



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 March 1983

*Prime Minister**To note.**John T. ...**mt**A.F.C. 25/3.*Falkland Island Dependencies: Whaling Station

The Prime Minister will wish to be aware of the latest development.

Sr Davidoff has sent us, through the Swiss authorities, the following message:

'A refusal on the part of the British authorities to allow a landing on the South Georgias would make it impossible for me to comply with the contract.'

For this reason and taking into account that the material on the Islands is my property, I request a concrete reply as to whether I should interpret Mr Onslow's words as an official British reply, or if not, what is that reply?'

Sr Davidoff is referring to the message we sent him in early March through the Swiss which included a reference to an answer by the Minister of State to a Parliamentary Question on 27 July 1982 indicating that 'it would be most unlikely that permission would be granted for Sr Davidoff to land in South Georgia in the foreseeable future'.

We have asked the Swiss to reply to Sr Davidoff's message as follows:

'The Foreign and Commonwealth Office acknowledge receipt of Sr Davidoff's message of 11 March. Any statement by a British Minister in Parliament is an official statement of British policy.'

If Sr Davidoff's message of 11 March represents a request for permission to land in South Georgia in the near future, the British Government is not prepared to grant such permission'.

(R B Bone)  
Private Secretary

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10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

22.5 MAR 1983





10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

28 March, 1983

Falkland Island Dependencies: Whaling Station

The Prime Minister has noted your letter of 25 March describing the recent exchange of messages with Mr. Davidoff about the above matter.

A. J. COLES

R. B. Bone, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

NR