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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 June 1982

*No - it doesn't
ring true
with*

Prime Minister.

*Agree to the message or
play it?*

*the
Pri*

Dear John,

Falkland Islands: Message from the President of Colombia

The Colombian Ambassador delivered to the FCO on 3 June the enclosed message, dated 2 June, from the President of Colombia to the Prime Minister.

The letter makes no reference to the recent ceasefire proposal put together by the Presidents of Colombia, Peru and Brazil, but warns of the harmful repercussions on relations between Britain and Latin America if the final battle in the Falkland Islands causes a high death toll. It refers to the President's earlier message of 21 May, and the Prime Minister's reply of 25 May. I enclose copies of both.

Since the Argentine invasion, Colombia has been one of the more moderate of Latin American states, and abstained, along with the United States, Chile and Trinidad and Tobago, on both the resolutions adopted by the Rio Treaty States on 28 April and 29 May. We therefore consider that it would be appropriate if the Prime Minister replied. I enclose a suggested draft, in the form of a telegram to Bogota.

The Colombian Government circulated, with our permission, the previous exchange of messages between the President and the Prime Minister as documents of the Security Council. If they were to wish to do the same with the present exchange, we would see no objection.

Yours ever

John Holmes

(J E Holmes)

Private Secretary

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