

Mr Fearn
South America Department

cc PS
PS/Mr Onslow
PS/PUS
Mr Bullard
Mr Giffard
Mr Wright
Mr Gillmore
Mr Hannay
Mr Goodison
Mr Weston, Defence Department
Mr Gladstone, WED
Emergency Unit
ECD(E)
H M Ambassador, Paris

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S MEETING
WITH M CHEYSSON, 14 MAY: FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. At his meeting with the French Foreign Minister at the FCO on 14 May, the Secretary of State brought M Cheysson up to date on the negotiations. There had been some Argentine movement on sovereignty, but there were contradictions in what was being said in New York and Buenos Aires. This dictates caution. Sovereignty could not be pre-judged. He speculated that the talks might reach a conclusive point next week. Meanwhile we were maintaining the TEZ. Every military option remained open. Economic measures remained a vital part of the long-term pressure. (Mr Hannay has recorded separately by telegram the discussion on EC measures.)

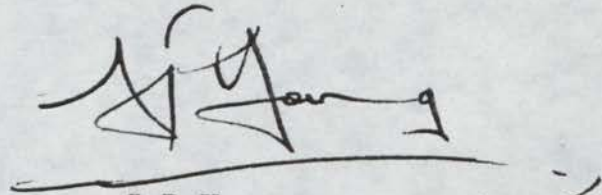
2. M Cheysson thanked the Secretary of State for the information received in New York. He showed particular interest in the sovereignty discussions. Although the UK could not accept anything which prejudged the issue, we could not prevent the Argentines stating their objective. The Secretary of State stressed importance the UK attached to the views of the Islanders both on sovereignty and over the interim administration. M Cheysson wondered whether the junta were capable of taking the crucial decision. Asked about withdrawal, the Secretary of State said he could agree to a stand-off by both sides, but the time-table would have to be fixed in advance. Asked about the place of the Dependencies in the negotiations, the Secretary of State said that this point had not been settled, but we had made clear our wish that the Dependencies should be excluded. M Cheysson thought Soviet support had been relatively minor. The Secretary of State agreed, and said there was no evidence available of Soviet military support. But they were likely to want to help, despite the risks involved for both sides.

/ 3. The

3. The Secretary of State assumed that Argentina was seeking military supplies through other Latin American countries. Mr Fall explained that we had taken steps to scrutinise all sales to the area, and certain administrative measures were open to us to stop or delay military goods which might find their way to Argentina. But there was no formal ban on sales to Latin America as a whole. M Cheysson strongly urged the Secretary of State to consider discussing informally with our European partners whether they might adopt a similar approach on arms sales to the area.

4. The Secretary of State concluded with warm thanks for France's consistent support. (His personal desire to be helpful was apparent throughout the discussion.)

5. I am recording separately a point about French arms supplies.



J R Young
Western European Department

15 May 1982