



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 April 1982

Prime Minister

A.J.C.  $\frac{24}{4}$

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Dear John,

I understand that the Prime Minister has expressed concern that the party which arrived in Montevideo from the Falkland Islands on 20 April included a number of teachers. The Prime Minister wished to know the circumstances under which the teachers left the Islands.

All teachers in the Falklands were employed by the Falkland Islands Government, the majority of secondary school-teachers being recruited on the Government's behalf by the ODA under the Overseas Service Aid Scheme (OSAS). Of the total of 17 OSAS teachers, 12 have now left. According to one of the teachers, all have left of their own free will. No formal education is going on at present since most children have dispersed from Port Stanley to the settlements and the schools have been closed. The teachers were asked to work for the new Argentine authorities, who evidently offered to pay them local salaries. The Argentines had put in their own superintendent of education for the Islands and had said on the radio that they were intending to send anglophone teachers to the Islands. This added to the OSAS teachers' determination not to continue to work and co-operate with the Argentine occupation authorities.

Five OSAS teachers and 6 local secondary teachers remain, together with the previous Superintendent of Education, Mr John Fowler.

I am copying this to Mike Power (ODA).

Yours ever  
John Holmes

(J E Holmes)  
Private Secretary

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