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From the Private Secretary

7 November 1985

FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA

The Prime Minister had some discussion with the Foreign Secretary yesterday evening about the situation which we are likely to face at the United Nations this year if the Argentinians table a moderate resolution. The Foreign Secretary's assessment was that this was likely to lead to a collapse of support for the United Kingdom's position at the United Nations.

The Prime Minister suggested that we should table a resolution of our own. She felt our attitude was too passive and reactive. She recognised the difficulties of drafting a resolution which would have a reasonable chance of picking up support while upholding the basic principles of our position: and was under no illusion about our chances of getting support. But she thought it a mistake to allow the Argentinians to set the terms of debate. Tabling of a resolution by the United Kingdom might at least upset their calculations and force them to adopt a less ostensibly reasonable approach.

(C. D. POWELL)

Len Appleyard, Esq.,
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