



Falkland Islands NEWSLETTER

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Oil Goes Ahead

Everybody must be aware of the opening of the Falkland Islands oil licensing round. The Falkland Islands Association has campaigned for many years to see this day.

A useful precursor to this is the recent oil agreement with Argentina. The Association welcomes this too - because it helps to establish that confrontation is a thing of the past. Peaceful coexistence, and cooperation when necessary, offer the best future for all the inhabitants of the region.

Both these events owe much to successive Conservative Governments, which have firmly championed the Islanders' right to determine their own future and sovereignty. This has now paid dividends. It is no coincidence either that the three main parties in Britain today are as one on the issue of Falklands sovereignty. So Argentine diplomacy was not offered any possibility of a better deal following some future election. The contrast between this and the way policy was

conducted before 1982 could not be more marked, nor the results more different.

The Association also welcomes the improving relations between Britain and Argentina, and accepts that high level visits and meetings contribute to this. Recently, President Menem and Prime Minister Major met in New York, and President Menem now has the invitation to visit Britain that he has wanted for so long. Princess Diana is visiting Buenos Aires. Similarly, the Argentine ship *Libertad* has just visited London and *HMS Endurance* is visiting Buenos Aires.

But goodwill must be tempered with reality. It is the declared intention of President Menem to use all contacts with Britain to further his campaign for the Falklands. What is seen in Britain simply as the desirable goal of improved relations with Argentina, is seen in Argentina primarily as an opportunity to gain advantage over the Falklands.

The Falkland Islands Oil Team



The Falkland Islands Oil Licensing Team at Its Seminar in Burlington House

Photo: John Manning

Falklands Oil Round Opens

On October 3rd, the Falklands oil licensing round opened with a seminar and presentation at the Royal Geological Society, Burlington House, London. All major oil companies were invited. On October 11th, the presentation was repeated in Houston, for the benefit of oil companies based there. In total, 57 companies attended the two presentations, and immense interest was expressed in what the Falklands had to offer - some 19 areas to the North and South-East of the Falklands, shown on the map opposite. One company described it as "one of the most professional presentations ever".

The Joint Argentine/British Declaration¹ on oil exploitation, signed in New York on September 27th, clearly helped to set a peaceful environment for the oil licensing round, and is considered likely to result in better quality bids, although some companies were known to have been willing to bid without this.

Mr. Andrew Gurr led the team at the two presentations. Also present were: Councillors Bill Luxton and John Cheek, Oil Administrator Dr. John Martin, Drs. Phil Richard and Nigel Fannin of the British Geological Survey, Falklands geologist, Emma Edwards. Mr Richard Wagner and Attorney General, David Lang were also present to advise on fiscal and legal aspects of the industry.

Argentine interest in it all was enormous. On October 4th, *Clarín* carried the headline: "Strong interest in the petroleum plan of the Falklands". Argentine companies cannot hold a majority shareholding and may not be the operator, but are welcome all the same. Several turned up to the presentations.

Bids must be submitted by July 2nd, 1996. Licences are likely to be awarded in September 1996.

1. The Joint Declaration is published in full on pages 4 & 5.

Falklands to pay for Defence

British constitutional practice has always asserted that the resources of a colonial territory belong to the people of that territory.

However, the Falklands Council has written to the British Government clearly stating its intention to contribute to the cost of its own defence as soon as possible (To date the FIG has provided a swimming pool and some married quarters for MPA). This contribution will grow as revenues increase and reserves build up. Ultimately, the Falkland Islands Government wishes to repay the UK Government for the capital cost of all the military infrastructure on the Islands.

Falklands oil development should provide considerable economic benefit for British industry as well. As the industry develops, the Falklands Government will be looking to the UK oil supply industry for equipment provision.

New Governor Appointed

Just before the *Newsletter* went to press, Governor Tatham's replacement was announced. It is to be Mr. Richard Ralph, CVO, who is currently Ambassador in Riga.

Mr. Ralph entered the FCO in 1969 and worked with the Far Eastern Department until he went to Vientiane in 1970.

In 1974, he became Second Secretary, Chancery, and later First Secretary, Aid/Information in Lisbon. From 1977 to 1981 he worked in London with the FCO Southern European and UN Departments.

From 1981 to 1985 he was Head of Chancery in Harare, from 1985 to 1989 with the FCO in London, and from 1989 to 1993, Counsellor in Washington. He became British Ambassador in Riga, Latvia, in 1993.

Mr. Ralph is likely to take up his duties this January. He is married and has a son and daughter.

Hardliners Rock the Boat

In what may have been an attempt by military hard-liners to rock the diplomatic boat just before the signing of the oil agreement with Argentina, the Argentine missile corvette *Granville* harassed seven fishing vessels in Falklands waters.

The incident occurred on Saturday, September 23rd, after the oil agreement was announced, but four days before it was signed. It took place in the FOCZ (Falklands Outer Conservation Zone) when the *Granville* approached a group of mainly Spanish fishing vessels and informed them that they were fishing within the "Argentine Exclusive Economic Zone". It then ordered them to haul up their nets and move northwards out of the area. The *Granville* ignored protests that they were in Falklands waters and fishing legally and the fishermen felt they had no choice but to comply.

The boats concerned were the *Combaroya III*, *Code-side*, *Piscator*, *Castelo*, *Isla Graciosa* and *Isla Montara Clara*, all from Spain, and an unidentified Korean vessel. They were not in the "Gap" or other contentious area, but in the internationally agreed FOCZ, between 48° 50' and 49° 05' South and 60° 30' and 60° 48' West.

The Argentine newspaper *Clarín*, using what must have been official sources, gave a false position inside Argentine waters for the incident, suggesting that the first Argentine reaction was to deny that it was a violation of Falklands waters. There is no doubt, however, about the facts.

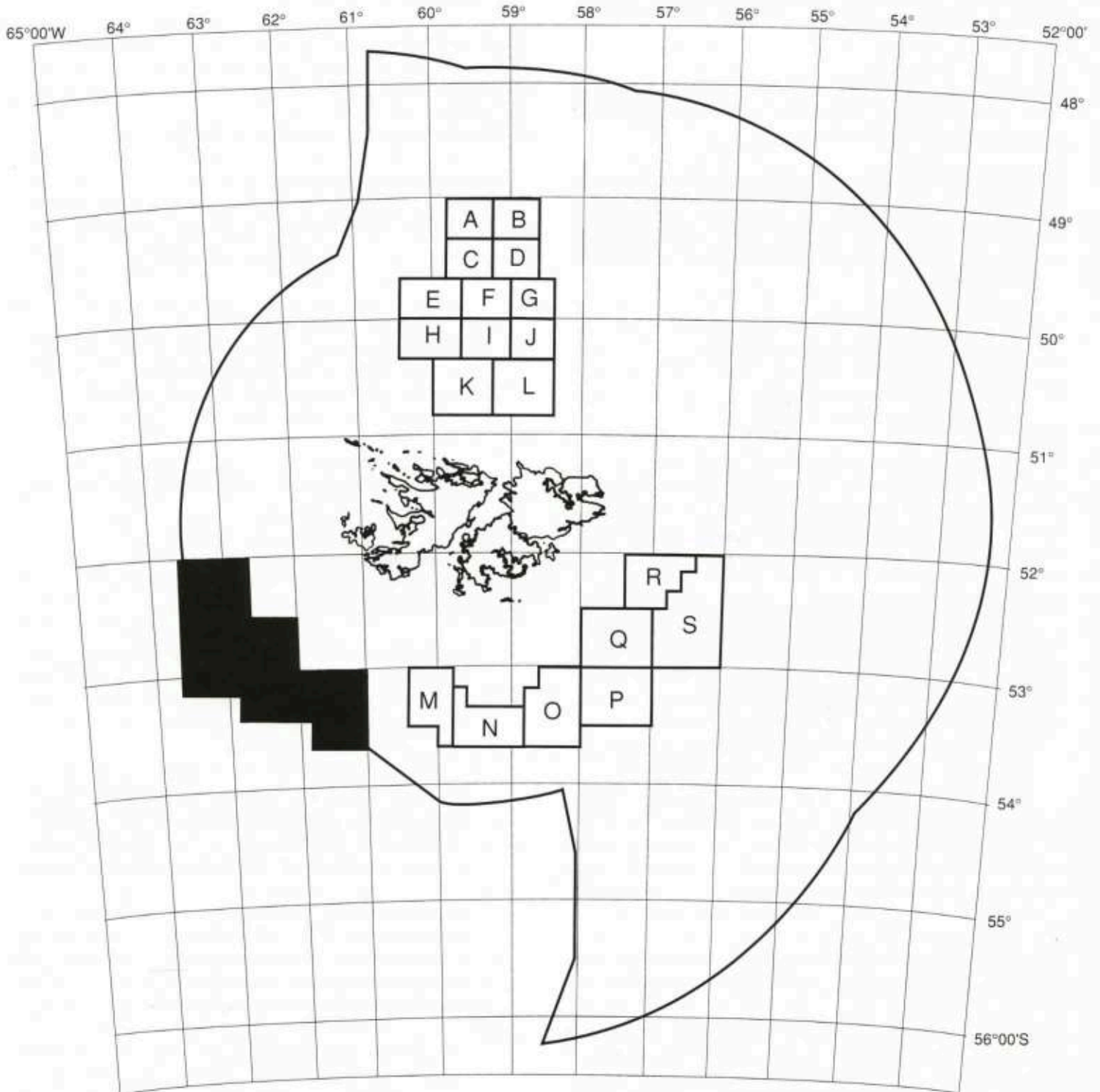
Arguably, the incident was a violation, although a small one, of the new Argentine Constitution. This constrains Argentina to act only within the bounds of international law when pursuing its campaign for the Falklands. It must, however, be seen in perspective. The *Granville* left shortly afterwards and the fishing boats resumed their fishing.

The FCO has told the *Newsletter*, that it has protested strongly, that the Argentine Government has promised to investigate the incident, but that no further reply had been received (by the time the *Newsletter* went to press).

Editors Note:

The *Granville* was involved in another aggressive incident, in July 1993, when it illuminated the RFA *Diligence* with its radar. This is the prior step to launching a missile. The *Granville* is armed with Exocets.

Falkland Islands Offshore Licensing Round Tranches Offered and Area of Special Co-operation.



0 150 kilometres

 Area of Special Co-operation  Tranches Offered

Joint Declaration

Cooperation Over Offshore Activities in the South West Atlantic

1. The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the Argentine Republic agreed that the following formula on sovereignty, based on that contained in the Joint Statement issued at Madrid on 19 October 1989, applies to this joint Declaration and its results:

(1) Nothing in the content of the present Joint Declaration or of any similar subsequent Joint Statements and meetings shall 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, South Georgia and the South Sandwich 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, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

(c) recognition of or support for the position of the United Kingdom or the Argentine Republic with regard to sovereignty or territorial and maritime jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

(2) No act or activity carried out by the United Kingdom, the Argentine Republic or third parties as a consequence and in implementation of anything agreed to in the present Joint Declaration or in any similar subsequent Joint Statements and meetings shall 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, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. The areas subject to the controversy on sovereignty and jurisdiction will not be extended in any way as a consequence of this Joint Declaration or its implementation.

This Joint Declaration does not apply to the maritime areas surrounding South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands.

2. The two Governments agreed to cooperate in order to encourage offshore activities in the South West Atlantic in accordance with the provisions contained herein. Exploration for and exploitation of hydrocarbons by the offshore oil and gas industry will be carried out in accordance with sound commercial principles and good oil field practice, drawing on the Governments' experience both in the South West Atlantic and in the North Sea. Cooperation will be furthered:

(a) by means of the establishment of a Joint Commission, composed of delegations from both sides;

(b) by means of coordinated activities in up to 6 tranches, each of 3,500 square kilometres, the first ones to be situated within the sedimentary structure as identified in the Annex.

3. The Commission will be composed of a delegation from each of the two states, and will meet at least twice a year. Recommendations shall be reached by mutual agreement.

4. The Commission will have the following functions:

(a) to submit to both governments recommendations and proposed standards for the protection of the marine environment of the South West Atlantic, taking into account relevant international conventions and recommendations of competent international organisations;

(b) to coordinate activities in the tranches referred to in paragraph 2(b) above, as areas for special cooperation. This will be done by the establishment of a sub-committee which shall meet regularly, subordinate to the Commission, charged with:

(i) encouraging commercial activities in each tranche by means such as joint ventures and consortia from the two sides;

(ii) seeking nominations from companies for each tranche, to be offered upon terms appropriate for a challenging environment;

(iii) making recommendations on proposals made to the two Governments by companies for development projects in each tranche, including the limits of the tranches;

(iv) seeking close coordination in regard to all aspects of future operations, including the overall level of fees, royalties, charges and taxes, the harmonisation of timing, commercial terms and conditions, and compliance with the recommended standards;

(v) recommending on the basis of geological data known to both sides, additional tranches either within the sedimentary structure referred to in the Annex or in a further area to be agreed by the Governments on the recommendation of the Commission;

(c) to promote the exploration for and exploitation of hydrocarbons in maritime areas of the South West Atlantic subject to a controversy on sovereignty and jurisdiction, and to this end:

(i) to promote cooperation between industry on both sides, including the formation of joint ventures and the elaboration of joint projects for exploration, production and use of infrastructure;

(ii) to receive from both sides and from operating companies the available information on scientific research, development of activities and commercial operations relating to the seabed, whilst respecting commercial confidentiality;

(iii) to propose to both Governments coordinated research work by commercial undertakings;

(iv) to submit to both Governments recommendations for standards for offshore activities in safety, health and monitoring;

Both governments will take the appropriate measures in order to ensure that the companies will keep the Commission informed on the development of their activities;

(d) on the basis of geological data known to both sides, to propose to the two Governments at the appropriate time further areas of special cooperation, on terms similar to those contained in paragraph 4(b) above;

(e) to consider and submit recommendations to the two Governments on any related matter which may arise in the future, including the possible need to agree on the unitisation of any discoveries in accordance with good oil field practice, on pipeline operations and on the efficient use of infrastructure.

5. The arrangements regarding search and rescue set out in the Joint Statements of 25 September 1991 and 12 July 1993 or any future arrangements between the Parties on the same subject will apply to offshore activities. Civilian helicopter traffic will be the subject of future discussion.

6. Each Government will take the appropriately related administrative measures in accordance with this Joint Declaration for the exploration for and exploitation of hydrocarbons in the areas referred to in paragraph 4 above. They agreed that such measures regulating the activities of companies would be subject to the formula on sovereignty in paragraph 1 above. The Parties will create the conditions for substantial participation in the activities by companies from the two sides. The Parties will communicate to each other relevant information relating to the conduct of exploration and exploitation activities in the areas. Both Parties agreed to abstain from taking action or imposing conditions designed or tending to inhibit or frustrate the possibility of carrying out hydrocarbons development in the areas.

7. In order to implement the different arrangements in this Joint Declaration, which form an interdependent whole, the two Governments agreed to cooperate throughout the different stages of offshore activities undertaken by commercial operators, including the regime for the eventual abandonment of installations.

For the United Kingdom For the Argentine Republic

New York, 27 September 1995.

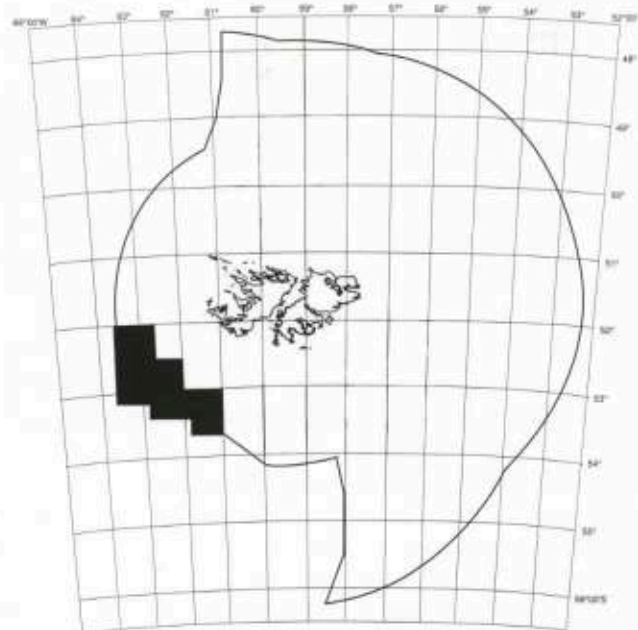
(Signed by The Rt Hon. Malcolm Rifkind MP for Britain and H.E. Dr. Guido Di Tella for the Argentine Republic)

Annex to Joint Declaration dated 27 September 1995

Special Area

The Area is bounded by lines of the type described in Column 2 joining the points defined to the nearest minute of arc by coordinates of latitude and longitude on WGS 72 Datum specified in Column 1.

Column 1 Coordinates of Latitude and Longitude	Column 2 Line Type
1. 52° 00' S, 63° 36' W	1 - 2 meridian
2. 53° 10' S, 63° 36' W	2 - 3 parallel of latitude
3. 53° 10' S, 62° 48' W	3 - 4 meridian
4. 53° 25' S, 62° 48' W	4 - 5 parallel of latitude
5. 53° 25' S, 61° 48' W	5 - 6 meridian
6. 53° 40' S, 61° 48' W	6 - 7 parallel of latitude
7. 53° 40' S, 61° 00' W	7 - 8 meridian
8. 53° 00' S, 61° 00' W	8 - 9 parallel of latitude
9. 53° 00' S, 62° 00' W	9 - 10 meridian
10. 52° 30' S, 62° 00' W	10 - 11 parallel of latitude
11. 52° 30' S, 62° 36' W	11 - 12 meridian
12. 52° 00' S, 62° 36' W	12 - 13 parallel
13. 52° 00' S, 63° 36' W	



Editors Note:

Both the Argentine and British Governments made separate public declarations at the time of the signing of the Joint Declaration in New York. These are reproduced on the next page. The Argentine declaration was, of course, in Spanish. This appears as it was translated "unofficially" by the Argentine Government.

The Falklands Islands Government also issued a letter of response to the Joint Declaration. This is also reproduced on the next page.

Declaration of the British Government With Regard to the Joint Declaration Signed by the British And Argentine Foreign Ministers on Cooperation Over Offshore Activities in the South West Atlantic

The British Government welcomes the understanding reached with Argentina on cooperation over offshore activities in the South West Atlantic.

The understanding will facilitate mutually beneficial cooperation, promoting the development of hydrocarbons. It will further improve relations with Argentina since the Madrid Joint Statement of February 1990¹. At the same time, it will offer commercial opportunities to British Companies, as well as to the Falkland Islands which will launch a licensing round in October.

The Joint Declaration safeguards British sovereignty and jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. HMG have no doubts about the sovereignty and jurisdiction of the UK.

HMG are aware that Argentina proposes to enact legislation purporting to impose charges on companies working in maritime areas surrounding the Falkland Islands. HMG do not accept any Argentine claim to impose such charges on companies by reason only of their activities on the continental shelf around the Falkland Islands under Falklands licence. HMG will be working with the Falkland Islands Government in the development of the forthcoming Licensing Round. We welcome the understanding as a beneficial factor which will reassure the oil industry and improve the climate for exploration for and exploitation of hydrocarbons in a frontier area.

Appropriate legislation will be introduced in order to take account of the Joint Declaration, including a new Ordinance in the Falkland Islands

Falkland Islands Government Response to the UK - Argentina Agreement

The Falkland Islands Government is pleased that the UK Government has reached agreement with Argentina on co-operation over offshore activities in the South West Atlantic in the Joint Declaration signed today in New York.

The agreement enables the Falkland Islands Government to launch an oil licensing round in London on 3rd October and Houston on 11th October, confident that Argentina has agreed not to take any action to frustrate the round.

The Falkland Islands Government is grateful to the UK Government for the manner in which the negotiations were handled and the level of consultation with our Councillors throughout a protracted period. The participation of Argentina on matters concerning the protection of the environment and health and safety is welcomed, as is the setting up of the Commission, enabling a broad perspective to be taken of the whole of the South West Atlantic.

It is particularly appropriate that this agreement does not impinge on the issue of sovereignty as Falkland Islanders continue to establish their widely accepted right to self determination.

Statement by the Argentine Government With Regard to the Joint Declaration Signed by the Foreign Ministers of Argentina and the United Kingdom on Exploration and Exploitation of Hydrocarbons.

The Argentine Government welcomes the achievement of an understanding with the United Kingdom on matters concerning cooperation over exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons in the maritime areas subject to a dispute of sovereignty in the South West Atlantic.

That understanding will preserve the cordial relations existing between the two countries at the current high level. At the same time, it will offer commercial opportunities to Argentine companies, and it will contribute to the economic prosperity of the country, particularly in the Patagonian region.

The understanding safeguards the imprescriptible² rights of the Argentine Republic over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and their surrounding maritime areas, as it emerges from the text of the declaration, and as it shall be reflected by the implementation of its dispositions. As both parties have convened, it shall not be interpreted in any way as recognition or support of the position of the United Kingdom in respect of sovereignty over the referred Islands or the surrounding maritime areas.

On the basis of this understanding, the Argentine Republic shall benefit, without prejudice to its legitimate rights, of the activities to be carried out in the areas subject to the dispute of sovereignty, through a provisional *modus vivendi* until both parties resolve that dispute by the peaceful means established by international law. The benefits to be perceived shall be related to the exploration areas or the volumes of hydrocarbons produced. In accordance with paragraph 6 of the Joint Declaration, the Executive Power shall introduce in the Honourable National Congress non discriminatory legislation which will impose charges on national and foreign companies operating in the area to the benefit of the nation. The understanding and its implementation do not imply and shall not be interpreted in any way as an acceptance of a claimed right to call a licensing round for the development of hydrocarbons in the maritime areas surrounding the Malvinas Islands.

The Executive Power considers that the assistance of the Honourable National Congress is absolutely necessary in order to make the present Declaration operative. To this end it will introduce the pertinent bills for their legislative consideration.

Editors Notes

1. The Madrid Agreement reestablished diplomatic relations.
2. The word "imprescriptible" does not exist in English. It appeared for the first time in Dr. Di Tella's translation of the clause claiming the Falklands in Argentina's 1994 Constitution. Its derivation and meaning is, however, quite obvious. Prescription is the acquisition or loss of rights by the passage of time. So prescriptible must mean something subject to this and imprescriptible something not subject to it.

Referring to Argentine claims or "rights" as imprescriptible is clearly destined to be part of Argentine rhetoric from now on, even though this practice only began last year.

Major and Menem in New York Meeting

(a view from the popular Argentine Press)

Just the suspicion that President Menem might meet Prime Minister Major was headlines in *Clarín*, Argentina's most popular daily newspaper. When a meeting was finally announced, it was headlines again and the next two pages were all about Argentina's campaign for the Falklands. *Clarín* reported that Falklands sovereignty was not on the agenda for the meeting.

Next day it was front page news again; Di Tella had said that the premiers wouldn't discuss sovereignty - again most of the next two pages were about the Falklands.

Next day, the day before the meeting, it was all front page news yet again - and the next two pages as well. Menem had said in an interview: "It would not be opportune to talk about sovereignty". He also said "We are going to discuss this subject after". "After what" came the question: "After the meeting with Major" Menem answered.

Menem Visit

Finally, the day after the meeting, *Clarín* devoted most of its first four pages to it! *Clarín* said it was about oil, the arms embargo, bilateral relations etc, but not sovereignty. Di

Tella told *Clarín* that this was a "pending subject". The headline was Prime Minister Major's invitation to President Menem to visit Britain some time in the future.

All this is a measure of the importance that Argentina attaches to relations with Britain. Relations that the Argentine media, particularly the popular press, nearly always link with the hope for discussions over Falklands sovereignty.

Remaining Problems

Clarín considers that other problems are: fishing, the British arms embargo and re-establishing communications with the Falklands. It reported an Argentine Foreign Ministry source saying President Menem has decided to establish a new relationship with the Islanders through direct contacts.

Endurance in Buenos Aires

In what is seen as a goodwill gesture and complement to the recent visit by the Argentine sail training vessel *ARA Libertad* to London, *HMS Endurance* visited Buenos Aires from the 17th to the 21st of November.

Sovereignty Propaganda in Buenos Aires

Inflicting its various territorial claims on visitors and immigrants is a well known Argentine practice.

The crew of *HMS Endurance* might have noticed the first of these (right), the street just outside the Port of Buenos Aires. This was re-named to support the Argentine claim (made by Peron in 1947) to the Grahamland Peninsula of Antarctica. "Argentine Antarctica", like the Falklands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, must, by law, appear as Argentine on all maps published in Argentina.

Better known, is the sign (below right) outside Buenos Aires airport, supporting Argentina's claim to the Falklands. The press who accompanied Princess Diana will have seen this. She didn't, as she flew into the city by helicopter.

Cards for Visitors

In addition to this, the Argentine authorities at Ezeiza airport are now handing out cards claiming the Falklands to all visitors to Argentina. This began on October 28th, a month after the signing of the oil agreement, and all the expressions of goodwill that accompanied it.

On the front, these bear an outline of the Falklands overlain by the colours of the Argentine flag, with the National Arms and the legend "Las Malvinas Son Argentinas". The reverse carries a message from President Menem which translates into English as: "The Malvinas Islands are an unrenounceable part of Argentine sovereignty. They will be re-incorporated into the national territory, and their inhabitants, being Argentines, will have the greatest opportunity for economic, political, social and cultural development. The new international reality demands that we enter the 21st century without any colonial remnant".

The Falklands also featured in a recent pamphlet put out by the Argentine Department of Tourism. This used the word Falklands instead of Malvinas in one paragraph. Because of this, the pamphlets were withdrawn and pulped.



The street sign "Antartida Argentina" outside the Port of Buenos Aires. This street was re-named to support Argentine claims to territory in Antarctica, at a time when visitors to Argentina arrived by sea.



"Las Malvinas Son Argentinas". The sign outside Ezeiza airport, Buenos Aires. There is another like this outside Rio Turbio, the Patagonian coal mining town close to the Chilean border.

Falklands Oil : A Good Deal for All

Interview with FIG Chief Executive, Andrew Gurr

The Joint Declaration on co-operation and exploitation of possible offshore oil and gas deposits between Britain and Argentina, backed by the Falkland Islands people, is a major advance in relations, despite Argentina's persistent refusal to abandon its sovereignty claim to the islands. The Chief Executive of the Falklands Islands Government, Andrew Gurr, hails it as a good deal for the Falklands and for Britain, and also for Argentina, its neighbours Brazil and Chile, and for the oil companies. Here, he explains its significance in an interview with Harold Briley:



Mr. Andrew Gurr, FIG Chief Executive

Harold Briley: How important is the oil agreement?

Andrew Gurr: Very important. It has made quite a difference to the attitude of oil companies. Some were positive about our intentions previously, but the agreement reduces the risk for most of them. So their response has been very favourable.

HB: It was a surprise breakthrough because there was a lot of pessimism beforehand.

AG: It was a surprise. The Foreign Office worked very hard to get the agreement over many months. We give them every credit for that.

HB: All the resistance was coming from the Argentines who were passing a bill through Congress to punish oil companies if they dared to participate. President Menem's brother, Eduardo Menem, a leading figure in Congress, was the prime mover of that legislation.

AG: That's right. Clearly he's had to eat some of his words, if not his bill.

HB: The reaction has been remarkable and in Argentina somewhat contradictory. President Menem claimed it was a step towards acquisition of Argentine sovereignty of the Falklands, whereas the previous president, Dr Alfonsín, said it was a step away, an acknowledgement of sovereignty of the Falklands for the Falklands. What is your view on the sovereignty issue?

AG: The agreement very clearly leaves aside the sovereignty issue under the long-standing "umbrella" framework. The agreement has nothing to do with that. There is no surprise in what President Menem said. He has to say things for the benefit of his internal listeners in Argentina which cut little ice with the outside world.

HB: Leaving aside Argentine politics, if you look at it from the economic viewpoint, it is advantageous to Argentina to share in a possible area of wealth.

AG: It certainly shares in the Special Area where I think neither country would have previously dared really to offer licences and now both can be involved in doing that so both are gaining. Argentina will also gain possibly from oil bases in Patagonia. Some of their neighbours will gain. Brazil and Chile have good technological expertise in oil exploration. I am sure some companies will be looking to them. And they will be more likely to co-operate as a result of the agreement.

HB: Brazil having great experience in offshore drilling and Chile having quite a few oil rigs in the Tierra del Fuego area and the Straits of Magellan.

AG: Absolutely, Chile needing the employment, and Petrobras in Brazil is one of the world's leading deep sea

drilling companies.

HB: So what are the advantages for the Falkland Islands of this agreement if oil is found?

AG: The exploration will be more thorough than it might otherwise have been. The whole purpose is to find out if oil is there. I made the point at the public meeting in Stanley that it is no good saying "Let's leave it there. It will always be there if we want it later". The world is searching for alternative sources of energy. Who knows one may be discovered and oil may have had its day in a few decades. It is pointless leaving it in the ground in those circumstances. We need to know whether it is there. We need to secure for ourselves a future which involves a degree of security. At present we are dependent on Britain for that security. The discovery of oil will enable us to emerge from that tutelage.

HB: In the sense that the World wants to protect oil supplies; the West especially. This will now be a stable area, unlike the Middle East, a stable area because there is agreement with Argentina.

AG: Yes. More than eighty per cent of world oil supplies are in the Middle East, which is not the most stable area. People were saying in recent days in Washington, it is good to have a virgin basin. It is one of the last major areas of the world of this kind of structure which is available for exploration. To have that now in the Western Hemisphere is of great interest to American companies in particular.

HB: How optimistic are you that there is oil there. No one knows for sure?

AG: No. It would be foolish for me to comment on that. Some of the geologists and oil companies are optimistic. That's their business. They take the risk, not me. Oil companies are very positive. We have had fifty to sixty companies attending our seminars, asking very intelligent questions. We have had individual meetings, and the companies have had meetings with both Spectrum and Geco-Prakla, the seismic sub-contractors. The companies may be purchasing more data and analysing it. Some are setting up teams and talking about consortia. It has been an exceptional start. If we had written a script as to how we wanted it to go, we could not have been quite as optimistic as it has turned out.

HB: Including Argentine companies of course?

AG: Yes. Several Argentine companies. We have made it very clear we welcome Argentine participation within the 49 per cent level laid down. No Argentine company can form a majority of any consortium nor be the operating company even if they are a minority in a consortium.

HB: There is argument over Argentina's threatened imposition of a three per cent tax on oil companies.

AG: There is controversy. We've been asked a lot of questions on that. We give the same answer. In my view, it is the same as France taxing Britain on oil from British waters. It is adjacent, but it does not belong to them. If they get away with it, is up to them and the oil companies. Both the Falklands and UK Governments do not agree with that tax.

HB: There is still a disputed area of course?

AG: It is a dispute if I say: "I love your wife and want to marry her". That is a claim and you would rebut it. It is not

an equal dispute.

HB: If oil is discovered, the Falkland Islands could become the richest country in the world. It already derives substantial revenue from fishing. Oil would be a bonanza on top of a bonanza?

AG: It might become the richest per head though Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are extremely wealthy and have large reserves. It may well be considerable wealth could be our biggest problem in future. Most people feel that is a problem they would like to handle. I personally would not be so optimistic about that. We need to be very careful. We hear Alaska is considering withdrawing subsidies it gives to individuals because oil may become exhausted.

HB: Now there are disadvantages. In a region of prolific wildlife and fragile ecological balance, there is the environmental impact of a great oil industry, of infrastructure and spillage, and maybe some deterioration in the peaceful life the Falkland Islanders cherish.

AG: The environmental impact I am sure we can manage successfully. Even environmental campaigners like Greenpeace, I think, agree on that. We are more at risk from spillage from tankers going past us from elsewhere than we would be from our own industry. We have drawn up rigorous guidelines and legislation. The Greenpeace attitude is they don't think oil should be extracted in the first place because of damage to the environment. Theoretically one must be forced to agree with them on that. But, I heard in Washington a comment of the former Governor of Texas, John Connolly. When someone remarked: "Doesn't pollution smell awful?", he replied: "Yes, it does. But it smells better than poverty"!

HB: All in all, a good deal for the Falkland Islanders then?

AG: Oh yes, I think so.

UK Public Backs Falkland Islanders

It is now publicly stated in Argentina that Argentine Foreign Minister, Guido Di Tella's use of MORI to conduct an opinion survey in the Falklands was a disaster. Islanders rejected his trick questions about money for sovereignty. He later misstated the results so completely in a letter to *The Times* that Professor Worcester, head of MORI, was forced to publicly contradict him.

MORI POLL IN THE UK

Last June the Falkland Islands Government commissioned MORI to undertake a similar poll in Britain. Unlike Di Tella, it made it clear who was paying for the poll, and the results were made public in a straightforward manner. They showed that British support for the Islanders was just as strong as ever, if not more so. In several key areas results were more favourable than in a similar survey in 1990.

The most important result of all - 58% of people thought the Falklands were British, against only 8% who thought they belonged to Argentina. No surprise there.

Next most important was a popular myth - 36% thought that Britain spent a lot of money to maintain the Islands. No surprise there either - although Britain actually spends no money at all in the Islands except on defence. When it was explained that the garrison cost only 0.29% of Britain's defence budget, 60% said this should continue. Only 22% thought this should be reduced or eliminated. 8% actually thought it should be increased!

CONFIDENCE IN ARGENTINA

There wasn't much of this. Just 2% of Britons had "a great deal of confidence" that Argentina would keep its word in the event of some compromise over Falklands sovereignty; 27% had "a fair amount" of confidence; 38% had "not very much confidence" and 18% had "none at all".

Only 31% of Britons thought that democracy in Argentina made any difference to the chances of a settlement with Argentina - down from 37% in 1990.

THE LONG TERM FUTURE

Opinion about this was probably the most interesting item of all. 36% thought the Falklands would be better off being "permanently British" - up from 30% who thought this in 1990. However, 29% thought they should be independent - up from 22% who thought this in 1990. Only 10% thought they would be better off as part of Argentina, up from 9% who thought this in 1990 (probably because of Argentina's slowly consolidating democracy).

REACTION IN ARGENTINA

Putting a brave face on what must have been a humiliation for him, Dr. Guido Di Tella commented that the survey was "a blow for hardliners in the Falklands".

N.B. The poll was conducted in June, at 150 sampling places and involved a sample of 2,068 people.

Memories of War



Frank Howatt, Elizabeth Roberts-Monti, and Pat McPhee at the 1995 VJ Day marchpast in London. *Photo: Stephen Smith*

In London for VJ day, Falklands veterans, Frank Howatt, Elizabeth Robert-Monti and Patrick McPhee took part in the marchpast. Three serving members of the FIDF took part in the celebrations too: Major Brian Summers, Captain Marvin Clark and Corporal Martin Smith. That evening the veterans met the Queen on board the *Britannia*.

VJ day was celebrated in the Falklands with a special service at Christ Church Cathedral and a party for youngsters at the Community School, organised by the Royal British Legion and Royal Naval Association, with the help of the Red Cross. 135 youngsters turned out for this, including 8 from MPA. All school age children got first day covers signed by the Governor. The chef and staff from Hillside Camp provided mouthwatering catering. A disco party for 120 young people was also held at the FIDF Hall.

Armistice Day

Poppy day was held on October 28th. Remembrance Services were held that Sunday and wreaths were laid at Stanley, Goose Green, Port Howard and San Carlos.



Above: A poignant photo, taken last summer, of Port Howard children, Vicky Lee and Roxanne and Tamara Morrison, laying wildflowers at the graveside of Captain Hamilton who died in action nearby in 1982 and was buried in the Port Howard cemetery. *Photo: Nick Hadden*

Below Left: Liberation day, June 14th, in Stanley. Governor Tatham lays a wreath at the Liberation Monument in bitter winter weather.

Argentine Relatives Visit

Eleven relatives of the Argentine airmen who died when their Learjet was shot down over Pebble Island in 1982 visited the new war cemetery there on October 31st. They flew on a plane of Chilean airline DAP from Rio Gallegos to MPA and thence by helicopter to Pebble Island, where a mass was said by Monsignor Agrieter. The relatives were given a tour of Pebble Island and stayed overnight at Pebble Island Lodge, before visiting the Argentine cemetery at Darwin the next day and then returning to Rio Gallegos.

This visit was originally offered by the FIG after more remains were found at the crash site in January 1994. This offer was ignored at the time by the Argentine Government, but was finally taken up at the beginning of this year. No further requests for visits have been received. Argentina continues to refuse to allow any of the relatives to repatriate the bodies of their loved ones.



Island Games - Gibraltar

The Sixth Small Island Games took place on the Rock of Gibraltar between July the 15th and 22nd. These take place every two years; the last being in 1993 on the Isle of Wight.

This year 17 Islands besides the Falklands attended: Aaland, Alderney, Faroes, Froya, Gibraltar, Gotland, Greenland, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight, Iceland, Jersey, Orkney, Saaremaa, Sark, Shetland and Ynys Mon (Anglesey). In total there were 1215 competitors in 14 sports; the teams varying in size from Jersey's 143 to Sark's single shooter.

The Falklands sent three competitors; clay pigeon shooter, Saul Pitaluga, and Nina Aldridge and Annie Bendyshe who both ran the half marathon. The Falklands may have had the second smallest team, but the response we had was one of the largest. At the opening ceremony, we had the largest cheer and everywhere we went we were treated like celebrities. The Gibraltarians explained that they felt a kinship with us as they too know what it is like to have a problematic neighbour.

The Opening Ceremony for the Games took place on the Saturday, although Prince Andrew had opened the Games Village, where the competitors stayed, the previous day. The Ceremony began with all the teams processing into the stadium with their flags and three bands - from the Gibraltar Regiment, the Sea Cadets and the Gurkhas. The RAF Falcon Display Team performed, local school children danced and Dick Ekstrom, the Games Chairman, declared the Games open. All the teams had brought water from their respective Islands and this was poured into a fountain where it mixed to symbolise unity.

None of the Falklands team competed during the first half of the week, so we spent it visiting places of interest, attending meetings and functions, training, and most of all, getting used to the heat! We found many people eager to learn more about the Falklands, and Falkland badges were in great demand.

Saul was first to compete with a return to familiar ground. He had shot his first ever clay in Gibraltar while he was on holiday there in 1986. At the end of the first day he was lying 7th out of 20 shooters. After the second days



The Falklands Team - Front row: Saul Pitaluga, Nina Aldridge and Annette Bendyshe.

shooting he was lying 10th - still a very creditable result, which he should be proud of.

The girls ran on the final day at 10am, despite earlier protests from competing teams and medical staff about the heat at that time of day. However, the time wasn't changed, and everyone was glad to see the Levanta over the Rock. This is a cloud formation which covers the Rock, lowering the temperature. The girls finished the run together in a time of 2 hours 9 minutes, which did not break any records, but was very acceptable in the circumstances.

All too soon the week was over. We may not have won any medals, but the trip was very worthwhile. We made new friends for the Falklands, rekindled old friendships and helped educate many people about the Falklands. I personally found the Games motto "The Friendly Games" very appropriate - while running the spectators cheered you on regardless of where you were from. I am sure competitors in other sports found this too. I certainly hope we will be able to send another, bigger, team to the next Games in Jersey in 1997.

Nina Aldridge.

Falklands Marksmen at Bisley

In hot and breezy conditions, four men represented the Falklands at Bisley this year: newcomer, Mike Pole-Evans, two old hands, Stan Smith (Captain) and Harry Ford and Ron Betts, currently the Falklands' top marksman.

Ron Betts shot particularly well, scoring possibles at 600 yards in the Century and Alexandra and at 300 yards in the Kolapore team event.

The shooters were accompanied by coach Mr. Slator.



Above: Harry Ford on the 1000 yard Firing Point.

Left: The team with the Junior MacKinnon Score Board

Falklands News

Hard Winter

For some ten weeks, largely coinciding with Britain's summer heat wave, snow lay continuously over the Falklands.

This has been the case throughout the Southern Hemisphere. Stock losses are serious and wool prices may rise as a result. The vast majority of the Falklands 80 farmers are affected. By September, Alastair Marsh of Shallow harbour farm had lost 226 hoggets, a quarter of his flock, but still had more searching to do. Michael Alazia of Port Edgar farm estimated 20% losses. Dave Dunford had lost 100 more hogs than usual. Roy Smith of Stony Ridge farm had found 35 carcasses. Leon Bernsten at Albermarle Station had lost 20. Leon Marsh of Rincon Ridge Farm had lost about 50 hoggets. Tim Blake lost 50. Rosemary Wilkinson lost 20. The full extent will not be known until lambing is over.

New CBFFI

Commodore Alexander Backus, OBE, RN, took over as Commander British Forces Falkland Islands (CBFFI) in September and is now living in Mount Pleasant House, with his wife Margaret. They have three children, 17 - 22 years old.

Commodore Backus, who has an illustrious navy career behind him, is interested in photography, and most outdoor activities - ornithology, climbing, shooting and fishing. He plays hockey and tennis, and skis.

A levels '95.

Seven Falklands students sat "A" level this year at Peter Symmonds College, Winchester. Final results included passes in the following subjects: Biology (4), Chemistry (4), Mathematics (3), Design Technology (1), English Literature (1), Geography (2), Spanish (1), Business Studies (1), Sports Studies (1).

Elephant Seal Study

Six Italian scientists led by Dr. Canonburti arrived in the Falklands in September to study elephant seals on Sea Lion Island.

Lucky Escape

Gabriel Silva, 40, from Punta Arenas, was swept overboard from the fishing vessel *Grampian Fury* at 9am on Friday, September 1st, 35 miles east of Stanley. A Mayday was received at 9.20 and a Sea King helicopter was dispatched from MPA, but Gabriel Silva was rescued after 45 minutes by his own ship suffering only from hypothermia. This is one of the longest survival times in waters off the Falklands.

He was taken to KEMH for treatment and recovered completely. He thanked the rescue services for their speedy response. He reported that he was buzzed by Petrels while in the water, and had to fend these off.

Independent TV Begins Broadcasting in Stanley

Mario Zuvic, of KTV, began commercial broadcasting in Stanley on June 12th. Mario is broadcasting CNN Live News, a cartoon network and TNT, a classic movie channel. KTV special start up fees are £100 for installation and £20 per month, but this will eventually rise to £125 and £25

respectively. Discovery, a documentary channel, may be added later. Mario will add BBC, if it is ever receivable in the Falklands.

Gold Rush

The "Gold Rush" at the Oasis tea and coffee bar at MPA took place over the weekend of the 1st to the 3rd of September. This was a charity fund raising effort to get the £6,500 needed to re-furbish the kitchens.

The weekend started on the Friday with a gourmet dinner for 104 in an MPA Mess, a number of parties with the proceeds going to the Gold Rush, and a cake bake which raised £650. "It's a Knockout" competitions followed on the Saturday, a squash competition in the Gymnasium, a childrens' hour, etc.. Goldrush raised £7,000.

The event was organised by Dorothy Gilks, Nick "the Vic" Barry, who was due to leave his post as MPA Padre a week later, and others. The Oasis is run by the Mission to Military Garrisons, a Glasgow based charity. Work on the new kitchens will now start in January.

Scout Bazaar

The Stanley Scout Troop held its bazaar on Saturday 9th September at 2 - 5 pm.

Grounding

The *Playa de Glazia*, a 1021 ton Loligo stern trawler, ran aground last August at Tussock Point, Port William, while landing two seamen and undergoing radar repairs. It was refloated with the help of the *MV Typhoon*, and the Sullivan Shipping Services launch *Frank Wilde*. Very little damage was caused, although a very minor fuel leak did occur. The tank concerned was pumped out. The hull was inspected by diver Dave Eynon in Berkeley Sound.

Bravery Commendation

Flt Sgt Paul Treathway received the personal commendation for bravery of CBFFI for the rescue of a seriously ill seaman from the fishing boat *Argos* on July 7th, 150 miles west of the Falklands. He was duty winchman at the time and carried out the rescue in a 25 foot swell with winds in excess of 40 Knots. High lines were used to guide him down to the deck of the fishing boat. Two practice runs were carried out, and even then the first attempt failed. The second attempt was successful. The whole operation took 4 hours 40 minutes - all in total darkness.

New HQ for Sea Cadets

The Marine and Sea Cadets are having new headquarters built on land close to "The Trough" nightclub on Airport road. Norman Plumb donated the 5 bay portacabins used. A £3,000 grant from the Sea Cadets in UK assisted with the construction. The total cost of the building project will be £15,000 to £18,000. Commonwealth RN Associations are providing much of this money. A flag day in August helped.

The RN Association started the Sea Cadets as a youth movement after war. There are now 22 regular sea cadets in Stanley and 8 marine cadets - under the command of Lieutenant Elliot. Basic navigational skills, knots, etc are all taught.

National Lottery

The National Lottery is now available in the Falklands at the British Forces Post Office in MPA. Punters must have a UK address, and are allowed two entries at £2 per week, for a minimum of twenty-six weeks.

Cancer Support and Awareness Trust

The Trust raised £128 at a bring and buy at St Mary's Hall. No one guessed the name of the rabbit, but the weight of the cake competition went to June McMullen. Last May, the Trust distributed fifteen £10 phone cards to cancer sufferers helping them keep in touch with friends and relatives.

Fishing Boat Fined

A Korean fishing vessel, the Amapola 515, was fined £70,000 and had its catch confiscated for illegal fishing. Captain Mun Gee was fined £800 for not having the correct fishing licence and £800 for giving false information to the Fisheries Department. The case arose after a routine inspection in July revealed 22 tons of skate (7000 blocks) plus some octopus when the boat only had a licence to fish for Hoki and Blue Whiting.

Harp Farm Burns Down

Harp Farm house, one of the prettiest in the Falklands, was completely gutted by fire in October, a tragic loss for owners Heather and Robin Smith, whose hospitality so many people have enjoyed.

A Harps Farm Appeal Fund has been launched and contributions may be sent to the Standard Chartered Bank in Stanley. In the first week this reached £3,230.

Heather and Robin are living in Rat Castle at the moment, and will use two portacabins later as they rebuild Harp Farm. They won the best maintained small farm prize in the Beautiful Falklands Awards this year. The plaque was burned in the fire, but another will be presented to them.

Golf Season Opens

The opening of the 95/96 golf season on October 1st coincided with a marked improvement in the weather. Ron Sutwood won the monthly medal.

Moto Cross Opens

The Moto Cross season opened on September 30th at a new course near Burntside House.

999 Isla Guafo

Four members of a BBC South team from Bristol, led by Rob Bailey, arrived in Falklands in October to film the rescue of the crew of the *Isla Guafo* for TV programme 999. The programme will include live footage shot by Nigel Brothers, who was an ornithologist observer on the boat itself. The report, between 12 and 15 minutes long, will be screened around Christmas time. It is said to be one of the most dramatic reports ever.

New Executive Council

Mr. John Cheek, Mr. Richard Stevens and Mrs Wendy Teggart were elected on October 30th 1995 to serve as Executive Councillors for the coming year.

Students arrive for work experience in Falklands

Nine pre-university students arrived in the Falklands in October for 6 months work experience. Five are working on Falklands Land Holdings farms, 2 at Walker Creek, 2 at North Arm, and one at Fitzroy. Three are girls. Two of these, assigned to the Agriculture Department, are working at San Carlos and Port Howard. Another is working for Falklands Conservation, touring the outer islands on the *Penelope* surveying penguin colonies. The ninth, attached to FIDC, is working first at the new Blue Beach Museum, San Carlos, and then with John Smith in Stanley Museum. All are sponsored by local organisations and by GAP. They were met by Canon Palmer, who gave them a tour of Stanley.

Snow Squall finds a home

One of the last clipper ships, the 144 year old *Snow Squall*, finds a home in Maine State Maritime Museum, Bath, Maine. Since 1987, the *Snow Squall* has been supported by an anonymous benefactor in the Spring Point Museum, Maine, which could no longer afford to keep her (at \$50,000 a year). Built in 1851, in what is now South Portland, *Snow Squall* lay under the FIC jetty for 120 years.

Snakes and Ladders

Welshman Richard Thomas of MPA won the Snakes and Ladders road race up and down the streets of Stanley. The course is two miles long, and his time was 10minutes, 57 secs. The Under 16s prize went to Claudio Ross in 14. 37 secs. The event was organised by Stanley Running Club. The half-marathon to Cape Pembroke will be run in December.

Ham Hall Reunion

Falkland Islanders based in Britain held their traditional meeting at Ham on August Bank Holiday. The bar was well patronised, and Brian Paul and Annabelle Spencer put on a small display of Falklands products.



Above: Frank Howatt shares a joke with Joyce Growers.
Left: Too many smiling faces to name.

Photos of a Passing Year



Falklands troops on exercise "Silver Bullet", in some of the worst winter weather in living memory.

Above: FSM A. Brownlee and Cpl W. Goss. Right: Private D. Crowie. Weapons enthusiasts may note that the Falklands, where everyone is familiar with firearms, chose the Steyr military rifle rather than the SA80 which the British chose.

Photos: Penguin News



Above, Right and Below Right: Mid Winter Madness? No, the charity swim organised by Martin Cox. By their sufferings, the swimmers raised several thousand pounds for the Royal National Mission for Deep Sea Fishermen and the Overseas Games Association.

Photos: Penguin News



Left: Stanley - with sun and snow.

Photo: Frank Howatt



Croydon Exhibition

Organised by Brian Paul and Annabelle Spencer, of the Falklands Agency in Wells, the annual Falklands exhibition at Croydon got under way on September 27th. This year there was a particularly good display of Falklands Knitwear, books, and photos. As usual, a partitioned off corner was dedicated to Falklands videos. Wool was spun into yarn on request and Geoffrey Moir provided an exhibit from his excellent stamp collection. 600 *Newsletters* were distributed.

Guests included Sir Rex and Lady Hunt and General Jeremy Moore, who commanded the 1982 Task Force.



Above: Geoffrey Moir in front of his stamp exhibit
 Top Right: General Moore, Brian Paul and Annabelle Spencer
 Right: Spinning wheels at work All photos by P.J. Pepper

Louisa Carey Makes her Century

Mrs. Louisa Carey, born near Port Howard in 1895, and now a sprightly pensioner in Shirley, Southampton, celebrated her 100th birthday on August 9th, with friends and relatives from all over the world - and a cake from grand-daughter, Glenys Hayes.

A keen gardener, she told enquirers: "My garden definitely keeps me going. I've worked hard all of my life. I come from the Falkland Islands, and over there you have to work hard". Her garden, the envy of Shirley neighbours, is packed with roses, pansies and marigolds.

Louisa has outlived all but one of her seven brothers and sisters (the youngest, George, is now 86). In 1919, she married shepherd Raymond Carey, and had three sons and a daughter. She moved to Southampton in 1952, following the death of her husband, and now lives a quiet life pottering around her garden, and doing everything for herself. She says: "I don't feel any different. It's just another birthday".

As she uses a spade better than a pen these days, she sends her thanks via the *Newsletter* to all those who so kindly remembered her with telegrams, cards and flowers.

Her daughter Ellen (Nell) also lives in Southampton, but sons Ted and Tony still live in the Falklands.

Mera's Flag for Stanley

The flag of the *Mera*, from the collection of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners, was presented to Stanley Museum at the World Ship Trust annual lunch.

The *Mera* was a supply ship to Graf Von Spee's squadron, but was not in the Battle of the Falklands. It is now known to have loaded tools, building materials etc in Chile in anticipation of a German capture of the Falklands in 1914. This raises interesting questions as to what German intentions were then.



Louisa surrounded by friends and relatives on her 100th birthday.
 Photo: Tony Carey

Falklands Guides in UK

Two Falklands Girl Guides, Tracy Freeman and Clare Crowie, went to guide camp in Scotland in August, where they enjoyed games, pioneering, canoeing, abseiling, orienteering and mountain biking. They were looked after in Britain by Trish Holmshaw's parents, who met them at Brize Norton, then in Edinburgh by Janice Black, wife of the bank manager in Stanley. Afterwards they stayed with the families of two guides at the camp, followed by Jean Smith's family. They thanked the fund raisers who made their trip possible.

Princess Anne To Visit F.I.

Buckingham Palace confirmed to the *Newsletter* that Princess Anne would visit the Falklands at a date likely to be around the end of January or beginning of February.

Falkland Islands Development Corporation

Development Update

THE FALKLANDER

Since its high profile emergence on the Clothes Show, the Falklander has been going from strength to strength, albeit in the relative quiet of the Falkland Mill at Fox Bay and St Mary's Hall in Stanley.

Television viewers saw a striking range of knitwear, we the producers saw a selection of garments designed and made up over a hectic five day (and night) period, some held together with safety pins and string - there was a long way to go. In the vacuum left by the Clothes Show we set up a design team, ably led by Griz Cockwell and strongly supported by Rosemary Wilkinson, Margaret Humphreys, Pam Summers and Ann Reid. Our objective was to refine the initial designs and manufacturing techniques, whilst addressing fundamentals such as sizing, colours, textures, weight, etc. For the most part this process is now complete.

FIDC have formed a company called Falklander Limited and set up a temporary production facility in St Mary's Hall, managed by Margaret Humphreys and employing a number of local people on a full and part time basis. Knitting machines are available for anyone who wants to pop in and produce a few squares and production is well underway with over 8,000 squares having been produced to date (more of that later). Much of the knitwear production is taking place in Camp, with packs being moved to and fro on FIGAS. It is intended that participants in the Falklander project should be given the opportunity to invest in Falklander Limited and accordingly shares will be made available in due course.

St Mary's Hall, Stanley, the temporary production facility for the Falklander sweater project.

Left to right are: Dorothy Goss, Emalina Woodward, Sharon Harding-Price and Ann Reid.

Photo: Len McGill



Falkland Islands Development Corporation

Development Update

We have taken two routes to attain our objective of establishing a generic Falkland Islands sweater on the world markets, even if on a small scale.

The Falklander Classic is an ageless garment made of natural yarns and embodying the concept of individual squares supplied from around the Islands, initialled and made up into a finished garment in Stanley. It is intended that this will be the garment available for sale on the Islands and as there are no agents or retailers involved the price will be adjusted accordingly, although this has not yet been finalised. A batch of 100 are being prepared as a "one off" for the Clothes Show Live launch and we are now taking orders in Stanley, hence the target of 8,400 squares.

The Falklander Collection is a designer range of 6/8 garment styles in three colourways, embodying a vibrant range of existing and new yarn colours from the Falkland Mill. Our objective is to interest an agent or quality retailer in the purchase of this exclusive range, which will mean that the garments will only be available from a small number of selected outlets.

The next key to further development is The Clothes Show Live, to be held in the Exhibition Centre, Birmingham from 1st to 6th December inclusive. The Falklander will have a stand at the exhibition and we will be promenading the Falklander Collection on the catwalk, courtesy of the BBC. Margaret Humphreys, Pam Summers and Dot Goss will be attending from the Islands and will be knitting and linking on the stand to further promote the product. The stand will be managed by Ian Cox of FIDC, supported by members of FIGO staff. It is hoped that we will gain further television coverage as the BBC follow on with their own Falklander story.

We will be delighted to see any readers on our stand at the Clothes Show Live and will endeavour to keep you fully informed of developments.

THE ABATTOIR

This is one of the most important projects undertaken in the Islands for some time and will play a key role in agricultural diversification and rural development. The abattoir will enable farmers to access new markets for the supply of beef, mutton, lamb, and pork which have hitherto been unavailable to us (because the existing facility is inadequate for EC licensing), and will also provide a focus for the collection of culls and raw skins which currently end up as a waste product, with no return to the farmer. Further development might include the provision of butchered meat for public consumption (in the recognition that shopping habits even in the Falklands do change!).

FIDC have appointed Carl Bro Foods Ltd., a multi disciplined company of abattoir specialists to carry out a design study, based upon identified criteria, in order that we can finalise the size, throughput, layout and budget cost of the abattoir. Upon acceptance by Government we will then carry out the detailed design for tendering purposes and move ahead with the construction phase.

FIDC, in conjunction with the Agricultural Department, have also appointed Mr. Michael Gibson, specialist beef breeder, to visit the Islands and carry out a study of the available options for the development of new beef systems. Mr. Gibson will visit farms on both East and West Falkland and will be available to discuss beef breeding with interested farmers.

At this stage we cannot predict with any accuracy the finish date for the abattoir, but we will be moving ahead as quickly as is practical and sensible.

Two Fine Ladies Remembered

Miss Magdalen Brigid Frances Biggs, died in Stanley on September 8th. Born in 1902, in Stanley, Madge, as she was universally known, was one of the nine children of Mary and Vincent Biggs. Her father Vincent, who arrived in the Falklands at the age of 9 in 1842, founded one of the oldest and largest families in the Falklands.

Madge was a school teacher and librarian in Stanley for nearly 50 years, de-coding officer at the Secretariat and assistant at the services canteen during WW2. For 9 years she acted as radiographer at KEMH.

Madge became treasurer of the local Red Cross, and was awarded an MBE. She played the organ for 65 years at St Mary's Church, and led the choir for 60. She earned the Papal decorations, *Bene Merenti* and *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*, and a UN commendation for advancing its appeal for children. Madge was perhaps the Islands' first true philatelist, and had a valuable collection. She was made Honorary head of Falklands Philatelic Society in 1994.

Paying tribute to Madge, Monsignor Agreiter said: "A great woman has gone home". Our sympathy goes out to her many relatives, particularly her younger sister, Irene.

Mrs Jane Clarke, at 96, Stanley's oldest resident, died on September 10th.

Mrs Clarke's parents married in Stanley, where her mother was living, but the family spent its earliest years in Argentina, where her father worked on British estancias and where she was born. The family returned to the Falklands in 1904.

She married her husband James in 1920, but was widowed in 1937 when he was lost at sea from schooner *Swallow*, leaving her with the difficult task of bringing up a young family alone.

Mrs Clarke witnessed the opening shots of the Battle of the Falklands in December 1914 from the slopes of Mount Tumbledown. Our sympathy goes out to her family.



Above: Madge Biggs, Below: Mrs Jane Clarke. Both ladies photographed last year on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Stanley.
Photos: Norman Clark



Tilman Medal for the Poncet Family



The Royal Cruising Club has honoured Mr. and Mrs. Poncet with the Tilman medal for several pioneer cruises in Antarctica, and for promoting environmentally responsible polar cruising. This was presented to them in Stanley by CBFFI, Air Commodore Johnson.

The Poncet family sailed their yacht, *Daimien II*, from France to the Falklands in the late '70s. Since then they have made extensive trips to Tasmania, the South Orkneys, South Shetlands, the Antarctic Peninsula and around the Falklands themselves. They have been three times to South Georgia, where they conducted a fur seal survey for BAS and have twice been chartered by film crews.

Tilman was a polar explorer, who disappeared with all hands in 1930 while sailing from Argentina to the Falklands.

Left: The Poncets receiving their medal from CBFFI, Air-Commodore Johnson Photo: Penguin News

New Air Link Likely

Aerovias DAP, the Chilean airline which serves the Falklands from Punta Arenas, is considering a new plane, possibly a BA 146 or small Boeing. This, if it comes to pass, would provide a much improved service all the way from Santiago de Chile, via Punta Arenas, possibly from December. FIDC has assigned \$180,000 to assist DAP over the start up. DAP themselves are investing \$3.6 Million. The new service could carry approximately 65 people and take just 1

hour 10 minutes. The current service carries only 15 people, takes anything up to four hours, and lacks very important amenities - such as a toilet.

Prices on the new service are likely to be around \$800 return from the Falklands all the way to Santiago, which is a great improvement over the present price of \$700 for the return just to Punta Arenas. An announcement about this is expected any moment now.

IN THE WAKE OF SHACKLETON, a video by Trevor Potts of 31 *The Villas, Stannington, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 6AT. Phone: 01670-789707. Price £14.99 including p&p.*

A 55 minute amateur video of Trevor Potts' expedition in 1994. This duplicated Sir Ernest Shackleton's epic voyage in the lifeboat *James Caird* from Elephant Island to South Georgia in 1916 to bring rescue to his marooned companions.

The video begins with a few scenes of the construction of the boat itself, a replica of the *James Caird*, although with all mod cons. It continues with some scenes in Stanley as the four members of the expedition made their final preparations. It includes fine shots of Elephant Island, and gives a good idea of what the voyage itself was like. Finally, there are good shots of South Georgia, the wild life there, the mountains that Shackleton crossed, and the whaling stations of Stromness and Gritvicken.

Technically, the video is a good amateur effort, rather than a professional film. Given the circumstances under which it was shot, this is quite inevitable. But, some shots, especially on the voyage itself, are too long, and could have been improved at the editing stage. The commentary could have been better scripted too.

Overall the film is a success and a worthwhile acquisition for those interested in the Antarctic and the exploits of Sir Ernest Shackleton. It is the only video record of a modern piece of adventure that has done much to honour the memory of Sir Ernest Shackleton.

P.J.Pepper

Falklander Sweater

The Falklander sweater will be on show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, Hall 6, Stand 64, from December 1st to 6th inclusive. Islanders, Margaret Humphreys, Pam Summers and Dot Goss, who have worked on the project, will be coming up to the UK for the show.

Prospective buyers may choose sweaters at the exhibition, for delivery afterwards. The price will be £175.

Mrs Ann Short bought the first completed sweater for £655 at a charity auction in Stanley - and presented it to the Museum.

Correction

In our last *Newsletter*, the photo caption for Lewis Clifton and John Treasham on page 2 should have read Lewis Clifton and Charles Thomas. Our apologies go out to Mr. Treasham and Mr. Thomas.

Change of Postcode

The Association's office at Greycoat Place now has a slightly different postcode. Instead of being SW1P 1SD, it is now SW1P 1SB.

Shackleton Scholarship Fund

Many more donations have been received by the Shackleton Scholarship Fund. There will be a report on the current state of this, by Sir Rex Hunt, in the next *Newsletter*.

THE FALKLANDS AND THE DWARF, by Rear Admiral C.H. Layman CB, DSO, LVO and Miss Jane Cameron, BA, published by Pincton Publishing (Chippenham) Ltd., *Queensbridge Cottages, Patterdown, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 2NS 6 x 8.5 inches, hardback, 160 Pages with many illustrations. ISBN 0-0948251-76-X. Price £29.50*

Most people in Britain, if asked what they knew about the Falkland Islands, would certainly reply in terms of the 1982 war. A handful might perhaps remember the Naval battle fought there at the beginning of the Great War. But the activities of the Royal Navy to protect the islands go back much further than that. Admiral Layman and Miss Cameron have unearthed and admirably edited the letters home of Commander Wiseman, who took H.M.S. Dwarf to those waters in 1881. Commander Wiseman wielded a vivid pen, and he had both the time and inclination to write at length to his wife back at home. In these letters he paints a lively and attractive picture of the Falklands in Victorian times. Of course there was a Governor, a Legislative Council, a Bishop, and Hymns ancient and modern. But there was also bareback racing, lots of whisky and villainous Yankee skippers trying to catch seals in the closed season.

Alongside the portrait of the Islands is an equally engaging portrait of life aboard H.M.S. Dwarf. Just after reading the book I saw part of the BBC series on life aboard H.M.S. Brilliant in the Adriatic in 1994. Some things have changed - there were no sermons on board H.M.S. Brilliant last year and no WRENS on board H.M.S. Dwarf in 1881 - but on the whole the anxieties and appetites of sailors have stayed much the same.

The Rt Hon. Douglas Hurd, MP, CBE.

Higher Degree

Jeremy Smith of Stanley, who earned a BSc in Cartography and Geography at the Oxford Brooks Institute two years ago, has now graduated as an MSc in Environmental Studies from Aberdeen University. He has now joined Falklands Conservation as a field worker.

Members who pay by cheque annually are reminded that the Association's preferred means of payment is a bankers order.

BANKERS ORDER

To Bank
Branch
at

Please pay to National Westminster Bank PLC, Piccadilly Circus Branch, 19 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1V 7RL. Bank Code 56 00 29 for credit of: THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ASSOCIATION Account No. 24223999 the sum of pounds on receipt of this order and thereafter annually on the anniversary thereof.

Account Number

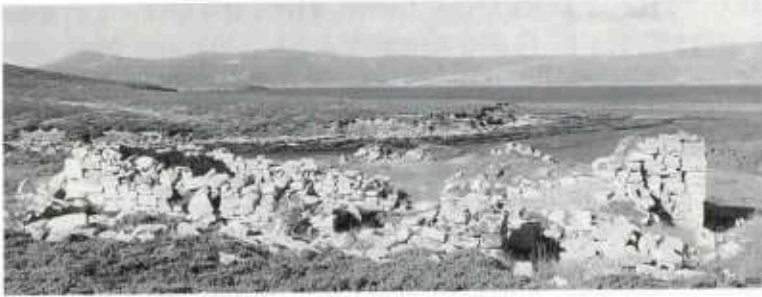
Name

Address

.....

Signature Date

Please return to: The Falkland Islands Association, 2 Greycoat Place, London SW1P 1SB



The ruins of Port Egmont, the first British settlement in the Falklands, founded in 1765. Above: the house believed on constructional evidence to have been built there in the early nineteenth century.

The Falkland Islands Association

President: The Rt. Hon. the Lord Braine of Wheatley.

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Vice Chairman: Mr. R.Elgood.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. M.Christie.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. E.C.J.Clapp.

The Falkland Islands Association brings together those who support the continuing freedom of the people of the Falkland Islands. Its Constitution states that its objectives are :

"To assist the people of the Falkland Islands to decide their own future for themselves without being subjected to pressure direct or indirect from any quarter"

The Association is independent, but maintains close links with many other Falklands organisations. It is a major source of information about the Falklands. It publishes a quarterly newsletter, which all members receive, covering political and social events in the Islands, wildlife, tourism, philately, and many other subjects. It welcomes interest in the Falklands and invites all those who share its aims to become members.

Membership Application

I/We would like to support the right of the people of the Falkland Islands to decide their own future for themselves and to help them develop their islands in accordance with their wishes.

I/We wish to join the Falkland Islands Association. (Individual members annual subscription £15, Pensioners and Students £5, Corporate members and Trading Organisations, minimum £50, Corporate Sponsorship £500)

I/We enclose cheque/P.O. for.....
(made payable to the Falkland Islands Association)

Full Name

Address

Occupation.....Telephone Number

Connection with the Falklands, if any

Signature Date

Please return to: The Falkland Islands Association, 2 Greycoat Place, London SW1P 1SB

Dates For Your Diary

Saturday, 2nd December
Battle Day and AGM, Whitehall

13th June, 1996
Annual Reception, Lincoln's Inn

ADVERTISING

The present circulation of the newsletter is 4,000 copies. It is distributed to Members of the Association, to all Members of the House of Commons, Members of the House of Lords, all British Members of the European Parliament, and to the Press, Radio and Television. Many copies circulate in the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and other Commonwealth and foreign Countries. 800 copies are distributed in the Falkland Islands. Advertising rates are as follows:

Full Page	£250
Half Page	£125
Quarter Page.....	£65
Eighth Page	£35
Short Insertions.....	£3 per line

Discounts for 4 insertions by negotiation.

A special concession is offered to members of the Association living in the Falklands, who own small shops and businesses, to advertise in the Newsletter at half the above rates.

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