

C.S. SAFE

S/908  
~~1205/11~~

TRN/AVI/3#12

C.S.O.

SECRET

S/908

Commencing with folio 167.

SUBJECT

UNIDENTIFIED SHIPS & AIRCRAFT  
IN THE VICINITY OF THE  
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

2146

Unidentified objects

UNIDENTIFIED SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT IN THE VICINITY OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

<u>Ships</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>DAY, DATE &amp; MONTH</u>
-	1	New Island	1 a.m.	Tuesday 5th September, 1961.
	1	Keppel Is.		Monday 11th September, 1961.
	1	Carcass Is.		--- do ---
	1	West Point	12.15 pm	--- do ---
	1	Cape Dolphin	12.30 pm	--- do ---
	1	San Carlos	1.35 pm	--- do ---
	1	Green Patch		--- do ---
	1	AK Gambler		--- do ---
	1	Port Harriett		--- do ---
	1	West Heads	1.45 -	
		Fox Bay	2.00	--- do ---
	1	Carcass Is.	9.45 a.m.	Friday 6th October, 1961.
	1	New Island	3.45 p.m.	Tuesday 17th October, 1961.

Plane was sighted 1 a.m. by New Island 5th September to  
the South of the Island.

DRM/LH

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

SENT

(W. & S. Lett. — 250 Pd/7/59).

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
	Psy			5.9.61
To	etat Mrs Davis New Island (by R/T please)			HOA/c

Thank you for report

Colonial Secretary

Time DRM/LH

*PA*  
*6.9.61*

## GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

169

FALKLAND ISLANDS

RECEIVED

*Phoned*

(W. &amp; S. Ltd.—250 Pd/7/59).

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
89	Keppel Island	50	1445	11.9.61.

To

etat Col Sec Stanley

Unidentified plane passed about 5 miles north of Keppel flying at about 800 feet in an easterly direction ~~appears~~ appeared to be a low winged monoplane not travelling very quickly no markings could be identified because of poor visibility definitely <sup>a</sup> motor engine plane presumably twin

Betts.

Time

JC

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

FALKLAND ISLANDS

RECEIVED

*Phoned.*

(W. & S. Ltd.—250 Pd/7/59).

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
88	Carcass Island	47	1445	11.9.61.

To  
etat Col sSec Stanley

Strange aircraft low over Carcass today for about 10 minutes  
 stop seen briefly just before beaver left west Point stop  
 Colour grey with very pointed nose appeared to be land plane  
 and gave the impression of being much larger than the beaver  
 Bertrand.

Time  
JC

# GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES.

~~SENT.~~

RECEIVED

---

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
--------	------------------	-------	--------------	------

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12.9.61

To

Colonial Secretary, Stanley.

West Point Island.

Heard at 12.15 flying down back just at time of Beaver. Seen by Beaver pilot while at West Point but only a glimpse.

Heard at Saunders Island at dinner time.

Cape Dolphin.

Plane 12.30 600-800 feet colour dark grey tail blue and yellow. Couldn't make out all figures except 257. About 7 figures altogether. Flew North-East from Cape Dolphin.

San Carlos.

Plane 4 or 5 miles from settlement 1.35 flying East to West. Flying along hill tops 2,000 feet. Twin engined.

Green Patch (McPhee). Reported to me plane over Volunteer Point area "flying high" been around a while.

Mr. Lollman was at old Wireless Station (on way to Surf Bay). Flew over then. All dark grey with rudder light aluminium colour. Twin engined with what appeared to be extra fuel tanks markings indistinguishable. Came in from North and went round the lighthouse then away towards Port Harriett, but came a little way back from there.

A.K. "Gambler".

Plane flew around and circled for 10 minutes twin engined. Went East to West.

Port Harriett.

**Time** Plane came up from the Point.

---

## GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

FALKLAND ISLANDS**RECEIVED**

(W. &amp; S. Ltd.—250 Pd/7/59).

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				12.9.61
To				
Colonial Secretary, Stanley.				

Passed over West Heads Fox Bay 1.45 - 2.00 p.m.

Time

Ref. No.....

Customs and Harbour Department,

Stanley, Falkland Islands.

.....19.....

Lighthouse Report

Aircraft two engines. Blue strip down tail with  
yellow perch. Only letters could read '100'

2. P. came in from North West, circled  
over Wolf Rocks, came in over lighthouse  
then flew off over Seal Point.

1/10/54

174  
12/9/61

Received from Salvador Plane sighted by Mr Benny 11/9/61  
Fuselage Green gray

Tail at rudder faded blue square then pillar-box red square  
white circle then something inside circle inside that another  
dot blue below that.

Delta wing ~~wing~~ twin-engine . Flat nose like a fishes  
head

On fuselage numbers 358 then U.S. three more numbers he could  
not see. On nose long arm and camera like object moving up  
and down.

Coming from S.W. direction. kept in line with coast then  
dropped down to 200feet. Went over bay a door opened and a  
man threw something into water.

*Head at . Bears flying to SW.*

175

FALKLAND ISLANDS POLICE

Chief Constable's Office,  
PORT STANLEY.

Received 12th Sept

11th September 1961.

Hon. R.H.D. Manders, O.B.E.,  
Colonial Secretary,  
PORT STANLEY.

Sir,

UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT SEEN FLYING OVER E. FALKLAND

At 12.58pm. Monday 11th September 1961, a telephone call was received from Mrs Kiddle (Phone 293) who stated that she had seen an unidentified aircraft flying over Twelve O'Clock mountain in a westerly direction and that the aircraft had turned and was at that moment flying in an easterly direction over Stanley.

As a result of this information I was able to observe the aircraft through binoculars and at 1pm it flew over Cape Pembroke in a northerly direction then turned when about over Kidney Island and returned over Cape Pembroke southwards. The plane appeared to be a twin engined type with wing-tip fuel tanks. I was not able to see its markings.

I was later informed by the keep<sup>er</sup> at Cape Pembroke lighthouse that he had seen the markings:- 2.P - - - and horizontal colours, blue over white over blue with a yellow circle in the white section.

At 1.47pm same day, Mr. Clements of Goose Green telephoned and stated that the aircraft was flying over his settlement at about 1.35pm. Mr. Clements said that it was twin engined with fuel tanks on the wing extremities and was similar in appearance to a "Wimpey" (Wellington)

Other reports have been received but no better description is yet to hand at this office.

  
Chief Constable.

12. 9. 61

176

● 11.40

West Point heard a plane  
to North West 10 minutes ago.  
ie. 11.30. Nothing seen but  
it is foggy out there.

G.E. for information

See draft refer to S of S at O/C

We have referred to S of S in the past.

I also thought of sending letter of thanks

to draft was I am also at O/C

S  
13/9/61

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From H.E. THE GOVERNOR.....

To AMBASSADOR, BUENOS AIRES.....

Despatched : 14th September 1961 19 Time : 1200

Received : 19 Time :

Unnumbered

111 m  
1295 .

Your telegram No. 11 of 6th August 1958. Unidentified aircraft seen from many points in Falkland Islands on 11th September. Have air sampling flights been resumed?

*jr*

CYPHER 06 : MW

NEWS ITEM

In connection with the plane which flew over the Islands recently the Colonial Secretary wishes me to say that he is grateful for the information forwarded and will always welcome prompt reports in future of anything interesting of this nature that is sighted.

1/80

f.s. Pt see page 162.

mems Cairns re Maurice Smith

(identifies the plane as

a Neptune

(Brookborough  
see Dan Ross)

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Stanley, Falkland Islands.  
15th September, 1961.

5  
15/9/61

Ref: 1295/II

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Stanley, Falkland Islands.

15th September, 1961.

Sir,

I am directed to thank you for your report on the plane which flew over the Islands recently. Such reports are very helpful and I hope that you will kindly continue to forward to me as soon as possible any similar information you have in future.

I am,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,



COLONIAL SECRETARY.

The Managers of:-  
West Point Island.  
Carcass Island.  
Saunders Island.  
San Carlos.  
Fitzroy.  
Goose Green.  
Fox Bay East.

Mr. Kenny, Salvador.  
Mr. J. McPhee, Green Patch.  
Mr. S.A. Betts, Keppel Island.  
Mr. I. Grant, Port Harriett.  
Mr. S. Heathman, Cape Dolphin.

Government House,  
Falkland Islands.

19th September 1961

(Dear Ambassador)

I sent you a telegram on September 14, saying that unidentified aircraft had been sighted over the Falklands, and enquiring whether the air sampling flights had been resumed.

The aircraft has been seen again, and identified as a Lockheed Neptune Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft, some of which are in service with the Argentine Navy. I understand that the Argentine Base at Deception Island was expecting an air drop from one of these aircraft, and the Meteorological Station here has been sending weather forecasts to our base at Deception Island to be passed to the Argentine Base to assist with these flights. Owing to bad weather, the aircraft was unable to reach Deception.

It seems likely that the aircraft seen here was getting a navigational fix over the Falklands, before flying South. No permission was sought to fly over the Falklands, but I have no strong feelings about this, and I do not know whether you feel that any representations should be made to the Argentine Government. No international regulations were contravened, as happened on previous occasions when United States aircraft flew over here.

Yours sincerely,

(signed Edwin Arrowsmith)

See 194.

H. B. M. AMBASSADOR,  
BUENOS AIRES.

PA  
20 9 61

## Plane sightings. 3rd October, 1961.

- Johnson's Harbour. Seen to westward travelling NW flying high 8 miles vapour trail
- Cape Dolphin 6.10 p.m. (camp time) jet from North turned to South then headed back North very fast and very high.
- Port San Carlos Jet plane 6.15 p.m. (camp time) S.E. to N.W. about 10,000 feet twin jet vapour trail
- Stanley Seen by various people 7.20 (Stanley time) flying high. Approximately North to South then turned and departed N.W.
- Salvador Jet plane flying high came from North camp went out towards N.E. 6 p.m. (camp time) visible for 20 minutes.

S.E.

for information

~  
4/9/61

See 200

FALKLAND ISLANDS POLICE



Chief Constable's Office,  
Port Stanley.

4th October 1961

Hon. R.H.D. Manders O.B.E.,  
Colonial Secretary,  
Stanley.

Sir,

UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT SEEN OVER EAST FALKLAND

At about 7.15pm. Tuesday 3rd October 1961, an aircraft was seen flying from south to north over East Falkland.

Reports were received by telephone at Stanley Police Station from the following camp stations:-

DOUGLAS, DARWIN, FITZROY, SAN CARLOS.

In each case the report was from a responsible person and each description tallied with the others. It is thought that the aircraft was a four engined jet of the D.6 type. It was flying very high.

I was able to observe it for about two minutes but even with binoculars it was not possible to positively identify it.

I thanked each of the callers for so promptly reporting to the Police and I was assured that should the plane be again sighted we shall be informed immediately.

  
Chief Constable.

Copy attached for  
information of His  
Excellency.

~~127~~  
186  
185

To C.S. from Carcass Island. Friday 6th October.

Unidentified twin engined aircraft ~~xxxx~~ circled over settlement 3 times about 9.45 camp time. Came in from North and finally departed towards South until over mainland when changed course and flew down range in direction of Hill Cove. Aircraft silver colour with star in dark blue circle near tail, some red on tail. Impossible to read numbers or letters on side. Had winking red light shining underneath and something like tin rod on the nose. Dropped small silvery object into the sea.

Bertrand.

Mrs. Bertrand watched through binoculars and estimated height of plane to be 1,000 feet. Mr. Bertrand and Wm. McBeth estimated plane's height to be 300 feet. Mrs. Bertrand says they cannot agree on height. Plane's height certainly decreased when flying around, so much so that they thought it was going to land.

*y. E for information.*

*According to Appendix 8 of 47A it looks like a  
x Chilean. Americans also have a white star  
on a blue ground but they are not given*

*5  
6/10/61.*

*See also 196'*

*x  
Chilean star is on rudder.*

Friday 6.10.61 187 AF - 186

New Island: Engine  
~~Plane~~ heard (but not seen) over Weddell way.  
Difficult to tell direction because of wind  
but seemed to be heavy engine believed to be plane.

Mrs. Davis.

Hill Cove. 10a.m. this morning aircraft flew around  
there, very low, U.S.Navy plane 769. Dome under fuselage  
flashing red light at 3 second intervals.

Blake.

S.E. 187.  
This arrived just as (was) climbing up the envelope.  
6/10/61.

AF  
210.61

188.

6th October.

Keppel Island. 2.31 2 jets flew over Keppel flying close to each other in a S.W. direction. Height about 2,500 feet. Light grey in fact almost white when sun shining on them. No markings seen. Heard about 5 minutes afterwards at back of mountain.

Hill Cove. 2 jet fighters equipped with wing tanks flying low in ENE direction.

(Time we sent some AA guns to shoot them down as violating our air space!)

g.e. 189  
for information.

sc 7/10/61

190

DA

7.10.61

191

Plane sighting.

West Point 6th. 3.3 p.m. (camp time) aircraft passed over West Point from N.W. to S.E. travelling very fast. Over 300 mph 3,000 feet. Smaller than one that flew over Stanley but much heavier. Wings and body shorter but thicker.

192

Napier.

g-2 Submitted

2/16/61

193

PA

9.10.61



DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From CHADWICK, BUENOS AIRES

To H. E. THE GOVERNOR

Despatched : 11th October 1961 19 Time : 1105

Received : 12th October 1961 19 Time :

PRIORITY

194

Confidential. Your telegram 39. I have ascertained Argentines could have had no jet aircraft flying in area of Falkland Islands on 5th October or 6th October. Argentine carrier does not operate jet aircraft.

2. I have been told by American Air Attache that Argentine Navy have reported sighting an object at 10,000 - 20,000 feet on 6th October in vicinity of Ushuaia, which from description given may have been a rocket or satellite. Chilean authorities have reported sighting a similar object on 6th October near Punta Arenas. Argentine Air Force asked us yesterday about unidentified aircraft in this area on 6th October.

3. I will telegraph any further information which becomes available.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From H.E. THE GOVERNOR

To THE AMBASSADOR, BUENOS AIRES

Despatched : 12th October 1961 19 Time : 1900

Received : 19 Time :

Confidential

Thank you for your telegram October 11 - Aircraft Sighting.

195

Reliable observer on West Falkland has reported sighting morning of October 6, "aircraft flying low U.S. Navy plane 769 dome under fuselage flashing red light", and same afternoon "2 jet fighters equipped wing tanks flying low". Another observer confirms "flashing red light", states plane twin engined with star in dark blue circle near tail.

2. It seems likely these planes were American.

*Row*  
B. 10 61

197.

New Island 3.45 Stanley time. 17.10.61.

Heard plane in S.E. direction. Could not see  
plane because weather thick, No surf as calm day  
at New Island.

*P.A.*  
19.10.61

18.10.61.

George Island reports having heard a plane at 5 to 7  
(camp time) this morning to the south east.

New Island also reports plane heard. Mrs. Davis said  
her daughter Veronica (under 5) heard and saw plane.  
Mrs. Davis says the 'seeing' of the plane may be imagination  
but she herself definitely heard plane engine.

*(revised) in 64 E*  
*in 64 file*  
*8 23/10/61*

*Pa*  
*8*  
23. 10. 61.

FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES  
SURVEY

199

*With the Compliments  
of  
The Secretary*

H.C.S.

*Copy of letter received. For  
your information and retention*

STANLEY,  
FALKLAND ISLANDS.

*E. Platt*

*26.10.61*

Buenos Aires, Argentina  
October, 9, 1961

The Secretary,  
Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey,  
Port Stanley,  
Falkland Islands.

Dear Sir,

I am accompanying a United States Air Force operation using a KC-135 aircraft (similar to the Boeing 707) with a sweep-frequency ionosphere sounder in it. We are making several flights from Buenos Aires, where we are based to your approximate latitude to make records of signals from a synchronized sounder near Miami, Florida, and our transmitter is, in turn, being received by them. The flights are planned to the area west of Cape Horn which is geomagnetically conjugate to Miami but, on October 3, to do something easier for a starter, we flew due south from here and turned around over the Falklands. We were at 42,000 feet and were over the islands at about 2222Z, which was just a few minutes before sunset. We could see the entire island group, but there was no sun on the ground. I would be interested to know if you have heard of anyone taking notice of us and if you could send me a copy of the ionograms from Port Stanley which bracket the time we were there. When our ionogram is developed, I will send you a copy of it also. We were getting good echoes at the time and it should be a nice record.

Being leary of what happens to letters posted to you from here, I am sending this via Maclean and Stapleton in Montevideo.

Yours with best wishes,

*See 183 + 184*

Willet G. Morgan,  
Professor of Electrical Engineering,  
Dartmouth College,  
Hanover, New Hampshire.

*We should first inform Ambassador  
in 40's <sup>see</sup> 196 in re submit 201  
return.*

*G-E for information.*

*It would have been polite if he had informed  
the Governor of the Falkland Islands!*

*27/10/61.*

H. C. S.

I did not report the sightings of October 3 to Buenos Aires. The reports we received were, in fact, very accurate. It seems from Professor Morgan's letter that their trip over the Falklands was, as he says, "to do something easier", and the decision to do this flight may have been taken too late for them to apply formally for permission. Professor Morgan is well-known to F.I.D.S. in connection with their Ionospheric work, and we have been assisting him with a project for Deception Island.

2. There is no doubt that the two aircraft sighted at Hill Cove on the 6th were jet fighters, and not KC-135's. In these circumstances the telegram at 202 has not been despatched.

2nd November 1961

RF

P.a.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

51

From ... AMBASSADOR, BUENOS AIRES

To ... H. E. THE GOVERNOR

---

Despatched : 6th November 1961 19 Time : 1800  
 Received : 7th November 1961 19 Time :

PRIORITY

Confidential. Reference your telegram of October 13.

The United States Naval Attache has confirmed that aircraft were operating from the United States Carrier "Kittyhawk", and has expressed his regret and that of the Naval Department that they should have crossed the three mile limit which they were briefed to respect.

CYPHER 'E' : MW

Honcs.

Manager Port Howard reports to R/T Operator that a plane passed over Purvis at 8.30 this morning, departing in a southerly direction. Low cloud prevented actual sighting of the craft but the engines were clearly audible.

g. 2 for information

1/2/62

1.2.62

PA

1.2.62

PA

Pa

206

Honcs.

A further report identical to the one above has just been received from Port Howard. The time was given as 10.10 am (Stanley time).

207

g. 4

for information

3/2/62

8.2.62

208

PA

9.2.62

PA

Pa

Houcs.

Lighthouse reported to Houcs.

at 11.50 am: "Large Tanker passing  
travelling South. Of different design  
to previous visitors with white band on  
funnel.

210

12.3.62

2.5 6a Lifanlin

12/3/62...

211

13.3.62

on.

13.3.62

Honcs.

George K. reports a large plane sighted  
travelling west at 3.30 pm on 2nd May. (Silver coloured)

At 9.30 am today an aircraft could  
clearly be heard at West Point. They also heard  
one yesterday morning.

RA 3.5.62

213.

G.E. submitted  
5/4/62

RA  
4.5.62  
R.

R.A

JH.

The manager at Harb reports this morning that a three masted schooner is visible about 20 miles to the South West travelling in a N.W. direction. She is making good speed & is probably assisted by two auxiliary engines.

I wonder if this could be a Seal poacher?

13.8.62

215

M. Lambell. will try to secure to-morrow  
 Thank manager re his but whether at  
 further investigation are being made.

13/9/62.

This could be filed  
 14/2/62

PA  
 15.2.62

Man of War about size  
 of protection rited about  
 25 miles out from  
 New Island.

Reported 9:15 AM.

Various thanks

no further action necessary,  
 as this is well outside the

waters

26/3/63

File & PA fl

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Record

Twin engine aircraft (possibly US) Neptune  
observed over Stanley am. 14th December. The aircraft  
had previously been reported from S. Carlos  
& Salvador.

18-12-63

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 21.8.64      Time: 1530      Received:      Time:

No. 101. Unidentified two engined plane with red wing tips made series of high flying runs over northern part East Falklands today. Only possible base for this aircraft Argentina or Chile and Chile unlikely.

Officer Administering the Government

G.T.C. : WHT/LH

B  
21.8.64

Tuesday 27th October, 1964.

Shepherd at Cape Dolphin saw a ship passing westerly direction west of Edystone little bigger than "Darwin".

Pa ~  
28 10 64

21. 12. 64 220

Reported from West-Point-  
Island that the sound of  
an aeroplane was heard Sunday  
afternoon (20th Dec) between  
2 and 3 pm. SW direction.  
2 or 3 people heard the plane

P.P.

Above from P/T operator

Noted. He  
for S.

1275/II

221

5th January,

65.

To: ~~Chief Meteorological Officer,~~

From: The Colonial Secretary,

STANLEY.

Harbour Master.

Movements of ships in vicinity of  
Falkland Islands

When the Governor recently visited the Met. Office he saw a plot of ships in the vicinity. He would like the Chief Met. Officer to keep you in touch with such shipping movements.

2. I do not think anything elaborate is required but please have a tie up.

(W.H. THOMPSON)

COLONIAL SECRETARY

WHT/LH

PAA

5th March, 65.

From: The Colonial Secretary,

To: O I/c B.A.S. Office,  
Chief Met. Officer,  
Harbour Master,STANLEY

To: Admin. Officer, S. Georgia.

Reporting of Foreign Ships in local waters

You are all very helpful on this and the 'system' appears to work very well, but I would like to re-emphasise the need for those reports which are so often of little direct interest, and which may therefore be over-looked.

2. Unidentified ships near the Falklands are always of security interest and should always be reported.

3. The present method of telephoning and telegraphing each other requires no change, but should you be away I shall be obliged if you will make sure that your stand-in knows the drill.

(Sgd) W.H. Thompson.

COLONIAL SECRETARY

WHE/FA

Pa

27. 3. 65

Message from Albert Davis Speedwell Is.

When returning from Swan Island

At 7. 15 last evening he sighted a ship Eagle Passage moving in North Easterly direction. No lights showing but using searchlight.

Between Ruggles Island and North Arm another ship which was stationary under North Arm land

PAA

DECODE.

224

TELEGRAM.

No. 238.

From Operator, Fox Bay.

To Colonial Secretary, Port Stanley

Despatched : 25th April, 19 65 Time : 0900

Received : 26th April, 19 65 Time :

W1  
28/4

From Manager Port Howard.

Report seeing plane passing over Pebble Island heading NW 1725 last night.

Operator

Phoned to Supt. Gray 9.47 26th

(Intld.) DRM

P/L : LS

(Intld.) WT

pa

Report of aircraft sighting from Spedwell Island.

225

At 6.45 on Wednesday 19th a plane was sighted between Danson Harbour and North Arm going round and round. Plane would dive towards the ground and then fly up again. Navigation lights visible. Another clear light above navigation lights which when plane headed towards house lit up the outside of the house.

Plane seen for about 10 minutes. Eventually disappeared behind cloud.  
Seen by Mr. and Mrs. Terry Clifton and Brian Clifton aged about

16.

They will keep a look out again tonight.

Received 11.15  
20th May  
DRM

Copy handed to  
Supt Police  
D. M. PA

Report from Port San Carlos.

Mike Jeffery at 5.30 could see a beam of a searchlight lighting up shores of hills stop Alan Miller went up the hill in his Land Rover and could see light close in to shore in entry to Smylie's Creek.

LS  
Copy to: S/Police  
June, 1965.

DECODE.

227

TELEGRAM.

From Pole-Evans, Fox Bay. ....

To Colonial Secretary, Stanley. ....

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Despatched :            3rd June,            19 65            Time : 0900

Received :            3rd June,            19 65            Time :

G. Llamosa from Purvis reports he saw a light looking like a search light trained vertically. Bearing from Purvis house more or less over Mare Rock last Monday evening between 1900 and 200. hours.

Pole-Evans

P/L : LS  
(Intld.) WT (Note)

Copy to S/Police

DECODE.TELEGRAM.

No.51.

From Mr. Miller, Port San Carlos.....

To Colonial Secretary, Stanley.....

Despatched :                      3rd June,                      19 65                      Time :

Received :                              3rd June,                      19 65                      Time :

226

Re my report yesterday. Now evidence to suggest some sheep stolen.

Miller

'Phoned

LS

Copy toS/Police

Paa

10th June, 1965.

Dear Mr Miller

0663/J/V

Thank you for your letter of June 5th on the quality of news broadcast from Stanley and, in particular, broadcasting on poaching around the Falklands. I am sorry to note that you consider news is censored.

Obviously your chief worry is poaching: but your version of poaching is very different to mine.

The facts so far are as follows:-

- (a) some weeks ago there was a report from Speedwell Island that two ships were seen in the mist and in the dark. We could not follow this one up because the weather was so bad. When we did get around to flying over the area nothing was seen;
- (b) the next report was of a small craft seen on the radar screen of "A.E.S.". A shepherd also reported seeing a small craft in the same area at about the same time. Again the weather was bad and there was nothing we could do about it. We flew over the area as soon as possible thereafter but with no result;
- (c) Speedwell reported an aircraft with a searchlight at night. An air reconnaissance by us led to nothing;
- (d) the Manager of Port San Carlos telegraphed us to say that a search light had been seen and later there were signs someone had landed and some sheep might have been taken away. As we had a very very full programme moving children we could not switch planes to investigate straight away. The next day we flew as much as we could and the day after that the weather was thoroughly bad and we could not fly at all.

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The Honourable  
Mr. S. Miller, M.L.C., J.P.,  
ROY COVE.

- (c) the final report was an extremely obscure one from old Mrs. Napier who reported seeing a light from a direction from which moon light could have come.

For reasons of security we reported none of this in the public news letter. It is reasonable to suppose that if poachers want to keep out of our way they tune into the R/T, our news bulletins, and to Philmel and the air flights. If they do not do so they must be excessively stupid. By this, just listening, they can find out exactly where and when we are going. Instead of giving a lot of publicity which might have given the game away we did a lot of flying. Pretty well all day Sunday we had a plane in the air looking at everything on the North of the East and the North of the West out to Steeple Jason.

To send the Royal Marines off chasing up every report (and in no case have we had an up to date report) would not do anyone very much good. We have a small group of Marines down at Speedwell Island at the moment and we are ready to send out more Marines when any worth while report comes in.

I suppose you will say the report from Port San Carlos was worth while and that we should have sent people out there: but to do what when the bird has flown?

Even you say in your letter that lights were "reported yesterday" and you "will investigate tomorrow".

I have answered your criticisms as fully as I can and I have no doubt that when we next meet (which will be soon) we can do our usual arguing.

Thank you very much for your interesting article on the hydatid cyst. I am having it printed as a pamphlet for circulation to every farm and every dog owner in Stanley. We thought it better to do it this way than to break it up into episodes spread over five months in the Monthly Review.

One other item of interest is that London have asked us whether we have any interest in allowing Cable and Wireless (the British nationalised Telecommunications Organisation) to operate our new telecommunications system, and if we would like them to finance the deal. Apparently they have told the Colonial Office they are interested in doing so. You will be hearing more about this when you come in but this is just to let you know that we have said we are interested without committing ourselves of course.

3.

Captain Benrose of the Marines is due to fly around the West very soon and I have asked him to call on you to explain the situation to let you know what we propose to do in the way of Falkland Islands Defence Force training on the West.

Sincerely yours

Willoughby Thompson

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Paq