

FARLAND ISLANDS GENERAL (ADVANCES) ~~36~~ 40

- PS (6)
- PS/LADY YOUNG
- PS/12 WHITNEY
- PS/12 RIFKIND
- PS/PS
- ~~MR J BRYANT~~ SIR J
- ~~MR J BRYANT~~ MR FARLAND
- SIR W HARRING
- MR ~~FRANK~~ GOODALL
- MR ~~FRANK~~ OWELL
- LORD N GORDON-LIBBY
- SIR C TICKELL
- MR J C THOMAS
- MR ~~FRANK~~ WESTON
- MR MILES
- ED/PSD (2)
- ED/SAD
- ED/ID
- ~~ED/PSD~~
- ED/MS LEFT
- ED/ID
- ED/SAD (2)
- ED/MS
- ~~ED/PSD~~

- PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST (3)
- PS/S OF S FOR DEFENCE
- MR ~~FRANK~~ AUSS STAFF MOD
- MR ~~FRANK~~ NICHOLL
- PS/CHANCELLOR
- MISS H E CURD } TREASURY
- MR LITTLE } }
- SIR E ARMSTRONG } CABINET C
- MR ~~FRANK~~ GOODALL } CARTLEDGE
- DIO } }
- MR V J PATTISON, PD, ODA
- MR POWER, SAs, ODA
- MR A FORTNAM IAT/D. TRANSPORT

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TO IMMEDIATE DESK BY FCO 071800Z

IMMEDIATE

TELNO 254 OF 07 JULY 1984

ADVANCE COPY

INFO ROUTINE BRASILIA

MY TELNO 253: RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA
FROM CROWSON
SUMMARY

XI

1. ONE REMAINING OBSTACLE TO TALKS: ARGENTINES UNDERSTAND WE MUST MAKE IT CLEAR WE DID NOT DISCUSS SOVEREIGNTY BUT WOULD MUCH PREFER US NOT TO USE THE WORD "REFUSED". THEY SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVES. AFTER CONSULTATION I AGREED THAT SOME OF THESE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THEIR STATEMENTS BUT SAID THAT OURS MUST RETAIN "REFUSED". KEUSCH IS SEEING CAPUTO AGAIN TO PURSUE THE MATTER.

DETAIL

2. IN THE AMBASSADOR'S TEMPORARY ABSENCE FROM BERNE, THE STATE SECRETARY ASKED ME TO CALL ON HIM AT 0900 HOURS TODAY TO RECEIVE A FULLER ACCOUNT OF WHAT HE HAD OUTLINED TO ME BY TELEPHONE LAST EVENING AND I HAD SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED TO ALMER BY TELEPHONE.

3. BRUNNER SAID THAT KEUSCH HAD HAD A LONG SESSION WITH CAPUTO AND SABATO. AFTER CONSIDERABLE PERSUASION BY KEUSCH, CAPUTO HAD MOVED MUCH CLOSER TO OUR POSITION BUT HE WANTED TO AVOID USE OF THE EXPRESSION "REFUSED" TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSION. HE HAD SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING TWO ALTERNATIVE VERSIONS OF STATEMENTS TO BE MADE AFTER THE TALKS:-

A. THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION RAISED DURING THE TALKS IN BERNE THE SUBJECT (EL TEMA) OF SOVEREIGNTY. THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM DID NOT ENTER INTO DISCUSSION ON THE SUBJECT OF SOVEREIGNTY.

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B. THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION RAISED DURING THE TALKS IN BERNE THE SUBJECT OF SOVEREIGNTY. THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM LISTENED TO THE ARGENTINE POSITION AND DID NOT ENTER INTO DISCUSSION ON THE SUBJECT OF SOVEREIGNTY.

4. CAPUTO CONSIDERED THAT EITHER OF THESE FORMULAE, BY AVOIDING SUCH EXPRESSIONS AS "REFUSED TO DISCUSS", WOULD CORRECTLY REFLECT THE POSITION WITHOUT OVER-EMPHASISING THE NEGATIVE ASPECTS AND LEADING TO POLEMICS. IF WE COULD ACCEPT ONE OR THE OTHER AND NOT GO FURTHER ON SOVEREIGNTY, THE ARGENTINES WOULD UNDERTAKE NOT TO RECRIMINATE AFTER THE TALKS. THEIR MAIN OBJECT WAS TO MAKE PROGRESS IN THE FIRST ROUND AND SECURE A SECOND AND THEY SAW IT AS IMPORTANT TO EMPHASISE ANY POSITIVE RESULTS WHICH MIGHT BE ACHIEVED.

X | 5. AN UNDERSTANDING ON THESE POINTS WOULD FORM A GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT AND WOULD NOT BE PART OF THE INVITATION, WHICH THE SWISS WOULD ISSUE AS ALREADY AGREED, SUBJECT ONLY TO INSERTION OF THE APPROPRIATE DATES. SINCE MONDAY WAS THE ARGENTINE NATIONAL DAY, K BRUNNER ENVISAGED HANDING OVER THE INVITATIONS ON TUESDAY, 10 JULY.

X | 6. IF WE COULD QUICKLY AGREE TO ONE OF THESE FORMULAE, BRUNNER FORESAW A GOOD CHANCE OF OPENING TALKS ON THURSDAY 12 JULY; OTHERWISE THEY MIGHT OPEN ON MONDAY 16 JULY.

7. AFTER PALMER HAD PASSED ON TO ME MINISTERS' INSTRUCTIONS, I TOLD BRUNNER WE REALISED THAT THE WORD "REFUSED" HAD A MORE ABRUPT CONNOTATION IN SPANISH THAN IN ENGLISH. WE WOULD NOT THEREFORE OBJECT IF THE ARGENTINES, IN THEIR PRESS BRIEFING, WISHED TO USE ANOTHER TERM (BRUNNER SUGGESTED "NO DESPUERTO"). AS INSTRUCTED, I EMPHASISED THAT FOR OUR OWN STATEMENTS THE WORD "REFUSED" HAD BEEN AGREED BY MINISTERS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ARGENTINE FORMULA OF 4 JUNE AND WE COULD NOT CHANGE IT NOW. WE WERE NOT IN ANY CASE NEGOTIATING AN AGREED PRESS COMMUNIQUE. IN OUR STATEMENTS WE WOULD OF COURSE EMPHASISE ANY POSITIVE ASPECTS OR RESULTS OF THE TALKS.

8. BRUNNER SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED ME AGAIN TO SAY THAT KEUSCH HAD ARRANGED TO SEE CAPUTO BEFORE THE LATTER LEFT FOR LIMA TODAY. MEANWHILE, HE HAD OUTLINED TO CAPUTO OUR RESPONSE BY TELEPHONE. CAPUTO WONDERED WHETHER WE COULD CONSIDER USING THE WORDS "NOT WILLING" INSTEAD OF "REFUSED" BECAUSE HE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT WE SHOULD BOTH SAY IN ESSENCE THE SAME THING. ARGENTINE JOURNALISTS IN LONDON WOULD TRANSLATE "REFUSE" B INTO "REHUZADO" OR "RECHAZADO" WITH THEIR SUBSTANTIALLY MORE ABRUPT MEANING. THIS MIGHT LEAD TO CONFLICTING VERSIONS AND RECRIMINATIONS.

9. AFTER FURTHER CONSULTATION WITH PALMER, I SAID THAT, . JUST AS ARGENTINE JOURNALISTS IN LONDON WOULD REPORT THE BRITISH STATEMENTS, SO BRITISH JOURNALISTS IN BUENOS AIRES WOULD REPORT ARGENTINE STATEMENTS. WE DID NOT SEE THESE AS CONFLICTING BUT RATHER AS COMPLEMENTARY. A CENTRAL FEATURE OF THE FORMULA OF 4 JUNE HAD BEEN THAT EACH SIDE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE A SIMILAR ACCOUNT BUT TAILORED TO SATISFY ITS OWN DOMESTIC CONSTITUENCY. WE SAW NO NEED FOR THIS TO LEAD TO POLEMICS. I ALSO AMPLIFIED OUR RESPONSE TO CAPUTO'S PROPOSAL IN 2(B) ABOVE, WHICH BRUNNER THOUGHT THE ARGENTINES WOULD

IN 2(B) ABOVE, WHICH BRUNNER THOUGHT THE ARGENTINES WOULD FIND MORE HELPFUL THAN 2(A). SINCE WE HAD AGREED TO SAY THAT THE ARGENTINES HAD RAISED (NOT 'ATTEMPTED' TO RAISE) THE SUBJECT OF SOVEREIGNTY, IT WAS IMPLICIT THAT WE HAD LISTENED TO THE ARGENTINE POSITION, AND WE WOULD SAY SO IF ASKED. WE WOULD NOT OBJECT TO THE ARGENTINES VOLUNTEERING THE FACT THAT WE HAD SO LISTENED BUT WE COULD NOT UNDERTAKE TO DO SO OURSELVES. WE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT TO GET THE TALKS STARTED SOON ON THE BASIS OF THE FORULA OF 4 JUNE.

30. BRUNNER SAID THAT HE EXPECTED TO RECEIVE KEUSCH'S REPORT ON HIS MEETING WITH CAPUTO EITHER THIS EVENING OR TOMORROW MORNING, 8 JULY. HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH AGAIN AS SOON AS HE HAD IT.

POWELL-JONES

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SENT AT RECD AT 071745Z TMB/JGF