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*cc PC*

*OB*



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 November 1985

*Decided not  
to pursue this.  
CDP  
27/11*

*Dear Charles,*

Falklands/UN

We agreed on the telephone this morning that in the light of the news from Washington that the Americans will be abstaining on our amendments to the resolution it would be worth having one further go to shift the US position in our favour.

We will be speaking to the US Ambassador in London. You agreed to consider whether it would be possible for someone to speak on the Prime Minister's authority to McFarlane or a member of his staff in Washington. In case that proved possible, I enclose a checklist of the main arguments to use in urging a positive vote on our amendments.


*Yours ever,*

(P F Ricketts)  
Private Secretary

*Peter Ricketts*

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

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POINTS TO MAKE IN SUPPORT OF UK AMENDMENTS

Draft Resolution unbalanced

- It is in effect a disguised call for negotiation on sovereignty (on which UK position well known) and thus reflects Argentine concerns fully.
- Not surprising, drafted in Buenos Aires.
- Takes no account of rights and wishes of Falkland Islanders.
- Caputo in his speech at UNGA yesterday rejected applicability of self-determination in this case and dispelled any illusion that the draft resolution represented a change in the Argentine position on sovereignty.

UK Amendments

- Uphold one of fundamental rights under the Charter that is central to dispute.
- Aim to restore some balance.

Failure to support UK Amendment

- Damaging to validity of principle of self-determination.
- Damaging to UK case on dispute and thus supportive of Argentina on the substance -
- Reinforces Argentine intransigence

Abstention not enough - and incomprehensible from an Ally both on general grounds of principle and on the question of our dispute with Argentina - Allies and friends supported us when we fought to assert principle of self-determination in 1982 - principle just as valid today.

[For US interlocutors only]

US support will encourage others to support. Per contra US abstention very damaging to our amendments, and will cause deepest dismay at highest level. US support for our amendments should be made known immediately.