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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 October, 1982

Prime Minister

A.J.C. 5/10

Dear John,

Falklands at the United Nations

You asked for a report on the position we have reached on the Falkland Islands at the United Nations.

The General Assembly approved the proposal of the Latin American countries that the item should be inscribed. We did not contest this but were able to ensure that the Falkland Islands will be correctly referred to in UN documents and that arrangements will be made for Island Councillors to be heard during the debate. The Latin American countries will be able to determine when the debate should be held: the present expectation is that it will be early November.

The Latin American draft Resolution has now been tabled. The text is in Sir John Thomson's telegram number 1567 (copy attached). The change from earlier Argentine drafts to make it more acceptable is an indication of the success so far of our lobbying. It means, of course, that it will now be harder to persuade others to abstain on the Argentine text, but the Argentines themselves will get less of political value from it. Language prejudicing the outcome of negotiations has now been removed from the operative section, though it remains in the preamble and the draft also fails to include language on non-use of force and self-determination. And the call on us to negotiate in any case remains entirely unacceptable.

We have been monitoring the Non-Aligned Movement's activities carefully and Mr Pym sent messages to his colleagues in most of the more friendly non-aligned countries in preparation for their meeting in New York which began on 4 October. We feared that Argentina, whose tactics have been to show reasonableness and moderation, might go for little more than what is now in the UN draft resolution. In that event it might have been difficult for our friends not to commit themselves to it and they would then have felt tied when the resolution came to be voted on in the General Assembly. Fortunately, however, Argentina went for another clear endorsement of her claim to sovereignty (UKMIS New York tel 1592, copy attached) and the controversy which the discussion on it generated should be helpful to us.

/We

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We believe that/campaign to explain the reasonableness of our refusal to enter into negotiations has met with some success in the Third World. Surprisingly and unsatisfactorily, we are having rather more difficulty with our friends in the developed countries. Mr Pym went over the ground with many of his colleagues in New York. Our impression is that we have had some success in stopping the rot in Washington, though we are by no means sure of an American abstention yet. Argentina's vote against the United States over Puerto Rico should help. I have written separately about Australia. The position in the Community remains worrying. You will have seen Sir John Thomson's account of the comments of Community Foreign Ministers in the General Debate in New York. We shall, as he suggests, make a special effort with the Nordic countries.

We may wish to recommend that the Prime Minister should send messages to European heads of government (or, in the case of France and Germany, speak to them at the forthcoming summits), to President Reagan and to key leaders elsewhere, shortly before the vote is taken, when they will have the greatest impact.

We are attracted by Sir John Thomson's suggestion of tabling amendments about the non-use of force and self-determination to the Argentine draft, but we can only decide on the right tactics nearer the time. We shall of course keep you informed.

*Yours ever*

*John Holmes*

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
Private Secretary  
10 Downing Street

GRS 300  
UNCLASSIFIED

FM UKMIS NEW YORK 042322Z OCT 82  
TO PRIORITY FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1567 OF 4 OCTOBER  
INFO WASHINGTON,  
INFO SAVING ATHENS BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN DUBLIN THE HAGUE  
LUXEMBOURG PARIS ROME UKREP BRUSSELS, OTTAWA CANBERRA AND  
WELLINGTON.

Prime Minister

The F/C.O. will provide an  
assessment of the situation at  
the U.N. for the weekend.

A.S.C.  $\frac{6}{10}$

MIPT: FALKLANDS: DRAFT RESOLUTION.  
1. FOLLOWING IS OFFICIAL U.N. TRANSLATION OF THE LATIN AMERICAN  
DRAFT RESOLUTION:

BEGINS

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
HAVING CONSIDERED THE QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS),  
REALIZING THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF COLONIAL SITUATIONS IS INCOMPATIBLE  
WITH THE UNITED NATIONS IDEAL OF UNIVERSAL PEACE,  
CONSIDERING THAT ITS RESOLUTION 1514 (XV) OF 14 DECEMBER 1960 WAS  
INSPIRED BY THE COVETED GOAL OF ENDING COLONIALISM IN ALL AREAS  
AND IN ALL FORMS, ONE OF WHICH ENCOMPASSES THE QUESTION OF THE  
FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS),  
RECALLING ITS RESOLUTION 2065 (XX) OF 16 DECEMBER 1965, 3160  
(XXVIII) OF 14 DECEMBER 1973 AND 31/49 OF 1 DECEMBER 1976,  
RECALLING FURTHER SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 502 (1982) OF 3  
APRIL 1982 AND 505 (1982) OF 26 MAY 1982,  
TAKING NOTE OF THE STATEMENTS AND COMMUNIQUES OF THE MOVEMENT OF  
NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES ON THE QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS  
(MALVINAS),  
1. REQUESTS THE GOVERNMENTS OF ARGENTINA AND OF THE UNITED KINGDOM  
OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS IN  
ORDER TO FIND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE SOVER-  
EIGNTY DISPUTE RELATING TO THE QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS  
(MALVINAS):  
2. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, ON THE BASIS OF THIS RESOLUTION  
TO UNDERTAKE A RENEWED MISSION OF GOOD OFFICES IN ORDER TO ASSIST  
THE PARTIES IN COMPLYING WITH THE REQUEST MADE IN PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE:  
3. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-EIGHT SESSION ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS RESOLUTION:  
4. DECIDES TO INCLUDE IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF ITS THIRTY-  
EIGHTH SESSION THE ITEM ENTITLED "QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND  
ISLANDS (MALVINAS)".

ENDS

FCO PASS SAVING TO ALL (EXCEPT OTTAWA).

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

THOMSON

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FAKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL

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DESKBY 070800Z  
FM UKMIS NEW YORK 062245Z OCT 82  
TO IMMEDIATE F C O  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1592 OF 6 OCTOBER 1982  
INFO PRIORITY WASHINGTON.

MY TELNO 1497: FALKLANDS: NAM COMMUNIQUE.

1. AFTER THREE DAYS OF HEATED ARGUMENT, THE NAM FOREIGN MINISTERS REACHED AGREEMENT THIS AFTERNOON (6 OCTOBER) ON THE FALKLANDS PARAGRAPH FOR THEIR COMMUNIQUE, THOUGH THE COMMUNIQUE AS A WHOLE HAS NOT YET BEEN ADOPTED. WE BELIEVE THE AGREED TEXT TO READ:  
''. . . REITERATED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE RIGHT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA TO OBTAIN THE RESTITUTION OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS TO ITS SOVEREIGNTY AND ASKED THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE REINITIATED, WITH THE PARTICIPATION AND GOOD OFFICES OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, BETWEEN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, WITH THE AIM OF ACHIEVING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE A SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES AND DECISIONS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 1514, 2065, 2621, 3160 AND 31/49''.  
A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS ENTERED RESERVATIONS ON THIS TEXT. IT MAY YET BE REOPENED AS THE NAM MEETING WILL RESUME TOMORROW TO TRY TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE PASSAGE ON AFGHANISTAN.

2. I WILL REPORT MORE FULLY TOMORROW (7 OCTOBER) WHEN MORE DETAILS WILL BE AVAILABLE. BUT THIS PROLONGED BATTLE, UNPRECEDENTED HERE SINCE THE ARGUMENTS OVER AFGHANISTAN IN 1980, HAS CAUSED A STIR HERE AND, WHATEVER THE COMMUNIQUE MAY ACTUALLY SAY, HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE ARGENTINES TO ARGUE THAT THE NAM ARE LINED UP IN SUPPORT OF THEM.

THOMSON

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*Arg. ma.  
Relation*

*Argentina*

*JD*

15 October 1982

FALKLANDS AT THE UN

Thank you for your letter of 8 October in which you explain that you expect to recommend that the Prime Minister should send messages to certain Heads of Government, including Mr. Fraser, nearer to the time of the debate on the Falklands at the United Nations General Assembly. The Prime Minister is content with this procedure.

AJC

John Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



Argentina FILE SW

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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

11 October, 1982

Falklands at the United Nations

The Prime Minister was grateful for your letter of 8 October, the contents of which she has noted.

A. J. COLES

J. E. Holmes, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office