

PA  
CCB  
24/x1  
19/11/76  
Mr Bughton  
Mr Davies

ALW 940/325/10	
24 NOV 1980	
INDEX	REGISTRY
Action Taken	
Mr Ridley has seen and agrees. 19 Nov. 24/11	

Mr Harding

PS/Mr Ridley

Mr Ridley has seen and agrees

ARGENTINA/FALKLAND ISLANDS: MR RIDLEY'S VISIT

(74)

Flags A,B

1. Mr Ridley has asked, on your minute of 14 November, whether we might not induce the Argentines to take a tougher and more critical line on his arrival in Buenos Aires.
2. It would clearly help Mr Ridley when talking to the Islanders to be able to refer to signs of Argentine impatience. Conversely the Argentine public line suggested by Sr Ortiz de Rozas that Mr Ridley's visit to the Islands was a welcome indication that negotiations were moving forward - would be counter-productive.
3. It would be difficult, as well as inadvisable, to get the Argentine Foreign Ministry to inspire critical questioning by journalists on arrival. This would only risk unhelpful speculation.
4. The most suitable occasion for signs of Argentine impatience to surface would be in Foreign Ministry press comment following Mr Ridley's courtesy call at the MFA. Our concerns on this point can be made clear during Mr Ridley's discussion with Comodoro Cavandoli himself. This would be consistent with our views on the preferred Argentine line as set out in para. 4 of our telno. 223. I recommend accordingly.

Flag C

(72)

*P. R. Fearn*

P R Fearn  
South America Dept.

19 November 1980

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ALW 040/325/10		
RECEIVED 10.18		
24 NOV 1980		
DESK OF THE SECRETARY		
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Mr Harding

*Mr Fearn*

ARGENTINA/FALKLAND ISLANDS

1. Mr Ridley has seen your minute of 14 November, recording your discussion with the Argentine Ambassador. He has commented as follows:-

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'The Argentines must not be too nice in public about us. I wish they would complain about lack of progress and the absence of a date for more negotiations - could they be asked to be a little pressing when I arrive in BA tomorrow?

NR'

2. I should be grateful for urgent consideration of this point.

19 November 1980

K D Temple  
PS/Mr Ridley

cc: Mr Fearn

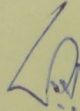


Mr Fearn  
SAmD

ALW 040/325/10		
RECORDED IN REGISTRY NO. 18		
18 NOV 1980		
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRY
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FALKLAND ISLANDS

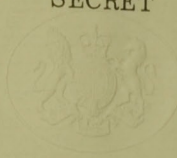
1. The Argentine Ambassador asked me at lunch today how matters were progressing in regard to the Falkland Islands negotiations. He reminded me of his unscheduled conversation with Mr Ridley in New York (which had saved him a special journey to London on the Argentine Foreign Minister's instructions), at which he had emphasized Sr Pastor's anxiety that the momentum of negotiations should be maintained and, if possible, speeded up. Mr Ridley had explained that he would have to consult the Cabinet in London and pay a visit to the Falkland Islands to broach the question of lease-back with the Islanders before a further negotiating meeting could usefully be held.
2. I explained that Ministers had now focussed on the Falkland Islands question. They had approved the position reached so far and authorised the Minister of State to proceed with his visit to the Falklands to explain our proposed solution to them and try to secure their endorsement for it. Sr Ortiz de Rozas, who said that he was finding it difficult to keep himself abreast of current thinking in Buenos Aires because knowledge of what had passed so far was restricted to such a small circle, said he was delighted to hear this news. He asked how publicity for Mr Ridley's official call at the Foreign Ministry at Buenos Aires should be handled. I said the less said the better in advance of Mr Ridley's arrival. We would prefer to portray the call as purely incidental and courtesy in character occasioned by his need to pass through Buenos Aires on his way to the Islands. It would be for the two Ministers to discuss together how the next steps should be played in terms of their public presentation. Sr Ortiz de Rozas said that on the Argentine side they would probably wish to make it appear that negotiations were moving forward. One way to achieve this would be to announce after Mr Ridley's visit that a further round of formal negotiations in New York was being prepared.
3. I undertook to keep the Ambassador informed of developments. I said that the Minister of State would undoubtedly wish to report first to Lord Carrington and possibly subsequently to the Cabinet on his return from visiting the Islands. As soon as possible thereafter either he or I would brief the Ambassador again.

  
G W Harding

14 November 1980

cc  
PS/Mr Ridley  
Mr Day





1. After I had dictated the above the Argentine Ambassador rang me to say that he had had a word on the telephone with the Deputy Foreign Minister in Buenos Aires. Commodore Cavandoli said that he had told Mr Williams that a call by the Minister of State at 5 pm on Friday 21 November would be convenient. They had agreed between them (for reasons which were not specified) that a luncheon meeting at the Embassy would not be appropriate. Cavandoli sounded very pleased with the way things were going. He was looking forward to discussing with Mr Ridley what the next steps should be.

2. Sr Ortiz de Rozas added as an after-thought that any request that the Minister of State might make for transport or other facilities would be speedily met by the Argentine authorities. I said that I thought the arrangements already made to travel on scheduled air services were satisfactory, but I would pass on this kind offer.

G W Harding

14 November 1980

cc  
PS/Mr Ridley  
Mr Day