

Ackd 18/8



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

13 August 1984

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from Lord Kennet.

I should be grateful if you would provide a draft reply for the Prime Minister's signature, to reach this office by 28 August.

Timothy Flesher

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

NR



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PPS

10th August, 1984

Dear Prime Minister,

Falklands and Argentina

Thank you for your full and clear response (July 27th) to the copy I sent you of the memorandum submitted by Cyril Townsend, George Foulkes and me to the Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs. There is much in it that I agree with; including that it would be "premature and unlikely to be productive" for you as Prime Minister to engage in speculation about specific policies for the long-term future of the Islands. I hope, though, that you will not think it premature or unproductive for non-members of the Government to do so. Perhaps a moderate and careful exploration of issues and attitudes over the next few months by people not involved in the arduous business of decision may not prove unhelpful.

Two further points arise:

(i) Fish. The stock could be irreversibly damaged if management is not soon introduced. The question cannot safely be geared to the tempo of other developments.

(ii) The Argentine "initiative" in the UN; which has the advance support of the Soviet Union, could be effectively addressed by drawing specific attention to what the state international relations would be if every territory which had been in other hands for 13 years prior to 1833 were to be deemed not now fully under the sovereignty of its current authorities. (Texas back to Mexico and Alaska to the Soviet Union; in Europe, Germany, Italy, Poland, Finland, Norway and others to vanish; the Soviet Union to lose large parts of Central and Eastern Asia; and today's



Argentina to return some parts of its present territories to Paraguay and all of Patagonia to its indigenous, Amerindian, inhabitants, Argentina itself being a colonial state in South America.

Yours sincerely,

Wayland Kennet

Lord Kennet.

The Prime Minister.

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