



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

15 April 1982

Please type letter

A.J.C. 16/4

Dear John,

Falkland Islands: Letter from Mr Cheek

Clive Whitmore wrote to Brian Fall on 11 April enclosing a copy of a letter addressed to the Prime Minister from Mr Cheek, who is a member of the Falkland Islands Legislative Council, suggesting an Andorra style solution to the Falkland Islands question. This is one of a number of options which we have been looking at but clearly there is not much we can say on the substance to Mr Cheek at this stage.

/ I enclose a draft reply for the Prime Minister's signature.

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

LETTER
DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

PRIME MINISTER

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference*

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Mr J E Cheek
Falkland Islands' Office
2 Greycoat Place
Westminster
LONDON SW1P 1SD

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

Thank you very much for your letter of 11 April and for your appreciation of ~~our~~ ^{the Government's} support in response to the terrible situation in which the Falkland Islands now find themselves. I can assure you of the Government's and the British people's whole-hearted determination to bring an end as speedily as possible the Argentine occupation of the Islands. This is our first priority ~~and~~ ^{and} as we have made clear throughout ~~and it is an objective~~ ^{to} which, as you will have seen, ^h has the full support of the British Parliament.

I was grateful ~~to you~~ ^{you} for sending me ^h interesting ideas on the kind of long term solution which might be applicable to the Falkland Islands. We shall give these very careful attention, particularly since you are able to present them as an elected representative of the Islanders (although I appreciate that they are only your personal views) .

Enclosures—flag(s).....

/Once we have

Once we have secured the withdrawal from the Islands of the Argentine forces, We shall ~~then~~ be in a position to consult the Islanders once again on their future. We have stressed throughout the importance we attach to their wishes. ~~and,~~ ^A as the Foreign Secretary made clear in this week's debate in the House of Commons, it is not our intention to rush any consultations through before the Islanders have had ample time to discuss the question amongst themselves.

May I assure you, and through you all Falkland Islanders, of our support in the present tragic situation. Our thoughts are with you.

AM 16.
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