

PASS BY HAND

SECRET AND ~~PERSONAL~~



so far so good. But
Mr Williams remains
new on in confidence

Mr Duffin
my script
PA
CEO
15/7

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G W Harding Esq CMG CVO
Assistant Under-Secretary of State
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
LONDON SW 1

Mr Fearn (Personal)

cc. PS/M Ridley

Dear Bill

15/7

As you will have seen from the telegram I have just despatched in reply to FCO telegrams 142 and 143 (DEYOU) about the next secret round on the Falkland Islands, Cavandoli's initial reaction is positive.

2. "Thinking aloud", his only reservation at first was over waiting so late as 9 September because, as he explained, he wanted to have time for a solid agenda to be ready for the meeting in New York in late September of Lord Carrington and Brigadier Pastor. At the same time he recognised his need for a pretext to travel which would not immediately stimulate speculation about the Islands. He could always, in principle, find a UN excuse for going to Geneva or a Beagle Channel excuse for going to Rome. It would probably be easier to disappear for a few hours in Rome than in Geneva or to take a weekend in Venice from Rome. He would look into the possibilities and let me know. He had no travel plans already made. A problem was that the Beagle negotiations would be totally suspended for August.

the top
will not
want a
'solid'
meeting

3. Meanwhile he himself vouchsafed that it would give the game away if he took Oliveri López with him, but Bloomer Reeve, as part of the Cabinet would not carry the same implications. I stressed the tremendous need to avoid leaks or speculation and he volunteered that he would tell Bloomer Reeve and Pastor only - ie not Oliveri López. In response he stressed the pressure he was under to show some follow-on from the New York talks. This will, in fact, be a problem for all of us, particularly if Oliveri López is to be kept in the dark.

4. So far, consequently, so good. I feel I must warn however that, with the best of intentions, Cavandoli may well find great

/difficulty

This is an uncomfortable position
Shd. not lead to misunderstandings,
& some problems for
the States up's day to day relations

SECRET AND ~~PERSONAL~~

Oliveri López' departure
must be done soon.

15/7



difficulty in avoiding leaks. He is watched day and night, not only by the press but by others in the Ministry and the establishment who do not like or trust him. And asking a junior Argentine Minister to enter into secret discussions on the Falklands is rather like asking a junior Israeli Minister to enter secret discussions on the Gaza strip.

Yours ever

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'Anthony Williams'. The signature is stylized and written in a cursive hand.

Anthony Williams