

FROM: David Broad
 DATE: 16 November 1987

cc: PS/Lord Glenarthur
 PS/Mr Eggar
 PS/PUS
 Mr Gillmore
 Mr Fearn
 Mr Slater, UND
 News Department
 SAmD

PS

FALKLANDS AT UNGA: 16-17 NOVEMBER 1987

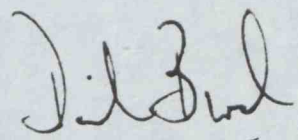
- A 1. Please refer to your manuscript comments on Mr Makepeace's minute of 16 November.
2. UKMIS New York have told us that the vote is now expected at 4.00 pm in the afternoon at the earliest, ie: 9.00 pm UK time.
- B 3. A list of voting intentions was attached to my minute of 13 November. Over the weekend we have received the following further indications of voting intentions:

Yes in 1986

Kuwait
 Liberia
 Mauritius
 Papua New Guinea
 Somalia

1987 Intentions

Absent/Abstention?
 Yes
 Absent
 Abstain
 Possible abstention



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 Falkland Islands Department

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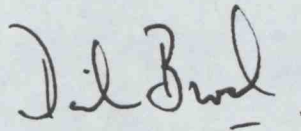
FALKLANDS AT UNGA 16-17 NOVEMBER 1987

- A 1. I attach a table of voting intentions based on reports from posts and other sources.
2. On paper, the results look mildly promising. Although we have not had responses from all last year's abstainers, the overall picture seems to show that our vote is holding with some possibility of a small number of defections from the Argentine camp. However, it would be wrong to place too much faith in this count. The level of support for the UK in the past (No votes and abstentions) has always been lower than the number of promised votes, either because UN delegates receive inadequate instructions from home or in some cases simply ignore those instructions.
3. On the other hand, we have a few advantages this year that we did not enjoy in 1986, notably:
- (i) There have been no mishaps in the run-up to the debate. Last year we were obliged to make our fisheries declaration only three weeks before the vote, thus, however unavoidably, handing Argentina an important propaganda weapon. This year there has been no need for any action that might harm our case at UNGA; indeed the success of the FICZ, both as a conservation measure and as a new source of income for the Falkland Islands, has strengthened our position.
- (ii) The Argentines began lobbying much later and have assured us that they too would prefer a low-key debate. This approach is undoubtedly motivated by a wish to secure the 1988 UNGA Presidency for Caputo and, possibly, to demonstrate to us and the Americans that their new, more moderate policy on fisheries is genuine.
- (iii) Argentina's failure last year to keep its promise to vote for the New Caledonia resolution annoyed the South Pacific nations, several of whom moved to a more pro-Argentine stance on the Falklands in the hope of obtaining Argentina's vote on New Caledonia. There are signs that this year the South Pacifics might show their displeasure with Argentina by reverting to their traditional position on the Falklands.

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4. We might lose some votes if we decided to make a major issue in the debate of the apparent Argentine obstruction of the Islander flight from Punta Arenas, but even if Falkland Islands Councillors did raise this it could be done more in sorrow than anger, and therefore provide the Argentines with the greater difficulty.

5. On balance I believe we can be confident there will be no major erosion of support for the UK and quite probably a vote similar to last year, ie, 116 in favour of the resolution, 4 against and 34 abstentions. The countries to watch out for as potential converts are the South Pacifics (Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, Vanuatu and possibly Fiji) and Dominica and Gambia, two "definite No votes". On the minus side we cannot be sure that either Ireland or Denmark will continue to abstain. If both defect, a majority of Partners will then be ranked against us.



David Broad
Falkland Islands Department

Falklands 1987: Voting Intentions as at 13 November

<u>1. No in 1986</u>	<u>1987 Intentions</u>
(T) Belize	No
(T) Oman	No
(T) Sri Lanka	No
<u>2. Abstentions in 1986</u>	<u>1987 Intentions</u>
(T) Antigua and Barbuda	Abstention?
Bahrain	
(T) Belguim	Abstain
Bhutan	Abstention?
Burma	Abstain
Cameroon	
(T) Denmark	Abstention?
Finland	Abstain
(T) Gambia	No
(T) FRG	Abstain
Grenada	
Iceland	Abstain
(T) Ireland	Abstention?
Israel	Abstain
Jamaica	Abstain
Jordan	Abstain
Kenya	Abstain
(T) Lesotho	Abstain
(T) Luxembourg	Abstain
Malawi	

Maldives	
Malta	
Nepal	Abstain
New Zealand	Abstain
(T) Portugal	Abstain
Qatar	
Saint Vincent	
Saudi Arabia	Abstain
(T) Solomon Islands	Abstain
St Christopher and Nevis	
Swaziland	Possible No
Thailand	Abstain
Turkey	Abstain
UAE	Abstain
3. <u>Absentees in 1986</u>	<u>1987 Intentions</u>
Dominica	No
Mozambique	
St Lucia	
Sao Tome and Principe	
4. <u>Other possibles (Yes in 1986)</u>	
Barbados	Possible Abstention
(T) Brunei	Possible Abstention
Fiji	Possible Abstention
Guyana	Possible Abstention
(T) Liberia	Possible Abstention

(T) Papua New Guinea	Possible Abstention
(T) Sierra Leone	Possible Abstention
(T) Western Samoa	Possible Abstention
(T) Vanuatu	Abstain

(T) = Countries included in our list for targetted lobbying.