



FILE SW

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 April, 1982

Falkland Islands

Thank you for your letter of 2 April. The Prime Minister accepts Lord Carrington's recommendation that she sends a message to Commonwealth Heads of Government and has approved the text which you enclosed.

A. J. COLES

J. E. Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

SE



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

2 April 1982

*Agreed
not*

Prime Minister
Agree to send message?

A.F.C. $\frac{2}{4}$

Dear John,

Falkland Islands

Lord Carrington recommends that the Prime Minister send a message to Commonwealth Heads of Government on the lines of the enclosed draft.

Lord Carrington asked Mr Ramphal to call this afternoon to discuss what support the Commonwealth could offer. Mr Ramphal had already been thinking along the same lines and had drafted a message to Heads of Government asking them to stand by Britain. I enclose a copy of his initial draft, which Lord Carrington welcomed. Mr Ramphal will now be sending a revised version, taking account of the latest developments.

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

OUT TELEGRAM

Classification and Caveats
CONFIDENTIAL

Precedence/Deskby
IMMEDIATE

ZCZC	1	ZCZC
GRS	2	GRS
CLASS	3	CONFIDENTIAL
CAVEATS	4	
DESKBY	5	
FM FCO	6	FM FCO 021340Z APR 82
PRE/ADD	7	TO IMMEDIATE HMRR IN ALL COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES
TEL NO	8	TELEGRAM NUMBER
	9	FALKLAND ISLANDS
	10	1. Please pass following personal message from the Prime
	11	Minister to the Head of Government to which you are accredited.
	12	Begins:
	13	The Argentine Government's invasion of the Falkland
	14	Islands, following their rejection of our proposal for
	15	continuing diplomatic exchanges will I fear have the gravest
	16	consequences. I am sending this brief message to you and all
	17	our other colleagues in the Commonwealth to seek your support in
	18	giving the strongest and earliest possible condemnation to
	19	actions which are destructive of the principles of self-
	20	determination and the rejection of coercion as an instrument of
	21	policy which we have all supported for so many years and to
///	22	which Commonwealth Heads of Government subscribed in the
//	23	declaration of Commonwealth principles when they met in
/	24	Singapore in January 1971. Ends.
	25	2. You should make every effort to stimulate condemnation of

NNNN ends telegram	BLANK	Catchword the
File number	Dept	Distribution Falkland Islands
Drafted by (Block capitals) C S R GIFFARD		
Telephone number 233 3579		
Authorised for despatch		
Comcen reference	Time of despatch	

OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification and Caveats
CONFIDENTIAL

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the Argentine action and statements pressing for their immediate withdrawal, drawing on our statements in Parliament and in the Security Council.

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3. You should of course bear in mind that the right of self-defence is applicable.

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CARRINGTON

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NNNN

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NNNN ends
telegram

BLANK

Catchword

To all Heads of Government

You will be aware of the dangerous situation that has resulted from Argentina's attempts to assert its claim over the Falkland Islands. I am sure you will agree that over and above all technical arguments, there is need for Commonwealth countries to stand by Britain in this matter, consistent with their support for the principles of territorial integrity, the right of self-determination, and the rejection of the use of force to unsettle long-established boundaries. I hope you will find it possible in whatever way you consider appropriate to so identify and to use all your influence to ensure a de-escalation of the matter.

APR 1942



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