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30 April 1982

Observers' Report: El Salvador Edection

I confirm that we have no objection to the publication arrangements you propose.

M A PATTISON

B.E. Bowley, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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I see no problem: the Most is already in the
House heliary. Foreign and Commonwealth Office Agra! London SW1A 2AH MAD 28/1. 28 April 1982 M Pattison Esq 10 Downing Street J. Pallison Yes. But I do work we could LONDON SW1 reach a case iron toppe bottomed & placing in Interary. Any Hench Dear Mike, broker fine the reform how the hitmy of a formalist leading to presentation on someone else's them. In the OBSERVERS' REPORT : EL SALVADOR ELECTION We propose to publish on Friday 7 May as a White Paper the report of the United Kingdom observers sent to the recent election in El Salvador. Publication in the Command Paper series is fore-shadowed in a written answer by Mr Douglas Hurd to Mr Jocelyn Cadbury on 22 April (Official Report, Column 140, copy attached). I should be grateful if you, and those to whom I am copying this letter, would kindly confirm that there is no objection to publication. yours ever, B E Bowley Parliamentary Clerk cc: D C R Heyhoe Esq Office of the Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House 70 Whitehall LONDON SW1 P Moore Esq Government Chief Whip's Office 12 Downing Street LONDON SW1

Mr. Wiggin: Work is now complete, and the first occupants will be moving in shortly; I expect all the flats to be occupied by the end of next month.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Police (Numbers)

Mr. Ralph Howell asked the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, pursuant to his answer to the hon. Member for Norfolk, North 11 February, Official Report, c. 420, regarding the total numbers employed by the police forces in Northern Ireland, why figures at constant prices are not now readily available.

Mr. John Patten: I refer my hon. Friend to the reply given on 31 March 1982 by my right hon. and learned Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the right hon. Member for Stepney and Poplar (Mr. Shore).—[Vol. 21, c. 124.]

However, the annual staff costs at outturn prices for Royal Ulster Constabulary and Royal Ulster Constabulary Reserve officers and civilian support staff for the financial years referred to in my earlier reply are as follows:

	RUC and RUC 'R' Officers	Civilian Support Staff	Total	
	£	£	£	
1971-72 1979-80 1981-82	13,464,000 84,823,000 139,370,000	546,000 4,990,000 7,000,000	14,010,000 89,813,000 146,370,000	

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Community Documents (Explanatory Memoranda)

Mr. Stainton asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what arrangements are made for public access to explanatory memoranda on European Community documents.

Mr. Hurd: We have arranged that after explanatory memoranda have been delivered to Parliament, copies will be sent to four "Depository Libraries" which, by their own direct arrangements with the European Commission, already maintain a supply of the documents to which the memoranda relate. These libraries are the lending and reference divisions of the British library, the City of Westminster central library and the Liverpool and District scientific, industrial and researh library. Copies of the memoranda will also be made available to the national libraries of Scotland and Wales, and to Queen's university library, Belfast.

I hope that these arrangements, which have been agreed by the Scrutiny Committee, will help to improve public understanding of the Community.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS

Israeli Settlements, West Bank

Mr. Marlow asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs if he will seek, through the European initiative, to minimise Israeli settlements on the West Bank with the objective of preventing problems similar to those in Sinai when an eventual settlement is reached. Mr. Hurd: The Israeli Government are well aware of our strong views on the need for them to halt the expansion of their settlements in the occupied territories. As the Venice declaration makes clear, we and our partners in the Ten regard these settlements as a serious obstacle to the peace process, and illegal under international law.

South Atlantic Islands (British Sovereignty)

Mr. Wigley asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs what is the historical basis of British assertion of sovereignty, respectively, over (a) Port Egmont, (b) West Falklands, (c) East Falklands, (d) South Georgia, (e) the South Sandwich Islands, (f) South Orkneys, (g) South Shetlands and (h) Graham Lands.

Mr. Pym: The United Kingdom has sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, its dependencies and the British Antarctic territory. The basis for British title to each of the individual islands, island groups and territories specified in the question differs according to the historical circumstances in which they came under United Kingdom possession, control and occupation, taking into account the administrative units of which they now form part. We have no doubt about our title to each of the possessions listed.

El Salvador

Mr. Cadbury asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs when he expects to receive the report of the United Kingdom observers sent to the recent elections in El Salvador.

Mr. Hurd [pursuant to his reply, 6 April 1982, c. 306]: A full report has now been received by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs. A copy has been placed in the Library of the House today, pending its publication in the Command Paper series.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Safety of Medicines

Dr. Roger Thomas asked the Secretary of State for Social Services if he will establish an investigation into the safety of medicines used for treating broncho-respiratory diseases, including those which can be purchased over the counter, in view of suggestions that some may be cardiotoxic.

Mr. Kenneth Clarke: Matters relating to adverse reactions to medicinal products are the responsibility of the licensing authority advised as necessary by the Committee on Safety of Medicines. The authority is aware of recent reports of the cardiotoxicity of some products used for the relief of symptoms of broncho-respiratory disease. These reports are being considered though they would seem to contain little that is new.

Unemployed Nurses

Dr. Roger Thomas asked the Secretary of State for Social Services if he will estimate the number of unemployed nurses who are not registered as unemployed.

Mr. Kenneth Clarke: No. There is no information available on which such an estimate could be based.