**FILE No.:** ALW 026/1  

**TITLE:** VISIT TO P. STANLEY/ B. AIRES  

BY HRN R. RIDLEY, MINISTER OF STATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME (and dept, where necessary)</th>
<th>TO SEE:</th>
<th>DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fco 07/3674</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Registry Address

(N.B. The grading of this jacket must be the same as that of the highest graded document contained in it. The appropriate upgrading slip must be affixed when ever necessary.)
**FILE No. ALW 026/1 (Part)***

**TITLE:** VISIT TO P. STANLEY / B. AIRES

**BY MR. N. RIDLEY, MINISTER OF STATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REFER TO</th>
<th>REFER TO</th>
<th>REFER TO</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAME (and dept. when necessary)</td>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>NAME (and dept. when necessary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Olson</td>
<td>2/7</td>
<td>Mr. Lindsay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FCO7/3674**

**Registry Address**

**K274**

**N.B. The grading of this jacket must be the same as that of the highest graded document contained in it. The appropriate upgrading slip must be affixed when ever necessary.**
Thank you for your letter of 9 September about my visit to the Falkland Islands and Argentina.

I enjoyed my visit to the Islands and I am sure that it was right to show our concern for the Islanders' welfare and opinion in this way. The Islanders remain anxious for a solution and I firmly believe - as I think you did - that the present stalemate benefits no-one. We are currently examining the various policy options open to us and I hope it will be possible to continue the dialogue with the Argentines in a constructive spirit within the terms of reference established in 1977.

There is not a great deal more I can say just now. But I would like to mention two points which I made to Councillors and which I imagine would have your wholehearted support: namely that we will continue to keep the Islanders fully informed of developments which affect their interests; and that any proposals about the future of the Islands would have to be acceptable to the Islanders.

You asked for copies of statements etc: the only ones of significance so far are the communiques issued in Buenos Aires on 27 July at the time of my visit, and the announcement of our decision to reinstate Ambassadors in Parliament on the same day. Copies are enclosed.

Do call in at the Office for a chat, whether other impressions of these Islands can be exchanged.

Nicholas Ridley

Mr Ted Rowlands MP
House of Commons
SW1A 0AA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Afternoon</th>
<th>Evening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 20 July</td>
<td>1210 Arrive Port Stanley - met by Governor and Mrs Parker and Island Councillors</td>
<td>At residence</td>
<td>Reception at Government House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 21 July</td>
<td>Morning Meeting with Executive and Legislative Councils (Exco and Legco)</td>
<td>Buffet lunch</td>
<td>Tour of Stanley and aid projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dinner at Government House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 22 July</td>
<td>Visit West Falkland Settlements. Overnight stay</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23 July</td>
<td>Visit East Falkland Settlements. Overnight stay</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24 July</td>
<td>Morning Return to Stanley</td>
<td>Discussions with sheepowners Association, General Employees Union and Falkland Islands Committee</td>
<td>Public reception in Town Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 July</td>
<td>Morning Round-up meeting with Councillors</td>
<td>Depart 1550</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARGENTINA

Thursday 19 July
0855 Arrive Ezeiza Airport
1030 (Approx) Arrive at residence
Rest of morning free
1330 Lunch at residence with Mr Bob Cox,
Editor of Buenos Aires Herald,
1630 Mr Ridley to meet Chancery staff
1730 Discussion with senior staff
1945 Informal dinner with British
business representatives

Friday 20 July
0540 Leave residence for Aeroparque
Airport
0630 Depart on AR 161

VISIT FALKLAND ISLANDS 20-25 JULY

Wednesday 25 July
2140 Arrive Aeroparque Airport on
AR 639 from Comodoro
2215 (Approx) Arrive residence
2300 Light supper if required

Thursday 26 July
0900 Discussion in Chancery with GEC
representatives
or 0930 about the nuclear contract
1100 Courtesy call on Foreign Minister
(if Pastor is not in Geneva)
1130 Discussion with Cavandoli and
Oliveri Lopez (Head of Falklands
and Antarctic Department of MFA)
1300 Lunch hosted by Cavandoli
1630 Round-up with senior Embassy staff
1800 Call on the Minister of Economy
1830 Reception at the residence followed
by informal dinner if feasible

Friday 27 July
0800 Depart for Rio AVOS4

RESTRICTED

CONFIDENTIAL
MINISTERS PROGRAMME

RIO DE JANEIRO  27-29 JULY

Friday 27 July
1055     Arrive from Buenos Aires on AV 084; proceed to Hotel.
1300     Lunch - Chamber of Commerce.
1500     Call on Mr Eric Bruell, President of Souza Cruz (subsidiary of British American Tobacco and the largest British investment in Brazil).
1600     Call on Peter Landsberg.
1700     Return to Hotel.
1930     Reception given by Acting Consul General.

Saturday 28 July
1900     Free for sightseeing.
1900     Informal drinks with Acting Consul General for UK based staff and wives.

Sunday 29 July
0815     Leave for airport.
0930     Depart for Brasilia RG 200.
ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS
FOR THE VISIT OF
MR NICHOLAS RIDLEY, MP
MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND
COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS
TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN
18 JULY TO 9 AUGUST 1979

PLACE AND DATE
1. Mr Nicholas Ridley, MP, Minister of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs, accompanied by Mrs Ridley and Mr K D Temple,
Private Secretary, will visit Latin America and the Eastern Caribbean
from 18 July to 9 August 1979.

TRAVEL
2. (a) Full details of travel arrangements are given in the attached
Appendix.
(b) The Alcock and Brown Suite, Terminal 3, London Airport, has
been reserved for both the outward and return journeys.
(c) Tickets for the journey will be sent separately by Conference
Section.

PASSPORTS AND HEALTH
3. (a) Each member of the party should be in possession of a valid
passport.
(b) Visas are required for Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Mexico
and the United States.
(c) Each member of the party should be in possession of valid certi-
fications for Smallpox, Cholera and Yellow Fever. Mexico is in
the malarial area and Paludrine tablets, together with
instructions, have already been sent to the members of the
party by Conference Section.

INSURANCE
4. The insurance of baggage at the expense of HM Government is not permissible.
In the case of loss of personal baggage while travelling or while in
receipt of subsistence allowance, claims may be submitted up to a
maximum of £200 (no one article to exceed £50) provided that the loss
is not covered by an existing policy.

TRANSPORT
5. Transport to and from London Airport will be arranged by the
Minister's office.

6. SECURITY
Mr Temple will be documented as Special Courier for the journey. All classified material carried on the journey must be entered on the Courier's Waybill. Mr A S Chapman, Communications Operations Department (233-3706) should be contacted about the issue of a Courier's passport.

7. FINANCE

(a) Costs for the visit should be charged to the DCS Vote C5(2)(a).

(b) Subsistence

(i) Standard Class A subsistence rates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Antigua</th>
<th>Río de Janeiro</th>
<th>Brasilia</th>
<th>Falkland Islands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EC$276</td>
<td>CR$1.055</td>
<td>CR$1.1075</td>
<td>£16.50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pesos 47,293</td>
<td>Pesos 2,813</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Caracas: BS 463.00
Mexico City: Pesos 561.00
Barbados: D$8115.00

(ii) When staying with colleagues Mr Ridley and Mr Temple will receive one third of the standard Class A rate of subsistence per night.

(iii) When staying in an hotel, if the cost of the room, standard breakfast, service charge and tax is more than half the Class A rate of subsistence, the Embassy/High Commission/Consulate General will pay these costs and advance Mr Ridley and Mr Temple half of the standard Class A subsistence to cover all other expenses.

(iv) Mrs Ridley will receive three quarters of the amount paid to Mr Ridley.

8. ADMINISTRATION

Any enquiries on the above should be addressed to the undersigned.

Miss B. D. Davis
Conference and Visits Section
Protocol and Conference Department (233 3102)

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
5 July 1979

APPENDIX

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Person(s)</th>
<th>Flight Code</th>
<th>ETD</th>
<th>ETA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 18 July</td>
<td>Mr Ridley</td>
<td>RG763</td>
<td>LAP</td>
<td>2130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 19 July</td>
<td>Mr Ridley</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>0640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 20 July</td>
<td>Mr Temple</td>
<td>AR 113</td>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>0730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 20 July</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>0630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 20 July</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Comodoro</td>
<td>0840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 20 July</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Port Stanley</td>
<td>1210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 25 July</td>
<td>AR 639</td>
<td>LD 200</td>
<td>Comodoro</td>
<td>0940</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 25 July</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Comodoro</td>
<td>1550</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 25 July</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Port Stanley</td>
<td>1710</td>
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<td>2140</td>
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<td>Sunday, 29 July</td>
<td>AV 084</td>
<td>AR 639</td>
<td>Comodoro</td>
<td>0800</td>
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<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>1055</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 29 July</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>0930</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 30 July</td>
<td>RG 200</td>
<td>Sunday, 29 July</td>
<td>Brasilia</td>
<td>1105</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 30 July</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>2040</td>
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<td>Thursday, 2 August</td>
<td>VA 840</td>
<td>RG 802</td>
<td>Caracas</td>
<td>2350</td>
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<td>Thursday, 2 August</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Caracas</td>
<td>0840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 2 August</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Mexico City</td>
<td>1300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 6 August</td>
<td>MX 301</td>
<td>Thursday, 2 August</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>0810</td>
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<td>Monday, 6 August</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>1425</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 8 August</td>
<td>EA 965</td>
<td>Monday, 6 August</td>
<td>Antigua</td>
<td>1555</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 8 August</td>
<td>(F)</td>
<td>ETD</td>
<td>Antigua</td>
<td>1925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 8 August</td>
<td>Charter to Barbados to connect with</td>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 8 August</td>
<td>BA 254</td>
<td>Wednesday, 18 July</td>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>2330</td>
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Baggage Allowance: First Class 30 Kgs, Economy Class (Y) 20 Kgs
DISTRIBUTION

PS/Lord Privy Seal
PS/Mr Ridley (3)
Sir Antony Duff
Sir Anthony Parsons
Mr G E Hall
Mr R J Stratton
Communications Operations Department - Mr L Y Charrington
Mr A S Chapman DBR - 1
Mexico and Caribbean Dept - 3
South America Dept - 3
Finance Dept - Pay Section
News Dept - 1
- Mr J Carroll - 1
Permanent Under-Secretary's Dept - Mr R G Beer - 1
Protocol and Conference Dept - 1
Finance Section
West Indian & Atlantic Dept
Resident Clerks
Security Dept - Mr S G Attwood
British Embassy Brasilia - 3
Buenos Aires - 3
Caracas - 3
Mexico City - 3
British High Commission - Bridgetown - 3
British Consulate-General - Rio de Janeiro - 3
Deputy British Government Representative - Antigua
Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Falkland Islands

EACH MEMBER OF THE PARTY
1. I submit a draft reply for Mr Ridley's signature to Mr Rowland's letter of 9 September about the Minister's visit to and about current policy on the Falklands.

2. There is not a great deal that can be said to Mr Rowlands at the moment on policy. But it is clear that Mr Rowland's interest in the dispute and in the Islands has not lessened. It would therefore seem appropriate to be as forthcoming as possible. The Minister may also want to keep in touch with Mr Rowlands who could well be helpful in the coming months, as we face difficult decisions in the dispute; he might want to consider suggesting in due course that Mr Rowlands call in for a discussion when the way is clearer.

G A Duggan
South America Department

13 September 1979

I agree. Mr Rowlands is clearly monitoring his own personal interest in this dispute and it would be helpful to keep him on side.
MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA: PRESS COMMENT

1. The Minister of State might like a brief summary of the press coverage of his visits to Falkland and Argentina.

2. The only paper in the Falklands, the roneo-ed *Falkland Islands Times*, highlighted the visit in its August issue with a front page article and an article on page 9 by the editor on the future of the Islands which shows that the editor himself accepts closer co-operation with Argentina as a fact of life. The *Falkland Islands Times* circulates widely in the Islands and copies are distributed in this country. The editor, Mr Colville (born in the UK) took over the paper comparatively recently and attempts a somewhat humorous account of news events although the final result is frequently somewhat juvenile. The Governor has said that the poor quality of the newspaper is a source of embarrassment to many Islanders.

3. In Argentina, coverage of Mr Ridley's visit was extensive although editorial comment sparse, possibly reflecting a lack of direction from official quarters. The press found it hard to decide which aspect it should emphasise, some reports stressing the agreement to restore relations to Ambassadorial level and others referring to the proposed meeting of Foreign Ministers in New York, seen as the next step in the Falklands negotiations. There were also some references to the remarks attributed to Mr Ridley about Argentine affairs.

4. The most substantial editorial comment was carried by Clarín (a popular tabloid mass circulation daily) which welcomed the decision to restore Ambassadors and emphasised that economic co-operation - the paper referred specifically to hydrocarbons - should be matched by progress on sovereignty.
5. The Buenos Aires Herald (an influential, well-balanced small circulation daily newspaper published in English) argues that the integration of the Falklands into Argentina is in everyone’s interest although the future well-being of the Islanders must be of principal concern. This paper also mentions Mr Carless and expresses relief that the opportunity to restore relations at Ambassadorial level will not be lost through the Argentine refusal to grant him agreement.

6. The Review of the River Plate (a specialised journal published in English read primarily in business and economic circles) also refers to an Argentine veto on Mr Carless and concludes that it is difficult to see what progress could be made over the Falklands so long as the UK maintains the line that nothing will happen without the approval of the Islanders.

7. A somewhat sour note, however, was struck by an insulting article which appeared in Radiolandia 2000 (a weekly, approximating to our TV Times, which although widely read is not taken seriously).

This article was very much the exception since the Argentine press coverage overall was generally friendly and moderate in tone.

G A Duggan
South America Department

[Signature]

Hall 5/17
"RETIRAR LA AYUDA". Pero el almirante Rojas, la cooperación con los pobladores de las Malvinas ha sido fructífera, no ha provocado distensiones sino gastos al patrimonio nacional. Los ingleses retiraron la pista.

El flamante miembro del gabinete de Margaret Thatcher visitó las Islas Malvinas en su luna de miel. A su llegada recibió un cálido recibimiento y muchos reclamos de los isleños. Durante su retorno a Buenos Aires hizo declaraciones que implican una intromisión en nuestros problemas internos. Sobre las negociaciones entre ambos países, entrevistamos al admirante Isaac Francisco Rojas.

"Soy pesimista —dijo— los ingleses tratan de ganar tiempo y sacar beneficios".

"O pienso que las Falklands son un país real y efectivamente democrático. Un sistema abierto, donde se eligen con consejos, y dentro de este sistema el comité puede desarrollar sus ideas políticas. Tal vez la Argentina —buenas tierras— pueda copiar el sistema de las islas, donde no hay nadie que esté detenido por cuestiones políticas y los derechos humanos son respetados..."

Los periodistas argentinos que recibieron esta declaración de parte del vicecanciller británico Nicholas Ridley, no podían creer lo que estaban escuchando. Estas declaraciones fueron recogidas y grabadas por el enviado especial de "Clarín". El funcionario inglés continuó con sus insolentes reflexiones a bordo de un avión de LAD, que lo traía de regreso a Buenos Aires. Su visita —la primera de un miembro del gabinete de Margaret Thatcher— había suscitado expectativas entre los malvineros y los diplomáticos argentinos: pero lo que comenzó como "visita de buena voluntad" terminó como cualquiera de las agresiones diplomáticas del otro terreno de Uganda, el mariscal Idi Amin Dada.

"REFORMACIÓN DE LA USURPACIÓN"

Para aclarar el significado

RECUERDOS DE IDI AMIN. Durante muchos años, el público mundial se acostumbró a las explosiones verbales del presidente ugandés. Su falta de diplomacia era quizás comparable a la del vicecanciller británico. NICHOLAS RIDLEY, era "una lección aprendida" en materia del trato del abuelo de la radiografía..."
During the recent visit of the British Minister of State, Nicholas Ridley, the agreement to resume relations at Ambassadors' level was confirmed. The event is particularly significant since the two countries are negotiating the restoration of the Falkland Islands to Argentina, thus abiding by the request of the UK General Assembly.

Since the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have released no information on the subject, the public are ignorant of the present state of the negotiations. However, it is known that they cover sovereignty and economic cooperation. Progress in one aspect should be matched by progress in the other. This is only natural. To talk of economic cooperation, implies that there are British interests in the area, interests established over 146 years of legitimate occupation. To talk of sovereignty is to admit that the era of colonialism and possession by force of territories belonging to other States has come to an end, that in its place the period of historic redress has started. It is for the protagonists to find the right balance. But however, moreover, must be within the ambit of the restoration of the Islands (to Argentina).

The Ambassadors were recalled when the British Government engaged in activities which, instead of helping to make progress towards an agreement, showed an insistence on widening their de facto jurisdiction in the South. As such, those activities were considered unfriendly. One may now wonder whether sufficient attention has been paid in the negotiations to modify this attitude. As recent reports to suggest that this is so, but the authorities have not informed public opinion. People would believe the Government to be more on the subject of sovereignty and was ready to avoid the international community, which urges that it should leave the Southern Islands, so far from its territory and its area of influence.

This would open the way to cooperation that is perfectly conceivable both in the field of oil. The UK has the necessary capital, expertise, and technology to undertake the exploitation of oil in the Islands. Comparison to the same scale and scale revision, and has the necessary expertise for its operation, a project would be a winner of to an agreement as greater as well as more beneficial to the Parties. Moreover, known that the exploitation of oil would involve an extremely costly investment and a difficult operation in view of the prevailing conditions. Thus there is a real possibility of combining the interests of the two parties.
However, it will not be possible to attain any such solution if the Argentine negotiating position is weakened, for whatever reason. Therefore the defence of the basic thesis of this issue is as important as attention to its formal aspects. Only in an atmosphere of mutual respect will it be possible to overcome the obstacles still in the way of an agreement. And even though the negotiations are a delicate matter and therefore kept confidential, it is necessary to offer some general information to the public because the problem is a national one and in everybody's concern. Everybody is committed to a fervent defence of the Republic's sovereignty and dignity.
Mr. Nicholas Ridley, M.P.
Minister of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London S.W.1.

Dear Nick,

As I was away on holiday I missed all the press reports, communiques etc. of your visit to the Falklands and Argentina.

I should be grateful if you would give me an idea as to how things stand, the position on negotiations, are there any new terms of reference etc.

I would be grateful also for any copies of statements etc. so that I am up to date on the position.

Best wishes,

[Handwritten signature]

TED ROWLANDS, M.P.

| Number of copies: 1 |

1. Acknowledged 12/19
2. Minister of State has not seen
3. Instructions Department to advice and draft reply from Ted Ridley 22/19

Islands was drawn and the words 'We Want Our 200 Miles' and 'Falkland Fish are British' written in red and black. But Ridley could not see all this during the first of his days on the islands.

Mr. King

Desmond George Buckley King, 56, with blue eyes and grey hair, a Briton from Arkley Barnet, is the owner of the Upland Goose, the only hotel in Port Stanley. His two daughters, Barbara and Anne, were also with him at the airport that cold morning. They had gone to the airport, as they do every Wednesday and Friday, to meet and see off passengers to and from Argentina. They invite the passengers to get into the 12-seater Land Rover, put the luggage in another vehicle, and leave for the hotel. Even though they have been accommodating almost none but Argentine /visitors
Ref my letter 154/1029 of 25 August to Growcott, copied to you.

With the compliments of
CHANCERY

R. Gookey

BRITISH EMBASSY
BUENOS AIRES

Mr King

Desmond George Buckley King, 56, with blue eyes and grey hair, a Briton from Arkley Barnet, in the owner of the Upland Goonee, the only hotel in Port Stanley. His two daughters, Barbara and Anne, were also with him at the airport at 10 a.m. They had gone to the airport, as they do every Wednesday and Friday, to meet and see off passengers to and from Argentina. They invite the passengers to get into the 9-seater Land Rover, put the luggage in another vehicle, and leave for the hotel. Even though they have been accommodating almost none but Argentine
In the Malvinas, with Nicholas Ridley, British Minister of State

He came, had a look around, listened and left

Just as two and a half years ago, when Edward 'Ted' Rowlands visited the Islands, twelve people gathered at Hockers Point Airport, under a grey sky and persistent rain, to meet Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the FCO. The reception party lined up by the steps of LANE's Pukker Y-57, which had taken off from Comodoro Rivadavia 21 hours earlier. It was 11.05AM and the temperature was 2°C. The first person in the row was Governor James Roland Walter Parker, and the second Francis Eastac Baker, the Chief Secretary. Nicholas Ridley, an engineer, the youngest son of the third Viscount Ridley, educated at Eton and Belclaire College, Oxford, practically jumped off the plane. He had a broad smile on his face and was wearing a red carnation in his lapel. His dynamism is remarkable for a man in his fifties. Five metres away from the left wing of the Pukker, Mr McMillan, another man in his fifties, also wearing a broad smile, and his police uniform, was holding open the door of the old dark red Austin. The only identification plates on the car are two Royal crests.

To Ridley it was just arriving home, to his country, despite the fact that, unlike two and a half years ago, nobody came out to the streets or to the road to wave a welcome placard or flag. However, there were small notices nestled placed in the windows of some houses or small stores with the same words printed on when Rowlands came to the Islands. What is gone, most of them had been kept from those days: 'God Save The Queen', 'God Bless our Queen', 'Keep the Falklands British'. Somebody was even more daring, and on a piece of cloth 80 cm square a map of the Islands was drawn and the words 'We Want Our 200 Miles' and 'Falkland Fish are British' written in red and black. But Ridley could not see all this during the first of his five days on the Islands.

Mr King

Desmond George Buckley King, 56, with blue eyes and grey hair, a Briton from Arley Barnet, is the owner of the Upland Oceana, the only hotel in Port Stanley. His two daughters, Barbara and Anne, were also with him at the airport that cold morning. They had gone to the airport, as they do every Wednesday and Friday, to meet and see off passengers to and from Argentina. They invite the passengers to get into the 12-seater Land Rover, put the luggage in another vehicle, and leave for the hotel. Even though they have been accommodating almost none but Argentine
visitors for a long time, their attitude is still categorical; they will only speak English. They do not seem to understand Spaniards. And I say that they do not seem to understand it because after the inevitable talk at the Upland Goose pub or in the dining room I noticed that it is only made believe. Not only for Mr. King but also for his daughter, (Mrs. Anna was educated in Uruguay) and his wife, who is in charge of the meals at the Hotel. Even though her attitude is not strict, when somebody asks for a dish in Spanish, she expects him to order it in English.

Mr. King is, in principle, an interesting character. There are almost 4,000 people in Stanley and they all know him well. In group discussion he always takes the lead. There is always somebody to listen to him. But there is something that must be taken into account: he was a candidate for the Town Council in elections that were held three years ago, and obtained only a dozen votes. This is Mr. King, the man who was sitting very close to Ridley at the public meeting at the Town Hall on the Saturday. At one point he said, 'I want to invest £40,000 in a hotel and need to know what is going to happen with the Islands. I would like you to tell me.'

Ridley raised his shoulders and said: 'Invest, that is my answer, invest.'

The Farmer

'What did you say to the Minister?' I asked one of the few farmers who were present at the public meeting with Ridley. 'The question is this,' he said, 'after shearing the wool there are two options for us. We either sell it to the FIG (the Falkland Islands Co.) or sell it at the free wool market in London. If we choose the latter option we run the usual risks of any market - we might get very good prices but equally we might get very bad ones - therefore we prefer to be on the safe side with the FIG price. But co-operation with Argentina can be interesting.'

At some time in the past there was an exchange of livestock, when 250 Malvinas sheep were sent to Buenos Aires. The Islands' farmers knew that Argentina could supply similar, timber, wire and other things that the FIG will never give them.

Two Malvinas Sweaters

Judith Ridley, 35, elegant and pretty, has been Nicholas Ridley's second wife since earlier this year. Soon after 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, when it stopped snowing, she asked Beverley Parker, the Governor's wife, to go shopping with her. The driver of the 49 British marines that defend the Islands, dropped the two ladies at the door of the Falkland Islands Home Industries, a small store on Ross Road. They spent 20 minutes there and

/together
together with the owner of the place, Betty Miller, they had a look at all the materials in the store. Finally Judith chose two sweaters made of Malvinas wool and paid £75 (some $50 dollars) each.

On the Sunday there was no time for shopping. At 0945 the Riddles boarded a small Beaver plane and went to a farm in Darwin, some 95 km from Stanley. They had lunch with their hosts, the Hardcastles, and in the afternoon they left for Hill Gorge, where they stayed with Mr and Mrs Blake for the night. On the Monday they had lunch at Mr Lee's farm at Port Howard, and when he returned to Stanley at 4 o'clock Ridley visited the FIC offices.

What is the FIC?

Ferry Nielsen is the pilot on the Monsuen, the green boat that calls at all the FIC farms to collect their wool. Of course Ridley knew that at some time during his 40 minute visit to the dock and the hold of the boat, Ferrys would clearly let him know that he would like everything to stay as it is now, 'because there is no reason why things should change'. However, it is not equally easy to know what Ridley discussed with Terry Spruce, one of the owners of the FIC. But in fact it is not hard to guess what Spruce asked the Minister: the FIC holds a monopoly over the Islands: everything has to be done through it; every ship calling at port must moor at the Company's dock, provided she gets authority to do so. The FIC is a member of the Charrington Industries Holdings Group, and the company's headquarters are in London. It has been established in the Malvinas for 128 years and it owns 96% of the land. Everything that reaches the Islands comes through the FIC, and the company is also the owner of the Stanley bank and several stores. It exports two million kilos of wool per year. Every three months the Monsuen and another boat, the Anette Danielsen, which is chartered by the FIC, sail across the ocean and take the Islands' produce to the Bradford wool market. Two and a half years ago, Barry Valm, the FIC General Manager, told Nordica "people on the Islands want to remain British. And to change the sovereignty is to commit an outrage against the Islanders' rights". Terry Spruce said to Ridley was not too different.

Living Here in Hard

A group of Argentine young men are working for YPF on the installation of two fuel tanks at the airport to allow TAE planes to have their tanks filled on the runway. They live on Rosa Noel, near the Anglican church. Every day, when they come back home after work, a group of teenagers, particularly girls, start to roam around the place, just like petrels or seagulls. The reason is quite simple. "We enjoy talking to the Argentines", they say. "They are interesting. And our
parents have no objections. Or rather, they cannot have any objections because we are not doing anything wrong. There is some interpretation; however, a different aspect of reality becomes evident right away. Ignacio Durante, 22, is a painter. I asked him whether he would like to stay there for good. "No", he said. "This is all very nice and they are treating us better now, but no, I would never stay for good. It is very hard, because of the weather and everything else. I have been here for four months, and I am already longing to go back home. The only thing one can do here is go to a pub and have drinks until 10 o'clock. After that everything is closed."

Juan Vaca, 28, is also a painter and he agrees with his friend. "I arrived here on 27 April. We work 7 hours a day every day of the week. We get 550,000 pesos plus our allowances, but nevertheless it is hard. I was born in Jujuy and even though I lived in Buenos Aires for a while, I have lived in Rosario most of my life. I am not necessarily a man of a big city, but this is maddening. I would come here on a good contract for no more than a couple of years. But I would never come here to stay."

The Islanders' Fishermen

On Monday evening Manette King served crab cocktail, duck with orange sauce and hot peach pie. Finally there was coffee. Nicholas Ridley, Judith, and Ken Temple could not help but agree: "Mrs King is a very good cook, and her sweets are delicious". Mr King took this opportunity to talk to the Minister again. "We people here do not want to be Argentine, I want to be clear; I think the Islands can be independent, have their own 200-mile zone, and not allow Japanese, Russian, Polish and Czechoslovakian vessels to take away all their fish. I would rather allow the Argentines to exploit our resources, but I insist, we do not want to be Argentine. As a last resort, British."

Ridley listened to him once again and made no comment. He listened attentively, as usual, as he had listened to the Marines at the Moody Brook base, the young people of the Islands and the old executive and legislative members of the Council at Government House. He listened to what the Islanders had to say at the Stanley Social Club, and to the members of the political committee. He listened to everybody. But he never risked an opinion or a comment.

Disappointment and Three Plans

In 1975, when sending off his mail, Manuel Vera (54) used to insist in writing "Malvinas Islands, Argentina" on the back of his envelopes, even though he knew the post office clerk would cross it out and write "Falkland Islands" in red. Now he does no more. It is sad to admit it, but it is true. I arrived on 19 January to run the VPF Antarae Plant, and will probably stay..."
until November. But I must admit that I am not an enthusiastic about staying on the Island as I used to be. This is really hard. I would never be able to stay here permanently. This I compare to Comodoro Rivadavia in the 1924-30 period. The oil boom was only starting and there was a boat, the Florentino Aneghiño, moored at port at all times. It used to be called the and people's boat, because only the lonely would go south. It was terribly desolate. This looks the same."

María Ana Fernández, his wife, arrived on the Islands over two months ago with their two daughters, María Cristina (22) and Claudia Marcela (17), and they are finding it even harder. "Life here is difficult, with so much drinking and no cinemas. Everything is tinned, one has to get used to eating nothing but lamb and speaking a language that is not one's own. It is too big an effort."

This is one side of reality, although there is the other one, the only exception to the rule. Vicecomodoro (Wing Commander) Eduardo Cacacía is the Argentine representative on the Islands. He is always ready to work for closer relations with the Islanders, and he does so, partly by talking, but basically through the services he renders. The enthusiasm and strength of mind of his wife, Silvia Perreira Astudillo, and his son Eduardo (34) are really the other side of the coin.

At this household they talk of living on the Islands for good. They are really three Argentine flags flying here.

Ridley's Farewell

Ridley is leaving. He attempts to wave his hand for the last time behind the window of LAN's Fokker. By the time the engines start to run at full speed there is nobody on the runway. Governor Parker and his small party have taken refuge in the airport building. Under the awning, McMillan waves his hand and smiles. From his seat, Margaret Thatcher's Minister smiles back. After the take off, Ridley says what the reporters know he would say. "I came to the Malvinas to see what the Islanders' views on their situation are. But before I can say anything I must have discussions with my Government. You know how it is..."

This was the end of another chapter in this story that is 246 years old now, a story that started when the British occupied the Malvinas Islands.

cc M V Growcott Esq
PORT STANLEY
J R Cowling Esq
SARH
500
VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF STATE

1. In continuation of Richard Swayne’s letter (353/102/6) of 16 August about the Minister of State’s visit in late July and subsequent press comment, you should know that Clarke’s action in telephoning Mr Ridley’s informal remarks has, in fact, had wider political repercussions than we at first suspected.

2. In late August, when the Chargé d’Affaires and Oliver Bridges, our Mercenary Consul in Sierra del Fuego, were down in that territory, the Naval Commander at Ushuaia declined to receive them officially on account of what he alleged were the “calumniuous importunities” of Mr Ridley. On the other hand, the Governor warmly received the Chargé, had him to dinner and came to a return dinner with him the following evening.

3. On 30 August when Lord Nelson of GCHQ called on Admiral Percassi, the Chief of Naval Staff, and talked of the catalytic effect which the winning by a British company of part of the nuclear contract now under adjudication might have on broader British-Argentine relations, Percassi referred to Mr Ridley’s remarks as having been harmful.

4. Our comment is—
   a) There may have been a paragraph in one of the Navy’s weekly circulations to senior officers about the inopportune nature of Mr Ridley’s alleged remarks.
   b) Although the matter has probably been forgotten by most people, some will remember it as evidence to be used against the British.
   c) You may wish to consider warning the Minister of State.

Andrew

A.B. Murray
Governor
(Head of Chancery)
Port Stanley
CONFIDENTIAL
MR RIDLEY'S VISIT: ARTICLES BY ARGENTINE JOURNALISTS

1. It has taken a while to have translated articles written by the Argentine journalists who went to Port Stanley for the Minister of State's visit but I now enclose 3 which are representative of "Clarín's" and "La Nación's" coverage. As you will see it was almost all conjecture and padding. The one article that appeared in a weekly, "Gente", will follow in the next bag.

R. Gosney

[Handwritten notes on the margin]
TRANSLATION OF AN ARTICLE IN LA NACION, 26 JULY 1979

AN UNNOTICED PRESENCE, SOME INCIDENTS AND A DELAYED RETURN
By César A. Corbellini Rosende

Port Stanley (by a special envoy). Minister Ridley’s visit to the Malvinas has officially ended, even though his departure for Comodoro Rivadavia and Buenos Aires is delayed until today because the weather prevented LADE’s plane from taking off.

His stay, as we have already mentioned, went almost unnoticed, at least as far as Stanley was concerned, and did not match the expectations that the announcement raised in Buenos Aires.

The Islanders showed an apparent lack of interest in his presence, even though the Minister visited no less than four places in Soledad and Gran Malvina Islands, and had a number of working meetings with the Executive and Legislative Councils, which assist the Governor, the British Crown’s delegate; with the civil servants and private workers unions; with the young people (where the youth of just Stanley was represented); with the managers of the Falkland Islands Company; and with the members of the Falkland Islands Committee which are the FIC’s “staff” on the Islands.

On Tuesday evening Mr. Ridley attended his last public function. It was at the Town Hall where every week there is a dance for all the members of the Stanley community, with no social distinctions. This particular dance was different in two ways: first, it had been organised by the Falkland Islands Committee, and second, because there was a bar, only people over 18 were admitted.

This did not affect the happy atmosphere of the party because nobody attended it with the idea of getting votes for the Falkland Islands Committee, but just to have a good time, as they do every week, openly and with much British sense of humour. And it is true that the jokes and the atmosphere were similar to those prevailing at many parties which this correspondent attended at schools and clubs of the British community in the past.

/End
And the youngest son of the third Viscount Ridley, educated at Eton and Balliol College Oxford, a member of the Conservative Party, (naturally), and now a member of HM’s Government, went to the dance in the company of the senior members of the Islands’ Government of occupation, but remained seated in the bar. His presence went unnoticed to the dancers and even to those who were at the bar, and not because of lack of goodwill, but because all his visit was like that – silent.

On the other hand, some of the requests made to him and some of the situations that arose among the members of the Falkland Islands Committee during their meeting with the visitor are well known. In general terms, funds were requested from the central Government for the project of industrialisation and marketing of Malvinas fisheries and the Islanders’ concern about the development of negotiations on the Islands between our country and the UK was brought to the Minister’s attention. He was told that the official information released is not sufficient.

Furthermore, sources connected with Governor James Parker said yesterday that at the meeting between Ridley and the senior members of the local branch of the Falkland Islands Committee, the organisation upheld its typical intransigent anti-Argentine position although it was admitted that there was some disagreement among its members. That is, for the first time, the organisation was not adopting a unanimous criterion in respect of the negotiations that are being held with Argentina.

The same sources said that this time the Falkland Islands Committee had to promote its position and encountered some disagreement, that took the form of a resignation and a street incident, all of which was covered up. The resignation was that of Mr Graham Bond, a member of the Committee from the countryside, and the incident was that the windows of a car owned by a relative of Bond’s were smashed while the car was parked in a Stanley street.
TRANSLATION

CLARIN, 28 July 1979

A PICTURE OF THE ISLANDS

by Eduardo van den Kooij

One has to fly over the monotonous scenery of the Atlantic ocean for two hours before, suddenly, one sees land cut into a thousand bits. This land is desolate and barren, and its shores take the most unexpected shapes. Only when the plane tilts its wings to the right is it possible to see a bunch of houses with green and red roofs.

Thus one starts to get acquainted with the reality of Port Stanley: a small, quiet, sleepy town which has, however, an impressive natural beauty. It is not difficult to discover the town: after leaving the small but comfortable airport all one has to do is follow the one and only peat-lined road which leads to the avenue along the shore, Stanley's main road, along which the town has developed.

The town is made up of a number of wooden houses, almost all of which have gable roofs, are nicely decorated and always have a winter garden. The first impression one gets is the right one, the only one Stanley produces: that of a typical London suburb.

This is the style of St Mary's Catholic Church, the Anglican Cathedral, the Upland House Hotel (where all visitors necessarily have to stay) and Governor James Parker's residence, and even the old building which houses the Falkland Islands company, in the eastern part of the town, near the docks.

This is, in generalises, Stanley's face. This is the scenery where some 900 Islanders, many of which are Britons or New Zealanders, live. The question, therefore, seems obvious: how do these people live? This is not an easy task when one takes into account that the population is not large and that the people are not talkative.

But one must not mislead. The Islanders are friendly and cordial in formal relations, but reluctant to speak about their private lives - lives that are spent amidst the silence and the wealth of an inexhaustible wildlife.

It is not easy to talk to the local people. Anywhere else in the world it is natural to walk around the streets and find the opportunity to put a thousand different questions to the people. In Stanley one can walk down the main road without running into anybody.

/
The best thing, therefore, is to go to the famous pubs, the only meeting places, where people play darts and where litres and litres of drinks (and not exactly soft drinks), are consumed. This is the place where one can obtain all the necessary information to work out the life of an Islander, be he a child or an adult.

Children have to attend school between the ages of 5 and 14. The educational system on the Islands revolves around two elementary and secondary schools, one in Stanley and the other in Darwin. Spanish is taught as a second language at the two of them, and the teaching is done by an Argentine teacher.

Experience has shown, however, that many children are not interested in learning the language. There is no need to look for an intricate explanation to this; it is enough to remember that in Argentina there are lots of children who, for example, do not like to study English or French.

Adults, on the contrary, are interested in learning, and take Spanish lessons. Even though they will not admit to it - God knows why - there are no Islanders under the age of 20 who cannot understand our language. Thus many an Argentine are in for a surprise if they are not ready to be prudent and restrained on the Islands.

Probably the biggest problem is posed to young people when they reach the age of 19. At that age, they acquire certain expectations - now encouraged by a permanent contact with the mainland - which the setting cannot meet. Many young people then choose to travel to Argentina, Uruguay or, mostly, Great Britain to continue their education.

The rest must necessarily find a job. Opportunities, to be quite honest, are not plentiful. They can choose between shearing and working for the Government.

Thus an Islander can earn 500 dollars a month, a sum which is obviously too low for our country, but is good enough on the Islands where salaries have not yet lost their value. With that money they can buy new clothes and other things they like; they can go to the cinema twice a week, buy a copy of the newspaper which is published every 20 days, (the editor is Patrick Watts, the only journalist on the Islands), go to the races twice a year, go to the pubs or, why not, plan a trip.

As is evident the chances are not really exciting, and for that reason the Islander has a very distinctive attitude to life. He usually marries early in life and also divorces early. One of his major concerns is to adapt himself to Port Stanley's timetable: stores open from 9 to 12 am and 2 to 9 pm. The post office will take no mail after 3 pm. Cinema shows are
held on Saturday and Sunday evenings, telephone calls abroad can only be made from 3 am to 4 pm, and the pubs, except for a place where the marines go, close at 10 pm sharp.

Surely a man who is used to the life of a big city will frown at this state of affairs. He can do so. The islands, however, offer the unknown, something which has to be discovered. And it would be hard to find their peace and quietness anywhere else.
THE WEALTH OF THE MALVINAS ISLANDS

THE OIL, by Eduardo van der Kooy

It is an almost unavoidable habit in Stanley to listen to talks about the potential wealth of the Malvinas Islands. The average Islander is not a fervent person or an expert in this field, but he does sense the value of the southern region.

Politically-minded groups, on the contrary, use the question of the potential wealth of the region as a rallying point. Some of them use it merely as a warning about our country, aiming to show that Argentina is now interested in the Islands with a view to undertaking economic exploitation from which she can derive benefits in the future.

But there are others who say that, should the existence of that wealth be confirmed, the Islands could ask for their independence after a few years.

Either theory seems to be alien to reality - Argentina's claim - but revolves around a vital question: the economic potential of the Islands.

The existence of large fisheries is well known and as is an incipient seaweed industry. The truth about oil, the most valuable element of all, however, is unknown.

Much has been said about the existence of hydrocarbons in the Islands and nowadays one could say that the basins of the southern region are made up of millions of barrels of oil. But it seems that nobody dares specify exactly where and how to start oil prospecting. Despite all this there is some background information. In 1975 a report from the US Geological Service said that the Argentine continental shelf (which includes the Malvinas) contained oil reserves of the order of 200 million barrels.

The British magazine "Latin American Economic Report" quoted a survey conducted by the University of Birmingham as showing the existence of oil fields between the Islands and Burwood Bank, which is only 15 fathoms deep. This area would be ideal for exploitation.

The fact is that the Islanders seem to be rather concerned because nobody dares verify and exploit this potential wealth. The Islands themselves cannot contribute much to this research
process. In any case, it would be necessary to grant licences to companies and it would be at least six months before they could start conducting the first surveys in the region. The first step would be to produce two seismic tests and make the first drilling. Then it would be necessary to make two extra drillings to establish the actual scope of the hydrocarbon fields.

Each well would demand an average investment of 6 million dollars. Later on, the installation of a real infrastructure would be necessary but it is not possible to calculate the expenditure that would be required. In any case, it is enough to recall that 90 years ago more than 90 million dollars had to be invested in the North Sea fields to provide this.

It is thought that this process would immediately produce change on the Islands. To begin with, exploration work would require the presence of 400 working groups and this would increase the population of the Islands by 1,000 people. This would generate, not without problems, further development. One sees then that the research and exploration process would require a great expenditure which, in turn, would involve a very high economic and political risk. Great Britain cannot take the chance of unilateral action because, in view of the fact that the area is under dispute, as confirmed by international organisations, she would run the risk of losing everything. A joint action, however, would be applicable both in this and in other matters. Great Britain or any of her very strong companies could offer capital and technology and Argentina could provide the continental support to start prospecting in the field of hydrocarbons.

This alliance, however, would require an inescapable commitment; our country should be certain that the Malvinas, even if gradually, would be restored to our territory.
MINISTER OF STATE’S VISIT TO ARGENTINA: JULY, 1979.

1. Thank you for your despatch of 8 August which we are arranging to have printed in the Departmental Series.

2. The despatch was most useful and timely and we were able to draw on it on our submission to Ministers seeking agreement to a resumption of negotiations in the Autumn.

3. As you point out, we have failed to move the Argentines on fisheries co-administration around the Dependencies and given our inability to sign the Scientific Cooperation Agreement new proposals will be needed to keep the Argentines in play. Mr Ridley is convinced that it is important to keep up the momentum. He feels that we should not abandon the attempt to solve the problem piecemeal, and that a serious effort should be made to go for an overall solution—possibly lease-back or possibly involving a special status for the Falklands (which might involve, as you suggested, drawing ideas from both the Spitsbergen and Aaland precedents).

4. We shall be in touch again as soon as we have Ministerial approval for the resumption of negotiations.

Yours,

J B Ure
South America Department

We now have to get the despatch processed. The figures for departmental sums are below.

We hope you’ll put action into hand. J R Constable 24.
VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP, MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, TO ARGENTINA: JULY 1979

SUMMARY

1. In his short visit Mr Ridley saw the Foreign Minister, had two working meetings with the deputy Foreign Minister and met with the Economy Minister. The principal result, as planned, was the announcement that Britain and Argentina would restore Ambassadors to respective capitals. The discussions also covered the possible timetable for the next round of the Falkland Islands negotiations, the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees and bilateral commercial relations. (Paragraphs 1-5)

2. The Argentines were relieved to have confirmation of the reinstatement of Ambassadors, and the assurance that the new British administration wished to continue the Falkland Islands negotiations. For us, the visit maintained the dialogue. (Paragraphs 7 and 8)

3. In the Falklands, Mr Ridley found the territorial dispute with Argentina at the root of the difficulties faced by the Islanders. The next steps in the negotiations depend on political decisions in Britain. If negotiations are to be played long and any compromise over sovereignty avoided, then new proposals will need to be offered to Argentina. An agreement under the sovereignty umbrella to cover fishing off the Falklands would be difficult and agreement to cover exploration for oil probably impossible. (Paragraphs 9-12)

4. If negotiations are to aim for an overall settlement, then of the options a leaseback arrangement offers better prospects than either a freezing of the dispute or a system of joint administration. (Paragraphs 13 and 14)

5. A possible way forward, combining the need for time and an examination of potential overall solutions, would be a study of models for special territorial status for the Falkland Islands. The Argentines could be expected to revive their plan for joint administration and the British side might develop models based on the examples of Hong Kong, Spitzbergen and the Azores Islands. (Paragraphs 15-20)
The Right Honourable
The Lord Carrington PC KG CB NC MP
etc etc etc

Sir,

VISIT OF THE HONOURABLE NICHOLAS RIDLEY MP, MINISTER OF STATE
AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, TO ARGENTINA: JULY 1979

1. The short visit, which the Honourable Nicholas Ridley, MP, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, made to Argentina during his current tour of Latin America had a limited object. Within its framework, it enabled the Minister to lay the basis for improved relations between Britain and Argentina without being drawn into a substantive exchange on the Falkland Islands dispute so early in the life of this government.

1. NARRATIVE

2. The Minister of State, who was accompanied by Mrs Ridley and his Private Secretary, Mr Kenneth Temple, spent the night of 19 July here on his way to the Falkland Islands and then returned for what was intended to be two nights, but was in fact compressed into 24 hours because of bad flying conditions in Patagonia, on 20–21 July. Nevertheless, he was able to call on the Foreign Minister, Brigadier Pastor, have two working sessions with Pastor’s deputy, Comodoro Cavandoli, and a useful exchange of views with the Minister of Economy, Dr Martínez de Hoz.
At the dinner and the reception which I gave for them, Mr and Mrs Ridley also met a cross section of Argentines and British residents. I was most grateful to both of them for finding the time to visit the Embassy and talk with virtually all our 74 British and local staff.

3. The details of what was said at Mr Ridley's meetings with Argentine ministers have been reported separately by telegram and record. At the Foreign Ministry, the principle topics covered were the restoration of Ambassadors to London and Buenos Aires (confirmation of which was announced in an agreed communiqué issued on 27 July) and a possible timetable for the continuation of negotiations over the Falkland Islands where it was agreed and made public that you and Brigadier Pastor would probably meet at the United Nations General Assembly in September.

4. The Foreign Ministry meetings also allowed the Minister of State to raise the problem of Vietnamese refugees. The Argentines showed an apparent willingness to take a number of their 1,000 families from Hong Kong. On bilateral commercial relations, Mr Ridley mentioned GEC's tender of equipment for Argentina's nuclear programme. Another point to emerge from the meetings was Argentine appreciation of the role which the United Kingdom is playing in negotiations in the Antarctic Treaty forum. At the Minister's request, I expressed our interest in the human rights case of Srta Daisy Hobson which is now under judicial review.

5. Although the Argentines scarcely mentioned the Falkland Islands during these meetings, on Mr Ridley's departure from the /airport
airport on 27 July, they produced for him without any prior warning an Aide Memoire on the state of the negotiations making clear their hope for a change of approach on the part of HMG to get round the impasse reached during the last round at official level in March.

6. With Dr Martinez de Hoz, Mr Ridley was quickly able to establish a wavelength for an informal exchange about the territorial dispute, and also to press the case for GEC and the offer of possible British nuclear collaboration with Argentina.

II CONCLUSIONS

7. The Argentines had been setting much store by the restoration of Ambassadors and were relieved that your willingness to do so was finally confirmed and made public despite a series of deliberate and mischievous leaks to the press during the preceding fortnight. It was also important for them to obtain an assurance that the new British administration would continue the negotiations for which the terms of reference were agreed in April 1977. Mr Ridley was able to provide that assurance by following up your letter of 14 June to Brigadier Factor and holding out the hope for a round of negotiations in the autumn. They read as a hopeful sign the Minister’s statement that his visit to the Falklands had convinced him of the need to talk with Argentina about the dispute.

8. On the British side, the visit enabled us to maintain the dialogue with the Argentines, to emphasise HMG’s support for GEC and to hold out the prospect of an improving, across the board bilateral relationship.

/III
III REFLECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

9. What comes next? The Minister of State formed the tentative view that the dispute with Argentina lay at the root of the difficulties faced by the Falkland Islanders in developing the potential of the Islands and their surrounding seas and that, if a solution to this dispute could be found which satisfied the minimum demands of both Argentina and the Islanders, then for the sake of the latter the sooner the negotiations tackled a global solution, the better. You, Sir, will now wish to consider the strategic desirability and political feasibility of preparing the ground in Britain for reaching a settlement with Argentina in the next few years. I can only advise you on the likely Argentine reaction to different approaches to the negotiations and on the extent to which the Argentine Government might be willing to compromise.

10. Temporizing Measures. Should you decide to play the negotiations long and to avoid conceding a compromise over even nominal sovereignty, then new proposals to offer to the Argentines to keep them at the negotiating table will be needed in the wake of the shelving this spring of the proposed agreements (under the sovereignty umbrella) covering scientific cooperation in the Falkland Islands Dependencies and the administration of their maritime zones.

11. It is hard to see what these new schemes could cover and also be acceptable to all parties. The maritime zones of the Falkland Islands...
Islands themselves, from which a Polish fishing fleet is currently taking millions of pounds worth of fish without paying licence fees to anyone, offer an attractive possibility for cooperation at first glance. But, since the Argentines have already rejected the idea of joint administration over the maritime zones of the Dependencies under the sovereignty umbrellas, I doubt whether they would accept a similar scheme for Falklands waters unless they believed it to be a step towards something more advantageous. They would probably argue that such a scheme amounted to a new proposal for economic cooperation without parallel progress being offered in the political field. They have, in this connection, made it clear in previous rounds that agreements under the sovereignty umbrellas can only be interim ones.

12. Oil. Cooperation over exploration for oil would be much harder to secure. As Argentina does not allow that islands generate continental shelves and maintains that what we consider to be the continental shelf of the Falkland Islands does not form part of the dispute, I can see no prospect of an interim agreement under the sovereignty umbrella which would encourage oil companies to drill exploratory wells should further seismic studies predict that they were worthwhile. The Argentine attitude is firm and, if anything, hardening as nationalistic tendencies over oil deposits become more evident. Any cooperation over oil will surely have to await an overall settlement.

/13. An Overall
13. An Overall Settlement. If, however, you decide that the time is politically right to go for an overall settlement of the sovereignty dispute, then we should have to decide what to aim for and how to persuade the Argentines that their minimum requirement should be pitched low enough for it to receive serious consideration by the Falkland Islanders. Of the available options:

a. the most satisfactory outcome would be Argentine agreement to freeze the dispute for say 20 or 30 years. But we could be sure that the carrot of exploitation of economic resources, however large, would not at present persuade them to do so;

b. a second theoretical possibility would be some form of joint administration or condominium. I believe the last would be fraught with difficulties. Apart from the political acceptability of joint administration, British and Argentine bureaucracies are incompatible;

c. this leaves a lease-back solution which, with a long term of say 99 years, could provide security for the Islands long enough for development to take place and by the end of which the nature of life on the Islands and of the dispute would probably have altered radically.

14. The indications are, however, that lease-back, which left the affairs of the Islands under British administration, would not...
not be enough to satisfy Argentine honour. Mr Ridley took this impression away with him from Buenos Aires (Brasilia/telegram number 143 to you). Sovereignty is an over-used word in Argentina but not many Argentines stop to analyse what they mean by it. If they did, they might say that above all it meant the possession of territory, and add an something of an after-thought that it also meant the ability to exert control over what happened in the territory. Straightforward lease-back could be presented as satisfying the first requirement but nothing of the second. There may however be possibilities for modifying a lease-back arrangement to make it acceptable here.

15. A Possible Interim Gambit. A conceivable way forward, which might (at least for a year or so) combine the potential advantage of both playing for time and also moving towards an overall settlement, began to emerge from Mr Ridley's discussions. It takes the form of discussing a special territorial status for the Falklands. (In this connection, Dr Martínez de Hoz made the personal suggestion that the negotiators might consider some such special status for the Islands within the framework of Argentina's federal constitution. Various models might be drawn up, he said, for comparative study). Were they to do so, the most likely Argentine model would link the Falklands - through joint administration - to their southernmost federal unit: the National Territory of Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica and Islands of the South Atlantic. It might well be an adaption of their paper on joint administration handed to this Embassy in September
September 1977, as a follow-up to the first round of negotiations in Rome in July that year.

16. On the British side, more than one model might be put forward, for example:
   i. the Hong Kong (with modifications);
   ii. the Spitzbergen (Norwegian sovereignty with economic access for the Soviet Union);
   iii. the Åland Islands (Finnish sovereignty, local autonomy, Swedish language and custom).

17. Safeguards and guarantees, which could if necessary be international, for the Islanders would of course be entrenched in all and any models proposed by HMG; and model making could both provide the content for several further rounds of negotiations and also help to increase Islander understanding of the negotiating parameters.

18. The major steps in such an exercise could, from a local point of view, best be timed to fall within the period of the present system of military government which seems likely to continue until 1984.

19. As I suggested in my telegram number 213 of 6 August, a prime advantage for HMG in starting a tactical exercise in comparing models for a special Falklands status would be to give you, Sir, time in which to judge if and when conditions for a settlement...
settlement were ripening.

20. I am sending a copy of this despatch to the Governor in Fort Stanley.

I am
Sir
Yours faithfully

Hugh Carless
H M Carless

- 9 -
CONFIDENTIAL
Dear [Name],

You should be aware of the embargo on the record that Mr. Ridley's remarks as reported in "Clarín" on 27 July (Buenos Aires telegram no. 1987 repeated to Port Stanley) created a stir in the press here, occasional ripples from which we are still reeling.

1. "Clarín" somewhat twisted what the Minister said in that his reference to political detainees and human rights was something of a throw-away remark made after his answer to the question had been translated. But this did not stop "Clarín" returning to the charge on 28 and 29 July after Mr. Ridley's statement that he had no intention of referring to Argentine internal affairs. "Clarín" justified their initial report on the basis of a tape recording made on the plane. By far the worst press article was the one enclosed from the weekly magazine "Radio-landia 2000". Most recently, and perhaps the last word on the subject, has come from the Argentine Centre of Engineers. They put out a statement on the Falklands issue on 11 August which included criticism of Mr. Ridley's remarks describing them as erroneous and inappropriate.

2. The other point of interest about the Falklands in the press of the past week was contained in a special supplement on the Islands issued by "La Opinion" on the 10 August.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
10 August. At the end of a piece describing the history of the negotiations the article said that during Mr Ridley's visit here in July he and Commodore Carmichael agreed to hold a new round of negotiations before the end of the year "possibly in October". No source was given and this may amount to no more than guesswork on the part of the paper.

Yours,

Richard

R H Gorney

Enc.1

cc:

M W Groomcott Esq

FORT STANLEY

CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT ON MR RIDLEY'S FALKLANDS VISIT

1. Please let me have a very short draft covering submission for Mr Parker's despatch of 7 August. I do not think there is any call to print this but I would like to see a suggested distribution and also a draft reply from me.

J B Ure
South America Department

13 August 1979

Mr Buggan
Mr Ure

1. I submit:
   a) draft submission;
   b) draft acknowledgement.

I suggest there is no need to give the Governor's despatch any more than strictly limited circulation. Buenos Aires already have a copy and I recommend that further copies go only to Montevideo, UKMIS, New York. We are, of course, giving Mr Temple's comprehensive records full distribution within the Embassy Office. I see no need to duplicate this.

J R Cowling
SAd

14 August 1979

CONFIDENTIAL
Mr Ure
CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Ude,

I have redrafted both the submission and the letter to the Governor. I suggest that we do give the Governor's despatch reasonably wide circulation, even though the records of the Minister's discussions are also being distributed, for the reasons which I have set out in the first paragraph of the submission. I suggest that the following should receive a copy:

PS/MR Ridley
PS/PUS

Mr. Hall
ESMD

c/o Mr. V.

M & VD

Research Department
Legal Adviser
Chancery, Montevideo
Chancery, UKMIS New York
ODA (Mr. Baxter)

G. A. Dugan
South America Department

15 August 1979

Reg

K arrange for distribution of Mr. Parker despatch as above. But cannot we before taking action.

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MONTRAVE, LEVEN, FIFE

KY5 5NY

28th August, 1979

Many thanks for your letter of 21st August. Unfortunately, I am away on the 10th of September almost until Christmas so I will have to leave Alastair Duncan Miller to make his own arrangements to meet up with you.

The Hon. Nicholas Ridley, M.P.,
Minister of State,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
Whitehall,
London, SW1.

Reg

RA and R1

Felt that it would be necessary as the Foreign Reservations department.

If that there is an account that Ridley should, and to take

installation's in America, if the

like this, in him against

Temple on his final decision to co-ordinate

22 August 1979

J. R. Cowling
South America Department

22 August 1979

Mr. Duggan

Now not having decided to

submit to PS/R Ridley (CCS amo)

along the lines of

para. above.

PA.
MR RIDLEY'S PRESS BRIEFING

1. As you will recall, News Department felt that to attract Fleet Street's attention it would be necessary to offer a peg for this briefing — such as the forthcoming visit to London by the Chilean Foreign Minister. This Department have political reservations and these have been made known to News Department.

2. News Department are still of the view that there will be little press interest if the purpose of the briefing is merely for the Minister to give an account of his impressions of Latin America. Mr Ridley should, in the view of News Department, be prepared to take direct questions relating to the new administration's policy; for example, human rights in Latin America, the Falklands, Belize and the Caribbean. If the Minister does not want to take questions like this, then News Department would wish to advise him against meeting the press.

3. News Department will now talk to Mr Temple on his return to the Office next Tuesday. If a final decision is taken to go ahead, News Department will co-ordinate briefing as necessary.

4. If the press briefing is to take place, we as a department should presumably have a say as to its timing having regard to the Chilean Foreign Minister's visit.

5. I will remain in touch with News Department on this.

22 August 1979

J R Cowling
South America Department
1. I submit Mr Parker's despatch on Mr Ridley's visit to the Islands. This brings out the Islanders' appreciation of a Ministerial visit so soon after the election (para 3); their satisfaction on hearing the Minister's assurance that no changes will be introduced that are not acceptable to them (para 4); the increased willingness of the Islanders, as a result of the visit, to contemplate an early compromise settlement of the dispute which would enable them to maintain their British way of life (para 5); and the greater mood of optimism in the Islands (para 7).

2. These are positive and welcome developments and offer an opportunity for pressing ahead, with Islander support, with the negotiations. I am submitting separately on this. Of course, a solution will still not be easily reached: the Islanders, though more optimistic, are still apprehensive about their future (para 7) and retain all their old suspicions and dislike of the Argentines. The extent to which Councillors will be able in the months ahead to play a positive role in leading Island opinion still remains to be seen; in the past they have not always been as helpful or as effective as we had hoped. But Mr Ridley has clearly managed to bring them to face some of the harsher aspects of their situation and the Governor writes encouragingly of "sensible and less emotionally motivated attitudes" (para 7).
The Right Honourable
The Lord Carrington KCMG KG
etc etc etc

7 August 1979

Sir

THE MINISTER OF STATE’S VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS:
20-26 JULY 1979

1. For the record, I enclose a copy of the programme
undertaken by the Minister and Mrs Ridley, accompanied
by the Minister’s Private Secretary, Mr K D Temple,
during their familiarisation tour of the Islands.

2. In spite of some very uncertain weather, the party
arrived at Stanley Airport slightly ahead of time, in a
cold and blustery rainstorm, and managed to complete the
planned tour of outlying settlements by sea-plane, dodging
some heavy snow squalls on the way round. In between, the
Islands produced some hours of their sunniest winter weather,
and one or two glorious sunsets - and sunrises! Unfortunately
(or fortunately for those of us enjoying Mr and Mrs Ridley’s
company) bad weather on the mainland delayed their departure
for one day, but I understand the subsequent programme of
visits elsewhere on the Continent was more or less retrieved
with the help of the Argentine Air Force in providing a
special flight from Comodoro Rivadavia.

3. In planning to get the most advantage from the Minister’s
presence, and to accommodate as many as possible of those
various groups and individuals in Stanley and the settlements
/who
who were pressing to have the opportunity to meet him, it
was perhaps not realised how arduous the programme would
turn out to be. Both Mr and Mrs Ridley, however, undertook
it all in good spirit and their willingness to mingle and
talk freely wherever they went was very much appreciated.
Although there was initially some inevitable apprehension
about what the Minister might have to say, as the tour
progressed, the frankness of his approach, and the warmth
with which it was welcomed, made the visit the undoubted
success it was.

4. All in all, the Minister met the greater part of the
population of Stanley, and all the people at three major
settlements; Mr Temple separately visited a fourth.
Mr Ridley's farewell broadcast message, in which he firmly
repeated the assurance that nothing will be done in the
attempt to reach a settlement with the Argentines which
will not be acceptable to the people of the Islands, was
listened to with careful attention, and satisfaction, by
everyone.

5. Mr Temple has drafted an excellent record of the discus-
sions which took place with Councillors, and separate telegrams
have summarised both Mr Ridley's and my initial impressions
and conclusions. The main points are, I think, that the
Islanders are now much more prepared than they were for an
early compromise settlement of the dispute with the Argentines,
which, while facing up to the realities both of their
situation and that of Britain, would enable them to pursue
their
their lives in their own way, as British subjects under their own democratic Government, to realise the benefits of the development of their own economy and, under some form of co-operation with Argentina which does not diminish their autonomy, to exploit the resources potentially available around them. In his discussions Mr Ridley identified the main constraints upon an expanded future as the dispute itself, the lack of access to capital finance and credit, and the availability of manpower. He privately added a fourth: the dominant position of the Falkland Islands Company in the Colony's agriculture, and its virtual monopoly of all commercial activities, where its weak performance, under the present ownership, exercises a stultifying influence on development.

6. On two other matters about which the Islanders feel keenly - the continuance of aid and nationality - Mr Ridley explained the difficulties the British Government would face in an attempt to meet in full what Islanders felt to be their special needs, but promised to discuss them with his Ministerial colleagues so that, as regards aid, on-going projects would continue, and any future projects of a reasonable nature would be sympathetically considered within the limits which now have to be imposed on Britain's overall aid programme, and that as regards full British nationality, or more especially the right of entry into Britain, some possible administrative arrangement could be explored which might meet the Islanders' particular case. For their part, the Islands' Councillors agreed to admit a number of Vietnamese refugees as their /contribution
contribution to the international relief effort in the resettlement of these unfortunate people.

7. The fact that Mr Ridley's visit could be arranged so soon after he had assumed his new responsibilities, and that it took place in so understanding and amicable a spirit, has been widely appreciated here. It undoubtedly helped focus people's minds more sharply on their needs and essential objectives, and while it has not left the Islanders in a mood of ebullient certainty their problems can easily be overcome, and their deep-seated worries about their future still remain, there is now a greater mood of optimism. They will be hard to convince about any solution which appears to conflict with what they traditionally understand by the concept of sovereignty; but more have come to realise that by adopting sensible and less emotionally motivated attitudes in support of the Minister's effort to reach a constructive settlement with the Argentines, a better and more secure existence could be achieved for themselves and for their children. If it fails, as the Minister warned them it might, we will all be in a difficult time.

8. I am sending a copy of this record to HM Representative at Buenos Aires.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient Servant

[Signature]
VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF STATE AND MRS NICHOLAS RIDLEY
ACCOMPANYING BY MR K D TEMPLE
20-26 JULY 1979

Friday 20 July
1110 Arrive at Stanley Airport; met by His Excellency
the Governor, Mrs Parker and Councillors and
wives
1300 Luncheon at Government House with Chief Secretary
and Mrs Baker
1630 Discussion with the Financial Secretary,
Mr Harold Rowlands, at Government House
1900-2030 Reception at Government House

Saturday 21 July
*0930 Meeting with Executive and Legislative Councillors
in the Council Chamber at Government House
*1045 Coffee break in the Governor's Office
*1300 Buffet luncheon with Councillors
*1500 Tour of Stanley including visits to principal
aid projects (Grasslands Trials Unit, Ashworth
Dairy, School Hostel, Darwin-Stanley Road and
HV "Konsumen")
1800-1930 Public Reception at the Town Hall (open invitation)
2000 Government House Dinner

Sunday 22 July
0915 Depart Stanley for visit to Goose Green/Darwin;
visit Settlement School and luncheon with
Mr and Mrs Hardcastle
1400 Depart Darwin for Hill Cove for overnight stay
with Mr and Mrs Blake

Monday 23 July
1000 Depart Hill Cove for Port Howard; visit Settlement
and luncheon with Mr and Mrs Lee
1430 Depart Port Howard for Stanley
1500 Arrive Stanley
*1645 Discussions with delegation of Falkland Islands
Civil Servants Association at the Rose Hotel

/cont.
*1730-1830* Meet the Executive Committee of the Falkland Islands General Employees Union at Union Headquarters

1945 Farmers Week reception given by the Acting Stanley Manager of the Falkland Islands Company

2100 Dinner given by the Chief Secretary at the Upland Goose Hotel

**Tuesday 24 July**

0900 Depart Stanley for Green Patch Farm  
Mr K D Temple

1115 Depart Green Patch for Stanley

1130 Depart seaplane hangar for short visit to the Royal Marine Detachment at Moody Brook Camp

*1430* Discussion with members of the Sheepowners' Association in the Court and Council Chamber at the Town Hall

*1630-1730* Tea with 'young Islanders' group at Stanley Social Club

1830 Farmers Week reception given by Grasslands Trials Unit

1930-2100 Discussion with members of the Falkland Islands Committee

Supper at Government House

2300-2400 Falkland Islands Committee Dance at Town Hall

**Wednesday 25 July**

0930 Round-up meeting with Executive and Legislative Councillors in the Council Chamber at Government House

1100 Recording of Farewell Broadcast

1450 Scheduled departure from Stanley Airport: prevented by bad weather

**Thursday 26 July**

1115 Departure from Stanley Airport

* Separate programme for Mrs Ridley (see attached)
MRS RIDLEY'S SUPPLEMENTARY PROGRAMME

Saturday 21 July
0930    Visit Home Industries Ltd
1030    Morning coffee given by Mrs Jean Morrison (wife of the Deputy Chief Secretary) to meet wives of Heads of Departments etc
1230    Luncheon given by Mrs Connie Baker (wife of the Chief Secretary) to meet Councillors' wives
1430    Visit to King Edward Memorial Hospital

Monday 23 July
1600-1700 Tea at Government House to meet members of the Corona Society, Red Cross Society and Encounter Group

Tuesday 24 July
0930    "Doctors Call" at R/T Station
1430-1600 Visit to Junior and Senior Schools
.... We have made it abundantly clear and I repeat it, and I repeat it with all the authority of a Minister of the Government of the United Kingdom, that we will not do anything which will not be acceptable to the people who live in these Islands for the future and that is the overriding pledge which I give. On the other hand, I detect that there is a very strong desire for us to try and improve relations with the Argentines and to come to some settlement which will enable these Islands to develop in peace. To what extent this is different to the last Government's policy is not for me to say except that I think that I have stated very clearly it is more important to settle this dispute than to let it run on, if that is possible. Now it may not prove to be possible and so I am not at all sure what the outcome will be, but I think in terms of the difference between the last Government's policy and this Government's policy I can see little change except perhaps that in the years that have gone by people here have come to the conclusion that the dispute is really damaging and the time has come to try, try again I should say, to achieve a settlement. ....

********

Mr Watt: Sovereignty in my terms would mean that perhaps people would be asked to change nationality. Is this a possibility?

Mr Ridley: I do not think that would be acceptable to the people of these Islands. I have said, and I repeat it for the second time, that nothing that is not acceptable will be done and I do not believe for one moment that they would change their nationality.

CONFIDENTIAL
RECORD OF MEETING BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF STATE AND FALKLAND ISLAND COUNCILLORS, AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE, PORT STANLEY, 21 JULY 1979, AT 9.30

Present
The Hon Nicholas Ridley MP
Mr J D Temple
Mr R H Gosney
HE Mr J R W Parker CMG OBE
Mr P E Baker OBE
Chief Secretary
Mr D R Morrison OBE
Deputy Chief Secretary
Mr H T Howlands OBE
Financial Secretary
Mr W E Luxton
Mr W H Goss MBE JP
Mr D S Evans
Mr H Bennett OBE JP
Mr A B Monk JP
Mr W E Bowles
Mr S B Wallace
Mr T J D Miller
Mr W A Etheridge
Clerk of Councils
Councillors

1. The Governor opened by welcoming Mr Ridley to the Falkland Islands. Mr Monk echoed this welcome on behalf of the Councillors. He stressed that it was warmly and genuinely meant to both the Minister and Mrs Ridley. Mr Ridley replied that both he and his wife were delighted to be present. After being appointed Minister, he had made an early resolve, to make a visit to the Falkland Islands, since they had had a difficult and dangerous time; he wanted to come to discuss their problems, and to assure them that the new Government was no less resolved than its predecessor to be firm in the South Atlantic.

2. Mr Wallace read out a paper on behalf of the Councillors, copy attached.

3. Mr Ridley, taking up Mr Wallace's reference to tax levels in the Islands, said that there were parallels in the UK. Taken were too high; the new Government was reducing them and cutting Government expenditure. This included aid. Therefore the aid
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climate was not as easy as he would like from the Falkland Islands' point of view. But he stressed that this would not have immediate effects on projects here. He wanted to see a prosperous future for the Islands, not economically dependent on the UK. The major impediments to growth must be tackled. For example, to take fishing (which had been mentioned in the Councillors' paper), it would be excellent to declare a 200 mile zone; but such a declaration would provoke the Argentines to escalate the conflict. In other words, one was immediately up against the underlying political problem. The same was true of oil; if oil were found in exploitable quantities, the results of the seismic surveys needed with Argentina. We now had a political accommodation was needed with Argentina. The extent of warranting further detailed surveys, which could perhaps be carried out in present circumstances, but subsequent oil drilling would require a political settlement.

4. Mr Ridley was looking forward to learning about the Islands' agriculture. If it could be improved, clearly it would continue to be the biggest revenue earner. Perhaps reform of landholding and an adjustment of the position of the Falkland Islands Company were necessary. The Councillors' paper had also touched on the question of population. Clearly general development required increased labour. He wanted to ask whether the Councillors would find acceptable the idea of taking in, say, up to 20 Vietnamese refugee families. They were good people, and there would be UNHCR financial backing to settle them. They would be people who volunteered to come to the Islands, not drafted.

5. He wished to mention the question of the house for the LAD E Manager. It was necessary to co-operate with the Argentines on matters of this sort. A "fortress Falklands" attitude was unreal.

6. Concerning nationality questions, (which the Councillors had raised) Mr Ridley explained that the Green Paper of the last Government was now overtaken. The Home Secretary was preparing new proposals, and Mr Ridley would feed in the Islanders' point of view, to make sure that their case was appreciated. But there were difficult problems in defining who had right of abode in the UK.

7. The Governor was grateful to Mr Ridley for covering so many problems. He suggested that Councillors might take up the question of the LAD E house. Indeed, the Falkland Islands Government had agreed to lease a plot, for 30 years; EXCO had decided this three times but there had been a public outcry. Mr Wallace explained that there was widespread popular feeling that LAD E should not have an increased presence in the Islands, because they were Argentine. Some people would demonstrate that feeling physically. Mr Ridley understood this, but stressed that air communications depended on LAD E. HMG could not replace this service. This was a tent case of co-operation with Argentina. To take a more important issue,
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oil development would need to be carried out in co-operation with Argentina. It might be, for example, that the development of an oil industry would involve having up to 500 Argentines living and working on the Islands. The exclusion of Argentines from the Islands was not consistent with developing the Islands. It was necessary to lead and inform public opinion. Mr Monk had personally always supported leasing a house to the LADIE Manager. He felt that public feeling against the idea was smaller than supposed, and that it should be made clear to them that their stance was doing great disservice. The Governor reminded Mr Ridley that the background to the public attitude on this question was one of constant pin pricks by the Argentines, who constantly flaunted their sovereignty claim.

8. Mr Ridley moved to the wider question of co-operation generally. He gave his own assessment of the Argentine position. As a general principle countries governed by Generals were stupidly governed. Argentina had three foreign policy preoccupations: the concern for Brazilian exploitation of the Paraná region, the Beagle dispute, and the Falkland Islands. The first two were currently frozen, and he feared that greater attention might be turned to the Falkland Islands question. The Argentines had been charming to him, and he did not wish to suggest that they had demonstrated any belligerence; nevertheless, he judged that if we did not talk seriously to Argentina concerning the Islands, their patience would run out, and they would adopt confrontational postures. On 26 July there would be an announcement in Buenos Aires of agreement in principle to restore ambassadors between Britain and Argentina, although names would not be announced at this stage. He stressed that the fact of having ambassadors did not indicate approval of a particular regime, or indeed, necessarily denote having good relations; for example we had an ambassador in Vietnam. Later this year he would like to start talks with the Argentines on the whole range of issues concerning the Falkland Islands. It would be more difficult for him if the Islanders refused the LADIE house, or rejected the draft scientific co-operation agreement. As to Argentine objectives concerning the Islands, he did not believe that the Argentines wanted to populate them. It was a question only of face. He would like to find a formula, such as the earlier terminology with which the Councillors were aware, making a distinction between sovereignty over land and sovereignty over people, which would save Argentine face and safeguard the Islanders' position. But he stressed that he would do nothing against the wishes of the Islanders. He had said all this to indicate a way of thinking; in no way was he going to let down the Islanders, but it was essential to get out from under the dead hand of the dispute.

Mr Evans said that what the Minister had told them was not unexpected, but he was very disturbed by it. For him the question of the LADIE house was not a real problem; but turning to oil: if development of it meant having three or four hundred Argentines in the Islands, then the Islanders would leave, since they wanted to remain British. Mr Ridley said that it was not certain if there was
oil, or if there was where it would be. But if it existed, its
development would certainly involve people in large numbers.
This required co-operation with Argentina. The choice was for
the Islanders; did they want the search for oil to continue?
As we had seen in the Shetland Islands, its development was a
traumatic experience. Mr Evang understood. But what use would
the Islands be if they were unrecognizable? He wondered whether
there was any other solution, without Argentines. It was
specifically them that the Islanders were afraid of. The same
fears underlay their attitude to fishery development; they did
not want an agreement which allowed the Argentine Navy into
Falklands waters. Mr Ridley stressed that he understood. Perhaps
he had exaggerated his remarks, in order to get reactions. But
what was the alternative to co-operation with Argentina? British
aid would not be able to develop the Islands; private enterprise
would not come in force without an accommodation with Argentina;
indeed the Argentines might even invade the Islands, and Britain
could not stop them. Therefore there must be an agreement; this
required concessions on both sides. Mr Bowles asked how interested
the Argentines were in yielding. Mr Ridley said they would not
yield, but perhaps a face saving device could be found. Mr Bowles
replied that there was total uncertainty amongst Islanders as to
their future. If the British Government could make a statement
that the Islands would always remain British, that would raise
confidence. Mr Ridley repeated that nothing would be done without
Islander agreement. But this put the ball back in the Islanders' court;
it was not possible to guarantee Britishness, and
development, if the Islanders decided against co-operation with
Argentina. Mr Goss asked whether the British Government believed
the Argentine claims was just. Mr Ridley stressed that the contrary
was true. The British were prepared to submit the issue to arbitration.

9. Mr Lixton had understood Mr Ridley to assume that no
cooperation was possible with Argentina without concessions.
He wondered if it was possible to find a formula acceptable to
both sides. Mr Ridley said this was precisely what he wanted.
He remarked that the Islanders should do a better public relations
job for their point of view in Buenos Aires. He suspected that the
Argentines had a totally false impression of the Islanders, and
thought that the problem was simple British intransigence. The
Islanders needed to convince the Argentines that they were a
thriving community which wanted to stay British. Mr Monk accepted
the need for co-operation with Argentina. But his preference was
for a moratorium on the issue for perhaps 30 or 40 years. Mr Ridley
Hong Kong was a parallel. Mr Ridley agreed; the issue in Hong Kong
benefited both the people of Hong Kong, and the Republic of China.
He personally believed that if the Chinese were now given the option
to renew that lease, they would do so. A lease like that was, in his
view, an ideal solution for the Islands. But a co-operative
attitude or smaller issues was a necessary preparation. But

certainly this was the sort of approach which might work.
10. The meeting then adjourned for a short coffee break.

11. When the meeting resumed, the Governor raised the question of Vietnamese refugees, and whether the Islands could accommodate some. Mr. Monk was strongly in favour; such people would be of great benefit, as market gardeners, shopkeepers, etc. Mr. Miller supported this. Mr. Monk thought that ten families would be about the limit. Concerning public opinion on the issue, Mr. Miller thought that the majority would be either for it or open-minded.

12. Discussion turned to the draft scientific co-operation agreement. Mr. Goss and Mr. Miller described the concern which Councillors had felt when they learnt of the details. It infringed sovereignty; it included South Georgia; and it did not require prior notification of Argentine intentions to set up further bases. Briefly, it was too open-ended. Moreover, there was a general lack of faith in verbal assurances from the Argentines (such as their commitment not to set up further bases). Mr. Ridley saw the base on Southern Thule as a fact. The draft agreement would prevent the repetition of such incidents. Moreover, if the Councillors could signify their agreement on this, it would help the whole context of negotiations. Mr. Rowlands was strongly opposed. The agreement would erode our whole position in the Antarctic. Mr. Bowle saw the Southern Thule base as part of an Argentine ring closing around the Islands. Mr. Luxton added that the Argentine radio station on Southern Thule had broadcast that they were permanent. This had been heard and resent by Islanders. Mr. Ridley repeated that the Argentines were there; they were therefore infringing sovereignty; moreover they could repeat the tactic if they wished to put pressure on. Surely it was better to regularise their position through the agreement. Mr. Monk asked whether it would be possible to include a requirement on the Argentines to give prior notification in the agreement. Mr. Temple commented that we would have to make the same concession. Mr. Goss believed it was an open question whether the Argentines would attempt to set up further stations under the agreement. It was possible that they might consider doing so, as they were under the Antarctic Treaty to create bargaining counters against the day when the Antarctic Treaty ran out. Mr. Miller asked what benefit the joint agreement gave the Islanders. Mr. Luxton echoed this; there was a feeling that all concessions in the negotiations were by the Islands. Mr. Rowlands, bringing this phase of the discussion to an end, recalled that Councillors had at least agreed to leave the draft on the table.

13. The Governor returned the discussion to the parallels between the Falkland Islands and Hong Kong. Mr. Miller's immediate reaction was that the land of Hong Kong belonged to China. Mr. Ridley asked, for the sake of discussion, whether it would be satisfactory to obtain a hundred-year lease for the Islands and the waters surrounding them. To Mr. Bennett this acknowledged Argentine sovereignty. Mr. Ridley accepted this, but asked whether the actual title mattered. Councillors had stressed the importance of Britishness in the Islands, and doing things in their own way.
Mr Goss did not believe that the Argentines would accept such a deal. He believed they wanted a Government and an administration in the islands. Mr Ridley disagreed; in his judgment, the Argentines wanted to meet their nationalist pretensions. Perhaps Mr Monk's idea of a freeze would be the best solution, but that he did not think would be acceptable to the Argentines. Some discussion followed on whether parallels might arise between leased Falkland islands and the Egyptian seizure of the Suez Canal. It was pointed out that there would need in this case to be international guarantors of a lease back arrangement. Mr Ridley summed up the advantages of such a scheme; the Argentines would agree the status of the islands, the Islands could do what they wanted, and the sovereignty question would be solved for the period of the lease.

14. Mr Evans was appalled by the whole idea. Mr Miller wondered how much of the Argentine attitude was bluff. For example the Brazilians had stood up to the Argentines and the latter had backed down. Mr Ridley said that frankly Britain could not stand up to the Argentines on this question. He could not ask the British Government for frigates, a garrison, etc., as we simply did not have the resources to do this. Mr Monk understood this and accepted the need for negotiations rather than confrontation. The Governor saw great difficulties in conveying such ideas to the Islanders, who would be totally bewildered. Mr Ridley said that clearly discussion of these ideas would be as slow as possible. Perhaps the concept would not succeed. But if it were possible to postpone negotiations with the Argentines into next year, the Councillors might be able to discuss the general ideas with their constituents. But he stressed that the concept might be insufficient for the Argentines.

15. Mr Ridley commented that sovereignty depended on the ability to defend it. In Britain we had managed to defend our sovereignty against several recent attempts to take it away. In the case of the Falkland Islands he did not want the situation to become more menacing. But he repeated the assurance he had made earlier, that the British Government would not do what the Islands did not want. This was merely as cast iron an assurance as they could wish. But the disadvantages of making no progress towards a settlement were becoming increasingly severe. Mr Evans had been right to put the political alternative of having nothing to do with such a concept; this was a real alternative. In the long run, the Islands faced a choice, and he admitted that it was a painful choice. All he wanted at present was the Council, the Islanders as a whole, was the right to explore the possibilities. Mr Monk thought that the Minister should be given that right. Mr Rowlands and several others appreciated Mr Ridley's straight talking. Mr Miller echoed this sentiment; the facts might not be pleasant, but it was necessary to face them. Mr Connery referred again to the Argentine attitude. They tended to be hot and cold, depending on their other preoccupations. But they were completely convinced of the rightness of their claims. Mr Ridley added that the change of President, due in 1981, might increase the danger for the Islands, because the Minister would be focused on the lack of progress (in Argentine eyes) on the question.
16. Mr Ridley explained that in the next few days he would meet many people; he would want to listen to their views, but did Councillors want him to talk widely over the political questions? Mr Gosney suggested that there should not be public discussion of the draft scientific agreement, because the Argentine press were focusing on Mr Ridley's visit.

17. Discussion turned to the banking facilities in the Islands. Mr Ridley wondered whether the Islanders had ever considered floating their own pound, with their own central bank. He had the impression that the whole banking system in the Islands was inadequate. Mr Miller recalled that the idea of borrowing was alien to Islanders' thinking. Mr Howlands said that it had been proposed that he should visit London; perhaps he could discuss this question with the Islanders' Fiscal Adviser.

18. As a last thought, Mr Miller wondered whether the British Government had ever considered incorporating the Falkland Islands into Westminster. Mr Ridley replied that until recently such an idea had been totally impossible, because of the large numbers of Dependent Territories. But it was an interesting idea.

19. The meeting ended at 12 noon.
FURTHER SESSION WITH COUNCILLORS, HELD IN GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
25 JULY, AT 9.30

1. The same participants were present as for the earlier meeting except that Councillor Goss was absent.

2. Mr Ridley gave his impressions. On the personal side, he had had five marvellous days; he was amazed at the beauty of the Islands and the welcome and courtesy of the people. He was sure it had been right to come as early as possible after the UK Election.

3. On the political side he had identified three themes. The first was that the dispute with Argentina overhung everything; this was true of agriculture, but more especially of developing fish and oil resources. Since coming to the Islands he had become convinced that it was right to work for an early settlement; the tactic of playing the negotiations long was wrong. Secondly, he was struck by the shortage of capital in the Islands. British aid, averaging £7 million per annum, was high; but in terms of the overall needs this was woefully inadequate. It would be better to improve access to commercial capital. He believed that VIP activities were not helpful in that the Company took money out, and did not sufficiently encourage agricultural development. His third impression concerned the labour shortage. The population trend was of course tied up with the dispute with Argentina and the shortage of capital, but he suggested that Islanders could perhaps be more active in recruitment. There were other points he could discuss, but at this stage he would mention only the question of immigration to the UK. He would convey Islanders' wishes to the Home Office, but he had already told Councillors of the difficulties of protecting their right of immigration to the UK in law; it was impossible to include Falkland Islanders, but exclude, for example, colonial subjects from Hong Kong. Moreover, he felt that to concentrate on the immigration issue was defeatist, because it was not compatible with the intention to develop the Islands.

4. It was of course difficult to be bullish about the future. No-one could know the outcome of negotiations; if they failed, there would be a period of difficulty with Argentina, and therefore expectations should not be raised too far. He felt it was better to say rather little in public about the prospects for the negotiations at this stage. This problem was inevitable in tripartite negotiations, but he had come first to the Islands, because it was their people who mattered.

5. His aim was to deal with all aspects of the dispute with Argentina in a global settlement, an international treaty internationally underwritten. He repeated his twin assurances that he would conclude no agreement which did not meet Islanders' wishes, and b) that he would keep Councillors fully informed through the Governor. The constraints were strong—primarily the clearly understood Islanders' wish to remain
"British" - and there was little room for manoeuvring. He was far from believing he had found the answer.

6. Mr Bowlan spoke briefly on behalf of all the Councillors. They much appreciated the Minister's visit, and his frankness. They were grateful for British aid. They were unanimously in favour of a moratorium or freeze. They welcomed the assurance that the Minister had given concerning right of abode; they were aware of the problems for Britain, but felt that the Islanders were unique. On the Scientific Co-operation Agreement, they believed it should be redrafted and left on the table. The house for the LADB manager could go ahead at the same time as local housing schemes. The Councillors agreed to accept ten Vietnamese families (which in population terms was compatible with Argentine taking 1,000 families). They would welcome further direct talks with the Minister in London before negotiations with Argentina.

7. Mr Ridley was happy for Councillors to participate in negotiations, provided there were no leaks. But perhaps a final decision should be left until we knew how and when talks might take place. The Governor believed that earlier doubts concerning Councillors participating in talks with the Argentines were now disappearing.

8. Mr Miller hoped that UK aid would be maintained in order to keep up morale in the Islands. Mr Ridley said that although he was not the Minister in charge of aid, he would make sure that any worthwhile projects which were put up were not stopped; he had simply drawn the Councillors' attention to the general climate of opinion in Britain concerning aid. He was himself keen on economic assistance taking place commercially.

9. Mr Evans said he had been very depressed at the end of the first meeting with the Minister. But he was now most reassured to hear what the Minister had said. He had Councillors been required to go round the Camp talking about the negotiations, the population drift would have increased.

10. Some discussion followed concerning the School Hostel. Mr Monk regarded it as unfortunate that the contractors, a local Venture, had made such a mess. The Governor said that he would take a fresh look at the whole project.

11. Concerning Vietnamese refugees, Mr Miller hoped the British Government would publicise the Islanders' effort. Mr Gurney said it was important to inform the Argentines before making this public.

12. Mr Luton expressed views on several points. Concerning immigration, did not Irish citizens have complete access to the UK? Therefore could the Falkland Islanders be similarly written into Britain's new Nationality Act? He strongly hoped that the Grasslands Trials Unit would continue to receive support since its work was invaluable. Finally, concerning negotiations generally,
he feared that when they got under way hard things would be said in the Islands against ENG, and against Mr Ridley personally. He hoped Mr Ridley would always remember that he was talking about the Islanders’ homes. Mr Ridley, responding to these points, explained that Ireland had had preferential immigration provisions to the UK; now the Irish were EEC members, they were covered by the Treaty of Rome which allowed free movement of labour within the Community. On nationality, to write into an Act special exception for Falkland Islanders would be interpreted in Britain as racial discrimination. The best way to deal with Islanders’ worries was probably through the discretion allowed to Ministers concerning individual cases. He knew of no threat to the EEC, and suggested that farmers could do more to steer its activities. He recognised of course that he would be talking about the future of the Islanders in negotiations; this was why he had given the guarantee he had. But speaking personally, his own political life had for twenty years been tied up with the question of British entry to the EEC; this had raised many arguments about sovereignty, and some now believed that Britain had given sovereignty away. But this had not made any difference to the British way of life. In other words, it was possible to reach solutions to problems where “sovereignty” was in question; he felt the word was used in the Islands in a confusing way. What he believed the Islanders wanted was to remain under British control, with British links, and with the right to conduct their affairs in their own way.

13. Some discussion followed on how public opinion could be tested on a settlement package. Mr Wallace believed that Councillors would have to resign if the moratorium option did not run, and a package was based on the lease-back proposal. Mr Ridley thought that perhaps the Governor would believe an election or referendum was necessary anyway, if matters got that far. But until then he needed the Councillors’ support. The Governor said that Councillors had assured him that they would stand again in an election, campaigning in favour of a successfully negotiated package. Mr Ridley was very grateful.

14. Mr Bowland took a strong view on sovereignty. He felt that the whole question should be widely discussed in the Islands, by Councillors in an informal way. People were adult enough to understand the issues. For Councillors to be abreast of Islanders’ views would help towards a solution. Mr Ridley had to leave this decision to Councillors. But it was important that he himself said nothing in public and that particular solutions should not be attributed to him; opinions should be tested on a whole range of possibilities.

15. Mr Morrison said he had been concerned to hear Mr Ridley remark that Britain could not defend the Islands. If Britain was not behind the Islanders, perhaps people should consider wrapping up now. Mr Ridley said the problems of defence were practical ones. The British Navy was heavily committed elsewhere; if there were

CONFIDENTIAL
special aggravations a special force could be sent to the Islands, but what was certainly out of the question was a continuing state of confrontation between the Islands and Argentina. Nevertheless, were the islands invaded tomorrow, of course Britain would react.

16. Finally, Mr Ridley sought Councillors’ advice on what he should say in the broadcast he was about to record for the Island Radio Service.

17. Mr Monk brought the discussion to a close on behalf of the Councillors, by repeating that all had appreciated the Minister’s frankness. He had clarified minds on a number of points, and his visit had been most useful. Although there were many rumours and misconceptions he believed the Islanders generally would feel reassured, not discouraged. Mr Ridley was most grateful. He had much enjoyed the kindness and hospitality he had received everywhere, and now felt intensely involved in the Islands as a place. His parting wish was that the Islanders should regard the guarantee he had given, as a British Government Minister, that nothing would be done against their wishes, as being as cast iron a bond as could be given.

Circulation
PS
PS/LPS
PS/Mr Marten
PS/Mr Ridley
PS/PUS
Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
Sam
SRO
MAED
SAB
RSSP
MATD
MADV
Legal Advisers
News Department
CDA (Mrs Roesser)
Port Stanley
Buenos Aires
UK/US New York
Research Department
We would like to first thank the Minister for coming to see and hear from Falkland Islanders about our hopes and aspirations for the future.

Councillors have supported talks with Argentina during the last two years, and are prepared to continue doing so, as long as it is understood that we could not agree to any agreement which would compromise our British sovereignty in any way.

The Falkland Islands Government and the people of the Islands are appreciative of the monetary and other forms of assistance which Her Majesty's Government have made available, which have enabled us to move towards implementing the recommendations contained in the Shackleton Report. However precisely because we are endeavouring to implement these recommendations and are consequently involved in development projects which are essential for the future of the Islands, our economic outlook is not good. These aid projects involve increasing recurrent expenditure which at present must be met from Colony funds. The inescapable fact is that, with current revenue sources, the community cannot continue to bear this burden. Indeed in the absence of any other revenue earning activity we will become increasingly less able to finance even our essential services. In an attempt to meet the cost of these services personal taxation levels have been progressively increased to what is considered to be a maximum acceptable level.

The Falkland Islands Government believe there is an urgent need to implement these recommendations which would result in increased revenues accruing to the Colony.

The most immediate possibility of a second major industry appears to be offered by the marine resources of this area. The Falkland Islands Government therefore place prime importance on the early declaration of a 200 mile exclusive economic zone around the Falkland Islands with a view to licensing fishing vessels in that area.

Although recognising that new revenue must be found, we feel that we cannot allow our economic situation to dictate a course which would inevitably erode our sovereignty position.

The Falkland Islands Government wish to tap every possible revenue earning potential, and to strengthen the already existing industry. The help of Her Majesty's Government in this regard is appreciated. It does seem however that progress with some major studies is surprisingly slow. The report on the feasibility of inshore fishing is still awaited, as are the results of seismic studies carried out about which nothing has been heard. The Falkland Islands Government feel that /encouragement/...
encouragement should be given to companies wishing to explore the possibilities of onshore drilling for oil in the Falkland Islands. Tourism has inordinate possibilities which in our view should be urgently investigated, the appointment of an adviser in this field for a limited period would be welcomed. The Falkland Islands Government has supported by Julian Pittar in his inter Island tourist vessel venture to the tune of £25,000 and would hope that Her Majesty’s Government would give this venture its support.

The increased pace of our internal development has been an encouragement to Islanders. A cause of concern, however, is the ever increasing cost to the Colony as we are asked to pick up "tail-end" costs of our infrastructure projects. To happily do everything in our power to push ahead with these projects. To will provide £800,000 as our contribution towards the cost of the first stage of an island all weather track system. The progress of the Stanley Harwin section has been made more difficult by the acquisition in the first instance, of dilapidated equipment which continually breaks down necessitating long and costly repairs.

The school hostel, which is central to all our educational plans has frankly not gone as well as hoped. However we are confident that the Overseas Development Administration, who were directly responsible for selecting the contractor will ensure that the hostel is satisfactorily completed as soon as possible. The provision of ancillary buildings and facilities for the hostel, without which our whole secondary education programme will suffer, also gives cause for anxiety.

The ongoing work of the Grasslands Trials Unit is appreciated and is vital to any future development in the farming industry. This Government has arranged the purchase from the Falkland Islands Company of the Green Patch Farm which is to be made available in six units to individual Falkland Islanders. This project has generated enormous support underlining the desire of Falkland Islanders to have the opportunity to own and develop their own land.

The dominant position of the Falkland Islands Company is the cause of some anxiety, in particular the manner in which its ownership changes. To believe that with the success of the Green Patch Scheme the pressure on large land owners to divide their holdings will increase is a natural consequence of people’s need to own or work the land.

Despite the undoubted advances we have made by our own efforts, and with the aid of Her Majesty’s Government in many fields people are still leaving the Islands, and we are unable to receive those who wish to immigrate to the Falklands.

/ The political...
21st July 1979

Stanley

The political situation is a major factor in this. But the political situation is not the only reason. The economic factors are also significant. The urgent need for new housing and the potential for new industries are key considerations.

Political elements may enter and live in the United Kingdom, but not all can. Many are either unable to live in Britain. This is a major concern. The rights of a citizen of any country should be respected. It is in our interest to maintain this principle.

The economic situation is critical. The country's financial position is crucial. The construction of new housing would be welcomed. However, the cost is significant.

The political situation and the economic situation are interlinked. The political situation affects the economic situation, and vice versa. It is important to address both.
Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 10 August commending Alastair Duncan Millar in connection with the Falkland Islands. He in fact wrote to me himself and I enclose a copy of my reply. Perhaps you and he could get together to agree a convenient day to call here.

Yours,

Nicholas Ridley

Sir J Gilmour
Montrave
Leven
Fife
KY6 5NY
Dear Mr. Miller,

Thank you for your letter of 8 August letting me know of your interest in the development of the Falkland Islands.

I have indeed recently returned from a most interesting and enjoyable visit to the Islands. I was able to meet a good cross-section of Islanders and discover for myself how they see their future. Despite indifferent weather I managed to visit three camp settlements and was much impressed by what I saw. I am convinced that the agricultural potential of the Islands is considerable and we will be looking at ways in which to help the Islanders develop this vital industry.

It was kind of you to offer to meet and compare notes. Unfortunately your letter arrived after I had left for Scotland (for a fishing holiday) but I hope that it might be possible for us to get together when you are next in London. Perhaps you could ring my Private Secretary (01 233 7825) before you next come down.

I am sending a copy of this reply to John Gilmour who wrote commending you to me and expressing an interest in calling together with you.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Ridley MP

I A Duncan Miller Esq CBE MC DL
Renny
Aberfeldy
Perthshire
PH15 2HR
MR HIDDLE: PRESS BRIEFING

1. I have discussed this with Mr McCrory in News Department.

2. On past form, the British media have shown little interest in such briefings but News Department will do their best. What they propose - and they will now send a minute to this effect to Mr Hiddle's Office - is, in effect, two separate sessions. There will be one for the British media; and another for the Latin Americans. News Department favour this approach since the Minister will be able to speak much more freely to Fleet Street which will be more inclined to respect what he says is unattributable, than would the Latin Americans who show little respect for the term.

3. On timing, News Department think that Mr Hiddle will win a larger audience if the briefing can be linked to some specific Latin America topic - such as the forthcoming visit to London by the Chilean Foreign Minister. This seems right in News Department's terms but possibly awkward for Mr Davies. Mr Davies will no doubt wish to comment.

17 August 1979

J E Gowling
South America Department
FAKLAND ISLANDS

1. Mr Duncan Miller has written to the Minister of State asking if they might meet to discuss the Falkland Islands. I submit a draft reply for Mr Ridley’s signature.

2. Mr Duncan Miller is not known to this Department and we have no information on his visit to the Islands.

15 August 1979

G A Duggan
South America Department

Nicholas Ridley Esq., M.P.,
House of Commons,
Westminster,
LONDON S.W.1.

Dear Mr. Ridley,

Falkland Islaes

You have, I know, recently returned from your visit to the Falkland Islaes.

My wife and I, partly because of our friendship with Sir John Gilmour and hearing of his experiences there on the last but one Parliamentary Commission, spent several weeks in the Falklands earlier this year, living with the people, some of whom you will have met. I had also particular interest in fishing, including the proposed salmon ranching experiment recommended by Shackleton, and in sheep farming as a sheep farmer myself, and an ex-Director of the Hill Farming Research Organisation. The visit was a private one.

Because we were fortunate to spend some time with the Islanders and make many friends, we gained some knowledge of their problems and would be very glad to give them any help we could. We also met the Governor, and attended meetings of the Legislative Council.

Should you feel it might be of value for us to meet you briefly to discuss these matters from a 'wet' point or 'dry' point, we would be glad to cooperate, and I write now in case you may be visiting Scotland (as John Gilmour suggests may be the case), and we could meet there.

Yours sincerely,

I.A. Duncan Millar.
MONTRAVE.

DUNCAN MILLAR, DO. A.M., MD, FRCP, FRCP EDIN., 

He would, of course, come to see you in
London after Parliament re-assembles, but I
wonder whether there was any possibility of
your being in Scotland during the Summer, and
whether there was any possibility, therefore,
arraigning a meeting.

As I have also been to the Falklands, I would, of course, be interested in
your views on how the meeting to Mr. Ridley
would proceed at the end of last
excellent
Incidentally,
the Argentines -
that I shall shortly be seeing -
pleased at this
- the Cuban
ot any
his -
right when we look
I shall add
since I shall

4. You may be interested to know that I have a meeting this
afternoon with the FCO Administration to discuss future relations
with (or integration of) the ODA Latin American Department. It is
my personal view that this should be brought much more under
operational control, in the sense that development aid should be seen
as an integral and subordinate part of our overall policy towards
Latin America. But you will appreciate that this is a personal view
- a political one.

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL
A friend of mine, Major Alastair Dunsmuir-Millar, paid a visit to the Falkland Islands early this year at his own expense, and took a considerable interest in the possibility of the breeding of salmon in the Falkland Islands, and I know that he would very much appreciate the possibility of having an opportunity to discuss the Falkland Islands situation with you.

Alastair Dunsmuir-Millar has until recently been Convener of Tayside Region, is in fact an active member of the Liberal Party and stood against Alec Douglas-Home in the By-Election of 1953. Notwithstanding this, he is an extremely knowledgeable and interesting person, and has also been Vice-Chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board.

We would, of course, come to see you in London after Parliament re-assembles, but I wondered whether there was any possibility of your visiting in Scotland during the summer, and whether there was any possibility, therefore, of arranging a meeting.

As I have also been to the Falkland Islands, I would, of course, be interested in...

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...orders. I should have accompanied the Minister on his recent visit to you. But I am sure you will agree that what would be really useful would be a visit by the incoming Head of Department, rather than by the outgoing one. You may be sure that I shall see the seeds of both with the Administration and with my successor before I hand over.

5. You may be interested to know that I have a meeting this afternoon with the FCO Administration to discuss future relations with for integration of the ODA Latin American Department. It is my personal view that this should be brought much more under operational control, in the sense that development aid should be seen as an integral and subordinate part of our overall policy towards the Falklands. But you will appreciate that this is a personal view which I must ask you not to quote. Among the points which I have much in mind is that we should make a closer scrutiny of the travel plans of ODA officials. For far too long it has been the pattern...

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CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

[Note: Not to be circulated.]

[Signature]
coming to meet you with him.

John

The Hon. Nicholas Ridley, M.P.,
Minister of State,
Foreign & Commonwealth Office,
Whitehall,
LONDON.

Many thanks for your personal letter of 7 August. I had been intending to write to you by this bag in the wake of Mr Ridley’s visit.

2. Firstly, I hope you will allow me to congratulate you on how well everything went. It is very clear from talking to Mr Ridley (who only got back to the Office for a single day at the end of last week, and is now on holiday) that you had made an excellent impression on the Minister and that he left with very considerable affection for the Islands and their inhabitants. Incidentally, this was in marked contrast to his comments about the Argentines whom he found a tiresome bunch!

3. You are of course quite right in postulating that I shall shortly be moving on myself. News Department are announcing tomorrow my appointment as Ambassador in Havana. I am naturally pleased at this promotion, particularly since everyone tells me that the Cuban dimension is a not insignificant one in the East/West, Rhodesian, Caribbean and other contexts. But I am genuinely sorry to be leaving South American affairs, especially at a moment when we look like moving into a new phase in the Falklands saga. (I should add that I shall not be off until about the end of November, so I shall be much involved with all the immediate deployments.)

4. Had I not known that I was under starter’s orders, I should have made a strong bid (which Ken Temple was encouraging me to do) to have accompanied the Minister on his recent visit to you. But I am sure you will agree that what would be really useful would be a visit by the incoming Head of Department, rather than by the outgoing one. You may be sure that I shall sow the seeds of this both with the Administration and with my successor before I hand over.

5. You may be interested to know that I have a meeting this afternoon with the FCO Administration to discuss future relations with or integration of the ODA Latin American Department. It is my personal view that this should be brought much more under operational control, in the sense that development aid should be seen as an integral and subordinate part of our overall policy towards the Falklands. But you will appreciate that this is a personal view which I must ask you not to quote. Among the points which I have in mind is that we should make a closer scrutiny of the travel plans of ODA officials. For far too long it has been the pattern...

[Handwritten note: "not to be floated"]
not only in the Falklands - that there is a stream of junior and middle-ranking ODA visitors to distant posts which are hardly ever reached by those with overall responsibilities in the geographical departments of the FCO.

6. I am now much occupied with preparing a Paper for the Secretary of State to submit to his Cabinet colleagues about the next steps vis-à-vis Argentina and the Falklands. Our proposals will be based on the responses Mr Ridley received during his recent tour. It looks as if we may obtain agreement to show rather more of our hand both to the Argentines and to the Islanders - than we have done before. The next round will be played out between Lord Carrington and Brigadier Pastor in New York next month, and will be followed up between Mr Ridley and Commodore Cavandoli. We shall keep you closely in the picture. Meanwhile the value of the confidence which the Islanders - more particularly the Councillors - clearly have in you as an asset which will not be overlooked in calculations here. You may also be sure that I realise this confidence is a finite commodity and we shall try to avoid asking you to do or say anything which risks expending that commodity improvidently.

Dear [Name],

J B Ure

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL
RESTRICTED
Personal

7 August 1979

[Handwritten text]

1. I have written a separate personal note about the record of the Minister's visit. Perhaps I might now mention one related but slightly different thing. I have noticed that practically everyone in the Office who has had any past experience of Island affairs, at first hand, has left the scene; and I have had some inkling that you, too, might soon depart. Except for the Minister and Ken Temple (who, incidentally, because very much liked during his short stay here, and I think reciprocated this affection), no-one will therefore be left at any official level who has seen the place for what it is and, to quote the Minister, no-one can fully appreciate what the situation really is like until one has experienced it for oneself. Valuable, though the visit has therefore been in this regard, it would be an added advantage if, at some time soon, your successor (if, as I fear, you are to go on to other things), or someone else in the Department, should pay us a visit - it has been remarkable how often the GBA people have seemed able to find the fares to get down here, and we have been warned of another jaunt to come later this year.

2. In the meantime we are contemplating sending Harold Rowlands, our Financial Secretary, home for a few weeks consultation to deal with a number of matters in his sphere. We mentioned this to the Minister and he asked Harold to let him know when he would be around. The Minister's visit has given us a great deal to think about, and, if we are to take advantage of some of his suggestions, time is important. Harold's visit would be a start. I will telegraph more about this later.

[Signature]

J R W Parker
1. Our telegram number 205 of 30 July (reported to Port Stanley) referred to the sparse editorial comment on the visit. Since then, we have seen comment only in a Clarín editorial, (translation enclosed), and a piece in the Review of the River Plate of 31 July (also enclosed).

2. The Clarín editorial, though firm in note, is directed at the Argentine Government as much as HMG and the Review of the River Plate ploughs its own furrow as always.

Mr. Daggett

The question of the participation of the Islands (to be decided on the basis of the reconstruction of the Islands to British authority) was raised. Mr. de la Rúa is quite keen.

R.H. Donnelly
EDITORIAL FROM CLARIN, TUESDAY 31 JULY 1979

RELATIONS WITH THE UK

During the recent visit of the British Minister of State, Nicholas Ridley, the agreement to resume relations at ambassadorial level was confirmed. The event is particularly significant since the two countries are negotiating the restoration of the Malvinas Islands to Argentina, thus abiding by the request of the UN General Assembly.

Since the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have released no information on the subject, the public are ignorant of the present state of the negotiations. However, it is known that they cover sovereignty and economic co-operation. Progress in one aspect should be matched by progress in the other. This is only natural. To talk of economic co-operation, implies that there are British interests in the area, interests established over 146 years of illegitimate occupation. So talk of sovereignty is to admit that the era of colonialism and occupation by force of territories belonging to other States has come to an end, that in its place the period of historic redress has started. It is for the negotiators to find the right balance. That balance, however, must be within the ambit of the restoration of the Islands (to Argentina).

The Ambassadors were recalled when the British Government engaged in activities which, instead of helping to make progress towards an agreement, showed an insistence on widening their de facto jurisdiction in the South. As such, those activities were considered unfriendly. One may now wonder whether sufficient progress has been made in the negotiations to modify this attitude. The steps taken seem to indicate that this is so, but the authorities have not informed public opinion. People would welcome the news that London had given up its reluctance to go forward on the subject of sovereignty and was ready to lead the international community, of which Argentina is a member, to the Southern Islands, so far from its territory and its area of influence.

This would open the way to co-operation that is perfectly conceivable even in the field of oil. The UK has the necessary capital, the business organisation, technology and expertise to undertake the exploitation of oil in the Islands. Argentina is the rightful owner of the Islands and their maritime extension, and has the necessary supporting infrastructure for the operation. Some necessary supporting infrastructure would be a problem of to an agreement as regards this potential would
However, it will not be possible to attain any such solution if the Argentine negotiating position is weakened, for whatever reason. Therefore the defence of the basic thesis of this issue is as important as attention to its formal aspects. Only in an atmosphere of mutual respect will it be possible to overcome the obstacles still in the way of an agreement. And even though the negotiations are a delicate matter and therefore kept confidential, it is necessary to offer some general information to the public because the problem is a national one and is everybody's concern. Everybody is committed to a fervent defence of the Republic's sovereignty and dignity.
are not subject, but both industrialists are nevertheless better off with the Hoover funds than without them.

THE ECONOMIC PROGRAMME
Gradualism in Reverse
As remarked in our political and economic plan now in force is due to reconsideration and possible revision, before the end of the year, the Minister of Finance, Don Carlos P. de la Sota, at the 37th Anniversary Banquet of the Business and Marketing Management Association, said that the major thrust of the 1978 budget was a 7% increase in the exchange rate, a 3% increase in wages, and a 4% increase in the minimum wage. He also announced that the government would be implementing a series of measures to address the growing inflationary pressures. These measures included a freeze on wages and salaries, a reduction in the budget deficit, and an increase in taxes.

The government's approach was described as gradualism in reverse, as it sought to reverse the recent trend towards inflation. The minister acknowledged that the government had been successful in stabilizing the economy, but that further action was needed to combat inflationary pressures.

One of the challenges the government faced was the rapid increase in wages and salaries. The minister emphasized the need for restraint in wage increases, as this would help to reduce inflationary pressures. He also noted that the government was committed to maintaining a stable exchange rate, as this was crucial for the country's economic stability.

The government's approach was well received by the business community, which welcomed the measures to combat inflation. However, there was some concern that the measures would have a negative impact on economic growth. The minister acknowledged this concern, but stressed that the government was committed to maintaining a stable economic environment.

In conclusion, the government's approach to combatting inflation was described as gradualism in reverse. The minister acknowledged the challenge of stabilizing the economy, but emphasized the importance of maintaining a stable exchange rate and controlling wage increases. He also noted that the government was committed to maintaining a stable economic environment, despite the challenges it faced.
The appointment of Mr. B. H. to Chargé d'Affaires, was not without a hint that a change in the Argentine's attitude to the United Kingdom might be anticipated. This was considered by some as a positive signal of good will, while others saw it as a mere cosmetic change in policy.

The REVIEW notes with interest the progress made in the establishment of new industries in the Buenos Aires Province. The province, with its abundant natural resources and strategic location, offers significant opportunities for industrial development. The government has been actively promoting the establishment of new industries, particularly in the areas of textiles and food processing. These efforts are expected to create new employment opportunities and improve the overall economic situation.

The REVIEW also highlights the ongoing debate on the impact of pollution on public health. The province has established strict regulations to control the activities of industries that contribute to air and water pollution. These measures are aimed at protecting the health of the population and maintaining the cleanliness of the environment.

In conclusion, the REVIEW applauds the initiatives taken by the Buenos Aires Province to encourage industrial development and improve the quality of life for its residents. These efforts are expected to contribute to the economic growth and sustainability of the region.
With the compliments of
HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

[TEXT CUT OFF]
RECORD OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF STATE, FO, AND THE ARGENTINE MINISTER OF ECONOMY: AT BUENOS AIRES ON 26 JULY 1959

Those present: Mr Nicholas Ridley MP Dr José Martínez de Hoz Mr Darless Mr Chick

1. Mr Ridley said that he had found the Falkland Islanders worried about the future, their ability and that of their children to continue the way of life to which they were accustomed. There were, however, signs of a greater disposition to recognise that a settlement of the dispute was needed. But for the British Government any settlement would have to be acceptable to the Islanders. It was not easy to see how a settlement could be achieved, but it was in the interest of Britain and Argentina to discuss ways of resolving the issues, and of exploiting the resources of the South West Atlantic for their mutual benefit rather than leaving them to others.

2. Dr Martínez de Hoz agreed that a solution should be sought through the continuation of the talks. Relations with Britain had suffered because of the dispute. Britain had not developed her commercial relations with Argentina to the extent that other countries had. Some form of special territorial status for the Islands could be studied. Perhaps some models could be drawn up. If so, the Argentines would wish to consider them in relation to their Federal Constitution. In any scheme embracing joint administration, Argentines would look for a tangible part in the administration.

3. Mr Darless mentioned as a possible model, among others, the solution which Sweden and Finland had found to differences over sovereignty in the Åland Islands. Dr Martínez de Hoz enquired about the arrangements which had been made for Norwegians to retain their nationality in parts of the Empire which had been granted independence.

4. Mr Ridley said Britain hoped to participate in the Argentine nuclear programme. In parenthesis he expressed misgiving that the award of any contract to a British firm, the General Electric Company, might be drawn in more than one way into the context of the dispute over the Falkland Islands. Dr Martínez de Hoz assured him that the dispute should not be an issue. Accepting offers would be studied on their merits, only if there was little to choose between them, would other considerations be taken into account.

This is not helpful: Mr Darless went to France but the attitude towards Sweden!
account, such as the bilateral balance of trade or Argentina's wish to see that large contracts were distributed over a number of suppliers.

5. GEC's fortunes were linked to those of the Canadians. There were still difficulties with the latter over the financing of the Rio Tercero plant. These difficulties were the result of poor Canadian management and failure to cover the foreign exchange risk in a large overseas construction project. GEC would be well-advised to see that there were no such weaknesses in their joint offer with the Canadians. Mr. Ridley took note and handed over a piece of paper about the British company's offer and official support for it.

6. Dr. Martínez de Hoz explained how Argentina's high level of inflation was the effect of ingrained habits of mind in the public and private sectors, and the strong inflow of funds stemming from the surplus on the current account. A further difficulty was that the effect of the measures the Government should now take to control inflation in the longer term would fuel inflation in the months ahead, for instance in raising the prices of fuel and electricity.

British Embassy
BUENOS AIRES

27 July 1979

Post/Minister of State

cc: FS
FS/145
Mr. Hall
South America Dept
Joint Nuclear Unit
From Sir John Galsworthy

To Mr A N Whiting

Company

Location

Reference S3G/m1

SUBJECT Date 29 June 1979

The Minister of State, Foreign Office, Mr Nicholas Ridley, is visiting the Argentine, Brazil and Mexico, in the immediate future and may possibly care to have the following notes on Davy's interests and activities in those three countries.

1. The Argentine

Sidinsa

Davy have done little work in this country in the past but are currently pursuing a major steelworks project known as Sidina (Siderurgica Integrada SA) which could be of great importance to the UK both from the financial and employment aspects.

The present installed capacity of the Argentine steel industry is 4.2 million tons per year, which means that about half of the present consumption has to be met by import. Both on economic and nationalistic grounds, the present Argentine Government are determined eventually to achieve self-sufficiency. Insofar as any large scale development is concerned, steel falls within the sphere of influence of Fabricaciones Militares, the organisation which controls and directs those wide sectors of the economy which are regarded as the preserve of the Army. Sidinsa, which at present exists only as a concept, is one of the military's pet projects and is designed to increase capacity in four stages by approximately 3.8m TPA over an 8 year period.

Although both the military and civilian elements of the government agree upon the long term desirability of self sufficiency in steel, there is a dichotomy of view about how and when this should be achieved. The military are pressing hard for an early start to be made with the Sidinsa project, but the powerful civilian Minister of the Economy (Dr Martinez de Roz) is not at present prepared to give the green light. He would prefer to close the gap over the next few years by completing the expansion of another State owned steelworks (Sonisa), which is already in existence, and by strengthening one or two private steel plants. He sees Sidinsa as likely to be set in motion in about five years, with certain preparatory work possibly commencing in four.
There is evidence that the military (who, of course, have the last word in the present Argentine regime), are increasing their pressure in favour of Sidinsa and that Dr Martinez de Hoz may be slightly modifying his opposition. Basically, the one single element likely to get the project off the ground soon would be if sufficient private capital (both domestic and foreign) could be raised to finance at least the first two stages.

Interest has been shown in the project from Belgium, Italy, Germany and Japan. However, after lengthy negotiations Davy succeeded in signing a Letter of Intent on 1 March 1979. In effect, this commits us to carry out a thorough review of the project as at present planned and to come forward with specific proposals for its execution (and for an equity participation) sometime in September. It would be our intention to invite participation from other (e.g. German and possibly Japanese concerns) who would also, of course, have to be prepared to take up their share of the equity. A D/E ratio of 70:30% is envisaged. The total cost of the whole project was estimated in 1978 at $3,529 million. Given the change in the exchange rate since then, the total will now be nearer $4,400 million. These are, however, only approximate figures as Sidinsa are currently engaged in revising, streamlining and slimming the entire project.

It is estimated that 70% of the equipment required would be imported and the offshore work would amount to some 150,000 man years. If Davy were able to secure a substantial proportion of the work, the impact on employment in Stockton and elsewhere in the UK would clearly be very considerable.

Recommendations:

In pursuing this question with senior Argentine Ministers and Military personalities, we have stressed:

a) the need to create a nucleus of reciprocal economic interests as the basis for an improvement in relations between the UK and the Argentine;

b) the extent to which the formation of such a nucleus could generate the right climate for an eventual settlement of outstanding political questions;

c) the impact which a large joint collaborative venture with a Group of the size and international prestige of Davy might be expected to have on other potential investors.
It is not recommended that the Minister should, in any conversations with the Argentinian Ministers, attempt to urge the project forward. But it would undoubtedly be most helpful if he could find the opportunity, especially in talking to Dr. Martinez de Hoz, of saying that he has noted with pleasure that a British company has signed a Letter of Intent for what could become a major Anglo-Argentine achievement. It is also important that he should say the same thing in any press conferences or interview since otherwise the supporters of Sidinsa in the Argentine Government will conclude that British interest in this massive project is purely superficial.

2. MEXICO

AHMSA

Different parts of the Davy Group have done work in Mexico over the past 10 years in the fertilizer and synthetic fibre fields, but by far the most important job we have undertaken was the expansion of the largely State-owned steel company, Alteos Hornos de Mexico SA (AHMSA). This contract was won in 1974 and successfully completed in the record time of 29 months by Davy Ashmore at Stockton. The final value of the contract was £80 million.

AHMSA has now issued enquiries for an extension to the basic oxygen furnace shop which is urgently required to realize the full potential of the original investment. Davy submitted a detailed tender and under normal circumstances would have expected the order as we have both technical and price advantages. However, in the last few weeks the French put forward a finance proposal which threatens the Davy position. In addition to offering normal export credit for French supply, the French have also included an element of credit which can be financed over 20 years at 3½% interest. The Mexicans have asked us to match these terms and we are seeking BMG’s assistance to enable us to do so.

The total cost of the project will be £25 million, of which approximately £18 million will be in respect of UK goods and services. The Davy company responsible for this contract, if it is awarded to us, will be Davy International at the present time this company at Stockton-on-Tees. At the present time this company exports approximately 75% of its total turnover. The current contract is not large but it will provide badly
J R W Parker Esq CMG OBE
The Governor
Government House
Port Stanley
Falkland Islands

My dear Governor,

1. Thank you for your personal letter 026/1 of 7 August covering your despatch on Mr Ridley's visit. We are not having this printed but are arranging for copies to be circulated widely in Whitehall and to posts.

2. The despatch was welcome since it conveniently summarised the key points and gives us a clear idea of feelings on the Islands in the wake of the Ministerial visit. It also helpfully pulls together the points made in your telegrams and Temple's records of the Minister's discussions with Councillors.

3. Given the prospect of a resumption of negotiations before too long, we should welcome any further thoughts you may have, now or in the future, on policy, with special reference to how we might best ensure that we take the Islanders with us and how best Councillors can help us in that. I shall keep you posted on Ministerial thinking here.

Yours,

John

J B Ure
South America Department
With the compliments of

THE MINISTER OF STATE
Neville Ridley

for info.
Chris Wright 13.8.77

FOREIGN and COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
LONDON, S.W.1

As you can see, one of the replies is unaddressed. Unfortunately this is because we do not know who the sender is, but no doubt you are better placed to do so.

C D Wright
Registrar
Nicholas Ridley's Office
I enclose letters from the public that Mr Ridley received in the Falkland Islands during his recent visit, along with the replies.

I would be grateful if you could forward these replies, retaining the inward letters on your files. Copies have been sent to South American Department.

As you can see, one of the replies is unaddressed. Unfortunately this is because we do not know who the sender is, but no doubt you are better placed to do so.

C D Wright
Registrar
Nicholas Ridley's Office
Dear Sirs,

Mr Ridley has asked me, on his return to the UK, to thank you for your communication of 20 July 1979. I understand that your members had an opportunity to meet the Minister of State and I know that he valued this.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Asst Private Secretary to
Nicholas Ridley MP

Falkland Islands Committee
(Local Branch)
Stanley
Falkland Islands
South Atlantic
WELCOME TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. WE HOPE YOU AND YOUR WIFE WILL ENJOY YOUR STAY AND THAT YOU WILL FIND THESE ISLANDS AND THEIR PEOPLE WORTH REMEMBERING.

Keep the Falkland Islands British.

WE STILL BELIEVE AN EXTENSION TO THE AIRFIELD TO BE ESSENTIAL IF THESE ISLANDS ARE TO RECEIVE THE INVESTMENT SO DESPERATELY NEEDED TO KEEP THEM FINANCIALLY Viable.

The Falkland Islands are British.
Keep them British.

THE WOOL INDUSTRY OF THIS COLONY HAS PUT MILLIONS OF POUNDS INTO YOUR COFFERS THROUGH HARD CURRENCY AND TAXATION. WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL HELP TO DIVERSIFY OUR ECONOMY AND INCREASE OUR REVENUE.

Keep the Falkland Islands British.

WE ARE PREPARED TO CONDUCT NORMAL TRADING RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA.

The Falkland Islands are British.

Keep them British.

WE DO NOT WANT ANY FURTHER ARGENTINE INFILTRATION IN THESE ISLANDS.
FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE
(LOCAL BRANCH)

Stanley, Falkland Islands,
South Atlantic.

- 3 -

THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER PROVIDES FOR THE SELF DETERMINATION OF PEOPLE. ABOVE ALL ELSE WE WANT TO KEEP THE FALKLANDS BRITISH. THEY ARE YOUR GATEWAY TO THE ANTARCTIC. TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER BRITISH SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS WE COULD BE YOUR SOURCE OF FOOD, FISH, FERTILISER, ETC. ALL BEING BRITISH AND IN THE STERLING AREA YOU COULD SAVE MILLIONS IN HARD CURRENCY AND EASE YOUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION CONSIDERABLY.

Keep the Falkland Islands British.

YOU OWN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS
TELL THE WORLD YOU OWN THEM AND MEAN
TO KEEP THEM
USE THEM TO THE ADVANTAGE OF US ALL.
Dear Sirs,

Mr Ridley has asked me, on his return to the UK, to thank you for your communication of 21 July 1979. I understand that your members had an opportunity to meet the Minister of State and I know that he valued this.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Assist Private Secretary to Nicholas Ridley MP

Falkland Islands Committee
Goose Green and Walker Creek Local Branch
Goose Green
Falkland Islands
South Atlantic
FALKLAND ISLANDS COMMITTEE
Goose Green and Walker Creek Local Branch

GOOSE GREEN
FALKLAND ISLANDS
SOUTH ATLANTIC
21st JULY 1979.

SIGNED MRS. J. ELSTON CHAIRMAN LOCAL BRANCH.
R.L. BRITISH COMMITTEE MEMBER.

Mr. Nicholas Ridley,

Welcome to the Falkland Islands. We all hope you and your wife will enjoy your stay here. You will find I'm sure that we keepers are British and proud of it.

We consider the Argentine claim to our territorial waters to be an infringement of our sovereignty and it is essential that a claim to our 200-mile limit by Britain be actively and persistently pursued. To the west, we appreciate agreement with our neighbour, is necessary on a clarification list.

We urge you to develop a British fishing industry based in these waters without delay. The folks here are making money for their country when we and Britain could be doing the same.

We are prepared to conduct normal trading relations with Argentina but we do not want further infiltration in these islands.

The wool industry of this colony has put millions of pounds into your coffers through hard currency and taxation. We need your financial help to diversify our economy and increase our revenue.

We thank you for the aid we have so far received, but that we really need is aid to help our wool industry, more so than roads which our colony has to try and maintain on a tight budget.
From The Minister of State

10 August 1979

Thank you for taking the trouble to write to me on 12 July. I found everything that was said to me of value in building up my overall impressions of the Islands.

I was sorry not, in the event, to be able to meet you but I hope you heard my radio broadcast before I left summarising my impressions and conveying my thanks to all of you.

Nicholas Ridley
(Dictated by Mr Ridley and signed in his absence)

[Signature]

Private Secretary
As a private individual living in Argentina, I have seen and experienced the harsh realities of life in a country plagued by poverty and political instability. It is not uncommon to hear stories of unemployment, crime, and political corruption. However, despite these challenges, Argentina has a rich culture and a vibrant society.

I remember the day I arrived in Buenos Aires. The city was bustling with life, and the air was filled with the smell of fresh meat and the sound of music. It was a place where one could find a sense of belonging, even if it was among strangers.

One of the things that struck me the most was the passion and dedication of the people. They work hard to make ends meet, yet they find the time to cherish their families and their loved ones. It is a reminder that no matter the circumstances, there is always hope.

Argentina is not perfect, but it is a place where one can find a sense of purpose and meaning. It is a place where one can learn to appreciate the simple things in life and to value the relationships that are built on trust and respect.

In conclusion, I believe that Argentina is a country that deserves to be recognized for its unique culture and its resilience in the face of adversity. It is a place where one can find a sense of belonging and a place where one can learn to appreciate the beauty of life.
A local feature in their inciting was to copy by box on its own. Graduates would usually go on for him to the World Wildlife Fund but a lot to do with attracting them back and the formation of national cooperative industries. Actions practically anyone to get a return from them but it does not all go to a few brains. What development money can come into this is in setting up facilities for this kind of tourism. We had a good time with the "Wilderness" personage and members. Our long daily so in the building called the gymnasium next to the Town Hall.

Having been remade will be of some interest
L. Darby
Dear Mrs Bertrand,

Thank you very much for your letter of 14 July and for having gone to the trouble of letting me know your views. I found everything that was said to me, verbal and written, of great value in forming my overall impressions of the Islands' situation.

I am sorry we did not in the event get to meet but I hope you managed to hear my radio broadcast sumarising my impressions and conveying my deep thanks to all of you. Mrs Ridley and myself found our visit very worthwhile indeed.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Ridley
(Dictated by Mr Ridley and signed in his absence)

Mrs K Bertrand
Caracas Island
West Falkland Islands
Dear Mr. Ridley,

First, I would like to say 'Welcome to the Falkland Islands'.

I am very glad you have managed to come and visit us so soon after the Conservatives came to power.

I understand that you are here on a fact-finding mission and wish to meet and hear the views of as many people as possible. As I cannot meet you in the time available I thought I would write to you.

My wish, like those of other residents, is to keep the Falkland Islands British. We do not want 'close ties' with Argentina—why should we wish for such ties with the occupying power? I think the extent of our relations with Argentina should be trade and normal friendly relations. I think we should also be free to trade with other countries, especially Chile and Uruguay with whom we have had friendly relations and trade for something like 100 years or more.

Most of us would like to see the present facilities extended so that we can fly out to other countries without being forced to go through Argentina. At the present time, we wish to go in war out of our country.

We want to keep our own people in the Falkland Islands. Since you can do so, but only by joining some ship which calls in between here and Britain. (We know it will cost money to keep up, but so will the present one; without the advantages an International Airport would bring.) This was one of the first priorities in the Shackleton Report.

I think every effort should be made to interest the British fishing fleets in the Falkland Islands. It is quite absurd to continue to talk of a fact-finding mission on the number of fish available in and around our waters. The Felsas have not been fishing for moonshine all these months, if Britain does not soon do something about it, they will have filled the waters out by the way things are going. If it pays, Felsa could send these factories and traders all this way, why would it not pay Britain to do the same?

We hope we never see an oil industry here and I think serious consultation should take place before any such thing is contemplated, with the IUCN WHO and other conservation bodies. There is already oil pollution in various degrees round our shores.

Our tourist industry is slowly growing but no tourists will come here if there is no wildlife to see. I also think that oil will spoil the Falkland Islands to know the effect it would have.

I think it is a great pity the Darwin road was ever started, the majority of Falkland Islanders did not want it, houses would have been more useful and would at least have allowed young people to remain in Stanley if they so wished. I think a great of that nature should only be given for something which will make money or induce people to remain in the Colony and furthermore that there should be a Referendum to find out if the people want it. I do not know who wanted the Darwin road.
road and it is not of first importance, it could have come later. The need for new houses and to have people we need more houses. If a fishing industry would mean the need for more houses, any new enterprise of any importance will need housing.

I also think more attention should be given to saving money by using our natural resources. Peat for fuel could be encouraged and also wind generators to lessen the use of oil. An 'Expert' case to look into the question of wind generators, I do not know what happened about that I suppose there is a feasibility study going on somewhere. I listened to the interview with this man and I was rather surprised that no mention was made of the fact that small wind-generators were in use for lighting houses and charging accumulators in nearly all Camp houses before the second World War. I can only think that the young man who interviewed him did not know himself how successful these little wind-generators had been.

I would hope we have about finished with the streams of 'Experts' who have been coming to this Colony for a number of years now. I do not really see why the British taxpayer should be expected to provide a free haven for these people, however well meaning they may be. I can think of only two things that would be really helpful right now and which would bring fairly quick returns and those are: someone to teach us how to cure brawn properly and how to make good cheese. In both cases I think it would be better for a young Falkland Islander to go to Britain and learn there and then return back to teach us. At least we would then save a little of our imported inflation and those who, in years to come we might be able to export. Those items.

I hope the weather permits you to visit Hill Cove and Fort Howard as planned. It is unfortunate that it is winter time but up until now we have had very mild weather. You will find that people may be slow to get up and ask questions or air their views, however if you have sufficient time to give them time I think they will speak. Ted Roelands apparently did all the talking when he visited the Camp and few people had the chance to ask anything.

I have run on long enough. I hope some of this letter is of use to you, I may add that a great many people share the views I have expressed. Best wishes to you and Mrs Medley for a pleasant visit.

Please help us to continue to 'Keep the Falklands British'.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]
Our Ref: 026/1

7 August 1979

J R Ure Esq MVO
GAND
FOU

Dear John,

1. I have been in several minds how to summarise the essential facts and outcome of the Minister's visit - whether in the form of a formal despatch or a short letter for the file. I felt it perhaps premature (and presumptuous), with policy in such a state, to offer any subjective thoughts of my own as to how that policy should proceed, although I would like, later, to submit something of a think-piece as I see how things are likely to turn out, and what the dust of this latest exercise has settled a bit.

2. In the end I am leaving it to you to decide - whether the attached should be treated as merely a saving letter, or a despatch for the record and not for print; if the latter, I would be grateful if you could have any extra copies needed run off on a photocopier (I have sent one to Hugh at Buenos Aires).

Yours ever,

J R W Parker

P.S. you may like to have the attached with the attached.

[Signature]

[Stamp: Confidential]

[Stamp: Issued by... No. 18]

[Stamp: 20/4/79]
The importance of this country — and the challenge of the job — to be done here — and fully expected relations, to be re-established at ambassadorial level, with himself as head of mission. It is ironic that during the debate at parliament, where the decision to re-establishe a diplomatic relations was discussed, criticism of the same by critics of the Argentine human rights record in Argentina was overcome by pointing out Mr. Carter's outstanding qualifications for the job. I was also glad that the Argentine foreign ministry — acting, presumably, on mistaken ideas about status or because of a lack of information — has sacrificed the opportunity to appoint an ambassador to the Court of St. James's by not granting Mr. Carter's request have been denied.
30 July 1979

John Ayres 149
Falkland Islands Government Air Service
Fort Stanley

Dear Sirs,

I wanted to drop you a line to say thank you for the part you played in carrying us around the Islands. I must say I was most impressed with the Beaver aircraft, both from the point of view of the communications you provided and also in terms of the service you provided. I do believe that the communications you provided within the Islands are invaluable. For us, as a government, seeing the Islands from two or three thousand feet impressed us in a way which would have been impossible staying on the ground.

Thank you once again and very best wishes.

NICHOLAS BIDDLE

[Handwritten notes on the margin]
30 July 1979

Mr Sydney Miller CBE
Acting Chairman
Falkland Islands Shoepomers Association

I am writing to you as Chairman of the Shoepomers Association, to thank you for allowing me to come to meet your members last Tuesday. It was particularly useful having at that stage visited four different settlements in the Islands, to be able to share some of my thoughts with you concerning the problems of developing agriculture in the Falklands. I am more and more convinced that the potential is enormous, and feel that it will be more easily realised if we can somehow improve the access of people like yourselves to commercial capital. I thought our discussion that afternoon was most worthwhile and I was very grateful for your frankness.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY
Just a short note to say thank you to you and to Lewis Clifton for arranging the meeting with the Young Islanders last Tuesday afternoon. It was useful to discuss the problems of the Islands from the perspective of young people in Port Stanley, and I felt that our discussion was most worthwhile. In particular, I was encouraged that only one person there said that he was considering emigrating from the Islands. I hope your members found the discussion as enjoyable as I did.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY
30 July 1979

Mr Les Harris
Chairman
Falkland Islands Civil Servants Association

Thank you for arranging the meeting. I was able to make it with your Association at the Rose Hotel last Monday. As you know, I came to the Islands wanting to hear the views of as many people as possible, and it was helpful to share in the thinking of your Association.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY
10 July 1979

Mrs Velma Malcolm
Hon Secretary
Falkland Islands Committee
Fort Stanley

I am writing to thank you for arranging the meeting last Tuesday evening with members of the Falkland Islands Committee. I was very pleased to hear your views, and I thought that our discussion was most worthwhile.

Yours sincerely,

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

[Note: The text on the right side of the page is not legible.]
30 July 1979

Mr and Mrs Campbell Kerr
Grasslands Trials Unit
Port Stanley.

I am writing from Franklin to say thank you for all you did for Judy and me when we were in the islands. I very much enjoyed my visit to your office, and was most impressed with the work that you and your staff are doing. Thank you also for inviting us to the party you gave on Tuesday evening.

It was a great pleasure to meet you.

NICHOLAS RIDLEY

[Handwritten note on the right page]

[Handwritten note on the left page]
30 July 1979

Jim Kerr
Falkland Islands Government Air Service
Fort Stanley

I wanted to write to say how much I appreciated what you did for us in flying us to Goose Green and Hill Cove last week. Despite the strong winds, the Beaver is really a most comfortable and versatile aircraft. Ken Green also wants to thank you for taking him where you did after Green Fate.

It was a great pleasure to meet you.

NICHOLAS SIDLEY

[Handwritten note on the bottom right corner of the page: 30.7.79]
30 July 1979

Mr and Mrs Berry Spruce
Falkland Islands Company
Fort Stanley

Question of status

Thank you very much for the most enjoyable reception last Monday evening. July and I enjoyed it very much, as indeed we did all the hospitality given to us in the Islands. I was glad that we had a good discussion after dinner at Government House on Saturday.

Very best wishes

MICHEL DAVIES

HEAD OF THE LONDON OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN DEPARTMENT OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE

The question of the alleged human rights abuses in the Islands was also mentioned. The Foreign Office representative, speaking on behalf of the Argentine government, expressed concern over the treatment of prisoners and detainees. It was noted that the issue had been raised in previous negotiations and that no progress had been made in resolving the matter.

Furthermore, the representative from the United States emphasized the importance of maintaining good relations with the Islands and the need for a stable and peaceful environment. He highlighted the economic and cultural ties between the Islands and the United States and stressed the importance of continuing these relations.

In conclusion, both representatives agreed on the need for further dialogue and the importance of addressing the concerns raised. They expressed hope that a mutually acceptable solution could be found to resolve the ongoing issues.
Question of status

THE integration of the populated islands of the South Atlantic with the mainland is in everyone’s interest. Britain will not be able to administer the islands it calls the Falkland Islands if it persists in its policy of dependency. The Falkland Islands are not a viable solution for the Falkland Islanders, regardless of the question of sovereignty. It makes good sense, both economically and politically — and, even strategically — in an increasingly insecure world from everyone’s point of view to find a solution to an issue that has divided Anglo-Argentine relations for far too long and has kept the Falkland Islanders living in isolation. The principal concern, of course, is in all negotiations (and these should apply in Argentina as much as Britain) must be the well-being of the Islanders. They are the most important natural resource, more valuable by far than the other legendary riches beneath the sea, whether fish, petroleum, or minerals.

Mr. Nicholas Ridley, Mrs. Thatcher’s assistant foreign secretary for Latin American affairs, is returning to the Falkland Islands where he has been sounding out the “Kelpers” on the future. In Britain, in the future of the Falkland Islands, sovereignty and certain economic resources, which are politically important, are not British government — and in all Conservative administration — could afford to disappear in the wake of the Islanders, who, in an overwhelming majority, will have told Mr. Ridley that they want to remain British. The solution to the long-standing problems — the only remaining bone of contention in the long Anglo-Argentine love-hate relationship — calls for a degree of tact, diplomacy and common sense which is rare enough. With the possible threat of aggressive nationalistic attitudes from all parties, it is time for a new, more constructive approach to the Falkland problem. Mr. and Mrs. Carles, the British ambassador and the Argentine ambassador, have exchanged letters the resolution of the issue and the articulated what they expect is the solution that will resolve the Islanders’ fears and resolve the Islands’ economic potential without destroying their peace and well-being.

Mr. Ridley’s visit here underlines the existing opportunity to re-establish relations at an ambassadorial level and work on the future. It would be a tragedy if misinformation or a misunderstanding of the situation of the current British representative should mislead the Falkland Islanders in their understanding of the future. It would be a mistake if misinformation or a misunderstanding of the situation of the current British representative should mislead the Falkland Islanders in their understanding of the future.
1. I sent you a copy of the letter of 31 July from Sir John Barlow at the Falkland Islands Office to the Minister, along with a copy of my subsequent telegram to Ken Temple.

2. Mr Temple replied giving Mr Ridley's agreement to meeting the delegation from the Falkland Islands Office on the first possible day (Friday 10 August) before he goes on holiday. He was also authorized to tell the Falkland Islands Office that the contents of Sir John's letter make it clear that wires appear to have been crossed.

3. I have accordingly spoken to Ms O'Farrell, "general secretary" at the Falkland Islands Office. After consulting Sir John Barlow and others, she called back to say that they regretted they would not be able to take up Mr Ridley's offer for Friday the 10th (most of them would be on holiday). I firmly registered the point that wires appear to have been crossed and asked if they were content to wait until Mr Ridley returned from his holiday at the end of the month or whether they would wish to send anyone to see him on their behalf on Friday.

4. After consulting further with Sir John Barlow, Ms O'Farrell called back to say that they were in the circumstances content to wait until the end of the month to meet Mr Ridley, and that my point about wires having been crossed had been noted. We have accordingly agreed that a delegation from the Falkland Islands Office will call on Mr Ridley on this matter on Tuesday, 28 August at 11.00 am. Ms O'Farrell will be sending details of the composition of this delegation in due course.

J W Tapp
6 August 1979

cc: Mr Hall
Mr Temple o.r.
CONFIDENTIAL

TO 300
CONFIDENTIAL
DESK F095002 AUG
FR PORT STANLEY 019412 AUG 79
T IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 145 OF 8 AUGUST

FOR URE, SAND
MINISTER'S MEETING WITH THE COMMITTEE

1. WHEN THE MINISTER MEETS THE LONDON COMMITTEE, MR. RIDLEY
MIGHT BE BRIEFED TO EXPECT ATTEMPTS BY THE COMMITTEE TO SUGGEST,
THAT THEY MENTION THE ISLANDS' NEEDS FOR BETTER BANKING AND CREDIT
FACILITIES, THAT THEY SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE ARRANGEMENTS.
THEY HAVE SEVERAL TIMES TRIED TO CLAIM THAT THEY ARE IN TOUCH WITH
VARIOUS, AND ALWAYS UNIDENTIFIED, GROUPS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
INTERESTS, MERCHANT BANKS, AND EVEN ARAB INVESTORS, WHO COULD,
GIVEN THE RIGHT ENCOURAGEMENT, RUSH DOWN HERE WITH POTS OF MONEY.
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY HAVE ALSO MADE SIMILAR NOISES. WHEN
PRESSED, HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN A REMARKABLE ELUSIVENESS ABOUT
DETAILS AND THE ONLY CERTAINTY IS THAT THESE SO-CALLED CONNECTIONS
HAVE BEEN INTIMATED TO AS PROPAGANDA PLAYS. AS IN OTHER
PATTERS WHERE THEY HAVE TRIED IT, THE COMMITTEE, IN THE GUISE OF
MIGHT'S HOLLOW FIDELA SET UP, WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY LIKE TO MUSCLE IN
IN WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY GOVERNMENT BUSINESS WITH, ONE CAN BE CERTAIN,
UNFORTUNATE RESULTS.

2. AS REGARDS THE OUT-DATED PROPOSAL MADE BY THE COMPANY TO SET
UP A BANK, WHICH MIGHT ALSO BE MENTIONED, THIS AGAIN HAS BEEN SEEN
HERE AS LITTLE MORE THAN A SHALLOW PRETENSE. IN SPITE OF BEING
GIVEN GENEROUS TIME TO DO SO, THE COMPANY HAVE MADE NO EFFORT TO
COMPLY WITH THE LESS THAN ONEROUS REQUIREMENTS OF THE BANKING
ORDINANCE, PARTICULARLY THE NEED TO SHOW REASONABLE FINANCIAL
BACKING IN THE SUM OF POUNDS STERLING 250,000. AS A DEFENSIVE
PLAY, MITCHELL HAS CONSTANTLY TRIED TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF THE
COMMISSION CHARGED ON REMISSIONS, A POINT THE SUBSTANCE OF WHICH

INREGISTER
NEITHER THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY NOR THE FISCAL ADVISER HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO COMPREHEND. GOVERNMENT HAS THEREFORE DECIDED TO GO AHEAD
GRADUALLY IN SETTING UP THEIR OWN BANKING FACILITIES, ALTHOUGH
ACCESS TO A REPUTABLE CREDIT SOURCE WILL STILL BE GREATLY NEEDED.

PARKER

FILES
SAMO
PS/MP RJDLEY
MR HALL

2

CONFIDENTIAL

GRPS 31
RESTRICTED
PM BUENOS AIRES 30/1979 AUG 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 516 OF 8 AUGUST 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

YOUR TEL NO 147, BRASILIA TEL NO 144 AND MEXICO CITY TEL NO 2
FALKLANDS

1. MR RIDDLE'S MESSAGE DELIVERED THROUGH BLOOMER-BEEVE AND ACTION
TAKEN AS SET OUT IN PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE FIRST TUR,

CARLESS

FILES
SAMO
NEWSD
PS
PS/MP
PS/MP RJDLEY
PS/MP SIR A DUFF
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL
TOP COPY

UNCLASSIFIED
FM BUENOS AIRES 89/18257 AUG 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER U/H SVC OF 9 AUGUST 1979

1. YOUR TELNO 158 TO MEXICO CITY, GRATEFUL FOR REPEAT.

CARLESS

FILES
5 AM 9
PETER MIDLEY
RE HALL

CONFIDENTIAL
OP 270
CONFIDENTIAL

To: Port Stanley O2613552 Aug 79
From: Immediate FCO
Telegram Number 142 of 26 August
Info: Priority Buenos Aires

FCO TELNO 188 to Mexico City: The Minister’s Visit and the Falkland Islands Committee

1. On first reading Yapp’s telegram I had hoped Sir J Barlow’s information might turn out to have come from some other mischievous source, but I regret to say it is now pretty certain that, half-way through the visit, one councillor did telegraph the London Committee, on the lines indicated by Barlow, apparently with the stupid intention of putting pressure on the Minister through what he thought might provoke sensational newspaper comment.

2. I, for one, am grateful Barlow has had the good sense to seek to clarify the matter and, if a meeting can be arranged, doubtless the Minister will quickly be able to correct the utter distortion of his views, and to assure Barlow that the Islanders, rather than being despondent over the visit, are as relaxed now as I have ever known them to be.

3. Although I have not yet been able to get him in to tackle him about it, the culprit is almost certainly Tim Miller. Now he could have reconciled his appreciative remarks at the end of the visit with his earlier action defies explanation; he probably had forgotten about it, well-meaning by nature, he is at times incredibly immature in his thinking, greatly influenced by the London Committee, he is also dominated by his impulsive old father and more by his excitable mother and there, I suspect, lay the cause of the trouble - a veritable storm in a coffee cup.

4. Whatever inspired it, the few other councillors I have so far been able to talk to are as appalled as I am to contemplate what might have been the consequences of Miller’s stupidity, and they join me, as I am sure will the others, in expressing regret for this.

CONFIDENTIAL
THIS DISGRACEFUL DISREGARD OF COURTESY AND CONFIDENCE, SHOULD IT 
BECOME NECESSARY THEY WILL PUBLICLY DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM 
it.

5. THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PASS TO PS/MR RIDLEY, IF POSSIBLE.

PARKER

FILES

SAND

PS/MR RIDLEY

SIR A. PARSONS

MR HALL

GRS 50A

RESTRICTED

FROM FCDO 0210512 AUG 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 149 OF 2 AUGUST
INFO PRIORITY MEXICO CITY FOR PS/MR RIDLEY PORT STANLEY

YOUR TELNO 1 TO MEXICO CITY:
ARGENTINE AIDE-NOMINE.
WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SENTENCE.

CARRINGTON

FILES

SAND

PS/MR RIDLEY

SIR A. PARSONS

MR HALL

RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED
Ft F.C.O. 0914112 AUG 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 153 OF 9 AUGUST.

FOR MR CARLESS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM NOW REPEATED TO YOU AT REQUEST OF MR RIDDLE'S
OFFICE

WAS SENT TO MEXICO CITY TELEGRAM NUMBER 188 OF 2 AUGUST
INFO PORT STANLEY (PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR).

PERSONAL FOR PS/MR RIDDLE FROM YAPP.

1. MINISTER HAS RECEIVED LETTER DATED 31 JULY FROM SIR JOHN
BARLOW AT FALKLAND ISLANDS OFFICE (FROM'S LOT) WHICH READS AS
FOLLOWS:

QUOTE
DURING YOUR RECENT VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, MY COMMITTEE
HEARD FROM A MEMBER OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
WHO SAID YOU HAD TOLD ISLANDERS THAT BRITAIN DOES NOT WANT
FALKLAND FISH OR OIL, AND WAS NOT PREPARED TO DECLARE A 200 MILE
ZONE OR ASSIST WITH AID TO COUNTERACT ARGENTINE THREATS. WE WERE
ASKED TO PUBLICISE THIS ALLEGED STATEMENT, BUT IN VIEW OF YOUR
DEPARTMENT'S PREVIOUS ASSURANCES AND YOUR OWN INFORMAL COMMENTS,
WE WERE NOT PREPARED TO DO THIS UNTIL WE COULD MEET TO DISCUSS
THE SUBJECT.

WE FELT THAT YOU COULD HAVE BEEN MISREPORTED OR MISUNDERSTOOD OR
SOMETHING YOU SAID TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD
LIKE TO HAVE A MEETING WITH YOU IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE TO ENABLE
US TO CLARIFY THE ISSUE OF ISLANDERS' WISHES. WE ARE TALKING
SOMEWHAT...
Dear Mr. Barrett,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my concern regarding the apparent change of policy that has recently been brought to my attention.

We understand that the recent policy decision may have implications for the Falkland Islands. It is important that we ensure that the interests and needs of the Islanders are taken into consideration.

At this meeting, we would also like to discuss the implications of the resumption of full diplomatic relations and your intentions over future talks with Argentina.

UNQUOTE.

2. I consider that if I acknowledge saying that the Minister will not effectively be back in office until 23 August, Barlow and Co. may feel less considerate about checking with him and will go to press with what they have.

3. It would be helpful if I can offer a short meeting on Friday 30 August and say at the same time, if you agree, that wires definitely appear to have been crossed.


CARRINGTON

MINN
The Falkland Islands Office
2 Grosvenor Place, Westminster, London SW1P 1SD
Telephone 01-222 9721, 01-222 0228 Telex 888164

Director General Air Commodore BG Graw DSO DFC

Our Ref: FIO/48

1. To Mr. Topham (copy to Mr. Hall/SMAD) send
2. (Copy this letter to Mr. Hall/SMAD)
3. BV Monday July 28

The Right Honourable Nicholas Ridley A.M.I.C.E., M.P.
Minister of State for the
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Whitehall
London S.W.I.

Sir John Barlow,

During your recent visit to the Falkland Islands, my Committee heard from a Member of the Falkland Islands Legislative Council, who said you had told Islanders that Britain does not want Falkland fish or oil, and was not prepared to declare a 200 mile zone or assist with aid to counteract Argentine threats. We were asked to publicise this alleged statement, but in view of your Department’s previous assurances and your own informal comments, we were not prepared to do this until we could meet to discuss the subject.

I felt that you could have been misrepresented or misunderstood or something you said taken out of context. Accordingly, we would like to have a meeting with you in the immediate future to enable us to allay the fears of Islanders who are, we are told, somewhat despondent over this apparent change of policy.

At this meeting we would also like to discuss the implications of the resumption of full diplomatic relations and your intentions over future talks with Argentina.

Yours ever,

Sir John Barlow
TOP COPY.

FROM PS/MR RIDDLE
YOUR TELNO 002 AND FCO TELNO 149 BOTH TO MEXICO CITY
MR RIDDLE AGREES ADDITION.

FILE:
SAND
PS
PS/PS
PS/MR RIDDLE
PS/PS
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

FROM PS/MR RIDDLE

TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES TELEGRAM NUMBER 002 OF 9 AUGUST
INFO PRIORITY FCO AND PORT STANLEY

6 AUG 1979

DOS 40
UNCLASSIFIED
TO MEXICO CITY 0315227 AUG 79

6 AUG 1979
GR 660
CONFIDENTIAL
FROM PORT STANLEY 021930Z AUG 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 139 OF 2 AUGUST
AND TO IMMEDIATE MEXICO CITY (FOR PS/MR RILEY)
INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 971 MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO THE FALKLANDS

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A BRIEF INDICATION OF WHAT I CAN JUDGE TO BE THE GENERAL MOOD IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE MINISTER'S VISIT, WHICH WENT EXTREMELY WELL, AND WAS WARMLY WELCOMED. WE WERE, INDEED, GRATEFUL THAT BAD WEATHER ON THE MAINLAND ALLOWED US AN EXTRA DAY OF MR AND MRS RILEY'S COMPANY.

2. THE WIDESPREAD FEELING OF SATISFACTION WITH THE VISIT HAS SEEMED LITTLE DISTURBED BY THE PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT THE QUOTE LEASEBACK UNQUOTE IDEA, WHICH FIRST BECAME EXTENSIVELY KNOWN, THE DAY AFTER THE MINISTER LEFT, THROUGH A BOLD REFERENCE BY THE BBC CORRESPONDENT IN BUENOS AIRES TO A QUOTE PROPOSED QUOTE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY AND HONG KONG TYPE SOLUTION. THIS CAUSED SOME INITIAL ALARM BUT A SUBSEQUENT BROADCAST HELPED TO COOL THINGS OFF BY THE INCLUSION OF A NON-COMMITTLAL REMARK ATTRIBUTED TO MR RILEY. IT IS DIFFICULT TO KNOW PRECISELY WHY THIS SHOULD BE SO, AND WHEN THE FULL FINANCIAL TIMES ARTICLE TURNS UP HERE WE MAY HAVE TO HAVE MORE RESERVE TO THE SIMPLE QUOTE PURE SPECULATION UNQUOTE LINE, BUT, SO FAR, THE ATTITUDES I HAVE ENCOUNTERED, DURING A BUSY ROUND OF SOCIAL AND OTHER FUNCTIONS OVER LAST WEEK-END AND THROUGH THIS WEEK, HAVE BEEN NOTICEABLY RELAXED AND CORDIAL.


CONFIDENTIAL

THE LOCAL
4. The local committee did not accept an invitation to take part in the panel, an omission to which Monck trenchantly drew attention. The committee stalwarts seemed in fact to have been knocked off balance during the visit, and have not yet recovered from some dissension in their ranks. This was to say that the London committee may not still try to make mischief, but it would be hoped they could be dissuaded from it; any attempt to speak as the sole representatives of the islanders could now be unpopular.

5. The minister's willingness, joined by that of Mrs Ridley, to mingle and talk freely among all sections of the community, during what was realised to be an arduous programme, was widely appreciated, and his farewell broadcast message, which he recorded shortly before his departure, made a very good impression for its frankness, as well as for the reaffirmation of the assurance that no settlement would be reached which did not meet the wishes of the islanders.

6. In retrospect, I now think that exposure, however speculative, to the quote leaseback unquote idea may have done more good than harm, even though it may not in the end be an acceptable solution. Added to the visit itself, and Mr Ridley's insistence that the islanders should clarify what they mean for their future by the loose use of the word quote sovereignty unquote, they have been brought sharply on to a new level of thought in the search for a realistic solution to their problems. Opinions about what should be may still vary, but a frequent comment made to me has been that Mr Ridley helped everyone see their situation in a clear light instead of through the obscurity with which they had previously preferred to look at it; however stark, they now realise it is not without hope, although they are still firmly of no mind to have the argentines come any closer in the administration of their affairs than the several hundred miles stretch of sea between...
MR RIDDLE'S MOVEMENTS

1. Mr Ridley is scheduled to return on the afternoon of Thursday 9 August. He might come into the office that afternoon and will be here on Friday 10 August. He departs on leave on Saturday 11 August, returning to the Office on Thursday 23 August.

2. I have mentioned to Mr. Yapp that we would hope there will be an opportunity for the Minister to brief us about his tour before he goes on leave. Mr. Yapp cannot at this stage give us an exact time but has noted the requirement.

3. The Secretary of State will have returned from Lusaka by the time Mr. Ridley returns and there is therefore, theoretically, an opportunity for Mr. Ridley to see him on 10 August, should time permit. Mr. Ridley will probably also want to discuss with Mr. Rudd the question of the timing of Mr. Parker's departure from Port Stanley.

2 August 1979

G A Duggan
South America Department

cc: APS/Mr Ridley
Mr Hall
Mr Cox

To Fred
To Adam
2
Mr Ridgeon, Guidance Section, GID

SUMMARY OF OVERSEAS EVENTS FOR HM THE QUEEN

1. We spoke and you agreed that you would welcome a brief reference to Mr Ridley's overseas tour with special reference to the Falkland Islands. I now offer the following to be incorporated in your summary:

"Mr Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the FCO, paid a 6-day visit to the Falkland Islands (20-26 July) at the start of a familiarisation tour which also includes visits to Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico. This is the first visit to Latin America by a member of the new Government. During his stay in the Falklands, Mr Ridley emphasised the Government's concern for the Islanders' welfare and future and our recognition and acceptance of their wish to remain British. During Mr Ridley's subsequent visit to Buenos Aires (26/27 July) it was announced that both governments had agreed on the need to restore relations to ambassadorial level."

J B Cowling
South America Department

1 August 1979
FROM BRASILIA 31/12/72 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 145 OF 31 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES AND PRIORITY POST STANLEY

FROM PS/MR RIDLEY
OUR TELNO 144
YOUR TELNO 147 TO BUENOS AIRES: ARGENTINE AIDE-MEMOIRE
1. TURS CROSSED.
2. MR RIDLEY IS BY NO MEANS TOTAL COMMITTED TO THE WORDING OF
THE PROPOSED MESSAGE SUGGESTED IN FIRST TUR, BUT HE BELIEVES THAT
AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE IS NECESSARY TO REGISTER THAT
WE DO NOT ACCEPT THE ARGENTINE POSITION. HE ALSO FEELS THAT SOME
FORM OF QUOTE THANK YOU LETTER UNQUOTE TO CAVANDOLI CAN DO NO HARM.
3. AS SEEN FROM HERE, THE WORDING OF HIS PROPOSED MESSAGE IS
NOT (NOT) INCONSISTENT WITH THE POINTS MADE IN PARA 3 OF SECOND
TUR, AND ANY NOT COVERED BY MR RIDLEY COULD PERHAPS BE MADE WHEN
occasion arises by the embassy in Buenos Aires.

STATHAM
FILES
S AN D
NEWS D
PS
PS/229
PS/PSR
PS/PSR
PS A DUFF
PS A PARSONS
MR HALL

[copy sent to rio de janeiro
at request of buenos aires]
FOR PS/MR RILDEY
MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT

1. THE LIKELY PROGRAMME FOR MR RILDEY'S VISIT IS AS FOLLOWS:

WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST

0800 ARRIVAL. TO RESIDENCE FOR REST/BRIEFING.
1000 MEETING WITH ENERGY MINISTER, DR CALDERON BERTI.
1200 CALL ON PRESIDENT HERRERA.
1230 POSSIBLE FPA VIN D'HONNEUR OR LUNCH.
1230 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCH (UNLESS THE FPA DO A LUNCH).
1500 TOUR OF THE EMBASSY TO MEET STAFF FOLLOWED, IF TIME ALLOWS,
BY A QUICK VISIT TO POSSIBLE NEW EMBASSY OFFICE PREMISES IN
AN IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING BUILDING.
1600 MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, DR ZAMBRANO VELASCO OR THE
VICE-MINISTER DR LEON MORALES.
1800 INTERVIEW BY INTERNATIONAL EDITOR OF EL NACIONAL, ONE OF THE
TWO MAIN CARACAS DAILY NEWSPAPERS, OR POSSIBLY A MEETING WITH
A WIDER GROUP OF PRESS CORRESPONDENTS. GRATEFUL FOR URGENT
CONFIRMATION THAT MR RILDEY WOULD BE CONTENT TO TAKE ON THESE.
2000 DINNER PARTY IN MR AND MRS RILDEY'S HONOUR BY THE CHARGE
D'AFFAIRES AT THE RESIDENCE.

THURSDAY 2 AUGUST

0800 LEAVE RESIDENCE FOR AIRPORT.
1000 DEPART VA BAN FOR MEXICO CITY (BOUGHT ON ECONOMY CLASS,
WAITLISTED FIRST CLASS SEATS).

2. FOR MRS RILDEY THERE WILL BE A LADIES LUNCH HOSTED BY SENORA DE
HALVORSSEN, WIFE OF A VENEZUELAN BUSINESSMAN, AT HER HOME. WE ARE
ALSO WAITING ON THE FPA TO SEE IF THEY WILL ARRANGE A SIGHTSEEING
TOUR FOR MRS RILDEY. IF NOT, AND SUBJECT TO MRS RILDEY'S WISHES,
WE WILL ARRANGE ONE Ourselves ACCOMPANIED BY A SENIOR EMBASSY WIFE.

/ 5. THE
3. The MFA have still to give us final confirmation of some of the items in the above programme. In addition to the normal difficulties we experience, the problems of the MFA have been compounded by the sudden visit of the Foreign Minister to Nicaragua over the weekend and it is not yet known if he will be back by mid-week. Since the Minister and many of his staff are much concerned with events in Nicaragua it may be that the Deputy Foreign Minister, Dr. Rafael Leon Morales (who is in any event coming to the dinner), will be given the leading role in the programme.

FILB:
S. AND
F.ER. RIDELEY
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL
FROM F.C.O. 3111532 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 119 OF 31 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES, PRIORITY PORT COLORADO

FOR P.S./Mr Ridley

1. You will by now have seen F.C.O. TELNO 147 to D.A. Although we had not suggested a message, we see no objection to the delivery of one in the terms proposed.

2. While this message would relieve Mr Carless of the necessity to speak about the role of the Islanders, we still think it would be helpful for him to say something at the appropriate moment about the formula used in Mr Callaghan's message, since the Argentines have consistently tried to obtain our acquiescence in the misrepresentation of this point.

CARRINGTON
FILES
S.M. D.
SIR A. DUFF
SIR A. PARSONS
FILB
FR. RIDELEY
MR. HALL

CONFIDENTIAL
MR RIDLEY AND THE FALKLANDS

A 1. In the light of Brasilia telno 144 and my subsequent conversation with you, I submit a draft telegram supplementing FCO telno 147 to BA.

J B Ure
South America Department

31 July, 1979
CONFIDENTIAL

FROM BRASILIA 20 JULY 79 TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 146 OF 30 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES AND PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FROM PS/ MR RILEY

BUENOS AIRES TELEGRAM NUMBER 198: ARGENTINE AIDE-MEMOIRE ON THE FALKLANDS.

1. MR RILEY WISHES TO REACT TO THE DELIVERY OF THE ARGENTINE AIDE-MEMOIRE BROADLEY ON THE LINES MR CARLESS HAS SUGGESTED. SUBJECT TO YOUR ADVICE, HE WOULD LIKE CARLESS TO DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO CAVANDOLI, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BEGINS QUOTE

I HAVE NOW BEEN ABLE TO READ A TRANSLATION OF THE AIDE-MEMOIRE WHICH MR BLOOMER REEVE HANDED TO MY PRIVATE SECRETARY ON OUR DEPARTURE FROM BUENOS AIRES. I MUST SAY I WAS A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO GIVE IT TO ME EARLIER SO THAT I COULD STUDY IT, OR TO WARN ME THAT IT WAS COMING. AT LEAST I NOW HAVE THE BENEFIT OF YOUR VIEWS. OF COURSE THEY RAISE IMPORTANT ISSUES, AND THE FOREIGN SECRETARY OR I MAY WISH TO SEND YOU A FULLER REPLY AFTER FURTHER CONSIDERATION. I WOULD HOWEVER STRESS ONE POINT AT THIS STAGE. I AM MOST ENCOURAGED TO READ THAT YOU ALSO CONSIDER THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDERS MUST BE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS. WHEN I WAS IN THE ISLANDS, I MADE IT CLEAR TO EVERYONE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD CONCLUDE NO SETTLEMENT OF THE SOVEREIGNTY DISPUTE WHICH DID NOT MEET THE WISHES OF THE ISLANDERS.

I MUST TELL YOU THAT FOR US THIS IS A FUNDAMENTAL POINT IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS, AND IT WILL NOT CHANGE. IT IS ALSO NECESSARY FOR THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE ON SOME ASPECTS OF THE POSITION.

END QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL
TEXT OF MR RIDLEY'S REPLY TO ARGENTINE AIDE MEMOIRE OF 28 JULY 1979

I have now been able to read a translation of the Aide Memoire which Sr Bloomer Reeve handed to my Private Secretary on our departure from Buenos Aires. I must say I was a little disappointed that you had not been able to give it to me earlier so that I could study it, or to warn me that it was coming. At least I now have the benefit of your views. Of course they raise important issues, and the Foreign Secretary or I may wish to send you a fuller reply after further consideration. I would however stress one point at this stage. I am most encouraged to read that you also consider that the interests of the Falkland Islanders must be taken fully into account in our negotiations. When I was in the Islands, I made it clear to everyone that the British Government would conclude no settlement of the sovereignty dispute which did not meet the wishes of the Islanders.

I must tell you that for us this is a fundamental point in our negotiations, and it will not change. But I would stress that, on the basis of my visit to the Islands, I do not believe that our commitment to Islander wishes shuts the door to satisfactory solutions to the whole problem. It is also necessary for the Argentine Government to be more flexible on some aspects of the position.

It was a great pleasure for me to meet you again. I am sorry that our arrival was delayed, and I was most grateful for the arrangements you made to revise my programme in Buenos Aires. I look forward to further discussions with you, believing that it is in the interests of us all to reach a settlement to this problem which, as you say, is an impediment in our relations.

Nicholas Ridley
2 August 1979
CONFIDENTIAL
FROM BRASILIA 3M1515Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 143 OF 33 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY AND BUENOS AIRES
FROM PS MR RIDLEY
FALKLANDS
1. THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY AND MR CARLESS WILL NO DOUBT BE SENDING THEIR CONSIDERED ASSESSMENTS OF MR RIDLEY’S VISITS TO THE ISLANDS AND TO BUENOS AIRES. THE FOLLOWING ARE MR RIDLEY’S INITIAL IMpressions: HE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THEM WITH YOU ON RETURN.

2. DURING HIS FIVE DAY PROGRAMME IN THE ISLANDS HE WAS WARMLY WELcomed. IN MEETINGS WITH COUNCILLORS AND OTHER BODIES IN PORT STANLEY, AND IN FOUR SETTLEMENTS IN THE CAMP, PEOPLE DISCUSSED OPENLY AND REALISTICALLY THE PRESENT EFFECTS ON THE ISLANDS OF THE DISPUTE WITH ARGENTINA. CLEARLY THERE IS DISSATISFACTION AT THE PRESENT UNCERTAINTY. MR RIDLEY’S PRIMARY IMPRESSION IS THAT THERE IS WIDESPREAD CONSENSUS THAT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD RESUME SOON, AIMED AT A GLOBAL SETTLEMENT, RATHER THAN THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH OF THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT. HE REGARDS THE LATTER AS NOT PERMITTING PROPER DEVELOPMENT, NOT LIKELY TO ACHIEVE RESULTS. IN SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS, NOT ONLY WITH COUNCILLORS, HE EXAMINED WHAT PRECISELY ISLANDERS MEANT BY THE TERM QUOTE SOVEREIGNTY UNQUOTE; HE BELIEVES THAT AT THE BOTTOM THEY WANT TO REMAIN UNDER BRITISH CONTROL, WITH BRITISH LINKS, AND WITH THE RIGHT TO CONDUCT THEIR AFFAIRS IN THEIR OWN WAY; COUNCILLORS DID NOT DISSENT FROM THIS ANALYSIS. HE CONTINUALLY REPEATED THE VIMANCULATE THAT NO SETTLEMENT WOULD BE CONCLUDED WHICH DID NOT SATISFY THE ISLANDERS. POSSIBLE NEGOTIATING POSITIONS WERE DISCUSSED ONLY WITH COUNCILLORS. THEIR PREFERENCE WAS FOR A FREEZE (FOR A PERIOD OF SAY 50 YEARS). MR RIDLEY FELT THIS WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ARGENTINA AND PREFERRED TO DISCUSS THE LEASE-BACK OPTION ON WHICH THE FINANCIAL TIMES SPECULATED: COUNCILLORS ACCEPTED THIS AS A POSITION FROM WHICH TO EMBARK IN NEGOTIATIONS, BUT MR RIDLEY WAS AT TIMES TO POINT OUT THAT HE WAS BY NO MEANS HOPEFUL OF A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME.

CONFIDENTIAL
3. The talks in Buenos Aires with Cavalloti did not permit any serious exploration of the Argentine position. But in the light of interesting discussions with the minister of the economy, Martinez de Hoz, and with Oliveri Lopez, Mr. Ridley feels that even lease-back for an acceptable period (99 years) may not prove negotiable. In case it does not, he is now tentatively considering whether we could work out a third option, to meet the minimum Argentine position more easily. This could involve a special international status for the Falkland Islands in which sovereignty of their territory would be ceded by Britain to Argentina, and the islanders would lease it back on their own behalf under a new constitutional position whereby they would receive administrative help from Britain but would be under international security guarantees. This idea is not yet clearly formed in Mr. Ridley’s mind, and he would not (not) wish it to be mentioned to the councillors.

4. However we decide to play the hand, Mr. Ridley is keen to bring the nine more positively into the dispute. He also believes that we could perhaps involve the Pope, in some ways perhaps analogous to his mediation in the Beagle Channel dispute between Argentina and Chile.

5. Apart from his conclusions concerning the sovereignty dispute Mr. Ridley has formed the belief that under-development (particularly in agriculture) is caused partly by a serious deficiency in the colony’s access to financial capital. He discussed this point widely in the islands, and would like to encourage the establishment of commercial banking enterprise there. He wishes to take this proposal further on his return to London.

6. Connected with this is his concern at the weak performance of the Falkland Islands Company. Mr. Ridley fears that its dominance in the colony’s agriculture and its virtual monopoly in shipping, wool marketing and commerce within the islands is harmful.
GRS 240
CONFIDENTIAL
FROM BRASILIA 3018557 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 001 OF 30 JULY
INFO PRIORITY FCO AND BUENOS AIRES

FROM PS/ MR RIDLEY
MR RIDLEY’S VISIT
1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM MR RIDLEY TO THE COUNCILLORS:

QUOTE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE KIND RECEPTION WHICH YOU, AND INDEED ALL THE ISLANDERS I MET, GAVE ME DURING THE SIX DAYS I WAS WITH YOU. AS I TOLD YOU DURING OUR SECOND MEETING, I NOW FEEL PART OF THE ISLANDS, AND I AM CERTAIN THAT IT WAS THE RIGHT DECISION TO VISIT YOU AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE BRITISH GENERAL ELECTION.

2. I HAD TWO SETS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ARGENTINE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, COMODORO CAVANDOLI, IN BUENOS AIRES, BUT I WAS NOT ABLE TO PROBE THE CURRENT ARGENTINE THINKING VERY DEEPLY. THEY DID HOWEVER HAND ME AN AIDE-MEMOIRE AS I WAS ON THE POINT OF DEPARTING WHICH SET OUT SOME OF THEIR VIEWS. AS I TOLD YOU, LORD CARRINGTON WILL BE IN NEW YORK AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER FOR THE OPENING OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY; THE ARGENTINES HOPE THAT THEIR FOREIGN MINISTER, CHANCELLOR PASTOR, WILL HAVE A MEETING WITH HIM THERE. THEY THINK THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA FOR ME TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING WITH CAVANDOLI BEFORE THAT DATE, BUT I VERY MUCH DOUBT IF THERE WILL BE TIME (GIVEN THAT AUGUST IS VERY MUCH OUR HOLIDAY PERIOD) TO SET THINGS UP FOR THIS.

3. I HAVE SENT TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY AN ACCOUNT OF MY IMPRESSIONS, VERY MUCH AS I DESCRIBED THEM TO YOU AT OUR SECOND MEETING, AND I WILL HOPE TO DISCUSS THEM WITH HIM ON MY RETURN TO LONDON. I WILL OF COURSE KEEP YOU CLOSELY INFORMED OF ALL DEVELOPMENTS.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

1. Once again, my very grateful thanks for all you did for Mrs Ridley and me.

Yours very sincerely

Nicholas Ridley

Statham

DEPTL DISTN
ADM
MAR
DEF-
EST-
NWS-
SPD
CABINET OFFICE

ADDITIONAL DISTN
FALKLAND ISLANDS

CONFIDENTIAL

2. Financial Times Article

1. We agree that the general line in the first of your tel under reference is the right one to take with the councillors and in any other confidential briefings, and indeed there may be some advantage in obtaining further reactions from councillors to these ideas. We would suggest however that you leave them to comment on the quote years mentioned unquote.

2. However in press briefings and public statements we think you would do well to stick to the news dept line of no comment, or at most limit yourself to pointing out that the article is based on pure speculation, any on the record comment on lease back possibilities, and more particularly on terms of years, might prove a handicap to negotiations at some later stage either with the Argentines or with the Islanders.

Carrington

Files
SAMD
NWS-
PSIR. Ridley
Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
Resident Clerk

CONFIDENTIAL
GRS 130
RESTRICTED
FROM BRASILIA 3012022 JUL 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 005 OF 30 JULY

FROM PS/MR RIDLEY FOR GOZNEY
RECORDS OF STANLEY MEETINGS
1. I HAVE CHECKED THE DRAFTS, AND MADE TEXTUAL IMPROVEMENTS WHICH DO NOT ALTER THE SENSE OF THE TEXT AS YOU HAVE IT. BUT PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:
   A) I HAVE CROSSED OUT THE SECOND HALF OF THE LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 5, OF THE FIRST RECORD.
   B) IN THE SECOND RECORD, IN PARA 13, MR RIDLEY’S REMARK SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED.
   C) FINAL SENTENCE OF PARA 16 IN SECOND RECORD SHOULD READ: “THE ISLANDERS SHOULD REGARD THE GUARANTEE HE HAD GIVEN AS A BRITISH GOVERNMENT MINISTER, THAT NOTHING WOULD BE DONE AGAINST THEIR WISHES, AS BEING AS CAST IRON AS COULD BE GIVEN UNQUOTE.

2. BAG SERVICES MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SEND DRAFTS TO F.C.O. AHEAD OF Our RETURN. NEVERTHELESS COULD YOU SEND COPIES OF DRAFTS AS YOU HAVE THEM, INCORPORATING ABOVE POINTS, TO THE GOVERNOR? FINAL VERSIONS WILL OF COURSE BE ISSUED FROM LONDON.

STATHAM

REPRESENTATIONS
S AND D
PS/MR RIDLEY
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL

RESTRICTED
MINISTER OF STATE’S VISIT: PRESS COMMENT

1. COVERAGE OF THE FINAL DAY OF MR RIDLEY’S VISIT WAS EXTENSIVE, BUT THE PRESS FOUND IT HARD TO DECIDE WHICH ASPECT WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT. SOME REPORTS STRESS THE AGREEMENT TO RESTORE FULL RELATIONS, SOME THE PROPOSED MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN NEW YORK (SEEN AS THE NEXT STEP IN THE FALKLANDS NEGOTIATIONS), AND ONE OR TWO THE REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO MR RIDLEY ABOUT ARGENTINE AFFAIRS (OUR TELNO 199).

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS BEEN SPARSE, AND MAY BE AWAITING A LEAD FROM OFFICIAL QUARTERS, BUT LA NACION CONCLUDES THAT THE OUTCOME OF MR RIDLEY’S BRIEF VISIT IS THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE. THE POSSIBILITY OF A HONG KONG SOLUTION FOR THE FALKLANDS HAS BEEN ALMOST IGNORED (PERHAPS AT OFFICIAL BEhest).

[Signature]

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MR RIDDLE'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

A. Mr Pattison's letter of 3 July to you reported that the Prime Minister wished to see a shorter itinerary for Mr Ridley's visit to Latin America. Mr Pattison asked for alternative proposals.

2. Given existing airline schedules (and particularly the fact that there are only 2 flights a week from Argentina to the Falkland Islands) there are two realistic ways in which Mr Ridley's absence from London could be made shorter, while still maintaining the dual objective of making an early visit to the Falkland Islands and going to the major countries of Latin America on the one visit. One abbreviates the time spent in the Falkland Islands, the other omits Peru altogether.

3. These would involve the following:

   A. (Leaving London 5 days later than planned)

   16 July Depart London
   17 July In Buenos Aires
   18 July Fly to Falkland Islands (arriving early afternoon)
   20 July Leave Islands (in afternoon, arriving Buenos Aires morning of 21 July)
   22 July To Rio de Janeiro and Brasilia
   25 July To Lima
   30 July To Caracas
   1 August To Mexico City
   6 August To Antigua
   8 August Return to London (arriving lunchtime 9 August)

   B. (Leaving London 7 days later than planned)

   18 July Depart London
   19 July In Buenos Aires
   20 July Buenos Aires to Falkland Islands
   25 July Falkland Islands to Buenos Aires
   27 July Buenos Aires to Rio
   29 July Rio to Brasilia
   31 July Brasilia to Caracas (overnight)
   2 August Caracas to Mexico City

Remainder of itinerary as in Option A.

/Both
Both options reduce time spent in Brazil, and mean that the industrial city of Sao Paulo must be omitted. Option A carries the disadvantage that only 48 hours would be spent in the Falkland Islands, instead of the 5 days originally proposed. Option B reduces the time spent in Caracas to one working day.

4. Apart from these, Mr Ridley considers both alternatives to have other disadvantages. On the one hand he is advised that it is important to spend a reasonable length of time in the Falkland Islands if he is travelling so far to see them; the Islanders might resent his spending only 48 hours there whereas his predecessor on a similar visit spent 5 days. On the other hand our Ambassador in Lima believes the Peruvian Government will be disappointed if Lima is dropped from the itinerary; UK Ministerial visits there are not frequent. The Secretary of State might agree however to his making a later visit to Andean Pact countries, if Peru is omitted on this occasion.

5. Although PS/Lord Privy Seal has written to No 10 proposing that Lord Trefgarne represent the Government at the inauguration of the new President of Ecuador on 10 August, Mr Ridley has asked me to say that he would have been prepared, in order to save expense, to include this chore at the end of his tour. He understands that it would be possible to leave Quito on the morning of Saturday 11 August, arriving in London on the morning of Sunday 12 August. But as it is thought the itinerary is already too long, he feels it would be best if he did not offer to do this.
10 DOWNING STREET
From the Private Secretary

Dear Margaret,

Thank you for your letter of 25 June about Mr. Ridley's revised plans for his visit to Latin America from 11 July to 9 August.

The Prime Minister is content subject to Parliamentary and Government business.

I am copying this letter to Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office) and William Austen (Government Whips' Office).

Yours ever,

Mike Phillips

Miss Margaret Turner,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
In your letter of 3 July you reported that the Prime Minister wished to see a shorter itinerary for Mr Ridley’s proposed visit to Latin America, than that which I set out in my letter to you of 25 June (copy enclosed for ease of reference).

We have looked again at the possibilities. The Secretary of State would still like Mr Ridley to visit the major countries of Latin America on the one visit, but this objective can be met by an itinerary leaving London a week later than originally planned, omitting only a visit to Peru.

Mr Ridley would travel as follows:

18 July   Depart London
19 July   In Buenos Aires
20 July   Buenos Aires to Falkland Islands
25 July   Falkland Islands to Buenos Aires
27 July   Buenos Aires to Rio de Janeiro
29 July   Rio de Janeiro to Brasilia
31 July   Brasilia to Caracas (overnight)
2 August  Caracas to Mexico City
6 August  To Antigua
8 August  Return to London (arriving lunchtime 9 August)

I should be grateful for your urgent confirmation that the Prime Minister is content.

I am sending copies of this letter to Murdo MacLean (Government Whip’s Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Margaret Turner (Miss)  
Private Secretary

Mike Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street
The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has asked the Minister of State, Mr Ridley, to visit the Falkland Islands and a number of more important Latin American countries with which he deals to try to establish whether there are any commercial opportunities which we should be pursuing.

Mr Ridley plans to leave Britain on 11 July visiting the Falkland Islands (13/18 July), Argentina (18/20 July), Brazil (20/23 July), Peru (25/30 July), Venezuela (26 July – 1 August), Mexico (1/6 August) and returning via Antigua and St Kitts/Nevis (6/9 August). He would be accompanied by his Private Secretary, but no other officials.

The purpose of the visit overall would be exploratory. In the Falkland Islands it would be important for Mr Ridley to establish personal contact with the Islanders, to get some insight into their thinking, and to be able to obtain a first-hand account of their views. In the Latin American capitals, Mr Ridley would have meetings with appropriate Ministers. In Argentina he would undertake no negotiations with the Foreign Minister over the Falkland Islands; Lord Carrington intends to embark on no such action before the autumn. Additionally in Brazil, Mr Ridley’s visit may provide the occasion for a formal meeting under the Memorandum of Understanding for “consultations on matters of common interest”. In Mexico, as well as meeting members of the Mexican Government, he would attend some functions of the British Cultural Festival which opens in early August.

Mr Ridley would like to take the opportunity to return to London via the Eastern Caribbean. The Antiguans have asked for preliminary constitutional talks, as a further step towards independence. Also we have a commitment to settle the constitutional differences between St Kitts and Nevis before the end of the year, and a brief visit there would encourage the islanders to accelerate progress.

I would be grateful for your confirmation that the Prime Minister has no objection.

Lord Carrington believes that there would be advantage if Mrs Ridley travels with the Minister of State. Particularly in the visit to the Falkland Islands, but also in the other stages.

Mike Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street
of the tour, her presence and interest will help to generate goodwill. Lord Carrington hopes that on this occasion the Prime Minister will approve the payment of Mrs Ridley's fare from public funds.

I am copying this letter to William Austin (Government Whip's Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Your sincerely,

Margaret Turner (Miss)
Private Secretary
From the Private Secretary

The Prime Minister has seen your letter of 25 June, setting out your Secretary of State's proposals for a visit by Mr. Ridley to Latin America and the Caribbean. She also discussed this proposed visit with the Secretary of State last week.

The Prime Minister agrees in principle to the tour, and she is content that Mrs. Ridley should accompany her husband. But she would much prefer to see a somewhat shorter itinerary, preferably with a smaller proportion falling whilst the House is sitting. I realise that this may be difficult if the timing of the visits to the Falkland Islands and Argentina have special significance. Perhaps you could let me know what adjustments might be possible.

I am sending copies of this letter to William Austen (Government Whips' Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

Mike Pattem

Miss Margaret Turner,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL
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Minister of State, Mr Ridley, to visit the Falkland Islands
and a number of more important Latin American countries with
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differences between St Kitts and Nevis before the end of the year,
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the visit to the Falkland Islands, but also in the other stages

Mike Pattison Esq
10 Downing Street
CONFIDENTIAL

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I am copying this letter to William Austen (Government Whip’s Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

[Signature]

Margaret Turner (Miss)
Private Secretary
CONFIDENTIAL

PM F O 3015042 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 147 OF 30 JULY
INFO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR PS/HR RIDLEY)
PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

YOUR TELNOS 198 AND 199: MR RIDLEY AND FALKLANDS.

1. DISCONCERTING AS WAS THE TIMING OF DELIVERY OF THIS AIDE MOIRE TO MR RIDLEY, WE NOTE THAT IT REFERS TO THE LETTER TO PASTOR, AND DOUBTLESS THE ARGENTINES WOULD CLAIM THAT IT WAS A REPLY WHICH COULD NOT HAVE BEEN DELIVERED EARLIER. WE ALSO NOTE THAT NONE OF THE SUBSTANTIVE POINTS IN THE AIDE MEMOIRE ARE UNEXPECTED; ALL OF THEM WERE MADE AT NEW YORK IN MARCH.

2. OUR FIRST REACTION IS THEREFORE NOT TO HASTEN TO REPLY BUT TO ANSWER THESE POINTS SUBSTANTIvely WHEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE SEES PASTOR AT NEW YORK IN THE AUTUMN.

3. MEANWHILE YOU MAY WISH TO TAKE ANY APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO RE-STATE OUR POSITION AND IN PARTICULAR TO REMIND THE ARGENTINES THAT WHEN MR CALLAGHAN AND BRITISH OFFICIALS EARLIER REFERRED TO DISCUSSION QUOTE OF THE NATURE OF A HYPOTHETICAL FUTURE CONSTITUTIONAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ARGENTINA UNQUOTE THIS DID NOT IMPLY ANY PRIOR COMMITMENT TO CONCEIVING SOVEREIGNTY; IT MERELY BROUGHT SOVEREIGNTY WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND THUS LED ON TO THE EXCHANGE OF CONSTRUCTIVE IDEAS. AS FAR AS QUOTE THE WILL OF THE ISLANDERS UNQUOTE IS CONCERNED OUR POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED AT ALL: WE AGREE THAT THEY ARE NOT A THIRD PARTY TO THE DISPUTE, BUT HAVE ALWAYS MADE IT CLEAR, PUBLICLY AND IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, THAT ANY SETTLEMENT MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO THEM.

CARRINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL
MR RIDLEY AND THE FALKLANDS

A, B

1. I doubt if we need respond as sharply as Mr Carless suggests (BA telno 198) to the aide memoire (BA telno 199) which the Argentines gave to Mr Ridley on his departure. I submit a self-explanatory draft telegram.

J. B. Ure
South America Department

30 July, 1979

I agree. I have amended para 3 to include the exact passage to which the Argentines are referring and to deal with the question of "the will of the Falklands." Whilst we do not need to react sharply we should not let the Argentines believe that silence until the Minster and meeting implies consent.

J. B. Ure
30/7 9:30

CONFIDENTIAL
MR RIDLEY AND THE FALKLANDS

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J B Ure
South America Department

30 July, 1979

Agree. I have amended para 3 to include the exact passage to which the Argentines are referring and to deal with the question of the will of the Falklands. Whilst we do not need to react sharply we should not let the Argentines believe that we remain until the Minster and meeting implicit consent.

F Hall 30/8/79
CONFIDENTIAL

CABLE 234447
FROM BUENOS AIRES 0916457 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 1071 OF 28 JULY
AND TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)
AND FCO FORT STANLEY

FIRST VISIT OF MY RIDDLE AND FALKLANDS

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE.

BEGIN

THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR SATISFACTION AT SEEING THE INTENTION, SHARED BY BOTH PARTIES, TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE FALKLANDS ISSUE, WITHIN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AGREED BY THE TWO PARTIES IN APRIL 1977.

IN AGREEMENT WITH WHAT MINISTER RIDLEY HAS SAID, WE BELIEVE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE AT A MORE DYNAMIC PACE, WHICH WOULD CORRESPOND WITH THE SENSE OF URGENCY WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS HAS DECIDED MUST BE GIVEN TO A SOLUTION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY DISPUTE OVER THE ISLANDS.

IN THIS RESPECT WE WERE PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO SEE THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE, LORD CARRINGTON, IN HIS MESSAGE TO THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER, EXPRESSED HIS CONFIDENCE IN BEING ABLE TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT AND WITH THE SINCERE INTENTION OF RESOLVING THE DIFFERENCES UNQUOTE, TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF WHAT BOTH GOVERNMENTS UNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE TO BE REFERRING.

IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE BRITISH SIDE TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE OVER SOME ASPECTS OF THE POSITION THEY ADOPTED AT THE NEW YORK MEETING LAST MARCH. THIS POSITION, FAR FROM OFFERING POSSIBILITIES FOR PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BY BRINGING VIEWS CLOSER TOGETHER AND SEARCHING FOR POINTS OF AGREEMENT, CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS A REGRETTABLE STEP BACKWARDS.

A MODIFICATION OF THE STAND ADOPTED BY THE UK IN MARCH OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WOULD FIT THE LINE OF THINKING EXPRESSED BY THE PRIME MINISTER MR CARRAGHAN IN HIS MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL QUIJANO IN MARCH 1976, AND THE PAPER HANDED TO SUBSECRETARY ALLARA

CONFIDENTIAL / BY MR EDMUNDS
CONFIDENTIAL

FR BUrus AIRS 081647 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCDO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 197 OF 28 JULY
AND TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR RS/HR RIdLEY)
INFO FORT STANLEY

PREF : VISIT OF MY RIdLEY AND FALKLANDS

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE.

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ASPECTS OF THE POSITION THEY ADOPTED AT THE NEW YORK MEETING LAST
MARCH. THIS POSITION, FAR FROM OFFERING POSSIBILITIES FOR PROGRESS
IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BY BRINGING VIEWS CLOSER TOGETHER AND SEARCHING
FOR POINTS OF AGREEMENT, CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS A REGRETTABLE
STEP BACKWARDS.

A MODIFICATION OF THE STAND ADOPTED BY THE UK IN MARCH OVER THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS WOULD FIT THE LINE OF THINKING EXPRESSED BY THE
PRIME MINISTER MR CALLAGHAN IN HIS MESSAGE TO FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL
OUIJANO IN MARCH 1976, AND THE PAPER HANDED TO SUBSECRETARY ALLARA

CONFIDENTIAL / BY MR Edmunds
CONFIDENTIAL

BY MR EDMUNDS (CIC) IN ROME IN JULY 1977 AND FORMALISED SOME MONTHS LATER IN THE NEW YORK MEETING OF DECEMBER THAT YEAR. THE PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN SUBSECRETARY CAVANDOLI AND MINISTER RIDLEY IN BUENOS AIRES SUGGESTS THAT THE LATTER IS GUIDED BY A SIMILAR CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT.


ASIDE FROM THE POSITION OF PRINCIPLE, THE PRACTICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S INSISTENCE ON MAKING ANY RESULT OF NEGOTIATIONS CONDITIONAL UPON THE WILL OF THE ISLANDERS WILL BE NEGATIVE, AND WILL SURROUND WITH UNCERTAINTIES THE AGREEMENTS WHICH COULD BE REACHED BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS.

IN VIEW OF THE CONSIDERATIONS SET OUT ABOVE THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT BELIEVE THAT THE BRITISH SIDE SHOULD RECONSIDER THESE ASPECTS OF THEIR APPROACH TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, AS EVIDENCE THAT THEY REALLY ASPIRE TO BROAD CO-OPERATION WITH ARGENTINA ON THE BASIS OF A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO A DISPUTE WHICH DISTURBS OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS IN ALL FIELDS.

CURLESS

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MISS BROWN
CONFIDENTIAL

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DESKR 344
MR RALLS 03/54 JU 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCDO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 198 OF 20 JULY
AND TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA (FOR PS/MR RIDLEY)
INFO FORT STANLEY

VISIT OF MR RIDLEY TO FALKLANDS

1. AT MR RIDLEY'S SECOND MEETING WITH CAVANDOLI YESTERDAY THE QUESTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS WAS ONLY MENTIONED IN PASSING.

2. THE AIDE MEMOIRE CONTAINS SOME SHARPLY WORDED PHRASES AND I BELIEVE ITS PURPOSE TO BE TWINfold:
(a) TO PLACE ON RECORD FOR FUTURE USE, FOR EXAMPLE IN ANY MEETING YOU MAY HAVE WITH PASTOR AT THE UN IN SEPTEMBER, THE MAIN POINTS OF PRESENT ARGENTINE CONCERN;
(b) TO BE ABLE TO CLAIM TO THE ARGENTINE MILITARY, TO SHOW THE AIDE MEMOIRE WILL PROBABLY BE CIRCULATED, THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY EXERTED PRESSURE ON MR RIDLEY DURING HIS VISIT.

3. THE ONLY MANNER IN WHICH THIS DOCUMENT WAS WITHHELD FROM MR RIDLEY UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE FOR HIM EVEN TO GLANCE AT IT, IS A BAD COUNTER ON THE CONDUCT OF DIPLOMATIC BUSINESS HERE. AT NO STAGE WITHIN THE FIVE OR SIX HOURS THAT CAVANDOLI PRESENTED MR RIDLEY DID HE OR HIS ADVISERS MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH A DOCUMENT OR TO THE POINTS CONTAINED IN IT.

CONFIDENTIAL / 4. I RECOMMEND
CONFIDENTIAL

I recommend that the Minister of State should react robustly, one way or another so would be for him to send me a message for delivery to Cavandoli saying that whilst he found his discussions with the latter of value, he was shocked to be handed, as he was stepping on to the plane and without any prior warning, a document setting out Argentine views on the Falklands dispute, and that he would consider replying to the points it raised in due course.

See WHT.

careless

31 JUL 79

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA

1. Clarin of 27 July, in reporting a question put to Mr. Ridley about the Falklands Islands Committee, in the aircraft returning from the Islands, attributed to him the answer below:

"CUSTE. I think that the Falklands is a genuinely democratic country, an open system where they elect their councilors and within which the committee can develop its political ideas. Perhaps Argentina ... can copy the system of the Islands, where no-one is detained for political reasons, and human rights are respected. Unquote.

2. At the talks at the NFCA on 27 July, Cavandoli expressed the Argentine government's concern at this report. The substance of which had been broadcast. Mr. Ridley agreed to issue a statement to the press in the following terms:

"CUSTE. The Minister of State, Mr. Ridley, wishes to clarify that during his stay in Argentina he had no intention of making any reference to the internal affairs of Argentina and is displeased by certain remarks attributed to him by a single daily newspaper. Unquote.

careless

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION:

LATIN AMERICA

CONFIDENTIAL

FILEE 8:
S AMB
FOB
NIO D
CIAS
FOB/US
MR DUFF
MR HALL
KISS BROWN

FILEE 15:
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FOB/FOB
MR DUFF
MR HALL
MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA: COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY ARGENTINE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 27 JULY, 1979

During his visit to Argentina, the Minister of State, Mr Nicholas Ridley, accompanied by the Charge d'Affaires, Mr Hugh Carless, and officials, held friendly and constructive working meetings with the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Comodoro Carlos R Cavandoli and officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 26 and 27 July.

Relations between the two countries were discussed, with particular reference to the level of diplomatic representation, and to possible dates and forms of the next round of negotiations over the Falkland Islands, taking into account the wish expressed by the two Foreign Ministers that they might meet in New York during the opening sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. There was also an exchange of views on the subject of bilateral commercial and economic relations, and on the Antarctic Treaty negotiations on the Conservation of Marine Resources.

In a wider context the problem of refugees from South East Asia and other matters of mutual and international interest were considered.

Mr Ridley
Mr Ridley was received by HE the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brigadier Carlos Pastor. On this occasion the earlier agreement of both Governments to exchange Ambassadors was confirmed, it being accepted that diplomatic relations should be raised to this level as soon as possible, and that the two Governments would seek agreement for their respective candidates in due course in accordance with established procedure.

Mr Ridley was also received by HE the Minister of Economy Dr Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz.
MINISTER OF STATES VISIT TO ARGENTINA

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED BY H.E. AT 1945 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON 27 JULY.

BEGIN

OFS

DURING HIS VISIT TO ARGENTINA, THE MINISTER OF STATE,
MR. NICHOLAS RIDLEY, ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHARGE D’AFFAIRES, MR. HUGH
CAREER, AND OFFICIALS, HELD FRIENDLY AND CONSTRUCTIVE WORKING MEET-
INGS WITH THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, CONSULOS CARLOS
GUAMOLO AND OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF ARGENTINA ON 26 AND 27 JULY.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WERE DISCUSSED, WITH
PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE LEVEL OF DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION,
AND TO POSSIBLE DATES AND FORMS OF THE NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS
OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE HIGH EXPRESSED
BY THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS THAT THEY MIGHT MEET IN NEW YORK
DURING THE OPENING SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED
NATIONS. THERE WAS ALSO AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT OF
BILATERAL COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND ON THE ANTARCTIC
TREATY NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CONSERVATION OF MARINE RESOURCES.

IN A WIDER CONTEXT THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEES FROM SOUTH
EAST ASIA AND OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL AND INTERNATIONAL
INTEREST WERE CONSIDERED.

MR. RIDLEY WAS RECEIVED BY H.E. THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, MR. JACÓ DE CARLOS, PASTOR. ON THIS OCCASION THE
EARLIER AGREEMENT OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS
WAS CONFIRMED.
MR. RIDLEY'S VISIT TO ARGENTINA: COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY ARGENTINE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON 27 JULY, 1979

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Mr Ridley was also received by HE the Minister of Economy Dr Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz.
ARGENTINA: NORMALISATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

Baroness EMMET of AMBERLEY asked Her Majesty's Government whether they will make a statement on thenormalisation of their diplomatic relations with Argentina.

Lord CARRINGTON: During his recent visit to Buenos Aires, my honoursable friend the Minister of State discussed the question of relations between our two countries with the Argentine Government. The Governments have agreed on the need to restore relations to Ambassadorial level and will be seeking agreement for their respective candidates in due course.

27.7.79

LORDS' HANSARD
Argentina

Mr. Grylls asked the Lord Privy Seal if he will make a statement on normalisation of our diplomatic relations with Argentina.

Sir Ian Gilmour: During his current visit to Buenos Aires my hon Friend the Minister of State discussed the question of relations between our two countries with the Argentine Government. Both Governments hope now agreed on the need to restore relations to ambassadorial level and will be seeking agreement for their respective candidates in due course.

27.7.79
COMRaNs' HANSARD
... We have made it abundantly clear and I repeat it, and I repeat it with all the authority of a Minister of the Government of the United Kingdom, that we will not do anything which will not be acceptable to the people who live in these Islands for the future and that the overriding pledge which I give. On the other hand, I detect that there is a very strong desire for us to try and improve relations with the Argentines and to come to some settlement which will enable these Islands to develop in peace. To what extent this is different to the last Government's policy is not for me to say except that I think that I have stated very clearly it is more important to settle this dispute than to let it run on, if that is possible. Now it may not prove to be possible and so I am not at all sure what the outcome will be, but I think in terms of the difference between the last Government's policy and this Government's policy I can see little change except perhaps that in the years that have gone by people here have come to the conclusion that the dispute is really damaging and the time has come to try, try again I should say, to achieve a settlement. ...

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Mr Wathe: Sovereignty in my terms would mean that perhaps people would be asked to change nationality. Is this a possibility?

Mr Ridley: I do not think that would be acceptable to the people of these Islands. I have said, and I repeat it for the second time, that nothing that is not acceptable will be done and I do not believe for one moment that they would change their nationality.
9th September, 1979

Mr. Nicholas Ridley, M.P.,
Minister of State,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
King Charles Street,
London S.W.1.

Dear Nick,

As I was away on holiday I missed all the press reports, communiques etc. of your visit to the Falklands and Argentina.

I should be grateful if you would give me an idea as to how things stand, the position on negotiations, are there any new terms of reference etc.

I would be grateful also for any copies of statements etc. so that I am up to date on the position.

Best wishes,

Ted

TED WOODLANDS, M.P.

1. Acknowledged 12/79
2. Minister of State has not seen
3. Advice and draft reply from Mr. Ridley 5th May 1979.
CONFIDENTIAL

FROM BUENOS AIRES 27/14927 JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 196 OF 27 JULY 1979
INFO ROUTINE PORT STANLEY

MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT

1. DESPITE HIS LATE ARRIVAL THE MINISTER OF STATE HAS CARRIED OUT
   ALMOST ALL HIS PROGRAMME. HE SPENT AN HOUR WITH CAVANDOLI YESTERDAY
   AFTERNOON, AND THEN PAID A SHORT COURTESY CALL ON PASTOR, DURING
   WHICH HE HANDLED OVER YOUR LETTER OF 19 JULY.

2. DURING DISCUSSION WITH CAVANDOLI, WHICH WILL CONTINUE LATER THIS
   MORNING, HE AGREED TO ISSUE A COMMUNIQUE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE
   EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS BUT LEFT THE TEXT FOR TODAY. MR RIPLEY
   LEFT CAVANDOLI IN NO DOUBT AS TO HIS DISPLEASURE OVER THE LEAK
   ABOUT AMBASSADORS AND CAVANDOLI WAS APOLOGISTIC.

3. THE OTHER SUBSTANTIVE POINT WAS AN ARGENTINE SUGGESTION THAT
   YOUR POSSIBLE MEETING WITH PASTOR IN NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER MIGHT BE
   PRECEDED BY A PREPARATORY MEETING BETWEEN CAVANDOLI AND THE MINISTER
   OF STATE. MR RIPLEY BELIEVED THAT, IN VIEW OF HOLIDAYS IN
   BRITAIN, THERE MIGHT NOT BE TIME TO MAKE SUCH A PREPARATORY MEETING
   NORTHERLY. HE WOULD FURTHER CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY IN LONDON.

4. MR RIPLEY HAD A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH THE MINISTER OF
   ECONOMY, MENTIONED OECD'S INTEREST IN THE NUCLEAR PROJECT AND LEFT
   A PIECE OF PAPER. MARTINES DE NOVA'S MAIN CONCERN WAS THAT THE
   CANADIANS WERE STILL IN TROUBLE OVER THE RE-FINANCING OF THEIR
   PRESENT CONTRACT FOR THE RIO TERCERO DAM. I WILL BE REPORTING
   FURTHER ON THIS.

CARL

CGAS
SmD
STV

SIBA PASSENG
SIBA DMP
MARK HALL

CLARK

M. BROWN

CONFIDENTIAL
If you should be aware that Mr. Ridley has agreed, if time allows, to give a short interview to Bailey, BBC Latin America Correspondent, before leaving for Rio this afternoon, the topic will be Latin America in general, but touching on the Falklands.
GR 53
UNCLASSIFIED
DESKBY 2616332 JUL 79
FROM PORT STANLEY 2614552 JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 39 OF 26 JULY
INFO PRIORITY FCO

YOUR TELNO 39; MINISTER'S TRAVEL

1. LADY PLANE LEFT HERE FOR COMODORO RIVADAVIA AT 1100 LOCAL TIME
   (1200 ARGENTINE TIME). PARTY WERE EXPECTING TO CONNECT EITHER WITH
   LD 377 ETA COMODORO 1300 ETA AEROPARQUE 1725 OR A SPECIAL DIRECT
   FLIGHT IF AIR FORCE HAVE LAID ONE ON.

PARKER
FILES
SAM D
PS H McRaeley
SIR A Parsons
MR Hall
FROM PS/MD RIDLEY
MINISTER OF STATE’S ITINERARY

1. MOST REGRETTABLY OUR DEPARTURE FROM PORT STANLEY HAS BEEN DELAYED UNTIL THE MORNING OF 26 JULY, BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER IN COMODORO. ARRIVAL IN BUENOS AIRES WILL NOT NOW BE UNTIL TOMORROW AFTERNOON, PROBABLY NOT THEREFORE ALLOWING SUFFICIENT TIME THE SAME DAY FOR MEETINGS WITH THE MFA.

2. WE FEAR THEREFORE THAT WE MUST LEAVE AT LEAST FRIDAY MORNING FREE IN BUENOS AIRES. THE EMBASSY ARE LOOKING URGENTLY AT THE AVAILABILITY OF SEATS ON CRUZEIRO SC 933 ETA 1735, AEROLINEAS AR 920 ETA 1940, AR 114 ETA 1930, OR (IN EXTREMIS) BR 602 ETA 2215. WE REALISE THAT THIS WILL UPSET THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AS WELL AS THE CALLS ARRANGED FOR THE AFTERNOON. SADLY THERE SEEMS NO ALTERNATIVE: WOULD THERE BE ANY PROSPECT OF THE CHAMBER REVIVING THEIR LUNCH ON SATURDAY? I IMAGINE THAT IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SEE BRUCELL AND LANDSBERG SOMETIME ON SATURDAY ALSO. PLEASE REPLY TO BUENOS AIRES.

3. VERY MANY APOLOGIES FOR THIS LATE ATTEMPT TO RESCHEDULE THINGS, WHEN YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE SO ONCE. WE ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE WEATHER.

4. THE
DESK 214/2 RIO DE JANEIRO
DESK 226/2 BRASILIA
DESK 224/2 BUENOS AIRES
DESK 224/2 JUNE 11, 1979 TO FLASH PORT STANLEY
DESK 39 OF 26 JULY 1979
INFO IMMEDIATE RIO DE JANEIRO AND BRASILIA INFO PRIORITIC ECO.

MR/TELNO 361 MINISTER OF STATE'S TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

1. WE HAVE PUT IT TO THE ARGENTINE MFA THAT, IN VIEW OF THE
MINISTER'S DELAY IN PORT STANLEY ON ACCOUNT OF BAD WEATHER, THE
PROGRAMME FOR BUENOS AIRES MIGHT BE RE-ARRANGED IN ONE OF
TWO WAYS.

2. FIRST, THE ARGENTINE AIR FORCE COULD SEND AN AIRCRAFT TO
MEET THE PARTY IN COMODORO RIVADAVIA AND BRING THEM BACK TO R.A. BY
ABOUT 15.00 HOURS ON 26 JULY, ASSUMING THAT THE MINISTER CAN FLY TO
COMODORO EARLY ON THE SAME DAY. THIS MIGHT ENABLE THE MINISTER IN
THE AFTERNOON TO HOLD THE TWO HOURS OF TALKS WITH COMODORO CAVANDOLI
WHICH HAD BEEN ARRANGED FOR THE MORNING. IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO FIT
IN THE CALL ON THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY (16.00 HOURS), BUT THE MINISTER
COULD ATTEND THE LARGE RECEPTION ARRANGED FOR THE EVENING.

3. FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF PUBLIC PRESENTATION IT WOULD BE
DESIRABLE THAT THE MINISTER SHOULD SPEND MORE THAN ONE AFTERNOON
IN BUENOS AIRES, BUT THE ARGENTINE CABINET MEETS ON FRIDAY AND WE
DO NOT YET KNOW WHETHER MINISTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE. IF THEY ARE,
WE WOULD LIKE TO FOCUS WHETHER THE MINISTER OF STATE WOULD AGREE TO DEFER HIS
DEPARTURE TO RIO UNTIL, SAY, 17.00 HOURS (THE BRITISH CALEDONIAN
FLIGHT).

5. THERE IS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT WE WILL HAVE DEFINITE NEWS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PREFERENCE BEFORE THE MINISTER OF STATE LEAVES PORT STANLEY.

CARLESS

FILES:
G AND D
PS/DS RIDDLE
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL

- 2 -

RESTRICTED
25 JUL 1979

RESTRICTED

FROM BUENOS AIRES 23/7/79

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 128 OF 23 JULY 1979

AND TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

MY TELE 184 MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT

1. PRESS COVERAGE OF MR RIDLEY'S STOPOVER IN BUENOS AIRES AND OF HIS ACTIVITIES IN THE FALKLANDS HAS BEEN PLentiful, THOUGH MAINLY SPECULATIVE.

2. THE REPORTING MAKES IT PLAIN TO THE ARGENTINE READER THAT SOVEREIGNTY IS ONLY ONE OF THE MANY ISSUES OF CURRENT CONCERN TO THE ISLANDERS, AND THAT ECONOMIC QUESTIONS ARE IMPORTANT. LA NACION'S CORRESPONDENT SEES NO EARLY SOLUTION OF THE ARGENTO-ARGENTINE DISPUTE. NOTWITHSTANDING, MUCH OF THE REPORTING ENCOURAGES THE EXPECTATION THAT THE MINISTER'S TALKS ON 26 JULY WOULD PRODUCE PROGRESS.

CARLESS

FILES:
S A N D
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S & S D
FS/IPS
F/SR RIDLEY
F/SFUS
SIR M PARSONS
MR HALL
MISS BROWN

RESTRICTED
FM FCO 1811002 JULY 79
TO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK
TELEGRAM NUMBER 352 OF 18 JULY.
REPEATED IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES, FORT STANLEY
UKMIS NEW YORK TELNO 335: FALKLAND ISLANDS
1. THE FCO SPOKESMAN (YOUR PARAGRAPH 3) ANSWERING QUESTIONS
FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT ON 13 JULY OF MR RIDLEY'S FORTHCOMING
VISIT SPOKE AS FOLLOWS:

"ON EXCHANGING AMBASSADORS WITH ARGENTINA, HE SAID AS
HAD BEEN MADE CLEAR ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS THE FCO
WAS ACTIVELY CONSIDERING THE MATTER. HE HAD NO STATEMENT
TO MAKE. ASKED ABOUT POSITION ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDS,
HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION REMAINED THE SAME
AS THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT'S. THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNY
WAS NOT NEGOTIABLE. THERE WOULD BE NO SUBSTANTIVE
EXCHANGERS ON THE FALKLANDS ISSUE ON THE PRESENT VISIT".

2. IF QUESTIONED ABOUT THE REMARK ON SOVEREIGNTY,
NEWS DEPARTMENT WILL SAY UNATTRIBUTABLY (BUT IF NEED BE ON THE
RECORD) THAT THIS WAS 'SHORTHAND'. FOR A DEFINITION OF OUR
FORMAL POSITION THEY WILL REFER TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS AS ANNOUNCED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON
26 APRIL 1977 WHICH REMAIN UNALTERED.

3. YOU AND BUENOS AIRES SHOULD TAKE A SIMILAR LINE IF THE
ARGENTINES RAISE THE MATTER.

CARRINGTON

F. L. E. G.
S. A. C. D.
N. W. S. F.
P. J. E. R. I.
W. T. B. H.
VISIT OF MR RIDLEY: PRESS COVERAGE

1. CLARIN TODAY REPORTS THAT AN FCQ SPOKESMAN MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS YESTERDAY ABOUT MR RIDLEY'S VISIT:

(A) HE WOULD DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ISLANDS WITH THE ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES, MAINTAINING THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE LABOUR ADMINISTRATION.

(B) THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT WOULD REFUSE TO CONCEDE SOVEREIGNTY WITHOUT THE EXPLICIT CONSENT OF THE PEOPLE OF THE ISLANDS WHO WISH TO REMAIN IN THE SPHERE OF THE COMMONWEALTH UNQUOTE.

(C) IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IT WAS PROBABLE THAT MR RIDLEY WOULD AGREE TO A FURTHER ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

2. GRATEFUL FOR CLARIFICATION.

3. YESTERDAY'S PRESS STATEMENT BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY (MY TEL. NO 178), OMITTED MENTION OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ISSUE.

CARLESS
FILES
S.A.D.
NEWS, D.
C.D.
P.S I.E. RIDLEY
MR HALL.
PP PORT STANLEY
GR 100
RESTRICTED
FM FCO 1616052 JUL 79
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 76 OF 16 JULY

PERSONAL FOR GOVERNOR FROM URE.
YOUR LETTER OF 11 JULY: MINISTERIAL VISIT.

1. I APPRECIATE AND REGRET YOUR DIFFICULTIES. FOR YOUR OWN
INFORMATION, OUR PROBLEM WAS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER TOOK EXCEPTION
TO THE LENGTH OF MR RIDLEY’S TOUR AND WE HAD TO REVISE THIS AND
RE-SUBMIT TIME TABLES TO HER. PLANNING HAD TO GO AHEAD WHILE ALL
THIS WAS IN HAND. I DID NOT SEND YOU INTERMEDIATE MESSAGES BECAUSE
I WISHED TO AVOID THE QUOTE ORDER, COUNTER-ORDER, DISORDER UNQUOTE
SITUATION. I AM SINCERELY SORRY IF THIS LANDED YOU IN ANY
EMBARRASSMENT. MR RIDLEY IS MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS VISIT:
GOOD LUCK WITH IT ALL.

CARRINGTON

NNNN
1. **Answers to questions are as follows:**
   (a) Cavandoli will have a gift for Mr. Ridley. In addition, Mrs. Cavandoli plans to present something to Mrs. Ridley. If Mr. Ridley presents the Comodoro book on fly fishing, I suggest that Mrs. Ridley might like to give a piece of china, perhaps Wedgwood, to Mrs. Cavandoli.
   (b) No special clothing requirements here.
   (c) Minister’s programme stands as in my telno 165 amended by my telno 179.

2. Comodoro Cavandoli and Bloomer-Reeve intend, as a courtesy, to meet Mr. and Mrs. Ridley on arrival on 19 July at Ezeiza Airport.

3. Comodoro Cavandoli’s lunch on 20 July is likely to include Ambassador Lupiz, (Political Director-General), Oliveri Lopez, Bloomer-Reeve, Ambassador Ortiz de Rozas and Ambassador Molina Salas (Head of International Organisations).

4. The weekend press carried the London Press Announcement (your telno 76 to Port Stanley, amended) and speculated that Mr. Ridley’s discussions with Cavandoli here would cover the restoration of ambassadors and provide the basis for a new round of Falkland Islands negotiations.

5. The Foreign Ministry are issuing a press statement today which we have been in draft. It refers to Mr. Ridley’s stop-over in transit on 19-20 July and says that on his return he will hold working meetings with Cavandoli which will cover bilateral questions including the Falkland Islands issue. It also says that Mr. Ridley will pay a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Pastor.
CONFIDENTIAL

6. NINE BUENOS AIRES-BASED JOURNALISTS HAVE SO FAR TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OR OURSELVES THAT THEY INTEND TO VISIT PORT STANLEY WITH MR. RIDLEY. THEY ARE: 1. FINANCIAL TIMES CORRESPONDENT, BBC LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT, A JOURNALIST FROM CLARIN, A JOURNALIST FROM THE WEEKLY MAGAZINES GENTE AND SOMOS, AND 2 FROM VISWES.

CARLESS

FILES
SAM T
P & D
NEWS D
SIMON RIDLEY
MCKEEL

CONFIDENTIAL

REPUBLIC

OR 330

RESTRICTED

DESKY 169300Z JUL 79
FR PORT STANLEY 141613Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 197 OF 14 JULY
INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES

MR TELNO 197

PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER'S VISIT

1. ON ARRIVAL MR AND MRS RIDLEY WILL BE MET AT THE AIRCRAFT BY COUNCILLORS. THERE MAY ALSO BE A WELCOMING GATHERING ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE AND AN INDIVIDUAL WORD OR TWO AND A FEW HANDSHAKES WILL PLEASE PEOPLE.

2. CHIEF SECRETARY AND MRS BAKER WILL JOIN US FOR LUNCHEON. A RESTFUL AFTERNOON CAN THEN BE SPENT AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE WITH PERHAPS A CHAT OVER TEA WITH FINANCIAL SECRETARY ROWLANDS, AFTER THE EVENING RECEPTION (ABOUT 80 GUESTS) A QUIET SupPER CAN BE FOLLOWED BY AN EARLY BEDIF WISHED.

3. AFTER THE MEETING AND LUNCHEON WITH COUNCILLORS ON SATURDAY, THE AFTERNOON WILL BE KEPT FREE FOR SIGHTSEEING UNTIL THE TOWN HALL PUBLIC RECEPTION AT 6 O'CLOCK, WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

4. SUNDAY MORNING, TAKE-OFF AT 9 O'CLOCK FOR THE LARGE SETTLEMENT AT GOOSE GREEN. LUNCHEON WILL BE GIVEN AT DARWIN BY BROOK AND EILEEN HARCASCADE, FICO GENERAL MANAGER. IN THE AFTERNOON, PROCEED TO HILL COVE IN WEST FALKLAND TO OVERNIGHT WITH TIM AND SALLY BLAKE, MANAGER BLAKE AND HOLMSEED.

5. ON MONDAY, RETURN TO STANLEY VIA PORT HOWARD. LUNCHEON WITH ROBIN AND SUSAN LEE, MANAGER WARDROES. IN THE AFTERNOON, DISCUSSIONS WITH CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION AND THEN WITH GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION. FICO ARE GIVING A FARMERS WEEK RECEPTION IN THE EVENING, FOLLOWING WHICH SECRETARIAT MEMBERS WISH TO ENTERTAIN MR AND MRS RIDLEY TO DINNER AT UPLAND GOOSE HOTEL.
6. Tuesday morning, fly to Green Patch, Manager Jock and June McPhee. Return to Stanley for pre-lunch drinks with Major Lade, Mr. Moody Brook. Luncheon at Government House followed by separate discussions with Sheepowners Association and Young Islanders Group. Evening meeting with Falkland Islands Committee and then quiet supper at Government House.

7. Wednesday morning, round-up meeting with councillors, followed by recording of broadcast message, if wished.

8. The above programme is of course subject to change depending on the weather. When in Stanley, Mrs. Ridley might care to follow a slightly separate programme, which can be suitably arranged.

PARKER

FILES
SAMD
P.E.D.
NEWS
M.A.
WIND
MR.
MR. RIDLEY
SIR.
SIR A. PARSONS
PARKER

GR 25
UNCLASSIFIED
FM PORT STANLEY 131614Z JUL 79
TO ROUTINE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 126 OF 13 JULY
FOR SAMD
VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE: COMMUNICATIONS

1. We have arranged with cable and wireless that, during the period of the Minister's visit, they extend their operating hours to cover the period 1100Z to 2400Z.

2. Will this be adequate?

PARKER

FILES
SAMD
P.E.D.
MR. RIDLEY
SIR A. PARSONS
PARKER
RESTRICTED

DATE 75
RESTRICTED
P1 BUENOS AIRES 17/10/75 JULY 1975
TO PRIORITY PGO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 178 OF 11 JULY 1975
INFO ROUTINE PORT STANLEY

FOR SIR W. D. RYDE
YOUR TELNO 119 TO BRASILIA - VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. HFA NOW INFORMED OF PIRM DATES AND OF TEXT OF PRESS
ANNOUNCEMENT.

2. UNLESS ADVISED OTHERWISE, WE PROPOSE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR
THE BUENOS AIRES SELECTION OF THE VISIT ON THE LINES SET OUT IN
OUR TELNO 165. THE DATES OF COURSE BEING ADVANCED BY ONE WEEK
AND THE PARTY'S ARRIVAL TIME ON 19 JULY AMENDED.

CARLSS

Files
S. AMB. D
P. C.D
NWB. D
M. C.D
WID
PS
PS | HR. RIDLEY
PS | PUS
SIR A. DUFF
Mr. HALL

RESTRICTED
CONFIDENTIAL

PM PCO 1217057 JUL 79
TO PRIORITY BRASILIA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 105 OF 12 JULY
AND TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES, CAPACAS, MEXICO CITY, RIO DE
JANEIRO.

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, IN FINALISING ARRANGEMENTS,
   TO HAVE YOUR GUIDANCE ON FOLLOWING WHERE APPROPRIATE:

   A) WILL GIFTS BE EXCHANGED: IF SO, WHAT SHOULD
      MINISTER BRING? (FOR BUENOS AIRES PARA 5
      OF YOUR TEL 165. IS IT LIKELY CAVANDOLI WILL
      HAVE GIFT FOR MR. SEDLEY?)

   B) IF NOT ACCOMMODATED WITH YOU, ADDRESS OF HOTEL
      ETC INTO WHICH MINISTER AND PARTY ARE BOOKED.

   C) WHETHER MINISTER NEEDS A DINNER JACKET AND
      WHETHER THERE ARE ANY OTHER SPECIAL CLOTHING
      REQUIREMENTS FOR HIM OR MRS. SEDLEY.

   D) (EXCEPT MEXICO CITY) A SCHEDULE OF THE MINISTER'S
      PROGRAMME AS IT NOW STANDS WITH TIME AND AN
      INDICATION OF MINISTERS HE WILL CALL ON AND/OR
      MEET.

CARRINGTON

DISTRIBUTION

FILES

FILE

N AND CD

NF

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CONFID

PP CAPACAS
GRS 160

17 JUL 79

AW 0201

A234
FROM STANLEY 112109Z JUL 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 125 OF 11 JULY
INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 103 TO BRASILIA
VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. I AM INFORMING COUNCILLORS OF THE REVISED DATES WHICH SHOULD NOT (NOT) INCONVENIENCE THEM.

2. THE VISIT WILL NOW COINCIDE WITH THE SHEEP OWNERS ASSOCIATION'S QUOTE FARMERS WEEK UNQUOTE WHEN MOST FARM MANAGERS AND SOME UNION DELEGATES WILL BE IN STANLEY. THIS WILL ENABLE THE MINISTER TO MEET A WIDER CIRCLE OF PEOPLE AT THIS LEVEL BUT WILL MAKE CAMP VISITING A LITTLE MORE DIFFICULT. WE WILL HOWEVER ARRANGE A SUITABLE PROGRAMME AFTER DISCUSSING IT WITH THE ASSOCIATION AND SPEAKING TO AVAILABLE HOSTS ON THE RADIO TELEPHONE.

3. THE FIRST DAY (FRIDAY) WILL REMAIN MUCH AS IN MY TELNO 119 WITH A DISCUSSION AND LUNCHEON WITH COUNCILLORS ON SATURDAY MORNING AND A ROUND-UP MEETING ON WEDNESDAY.

4. I WILL TELEGRAPH FURTHER DETAILS BY MONDAY NEXT.

PARKER

Files              S. Amer. D
P + CD             Sir A. Duff
News. D           Sir A. Parsons
M + CD             Mr. Hall
W + AD
PS               PS/Mr. Ridley
PS/Pub
MINISTER'S VISIT

1. I have no doubt you have had more than your fair share of trouble over the arrangements for this visit, and mine, as the days went by in a sort of uncertainty, might seem small beer by comparison.

2. However, it does seem to have been the worst kept secret one could imagine. The first I knew about it was when Oliveri López booked in here on 30 May saying, in front of others, that he supposed I was busily engaged in preparing for the Minister's visit. I could then honestly deny all knowledge of it.

3. Not too much concern was aroused here by all the subsequent leaks in the Buenos Aires press, but then letters began to turn up from members of the Committee in London giving a fair idea of what was in train (who told them!)? The last straw came with the local LAIB office putting it about quite openly that flight bookings for the party had come in from Buenos Aires, and giving names and dates. Throughout, the Councillors have maintained a discreet, if embarrassed, silence, but our credibility gap has yawned wide.

4. My particular problem, when I unsuccessfully telephoned yesterday morning, was to know what to advise Councillors, who had been standing by to fly in early this morning for briefing discussions and to be sure of being on hand to greet the Minister if the weather turned nasty. All we knew at that joint was that the visit might be cut short (POU telling 74 of 5 July). However, we subsequently learned, by a chance telephone conversation in the afternoon with Richard Gooch about bag arrangements, that the Embassy had been told last week the visit would probably be cut off until Friday 20th. I therefore stood the Councillors down by radio, and will make an open broadcast myself as soon as we get firm news.

/5. The
5. The only lesson, I suppose, to be drawn from all this is that the public - and particularly a sensitive little one like ours - has gone right to know what is going on, and the earlier they are told the better. With all the last minute cliff-hangers there have been in the past, I should have learnt by now, but I have no doubt that whatever little brouhaha has been stirred up, it will soon be forgotten once the Minister is here.

[Signature]

J W R Parker
whether the Order could apply to Mr Ian Smith. Spokesman said
that was a hypothetical question. He added UNATTRIBUTABLE that
the Order empowered the Foreign Secretary to designate the persons to
whom it should apply. It could be used to enable anyone to come to
London for consultations in connection with a settlement.

END UNATTRIBUTABLE. Asked when the order came into effect, SPOKESMAN
said UNATTRIBUTABLE that it was effective immediately but an
affirmative resolution would need to be moved in both Houses of
Parliament within 28 days. END UNATTRIBUTABLE.

VISIT TO FALKLAND ISLANDS AND LATIN AMERICA BY
MINISTER OF STATE.
Spokesman made the following announcement:

"Mr Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State, will make
a familiarization visit to the Falkland Islands,
Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico 18 July to
6 August 1979. It will be the first visit of a
Minister of the present Government. Mr Ridley will
meet Ministers as appropriate. He will also have the
opportunity of meeting Falkland Islanders. He will
be accompanied by his wife."

Asked about the position on exchanging Ambassadors with Argentina,
Spokesman said that as had been said on a number of occasions PCO was
actively considering the matter. He had no statement to make. Asked
about the position on the Falkland Islands, Spokesman said that the
Government's position remained the same as the previous government's.
The question of sovereignty was not negotiable. There would be no
substantive exchanges on the Falklands issue on the present visit.

INDO CHINA REFUGEES
Spokesman was asked to clarify the position on the number of Indo-Chinese
refugees to be admitted to Britain and the amount of financial aid the
government would make available. He replied that he had nothing to say
expected before the statement to be made in Parliament next week.
GRS 325

RESTRICTED

FM FC 111200 JULY 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 103 OF 11 JULY
AND TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES, CARACAS, LIMA, PORT STANLEY,
RIO DE JANEIRO, SAO PAULO (BRASILIA PSE PASS), MEXICO CITY
OUR TELNO 56 TO BRASILIA: VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. MR RIDLEY'S VISIT HAS NOW BEEN RESCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:
   18 JULY
   DEPART LONDON
   19 JULY
   BUENOS AIRES ETA 1010 (AR 113)
   20 JULY
   BUENOS AIRES TO FALKLAND ISLANDS
   25 JULY
   FALKLAND ISLANDS TO BUENOS AIRES
   27 JULY
   BUENOS AIRES TO RIO DE JANEIRO ETA 1055 (AY 084)
   29 JULY
   RIO DE JANEIRO TO BRASILIA ETA 1105 (BO 200)
   31 JULY
   BRASILIA TO CARACAS ETA 0450 (BO 802)
   2 AUGUST
   CARACAS TO MEXICO CITY ETA 1300 (VA 840)
   6 AUGUST
   TO ANTIGUA (SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION)

2. YOU SHOULD NOW INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS AND SAY THAT MR
   RIDLEY VEAU MUCH REGRETS THE INCONVENIENCE CAUSED BY THE
   RESCHEDULE OF HIS VISIT AND THE DIFFICULTIES IT HAS CAUSED
   AND HOPE THAT A WORKABLE PROGRAMME CAN BE CONSTRUCTED FOR
   THE NEW DATES. (THE VISIT TO CARACAS IN PARTICULAR IS NOW
   VERY AMBIGUOUS, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO WAY TO AVOID THIS.)

3. FOR LIMA, AS FORESEEN IN OUR TELNO 56, MR RIDLEY'S VISIT
   TO PERU HAS TO BE DROPPED. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO PERUVIANS
   THAT MR RIDLEY HAS HAD TO POSTPONE HIS DEPARTURE FROM LONDON
   BECAUSE OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITMENTS. HE HAS THEREFORE HAD TO
   SHORTEN HIS VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND MUCH REGRETS NOT BEING
   ABLE TO VISIT PERU ON THIS OCCASION. THE PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR
   HERE (WHO HAD ASKED TO CALL ON MR RIDLEY) HAS BEEN TOLD.

4. FOR SAO PAULO. MINISTER IS SORRY HE WILL NOT NOW VISIT
   SAO PAULO AND REQUESTS THAT YOU CONVEY HIS APOLOGIES
   TO THOSE INVOLVED WITH HIS PROGRAMME.

PRESS RELEASE

/ S. 

RESTRICTED
5. We propose to make press announcement on Friday 13 July using the text contained in my Telex 70 to Port Stanley. Date of departure should be amended to 18 July and 'four weeks' to 'three weeks'. Peru should be deleted.

CARRINGTON

Files
SAND
PCD
NGNS, D
MVCD
NIAD
PS
P5/MR. RIDLEY
P5/PUS
SIR A. DUFF
MR. HAML

BRIEFS FOR MR. RIDLEY'S SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR

1. I submitted drafts of the first batch of briefs at the end of last week. I now submit a draft steering brief and all the outstanding draft briefs with the exception of the following:

   Brief No 5: Falkland Islands Oil (on which ESSD are drafting following BNOC presentation)

   Brief No 19: Exchange of Ambassadors (which needs revision following yesterday's meeting and subsequent follow up).

   Brief No 26: Nuclear Cooperation with Argentina (on which JNU are drafting and tell us the situation is still fluid).

   Brief No 35: Venezuela and OPEC (on which ESSD are drafting to take account of the recent OPEC meeting).

2. If the Brazilians decide to hold MOU exchanges during Mr Ridley's visit, some further briefs may be required in connection with this.

3. I apologise for the somewhat untidy state of some of the drafts but thought you would agree that it was better to postpone re-typing until you had glanced at these.

J. B. Urquhart
South America Department

10 July, 1979
BRIEFS FOR MR RIDLEY

1. I now attach the draft of the Steering Brief and the bulk of the remaining briefs for the country visits to Brazil, Peru and Venezuela.

2. Still outstanding are the following briefs:
   35: Venezuela and OPEC (BEES are drafting to take account of the recent OPEC meeting).
   49: Cooperation with Argentina and the Antarctic (Dr Heap should be able to provide immediately on his return from Washington next week).
   26: Nuclear co-operation with Argentina (JNU are drafting but the situation is currently quite fluid).

3. The brief for the visit to Mexico is also attached; but MGU will arrange duplication. It remains to be seen whether any further general briefs (e.g., on North/South matters) are to be added; if the Brazilians do decide on MGU exchanges, on which we are still waiting to hear, clearly a number of further briefs will be required.

6 July 1979

G A Duggan
South America Department
CONFIDENTIAL
FM BUENOS AIRES 66/19442 JULY 1979
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 155 OF 6 JULY 1979
INFO RUTINE PORT STANLEY

YOUR TELNO 98 TO BRASILIA : VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. AS ARRANGED SOME DAYS AGO I DISCUSSED THE VISIT WITH CAVANDOLI
   THIS MORNING. IF THE MINISTER DOES NOT (REPEAT NOT) CHANGE THE
   DATES FOR THE BUENOS AIRES LEGS, THE SUGGESTED PROGRAMME WOULD
   STAND AS FOLLOWS :

   12 JULY 0855 ARRIVE EZEIZA AIRPORT
   1030 (APPROX) ARRIVE AT RESIDENCE
   1130 LUNCH AT RESIDENCE WITH MR BOR COX, EDITOR OF BUENOS
   AIRES HERALD, INVITED
   1630 MR RIDLEY TO MEET CHANCERY STAFF
   1730 DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR STAFF
   1930 INFORMAL DINNER WITH BRITISH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES

   13 JULY 0855 LEAVE RESIDENCE FOR AEROPARQUE AIRPORT
   0930 DEPART ON AR 516 FOR COMODORO RIVADAVIA

   19 JULY 0915 ARRIVE AEROPARQUE AIRPORT OR AR 630 FROM COMODORO
   0920 (APPROX) ARRIVE RESIDENCE
   1030 LIGHT SUPPER IF REQUIRED

   15 JULY 0650 DISCUSSION IN CHANCERY WITH GEC REPRESENTATIVES
   0800-0930 ABOUT THE NUCLEAR CONTRACT
   1130 COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER (IF PASTOR IS NOT
   IN GENEVA)
   1130 DISCUSSION WITH CAVANDOLI AND OLIVERI LOPES
   (HEAD OF FALKLANDS AND ANTARCTIC DEPARTMENT OF MFA)
   1330 LUNCH HOSTED BY CAVANDOLI
   1630 ROUND-UP WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF
   1845 CALL ON THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY
   1900 RECEPTION AT THE RESIDENCE FOLLOWED BY INFORMAL
   DINNER IF FEASIBLE

CONFIDENTIAL / 2. RECEPTIONS
CONFIDENTIAL

3. RECEPTIONS HERE START LATE AND FINISH LATE AND THUS A DINNER FOLLOWING THE RECEPTION (FCO TELNO 112) WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE AT THE RESIDENCE, BUT COULD BE ARRANGED AT A RESTAURANT.

4. PROGRAMME FOR 19 JULY HAS BEEN LEFT FAIRLY LIGHT IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE MINISTER TIME TO CALL ON TEMPORINI (AND PERHAPS OTHER SERVICE CHIEFS OF STAFF) IF INVITED TO DO SO.

5. DINNER JACKETS WILL NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE REQUIRED.

6. A PRESENT OF A BOOK ON FLY FISHING OR A PIECE OF CHINA FOR CAVANDOLI WOULD I BELIEVE GO DOWN WELL.

7. IF DATES ARE UNCHANGED, GRATEFUL IN DUE COURSE FOR CLARIFICATION OF THE PARTY'S FLIGHT TO BRAZIL ON 24 JULY. YOUR TELNO 112 SAID THAT THE MINISTER WOULD BE LEAVING ON AVIANCA FOR RIO BUT YOUR TELNO 112 IMPLIED THAT HIS FIRST STOP IN BRAZIL WOULD BE SAO PAULO.

CARELESS

FILES
S A M D
P & O D
NEWS D
PS/CSR RODNEY
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

PM BUENOS AIRES 06/1529/7 JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 161 OF 6 JULY 1979

FOR SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT
YOUR TELNO 08 TO BRASILIA : VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. TODAY CAVANDOLI ASKED ME TO CONFIRM BY 9 JULY, (DESpite IT BEING A PUBLIC HOLIDAY), WHETHER MR RIDLEY WOULD BE HERE IN BUENOS AIRES ON 19 JULY. HE NEEDS TO KNOW BECAUSE THE FOREIGN MINISTER WILL BE AWAY FROM 14-15 JULY AND THEY MUST DECIDE ON 9 JULY WHICH OF THEM IS TO LEAD THE ARGENTINE DELEGATION TO THE UN CONFERENCE ON REFUGEES AT GENEVA ON 21 JULY.

2. IF MR RIDLEY IS LIKELY TO VISIT ARGENTINA DURING THE PERIOD OF THAT CONFERENCE CAVANDOLI WOULD REMAIN HERE TO RECEIVE HIM.

3. IF THEREFORE YOU CAN LET ME HAVE CONFIRMATION BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM ON 9 JULY I WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL ALTHOUGH I REALISE THAT YOU MAY ONLY BE ABLE TO TELL ME THAT THE TIMING OF THE JOURNEY STILL REMAINS TO BE DECIDED.

CARELESS

FILES
S A M D
P & O D
NEWS D
PS/CSR RODNEY
MR HALL

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ORPS 3A
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DESROY 6/1497
FM BUENOS AIRES 05/1445Z JULY 1970
TO IMMEDIATE PCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 169 OF 5 JULY 1970
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FOR SAM,
YOUR TEL NO TO BRASILIA : VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. WE SHOULD REMIND YOU THAT 9 JULY IS A PUBLIC HOLIDAY HERE.
   THUS ANY REVISED ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH LOCAL OFFICES,
   (PARTICULARLY TRAVEL) WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL TUESDAY.

CARLESS

FILE S
8 AM 12
PCO
FRANK BIDWELL
IN HALL

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CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 0517002 JULY 1979
TO IMMEDIATE FORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 74 OF 5 JULY
FROM SAMD

MT TELEGRAM NUMBER 98 TO BRASILIA

1. IF MR RIDLEY'S DEPARTURE IS DELAYED, IT MAY MEAN
A SHORTER VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. WE HOPED
IT WILL NOT WORK OUT THIS WAY BUT THOUGHT THAT WE
SHOULD TELL YOU NOW. YOU SHOULD NOT MENTION THIS TO
COUNCILLORS.

2. THE MINISTER IS MEANWHILE VERY CONTENT WITH THE
PROGRAMME OUTLINED IN YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 65 (ALBEIT
IN A 5 DAY BASIS) AND HAS FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON PROPOSALS
IN YOUR LETTER OF 27 JUNE TO UNR:

A) MR RIDLEY WOULD LIKE YOU TO ACCOMPANY HIM ON A
TOUR OF CAMP SETTLEMENTS; HE THINKS THIS WORLD HELP
CREATE A BETTER ATMOSPHERE AND IMPRESSION.

B) YOUR PARAGRAPH 3: NO OBJECTION.

C) YOUR PARAGRAPH 4: MR RIDLEY IS PERFECTLY content
WITH THE PROPOSED PUBLIC RECEPTION, GIVEN HIS WISH
TO MEET AS MANY FALKLAND ISLANDERS AS POSSIBLE.

CARRINGTON

NUNN

DISTRIBUTION
SAMRD
PS/MR RIDLEY
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL
GRS 83
CONFIDENTIAL
FM FCO 091600Z JULY 79
TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 118 9 JULY
FROM SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT
YOUR TELNO 161: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE
1. THE DETAILS OF MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA ARE STILL
   SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL FROM NUMBER 10. BUT YOU CAN TELL THE
   ARGENTINES THAT THE MINISTER OF STATE NOW PLANS TO LEAVE LONDON
   ON 18 JULY AND WOULD EXPECT TO BE IN BUENOS AIRES FOR TALKS ON
   25/26 JULY AFTER HIS VISIT TO THE ISLANDS.
2. WE HOPE TO CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS SHORTLY.

CARRINGTON

FILES
SAMD
PCD
NEWS D
PS/MR. RIDLEY
MR. HALL
POINT FOR DISCUSSION WITH DR. MARTINEZ DE HOZ - ECONOMY MINISTER

1. The UK looks to continued expansion of trade with Argentina. The increased number of trade missions this year is evidence of the renewed interest on both sides. How does Dr Martinez de Hoiz see UK/Argentina trade developing over the next few years?

2. Pleased that so much interest was shown in the Seminar in May organised by Canning House; we hope this interest will be maintained. The British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association (BEAMA) plan to hold a seminar in Buenos Aires next year.

3. We hope UK firms will play an increasing part in contributing to Argentina's development plans. In particular we look for British successes in Argentina's energy generation and transmission programmes.

4. We are pleased that Argentina is liberalising her trade. Does Dr Martinez de Hoiz see this as playing a major contribution in reducing inflation? UK committed to open trading system.

5. (If raised) The question of a double taxation agreement is still being considered. We would hope that mutually satisfactory terms could be worked out.

ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

1. Argentina has the third highest GNP per capita in South America (US$1,730 in 1977) and is emerging from 'developing country' status. The economy has traditionally been based on agriculture, which still accounts for 12% of GNP and 70% of exports. The main products are cereals (principally wheat), oil seeds and beef, although exports of beef have been hit by the EEC's import restrictions. However, manufacturing capability, which includes some heavy industry, is growing and industry currently accounts for almost 30% of GNP.

2. Argentina has diverse energy resources. Domestic oil production now satisfies over 80% of demand and the Argentines hope to achieve self-sufficiency by 1985. The 1978-85 Energy Plan also envisages increases in the production of gas, coal, hydroelectricity and nuclear power. A number of hydroelectric projects are currently planned or under-construction and four nuclear power stations are planned.

3. Because of restrictive mining laws, there has been very little exploitation of mineral reserves and only about 10% of the area of Argentina has been properly geologically surveyed. There known to be considerable mineral reserves, including uranium and copper.
Following the military takeover in March 1976, when the country was in social and economic chaos, Dr Martinez de Nos was appointed Economy Minister. Under his direction the external sector has improved considerably and inflation has been reduced from 800% in March 1976 to 170% last year; but the problems of inflation persist and domestic industry remains uncompetitive. A package of measures was introduced at the end of 1976 including a reduction of tariffs over the next five years and a gradual devaluation of the peso against the dollar. Foreign borrowing has also been curtailed to curb monetary expansion. Net foreign borrowing in 1976 was about US$ 900 million, bringing the total foreign debt to US$ 9.3 billion and the debt service ratio to 14%. 

UK/ARGENTINA TRADE

After many years of neglect by British firms, Anglo-Argentine trade has started to show signs of reviving.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>UK Exports</th>
<th>UK Imports</th>
<th>Balance in favour of UK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>64</td>
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<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>98</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>1977</td>
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<td>1978</td>
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<td>1979</td>
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Jan.-May Jan.-May

Sources: UK Overseas Trade Statistics

UK Exports Argentina is our third largest market in South America, after Brazil and Venezuela, but our share of the market is far behind those of the USA (19%), West Germany (41%), Japan (8%), Brazil (9%) and Italy (9%). Our exports are mainly sophisticated machinery and plant, transport equipment, chemicals, electrical apparatus and appliances, iron and steel and whisky.

UK Imports In recent years imports have consisted mainly of agricultural products such as meat and meat products, cereals, textile fibres, oil seeds, leather and leather manufactures, and amount only to 0.4% of total UK imports.

UK Investment In 1976 UK investments were valued at US$ 457 million - 9.5% of total foreign investment registered in Argentina. This is after the United States who lead with 39%, but slightly ahead of our main European rivals. The level of UK investment in the country is relatively static and by March 1976 our share had fallen to 8.8%. Principal British investors in Argentina include ICI, British Steel, GEC, Unilever, Dunlop, Nabisco and Milco and P Costes, Shell, Brooke Bond Leibig and Lloyd's Bank International.

Double Taxation Agreement Attempts in the past to negotiate a double taxation agreement with Argentina have not been pursued to fruition by Ireland Revenue because of doubts over the terms the Argentines would insist upon and the lack of a positive response from British industry.
10. Trade Promotion In March 1979, Sir Frederick Catherwood as Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board visited Argentina to promote UK interests. At the beginning of May 1979, Dr Martinez de Hoz, Economy Minister, visited the UK as a guest of the BOTB to address delegates at a business seminar on Argentina, organised by Canning House. He was accompanied by four ministers and by members of the public and private sectors, including Ing. Frusella, Argentine Secretary of State for Energy (who was also a guest of the BOTB). Following the Seminar Dr Martinez de Hoz expressed the view that Argentina should seek to develop a preferential partnership with Britain for the acquisition of markets and advanced technology. His personal view, not necessarily shared within the Junta, is that economic co-operation in the South Atlantic is the way forward in the Falklands dispute. During the course of 1979 there will have been several trade missions both to and from Argentina.

11. Projects Current Argentine development plans (mainly in the energy sector where there are ambitious plans for generation and distribution) point to opportunities for UK industry. Major projects where there are UK interests are the hydroelectric scheme at Yacyreta-Apalle (Roving and Co - £23m) and the nuclear power plant Atucha II (GEC - £105m). Vosper Thornycroft have recently lost an order for 7 naval frigates (valued at USS 700 million) to the German firm of Blohm and Voss. But there is still a possibility that UK firms (Rolls Royce, David Brown etc.) may be able to supply some equipment for this contract.

July 1979

Sheen 3

July 1979

Sheen (still owned) steelworks project, worth about

$8.5 billion. Jane signed a letter of intent in March

to assist project, now and put forward

funds for implementation and finance.
T Malcolmson Req
South America Department
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

3 July 1979

Dear Tom,

As requested I enclose a brief for the visit of
Mr. Nicholas Ridley MP, Minister of State, Foreign and
Commonwealth Office, to Argentina, Brazil and Peru.

Your sincerely,

Ben Amstrong

B J Todd

Copy to:

Other equipment in which the Argentines have expressed interest:

a. Argentine Army. Tigercat and Browning (Short Bros.), communications equip-
   ment (PAE and RACAD).

b. Argentine Air Force. Ex-RAF Canberras; head-up displays (Mercoy Avionics).

c. Argentine Navy. 12 Lynx helicopters (Westland); Mine Counter Measures
   vessels (Cooper Thorneycroft); Sea Skua and Sea Dart (Marc).
ARGENTINA

Frigates

Following the 1969 order for two Type 42 Sea Dart Destroyers from Vickers Shipbuilding Ltd the Argentine Navy (ANA) in 1974 accepted Vosper Thornycroft's tender for the supply of six Type 21 Frigates to be built in Argentina.

Protracted negotiations ensued during which Vosper Thornycroft and the ANA could not reach agreement over a number of important issues, and in 1977 the latter approached various European Shipbuilders for details of alternative vessels, ostensibly to check Vosper Thornycroft's prices.

In the summer of 1978 the ANA decided to pre-select Blohm & Voss of West Germany for the construction of its Frigates and it is understood that the relevant contracts have now been signed. British Shipbuilders attempted to retrieve the situation by discussing a counter proposal with the ANA but it was all to no avail.

Efforts are now being directed towards ensuring that as much British equipment as possible is selected for the vessels. An ECGD backed line of credit of US $ 250m has been offered to the ANA and they have expressed interest in British equipment valued at approximately US $ 100m. Rolls Royce gas turbine engines and David Brown gears are the main British equipment provisionally selected by the ANA.

Hawk

The Argentine Air Force (FAA) has a requirement for an advanced trainer/strike aircraft to replace its ageing MB 326s and has considered a number of alternatives. The requirement is for 60 aircraft which would be delivered in kit form for assembly in the Argentine Aircraft Factory at Cordoba, and the extent to which contractors permit local assembly and participation is expected to be a major factor in negotiations. This is a particularly valuable contract because whoever wins will be involved in the development of the Argentine Aerospace Industry for the next decade and will clearly be well placed to win future orders.

British Aerospace (BAe) have been negotiating with the FAA for some time, but there is intense competition from the Franco - German Alpha Jet. It is believed that Hawk and Alpha Jet are the only remaining contenders on the final short list and a decision, which has already been deferred several times, was expected at the end of 1978. The recent purchase by the FAA of 26 refurbished Mirage V aircraft from Israel will probably now have further deferred this project to 1980/81.

Other equipment in which the Argentines have expressed interest:

a. Argentine Army: Tigercoat and Slowpipe (Short Broc), communications equipment (RSL and RACAL).

b. Argentine Air Force: E-24F Canberra; head-up displays (Marconi Avionics).

c. Argentine Navy: 12 Lynx helicopters (Westland); Mine Counter Measure Vessels (Vosper Thornycroft); Sea King and Sea Dart (BAe).

edin
General

Training demands from the Argentine Armed Forces are not heavy, but we receive a large number of visitors to MOD establishments and firms, especially from CITEFA (the Argentine Armed Forces tri-service Research & Development organisation), who are seeking to obtain technical information for the setting up or improvement of their own service facilities.

Line to Take

Political considerations have meant that sales of defence equipment to Argentina during the past 2 years have fallen well short of their true potential. We should by assisting British companies to make up the ground they have lost to foreign competitors.
CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

FM BUENOS AIRES 6819832
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

COPYED TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 761 OF 5 JULY 1979

YOUR TELNO 301 TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MINISTERIAL VISIT

1. POINT WELL TAKEN. WE RAISED IT WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN OUR INITIAL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE VISIT AND THEY AGREED TO ARRANGE FOR LADEN TO HOLD THE ITF IN COMODORO IF NECESSARY. WE SHALL CONFIRM WITH LADE COMODORO, AS WELL AS LADE HERE, AS SOON AS THE VISIT IS ANNOUNCED.

CARLESS

FILES

SAM D
FS/MR. RIDLEY
SIR A. B. MARSH
MR. HALL

RESTRICTED
CONFIDENTIAL

FM PORT STANLEY 0513562 JULY 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 32 OF 5 JULY
INFO FCO (FOR SAMD)

MINISTER'S VISIT: TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT AT THIS TIME OF YEAR EARLY MORNING FOG CAN DELAY DEPARTURES FROM AEROPARQUE FOR SOME HOURS. APPARENTLY THIS HAPPENED LAST FRIDAY, PREVENTING PASSENGERS MAKING THE F27 CONNECTION FROM COMODORO TO STANLEY.

2. THE ALTERNATIVE TO A THURSDAY OVERNIGHT STOP AT COMODORO, WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE CONVENIENT AND LESS EXHAUSTING, WOULD BE TO ASK LADE TO HOLD UP THE CONNECTION TO STANLEY UNTIL THE FRIDAY MORNING FLIGHT ARRIVES FROM BUENOS AIRES, BEARING IN MIND THAT THE F27 HAS TO RETURN TO COMODORO THAT AFTERNOON AND THERE MAY BE PASSENGERS HOPING TO MAKE THEIR NORTH-BOUND CONNECTIONS.

3. A REQUEST FROM YOUR END MIGHT BE MORE EFFECTIVE THAN ONE FROM HERE.

PARKER

FILE
SAMD

PS: MR RILEY
SIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL.
Mr Ure
Mr Hall

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

1. The Prime Minister, while agreeing in principle to Mr Ridley's tour, has asked whether a shorter itinerary, preferably with a smaller proportion falling while the House is sitting, would be possible. Mr Temple is preparing proposals for Mr Ridley which involve leaving a week later (possibly 18 July), either omitting Peru and shortening the time in Brazil or shortening the time in the Falkland Islands. It seems increasingly unlikely that Mr Ridley will depart as originally scheduled on 11 July.

2. Meanwhile, I attach the briefs for the Falkland Islands/Argentina as on the attached list and will be submitting separately soon the briefs for his visits to other countries.

3. The preparation of the steering brief is also in hand.

6 July 1979

G A Duggan
South America Department
CONFIDENTIAL
Buenos Aires 14/1/1979 JULY 1979
PRIORITY FOR
TELEGRAM NUMBER 155 OF 3 JULY 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FOLLOWING FOR SOUTH AMERICA DEPT VISIT OF MR RIDELEY: COMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT MATTERS

1. DOUBTLESS YOU ARE PREPARING BRIEFS ON THE COMMUNICATIONS AIR SERVICE AND YPF AGREEMENTS. AS FAR AS WE CAN GAUGE, COMODORO CAVANOSSI AND HIS OFFICIALS ARE UNLIKELY TO SPRING ANY SURPRISES ON THESE SUBJECTS, WITH THE POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF THE GRANT OF A LEASE TO LAND FOR A PLOT OF LAND TO ENABLE THE ARGENTINE REPRESENTATIVE IN PORT STANLEY TO BUILD A NEW HOUSE.

THE BACKGROUND IS WELL KNOWN TO YOU: THE ARGENTINES ARE AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY BUT HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR A YEAR FOR THE LEASE AND MAY DECIDE TO RAISE IT WITH MR RIDELEY.

2. OTHERWISE THE ARGENTINES MAY TALK ABOUT THE EXPENSE TO YPF OF THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENT FOR DRUMMED FUEL AND THE DETERIORATION OF THE Unused YPF PLANT. BUT AFTER A YEAR’S SILENCE FROM THE AIR FORCE ON THEIR ABILITY TO CONSTRUCT AN OIL JETTY THE BALL IS IN THE ARGENTINE COURT. SIMILARLY WE ARE WAITING ON THEM TO TAKE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ABOUT A FORMULA COVERING THE FLYING OF COURTESY FLAGS BY YPF TANKERS.

IN ANY CASE THIS ISSUE IS ACADEMIC UNTIL WE ARE CLOSER TO A TIME WHEN YPF TANKERS CAN DISCHARGE THEIR CARGO IN PORT STANLEY.

3. I ASSUME THAT MR RIDELEY WILL NOT NEED TO DISCUSS TRAVEL CARDS SINCE THE NEW ARRANGEMENT FOR NON-RESIDENTS SEEMS TO BE WORKING SATISFACTORY AND SINCE, FROM THE SOVEREIGNTY POINT OF VIEW, WE ARE COVERED BY THE PROTEST NOTE HANDED OVER IN DECEMBER.
CONFIDENTIAL
FM PORT STANLEY 021332Z JUL 79
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 100 OF 2 JULY
INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES

FOLLOWING FOR URE SAMO
VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE: BRIEFING

1. I had thought I should give you a fairly full idea of what I thought the councillors would bring up in their discussions with the minister, but I might then anticipate in my own words what Mr Ridley would undoubtedly prefer to discover for himself from islanders about their worries and hopes. In the light of the department’s knowledge of most points perhaps I could therefore confine myself to a brief list, without much explanation, of the major topics councillors will wish to talk over with the minister.

2. First, the question of maritime zones and extended fishing limits to secure additional revenue from licensing and shore-based facilities.

3. The possibilities of in-shore and near-shore fisheries, on which we await the report of last November’s preliminary ODA survey.

4. The results, if any are yet known, of the seismic surveys of possible marine oil deposits carried out last year.

5. The depressing effect that world recession, caused by high oil costs, could have on wool prices, our major source of income at present.

6. ODA will presumably brief on the current progress of our development projects. A lot will undoubtedly be said about the sad state of the school hostel project, and the poor performance of the Falkland Islands Company’s contracting subsidiary.
7. A LAST MAJOR TOPIC WILL BE THE QUESTION OF THE ISLANDERS' STATUS UNDER ANY NEW BRITISH NATIONALITY LEGISLATION, BUT THE DEPARTMENT IS NOW WELL BRIEFCED ON THE ISLANDERS' WISHES IN THIS CONNEXION.

8. FINALLY, I SHALL ENCOURAGE COUNCILLORS TO CLARIFY THEIR VIEWS, TO REMOVE ANY MISUNDERSTANDING, ABOUT THE DRAFT DEPENDENCIES SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT AND ON THE WRETCHED LITTLE QUESTION OF THE HOUSE FOR THE LAME REPRESENTATIVE. IN THIS GENERAL CONNEXION OF ARGENTINE RELATIONS, POSITIVE COMMENTS OF THE NEED TO MAINTAIN AN ANGLO/ARGENTINE DIALOGUE, WITH THE HOPE THAT SOME COOPERATIVE PROPOSALS OF REAL BENEFIT TO THE ISLANDS WILL EMERGE, WERE MADE IN THE RECENT LEGGO DEBATE.

PARKER

FILES:
S AND D
NAED
EG & SD
SAID
FS
FXTIFS
FXTFID
FXTFUS
GIR A. PARSONS
MR HALL
MR STRATTON
MR BUTLER
MISS BROWN
MR Fogg

CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

FM FCO 2917402 JUNE
TO PRIORITY MONTEVIELO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 25 OF 29 JUNE.

YOUR TEL NO 61

UNFORTUNATELY THERE IS NO SCOPE FOR THIS AS MR RIDLEY
WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS R IDLEY AND PRIVATE SECRETARY
ONLY.

CARRINGTON
FILES
S AND P SH RIDLEY

RESTRICTED
UNCLASSIFIED
FM BUENOS AIRES 2917047 JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY FC0
TEL NO U/N OF 29 JUNE 1979
AND TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

FOLLOWING FOR HALL, M.S.S.

MY TELNO 151.

PARA 2. FOURTH LINE, FOURTH WORD, PLEASE AMEND QUOTE PURSUING UNQUOTE
TO READ QUOTE PRESSING UNQUOTE.

ERROR REGRETTED.

CARLESS
FILES
S.A.M.D.
CONFIDENTIAL

DESK 05
CONFIDENTIAL
DESBY 029999Z JUL
FN PORT STANLEY 301905Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 119 OF 30 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 73 OF 27 JUNE (RECEIVED 29 JUNE): VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE; PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

1. I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT; WE SHALL ALSO OF COURSE DRAW QUIETLY ON PARAGRAPH 3 OF TUR. I TAKE IT WE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE THE EXACT DATES OF THE VISIT WHEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE.

2. WE WILL BE LOOKING FORWARD TO MRS RIDLEY’S PRESENCE WITH THE MINISTER; IT WILL ADD GREATLY TO THE PLEASURE OF THE VISIT, AND WILL BE MUCH APPRECIATED HERE.

3. BRIEFING SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW.

PARKER

DEPARTMENTAL
SAND
Mango CO
WYAD
PCO
CONFIDENTIAL

FIN: MONTEVIDEO 29/1/19
TO PRIORITY FCO.
TELEGRAM NUMBER 61 OF 29 JUNE

INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELEGRAM NO. 247 MINISTER OF STATE'S PROPOSED TOUR.

1. POINTS TAKEN. MY MAIN CONCERN IS TO IMPROVE CLIMATE FOR TRADE. IS THERE ANY POSSIBILITY OF MEMBER OF MINISTER'S PARTY CROSSING TO MONTEVIDEO? FLIGHT TIME IS ONLY 30 MINUTES AND VISIT COULD BE MANAGED WITHIN ONE DAY OF, IF DINNER PARTY DEEMED SUITABLE GIVEN LEVEL OF OUR RELATIONS, IN AFTERNOON AND NIGHT OF ONE DAY.

PETERS

FILES
8 AM D
TRED
NWSR D
ES & SD
FRD
DEP D
P & GD
PS/MR. RIDLEY
SIR A. FABER
MR. G. HALL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PM BUENOS AIRES 29/21127 JUNE 1972
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAPH NUMBER 151 OF 29 JUNE 1972
AND TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY

FOLLOWING FOR HALL, AUSS
VISIT OF MR R IDLEY

1. I HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING WHAT GUIDANCE I CAN OFFER YOU TO HELP BRIEF MR R IDLEY FOR HIS EXCHANGES WITH CAVANDOLI ON 19 JULY.

2. I BELIEVE MR R IDLEY MAY FIND THE ARGENTINES TAKING A FIRM LINE OVER WHAT THEY WOULD EXPECT FROM ANY FUTURE ROUNDS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, WITH MORE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS PRESENT AND THE LOCAL PRESS PURSUING HIM TO ACHIEVE RESULTS, CAVANDOLI IS LIKELY TO TAKE A TOUGHER ATTITUDE THAN HE DID IN LONDON. WE KNOW THAT, FOLLOWING THE MARCH ROUND OF TALKS IN NEW YORK, OLIVERI CEPEDA HAD SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT CONTINUING THE TALKS ON THE PRESENT LINES, AND THAT THE ARGENTINES ARE NOW ACUTELY AWARE THAT THE VIEWS OF THE FALKLAND ISLAND COUNCILLORS ARE THE KEY TO ANY PROGRESS.

3. PRESUMABLY MR R IDLEY WILL NOT WANT TO GO INTO DETAILS ABOUT ANY FUTURE ROUND OF THE TALKS, OR THE TOPICS THAT THEY MIGHT COVER, BEFORE RETURNING TO LONDON, HE WILL, I IMAGINE, WISH TO GIVE CA Van DOLI SOME IDEA OF HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE FALKLANDS, AND I BELIEVE HE SHOULD DO SO, WHETHER OR NOT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY LIKE ALL HE MAY HAVE TO SAY. IN ADDITION, I THINK IT WOULD HELP TO KEEP ARGENTINES IN PLAY, AND TO REVIVE THEIR INTEREST IN THE TALKS, IF MR R IDLEY COULD GIVE AS POSITIVE AS POSSIBLE AN INDICATION OF WHAT HE FINDS IN THE WAY OF ISLANDER WILLINGNESS FOR CO-OPERATION WITH ARGENTINA, DESPITE THE ARGENTINE OBJECTIONS TO ANY SCHEME UNDER THE SOVEREIGNITY UMBRELLA WHICH DID NOT INCLUDE THE TERRITORY OF THE DEPENDENCIES. THE JOINT MANAGEMENT OF OFFSHORE FISHERIES STILL SEEMS THE MOST PROMISING FIELD. I WONDER IF COUNCILLORS HAVE FORMED A COLLECTIVE VIEW ON THE SUBJECT, HOW THEY MIGHT BENEFIT FROM A SCHEME AND WHAT LIMITATIONS THEY WOULD IMPOSE ON IT?
4. I expect the Governor will be encouraging Councillors and others to collect their thoughts on a range of matters for discussion with the Minister, including of course the important internal development projects. Without wishing to trespass on his domain, I wonder if it would be worthwhile encouraging them to crystallise their thoughts on possible areas for co-operation with Argentina, as well as on other traditional and topical issues.

5. If Mr Ridley is unable, on 19 July, either to say anything new or to relay some Islander thoughts on co-operation his exchanges here will be difficult. The result would not augur well for either the Secretary of State's proposed meeting with Foreign Minister Pastor in September, or any future round of negotiations.

FILES
SAMD

GRS 293
RESTRICTED

FM MEXICO CITY 292202Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 153 OF 28 JUNE

YOUR TELEGRAM TO PORT STANLEY NO 70 OF 27 JUNE; VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE PROPOSED PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE.

2. I discussed Mr Ridley's visit with Manuel Tello this morning. He seemed content that the Embassy should organize it, as clearly he is very much in the process of re-establishing himself here (his wife has not yet returned from London).

3. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE WEEKEND ARRANGEMENTS OUTLINED IN MY TELEGRAM NO 189 OF 11 JUNE, TELLO SUGGESTED THAT MR AND MRS RIDLEY MIGHT LIKE TO SPEND THE WEEKEND BY THE SEA, FLYING DIRECT FROM GUADALAJARA TO PUERTO VALLARTA OR TO LAS HADAS (A NEWLY-DEVELOPED RESORT AND ONE OF MEXICO'S SHOWPIECES). THIS WOULD MEAN SKIPPING THE BALLET ON SATURDAY NIGHT, 4 AUGUST. THE RETURN COULD BE EITHER SUNDAY OR MONDAY MORNING, DEPENDING ON THE DEPARTURE TIME FROM MEXICO CITY.

4. TELLO ASKED ME TO INFORM THE MFA OFFICIALLY ABOUT MR RIDLEY'S VISIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS THEY WOULD LIKE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR A WORKING SESSION AND A LUNCH. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE SHOULD HAVE DETAILS OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE DUCY OF LANCASTER'S TRAVEP PLANS BEFORE INFORMING THE MFA SINCE THERE IS OTHERWISE A RISK OF INVOLVING THEM IN POSSIBLY CONFLICTING COMMITMENTS.

5. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR VIEWS ON THE PROGRAMME SUGGESTIONS.

Cox
DEPARTMENTAL DISTN.
SAMD
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P & GD
POD

RESTRICTED
1. I hope the programme for the Minister of State's visit which I outlined in my telegram 03 is about right; we shall begin to make arrangements on this basis as soon as an announcement is made. There are, however, one or two questions in connection with it to which you might let me have quick telegraphic answers when you receive this letter.

2. I would be very pleased to accompany Mr Ridley on his tour of the Camp settlements and, indeed, I think I should be there when he goes to the large, and politically rather bellicose, settlement at Darwin/Goose Green. It occurs to me, however, that Mr Ridley might prefer to be more or less on his own accompanied by his Private Secretary and a Secretariat aide to look after the arrangements. Either way, I would be quite happy, and perhaps you could sound out Mr Ridley's wishes.

3. Similarly, the Councillors whose constituencies he will be visiting have also offered to accompany him. I take it Mr Ridley will have no objection to this; they can be relied upon to keep in the background.

4. As regards the public reception in the Town Hall - commonly known as a beer and sherry party - these occasions can be somewhat crowded and noisy affairs but they are now very much in the tradition of things here, and people like the opportunity of having at least a sight of, and perhaps a few words with their visitor. His presence at such a function would be popularly appreciated, but I will not commit him to it if he might, understandably, find it irksome.

5. I shall
1. I hope the programme for the Minister of State's visit which I outlined in my telex 65 is about right; we shall begin to make arrangements on this basis as soon as an announcement is made. There are, however, one or two questions in connection with it to which you might let me have quick telegraphic answers when you receive this letter.

2. I would be very pleased to accompany Mr. Ridley on his tour of the Camp settlements and, indeed, I think I should be there when he goes to the large, and politically rather boisterous, settlement at Darwin/Goose Green. It occurs to me, however, that Mr. Ridley might prefer to be more or less on his own - accompanied by his Private Secretary and a Secretariat aide to look after the arrangements. Either way, I would be quite happy, and perhaps you could sound out Mr. Ridley's wishes.

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5. I shall
5. I shall be telegraphing a list of those topics which may come up in discussion, and on which you will wish to brief Mr Ridley.

6. I had hoped, by the way, that an official announcement about the visit would have been made by the time of writing this but, having mentioned it twice, I did not want to press the point. The mail will be in today, with the BA papers and their leaked information about it (Buenos Aires telco 136). But I have warned the Counsellors, and we shall cope as best we may with any interest that might be excited.

J R W Parker
CONFIDENTIAL

FROM FCDO 17/7502Z
TO PRIORITY FORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 70 OF 27 JUNE
AND TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES, BRASILIA, LIMA, CARACAS, MEXICO
INFO SAC PAULO (BRASILIA SBE PASS) RIO DE JANEIRO

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. ONCE FORMAL APPROVAL FOR MINISTER'S VISIT IS OBTAINED, WE PROPOSE ISSUING A SHORT GENERAL PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON FOLLOWING LINES:

CITATE THE PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED TO A SUGGESTION BY THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY THAT THE MINISTER OF STATE AT THE FCDO, MR. NICHOLAS RIDLEY, SHOULD MAKE A FAMILIARISATION VISIT TO A NUMBER OF THE COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA WITH WHICH HE DEALS. MR. RIDLEY ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, WILL DEPART ON 11 JULY AND WILL BE AWAY FOR SOME FOUR WEEKS, DURING WHICH HE WILL VISIT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS, ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, PERU, VENEZUELA AND MEXICO.

2. UNATTRIBUTABLY WE WOULD ADD THAT THE MINISTER WOULD HOPE TO MEET MINISTERS AS APPROPRIATE AND TO HAVE EXCHANGES ON CURRENT BILATERAL QUESTIONS; BUT THE MINISTER'S MAIN PURPOSE IS TO OBTAIN SOME FIRST-HAND IMPRESSIONS, TO LOOK AT THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND TO REPORT BACK TO HIS COLLEAGUES.

3. (FOR FORT STANLEY AND BUENOS AIRES)
WE WOULD STRESS MINISTER'S WISH TO HAVE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH ISLANDERS AND MAKE POINT THAT WITH ARGENTINES THERE WOULD BE NO QUESTION OF ANY SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGES ON THE FALKLANDS ISSUE AT THIS 'EARLY' STAGE.

4. GRATEFUL FOR ANY COMMENTS.

CONFIDENTIAL
5. We shall inform you by telegram before the announcement is made by News Department to enable you to clear the visit with the host government in advance.

Carlington

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PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT OF MR RIDLEY'S LATIN AMERICAN TOUR

1. No 10 have still to reply to the letter from the Private Office seeking the Prime Minister's formal approval for Mr Ridley's absence. Meanwhile, news of what is proposed is beginning to leak quite widely. It would be sensible, therefore, to have ready a press statement. This would need, if only for courtesy reasons, to be cleared with the Governments of the countries which Mr Ridley is proposing to visit.

2. I recommend that we send a telegram to posts and attach a draft. This has been agreed by M & CO, WIAD, and News Department.

3. The draft as it now stands omits mention of the Caribbean, as recommended by WIAD. This could of course be added as necessary later.

S & A Duggan
South America Department

27 June, 1979
CONFIDENTIAL

FROM FCO 261592 JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 112 OF 26 JUNE

FOLLOWING FROM ACTING HEAD OF SAMB

YOUR TELNO 148.

1. THANK YOU FOR THESE HELPFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS.

2. WE REALISE PERIOD IN ARGENTINA WILL BE SHORT, BUT MINISTER HAS ALREADY RE-ARRANGED HIS PROGRAMME WITHIN BRAZIL, INVOLVING HIM IN CALLS AND VISITS IN SAO PAULO ON 20 AND 21 JULY AND IN RIO DE JANEIRO FROM 21-23 JULY. I FEAR THAT HE CANNOT NOW CHANGE THESE.

3. ON SUGGESTIONS IN YOUR PARA 2, WE HAVE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

   (i) AGREED; IT IS LIKELY NOW ALSO THAT MINISTER WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS RIDLEY.

   (ii) AGREED.

   (iii) MINISTER WOULD WELCOME A CALL ON MARTINEZ DE HOZ AND WOULD OF COURSE FALL IN WITH CAVANDOLI’S WISHES.

   (iv) MINISTER IS INCLINED TO OPT FOR A RECEPTION TO ENABLE HIM TO MEET MORE PEOPLE IF A RECEPTION AND A DINNER WERE BOTH POSSIBLE SO MUCH THE BETTER.

   (v) MINISTER WILL GLADLY DO WHATEVER YOU ADVISE.

CARRINGTON

FIDES
S AM D
FS/MR. RIDLEY
MR. HALL

CONFIDENTIAL
The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has asked the Minister of State, Mr Ridley, to visit the Falkland Islands and a number of more important Latin American countries with which he deals to try to establish whether there are any commercial opportunities which we should be pursuing.

Mr Ridley plans to leave Britain on 11 July visiting the Falkland Islands (13/18 July), Argentina (18/20 July), Brazil (20/25 July), Peru (25/30 July), Venezuela (30 July – 1 August), Mexico (1/6 August) and returning via Antigua and St Kitts/Nevis (6/9 August). He would be accompanied by his Private Secretary, but no other officials.

The purpose of the visit overall would be exploratory. In the Falkland Islands it would be important for Mr Ridley to establish personal contact with the Islanders, to get some insight into their thinking, and to be able to obtain a first-hand account of their views. In the Latin American capitals, Mr Ridley would have meetings with appropriate Ministers. In Argentina he would undertake no negotiations with the Foreign Minister over the Falkland Islands; Lord Carrington intends to embark on no such action before the autumn. Additionally in Brazil, Mr Ridley’s visit may provide the occasion for a formal meeting under the Memorandum of Understanding for “consultations on matters of common interest”. In Mexico, as well as meeting members of the Mexican Government, he would attend some Functions of the British Cultural Festival which opens in early August.

Mr Ridley would like to take the opportunity to return to London via the Eastern Caribbean. The Antiguans have asked for preliminary constitutional talks, as a further step towards independence. Also we have a commitment to settle the constitutional differences between St Kitts and Nevis before the end of the year, and a brief visit there would encourage the Islanders to accelerate progress.

I would be grateful for your confirmation that the Prime Minister has no objection.

Lord Carrington believes that there would be advantage if Mr Ridley travels with the Minister of State. Particularly in the visit to the Falkland Islands, but also in the other stages
of the tour, her presence and interest will help to generate goodwill. Lord Carrington hopes that on this occasion the Prime Minister will approve the payment of Mrs Ridley's fare from public funds.

I am copying this letter to William Austin (Government Whip's Office) and Barry Hilton (Cabinet Office).

Margaret Turner (Miss)
Private Secretary
CONFIDENTIAL

GR 50

FNo. 2519252  Jun 79

TO PRIORITY MONTEVIDEO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 24 OF 25 JUne

INFO BUENOS AIRES 24th June

Your Tel No. 94 Minister of State’s proposed tour:

1. We regret that a visit to Montevideo will not be possible. Purpose of Mr. Ridley’s proposed tour is to spend some time in the Falkland Islands and to visit major Latin American countries (Argentina, Brazil and Mexico). Our relations with Uruguay are not at such a level as to warrant the inclusion of Uruguay in such a tour now (there are specific and special reasons for including Peru).

2. If asked, you should say that tightness of Minister’s schedule and lengthy and arduous nature of tour regretfully make a visit to Uruguay impossible. Minister indicated thus to Uruguayan Ambassador when latter called on 6 June (record copied to your chancery).

CARRINGTON

Files
SamR
Tecn
NACR D.
RAD
P/E
PRF
D.
QO
D.
Mr. Ridley
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Hall

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PH: BUENOS AIRES 06/19157 JUNE 1979

IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 149 OF 25 JUNE 1979

FOLLOWING FOR HEAD OF SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT

YUS TELNO 115 AND MY TELNO 165 : VISIT OF MR RIDLEY

1. THE MINISTER OF STATE WILL BE HERE FOR TOO BRIEF A PERIOD TO OBTAIN MORE THAN A PARTIAL IMPRESSION OF ARGENTINA. IS THERE ANY CHANCE OF HIS AGREEING TO STAY UNTIL SATURDAY 21 JULY ? IF THERE WERE, WE COULD ARRANGE A PLEASANT DAY FOR HIM AT AN ESTANCIA ON 20 JULY OR HE COULD FLY THAT DAY UP TO THE IGUASSU FALLS, SPEND THE NIGHT THERE AND THEN CONTINUE ON THE DAILY FLIGHT TO BRASÍLIA VIA SÃO PAULO WHICH LEAVES AT 12.15 AND SETS HIM IN AT 16.45.

2. AS FOR THE REST OF HIS TIME HERE, I HAVE THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS WHICH I WOULD BE GLAD IF YOU WOULD PUT TO HIM IF APPROPRIATE:

(I) ON 19 JULY LUNCH WOULD BE WITH JUST MY WIFE AND ME UNLESS MR RIDLEY WOULD LIKE ME TO INVITE ROBERT COX THE EDITOR OF THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD, WHO IS AN OUTSTANDING COURAGEOUS AND WELL INFORMED MAN.

(II) FOR THE INFORMAL DINNER THAT EVENING I WOULD PROPOSE TO INVITE SIX BRITISH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES MAKING A TABLE OF TEN.

(III) ON 19 JULY I BELIEVE THAT CAVANDOLI MAY PREFER TO OFFER MR RIDLEY A LUNCH RATHER THAN DINNER THAT EVENING. I RECOMMEND THAT MR RIDLEY SHOULD CALL ON MARTINEZ DE HÖZ DURING THE AFTERNOON.

(IV) IF CAVANDOLI DOES OFFER LUNCH (RATHER THAN DINNER WHICH IS STILL A POSSIBILITY) I WOULD THEN BE GLAD TO GIVE A RECEPTION OR A DINNER FOR MR RIDLEY, WHICHEVER HE WOULD PREFER.

(V) WOULD THE MINISTER OF STATE AGREE TO SPEND AN HOUR IN CHANCERY DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 19 JULY EITHER MEETING THE STAFF OR ADDRESSING THEM BRIEFLY? I RECOMMEND THE LATTER.

CARLESS

FLRS

SAMD

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

RE: FC 29165/2 JUNE 79
TO: IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES
TELEGRAM NUMBER 111 OF 25 JUNE
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
YOUR TELNO 1451 VISIT OF MR RILEY.
1. FOR THE REASONS IN MY TELNO 105, WE WOULD PREFER TO AVOID
FORMAL CONTACTS WITH ARGENTINES UNTIL AFTER MINISTER HAS VISITED
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

CARRINGTON

FILE:
SPAD
NEWS
PS/MR RIDDLE
SR. A. PARSON
MR HALL
CONFIDENTIAL

S 179

CONFIDENTIAL
DESKY FCO 2544227
PM BUENOS AIRES 2201247 JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 145 OF 20 JUNE 1979
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

\[\text{\#16}\]

YOUR TELNO 195: VISIT OF MR RIDDLE

ACTION TAKEN WITH COUNSELLOR GARCIA PINTO ON MALVINAS DEPARTMENT,
OLIVERI LOPEZ HAVING LEFT FOR THE ANTARCTIC TREATY MEETINGS IN
WASHINGTON.

9. GARCIA PINTO TOOK NOTE, THE DEPARTMENT HAD NOT (REPEAT NOT)
HEARD FROM THE ARGENTINE CHARGE THAT MR RIDDLE WOULD BE AVAILABLE
FOR DISCUSSIONS ONLY ON 18 JULY.

3. AS YOU KNOW, THE ARGENTINES ATTACH MUCH IMPORTANCE TO FORM, THEY
WILL REMEMBER THAT MR ROYLANDS CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER GUZZETTI
ON HIS WAY SOUTH IN FEBRUARY 1977. I BELIEVE THEY WILL TAKE IT BADLY
AMISS IF THE MINISTER OF STATE FAILS TO MAKE A SIMILAR BRIEF COURTESY
CALL ON THE DAY HE TRANSITS BUENOS AIRES. TO MY RECOLLECTION,
MR ROYLANDS'S CALL DID NOT CREATE ANY DIFFICULTY FOR HIM WITH FALKLAND
ISLAND COUNCILLORS, WHO HAD PRIOR NOTICE OF IT.

4. THERE HAS BEEN A FURTHER PRESS STORY ON THE VISIT. FOLLOWING
CANGOLDI'S DISCLOSURE TO JOURNALISTS ON 18 JUNE (MY TELNO 176),
DUCE CLARIN UNQUOTE RAISED A STORY ON 20 JUNE ON MR RIDDLE'S PLANS
TO VISIT THE FALKLANDS AND BUENOS AIRES IN JULY.

CARLESS

Files
SAND
NEWS D
PS/MR RIDDLE
Sir A PARSONS
MR WALL.

CONFIDENTIAL
MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

1. I attach a set of the telegrams about the visit and a schedule of the itinerary.

2. A number of questions arise from posts' replies:

(a) Press announcement:
We still await the formal authority from No 10 for the visit and an announcement cannot be made until this has been received. Nevertheless, it is clear that the BA press have already published a pretty accurate forecast of the Minister's movements, possibly based on comments from Commodore Cavendish on his return. I imagine that our release would be a fairly general statement, but we would probably have to let posts, e.g. especially BA, see the text.

(b) Who should accompany the Minister:
Both Port Stanley and BA have suggested that a member of our mission in BA (eg Mr Gough) might accompany the Minister to the Falklands. We have hitherto assumed that the Minister would receive all the necessary support in other countries from our missions, although there is a possible additional need of support from London (DOT) in Brasilia for any exchanges under the MOU heading.

(c) Programme on 12 June in BA:
The Minister arrives after an arduous overnight journey in mid-morning. Mr Earless has suggested a lunch (with British businessmen) and a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Pastor, plus a reception in the evening. This might be too much. The Minister would have all of Thursday, 19 July in BA on his return. The Falkland Islanders might well not like to have the Minister holding discussions in BA on his way out before he had spoken to them.

(d) Brasilia:
I sent a telegram to Brasilia last night (copies have yet to be circulated) asking whether the programme in Brasilia might be changed as discussed by Mr Egerton and the Minister of State yesterday afternoon. The attached draft itinerary incorporates these proposals as an alternative.

(e) ...
Ecuador:
President-elect Rolda's inauguration is on Friday, 10 August, and the Ecuador Ambassador is lobbying for high level attendance. No other Ministers are scheduled to be in the area at the time (Mr Parkinson's dates are 7-26 September and Mr Walker's are tentatively two weeks in October). It might be possible for the Minister to return to Ecuador after Antigua, although in the wrong direction.

G A Duggan
South America Department

20 June, 1979

(b) On Mon, Mr Owen (B07) adds that they are urgently examining now what matters of substance in our bilateral trading relations they would consider it worth raising at a July new meeting. If there were any (and they were not immediately apparent to him), DOT would probably wish to be represented. He will discuss with the Trolley.
CONFIDENTIAL

GR 250

CONFIDENTIAL
ENCL 20173/2 JUN 79

TO IMMEDIATE BUENOS AIRES

TELEGRAM NUMBER 106 OF 20 JUNE
INFO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY.

YOUR TELNO 138: VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. MR RIDLEY DOES NOT LIKE IDEA OF COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN
MINISTER PASTOR BEFORE HE VISITS THE THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. HALL
HAS ALREADY TOLD ARGENTINE CHARGE THAT MR RIDLEY WOULD ONLY BE
AVAILABLE TO MEET ARGENTINES ON HIS RETURN JOURNEY. THURSDAY 19
JULY APPEARS TO OFFER ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH
ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES.

2. PLEASE EXPLAIN TO OLIVEIRA LOPEZ THAT MINISTER WOULD PREFER NO
FORMAL ENGAGEMENTS ON 12 JULY GIVEN THAT HE WILL ARRIVE LATE IN THE
MORNING AFTER A LONG ARDUOUS OVERNIGHT JOURNEY AND THAT HE WILL BE
LEAVING FOR CONDORO VERY EARLY ON FRIDAY, 13 JULY. YOU SHOULD ADD
THAT MR RIDLEY LOOKS FORWARD TO HIS CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND
HIS EXCHANGES WITH COMMANDER CAVANDOLI ON 19 JULY.

3. MR RIDLEY IS NOT HOWEVER ADVERSE TO A SMALL INFORMAL PRIVATE
DINNER WITH BRITISH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EVENING OF 12
JULY.

4. NO FCO OFFICIALS, OTHER THAN HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, WILL BE
ACCOMPANYING MR RIDLEY FOR HIS VISITS TO BA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.
MR RIDLEY WELCOMES THE SUGGESTION IN YOUR PARAGRAPH 4(C) AND IN
PARAGRAPH 6 OF PORT STANLEY TELNO 110 (REPEATED TO YOU) THAT GOZNEY
FROM YOUR EMBASSY SHOULD JOIN HIS PARTY FOR HIS VISIT TO THE
FALKLANDS.

5. WE ARE STILL NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE ANY FORMAL PRESS
STATEMENT BUT WE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE NEED (PARAGRAPH 2 OF PORT
STANLEY TELNO 110) TO word THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAREFULLY TO ALLAY
FALKLANDS' ANXIETIES.

CARRINGTON

SIR I.A. PRESENTS
MR. HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

TOP COPY

16
GR 83
CONFIDENTIAL
FM PORT STANLEY 001337Z JUN 77
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 111 OF 29 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES

MY TELNO 110
VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. I SPOKE YESTERDAY TO COUNCILLORS ON THE HELPFUL LINES OF YOUR TELNO 65.

2. THEY RECEIVED THE NEWS OF MR RIDLEY'S VISIT AND THE DECISION ON THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS VERY WELL INDEED. THEY WILL NOW BEGIN TO PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR WHAT THEY LOOK FORWARD TO AS BEING USEFUL AND REWARDING DISCUSSIONS.

3. THEY, TOO, EXPRESSED THE HOPE THE VISIT COULD BE MADE PUBLIC SOON TO AVOID ANY FURTHER SPECULATIVE DISCLOSURES ELSEWHERE.

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ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION
FALKLAND ISLANDS

CONFIDENTIAL
GR 4230
CONFIDENTIAL

RE: STANLEY 19143-02 JUN 79
TO: IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 110 OF 19 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 65
VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. COUNCILLORS ARE ARRIVING IN STANLEY FOR THE LEGCO MEETING TOMORROW (20) AND I SHALL CALL THEM TOGETHER THIS AFTERNOON TO INFORM THEM CONFIDENTIALLY OF THE MINISTER'S VISIT WHICH I AM SURE THEY WILL APPRECIATE AND WELCOME.

2. FOLLOWING THE RECENT LEAKS IN THE BUENOS AIRES PRESS THERE HAS BEEN A GOOD DEAL OF SPECULATION HERE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A JULY VISIT SO IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE. I HOPE WE CAN SOON MAKE IT PUBLIC IN A SUITABLY WORDED STATEMENT TO ALLAY ANY ANXIETY ABOUT ITS PURPOSE.

3. A NUMBER OF FARM MANAGERS ARE ON OVERSEAS LEAVE AND THE WEATHER IN JULY IS UNPREDICTABLE FOR FLYING, BUT BOTH BEAVER SEAPLANES ARE IN SERVICE AND WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ARRANGE VISITS TO AT LEAST TWO SETTLEMENTS EACH ON THE EAST AND THE WEST (INCLUDING PORT HOWARD whose principal owner, WALDRON, IS I BELIEVE KNOWN TO MR RIGBY).

4. A TENTATIVE OUTLINE PROGRAMME WOULD BE:

   FRIDAY AFTERNOON:
   EVENING:

   SATURDAY MORNING:
   AFTERNOON:
   EVENING:

   SUNDAY MORNING:
   EVENING:

   MONDAY MORNING:
   EVENING:

   PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE RECEPTION TO MEET COUNCILLORS, OFFICIALS ETC
   DISCUSSION WITH JOINT COUNCILS FOLLOWED BY BUFFET LUNCHEON
   TOUR OF STANLEY AND AID PROJECTS
   DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
   VISIT TO WEST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS OVERNIGHT STAY
   VISIT TO EAST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS OVERNIGHT STAY

CONFIDENTIAL / TUESDAY
TUESDAY MORNING:
RETURN TO STANLEY
APRIL 27

DISCUSSIONS WITH SHEEPWRIGHTS ASSOCIATION,
GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION, FALKLAND ISLANDS
COMMITTEE ETC

EVENING:
PUBLIC RECEPTION IN TOWN HALL

WEDNESDAY MORNING:
ROUND-UP MEETING WITH COUNCILLORS

TUESDAY AFTERNOON:
DEPART.

1. IT HAS BECOME THE CUSTOM FOR IMPORTANT VISITORS TO MEET THE
PEOPLE OF STANLEY AT EITHER A TOWN HALL PUBLIC MEETING OR AN INFORMAL
RECEPTION. I WOULD SUGGEST THE LATTER ON TUESDAY AS BEING MORE
APPROPRIATE ON THIS OCCASION IF IT WOULD MEET WITH MR RILEY'S
WISHES.

2. I WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE IN THE PARTY
ACCOMPANYING MR RILEY. FOR ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER REASONS A
MAXIMUM OF TWO WOULD FIT IN BEST. MY ASSISTANT WILL HOWEVER HAVE
DEPARTED BY THEN ON RE-POSTING AND IF A LARGE PRESS FOLLOWING IS
EXPECTED I WOULD APPRECIATE HELP IN FIELDING THEM, SUGGEST, SAY,
WOULD THEY BE AVAILABLE TO COME AS A STANLEY LONGSTOP.

3. DINNER JACKETS WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED BUT WARM SLACKS, PULLOVERS,
ANORAKS OR WINDBREAKERS AND STOUT SHOES ARE ADVISABLE FOR CAMP
TRAVELLING.

PARKER

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ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION:
FALKLAND ISLANDS

12 JULY
AM:
ARRIVAL
LUNCH:
AT RESIDENCE WITH FOUR OR FIVE LOCAL BRITISH
BUSINESSMEN (E.G. SHELL REPRESENTATIVE).
PM:
COURTESY CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND INFORMAL
DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF.
EARLY EVENING:
RECEPTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AND
(SAY 7.30-9.30) SOME PROMINENT ARGENTINES AND THEIR WIVES.

13 JULY
EVENING:
QUIET DINNER AT THE RESIDENCE ON RETURN FROM
COMODORO.

17 JULY
AM:
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH COMODORO CAVANDOLI AT THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY
WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS
EITHER AT RESIDENCE OR ELSEWHERE.

EVENING:
DINNER (AND perhaps A SHOW) TO BE HOSTED BY THE
ARGENTINES.
CONFIDENTIAL

3. I called today on Oliveri Lopez to give him the tentative dates. He agreed that a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Pastor on the 19th and the outline programme for the 10th seemed the most appropriate. He also agreed that the proposed dates should be kept confidential at this stage and that we should consult closely about an eventual press announcement.

4. GRATEFUL TO KNOW IN DUE COURSE:

A. WHICH OFFICIALS WILL BE ACCOMPANYING THE MINISTER,

B. THE LINE TO TAKE IN RESPONSE TO ANY ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS HERE WHO SHOW AN INTEREST IN ACCOMPANYING HIM TO THE FALKLANDS.

C. WHETHER, SUBJECT TO THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY, YOU WOULD WISH A MEMBER OF THIS EMBASSY TO JOIN THE MINISTER OF STATE'S PARTY IN THE FALKLANDS. FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, IT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO SEND SOMEONE. IN PARTICULAR, HE COULD KEEP AN EYE ON THE ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN PRESS.

CARLESS

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION
SAM D
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NEWS D
MINISTER OF STATE’S LATIN AMERICAN TOUR

1. Formal permission is required for the Minister of State’s absence from the UK. I submit a self-explanatory draft letter to Number 10. WIAD and MCO concur.

G A Duggan
South America Department

18 June 1979
CONFIDENTIAL

FM G C O 1513102 JUN 79
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 65 OF 15 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES.

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. MR RILEY IS PLANNING TO VISIT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS NEXT
MONTH, TRAVELLING VIA BA AND ARRIVING FROM COMODoro AT 1140
HOURS ON 13 JULY. HE WOULD STAY IN THE FALKLANDS UNTIL
WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY, DEPARTING FOR COMODoro AT 1330 HOURS.

2. MR RILEY'S PURPOSE WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL CONTACT
AT AN EARLY STAGE WITH THE ISLANDERS AND TO OBTAIN A FIRST HAND
ACCOUNT OF THEIR VIEWS. HE WOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE HAVE ANY
PARTICULAR POLICY SUGGESTIONS TO PRESS BUT WOULD WANT TO BE
ABLE TO REPORT FULLY TO HIS COLLEAGUES ON HIS RETURN ABOUT THE
SITUATION.

3. GRATEFUL FOR YOUR FIRST SUGGESTIONS ON A PROGRAMME WHICH
MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: ATTENDANCE AT A JOINT EXCO/LEGCO:
INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH COUNCILLORS; VISITS TO EAST FALKLAND AND
WEST FALKLAND; OTHER ENGAGEMENTS IN STANLEY.

4. ON RETURN JOURNEY, MR RILEY HOPES TO TAKE OPPORTUNITY OF
MAKING CONTACT WITH ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES IN BA, WHEN ARGENTINE
DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CAVANDOLI PASSED THROUGH LONDON THIS WEEK,
MR RILEY TOLD HIM OF MY DECISION TO AGREE TO THEIR REQUEST TO
EXCHANGE AMBASSADORS. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THIS MIGHT BE
ANNOUNCED WHEN MR RILEY VISITS BA AND THE AGREEMENT IS
CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL THEN. MR RILEY ALSO GAVE CAVANDOLI A LETTER
FROM ME TO FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR CONTAINED IN NIFT.

5. YOU SHOULD TELL COUNCILLORS AT THIS STAGE IN STRICT CONFIDENCE
OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO AMBASSADORS THAT
WE ARE RESPONDING TO AN ARGENTINE REQUEST; IT WAS THEY WHO
ORIGINALLY WITHHELD THEIR AMBASSADOR FROM LONDON AND ASKED

CONFIDENTIAL

F. H. C. W.
CONFIDENTIAL

FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF OURS AND THE FIRST MOVE FOR A RESTORATION OF AMBASSADORS HAS PROPERLY COME FROM THEM. WHAT WE ARE AGREEING TO IS SIMPLY A RETURN TO NORMAL FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR DOES NOT CONVEY APPROVAL OF A REGIME OR ITS POLICIES. NOR DOES IT BETOKEN ANY CHANGE OF POLICY ON OUR PART. WE REGARD AMBASSADORS AS AN ESSENTIALLY FUNCTIONAL POINT OF CONTACT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS: THERE ARE OBVIOUS ADVANTAGES IN HAVE SUCH ACCESS, PARTICULARLY WHEN WE ARE IN DISPUTE WITH THEM.

CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DIST.
S.A.H.
NEWS.D.
PCD.
PSMR RIDLEY
SIRA Parsons
PS17 PSUS.
HE HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

F 154162 JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES TELNO 122 OF 15 JUNE INFO PORT STANLEY

MY TELNO 69 TO PORT STANLEY: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE PRESENT PLAN IS FOR MR RILEY TO ARRIVE BA ON 18 093 FROM MADRID, ETA 0857 THURSDAY 12 JULY. HE WOULD DEPART FOR COMORO ON AR 616 AT 0635, 13 JULY TO LINK WITH FLIGHT AT 0920 TO PORT STANLEY. HE WOULD RETURN FROM PORT STANLEY ON WEDNESDAY 18 JULY, ETA BA 2115, DEPARTING BA ON FRIDAY 20 JULY ON AV 194 ETD 0930 FOR RIO EN ROUTE TO BRASILIA.

2. THURSDAY 19 JULY IN BA, WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH ARGENTINES. THIS WAS MENTIONED TO CAVANDOLI.

CARRINGTON
DEPARTMENTAL DIST.
S.A.H.
PCD.
NEWS.D.
PSMR RILEY
SIRA Parsons
HE HALL.
FALKLAND ISLANDS

During the course of the lunch given by Mr Ridley yesterday for Comodoro Cavandoli, I was asked by Mr Hunter Christie whether Mr Ridley would be able to visit the Falkland Islands in due course. I replied that he very much hoped to, and that although there were no firm plans yet, I thought that it would be sooner rather than later.

K D Temple
15 June 1979

RESTRICTED

STATE'S

ARRIVE

05.50 (12th)

10.10

06.40

12.10

17.10

21.40

10.55

14.15

Tuesday 24 July
Brasilia/Sao Paolo
QD 303

RESTRICTED

Thursday 23 July
Rio
17.30

18.50

Wednesday
### POSSIBLE ITINERARY/OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

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TO BUENOS AIRES 19/21 DECEMBER JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNG 218 OF 19 JUNE 1979
INFO PORT STANLEY.

YOUR TELNG 65 TO PORT STANLEY AND 102 TO BUENOS AIRES; VISIT OF
MINISTER OF STATE.

1. I AM DELIGHTED THAT MR. RISLEY WILL BE VISITING ARGENTINA AND
THE FALKLANDS NEXT MONTH AND HOPE THAT HE WILL STAY WITH ME WHILE
IN BUENOS AIRES.

2. I SUGGEST THAT THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR HIS TIME HERE MIGHT
INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

12 JULY AM:
ARRIVAL
LUNCH: AT RESIDENCE WITH FOUR OR FIVE LOCAL BRITISH
BUSINESSMEN (E.G. SHELL REPRESENTATIVE).
PM:
COURTESY CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND INFORMAL
DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR EMBASSY STAFF.
EARLY EVENING:
RECEPTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH COMMUNITY AND
SOME PROMINENT ARGENTINES AND THEIR WIVES.

18 JULY
EVENING:
QUIET DINNER AT THE RESIDENCE ON RETURN FROM
COMODORO.

19 JULY AM:
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH COMODORO CAOANDO AT THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY
WORKING LUNCH WITH CAOANDO AND HIS OFFICIALS
EITHER AT RESIDENCE OR ELSEWHERE.

EVENING:
DINNER (AND PERHAPS A SHOW) TO BE HOSTED BY THE
ARGENTINES.

CONFIDENTIAL

/3. I
CONFIDENTIAL

3. I called today on Oliveri Lopez to give him the tentative dates. He agreed that a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Pastor on the 19th and the outline programme for the 20th seemed the most appropriate. We also agreed that the proposed dates should be kept confidential at this stage and that we should consult closely about any eventual press announcement.

4. Grateful to know in due course:

A. Which officials will be accompanying the Minister.
B. The line to take in response to any Argentine and foreign journalists here who show an interest in accompanying him to the Falklands.
C. Whether, subject to the views of the Governor in Port Stanley, you would wish a member of this Embassy to join the Minister of State's party in the Falklands. From my point of view, it would be of value to send someone. In particular, we could keep an eye on the Argentine and foreign press.

CARELESS

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PORT STANLEY 191430Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 119 OF 19 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES

YOUR TELNO 65
VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE

1. Councillors are arriving in Stanley for the Legco meeting tomorrow (20) and I shall call them together this afternoon to inform them confidentially of the Minister's visit which I am sure they will appreciate and welcome.

2. Following the recent leaks in the Buenos Aires press there has been a good deal of speculation here about the possibility of a July visit so it should come as no surprise. I hope we can soon make it public in a suitably worded statement to allay any anxiety about its purpose.

3. A number of farm managers are on overseas leave and the weather in July is unpredictable for flying, but both Beaver seaplanes are in service and he should be able to arrange visits to at least two settlements each on the East and the West (including Port Howard whose principal owner, Walbom, is I believe known to Mr Ridley).

4. A tentative outline programme would be:

FRIDAY AFTERNOON:
PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE
EVENING:
RECEPTION TO MEET COUNCILLORS, OFFICIALS ETC

SATURDAY MORNING:
DISCUSSION WITH JOINT COUNCILS FOLLOWED BY BUFFET LUNCHEON
AFTERNOON:
TOUR OF STANLEY AND AID PROJECTS
EVENING:
DINNER AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE

SUNDAY MORNING:
VISIT TO WEST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS
OVERNIGHT STAY
MONDAY MORNING:
VISIT TO EAST FALKLAND SETTLEMENTS
OVERNIGHT STAY

CONFIDENTIAL / THURSDAY
CONFIDENTIAL

TUESDAY MORNING:
RETURN TO STANLEY
DISCUSSIONS WITH SHEEPWREAS ASSOCIATION,
GENERAL EMPLOYEES UNION, FALKLAND ISLANDS
COMMitter ETC.
PUBLIC RECEPTION IN TOWN HALL
WEDNESDAY MORNING:
ROUND-UP MEETING WITH COUNCILLORS
AFTERNOON:
DEPART.

1. IT HAS BECOME THE CUSTOM FOR IMPORTANT VISITORS TO MEET THE
PEOPLE OF STANLEY AT EITHER A TOWN HALL PUBLIC MEETING OR AN INFORMAL
RECEPTION. I WOULD SUGGEST THE LATTER ON TUESDAY AS BEING MORE
APPROPRIATE ON THIS OCCASION IF IT WOULD MEET WITH MR. RIDLEY'S
WISHES.

2. I WOULD BE GRATFUL TO KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE IN THE PARTY
ACCOMPANYING MR. RIDLEY. FOR ACCOMMODATION AND OTHER REASONS A
MAXIMUM OF TWO WOULD FIT IN BEST. MY ASSISTANT WILL HOWEVER HAVE
DEPARTED BY THEN ON RE-POSTING AND IF A LARGE PRESS FOLLOWING IS
EXPECTED I WOULD APPRECIATE HELP IN FIELDING THEM, SHOULD, SAY,
SOME TO BE AVAILABLE TO COME AS A STANLEY LONGSTOP.

3. DINNER JACKETS WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED BUT WARM SLACKS, PULLOVERS,
ANDRAKS OR WINDCHEATERS AND STOUT SHOES ARE ADVISABLE FOR CAMP
TRAVELLING.

PARKER

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION: ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION:
& AH B
MSD
URD
DEFENCE DEPT
E S & S D
MSG D
SIP
CABINET OFFICE FALKLAND ISLANDS

CONFIDENTIAL

PM BRASILIA 1511900Z JUN 79
TO PRIORITY PFC
TELEGRAM NUMBER 153 OF 15 JUNE
INFO ROUTINE LIMA, CARACAS, RIO DE JANEIRO
INFO SAVING SAO PAULO
FOR URE, SAND,
YOUR TELNO. 76,
POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. I SHOULD WELCOME VISIT BY MR. RIDLEY AT THE TIME YOU SUGGEST.
IF YOUR OUTLINE ITINERARY IS FOLLOWED MINISTER WOULD HAVE FIVE AND
A HALF DAYS IN BRASILIA INCLUDING WEEKEND, POSSIBLE ENGAGEMENTS
(DEPENDING EVIDENTLY ON AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS HERE AND
ACCEPTABILITY TO BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES) WOULD BE A PROPER MOU
MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER, CALLS ON OTHER MINISTERS FROM AMONG
PLANNING FINANCE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE AGRICULTURE INTERIOR AND
TRANSPORT, CALLS AT SENATE AND CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES WHO WILL
HOWEVER PROBABLY NOT BE IN SESSION. I WOULD HOPE MINISTER AND PARTY
WOULD STAY WITH ME AND I WOULD GIVE FORMAL DINNER ONE NIGHT.
PROBABLY IT MAY BE NEEDED FOR ONE LUNCH, BUT FRANKLY
THERE IS NOT ENOUGH FOR FIVE DAYS EVEN WITH WEEKEND. IF MINISTER
WANTS A REAL REST AT WEEKEND AS OPPOSED TO SIGHTSEEING THEN BRASILIA
IS BEST, OTHERWISE I MIGHT MISH TO STAY IN RIO (THOUGH CO WILL
STILL BE ON LEAVE). IN ANY CASE I SHOULD LIKE HIM TO HAVE A DAY IN
SAO PAULO TO GET AN IDEA OF WHAT BRAZIL IS ABOUT. HE COULD TRAVEL TO
SAO PAULO PM 2A JULY AND TO LIMA BY FLIGHT YOU PROPOSE ON 25 JULY.
2. IF OUTLINE ITINERARY IN YOUR TUR IS TO BE MAINTAINED I RECOMMEND
HIS CATCHING A LATER PLANE SAY 1400 HRS RIO/BRASILIA 20 JULY
AND EARLIER PLANE BRASILIA/RIO 25 JULY SINCE TIME AVAILABLE IN
RIO ON FLIGHTS YOU PROPOSE IS IN EACH CASE INADEQUATE TO BE CERTAIN
OF ONWARD FLIGHT EVEN THOUGH ONLY GALEAO AIRPORT IS INVOLVED.

STATHAM

File
Peirce, R. (R. B. Richardson Sir. A. Parsons
Sand
P. (P. M. Gale:
Post
W. (W. H. Wood
CONFIDENTIAL

FM LIMA 15160DZ JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCDO
TELNO 94 OF 15 JUNE

FOR USE SAMDO
POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. I SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMME IN PERU:

(i) THURSDAY 26 JULY
AM LIMA - VISIT CHANCERY AND BRITISH COUNCIL OFFICES.
- CALLS ON FOREIGN MINISTRY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE
  AND ECONOMY AND POSSIBLY MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY
  AND COMMERCE.
- LUNCH PROBABLY GIVEN BY THE PERUVIANS.
PM - VISIT MUSEUMS IN LIMA.
- COCKTAIL AT RESIDENCE OR PHOENIX CLUB FOR
  SENIOR BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
- DINNER AT RESIDENCE FOR PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT
  REPRESENTATIVES.
NIGHT - AT RESIDENCE.

(ii) FRIDAY 27 JULY
AM - FLY TO CUZCO THEN HELICOPTER TO CUSICHACA
  AND MACCHU PICCHU AND RETURN TO CUZCO.
PM - REST IN CUZCO (NO ALTITUDE EFFECTS)
NIGHT - IN CUZCO

(iii) SATURDAY 28 JULY
(NATIONAL HOLIDAY IN PERU)
- SIGHTSEEING IN CUZCO REGION
NIGHT - IN CUZCO

(iv) SUNDAY 29 JULY
AM - RETURN BY AIR TO LIMA
PM - NO ENGAGEMENTS (RECOVER FROM ALTITUDE)
NIGHT - AT RESIDENCE

(v) MONDAY 30 JULY
AM 0900 - FLIGHT FL 630 TO CARACAS.

/2.
2. CUZCO IS LIKELY TO BE PARTICULARLY CROWDED ON 27-29 JULY, THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY WEEKEND. IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO ACCOMPANY MR. RIDLEY THERE, AS I SHOULD HAVE LIKED, BECAUSE THE USUAL PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION FOR THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IS LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE IN LIMA AT NOON ON 28 JULY.

3. WILL MRS. RIDLEY ACCOMPANY THE MINISTER OF STATE? WHAT ABOUT YOU? (EXCLAM)

HARDING

FILES

SAND

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

PH. CARACAS 1519/02 JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE PDO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 194 OF 15 JUNE

FOR MR. SMITH
YOUR TELNO 76: POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE

1. WE GREATLY WELCOME THIS PROPOSAL. THE VISIT WOULD HELP TO CONSOLIDATE OUR RELATIONS WITH THE NEW COPEI GOVERNMENT.

2. WE WOULD AIM TO ARRANGE A CALL ON PRESIDENT HERRERA; ALSO ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER WITH WHOM WE MIGHT HOPE TO ARRANGE A WORKING SESSION FOR A BROAD EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH OFFICIALS PRESENT AND ALSO PEREZ GUERRERO ON THAT OCCASION OR SEPARATELY AS PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND EX-COOCHAIRMAN OF THE CIEC PARIS CONFERENCE. MR. RIDLEY MIGHT MEET WITH ONE OTHER MINISTER, PERHAPS THE FINANCE MINISTER FOR A REVIEW OF THE ECONOMY, OR THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES WHO COULD GIVE VENEZUELA'S VIEW OF OIL AND OPEC RELATED MATTERS. I HOPE THE VENEZUELAN WOULD MAKE IT AN OFFICIAL VISIT AND WOULD OFFER A LUNCHEON OR DINNER AND WE MIGHT PERHAPS OFFER A RECEPTION IN RETURN TO GET A WIDER SPREAD OF GUESTS.

3. IN VIEW OF OUR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS HERE WE COULD HOPE TO ARRANGE A LUNCHEON WITH THE ANGLO-VENEZUELAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE MINISTER TO LEARN MORE OF OUR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS AND PROSPECTS. THIS COULD EITHER TAKE THE FORM OF A FULL MEETING WITH A SHORT ADDRESS FROM THE MINISTER (ANTICIPATED AUDIENCE, IN JULY, ABOUT 50) OR A MORE INFORMAL GATHERING WITH THE BOARD OF THE CHAMBER (ABOUT 10) WITH PERHAPS A QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION.

4. THE LAYING OF A WREATH AT THE TOMBS OF SIMON BOLIVAR IS A REQUIREMENT FOR ALL OFFICIAL VISITORS.

5. I SUGGEST A MEETING WITH THE PRESS SHORTLY BEFORE MR. RIDLEY'S DEPARTURE.

RESTRICTED
6. There would hardly be time available for trips outside Caracas, either sight-seeing or industrial. We could of course arrange a short tour of Caracas if the Minister would welcome that although he should be warned if he has not been here before that there is little of historical or scenic interest.

7. We cannot at this stage be certain about the availability of individual Ministers since the visit would fall in the holiday season. Nevertheless I am sure that we could put together a worthwhile programme.

8. I will have left Caracas by the time of the visit to take up my appointment in the Hague. Peter Heap (who was to have returned from a short home leave on 31 July and who will now return a few days earlier) will be Charge d’Affaires at the time.

Taylor

F I L E S
S A M D
FS
FS/DR RIDLEY
FS/THS
SIR A PARSONS
MR HALL
SIR A PUFF

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM FM F CO 1510102 JUNE 79
TO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES
TELNO 182 OF 15 JUNE
INFO PORT STANLEY.

MY TELNO 65 TO PORT STANLEY: VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. The present plan is for Mr Ridley to arrive BA on 13 953 from Madrid, ETA 0935 Thursday 12 July. He will depart for Concorde on AR 616 at 0630, 13 July to link with flight at 0930 to Port Stanley. He would return from Port Stanley on Wednesday 18 July, ETA BA 214G, departing BA on Friday 28 July on AV 894 EDT 0800 for Rio en route to Brasilia.

2. Thursday 19 July in BA, would provide opportunities for informal meetings with Argentines. This was mentioned to Cavandoli.

CARRINGTON
DEPARTMENTAL BIST:
S-AMG
P&O
NEWS, D.
PSLVE RIDLEY
SJR A PARS
MR HALL.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

P.M. C.O. 151322 JUN 79
TO PRIORITY PORT STANLEY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 65 CF 15 JUNE
INFO BUENOS AIRES.

VISIT OF MINISTER OF STATE.

1. MR. RIDLEY IS PLANNING TO VISIT THE FALKLAND ISLANDS NEXT MONTH, TRAVELLING VIA BA AND ARRIVING FROM CONDORO AT 1140 HOURS ON 13 JULY. HE WOULD STAY IN THE FALKLANDS UNTIL WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY, DEPARTING FOR CONDORO AT 1330 HOURS.

2. MR. RIDLEY'S PURPOSE WOULD BE TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL CONTACT AT AN EARLY STAGE WITH THE ISLANDERS AND TO OBTAIN A FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF THEIR VIEWS. HE WOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE HAVE ANY PARTICULAR POLICY SUGGESTIONS TO PRESS BUT WOULD WANT TO BE ABLE TO REPORT FULLY TO HIS COLLEAGUES ON HIS RETURN ABOUT THE SITUATION.

3. GRATEFUL FOR YOUR FIRST SUGGESTIONS ON A PROGRAMME WHICH MIGHT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: ATTENDANCE AT A JOINT EXCO/LEGCO: INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH COUNCILLORS: VISITS TO EAST FALKLAND AND WEST FALKLAND: OTHER ENGAGEMENTS IN STANLEY.

4. ON RETURN JOURNEY, MR. RIDLEY HOPES TO TAKE OPPORTUNITY OF MAKING CONTACT WITH ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES IN BA. WHEN ARGENTINE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CAVANDOLI PASSED THROUGH LONDON THIS WEEK, MR. RIDLEY TOLD HIM OF MY DECISION TO AGREE TO THEIR REQUEST TO EXCHANGE EMBASSADORS. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THIS MIGHT BE ANNOUNCED WHEN MR. RIDLEY VISITS BA AND THE AGREEMENT IS CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL THEN. MR. RIDLEY ALSO GAVE CAVANDOLI A LETTER FROM ME TO FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR CONTAINED IN MYFT.

5. YOU SHOULD TELL COUNCILLORS AT THIS STAGE IN STRICT CONFIDENCE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS. YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN TO AMBASSADORS THAT WE ARE RESPONDING TO AN ARGENTINE REQUEST; IT WAS THEY WHO ORIGINALLY WITHDREW THEIR AMBASSADOR FROM LONDON AND ASKED...
CONFIDENTIAL

FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF OURS AND THE FIRST MOVE FOR A RESTORATION
OF AMBASSADORS HAS PROPERLY COME FROM THEM. WHAT WE ARE AGREEING
TO IS SIMPLY A RETURN TO NORMAL FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. THE
APPOINTMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR DOES NOT CONVEY APPROVAL OF A REGIME
OR ITS POLICIES. NOR DOES IT BETOKEN ANY CHANGE OF POLICY ON
OUR PART. WE REGARD AMBASSADORS AS AN ESSENTIALLY FUNCTIONAL
POINT OF CONTACT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS; THERE ARE OBVIOUS
ADVANTAGES IN HAVE SUCH ACCESS, PARTICULARLY WHEN WE ARE IN
DISPUTE WITH THEM.

CARRINGTON

DEPARTMENTAL DIST.
SAND
R.E.W.D.
P.O.D.
PSMR R.P.
SIGA.M. Parsons
PSMR PUB.
HE MR R.

CONFIDENTIAL

CGR 559

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM FC 1317472 JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NO 76 OF 13 JUN
AND TO IMMEDIATE LIMA CARACAS
INFO PRIORITY BUENOS AIRES MEXICO CITY RIO DE JANEIRO.

FROM U.S. AND.
POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE
1. THE MINISTER OF STATE IS PLANNING A TOUR OF MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN
COUNTRIES INCLUDING VISITS TO BRAZIL, PERU AND VENEZUELA, FOLLOWING A
VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS IN EARLY JULY. HE HAS APPROVED IN
PRINCIPLE THE FOLLOWING ITINERARY:

FRIDAY 20 JULY
BUENOS AIRES/RIO DE JANEIRO
AV 084
(IF SAME AIRPORT)
RIO DE JANEIRO/BRASILIA
GS434
WEDNESDAY 25 JULY
BRASILIA/RIO DE JANEIRO
GS421
(IF SAME AIRPORT)
RIO DE JANEIRO/LIMA
GS R23
MONDAY 30 JULY
LIMA/CARACAS
PL 622
WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST
CARACAS/MEXICO CITY
AI 420

3.GRATITUDE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

2. GRATEFUL FOR URGENT PROGRAMME SUGGESTIONS BY TELEGRAM, BEARING IN MIND THAT MR RIDLEY HAS ASKED FOR ONE OR TWO REST PERIODS E.G. OVER WEEKEND.

3. THESE PLANS SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE BE DIVULGED TO YOUR HOST GOVERNMENT (THOUGH MR RIDLEY HAS MENTIONED TO THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR THAT HE HOPES TO VISIT BRAZIL IN JULY.)

4. LIMA ONLY. MR RIDLEY WANTS TO SEE MACHU PICchu, CAN HE ALSO PLAN FOR VISIT CUSICACHA AND CALL ON APPROPRIATE MINISTERS.

CARRINGTON

FILES
S A M D
P & CD
M & CD
WIAD
PS/MR.RIDLEY
SIR A PARBOS
MR.HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

5 AUGUST-COURTESY CALLS ON MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, PRESIDENTS SPECIAL ADVISER ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (NECETAZUMA CID).

-LUNCH WITH LEADING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
-NEET EMBASSY STAFF.
-OPENING PERFORMANCE OF ROYAL BALLET (ROMEO AND JULIET) AT BELLAS ARTES.
-RECEPTION AT BELLAS ARTES.

3 AUGUST-A.M. INDUSTRIAL VISIT (WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES) AND LUNCH.
-P.M. DEPART BY AIR FOR GUADALAJARA.
-RECEPTION AT THE ANGLO MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN GUADALAJARA, FOLLOWED BY DINNER WITH LEADING LOCAL PERSONALITIES.

4 AUGUST-SIGHTSEEING IN GUADALAJARA AND AREA AND LUNCH. RETURN BY AIR TO MEXICO CITY EARLY P.M.
-EVENING: ROYAL BALLET PERFORMANCE (BIRTHDAY OFFERING: MONTH IN THE COUNTRY; ELITE SYNCPATION).

5 AUGUST-GO TO VALLE DE BRAVO BY CAR (SAILING/WALKING/GOLF ARE POSSIBILITIES). SPEND NIGHT AT VALLE DE BRAVO.

6 AUGUST-RETURN EARLY A.M. BY CAR TO MEXICO CITY.

CONFIDENTIAL
2. Whether all courtesy calls listed for 2 August can be fitted in will depend, of course, on the availability of Ministers and the times which we are offered. The President may attend the opening performance of the Royal Ballet. His wife almost certainly will.

3. The visit to Guadalajara has been included because I was planning to go there with Sir Charles Troughton, Chairman of the British Council, who will be in Mexico at the same time as Mr Ridley. It is Mexico’s second city and is thriving and interesting. The Anglo-Mexican Cultural Institute is doing remarkably well and deserves every encouragement.

4. I think that on Saturday night, 4 August, we should once again support the Royal Ballet at Bellas Artes.

5. The weekend at Valle de Bravo can be completely relaxing. The return on Monday morning needs to be related to the plane departure time. May I please have flight number and E.T.D.

Cox

F. L. E. S
M. and O. D
S. A. H. D
C. D.
Mr. Hall

ADVANCE COPY

9/11/1985
COFCO DESKBO 2199142
IMMEDIATE

PORT STANLEY

GRS 394
CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBO 2199142
PM BUENOS AIRES 12/1/1985 JUNE 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TENL 178 OF 12 JUNE 1979
INFO PORT STANLEY.

Your TELNO 55 to Port Stanley and 109 to Buenos Aires. Visit of
Minister of State.

1. I am delighted that Mr Ridley will be visiting Argentina and
the Falklands next month and hope that he will stay with us while
in Buenos Aires.

2. I suggest that the outline programme for his time here might
include the following:

10 July
AM: Arrival
Lunch: at residence with four or five local British
businessmen (e.g. Shell Representative).
PM: courtesy call on the Foreign Minister and informal
discussion with senior Embassy staff.
Early evening: reception for members of the British community and
some prominent Argentines and their wives.

12 July
Evening: quiet supper at the residence on return from
Comodoro.

13 July
AM: exchange of views with Comodoro Cavandoli at the
Foreign Ministry.

Working lunch with Cavandoli and his officials.
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COX

FILES
M AND C D
S AND D
ORD
MR HALL
WORKING LUNCH WITH CAVANDOLI AND HIS OFFICIALS EITHER AT RESIDENCE OR ELSEWHERE.

EVENING: DINNER ( AND PERHAPS A SHOW ) TO BE HOSTED BY THE ARGENTINES.

3. I CALLED TODAY ON OLIVERI LOPEZ TO GIVE HIM THE TENTATIVE DATES. HE AGREED THAT A COURTESY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER PASTOR ON THE 17TH AND THE OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR THE 19TH SEEMED THE MOST APPROPRIATE. WE ALSO AGREED THAT THE PROPOSED DATES SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL AT THIS STAGE AND THAT WE SHOULD CONSULT CLOSELY ABOUT AN EVENTUAL PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT.

A. GRATEFUL TO KNOW IN DUE COURSE:

A. WHICH OFFICIALS WILL BE ACCOMPANYING THE MINISTER.
B. THE LINE TO TAKE IN RESPONSE TO ANY ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN JOURNALISTS HERE WHO SHOW AN INTEREST IN ACCOMPANYING HIM TO THE FALKLANDS.
C. WHETHER, SUBJECT TO THE VIEWS OF THE GOVERNOR IN PORT STANLEY, YOU WOULD WISH A MEMBER OF THIS EMBASSY TO JOIN THE MINISTERS OF STATE'S PARTY IN THE FALKLANDS. FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, IT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO SEND SOMEONE. IN PARTICULAR, WE COULD KEEP AN EYE ON THE ARGENTINE AND FOREIGN PRESS.

CARLESS

NWW

SENT AT 19/26357 NCC
RECD AT 19/26357 0235 DE
CONFIDENTIAL

GR 150
CONFIDENTIAL
DESKBY 111000Z
FM FCO 1117002 JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE MEXICO CITY
TELEGRAM NUMBER 109 OF 11 JUNE

FROM H AND CD

POSSIBLE VISIT TO MEXICO OF MINISTER OF STATE
1. TENTATIVE PLANS ARE BEING MADE FOR A TOUR BY MR RIPLEY
OF THE MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING A VISIT
TO MEXICO FROM THE EVENING OF 1ST TO 4TH OR 5TH AUGUST. HE WOULD
TRAVEL TO MEXICO FROM VENEZUELA. THESE PLANS SHOULD NOT AT THIS
STAGE BE DIVULGED TO THE MEXICANS.
2. THE VISIT WOULD NOT (NOT) BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR THAT OF THE MINISTER
FOR THE ARTS, WHICH CWD ARE STILL PURSUING. NEVERTHELESS WE ASSUME
THAT THERE WOULD BE ADVANTAGE IN MR RIPLEY ATTENDING THE OPENING
OF THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL AND/OR ONE OF THE EARLY PERFORMANCES.
3. WE SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR
PROGRAMME.

CARRINGTON
FILES
M AND C D
SAMD
C.R.D
MR HALL
CONFIDENTIAL

FMFCO 1918302 JUN 79
TO PRIORITY BRASILIA
TELEGRAM NUMBER 83 OF 19 JUNE
INFO PRIORITY RIO DE JANEIRO AND SAO PAULO

FROM SOUTH AMERICA DEPARTMENT.

YOUR TELNO 103: POSSIBLE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE.

1. IN LIGHT OF YOUR SUGGESTIONS AND FOLLOWING CALL ON THE MINISTER
   OF STATE BY CONSUL GENERAL, RIO, MR RIDLEY HAS ASKED FOR COMMENTS
   ON FOLLOWING RE-ARRANGED ITINERARY:

   FRIDAY 20 JULY
   FROM SA, TRAVEL DIRECT TO SAO PAULO FOR PROGRAMME OF CALLS,
   FACTORY VISITS ETC.

   SATURDAY 21 JULY
   SAO PAULO/RIO DE JANEIRO IN TIME FOR DINNER GIVEN BY ACTING
   CONSUL GENERAL TO MEET BANKERS, ETC.

   SUNDAY, 22 JULY
   FREE FOR SIGHTSEEING.

   MONDAY, 23 JULY
   VISIT EMAG SHIPYARD.

   LUNCH WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

   LATER RIO DE JANEIRO/BRASILIA.

   TUESDAY 24 AND WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY

   IN BRASILIA. DEPART 25 JULY TO CATCH FLIGHT AT 2100 FROM RIO/ LIMA.

2. WOULD THIS SCHEDULE STILL ENABLE MR RIDLEY TO CARRY OUT
   WORTHWHILE PROGRAMME IN BRASILIA ON LINES YOU SUGGESTED?

CARRINGTON

Filies
SAM
ACD
RSMR Ridley
MR Hall

CONFIDENTIAL
MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. We have yet to inform the Governor of Mr Ridley's visit. We should also inform BA of the travel arrangements.

2. Mr Ridley's visit is still formally to be cleared with No 10 and the Whips Office. The Secretary of State's minute to the Prime Minister and DB colleagues is expected to issue today.

3. I attach draft telegrams.

G A Duggan
South America Department

15 June, 1979
Miss Oldershaw

Mr Ridley’s Visit to Latin America and the Falkland Islands

1. I attach, as discussed, a copy of Mr Ure’s submission of 12 June.

2. The itinerary has now been approved by Mr Ridley and I should be grateful if you would go ahead with the bookings. Mr Ridley is to be accompanied by his Private Secretary, Mr Temple.

3. I understand that WIAD have still not finalised arrangements for Mr Ridley’s visit to Antigua. They will be contacting you separately.

4. As we discussed, there is financial provision for Mr Ridley’s visits to the Falklands and Argentina but not for his visits to Venezuela, Brazil and Peru. I am pursuing this.

C W Osborne
South America Department

14 June 1979

cc: MECO
WIAD
CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: URE, SAM

POSSIBLE VISIT BY MINISTER OF STATE
1. THE MINISTER OF STATE IS PLANNING A TOUR OF MAJOR LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING VISITS TO BRAZIL, PERU AND VENEZUELA, FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS IN EARLY JULY. HE HAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE FOLLOWING ITINERARY:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Depart Location</th>
<th>Depart Time</th>
<th>Arrive Location</th>
<th>Arrive Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY 20 JULY</td>
<td>BUENOS AIRES/RIO DE JANEIRO</td>
<td>08.05</td>
<td>RIO DE JANEIRO/BRASILIA</td>
<td>12.05</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 25 JULY</td>
<td>RIO DE JANEIRO</td>
<td>16.30</td>
<td>LIMA/CARACAS</td>
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<td>MONDAY 30 JULY</td>
<td>LIMA/CARACAS</td>
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<td>MEXICO CITY</td>
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<td>WEDNESDAY 1 AUGUST</td>
<td>MEXICO CITY</td>
<td>18.35</td>
<td>RIO DE JANEIRO</td>
<td>23.05</td>
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CONFIDENTIAL
2. GRATEFUL FOR URGENT PROGRAMME SUGGESTIONS BY TELEGRAM, BEARING IN MIND THAT MR RIDLEY HAS ASKED FOR ONE OR TWO REST PERIODS E.G. OVER WEEKEND.

3. THESE PLANS SHOULD NOT AT THIS STAGE BE DIVULGED TO YOUR HOST GOVERNMENT (THOUGH MR RIDLEY HAS MENTIONED TO THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR THAT HE HOPES TO VISIT BRAZIL IN JULY.)

4. LIMA ONLY. MR RIDLEY WANTS TO SEE MACHU PICHU. CAN HE ALSO PLAN FOR VISIT CUSICHACA AND CALL ON APPROPRIATE MINISTERS.

CARRINGTON

FILE
SAMD
P & CD
M & CD
WIAA

86/518/UR
SIR A PARSONS
MR. HALL

2 CONFIDENTIAL

MR RIDLEY'S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. I attach a schedule for Mr Ridley's visit to Latin America. It does not contain detailed suggestions as to how Mr Ridley should spend his time in Venezuela, Brazil and Peru. We will consult these posts, once the Minister has agreed the itinerary, bearing in mind Mr Ridley's request for one or two rest periods.

A possible programme for Mr Ridley's visit to Mexico is contained in Mexico City's tel no 130.

2. If Mr Ridley is going to take in Antigua en route to Buenos Aires/Falkland Islands, this will entail his departure from London on Tuesday, 10 July, as indicated below.


J B Ure
South America Department

12 June 1979

Copies to:
Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
M & CD
P & CD
WIAA

Mr Ur, SAmA.

Provided there is no easier way of getting to Buenos Aires than by spending 11 hours in Madrid, a long journey, if necessary, would be more useful if we were in a country in the Minister's parish, Mr Ridley is generally content.

Mr Ridley is agreeable to WIAA's preference that he visit Antigua on his way home from Mexico.

G. Mr Hunt, WIAD.

[Handwritten note on the right page]:
Spoke to Mr Hunt: Mr Madrid trip is 5½ hours and WIAA's hospitality.
**POSSIBLE ITINERARY/OUTFINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE’S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity and Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 11 July</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depart</td>
<td>Arrive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London/Buenos Aires</td>
<td>20:30 (21h)</td>
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<tr>
<td>£7.30 to 20.35</td>
<td>05:50 (2m)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday 12 July</strong></td>
<td>Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depart</td>
<td>Arrive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires/Buenos Aires</td>
<td>07:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch at Residence</td>
<td>08:05</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:10 (2pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 13 July</strong></td>
<td>Informal meeting with Councilors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depart</td>
<td>Arrive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires/Comodoro</td>
<td>06:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR 616</td>
<td>08:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comodoro/Stanley</td>
<td>09:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch at Government House</td>
<td>11:40 (12:40)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday 14 July</strong></td>
<td>Joint Exco/Legco meeting</td>
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<td>Visit East Falkland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 16 July</strong></td>
<td>Visit West Falkland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 17 July</strong></td>
<td>Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc)</td>
</tr>
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*Wednesday*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanley/Comodoro (D35)</td>
<td>15.50</td>
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<td>Comodoro/Buenos Aires</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting with Argentines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires/Rio de Janeiro AV 084</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rio de Janeiro/Brasilia EC 424</td>
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<td>Brasilia/Rio de Janeiro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 30 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lima/Caracas FL 650</td>
<td>09.00</td>
<td>15.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1 August</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caracas/Mexico City AM 420 (all economy)</td>
<td>14.30</td>
<td>23.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 4 August</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico City/London BA 266</td>
<td>12.15</td>
<td>0730* (Sunday)</td>
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<td>Monday 6 August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico City/London PA 52/PA 2</td>
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*This flight is preferable to the Pan Am flight on 6 August.*
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<td>Thursday 19 July</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Monday 30 July</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico City/London PA 52/Pa 2</td>
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<td>London/Madrid</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 12 July</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ALTERNATIVE ITINERARY IF MINISTER VISITS ANTIGUA

Tuesday 10 July
London/Antigua
BA 251

Depart / Arrive
10.25 / 13.35

Wednesday 11 July
Antigua/Miami
EW 404

Miami/Sanos Aires
AR 355

14.00 / 17.05
21.30 / 10.40 (12th)

Early August.
CONFIDENTIAL

GRPS 250
CONFIDENTIAL
DESRTY 120303Z
FROM MEXICO CITY 120335Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCQ
TELEGRAM NUMBER 139 OF 11 JUNE

FOLLOWING FOR M AND CD

YOUR IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM NO 109 OF 11 JUNE; POSSIBLE VISIT TO
MEXICO BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A POSSIBLE PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT:
2 AUGUST—COURTESY CALLS ON MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINISTER
/DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, PRESIDENTS SPECIAL ADVISER ON
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (GOMEZ, CID).
—LUNCH WITH LEADING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
—MEET EMBASSY STAFF.
—OPENING PERFORMANCE OF ROYAL BALLET (ROMEO AND JULIET)
AT BELLAS ARTES.
—RECEPTION AT BELLAS ARTES.

3 AUGUST—A.M. INDUSTRIAL VISIT (WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE VARIOUS
POSSIBILITIES) AND LUNCH.
—P.M. DEPART BY AIR FOR GUADALAJARA.
—RECEPTION AT THE ANGLO MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN
GUADALAJARA, FOLLOWED BY DINNER WITH LEADING LOCAL
PERSONALITIES.

4 AUGUST—SIGHTSEEING IN GUADALAJARA AND AREA AND LUNCH. RETURN
BY AIR TO MEXICO CITY EARLY P.M.
—EVENING: ROYAL BALLET PERFORMANCE (BIRTHDAY OFFERING:
MOTH IN THE COUNTRY: ELITE SYMPHONY).

5 AUGUST—GO TO VALLE DE BRAVO BY CAR (SAILING/WALKING/GOLF ARE
POSSIBILITIES). SPEND NIGHT AT VALLE DE BRAVO.

6 AUGUST—RETURN EARLY A.M. BY CAR TO MEXICO CITY.
CONFIDENTIAL

CRPS 255
CONFIDENTIAL
DESK 1020302
IN MEXICO CITY 1020352 JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FCS
TELEGRAM NUMBER 123 OF 11 JUNE

FOLLOWING FOR M AND CD

YOUR IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM NO 189 OF 11 JUNE: POSSIBLE VISIT TO
MEXICO BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A POSSIBLE PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT:
2 AUGUST—COURTESY CALLS ON MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINISTER
/DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, PRESIDENTS SPECIAL ADVISER ON
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (MOCTEZUMA CID).
—LUNCH WITH LEADING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
—MEET EMBASSY STAFF.
—OPENING PERFORMANCE OF ROYAL BALLET (ROMEO AND JULIET)
AT BELLAS ARTES.
—RECEPTION AT BELLAS ARTES.

3 AUGUST—A.M. INDUSTRIAL VISIT (WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE VARIOUS
POSSIBILITIES) AND LUNCH.
—P.M. DEPART BY AIR FOR GUADALAJARA.
—RECEPTION AT THE ANGLO MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN
GUADALAJARA, FOLLOWED BY DINNER WITH LEADING LOCAL
PERSONALITIES.

4 AUGUST—SIGHTSEEING IN GUADALAJARA AND AREA AND LUNCH. RETURN
BY AIR TO MEXICO CITY EARLY P.M.
—EVENING: ROYAL BALLET PERFORMANCE (BIRTHDAY OFFERING:
MONTH IN THE COUNTRY: ELITE SYMPHONY).

5 AUGUST—GO TO VALLE DE BRAVO BY CAR (SAILING/WALKING/GOLF ARE
POSSIBILITIES). SPEND NIGHT AT VALLE DE BRAVO.

6 AUGUST—RETURN EARLY A.M. BY CAR TO MEXICO CITY.

CONFIDENTIAL / 2. WHETHER ALL
2. WHETHER ALL COURTESY CALLS LISTED FOR 2 AUGUST CAN BE FITTED IN WILL DEPEND, OF COURSE, ON THE AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS AND THE TIMES WHICH WE ARE OFFERED. THE PRESIDENT MAY ATTEND THE OPENING PERFORMANCE OF THE ROYAL BALLET. HIS WIFE ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL.

3. THE VISIT TO GUADALAJARA HAS BEEN INCLUDED BECAUSE I WAS PLANNING TO GO THERE WITH SIR CHARLES TROUGHTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL, WHO WILL BE IN MEXICO AT THE SAME TIME AS MR RIDLEY. IT IS MEXICO'S SECOND CITY AND IS THRIVING AND INTERESTING. THE ANGLO-MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IS DOING REMARKABLY WELL AND DESERVES EVERY ENCOURAGEMENT.

4. I THINK THAT ON SATURDAY NIGHT, 4 AUGUST, WE SHOULD ONCE AGAIN SUPPORT THE ROYAL BALLET AT BELLAS ARTES.

5. THE WEEKEND AT VALLE DE BRAVO CAN BE COMPLETELY RELAXING. THE RETURN ON MONDAY MORNING NEEDS TO BE RELATED TO THE PLANE DEPARTURE TIME. MAY I PLEASE HAVE FLIGHT NUMBER AND E.T.D.

GDX

F I L E S
M AND C D
6 AND D
ORD
MR HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

 Confederation

Mr Duff

Cc: Mr Stratton
Mr Rushford, Legal Advisers
South America Dept

INDEPENDENCE FOR ANGUILLA

Mr Ridley has seen your submission of 7 June along with Mr Stratton's subsequent minute of 8 June. The Minister agrees in principle to having these talks and is inclined to have them without delay if at all possible. Before agreeing to invite the Antiguans to London however, he wonders whether he could not have the talks in Antigua en route for Buenos Aires at the start of his Falklands/Latin American tour which, on present plans, is due to commence on 11 July.

J W Yapp
11 June 1979

[Handwritten notes: 'How is the Minister taking this? Have he worked in? Please speak. Can it be worked in? Please speak.' 'Br 1/6.']
POSSIBLE ITINERARY/OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE’S VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

Wednesday 11 July
London/Madrid
BA 454

Depart 15.25
Arrive 18.30

Thursday 12 July
Madrid/Buenos Aires
Lunch at Residence

Depart 00.05
Arrive 11.20

pm Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)

Friday 13 July
Buenos Aires/Comodoro
AR 616

Comodoro/Stanley
Lunch at Government House

Depart 06.30
Arrive 08.40

pm Informal meeting with Councillors

Saturday 14 July
Joint Exco/Logco meeting

Sunday 15 July
Visit East Falkland

Monday 16 July
Visit West Falkland

Tuesday 17 July
Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc)

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<tr>
<td>Thursday 20 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires/Rio de Janeiro AV 084</td>
<td>06.00</td>
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<td>20.00</td>
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<td>Rio de Janeiro/Lima RG 650</td>
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<td>(12th)</td>
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CONFIDENTIAL

FROM MEXICO CITY 122035Z JUN 79
TO IMMEDIATE FD
TELEGRAM NUMBER 129 OF 11 JUNE

FOLLOWING FOR M AND CD

YOUR IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM NO 189 OF 11 JUNE; POSSIBLE VISIT TO MEXICO BY MINISTER OF STATE.

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A POSSIBLE PROGRAMME FOR THE VISIT:
   2 AUGUST-COURTESY CALLS ON MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, MINISTER/DEPUTY MINISTER OF TRADE, PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL ADVISER ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (MOCTEZUMA CID).
   -LUNCH WITH LEADING BRITISH BUSINESSMEN.
   -MEET EMBASSY STAFF.
   -OPENING PERFORMANCE OF ROYAL BALLET (ROMEO AND JULIET) AT BELLAS ARTES.
   -RECEPTION AT BELLAS ARTES.

3 AUGUST-A.M. INDUSTRIAL VISIT (WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES) AND LUNCH.
   -P.M. DEPART BY AIR FOR GUADALAJARA.
   -RECEPTION AT THE ANGLO MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN GUADALAJARA, FOLLOWED BY DINNER WITH LEADING LOCAL PERSONALITIES.

4 AUGUST-SIGHTSEEING IN GUADALAJARA AND AREA AND LUNCH. RETURN BY AIR TO MEXICO CITY EARLY P.M.
   -EVENING: ROYAL BALLET PERFORMANCE (BIRTHDAY OFFERING; MONTH IN THE COUNTRY; ELITE SYNCPATION).

5 AUGUST-GO TO VALLE DE BRAVO BY CAR (SAILING/WALKING/GOLF ARE POSSIBILITIES). SPEND NIGHT AT VALLE DE BRAVO.

6 AUGUST-RETURN EARLY A.M. BY CAR TO MEXICO CITY.

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2. WHETHER ALL COURTESY CALLS LISTED FOR 2 AUGUST CAN BE FITTED IN WILL DEPEND, OF COURSE, ON THE AVAILABILITY OF MINISTERS AND THE TIMES WHICH WE ARE OFFERED. THE PRESIDENT MAY ATTEND THE OPENING PERFORMANCE OF THE ROYAL BALLET. HIS WIFE ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL.

3. THE VISIT TO GUADALAJARA HAS BEEN INCLUDED BECAUSE I WAS PLANNING TO GO THERE WITH SIR CHARLES TROUGHTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BRITISH COUNCIL, WHO WILL BE IN MEXICO AT THE SAME TIME AS MR. RIDLEY. IT IS MEXICO'S SECOND CITY AND IS THRIVING AND INTERESTING. THE ANGLO-MEXICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE IS DOING REMARKABLY WELL AND DESERVES EVERY ENCOURAGEMENT.

4. I THINK THAT ON SATURDAY NIGHT, 4 AUGUST, WE SHOULD ONCE AGAIN SUPPORT THE ROYAL BALLET AT BELLAS ARTES.

5. THE WEEKEND AT VALLE DE BRAVO CAN BE COMPLETELY RELAXING. THE RETURN ON MONDAY MORNING NEEDS TO BE RELATED TO THE PLANE DEPARTURE TIME. MAY I PLEASE HAVE FLIGHT NUMBER AND E.T.D.

Cox

FILES
M AND C D
S AND D
CDD
MR. HALL

- 2 -
CONFIDENTIAL
POSSIBLE ITINERARY OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE'S VISIT TO FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA

Option A

11 July

Wednesday

Depart

Arrive

London/Madrid

15.25

18.30

BA 494

12 July

Thursday

Madrid to Buenos Aires

Lunch at Residence.

pm Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)

13 July

Friday

Buenos Aires to Comodoro

AB 616

06.30

08.40

Comodoro to Stanley

Lunch at Government House.

pm Informal meeting with Councillors.

14 July

Saturday

Joint Exco/LEGCO meeting.

15 July

Sunday

Visit East Falkland.

17 July

Monday

Visit West Falkland.

18 July

Tuesday

Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc).

19 July

Wednesday

Depart

Arrive

Stanley to Comodoro

13.30

21.40

Comodoro to Buenos Aires

/Thursday
**Thursday**

Meeting with Argentines.

**Friday**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flight</th>
<th>Depart</th>
<th>Arrive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires to London</td>
<td>17:59</td>
<td>15:35 (Sat)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Direc flights between London/Buenos Aires are on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, timings which do not tie in with the Friday morning flights to Stanley.
Falkland Islands: Ministerial Visit

1. Miss Patricia Napier of Sellingsbury Ltd, the Falkland Islands Committee public relations firm, telephoned me to ask whether it was true that Mr Ridley was planning to visit the Falkland Islands in July. She said that she had received word from the Islands that this was a possibility. She said that the rumours were apparently based on a report in the Argentine newspaper "La Nacion" of 22 May. I told Miss Napier that there was at present no firm plans for Mr Ridley to visit the Falkland Islands and that the newspaper article, which I had not seen, was speculation.

7 June 1979

C W Osborne
South America Department
Jennifer Oldershaw, P.C.O., has given me the flight details for the itinerary and dates you discussed with me yesterday. The details are set out below.

**Friday 20 July**
- Flight AV 084
  - Dep BA 0800
  - Arrive Rio 1055
- Flight SC 434
  - Dep Rio 1200
  - Arrive Brasilia 1415

**Wednesday 21 July**
- Flight RG 201
  - Dep Brasilia 1830
  - Arrive Rio 2000
- Flight RG 830
  - Dep Rio 2100
  - Arrive Lima 0010

**Monday 30 July**
- Flight PL 630
  - Dep Lima 0900
  - Arrive Caracas 1545

**Wednesday 1 August**
- Flight AN 420
  - Dep Caracas 1835
  - Arrive Mexico City 2300

**Saturday 4 August**
- Flight BA 266
  - Dep Mexico City 1215
  - Arrive London 0730 (Sunday)

**Monday 6 August**
- Flight PA 52/PA 2
  - Dep Mexico City 0800
  - Arrive London 0640 (Tuesday)

*This flight is preferable to the Pan Am flight on 6 August.*
2. Miss Oldershaw requested that P&CD should be informed immediately about the visit if P&CD were to pay for it. A copy of all submissions on this proposed visit should be sent to Nancy Deaves, P&CD. She also advised South America Department that the visit, if it were to take place, should appear in the department's financial estimate, even if it had to be a supplementary entry. I undertook to inform you of this.

Samp

6 June 1979

MR RIDLEY’S SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR

1. Mr. Temple tells me that Mr. Ridley would now be grateful if we could work out a programme for his proposed tour. He plans to leave London on 11 July and follow the longer of the two itineraries which you have already devised for the Falklands and Argentina. Thereafter he would wish to visit Brasilia, Caracas and Mexico City, probably for two or three days in each. He plans to be away from London for approximately three weeks. He would like his tour to include one or two rest periods – possibly over weekends – in places where some recreation or tourism would be possible.

2. I would be grateful if you would now work out a programme based on current air time-tables. You will need to consult with Mexico and Caribbean Department about the last stage of the journey. Please let me have a draft programme for Mr. Ridley fairly soon.

J B Ure
South America Department

4 June, 1979
MR RIDLEY'S SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR

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J B Ure
South America Department

4 June, 1979

F. Pussell: T.C.O (we also spoke)

O.K. you & I best we have you Dept's contribution i.e. an outline of how long the Minister & his wife should spend in Mexico and a second idea of who he should see and what he might do. We will take care of the air time-tables consulting you as appropriate.

S.R. [Signature]
MINISTERIAL VISIT AND EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS: PRESS SPECULATION

1. WRITING ON 16 MAY IN "LA OPINION," HAROLDO FOULKES CONTINUES HIS
   SPECULATION ABOUT THE NEXT MOVES IN ANGLO/ARGENTINE RELATIONS.
2. HE REPORTS THAT IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM A FINANCIAL TIMES
   JOURNALIST ON 14 MAY THE SECRETARY OF STATE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE
   HAD BEEN TO SOUTH AMERICA HE DID NOT, UNFORTUNATELY, KNOW ARGENTINA.
   BUT HE CONSIDERED IT APPROPRIATE TO SEND ONE OF HIS PRINCIPAL
   ASSISTANTS TO LOOK AT THE PRESENT STATE OF ANGLO/ARGENTINE RELATIONS.
   FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S ANSWER CARRIED IN THE RETRACT SERIES,
   FOULKES IS CLEARLY MISQUOTING, BUT HE GOES ON TO SPECULATE THAT THE
   MINISTER OF STATE, MR. RIDLEY, WILL QUITE POSSIBLY VISIT BUENOS AIRES
   IN JUNE OR JULY.
3. ON THE EXCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS, FOULKES REPEATS THAT ARGENTINA
   WILL NOMINATE ORTIZ DE ROZAS. AS FAR AS THE BRITISH NOMINATION IS
   CONCERNED, HE SAYS, THE ADVENT OF THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT MAKES
   IT LESS LIKELY THAT HUGH CARLESS WILL BE NOMINATED. HE ADDS THAT
   IF HE WERE, THE NOMINATION WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED IN THE FOREIGN
   MINISTRY GIVEN CARLESS' EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY. BUT, HE SAYS,
   OTHER SECTIONS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ARE HOPING FOR MORE OF A
   GESTURE FROM LONDON AND THE NOMINATION OF A LONG TERM HEAD OF
   MISSION OF THE HIGHEST DIPLOMATIC RANK.
4. ALL THIS POINTS, FOULKES SAYS, TO A PERIOD OF WAITING UNTIL
   THE SECRETARY OF STATE COMPLETES HIS ANALYSIS OF THE COMPLEX GROUP
   OF INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS OF CONCERN TO THE UK.

(SIGNED) R GOZNEY
FAKLAND ISLANDS: MINISTER OF STATE'S MEETING, 16 MAY

Present:
Mr Ridley MP
PS/Mr Ridley
AIR/Mr Ridley
Sir A Parsons
Mr Hall
Mr Ure SAMD
Mr Duggan SAMD
Mr Cowling SAMD
Mr Osborne SAMD

Visit to Falkland Islands and Argentina

1. Mr Ridley said that early discussion of the important Falklands issue seemed necessary from his reading of the department's submissions. It would be a mistake for the new Government to hedge or prevaricate further with the Argentines who knew we had been doing so in the past. To continue would make them think that the new Government was not in earnest and might make them more inclined to act foolishly. He thought there was a possibility of getting them to accept a continuation of UK sovereignty if we acted in a friendlier fashion and tried to help them in other areas, for example the Antarctic. He therefore felt it was right to visit the Islands soon to reassure them of our wish to help and to obtain their authority to continue the negotiations. He could at the same time make a courtesy call on the Argentine authorities. On his return, we could work out a more detailed strategy for a resumption of negotiations in the autumn.

2. Sir A Parsons thought that it would be difficult to go through Buenos Aires and restrict contact with the Argentines to a mere courtesy call: some broad decisions of principle should be

/taken
taken in advance of the visit. The Argentines would be likely to seek confirmation that the new Government would continue the negotiations and from the point reached at the last round.

3. Sir A Parsons said that the Minister might be pressed to confirm that the "lease back option" still remained a possibility. Mr Hall thought a direct reference to lease back unlikely; it had never been mentioned in so many words in the negotiations. From the Argentine stand-point, negotiations had to include sovereignty; they had to see some possibility of progress and of obtaining sovereignty over both the Dependencies and the Falklands, or there would be an unpredictable but strong reaction. On the basis of his experience in the negotiations to-date, he thought there was a narrow path between the two positions; to avoid a breakdown in the negotiations and to give the moderates on the Argentine side some support, it was important that this chink should be left open. Mr Ridley said he felt that it would be premature to mention lease back to the Argentines which would be interpreted as capitulation by the Islanders and in Argentina. We should continue talking to them about a general condominium of economic interests (e.g. in the Antarctic) and try to get a package together which would divert attention from the sovereignty issue. Everything could be included, except sovereignty over which it was difficult to compromise given Parliamentary and public opinion. Mr Hall suggested that it was important to tell the Argentines that the new Government was prepared to negotiate within the existing terms of reference as announced in April 1977. So long as the Argentines clearly understood our insistence on sovereignty over the Islanders, then progress in the negotiations might be possible.

4. Mr Hall suggested that the department should put forward a draft minute for the Secretary of State to send to his OD colleagues explaining that it was necessary to enter fairly quickly into further negotiations with the Argentines and that it
was important to get the support of the Falkland Islanders for this. This meant a Ministerial visit to both Argentina and the Falklands. Mr Hall said that the new Argentine Ambassador might arrive before the end of June and would probably bring instructions to raise the Falklands issue; this underlined the need for an early visit. Mr Duggan recalled that the Argentine Foreign Minister was hoping to talk to the Secretary of State in the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York in late September. Mr Ridley looked at two possible schedules for a visit. He thought that if he was going to go to the trouble of visiting the Falklands it should be done properly and he should spend some time there. He said he would like to leave on 11 July after the visit of the Colombian President. This would give ample time for briefing the Secretary of State before any meeting with the Argentine Foreign Minister in New York. Mr Hall thought that the Argentines would be unlikely to press for a further full negotiating round until probably December.

Mr Ridley felt that his visit to Buenos Aires and the Falklands would buy time and that in the meantime we should show friendliness wherever possible.

Exchange of Ambassadors with Argentina and Chile

5. Sir A Parsonson believed that Ambassadors should be exchanged before the Ministerial visit. Mr Ridley agreed; he felt that we should also consider restoration of Ambassadors with Chile soon. There was much to be said for getting Ambassadors back into Chile and Argentina at the same time.

6. Mr Hall mentioned that we had already gone some way down the road with the Argentines who had a nominee ready. The restoration of Ambassadors with Chile posed a rather different problem. It had been MSM who had withdrawn her Ambassador from Chile whereas in the case of Argentina our Ambassador had been withdrawn at the
Argentina's request. It had to be a political decision for Ministers. Mr Hall saw no great advantage to our interests in moving quickly or in doing it concurrently with the Argentines. Mr Ridley felt that, if we were able simultaneously to restore relations with Argentina and Chile at Ambassadors level, it would have the advantage of avoiding criticism that any one country had been treated preferentially; we should whip Chile through. Sir A Parsons agreed; he mentioned however, that there were implications for Nicaragua which would need to be considered. Mr Ure said that the department would be submitting also on another aspect of our relations with Chile, the resumption of medium term EOGD cover; he proposed covering both in one paper before the weekend. Mr Ridley welcomed this.

Visits to Other Countries

7. Mr Ridley said that if Brazil, Venezuela and possibly Mexico were to be included in the same trip, as the department was suggesting, this could mean a total absence of perhaps three weeks, returning to London in early August. Sir A Parsons felt this should be acceptable. August was a quiet month and he could see no difficulty in leaving serious consideration on the future of our negotiations with the Argentines until September.

Action

8. It was agreed that:

a) approval should be sought for a Ministerial visit to the Falklands and Argentina leaving London on 11 July. The department would prepare a draft minute for the Secretary of State to send to OD colleagues explaining the basis for the visit;
b) once this had been agreed, arrangements would be made to include Brazil, Venezuela (and possibly Mexico) in the same trip, entailing a total absence of about three weeks;

c) the possibility of resuming Ambassadorial relations simultaneously with both Chile and Argentina should be examined; and

d) the Department would submit on policy towards Chile as it affected OECD medium-term cover and the restoration of Ambassadors.
Distribution
PU/Mr Ridley
Sir A Parsons
Mr J R Freeland - Legal Adviser
Miss G G Brown
Mr G E Hall
Mr J B Ure - RAOD
Mr J W H Shakespeare - N&GD
Mr D H A Harney - ESSU
Mr W E H Whyte - News Department
Mr H R Morland - MAED
POSSIBLE ITINERARY OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR MINISTER OF STATE’S VISIT TO FALKLANDS/ARGENTINA

Option A
Wednesday

London/Madrid*  
BA 654  
15.25  
18.30

Thursday

Madrid to Buenos Aires  
06.05  
11.30

Lunch at Residence.

pm  Meeting with Embassy staff and possible informal meeting with Argentines (dinner?)

Friday

Buenos Aires to Comodoro  
AR 616  
06.30  
08.40

Comodoro to Stanley  
09.40  
11.40

Lunch at Government House.

pm  Informal meeting with Councillors.

Saturday

Joint Esco/legco meeting.

Sunday

Visit East Falkland.

Monday

Visit West Falkland.

Tuesday

Engagements in Stanley (visit Marines etc).

Wednesday

Stanley to Comodoro  
13.30  

Comodoro to Buenos Aires  
21.40  

Thursday
Thursday
Meeting with Argentines.

Friday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Depart</th>
<th>Arrive</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17.25</td>
<td>15.35 (Sat)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Buenos Aires to London

* Direct flights between London/Buenos Aires are on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays, timings which do not tie in with the Friday morning flights to Stanley.
### Possible Itinerary Outline Programme for Minister of State's Visit to Falkland/Argentina

**Option B**

**Monday**

<table>
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<tbody>
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<td>London/Buenos Aires</td>
<td>19.15</td>
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</table>

**Tuesday**

- Meeting with Embassy/Argentines.

**Wednesday**

<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires to Comodoro</td>
<td>07.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comodoro to Stanley</td>
<td>12.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pm Joint meeting of Exco/Legco.</td>
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**Thursday**

- Visit settlement in East or West Falkland.

**Friday**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Arrive</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stanley to Comodoro</td>
<td>14.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overnight Comodoro.</td>
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**Saturday**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Arrive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comodoro to Buenos Aires</td>
<td>09.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pm Meeting with Argentines.</td>
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**Sunday**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Depart</th>
<th>Arrive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires to London</td>
<td>19.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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MINISTER OF STATE'S PROPOSED VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES/PORT STANLEY

1. Steering briefs aside (and which will need to be considered nearer the time of the visit) briefs will be required to cover the following points:

a) Negotiations
   (i) Background to current negotiations (i.e. outline of steps which led to joint announcement of negotiations of 26 April, 1977).
   (ii) Current stage of negotiations together with summary of what transpired in previous negotiating rounds.
   (iii) Islander participation/consultation
   (iv) Southern Thule - factual background

b) Falklands
   (i) Factual piece on Islands
   (ii) Communications Agreement
   (iii) Note on Falkland Islands Company
   (iv) Islands development post Shackleton Report
   (v) Note on fishing/oil potential
   (vi) Falkland Islands Committee

c) Argentina
   (i) General Background
   (ii) Political/economic/trade
   (iii) Human Rights/British Consular cases

(d) Antarctic Treaty
   (i) Basic note reflecting recent developments

e) Beagle Channel
   (i) Basic note

2. With your agreement, I propose to set in hand the preparations of draft briefs controlling you as appropriate, on individual points concerning context and overall presentation.

J R Cowling
SAdD

14 May 1979