

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

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From the Principal Private Secretary

5 July 1982

Dear John,

FALKLAND ISLANDS INQUIRY

The Prime Minister saw Lord Barber for about half an hour this afternoon to ask him to serve as a member of the committee which would be carrying out the Falkland Islands review. She showed him the terms of reference of the inquiry which she had agreed with the Leader of the Opposition earlier in the day, and she told him that Lord Franks had agreed to chair the committee. She also told him that Sir Patrick Nairne had agreed to serve as a member and that she was trying to contact Lord Watkinson to ask him to be the second Conservative representative. She mentioned that Mr Foot had put forward the names of Mr Merlyn Rees and Mr John Morris, although he was still considering the suggestion that Lord Elwyn-Jones might make a better member than Mr Morris.

Lord Barber said that he was very happy to accept the Prime Minister's invitation to serve on the inquiry. She then told him that she hoped to be able to announce his name and those of the other members of the inquiry in her speech in the debate now planned for Thursday of this week. She would, however, confirm that she would be doing so nearer the time.

I am sending copies of this letter to Michael Collon (Lord Chancellor's Office), Brian Fall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), David Omand (Ministry of Defence), David Heyhoe (Lord President's Office), Jim Buckley (Lord Privy Seal's Office), Keith Long (Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster's Office), Jim Nursaw (Law Officers' Department), Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours now,

Sheila Whinnery

John Halliday Esq.,
Home Office.

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