



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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8th November 1983

Dear John,

Prime Minister

Agree?
 Yes no DMS
 8/11

SOUTH ATLANTIC SURRENDER DOCUMENTS

You will remember press reports of a couple of months ago that the Falkland Islands surrender documents had been lost and then found. We now have in our possession the original documents for the surrender of the Falkland Islands themselves, South Georgia and Southern Thule. The only document still missing is the second of the two original instruments of surrender for the Falkland Islands, and we are continuing the search for it.

Mr Heseltine thinks that all the documents should now be put on public display and he believes that the most appropriate place to do this is the Imperial War Museum. We have been in touch with the Museum and they would very much like to have the documents for this purpose. We, the Museum and the Public Record Office have agreed that the Museum should keep the documents on loan for a period of two years and that after that they should pass into the keeping of the Public Record Office. Mr Heseltine would be glad to know that the Prime Minister is content that we should proceed on this basis.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Richard Stoate. Mr Heseltine would also like to be sure that the Lord Chancellor is content with what he is proposing.

For ear
 Mich Evans

(N H R EVANS)

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