

US Declassified



THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON

December 8, 1983

The Right Honorable Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister  
London, England

*h.a.*  
*AB*  $\frac{22}{12}$

Dear Madame Prime Minister:

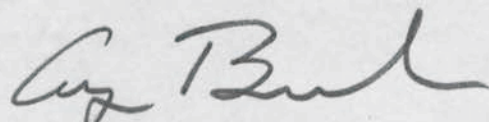
Before leaving for Argentina, I want to send a few thoughts to you. Oliver Wright came in to see me on Tuesday, just before his departure for London. We had a very good talk about the overall relationship and I made clear to Oliver my desire to help in any way to deal with matters of mutual concern.

Since that meeting, I have read your most forthcoming response to President Reagan's letter about our certification of Argentina. I am also aware that you have sent a message to President-elect Alfonsin congratulating him and the people of Argentina on the restoration of democracy in that country. I will do all I can to help the Argentines understand your interest in restoring relations between Buenos Aires and London without having such restoration be dependent upon discussion of the Falkland Islands sovereignty issue.

I am concerned about recent events and am determined to do all I can to be helpful. Upon my return from Argentina, we will make certain that Sir Oliver is fully briefed on pertinent developments that took place during that trip.

I wish we could sit down and chat because I have been troubled by recent tensions and I know it hasn't been easy for you either.

Respectfully,

  
George Bush



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