



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

2 November 1982

*Prime Minister**To note.**Dear John,*Falklands at the General Assembly*(attached).*

I sent you last night the revised version of the Argentine draft resolution. This has now been tabled and will be circulated in New York this afternoon. The changes are a tribute to the impact we have made in our lobbying. In UN terms, Argentina has been virtually compelled to condemn her own use of force out of her own mouth. She has had to drop all reference to the Non-Aligned declarations which were the results of years of diplomatic effort on her part. And though she has always pretended to be ready to take account of the 'interests' of the Islanders she would no doubt have much preferred not to refer to them in this draft.

But the amendments of course in no way meet our central concerns and we are instructing posts today to make this clear and to continue to press our friends for abstentions or negative votes. We must however accept that the number of such votes that we shall achieve is now likely to be considerably less than seemed possible at the end of last week. The US and French votes remain critical. We have already sent you a draft reply to President Reagan's most unsatisfactory message. Mr Pym does not recommend a further message to Mitterrand. But the Paris Embassy will be lobbying firmly and drawing attention to the likely coincidence of the vote with the Prime Minister's arrival in Paris on 4 November. The Embassy in Bonn will draw attention to what was said during last week's Summit.

Mr Pym continues to think that the tactics outlined in his minute of 18 October to the Prime Minister are the right ones. There is no prospect of amending the resolution in such a way as to justify a switch of vote on our part, even to an abstention. Nor do we see any chance of effective wrecking amendments which, even if they were defeated, could help to swell the number of eventual abstentions. We are very conscious of the risk that a reference to self-determination in the Falklands context might be voted down by the Assembly. This would be most damaging to our case in future.

/Our main



Our main concern must be to make our position on negotiations absolutely clear to the public here and in the Islands. In our public presentation we should also highlight the impact on international opinion we have already had, reflected in the changes the Argentines have been forced to make, but also draw attention to the increased superficial attraction of the Argentine resolution in the peculiar world of the UN. This would help to play down the significance of what will inevitably be seen by many as a diplomatic defeat for us. But we should not seek major publicity until after the vote.

It is possible that one or other of our friends may be interested in negotiating some further changes to the draft. This would not make any difference to our vote and would, we hope, not sway the voting intentions of others. But the inclusion of, for example, references to Article 73 of the Charter and our responsibilities to the Islanders could stand us in good stead in future years at the UN.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the other members of OD and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

*Yours ever*

*J E Holmes*

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
10 Downing Street



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

1 November, 1982

*Dear John,*

Falklands:General Assembly Debate

We spoke on the telephone about the revised draft resolution likely to be tabled by the Argentines. I enclose a copy together with a copy of the previous version for comparison. The revised version will be seen as a considerable improvement by many of the UN membership and may affect our lobbying exercise, which had hitherto seemed to be going well. We are considering the implications of this and will let you have our views as soon as possible.

*Yours ever*

*J E Holmes*

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq  
Private Secretary  
10 Downing Street

REVISED

ARGENTINE DRAFT RESOLUTION

' The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),  
Realising that the maintenance of colonial situations is incom-

patible with the United Nations ideal of universal peace,  
Recalling its resolutions 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, 2065 (XX)  
of 16 December 1965, 3160 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973 and  
31/45 of 1 December 1976,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 502 (1982) of  
3 April 1982 and 505 (1982) of 26 May 1982,

Taking into account the existence of a de facto cessation of  
hostilities in the South Atlantic and the intention of not  
resuming them expressed by the parties,

Reaffirming the principles of the Charter on the non use of  
force or the threat of the use of force in international relations  
and on the peaceful settlement of international disputes,

Reaffirming the need that the parties take duly into account  
the interest of the population of the Islands in accordance  
with Resolution 2065 (XX) of the General Assembly,

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 sovereignty 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 taking adequate measures with that aim,
3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth 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)'.  
1

ORIGINAL

ARGENTINE DRAFT RESOLUTION

The General Assembly,

having considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas),  
realising that the maintenance of colonial situations is  
incompatible with the United Nations ideal of universal peace,  
considering that its resolution 1514 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, 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  
sovereignty 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-eighth 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)'.