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TEMPORARILY RETAINED. J. Gray 21/1/2015

Prime Minister

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PRIME MINISTER

FALKLAND ISLANDS: MOUNT PLEASANT AIRPORT OPENING CEREMONY

Following Geoffrey Howe's minute of 7th February, and Mr Powell's letter of 11th February, you will wish to be aware of the latest position on the arrangements for the opening of the Mount Pleasant Airport. We are planning on the basis that the opening ceremony will be performed by His Royal Highness Prince Andrew, and my Department is now approaching Buckingham Palace to seek formal agreement to this.

It is now due to take place on Sunday 12th May.

2. I propose to attend the opening, accompanied by the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, but I gather than the question of which Junior Minister from another department should participate has yet to be resolved. Work on the VIP guest list is now well advanced, and I can confirm that a significant majority of the guests will be civilians under FCO or DOE/PSA sponsorship.

3. I am copying this minute to the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, the Secretary of State for the Environment, other OD colleagues and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

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Ministry of Defence
4th March 1985