



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 March 1981

*Dear Michael,*

Prime Minister's talks with Peruvian Prime  
Minister: 30 March

Our Ambassador in Lima has reported that Dr Ulloa may raise the question of emergency aid following recent floods in Peru. I enclose a short brief covering this topic to supplement those sent to you under cover of Roderic Lyne's letter of 26 March.

*Yours ever,*

(F N Richards)  
Private Secretary

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VISIT OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF PERU: 29 MARCH - 1 APRIL 1981

SUPPLEMENTARY BRIEF: EMERGENCY AID

POINTS TO MAKE

1. (If raised). We were distressed to learn of the recent severe flooding in Peru. We will look carefully at any specific requests for assistance for those affected by the floods.



## EMERGENCY AID

ESSENTIAL FACTS

1. Recent heavy rains in Peru, which in places ended a five-year drought, have caused the worst flooding for fifty years. Roads and railways have been severed, farmlands flooded, housing and bridges destroyed over a wide area, and the flow of oil through the Trans-Andean pipelines disrupted, apparently as the result of a landslide. Dr Ulloa may ask if we can give any assistance towards repair of the damage.

2. There are two possible sources of aid:

- (a) ODA's Disaster Unit supply only humanitarian assistance to meet the immediate needs of people affected by disasters. It may already be past the period when this would be appropriate;
- (b) Aid for reconstruction would have to come from the main aid budget, which is already fully committed for 1981/82.