



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

21 September 1984

PRIME MINISTER'S LETTERS ABOUT THE BELGRANO AFFAIR

Thank you for your letter of 20 September conveying the Defence Secretary's suggestion that the Prime Minister's letter to Mr. Foulkes might be circulated to Members of Parliament.

The Prime Minister agrees that, as a first step, it should be circulated to members of the Cabinet and other Ministers. I shall arrange for this to be done.

25/11 ? *Whip* The Prime Minister would welcome the Chief Secretary's advice on whether it should also be sent to Government Backbenchers.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Lord President, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Lord Privy Seal, the Chief Whip, the Paymaster General and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Richard Mottram, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

JA



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Prime Minister

On reflection and
Robin's advice: it might
be best to get the
Whips to do this,
through their usual
channels for getting material
to the Government's
supporters.

CDD

I think

the Cabinet &
other Ministers
might like a

copy. Also
that - the Chief
Whip should be
consulted re

Prime Minister



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MO 5/21

20th September 1984

Agree to circulate the letter and annex to MPs as suggested? To Government members only? Or opposition as well? CJP 20/9

Dear Minister,

PRIME MINISTER'S LETTERS ABOUT THE BELGRANO AFFAIR

I have been asked by the Defence Secretary to suggest that the Prime Minister's letter to Mr Foulkes, and possibly the rest of the correspondence, might be circulated to Members of Parliament. You would wish to consider whether such a circulation should be limited to Conservative Members or include Opposition Members as well. The Defence Secretary feels that, although much of this material is in today's newspapers, it would be helpful to have it available to Members so that they can draw on it to refute the assertions being made elsewhere.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Lord President, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Lord Privy Seal, the Chief Whip, the Paymaster General and the Secretary of the Cabinet.

Yours etc,

Richard Mottram

(R C MOTTRAM)

C Powell Esq



20 SEP 1984



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