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Se refiere a:

09JUN82 – Holmes a Rickett. Mensaje del Presidente de Ecuador Hurtado a Margaret Thatcher.

(PREM 19/634) (desclasificado diciembre 2012)

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CONFIDENTIAL

T126/82



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 June 1982

Prime Minister

Yes

Content with the draft message
to President Hurtado at A?

Dear Willie,

Wm alb

Falkland Islands: Message from the President of Ecuador

With your letter of 4 June, you enclosed a telegram from President Hurtado of Ecuador to the Prime Minister, calling for a ceasefire on the Falklands.

Ecuador has not previously made any direct approach to us over the crisis. Despite their votes in favour of the two Rio Treaty Resolutions, they have striven to remain as impartial as they can.

It would be helpful if the Prime Minister could reply personally to the message. I enclose a suggested text.

Yours ever

J E Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

W Rickett Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

		Classification and Caveats	Precedence/Deskby
		CONFIDENTIAL	IMMEDIATE
ZCZC	1	ZCZC	
GRS	2	GRS	
CLASS	3	CONFIDENTIAL	
CAVEATS	4		
DESKBY	5		
FM FCO	6	FM FCO	
PRE/ADD	7	TO IMMEDIATE QUITO	
TEL NO	8	TELEGRAM NUMBER	
	9	REPEATED FOR INFO : UKMIS NEW YORK, WASHINGTON	
	10	FALKLANDS : MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT HURTADO	
	11	1. President Hurtado has sent the following message to the	
	12	Prime Minister (received on 4 June):-	
	13	BEGINS	
	14	"The people and Government of Ecuador view with the greatest	
	15	anxiety the deterioration of the conflict in the South	
	16	Atlantic, which has already produced so many victims and	
	17	caused so much grief to the people involved in the conflict.	
	18	Faced with the imminent prospect that the hostilities will	
	19	precipitate actions, the magnitude and consequence of which	
	20	are unforeseeable, I put forward the most earnest call, in	
	21	the name of the people and Government of Ecuador for an	
///	22	immediate ceasefire and the suspension of hostilities without	
//	23	delay, in accord with the happy initiative presented by	
/	24	Spain and Panama in the UN Security Council. In making	
	25	this impassioned plea, I invoke the humanitarian principles	
NNNN ends telegram		BLANK	Catchword /on
File number		Dept	Distribution
			FALKLAND ISLANDS GENERAL
Drafted by (Block capitals)			
Telephone number			
Authorised for despatch			
Comcen reference	Time of despatch		

Classification and Caveats

CONFIDENTIAL

IMMEDIATE

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2 on which our civilisation prides itself, and to whose
3 development and strengthening both Argentina and Great
4 Britain have made outstanding contributions."

5 ENDS

6 2. Please now deliver following reply from the Prime Minister:
7 BEGINS

8 "I share the deep concern which you have expressed on
9 behalf of your Government and people at the conflict on the
10 Falkland Islands. As I am sure you recognise, that
11 conflict is not of our seeking. Over nine weeks have
12 elapsed since the unprovoked Argentine invasion of British
13 territory, yet the Argentine Government have refused to
14 heed the demands of Security Council Resolution No 502,
15 adopted the day after the invasion, and withdraw their
16 forces.

17 We have shown flexibility and patience: but have met only
18 intransigence from the Argentine Government. We have never
19 wanted to resort to military action: but Argentine
20 obduracy has left us no choice. We have at every stage
21 of the conflict stated our position clearly, and have
22 confined ourselves to using the minimum force necessary to
23 ~~impose pressure on Argentina, to~~ restore the rights of the
24 Islanders and to protect our own forces, in accordance with
25 our rights of self-defence under Article 51 of the UN
26 Charter.

27 Mr President, a ceasefire must be unequivocally linked to
28 immediate and total Argentine withdrawal from the Falkland
29 Islands. I hope that reason and humanity may yet prevail
30 on the Argentine leadership and induce them to accept the
31 offers of a safe withdrawal which have been made to them.

/// 32 ~~Otherwise we shall be obliged to eject them.~~ The
// 33
/ 34

NNNN ends
telegram

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Catchword

choice

Classification and Caveats

CONFIDENTIAL

IMMEDIATE

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choice is theirs".

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ENDS

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NNNN ends
telegram

BLANK

Catchword



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 June, 1982

Falkland Islands: Message from the
President of Ecuador

Thank you for your letter of 9 June.
The Prime Minister is content with the
suggested reply to President Hurtado. I
should be grateful if you could arrange
for it to be despatched.

W. F. S. RICKETT

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office