

Mufaxed



Mufaxed to Chayen
and amendments passed to
FCO 1/5
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH
R

1 May 1982

Dear John

Overlate

MR 4/5

US Measures against Argentina

Nicko Henderson has recommended from Washington that the best way to persuade the Americans to impose an import ban would be for the Secretary of State to take to Washington a personal request from the Prime Minister to the President on this matter.

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The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary agrees. I attach the draft for such a message. Mr Pym hopes that the Prime Minister will be able to consider this before he leaves for Washington at 6.00 pm today.

Yours ever

(B J P Fall)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing St

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despach/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

Prime Minister
DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

President Reagan

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

I am tremendously heartened by the way you and Al Haig have come out in our support over the Falkland Islands. This will make it unmistakably clear to the Argentines that they cannot profit from aggression.

The measures you have announced, suspending supplies of military equipment and denying new export credit guarantees, will show the Argentines that you are in earnest. I hope that the measures on military supplies will enable your people to prevent the export of any equipment which might be used for military purposes, such as engines for the Sky-hawk aircraft.

I wonder if I could ask you
 Can I however ~~ask you~~ to consider going ~~even~~ further and to impose a complete ban on imports to the United States from Argentine? I believe this would be ^{the best} the most effective single measure which you could take to bring this crisis to a solution by peaceful means. ^{and so that we must make every effort to do that.} It would match the action which our European and Commonwealth partners have taken.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

It would encourage the Community to maintain their own ban, imposed initially for one month, should this prove necessary. It would induce other countries, like Japan, to do the same. The political impact on the
 /Argentine

Argentine junta would be extremely powerful ~~from the outset~~. They would face the prospect of 40% of their overseas markets being closed to them. The economic impact would be slower to take effect. But if it brings the Argentine junta to their senses quickly, it could be reversed without lasting damage.

I know that this will affect your economic interests, which are greater in the area than ours are. But the same is true of several of our European partners, especially Italy and Germany. They have been ready to take these radical measures, despite political and legal problems, because they see the very dangerous threat to the security of us all if Argentine aggression is not reversed. I hope most sincerely that you can do the same.

So many young lives are at risk - British & Argentines - that I feel we must make a supreme effort to prevent a major military clash. Reason, humanity, common sense has so far failed. With all my heart, I ^{hope} ~~trust~~ the measures ~~to~~ ^{proposed} will succeed.

Warm Regards