



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

18 May 1982

From The Minister of State

*FCO en James
Fayre
MJB
18.5*

My dear Michael,

Our Embassy in Madrid have warned us that Spanish television are presenting a very unbalanced view of the Falklands crisis in favour of Argentina, and suggest that we should try to redress this. It seems important to me that we should find some way of offsetting this bias by an authoritative and effective presentation of our case.

With this in mind, I would like to suggest that Tristan Garel-Jones should give an interview to Spanish television. As I am sure you know, he is fluent in Spanish: he understands the Spanish dimension of the problem very well; and I can think of no-one who could put our case better to a Spanish audience.

I appreciate that it is unusual for a Whip to take part in such an exercise, but these are unusual times, and I think its value outweighs any disadvantages. I gather that Tristan would be prepared to take this on, and would be grateful for your agreement that he should do so.

If you agree to this, then we will make the appropriate arrangements direct with Tristan.

Yours asw.

Cranley

Cranley Onslow

The Rt Hon Michael Jopling MP
Government Chief Whip
12 Downing Street
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*I'd be glad to have
a word with you in the
House about this, if that would
be helpful.*