NOTE TO PRESS OFFICERS

POINTS TO MAKE

We have had two further helpful talks in the course of the day with Secretary Haig, who is now returning to Washington to report to President Reagan.

The difficulties raised by the Argentine Government late last night created a new and serious situation. We shall remain in touch with the Americans about the new ideas* to which Mr Haig referred on his departure. We hope that they may yet provide a way forward, but easy optimism would be out of place tonight.

Our objectives remain as stated. The first step is to secure the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falkland Islands in accordance with the Resolution of the Security Council.

The Maritime Exclusion Zone remains in force.

* We should make it clear as necessary that these ''new ideas'' are not British, but emerged from further contacts between the Americans and the Argentinians.

NF 13 April 1982