



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

Apcc message:

11 November, 198e

A.J.C. "u"

Dear John

Falklands

Yes Mr

Lima telegram number 295 and 296 (copies enclosed), recorded Lady Young's conversation on 4 November with President Belaunde of Peru, and her recommendation that she (Lady Young) should send a personal message to the Peruvian President, formally replying to the ideas he put to her for a solution of the Falklands question.

We see much merit in Lady Young's suggestion. President Belaunde's idea of dividing the Islands is, of course, wholly unacceptable. We need unequivocally to head him off any further pursuit of this or other proposals for long-term solutions; it remains premature to speculate about these.

At the same time, the Peruvian President is a highly respected personality, well placed to point out to the new Argentine Government the areas in which it is realistic to think of developing bilateral relations with us. We therefore believe that it is worth explaining our policy to him again through the proposed message from Lady Young, with a view to persuading him to speak appropriately to Dr Alfonsin at his inauguration on 10 December.

I enclose a draft telegram containing the text of a message. You will see that it also asks President Belaunde to disabuse Dr Alfonsin of the severely distorted view of our military dispositions in the Falklands which Alfonsin and his spokesmen have been expressing at the United Nations and elsewhere.

A message from Lady Young on the lines proposed would have greatest impact if delivered soon. I am therefore sending this letter before consulting the Foreign Secretary; I will show him a copy in parallel and let you know of any comments he may have. Mr Whitney agrees with the draft message.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

GRS 314
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FM LIMA 051815Z NOV 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

DESKBY 070900Z NOV

TELNO 296 OF 5 NOVEMBER

AND TO INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY, UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON

FROM PS/LADY YOUNG

MIPT : LADY YOUNG'S VISIT TO PERU : MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BELAUNDE

1. ALTHOUGH LADY YOUNG DISCOURAGED BELAUNDE FROM PURSUING HIS IDEA OF A DIVISION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, HE SEEMS ALL TOO LIKELY TO REVERT TO IT. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES SHE BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL THAT WE SHOULD FOLLOW UP WITH A FORMAL REPLY. THE IDEA WOULD BE TO SHOW HIM THAT WE HAD GIVEN SOME CONSIDERATION TO THE PROPOSAL WHILE FIRMLY DISCOURAGING BELAUNDE FROM TAKING IT FURTHER. LADY YOUNG CONSIDERS THAT THIS MIGHT BEST BE DONE BY MEANS OF A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM HER PITCHED IN THE CONTEXT OF HER VISIT. IF YOU AGREE, GRATEFUL IF A DRAFT COULD BE TELEGRAPHED TO US IN BELIZE WITH A VIEW TO THE FINAL VERSION BEING HANDED OVER IN LIMA NEXT WEEK.

2. LADY YOUNG FEELS WE SHOULD TAKE BELAUNDE'S REQUEST FOR A ROYAL VISIT SERIOUSLY AND WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF IT COULD BE FED INTO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ROYAL VISITS COMMITTEE. I UNDERSTAND FROM SINDALL THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAVE REINSTATED A POSSIBLE VISIT TO PERU BY PRINCESS ALEXANDRA IN THE ROYAL VISITS SCHEDULE.

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PLANNING STAFF

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR WHITNEY

PS/PUS

SIR J BULLARD

MR GIFFARD
MR WRIGHT
MR URE
CABINET OFFICE

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No. 10 DOWNING STREET

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FM LIMA 051800Z NOV 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 295 OF 5 NOVEMBER

DESKBY FCO 070900Z NOV

INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY, UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON

FROM PS/LADY YOUNG

LADY YOUNG'S VISIT TO PERU : MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BELAUNDE

1. LADY YOUNG CALLED ON PRESIDENT BELAUNDE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON (4 NOVEMBER). THE ATMOSPHERE WAS CORDIAL. THE MEETING RAN CONSIDERABLY OVER TIME AND INCLUDED AN UNSCHEDULED TETE A TETE LASTING TWENTY MINUTES (PARA 4 BELOW)

2. BELAUNDE WELCOMED LADY YOUNG'S VISIT AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WANTED TO SEE AN IMPROVEMENT IN ANGLO -PERUVIAN RELATIONS. HE SPOKE AT LENGTH ABOUT THE UK'S HISTORIC LINKS WITH PERU AND SAID THAT HE WOULD WELCOME A ROYAL VISIT, BY IMPLICATION BEFORE THE END OF HIS TERM OF OFFICE IN 18 MONTHS TIME. LADY YOUNG CONGRATULATED HIM ON PERU'S ELECTION TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOPED

THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH OVER ISSUES WHICH AROSE AT THE UN.

3. NOT SURPRISINGLY THE FALKLANDS PROVED THE MAIN SUBSTANTIVE POINT OF DISCUSSION. BELAUNDE SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THE SITUATION IN ARGENTINA WOULD IMPROVE AFTER ALFONSIN ASSUMED POWER. IT MIGHT THEREAFTER BE POSSIBLE TO FIND A WAY FORWARD OVER THE FALKLANDS, ALTHOUGH THIS WOULD TAKE SOME TIME. PERU WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HELP IF SHE COULD. LADY YOUNG REPLIED THAT WE WOULD WELCOME BETTER BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA BUT MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE COULD NOT CONTEMPLATE NEGOTIATIONS OVER SOVEREIGNTY WITHOUT THE AGREEMENT OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS.

4. AFTER OFFICIALS HAD LEFT THE MEETING, BELAUNDE TOLD LADY YOUNG THAT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE NEW ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO GIVE UP THE IDEA OF REGAINING SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE FALKLANDS. THERE WERE SOME GROUPS IN ARGENTINA WHO, NOT WITHSTANDING

THE EVENTS OF LAST YEAR, WANTED TO SETTLE THE MATTER BY FORCE. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE WONDERED WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO REACH A SOLUTION BY DIVIDING THE ISLANDS WITH ARGENTINA GAINING SOVEREIGNTY OVER WEST FALKLANDS AND EAST FALKLAND REMAINING BRITISH. LADY YOUNG TOOK NOTE BUT MADE IT CLEAR THAT ANYTHING ON THESE LINES WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO CONTEMPLATE. SHE REPEATED THAT DISCUSSIONS ON SOVEREIGNTY WERE OUT OF THE QUESTION WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE ISLANDERS; AND THE STRENGTH OF PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY FEELING ON THIS POINT IN THE UK ON THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED. THE BEST WAY FORWARD AT THIS STAGE WAS THROUGH IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONS

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WITH ARGENTINA: DISCUSSION OF THE FALKLANDS PROBLEM SHOULD BE PUT TO ONE SIDE FOR THE MOMENT. BELAUNDE SAID THAT HE WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE INVITED TO ALFONSIN'S INAUGURATION AND UNDERTOOK TO MAKE LADY YOUNG'S POINT TO HIM. BUT HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE FELT THAT NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE FUTURE OF THE ISLANDS WOULD HAVE TO COME EVENTUALLY AND IT WAS CLEAR THAT HE EXPECTED SOME MOVEMENT AFTER THE NEW ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT ASSUMED OFFICE.

FCO PLEASE PASS ALL.

SHAKESPEARE.

REPEATED AS REQUESTED

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PS | LADY YOUNG
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OUT TELEGRAM

		Classification and Caveats CONFIDENTIAL	Precedence/Deskby IMMEDIATE
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6	FM FCO NOVEMBER 83
7	TO IMMEDIATE
8	TELEGRAM NUMBER
9	INFO IMMEDIATE LIMA, PRIORITY PORT STANLEY, UKMIS NEW YORK,
10	WASHINGTON
11	For PS/Lady Young
12	LADY YOUNG'S VISIT TO PERU: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BELAUNDE:
13	LIMA TELNOS 295 AND 296 (NOT TO BELMOPAN)
14	1. Ministers here agree with Lady Young's suggestion that we
15	should make a formal reply to Belaunde's ideas. It has been
16	encouraging meanwhile to note Schwalb's undertaking to use
17	a suitable opportunity to convey to the Argentines our view that
18	normalisation of bilateral relations is the only realistic way
19	ahead.
20	2. We suggest a message in the following terms, opening and
21	closing with complimentary remarks about Lady Young's visit to
22	Peru.
23	BEGINS:
24	When we met on 4 November, I was very interested ⁱⁿ what
25	you said about possible developments in Argentina after the

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File number		Dept Private Office		Distribution	
Drafted by (Block capitals) PETER RICKETTS				Ltd FID SAmD UND	
Telephone number				Mr Wright Mr Ure	
Authorised for despatch				News Dept Info Dept Planning Staff PS PS/Lady Young PS/Mr Whitncy PS/PUS	
Comcen reference		Time of despatch		Sir J Bullard Mr Giffard	

OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

	Classification and Caveats CONFIDENTIAL	IMMEDIATE	Page 2
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1 <<<<
 2 transfer of power to a government led by Dr Alfonsin, and to
 3 hear your personal views on possible ways forward to resolve
 4 the dispute between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland
 5 Islands. I have put the points you made to my colleagues
 6 in London, including the Prime Minister, and they have reflected
 7 carefully on them.
 8 Since we met, the Prime Minister has made a number of comments
 9 which are most relevant to our discussion. She reiterated the
 10 British Government's welcome to the election of a democratic
 11 government in Argentina. She expressed the hope that if
 12 democracy means self-determination in Argentina, the Argentines
 13 ought to recognise that it extends to other countries too.
 14 In an interview published on 7 November she said, 'I am willing
 15 to enter into talks. We want good commercial relations,
 16 diplomatic relations. We want normal relations. But I am not
 17 entering into talks about sovereignty'. You will remember that
 18 I emphasised to you on 4 November the view that the best way
 19 forward at this stage is through improved bilateral relations
 20 with Argentina, with discussion of the Falklands problem being
 21 put to one side. I very much hope that you will agree that
 22 this is indeed the only feasible means of starting the work of
 23 recreating confidence between Argentina and ourselves.
 24 I was very pleased when, during my conversation with your
 25 Foreign Minister on 7 November he undertook, if an opportunity
 26 presented itself, to convey to the new Argentine Government
 27 our view that the most profitable way ahead is through a gradual
 28 normalisation of relations.
 29 It would be helpful if you, Mr President, when you attend
 30 Dr Alfonsin's inauguration as President of Argentina, could
 31 convey to him your belief that we are sincere in what we say
 32 about the restoration of bilateral relations. The basis of
 33 these was destroyed by Argentina's invasion of the Falkland
 34 Islands. The new Argentine Government was not of course

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OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

	Classification and Caveats CONFIDENTIAL	IMMEDIATE	Page 3
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 2 responsible for this, but must take account of its consequences
 3 and join us in seeking to re-build the foundations of our
 4 relationship. We have taken various initiatives to this end,
 5 and we would like to see the new Argentine Government show more
 6 willingness than their predecessors to respond to them. I
 7 have no doubt that advice in this sense from a statesman of
 8 your international standing would carry much weight in Buenos
 9 Aires.

10 I was pleased that you felt able to share with me your personal
 11 reflections about possible solutions to the Falklands problem.
 12 But Mrs Thatcher has said in Parliament that it is premature to
 13 speculate about specific policies for the long-term future.
 14 Wounds must be given time to heal. I firmly believe that the
 15 realistic way ahead is to concentrate on re-creating the
 16 essential elements in our bilateral relations with Argentina,
 17 in the way I have explained above. If you find that the new
 18 Argentine Government genuinely regard our military dispositions
 19 in the Islands as a strategic base with a wider purpose than
 20 that of defending the Islands - Radical spokesmen have been
 21 making much of this point - I should be very grateful if you
 22 could also take the opportunity to tell Dr Alfonsin that these
 23 allegations misrepresent our policy. We have a commitment to
 24 deter further aggression: our military deployments in the Islands
 25 are for that purpose, and that alone. The new airfield has a
 26 military role which we hope will fall away. It also has a
 27 very important civilian role - its construction meets Lord
 28 Shackleton's recommendations for improved air communications,
 29 which are vital to the development of the Islands' economy.
 30 ENDS

/// 31 3. Ministers here are content with this text. Subject to Lady
 // 32 Young's views on it, we envisage HM Ambassador in Lima transmitt-
 / 33 ing it to President Belaunde in the week beginning 14 November,
 34 as proposed.

Amud mt.

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OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification and Caveats
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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 November, 1983

Falklands

Thank you for your letter of 11 November.

As I told you on the telephone this morning, the Prime Minister has approved the enclosed message from Lady Young to the President of Peru.

A. J. COLES

P. F. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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