

FL 302

Copy these 3
to SECLOC.Reference... AUS(DS)/EF24/2/37
(142/82)

DEFENCE STAFF

COPIES

PS/PUS

Copy to:
PSO/CDS ✓
Head of DS11Thank you
20/4Coc! OD(SA) folder has these
3 documents. You may care
to study.

20 Apr.

T.M.
(A)FALKLAND ISLANDS - MR HAIG'S PROPOSALS

I have been in touch with Mr Giffard, the Deputy Secretary in the FCO who is apparently handling comments on Mr Haig's proposals and is proposing to submit them to Sir Antony Acland this afternoon.

2. On the key military paragraph of the text, para 2, I have made the point that from our point of view equal treatment as between ourselves and the Argentinians is an absolutely minimum requirement. He was proposing to delete in para 2.2.1 the figure of "1750 nautical miles" and substitute instead "500 nautical miles". I said that I thought his paper should make it clear that we should much prefer to start from the position that all forces, both ours and theirs, should withdraw from the zones of 150 nautical miles from the co-ordinated points referred to at the beginning of paragraph 2. If we had to be pushed to some other figure, then we much preferred 400 nautical miles to the 500 nautical miles he had suggested. Mr Giffard took note. On another point in para 2.2.1 I said I saw no justification for the proposition that Argentina should have to withdraw one half of its military forces within 7 days while over the same period we should complete the withdrawal of all our forces from the zones and stand off to the requisite distance. Here again, I said that our view should clearly be that equal treatment applied as a minimum.

3. The third point was in para 2.2.2 where Mr Giffard's proposal that we should substitute "shall revert to normal duties" in the phrase in the last line appears. I said that this was in line with what had been agreed a week ago on Mr Haig's earlier proposals, and on the basis that it guaranteed us freedom of operation we should have no difficulties.

4. Finally, I made the point that on para 7 - particularly 7a - we had the strongest concerns about the prospects that could open up for flooding the Falkland Islands with an Argentinian population, etc. Mr Giffard said that the FCO had taken this point and had proposed language which in effect reverted to our position of a week ago, making it clear that the Special Interim Authority could only make proposals to the two Governments on these points, thus in effect allowing HMG a veto.

5. It was unclear to me what was going to happen to this advice after its submission to Sir Antony Acland. You may wish to keep in touch with his office to ensure that PUS has an opportunity to comment before anything goes to Ministers.

J. M. Stewart

J M STEWART
AUS(DEFENCE STAFF)

20 April 1982