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10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

28 July 1987

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE FALKLAND ISLANDS:
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT REPORT

Thank you for your letter of 28 July suggesting the line we should take in response to any inquiries about the report on the Falklands commissioned by the Political Affairs Committee of the European Parliament. The Prime Minister has noted this.

I am copying this letter to John Howe (Ministry of Defence) and Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

Charles Powell

Robert Culshaw, Esq., M.V.O.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

28 July 1987

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 (2)
 Prime Minister
 COP
 28/7

Dear Charles

European Community and the Falklands Islands:
European Parliament Report

A French Liberal member of the Political Affairs Committee of the European Parliament has been asked by the Committee to draw up a report about the Falkland Islands in the context of the recent establishment of the Falkland Islands Conservation and Management Zone. We need to decide whether and how to influence the report.

The Falkland Islands have access to Community funds, notably the European Development Fund. The Falklands' access to these funds derives from their status as one of the overseas countries and territories (OCT) associated with the Community under the Treaty of Rome. The European Parliament is consulted on Council decisions about the overseas territories. The European Parliament is also consulted on fisheries agreements between the Community and third parties.

Although the interest of the European Parliament in the Falklands stems from the establishment of the Falklands Island Conservation and Management Zone, M Delorozoy's enquiry has no formal terms of reference. British Conservatives in the European Parliament who know him believe, however, that he will aim to produce a fair and balanced report concentrating on the economic aspects of the Community's links with the Falklands.

If we are asked about the European Parliament's activities, the Foreign Secretary considers that we should make clear that the status of the Falkland Islands is a matter for the British Government and has nothing whatsoever to do with the European Parliament. If asked whether we would help M Delorozoy to visit the Islands we would say that the RAF regularly carry civilian passengers to the Islands, eg tourists from Britain and other EC member states, and that if M Delorozoy wishes to visit the Falkland Islands the RAF would no doubt consider his application on a similar basis. In other words, our attitude would be that, while the status of the Falkland Islands is our business and ours alone, we have no wish to stand in the way of a visit by an MEP if that would lead to a better understanding of the true facts

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of the situation. There would, of course, be no question of British officials on the Islands giving evidence to M Delorozoy. We would, however, make sure that M Delorozoy was briefed informally on issues where his report could be helpful to us eg on the value of the Community of the Falkland Islands fisheries zone..

I am copying this letter to John Howe (MOD) and Trevor Woolley (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R N Culshaw', with a flourish extending to the right.

(R N Culshaw)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

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Spoken to Mr. Cusshaw: agreed

London, No: 10 C.D. 18/3

we spoke. I think this meets the presentational need

FALKLAND ISLANDS : REVISED FORMULA ON SOVEREIGNTY

Qmow 28/3
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1. We have amended the English text of the statement to read as follows:

Quote

1. Nothing in the conduct or content of the present meeting may be interpreted as:

A) A change in the position of the United Kingdom with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands and the surrounding maritime areas:

B) A change in the position of the Argentine Republic with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands and the surrounding maritime areas:

C) Recognition of or support for the position of the United Kingdom or the Argentine Republic regarding the sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

2. No act or activity carried out as a consequence and in implementation of anything dealt with and agreed to in the present meeting may constitute a basis for affirming, supporting, or denying the position of the United Kingdom or the Argentine Republic regarding the sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands and the surrounding maritime area.

DS3AAW