

DRAFT LETTER FROM SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG TO  
SIR IAN TRETHOWAN, BBC BROADCASTING HOUSE,  
LONDON, W1A 1AA

Thank you for your letter of 21 June.

I am sure that the BBC have been aware of the need to avoid broadcasting anything which might put operations at risk. I can only say that in this instance they have not succeeded in avoiding that risk. Nor did the Newsnight programme a couple of nights later. If I may say so, it is not just a question of broadcasting nothing which is not already available to the Argentine junta: the considerations at issue are a good deal more complex than that.

You say that Alan Protheroe consulted Bill Ash on the more sensitive points; my understanding is that consultation was confined to an inquiry how far Chilean involvement remained sensitive.

If you would like to pursue this further, I should be very happy to do so in discussion, if you would like to call in one day.

Copies go to:

R/S/Jan

Date: 6 July 1982