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ALW 040/325/10	
RECEIVED	BY NO. 18
2 OCT 1980	
Mr. Fearn	REGISTRY Action Taken

Mr. Duggan
Mr. Barfield

cc. Mr. Handberg sp.

This is broadly in line with the New York record. But there is still the discrepancy on the precise Arg. position & on the formula as a basis for labored discussion. We are submitting on this. Otherwise further evidence of Arg. attempts to face the fact.

[Handwritten signature]

FALKLAND ISLANDS : MEETING BETWEEN MR RIDLEY AND ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR, IN NEW YORK

1. While in New York yesterday on Belize business, Mr Ridley had a chance encounter (outside a restaurant) with the Argentine Ambassador in London, who asked to have a brief meeting with Mr Ridley. He later came to the UK Mission, at 4.30 p.m., and spent 15 minutes with Mr Ridley; I was the only other person present.

2. Sr Ortiz de Rozas said that the Argentine Foreign Minister had wanted him to return to London to meet Mr Ridley and follow up some points arising from the meeting between the Secretary of State and Sr Pastor. When Mr Ridley explained that he had not heard more than the briefest outline account of that meeting, Sr Ortiz de Rozas gave the following summary account (which provides an interesting counter-point to the record in Mr Lyne's minute of 25 September). According to him, Sr Pastor had expressed satisfaction to Lord Carrington, especially over the Geneva meeting. In the view of the Argentine Government this was the first serious attempt to solve the question on a basis that was mutually acceptable. The formula of a lease back presented 'good solid ground' to form an agreement. One point of difficulty for Argentina was the duration of the lease back, but aside from that it was a real step forward. Lord Carrington had made clear that he needed the agreement of the Cabinet on what had been discussed in Geneva, and then it was paramount that the Islanders should agree to those ideas. This would be difficult, but not impossible. Sr Pastor had then asked what the next steps would be, and Lord Carrington had explained that first he would need to report to the Cabinet, then Mr Ridley would need to go to the Falkland Islands, and then a further meeting between Mr Ridley and Comodoro Cavandoli could follow.

3. Sr Pastor had wanted the Argentine Ambassador to find out our ideas on the timing of these processes. Would Mr Ridley be able to visit the Falkland Islands in October? (He interjected that the only people in Buenos Aires who knew of the Geneva talks were five persons: the President, the Foreign Minister, Comodoro Cavandoli, Ambassador Enrique Ros, Comandante Bloomer-Reeve; and himself in London as a sixth.) The Foreign Minister had wanted to say that if Mr Ridley wanted to go to the Islands anonymously, the Argentines would give every assistance, and could provide travel direct to Port Stanley from Rio de Janeiro,

an addition to Cavandoli's list

!!!

/or a bizarre idea

[Handwritten mark]



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or Montevideo, or somewhere like that. But if he wished to travel via Buenos Aires, then the Argentines would be delighted.

4. In response, Mr Ridley believed that to go to the Islands in October would be too ambitious; November or early December would be more realistic. He intended when he visited the Islands to say that he was doing so as a follow-up to the April negotiations. This was an entirely tenable reason for going. In the Islands he would have to intimate the possibility of a solution on the lines discussed in Geneva; with luck he would persuade the Islanders that he should pursue it in negotiation. There could then follow a further round of meetings with the Argentines.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K D Temple". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the end.

K D Temple
PS/Mr Ridley

1 October 1980

Copi-d to: PS
Mr Day
Mr Harding