

This may be useful

DAVID STEEL NEWSNIGHT

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John Tusa

What do you feel about what Mr. Foot was saying today, saying that the UN should be involved again and that Francis Pym should urgently go back there to consult with the Secretary General.

David Steel

I have some doubts about that. After all, I saw the Secretary General myself in New York only about ten days ago. Mr. Healey has seen him more recently and I suspect that if Mr. Pym were to go and see him, he would get the same answer as we both have, which is that there is no role at the moment for the United Nations in solving the immediate dispute. There may well be a role for the United Nations in either the short term or long term administration but in terms of getting the dispute settled, unfortunately we have not yet reached the ideal world where the UN has a police force which is able to do this. We have to do it ourselves.

John Tusa

So you distance yourself from Mr. Foot's view that somehow sending Francis Pym to the United Nations is a matter of urgency which might produce some concrete results.

David Steel

I don't think it would produce any concrete results but I think it's another reason why it would be much more sensible for us to discuss these matters round the table rather than across the floor of the House of Commons.