

Foreign Pol.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 August 1982

PERSONAL

John Coles Esq
Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street

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Dear Private Secretary,

BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY (BAS)

I hope you will forgive this personal note.

I was present at the British Antarctic Survey headquarters in Cambridge yesterday, for Mr Pym's visit, when the Prime Minister rang to offer her sympathies to the Director of BAS, Dr Laws, on the loss of the BAS party of three in the Antarctic.

Dr Laws was clearly affected by the Prime Minister's call. As one who could understand the loneliness of some of the decisions Mrs Thatcher has had to take in recent months, he deeply appreciated her understanding for his position and her sympathies for the bereaved parents and relatives.

Yours sincerely
John Heap

John A Heap
Polar Regions Section
South America Department