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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Sir Robert Armstrong KCB CVO
CABINET OFFICE

9 July 1982

My dear Robert,

THE FALKLANDS CAMPAIGN

1. I have written to you separately about the proposal that Frederick Forsyth should write a book about the Falklands crisis. I have just had a telephone call from Frank Giles which makes me think that we ought to have an early discussion of how we are going to deal with requests for official assistance for projects of this kind.

2. Frank Giles says that, as we know, 'The Sunday Times' Insight team are doing a book on the Falklands. Not a rush job he says, but one to be completed in six weeks! What they are looking for is an accurate account of the sequence of events between the invasion on Friday 2 April and the departure of the Task Force on Monday 5 April ie an account of who spoke to whom and who did what etc. He says their purpose is not to worm out information from us which should be more properly given to the Falklands Committee; nor is it to muck_rake. Rather it is to establish the facts with the implication that, if they do not get given an official account, they will make up what they do not know in order not to leave a significant gap in their story.

3. Frank Giles says that he has already asked Lord Carrington who has, rightly, refused; which is why he is now approaching me. As I say, I should welcome an early opportunity to discuss this with you. I am copying this letter to Frank Cooper and Terence Lewin.

Yours ever
Antony

Antony Acland

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- Yes 13/7
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