

*Handwritten:*  
Mr Davies  
Mr Fearn

ALW 040/325/12		
RECEIVED BY NO. 18		
2 NOV 1980		
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INDEX	PA	ACTION TAKEN
standing! <i>[Signature]</i>		

*Handwritten:*  
Boring. But an interesting  
visit the bio, which was  
financial problems, will  
be vigorously during the job  
during & after the visit.

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Mr Fearn

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS : FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE

1. Air Commodore Frow telephone this afternoon. The purpose of his call was twofold. He expressed keen disappointment that his Committee had not been informed of Mr Ridley's forthcoming visit to the Islands before it was publicly announced by News Department; he told me that the Press Association had telephoned the Committee asking what the visit was all about, and the Committee had been unable to give any background. He then, somewhat peremptorily, said that representatives of the Committee would like to see Mr Ridley "as soon as possible" after his return from the Islands. I did no more than promise to pass on this request to the Minister.
2. Air Commodore Frow then reverted to our failure to inform the Committee of the visit. He said that Mr Ridley had promised "to consult" the Committee before any important developments took place. I replied that there was nothing to inform the Committee about, only the dates of the visit. Air Commodore Frow insists that the Islanders were "very concerned and worried" on account of Mr Ridley's visit, and the Committee had received lots of communications asking what was going on. It was unfortunate, he said, that the Committee was not able to reassure the Islanders. He then went on to argue that the Committee in Port Stanley was, after all, the only elected body in the Islands (implying that it had a right to be more closely involved with us); I commented that that was hardly true, since some of the councillors were elected.

*[Signature]*

K D Temple  
PS/Mr Ridley

19 November 1980

cc:

Mr Harding  
ALW 123/3