

43



Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 233 3386

Your reference

M W Growcott Esq
Government House
Port Stanley

Our reference ALW 040/325/12

Date 27 November 1980

ALW 040/325/12		
RECEIVED 28 NOV 1980		
REGISTRY		
INDEX	FILE	Action Taken

Dear Michael,

BBC WORLD SERVICE ITEM ON THE FALKLANDS.

125

1. With reference to Port Stanley telegram 173 of 19 November and FCO telegram numbers 233 and 234 we have now received the text of the World Service News Item. A copy is attached.

2. UN Department emphasise that the UN General Assembly has merely used the same device as in recent years to keep the Falklands on its agenda without adopting a resolution. Argentine acceptance of this is not new.

Yours ever,
Gerald
D G Dayles
South America Department

cc: R H T Gozney Esq
BUENOS AIRES
Mr McGinley, UND

New 040/325/12
 CONFIDENTIAL
 218
 28/11/60

42

BBC WORLD SERVICE NEW ITEM

"The Argentine Government has accepted a United Nations decision to postpone a debate on the future of the Falkland Islands - the sovereignty of which has been the subject of a long-running dispute between Argentina and Britain. As well as postponing the debate, the United Nations has also agreed to delay any further actions on the future of the Islands until next year. The BBC Latin America correspondent says an improvement in relations between Britain and Argentina has created a better atmosphere for talks, but he points out that the attitudes of the two governments still appear to rule out any early solution."

THE EMOTIONAL ANTI-PATHY TO THE IDEA OF ANY CESSION OF TITULAR SOVEREIGNTY.

2. IT WILL HOWEVER TAKE TIME FOR A CLEAR REACTION TO EMERGE AND ONE CANNOT BE OPTIMISTIC ON THE PROSPECTS FOR LEADBACK. THE ROLE OF COUNCILLORS IN MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM WILL BE IMPORTANT IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

3. COUNCILLORS' WISH THAT MR RIDLEY SHOULD PUT THE ISSUES OPENLY TO ISLANDERS INEVITABLY COMPLICATES THE PRESENTATION OF THE VISIT. THE LINE THAT MR RIDLEY IS STRESSING HERE IS THAT, FOR FUTURE TALKS WITH ARGENTINA, ISLANDERS WISHES AND PREFERENCES ARE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE. THERE IS A NEED GENUINELY TO CONSULT THEM ON HOW MATTERS MIGHT BEST BE TAKEN FORWARD. OUR INTEREST IS TO IDENTIFY A WAY OF ENDURING MAINTENANCE OF ISLANDS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION WHILE ALLOWING ECONOMY TO DEVELOP FREE OF JEALOUS HAND OF DISPUTE. IT WAS FOR ISLANDERS TO AGREE ON WHAT IDEAS MIGHT BE EXPLORED IN NEGOTIATIONS. ANY FINAL SOLUTION WILL HAVE TO BE ACCEPTABLE BOTH TO ISLANDERS AND PARLIAMENT.

LINDSAY
 8 AM
 FROM 3
 28 3 28
 HARR
 PH
 28/11/60
 28/11/60
 28 3 28
 28 3 28
 28 3 28

ADDITIONAL DISCH.
 FALKLANDS ISLANDS