

NOTE TO PRESS OFFICERS

FALKLANDS: IRISH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

I attach a copy of the Irish statement issued today, which was also released by the Irish EC representative in Brussels, together with an earlier Irish statement issued on 2 May. Also attached is a draft press line, concocted by ECD(E) in consultation with other departments, which is being submitted. Prior to approval, I suggest that we use only paragraph one of the line to take on the record, drawing on the rest as necessary unattributably.

Mr Pym was asked in the House this afternoon about the position of an EC Government on the Falklands dispute. He declined substantive comment because that Government had not formally communicated its views to HMG. In fact, he had just learnt of their views from agency reports.

Ukrep Brussels will have the same line to take. On a related issue, the Political Committee meeting in Brussels has ended. The Belgian Presidency is simply confirming that the meeting discussed the Falklands situation, without going into details of the discussion.

TJ

4 May 1982

TYPISTS

ADVANCE COPIES: FALKLAND ISLANDS

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 FM DUBLIN 041330Z MAY 82
 TO FLASH FCO

FLASH

ADVANCE COPY

TELEGRAM NUMBER 124 OF 4 MAY 1982
 REPEATED FOR INFO TO FLASH BRUSSELS (FOR BULLARD) WASHINGTON
 UKMIS NEW YORK
 IMMEDIATE INFO TO PARIS, BONN, COPENHAGEN, ATHENS, LUXEMBOURG,
 ROME, THE HAGUE AND UKREP BRUSSELS.

FALKLANDS: IRISH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT.

1. THE IRISH GOVERNMENT ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TODAY:

BEGINS

FALKLANDS DISPUTE

THE GOVERNMENT ARE APPALLED BY THE OUTBREAK OF WHAT AMOUNTS TO
 OPEN WAR BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND GREAT BRITAIN IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC
 AND AT REPORTS THAT HUNDREDS OF LIVES HAVE ALREADY BEEN LOST.
 THEY SEE THE PRESENT SITUATION AS A SERIOUS THREAT TO WORLD PEACE.

THE PRESENT SITUATION AS A SERIOUS THREAT TO WORLD PEACE.

CONCERN EXPRESSED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THEIR STATEMENT ON SUNDAY HAS NOW UNFORTUNATELY BEEN REALISED. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE UNITED NATIONS BECOME INVOLVED IMMEDIATELY TO SECURE AN END TO THE PRESENT CONFLICT.

ACCORDINGLY THE IRISH GOVERNMENT WILL SEEK AN IMMEDIATE MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN ORDER TO PREPARE A NEW RESOLUTION CALLING FOR :

- (1) AN IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES BY BOTH BRITISH AND ARGENTINIAN FORCES, AND
- (2) THE NEGOTIATION OF A DIPLOMATIC SETTLEMENT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UN.

THE IRISH GOVERNMENT REGARD THE APPLICATION OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AS NO LONGER APPROPRIATE AND WILL THEREFORE BE SEEKING THE WITHDRAWAL OF THESE SANCTIONS BY THE COMMUNITY.

ENDS

2. FOR COMMENTS SEE M.I.F.T.

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N C L A S S I F I E D
FM DUBLIN 030915Z MAY 1982
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 120 OF 3 MAY 1982
AND REPEATED FOR INFO TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON AND UKMIS NEW YORK.
PRIORITY TO PARIS, BONN, COPENHAGEN, BRUSSELS, LUXEMBOURG, ROME,
THE HAGUE AND UKREP BRUSSELS.

FALKLANDS: IRISH GOVERNMENT STATEMENT

1. THE IRISH GOVERNMENT ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ABOUT
THE FALKLANDS CRISIS AFTER A CABINET MEETING YESTERDAY, 2 MAY.

BEGINS

THE GOVERNMENT ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED AT THE ESCALATING
MILITARY SITUATION IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.

FROM THE OUTSET OF THE FALKLANDS CRISIS, THE POLICY OF THE IRISH
GOVERNMENT, BOTH AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND WITHIN THE EUROPEAN
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO PREVENTING A WIDER
CONFLICT AND PROMOTING A NEGOTIATED, HONOURABLE SETTLEMENT BY
DIPLOMATIC MEANS.

AN ADEQUATE FRAMEWORK ALREADY EXISTS WITHIN WHICH SUCH A
SETTLEMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED IF THE PARTIES DEMONSTRATE THE POLITICAL
WILL TO DO SO.

IT IS IMPORTANT, THEREFORE, THAT THE POSSIBILITIES OFFERED BY THE
UNITED NATIONS SHOULD BE FULLY EXPLOITED AND FURTHER MILITARY
ESCALATION WHICH WOULD ONLY MAKE NEGOTIATIONS ALL THE MORE
DIFFICULT AVOIDED. IRELAND IS READY TO HELP IN ANY WAY IT CAN,
THROUGH ITS CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, TO ADVANCE
A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION.

THE GOVERNMENT WISH TO RE-AFFIRM IRELAND'S TRADITIONAL ROLE OF
NEUTRALITY IN RELATION TO ARMED CONFLICTS.

ENDS

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CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION
FALKLAND ISLANDS

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