

SECRET

cc/c.



Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster

CABINET OFFICE,
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AS

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Tel No: 270 0020
270 0296

29 January 1987

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and
Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

CDP 29/1

D. Geoffrey

FALKLANDS FISHERIES: ARGENTINE PROPOSALS

Thank you for the copy of your minute of 26 January to the Prime Minister. I have also seen Mr Powell's letter of 27 January to your private secretary.

I should add that I share the Prime Minister's view that we should not reject the possibility of progress in the direction which, at the time of announcing the FICZ, we advocated. It will of course be best if we do not cause discussions to founder. But I also share the Prime Minister's reservations. In particular, the mechanism of a third party, particularly the United Nations, must present obstacles for us.

On a point of detail, the precise terminology of the proposed "line for use" seems not fully consistent with the terms of the Argentine "non-paper" in a way that could lead to difficulty. If we refer at each point to "a coordinated arrangement for managing fisheries" we might, for the moment, skirt around the apparent Argentine sensitivities concerning a multilateral regime.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Prime Minister, Willie Whitelaw, Quintin Hailsham, Nigel Lawson, George Younger, John Biffen, Paul Channon, and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

NORMAN TEBBIT

Argentina: Relations PT41

