has now been received by the Fund.

The Trustees of the Fund have so far approved eleven grants as a result of the assessment process totalling £4,450. These particular awards result out of minor gunshot wounds or burns received during the campaign and in each case the individual has returned to full duty. Priority is being given to assessing widows cases and this complex process is being progressed expeditiously except where widows have expressed a wish for the assessment to be delayed.



24 FEB 1954



THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED TO YOU FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO WHOM YOU MAY BE REFERRED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER.

IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO OPPOSE THE COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF THIS COUNTRY AND TO OPPOSE THE COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

COMMUNIST

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/19/01 BY 60322 UCBAW/STP

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/19/01 BY 60322 UCBAW/STP

Free

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15 February 1983

Thank you for your letter of
14 February enclosing the latest record of
payments made by the South Atlantic Fund.
The Prime Minister has noted this information.

A. J. COLES

D. O. Arnold-Forster, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

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Argentina

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 February, 1983.

Thank you for your letter of 1 February about the South Atlantic Fund. The Prime Minister has noted its contents.

W. J. COLES

D.O. Arnold-Forster, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

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From: Mr D O Arnold-Forster

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

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PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DEFENCE FOR THE ARMY

D/US of S(AF)/JW/25/5/7/9 14 January 1983

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

Prime Minister

AR 14/1

cc. Mr. Hallett

R. Taylor.

Dear John,

I attach the latest record of payments
made by the South Atlantic Fund since
15 December 1982.

Yours Ever,

David

Private Secretary



SOUTH ATLANTIC FUND - REPORT OF PAYMENTS SINCE 15 DECEMBER 1982

A total of £3,952,293 has now been disbursed by the Fund.
£38,364 more than at the time of the previous report.

Interim Grants to Bereaved

Since the first report three additional grants totalling £4,500 have been paid making a total of £1,837,000.

Interim Grants to Injured (excluding those leaving the Service)

A further £30,500 has been paid out in 17 further payments raising the total of interim grants to £518,300 in 258 separate payments with the average now being £2,008.

Interim Grants to those leaving the Forces

No further discharges have taken place.

Payments to Charities

About £500 has been paid to HMS Tamaris Welfare Fund in respect of Christmas Hampers for the widows of Chinese personnel killed. These hampers contained local delicacies such as preserved ducks, special dried seaweed, dried shrimps and preserved oysters and clams. A total of £1,587,693.45 has now been paid to charities.

The Future

The assessment of long term needs is progressing satisfactorily with the complete documentation on 211 separate cases having already been received by the Fund. These cases are now being considered as a matter of urgency and final payments will be calculated and made as soon as possible.



14 JAN 1985



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STAFF IN CONFIDENCE

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From: Mr D O Arnold-Forster



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB
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PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

D/US of S(AF)/JW/25/5/7/9

15 December 1982

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

~~Prime Minister~~

A.S.C. 15/12

P.R. has seen.

12/12

Dear John,

in attached folder.

I enclose a detailed fact sheet on disbursements from the South Atlantic Fund, listing interim payments to those individuals most seriously injured and grants made to service charities. This will be updated in the form of a regular progress report as requested.

Together with my letter of 7 December and Jane Ridley's of 9 December about compensation for victims of terrorism, we now seem to have met the remits in your letter of 29 November to Richard Mottram, apart from the request for a note on winding up the South Atlantic Fund. This is currently being prepared on the basis of consideration of this matter by the Management Committee of the Trustees.

Yours Ever,

Private Secretary

STAFF IN CONFIDENCE

STAFF IN CONFIDENCE

S. Atlantic
Fund

SOUTH ATLANTIC FUND

Payments Already Made

A total of £3,913,929.00 has been paid out of the Fund, made up as follows:

1. Interim Grants to Bereaved

£1,832,500 paid out in all made up of:

- a. 136 separate payments of £10,000 to widows and common law wives.
- b. 170 additional payments of £1000 in respect of children.
- c. 121 separate payments of £2,500 to next of kin other than widows.

2. Interim Grants to Injured (excluding those leaving service).

£487,800.00 paid out in all made up of 241 separate payments ranging from £300 to £20,000 (average £2024). A complete list of the serviceman, his injury, and the payment is at Annex A.

3. Interim Grants to those leaving the Forces

Everybody who was injured and has subsequently been discharged since Operate Corporate has received a interim payment. In all 9 payments have been made totalling £6,400. A list of those concerned, their injuries, and the payments is at Annex B.

4. Payments to Charities

A further £1,587,229.00 has been paid to charities as shown at Annex C. This money can only be used in accordance with the SAF Trust Deed ie to meet needs arising out of the engagement of the Armed Forces and civilian personnel attached in operations relating to the recent dispute over the Falkland Islands or hereafter in work relating to the due administration of the Islands.

The Future

5. The process of assessing all the 1034 cases (257 bereaved and 777 injured) with a view to deciding final payments has begun. The first completed final assessments for the more straightforward cases can be expected before Christmas.
6. Interim payments have now been made to all those with serious and moderate injuries; and cases of minor injuries are now being considered.
7. There are no difficulties obstructing progress, which can be expected to continue at a reasonable pace. A further report will be made in two weeks time.

STAFF IN CONFIDENCE



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Argentina

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

9 December, 1982

South Atlantic Fund

Thank you for your letter of 7 December. The Prime Minister has noted the intention of the Trustees of the South Atlantic Fund to give hampers before Christmas to the 132 bereaved widows.

Mrs. Thatcher has considered the suggestion that she should send a short personal note or card to the widows on the first Christmas of their bereavement. While she was attracted to this idea, she feels that it would be difficult for her to implement it without also writing to the widows of those killed in Northern Ireland both now and in the future. This commitment might become rather impracticable. Mrs. Thatcher is therefore inclined not to pursue the suggestion.

A. J. COLES

D. O. Arnold Forster, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence