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WSG 12th Meeting

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FALKLAND ISLANDS REVIEW:

MEETING OF WHITEHALL SUPPORT GROUP (WSG) WEDNESDAY 3 NOVEMBER 1982 AT 10.00 am

PRESENT:

Mr D H Colvin

- Cabinet Office (In the Chair)

Mr C C Bright

- Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Mr R Jackling

- Ministry of Defence

Mr T W Savage

- JIC

ITEM 1 LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Summing up a short discussion, the Chairman said that it was now possible to see the Review as falling into four distinct phases:

- 1. Written evidence (from July to the end of September when written material was compiled and examined).
- 2. Oral evidence (from the end of September to the beginning of November).
- 3. <u>Drafting the final report</u> (from November until December/January 1983. The timing remained unclear although the Prime Minister still hoped that the Review Committee would report within six months of embarking on its task ie by 8 January 1982).

4. Publication.

Phases 1 and 2 had now been completed. It was not clear whether, and if so how, the Group would be involved in phases 3 and 4. On phase 3 some consultation might be needed over the drafting/certain sensitive passages. On phase 4, the question of press arrangements would need to be addressed, whether responses should be centrally coordinated or left to individual Departments etc. There would also be the question of the Parliamentary Debate. On phase 3, the Chairman would try to find a

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suitable occasion to speak to Mr Rawsthorne and let members of the Group know the outcome.

ITEM 2: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed to meet when occasion next demanded.

Cabinet Office 8 November 1982