



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

14 November 1986

*me*

*Dear Charles*

Falklands Fisheries: OAS Resolution

/ I enclose a copy of the resolution adopted on the Falkland Islands at the OAS special session at Guatemala City on 11 November.

|| According to the Americans the final text represents a substantial dilution of the original draft, and this was largely due to the efforts of Mr Shultz and his team. But the resolution, particularly the first operative paragraph referring to a new element of tension and potential conflict, is still critical of us. (The Americans had had their own interest in seeking a consensus resolution.)

The Argentines have, predictably, presented the resolution in the Press as a diplomatic victory.

|| In such a predominantly Latin American forum, the text is probably as good as we could have expected and it contains no awkward calls for action, apart from the ritual invocation of the need for negotiations on the dispute as a whole. One of the preambular paragraphs is helpful to us in recognising that fishery conservation is a matter of international concern, the achievement of which should not be frustrated by the sovereignty dispute.

*Yours ever*  
*R N Culshaw*

(R N Culshaw)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
No 10 Downing St



TEXT OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS AT THE  
SPECIAL SESSION OF THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL  
NOVEMBER 11 1986

Having seen:

The presentation made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship of Argentina to the Permanent Council on November 11, 1986, denouncing the situation arising from the "Declaration on Fisheries in the South Western Atlantic" issued by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on October 29, 1986.

Resolutions 595/XII of 1982; 669/XIII of 1983; 700/XIV of 1984; and 765/XV of 1985 adopted by the Organization of American States; and Resolutions 37/9 of 1982; 58/12 of 1983; 39/6 of 1984; and 40/21 of 1985 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and;

Considering:

|| That the aforesaid declaration on the part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland adds another element to the existing situation of tension and potential conflict into the continuous dispute over the Malvinas Islands; including the question of sovereignty.

← That the conservation of fisheries resources in the area is a matter of international concern whose achievement should not be frustrated by the sovereignty dispute; and which should not be used or invoked, directly or indirectly, as an argument in the mentioned dispute; and

That the international community has repeatedly urged the parties to refrain from altering the de facto situation and to engage in negotiations to resolve their disputes.

**Resolves:**

1. To express its strong concern over the new element of tension and potential conflict introduced by the declaration of October 29th.
2. To support the efforts of the international community in favor of the peaceful negotiation of all aspects of the dispute over the Malvinas Islands, including the question of sovereignty in conformity with the resolutions of this Organization and of the United Nations.



3. To ask both parties to exhaust all possible opportunities for negotiations and not take actions that introduce changes in the already delicate existing situation.

4. To request the OAS, and to ask the international community, to redouble its efforts to gain a negotiated settlement.

5. To support the decision of the constitutional Government of Argentina, a member of this Organization, to resolve the dispute by diplomatic negotiations, in accordance with our previous resolutions.

6. To transmit this resolution to the President of the General Assembly of the United Nations, to the President of the Security Council and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, so that note may be taken of the opinion of the American States regarding this situation.