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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 June, 1982

Falkland Islands: Message from the
President of Ecuador

BK 11
Thank you for your letter of 9 June. The Prime Minister is content with the suggested reply to President Hurtado. I should be grateful if you could arrange for it to be despatched.

W. F. S. RICKETT

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

da

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 June 1982

Prime Minister

Yes no

Content with the draft message to President Hurtado at A?

Dear Willie,

WM alb

Falkland Islands: Message from the President of Ecuador

With your letter of 4 June, you enclosed a telegram from President Hurtado of Ecuador to the Prime Minister, calling for a ceasefire on the Falklands.

Ecuador has not previously made any direct approach to us over the crisis. Despite their votes in favour of the two Rio Treaty Resolutions, they have striven to remain as impartial as they can.

It would be helpful if the Prime Minister could reply personally to the message. I enclose a suggested text.

Yours ever

J E Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

W Rickett Esq
10 Downing Street

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OUT TELEGRAM

	Classification and Caveats CONFIDENTIAL	Precedence/Deskby IMMEDIATE
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ZCZC
GRS
CLASS
CAVEATS
DESKBY
FM FCO
PRE/ADD
TEL NO

1 ZCZC
2 GRS
3 CONFIDENTIAL
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6 FM FCO
7 TO IMMEDIATE QUITO
8 TELEGRAM NUMBER
9 REPEATED FOR INFO : UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON
10 FALKLANDS : MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT HURTADO
11 1. President Hurtado has sent the following message to the
12 Prime Minister (received on 4 June):-
13 BEGINS
14 "The people and Government of Ecuador view with the greatest
15 anxiety the deterioration of the conflict in the South
16 Atlantic, which has already produced so many victims and
17 caused so much grief to the people involved in the conflict.
18 Faced with the imminent prospect that the hostilities will
19 precipitate actions, the magnitude and consequence of which
20 are unforeseeable, I put forward the most earnest call, in
21 the name of the people and Government of Ecuador for an
22 immediate ceasefire and the suspension of hostilities without
23 delay, in accord with the happy initiative presented by
24 Spain and Panama in the UN Security Council. In making
25 this impassioned plea, I invoke the humanitarian principles

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NNNN ends telegram	BLANK	Catchword /on
File number	Dept	Distribution FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL
Drafted by (Block capitals)		
Telephone number		
Authorised for despatch		
Comcen reference	Time of despatch	

OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification and Caveats

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IMMEDIATE

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2 on which our civilisation prides itself, and to whose
3 development and strengthening both Argentina and Great
4 Britain have made outstanding contributions."

5 ENDS

6 2. Please now deliver following reply from the Prime Minister:

7 BEGINS

8 "I share the deep concern which you have expressed on
9 behalf of your Government and people at the conflict on the
10 Falkland Islands. As I am sure you recognise, that
11 conflict is not of our seeking. Over nine weeks have
12 elapsed since the unprovoked Argentine invasion of British
13 territory, yet the Argentine Government have refused to
14 heed the demands of Security Council Resolution No 502,
15 adopted the day after the invasion, and withdraw their
16 forces.

17 We have shown flexibility and patience: but have met only
18 intransigence from the Argentine Government. We have never
19 wanted to resort to military action: but Argentine
20 obduracy has left us no choice. We have at every stage
21 of the conflict stated our position clearly, and have
22 confined ourselves to using the minimum force necessary to
23 ~~impose pressure on Argentina, to~~ restore the rights of the
24 Islanders and to protect our own forces, in accordance with
25 our rights of self-defence under Article 51 of the UN
26 Charter.

27 Mr President, a ceasefire must be unequivocally linked to
28 immediate and total Argentine withdrawal from the Falkland
29 Islands. I hope that reason and humanity may yet prevail
30 on the Argentine leadership and induce them to accept the
31 offers of a safe withdrawal which have been made to them.

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32 ~~Otherwise we shall be obliged to eject them.~~ The

34

NNNN ends
telegram

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Catchword

choice

OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification and Caveats

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IMMEDIATE

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2 choice is theirs".

3 ENDS

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5 PYM

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NNNN ends
telegram

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Catchword

09 JUN 1982



[Faint, illegible handwritten text]