CONFIDENTIAL Private Secretary cc: Mr Williams, UND Mr Fearn, Emergency Unit Mr Mallaby, Planning Staff Mr Weston, Defence Dept Mr Gillmore Mr Giffard Mr Bullard Mr Wright Mr Fenn, News Dept PS/Mr Onslow FALKLANDS 1. Sir A Parsons telephoned just after 3 o'clock this afternoon to say that he had been summoned for consultations of the Security Council as a whole at 10 o'clock this morning New York time. Since this is suspiciously early in their

- day, Sir A Parsons fears that this may be a precursor to an early formal meeting of the Security Council this morning which would allow discussion of the Seychelles to resume this afternoon.
- 2. Sir A Parsons fears that at a formal meeting of the Security Council there could be a call for a cease fire. He asked for discretion to veto an unequal resolution in this sense and for support in getting the French and the Americans to veto with us.
- 3. The PUS said that it was quite clearly preferable to have the French and Americans voting with us and he agreed with Sir A Parsons that if this seemed possible after a delay, then a delay might be worthwhile. But Sir A Parsons clearly saw advantage in an early vote if we could secure French and American backing. The PUS endorsed this.
- As you know, we sent a tele/ this morning to Paris seeking French support and explaining the background to the possibility of moves to deprive us of the vote (something on which Sir A Parsons reckons we have a very strong case but on which, as always, we cannot predict the result of a procedural debate). The PUS has telephoned Washington. The Ambassador will see Mr Haig and Mr Thomas will see Mr Eagleburger, both within the next half hour. The Head of UN Department is ringing Paris to urge quick action there.

R A Burns PS/PUS