



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Principal Private Secretary*

Mr. Fuller

South Atlantic Presentation Unit

The Prime Minister has discussed with the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and other Ministerial colleagues the draft of the second in the series of notes for Ministers to use in public on the Falkland Islands which you submitted with your minute of today's date.

They agreed on the following changes to the draft:-

(i) Possible diplomatic compromises

The last two sentences to read:-

"There can be no negotiation about the future status of the Falkland Islands until the Argentine forces have withdrawn. Then in any subsequent negotiations with Britain the wishes of the Falklanders will remain paramount."

(ii) Specific Questions

Amend the response to questions about condominium, lease back, and a temporary UN administration to read:-

"One step at a time. No longer term solutions can be considered before Argentinians have withdrawn. After that a range of possibilities can be discussed. The wishes of the islanders will remain paramount in any decision on future status. Cannot predict ....."

(iii) Task Force Activities

Amend first sentence to read:-

"Can only say that it is on course and on time and has not encountered any difficulties."

11 April, 1982.

JAW.



Prime Minister

Content, subject to the  
small changes I have suggested?

DUTY CLERK (No 10)

AKL  
//w

SOUTH ATLANTIC PRESENTATION UNIT (SAPU)

As discussed I send to you a draft of the second in the series of notes for Ministers to use in public on Falkland Islands questions. This has been agreed at official level in the FCO and the MoD.

If you agree we propose to issue this this evening.

S W J FULLER  
Room 322  
Cabinet Office  
x4991

Cabinet Office  
11 April 1982

RESTRICTED

SAPU(82)2

SOUTH ATLANTIC PRESENTATION UNIT (SAPU)

---

Attached is the second paper in this series. This was approved by the Prime Minister at            hours on 11 April.

The paper contains suggested lines for Ministers to take in public on:

- the exclusion zone deadline;
- possible diplomatic compromises;
- the Haig mission;
- British Task Force and Argentine military activities.

It draws on the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's remarks today on BBC radio's "World This Weekend" and ITV's "Weekend World".

Cabinet Office

11 April 1982

RESTRICTED

LINE TO TAKE

(1) The Exclusion Zone Deadline

Does Mr Nott's statement that ships will be sunk after the deadline still hold?

- That is the position; but we certainly hope there will be no Argentine vessels in the exclusion zone tomorrow morning. Most Argentine ships are now in mainland ports.

(2) Mr Haig's discussions with the Argentinians

- We have no details of these but Mr Haig is expected back in London tomorrow for further discussions with the Prime Minister.

(3) Possible diplomatic compromises

- Our position continues to conform to the terms of the mandatory Security Council resolution; viz that there must be:

- (1) a cessation of hostilities;
- (2) a withdrawal of all Argentine forces;
- (3) a search for a diplomatic solution.

There can be no negotiation about the future status of the Falkland Islands until the Argentine forces have withdrawn ~~and British~~ *Then*

~~administration has been restored.~~ *with* In any subsequent negotiations

*Britain* the wishes of the Islanders will remain ~~dominant.~~ *paramount?*

*I have checked*

*\* If the US says this I leave it in. But I thought he sticks to the U.N. resolution - hence the amendment.*

Specific Questions

Would you agree to an Argentinian civilian administration remaining on the Islands after military withdrawal?

- No. We mean that all Argentinians, officials and military must withdraw.

Longer term solutions: Condominium? Lease back? Temporary UN administration?

- One step at a time. No longer term solutions can be considered before Argentinians have withdrawn (and British administration has been restored). After that a range of possibilities can be discussed. The wishes of the Islanders will remain <sup>? remain</sup> dominant in any decision on future status. Cannot predict the Islanders' wishes once British administration has been restored. Their attitudes may or may not have changed.

(4) Task Force Activities

Can only say that it is on course and on time and has not encountered any [serious] difficulties.

Russian spy ship?

- Can confirm that a Soviet intelligence-gathering ship is shadowing Canberra. The Russians always take an interest in our naval movements and we would expect Russian surveillance of an operation of this sort.

Where is HMS Endurance? (allegations that it has been sunk)

- Cannot give details of whereabouts but can confirm that we are and have been in contact throughout.

*It is not for me to question - I suggest it is relevant.*

*Open - details - not*

(5) Argentine Military Activity

Details of remaining Argentine warships; naval auxiliaries / is there anything in the 200 mile zone?

- We are keeping a close watch but cannot give details.

Argentinian strength on the Falklands? (Reports of massive build up)

- Cannot give you details of our assessment but stories from Argentine sources may need a pinch of salt.

News film of Argentine patrol boats off the Falklands?

- Believed to be old film shot off the mainland. Unlikely that Argentinian patrol boats could operate in Falklands' waters in present weather conditions.