



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 April 1982

Please type letter.

AL 24/4.

Dear John,

Falkland Islands

Thank you for your letter of 19 April enclosing a telegram to the Prime Minister from Dr M F Perutz about the United States' role in the Falkland crisis.

We know of two visits by General Galtieri to Washington last year. In March we understand he was included in the entourage of President Viola, who met President Reagan, Mr Haig and the Secretary for Defence. In August Galtieri paid a further visit as the guest of General E C Meyer, Chief of Staff, Army in the Department of Defence. These and other visits between the United States and Argentina under Mr Reagan's Presidency produced few tangible results, but were cordial and hailed at the time as successful confirmation of a new relationship after Argentina's strained relations with President Carter's administration. Their tone may have had some effect on Argentine calculations about the Falklands, but we have no evidence to support the allegation of collusion made in the letter quoted by Dr Perutz.

I enclose a draft reply from you to Dr Perutz.

Yours ever

J E Holmes
(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

DSR 1 (revised)

DRAFT: ~~minutes/letter/teleletter/despatch/note~~
~~XXXXXX~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

A J Coles

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Dr M F Perutz CH FRS
42 Sedley Taylor Road
CAMBRIDGE

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

The Prime Minister has asked me to reply to your recent telegram
~~Thank you for your telegram to the Prime Minister.~~

CAVEAT.....

~~I have been asked to reply.~~

We are aware of the improvements in the United States' relations with Argentina over the last year and the more frequent exchanges of high level visits between Washington and Buenos Aires. These contacts were part of the efforts of the current United States administration to cultivate closer relations with Latin America. *but we have* We know ~~of no evidence to support the suggestion of collusion in your telegram.~~ *absolutely* ~~any allegation of collusion, which we do not believe.~~

The United States have supported Security Council Resolution 502 condemning the Argentine aggression and calling upon them to withdraw their forces. Mr Haig's negotiating efforts, as he has repeatedly made clear, have been undertaken in the context of that resolution. The Government accepts that while Mr Haig is engaged in delicate negotiations *it is not possible for him* ~~the Government considers it~~ *himself* ~~unhelpful~~ to align itself with either party. The

Enclosures—flag(s).....

/British

British Government believe there is clear and sympathetic understanding in Washington of our intentions in our search for a solution to the crisis and of the central principles which we wish to maintain.

M 24