

*NR*  
*Please let me see again next week in London.*

*ALW 040/325/2*

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	Action Taken

Mr *Harding*

PS/Mr Ridley

FALKLAND ISLANDS: THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE AND INTERESTED MPS

1. Mr Ridley discussed on 22 May ways of dealing with the Falkland Islands Committee's current lobbying activities, in the context of Air Commodore Frow's letter of 15 May about the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention and the recent FIC-inspired article in the Daily Express.

2. It was agreed that the position on the implications of the Convention for the Falklands and Dependencies waters should be put on record through an inspired Written Parliamentary Question: and that Mr Ridley should in addition write to two MPs who had raised the issue with him. The Department are taking action on this.

3. Mr Ridley also considered the advantages of entertaining groups of MPs who have shown interest in the Falkland Islands with a view to educating them in the realities of the situation on economic development, oil, fishing etc. I attach such a list of MPs and members of the House of Lords.

4. It would clearly be useful to obtain a better parliamentary understanding on these issues and thus limit the FIC's scope for mischief-making. Such informal discussions might also in due course be a helpful means of influencing opinion towards HMG's policy on the future of the Falklands dispute (when this has been agreed by Ministers). Meanwhile it would seem right to proceed cautiously and to confine informal briefing to the practical problems of developing the Falklands economy. If we were to give the impression of embarking at this stage on any special lobbying action, we would risk giving the FIC further grounds for misrepresentation.

*P.R. Fearn*

P R Fearn  
South America Dept.

27 May 1980

*1 agree.*  
*[Signature]*  
*25 May.*

Letter No 1 had July 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 three marked 1 asked. June 8.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS: INTERESTED MPs

MPs who have shown recent active interest(a) ConservativeInterest shown

1	Sir Bernard Braine	Sovereignty and oil
	Mr John Blackburn	Fish and oil
1	Mr Ray Whitney	Sovereignty
1	Mr Michael Brown	Sovereignty and development
	Mr Patrick Wall	Fish
1	* Mr John Farr	Sovereignty
	* Mr John Biggs-Davidson	Fish
	<del>Mr Ian Gow</del>	Oil
1	Mr Alan Clark	Resources and sovereignty
1	Mr Michael McNair-Wilson	Sovereignty
	* Sir Nigel Fisher	Development
	Mr Robert Maxwell-Hyslop	Fish
	Mr Eldon Griffiths	Oil

(b) Labour

* Mr Ted Rowlands	Anglo-Argentine talks
Mr James Johnson	<i>mainly fish, I think</i>

Other MPs who may be interested(a) Conservative

Mr Paul Dean  
~~Mr Nicholas Fairbairn~~  
 Mr Victor Goodhew  
 Mr Anthony Kershaw  
 Mr Keith Stainton  
 Mr Ivor Stanbrook

/Mr Neville Trotter

Mr Neville Trotter  
 Mr Nicholas Winterton  
 Mr Michael Colvin  
 Mr Tony Marlow  
 Mr Richard Alexander  
 Mr Matthew Parris  
 Mr Christopher Murphy

(b) Labour

Mr David Lambie — (havelled with Ian Gow in ? Dec 1980 to  
 the Islands)  
 Mrs Renee Short  
 Mr Eric Ogden

(c) Liberal

\* Mr Russell Johnston

Scottish National

\* Rt Hon D J Stewart

Members of the House of Lords who have shown interest(a) Conservative

Lord Buxton  
 Earl of Lauderdale  
 Lord Merrivale  
 Baroness Elles  
~~Baroness Emmet~~ *ead*

(b) Labour

Lord Shackleton  
 Lord Morris

(c) Liberal

Viscount Thurso

\* Members of the Falkland Islands Committee