



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

21 April 1982

*Dear John,*FALKLAND ISLANDS: GUYANA

Mr. Forbes Burnham telephoned the Prime Minister this afternoon.

The Prime Minister thanked him for the help which Guyana had given in connection with the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 502. After our experience in recent weeks we now knew how Guyana felt about the threat from Venezuela. Mr. Burnham said that Guyana would continue to give the United Kingdom full support. He enquired whether the Falklands situation was now any easier. The Prime Minister said that it was not. Invaders were invaders and we had to act accordingly. Mr. Burnham said that some people seemed to find it difficult to recognise that force had been blatantly used. The only possible position of principle was one of complete support for the United Kingdom. The Prime Minister commented that it was not just a matter of United Kingdom interests. If Argentina succeeded, other countries like Guyana could suffer as a consequence. We were dealing with international highway robbery.

Mr. Burnham said that if we required any further specific help he hoped we would let him know. There was a move to set up a non-aligned meeting. Guyana was a member of the governing body and would support the British position in any non-aligned discussion. The Prime Minister thanked him; no-one must gain from unprovoked aggression. Agreeing, Mr. Burnham said that there should be no face-saving device either. Why should we save the face of an aggressor?

The Prime Minister said that she had just had talks with the President of Cameroon and was hopeful that his influence in the non-aligned movement would also be helpful. She was most grateful for Mr. Burnham's help and would not forget it.

I am sending copies of this letter to David Omand (Ministry of Defence), John Halliday (Home Office), Keith Long (Chancellor of the Duchy's Office) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

A.J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.