

C. S.

S E C R E T

19 44.

No. *S/12/44*
You open file 107/46.

Secretary of State.

SUBJECT.

19 44.

26th April.

RESTRICTIONS ON PASSENGER TRAFFIC TO PORTS OUTSIDE THE COLONY.

Previous Paper.

C/7/43; 28/36;

See M.P. 55/41.

MINUTES.

1. Secret Circ. telegram No. 43 from S. of S. of 26/4/44.
2. Secret Circ. telegram No. 47 from S. of S. of 13/5/44.
3. Secret telegram to S. of S. No. 173 of 10/7/44.
4. Secret telegram from S. of S. No. 70 of 12/7/44.
5. Gazette Notice No. 29 of 15/7/44.
6. Secret Circ. Telegram No. 75 from S. of S. of 14/7/44
7. " " " No. 81 " " " 16/8/44
- 7 A. Excerpt from letter received from British Consul, M.V. 30.8.44.
8. " " " No. 90 " " " 7/9/44
9. " Telegram No. 92 to S. of S. " 31/3/45
10. Letter from British Consulate, Montevideo, of 28. 5. 45.
11. Excerpt from letter " " " 31. 5. 45.
12. Telegram No 156 to S. of S. of 9. 6. 45.
13. " No 157 " " " 9. 6. 45.
14. " No 181 from " " " 13. 6. 45.
15. " " 223 " " " 7. 8. 45.
16. " " 220 to " " " 17. 8. 45.
17. Telegram to Consul, Montevideo, of 18. 8. 45.

Subsequent Paper.

145/44

*B.u.
10/9/45*

(18)

Note

U.K. priorities for 22nd Sept.

- Miss Cullen.
- Mr R. Hiltz.
- Miss Praycott.
- Miss Gladstone.
- Miss Braxton.

Does not want to go.

Beamer informed.
Advice ltr. 10th Sept.
& file with persons
concerned.

NOIC will arrange
priority for Miss Hovkins
with B.M.A. Mr.

AB
3/9/45

B.U.
10/9/45

(19)

U.K. priorities for Oct. sailing.

- Braxton, wife & child
- Miss Hiltz & 2 children.
- Miss Lewis (5).

~~Telegram to Consul, British Embassy, Monte of 22-9-45~~ 20
 Sent Circ. Telegram No. 149 from S. of S of 11.10.45. 20.

20 (21)

4. F.

This may not affect us much as (1) our present
 priorities are given "for political reasons" & (2) there
 is going to be little demand for passages to U.K.
 until about April. We only have Brewster & Hooley
 to go on leave before then. There are, so far, no
 civilian applications for passages for the November
 sailing of the Fitzroy.

KB
13.10.45

H.R. agreed u.n.n.
at present. KB

Copies of Correspondence to manager, S. J. C. from Montevideo. 22

Telegram to the Consular Section, B. Embassy of	27. 10. 45	23
" " H. Y. Consul, Monte. of	22. 9. 45.	24
" " " " " "	24. 12. 45	25.
" " " " " "	7. 2. 46	26.
" " " " " "	27 - 2. 46	27.
" " " " " "	2. 4. 46	28.
" from " " " "	4. 4. 46.	29.

KB
 31/10/45

- 30 Telegram to H.M. Consul, M.V. of 25. 4. 46.
- 31 Circ telegram No. 48 from S. of S. of 3. 5. 46.
- 32 Letter from H. M. Consul, Montevideo of 27. 6. 46
- 33 " " " " " " 29. 6. 46

H. E. (34)

We discussed and I submit a draft telegram for consideration. It is not quite on the lines we thought, but on reading S/12/44 below I am inclined to add the first sentence.

2. It seems implicit in this arrangement that we have 6 priority 5's kept for us provided V. E. nominates the persons and thus "vets" their eligibility; and that, if we can't put up 6, we tell Consul.

3. "Independent passengers" under the new plan would have no chance at all. But they would cease to be so if they had a reasonable cause for priority, ascertained by V. E. If they had not, they would have to take their chance and I suppose would have to undergo the interminable routine of filling in forms at the P. I. C. which would be regularly disregarded by the River Plate Passenger Committee.

(Intld.) A. B. M.
5. 7. 46.

- 35 Telegram to H. M. Consul, Montevideo of 6. 7. 46
- 36 Letter from H.M. Consul, M.V. of 24. 7. 46.
- ~~37 Telegram to H.M. Consul M.V. of 16. 1. 47.~~

38

Mr. (37) The 'one' underlined is for Captain Aldridge. He must not forget his Dugal one he will have to take his chance with the passengers. Copy (37) for F.I.D.S. files.

B. 26/1 ABE
16.1

(39)
copy of (37) filed in F.I.D.S. files. 003/12/28. 1.47.

Excerpted from 140/44 (Transit passengers through M.V. video)

PA. 0/22
22/12/46

? ABE
27.1

SW 5/2/47

Tel from acting consul Montevideo of	31. 1. 47.	40
Tel to Consul Montevideo of	3. 2. 47.	41
Tel from consul Montevideo of	3. 2. 47	42
Tel from " " " 5. 2. 47.		43
Tel to " " " 7. 2. 47.		44
Tel. to Consul Montevideo . 7. 2. 47		45

41
42
43
44
45

show
ABC
52

15/2/47
5/2

~~Telegram to Consul M.V. of 3. 2. 47~~

Removed to 0061 (Iranian passengers
thru M.V.)

15/2

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 26th April, 1944. Time: 2240.

Received: 27th April, 1944. Time: 1030.

Circular No. 43. SECRET. You will no doubt have seen the announcement issued to-day of further restrictions on travel from this country to destinations overseas except for journeys of urgent national importance which cannot be postponed. These restrictions are temporary and will be relaxed as soon as the Military considerations permit but meanwhile they may involve some delay in return to their Territories of some Colonial Officials who have been to this Country on leave or on official business. I will do my best to minimise the inconvenience to Colonial Governments.

2. It is not possible at this stage to indicate how long these restrictions will have to be maintained but it is desirable so long as they are in force travelling to this country should be similarly restricted as far as possible. Persons who come to this country in the present circumstances for short periods only may find it is not possible for them to return overseas whilst the restrictions are in force unless their journeys are of such importance and urgency that they cannot be postponed.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

COLONIAL OFFICE OUT CODE.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

2
139

From Secretary of State.

To His Excellency the Governor.

M.P. 55/41.

Despatched : 13th May, 19 44. Time : 2200.

Received : 14th May, 19 44. Time : 1030.

(127a)

Red 127a

Circular No. 47. SECRET. Repeated to Colonial Supply Mission No. 693. With reference to my Telegram No. 42 Circular. There appears to be some misunderstanding as to the intention of Paragraph No. 2 of my telegram under reference. Intention is to restrict short term visits to the Country. It is not intended essential recuperative leave should be suspended but if travel restrictions are still in force on the expiry of the leave it will be necessary to consider in each of the cases if individual concerned can be permitted to leave this Country before the restrictions are released.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

COLONIAL OFFICE OUT CODE.

DECODE.

(3)

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor. M.P. S/12/44

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 10th July, 1944 Time :

Received : 19 Time :

No. 175. SECRET. Reply urgently required. Your Circular telegram Secret No. 47 of 18th May. Grateful if you would advise me whether persons desiring to go to United Kingdom (a) for war work at their own expense and not recruited here (b) long leave (c) permanent residence (d) United Kingdom born non-officials returning home may be granted exit permits. Please telegraph.

GOVERNOR.

(4)

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

No. 37. From Secretary of State for the Colonies,

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 12th July, 19 44. Time : 1347.

Received : 13th July, 19 44. Time : 1030.

No. 79. Secret. With reference to your telegram, No. 173.

There is no objection to grant of Exit Permits to any of the 4 categories mentioned provided that the persons in question are British Subjects. But since Aliens application for visas should be dealt with in the normal way.

IN & OUT CODE.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Stanley, Falkland Islands,
13th July, 1944.

Exit permits may now be granted to the United Kingdom to British subjects only, who wish to proceed thither on the following grounds :

- (a) To take up permanent residence in the United Kingdom.
- (b) United Kingdom born persons wishing to return
- (c) Non-officials (and officials if the exigencies of the services permit) for long leave, i.e., not less than six months.
- (d) To take up war-work under the conditions previously imposed on applicants in regard to travelling expenses.

By Command,

K. G. BRADLEY
Colonial Secretary.

N.B. It must be remembered that a return to this country from the United Kingdom may be very long delayed, even to the extent of months. Furthermore, intending passengers must realise the possibility of considerable delay in procuring an onward passage from Montevideo to the United Kingdom and must be prepared to make arrangements accordingly.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

~~134~~
6

From Secretary of State.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 14th July, 19 44. Time : 1730.

Received : 15th July, 19 44. Time : 1030.

Circular No. 73. SECRET. Repeated to British Colonies Supply Mission No. 106. With reference to my telegram No. 42 Circular Travel Restrictions. In spite of the relaxation of the ban of Diplomatic Communications and on travel by Foreign Diplomats it is necessary to continue for the present existing restrictions on overseas travel. There may be some slight administration relaxation to enable journeys which can be certified to be in national interest to be undertaken but no public announcement to this effect will be made. This will enable resumption stopping by Government Official and others in those case it can be certified their journey is in national interests, the the journey should be undertaken without delay. The granting of exit permits will also be considered in extreme compassionate cases but there can at this stage be no general relaxation of restrictions on overseas travel.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

COLONIAL OFFICE OUT CODE.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 16th August, 19 44. *Time:* 1200.

Received: 17th August, 19 44. *Time:* 1030.

Circular No. 81. SECRET. Repeated to British Colonies Supply Mission No. 1449. With reference to my telegram No. 73 Circular. Travel restrictions. It has been recently announced that although it is not yet possible to withdraw entirely the restrictions on overseas travel applications for exit permits will now be considered from wives of persons permanently stationed overseas and from persons wishing to return to their homes within the Empire or Allied Countries. This does not imply any increase in the number of passages available but passages facilities can now be offered to persons within these categories (including wives of Colonial Officials) as and when opportunity offers. It has also been decided though for security reasons no public announcement that journeys which are in national interest can now be undertaken and that it is no longer necessary to certify that the journey should be undertaken without delay. Restriction on travel to Neutral Countries in Europe still remains.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

COLONIAL OFFICE OUT CODE.

7A

PRIORITY GRADINGS

- 1) Service and Government Civilian personnel of United Nations travelling under Government orders.
- 2) Merchant Navy of United Nations.
- 3) Nurses sponsored by recognized nurses associations.
- 4) Civilian Volunteers accepted and attested by a United Nation Government.
- 5) In transit passengers from overseas.
- 6) Wives and families of diplomatic and consular officers travelling on duty.
- 7) Evacuee children between age of 17 and 18½ years and others of conscription age returning home for enrolment for National Service.
- 8) Civilians travelling in connection with warfare activities but not rep. NOT at Government expense.
- 9) Wives and families of persons in category 1 other than those of diplomatic and consular officers.
- 10) Other persons whom it is desirable to get back to the U.K.

Other cases to be considered on their merits.

Aged and infirm in any category to be carried only at discretion of ship's Master.

78

EXCERPT FROM LETTER RECEIVED FROM BRITISH CONSULATE, MONTEVIDEO,
DATED 30th AUGUST, 1944.

Dear Bradley,

.....

The allotment of passages for the United Kingdom is not done by this Consulate but by a small Committee of three persons in Buenos Aires, and our only action in the matter is to refer applications to them. They work on a priority list, of which I enclose a copy, which gives the latest information. It may often happen that at the last minute passengers with a low priority rating have to be displaced in favour of naval or military personnel or other persons with a higher rating. This invariably results in recriminations from people who feel that they are being victimised by the Consulate and while we have to grin and bear it, the cumulative result is a little wearing.

.....

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) D. F. H. Brickell,

4

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

5/12/44

From Secretary of State.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched: 7th September, 19 44. *Time:* 1300.

Received: 8th September, 19 44. *Time:* 1030.

Circular No. 90. SECRET. Repeated to British Colonies Supply
Mission No. 1241. With reference to my telegram No. 81 Circular.

The arrangements for remaining restrictions on overseas travel from this Country (i.e. travel to neutral Countries in Europe) has now been cancelled and regulations which governed overseas travel before the recent special restrictions were imposed will now be restored. It is not proposed, at any rate for the present, to give any press publicity to this return to the earlier travel regulations.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

COLONIAL OFFICE OUT CODE.

DECODE.

9

TELEGRAM.

H.P. No. s/12/44.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 31st March, 1945. *Time :*

Received : 19 *Time :*

IMPORTANT.

(11). No. 92. Secret. With reference to your ~~Direct~~ Telegram No. 70 of the 12th July, 1944.

2. Owing to the acute shortage of passages from the River Plate to the United Kingdom passages from here, although they are very few, are being delayed in Montevideo for months. The expense is prohibitive for them and in the case of officials a heavy charge on the Government.

3. Advance bookings or any information is unobtainable and in these circumstances I would therefore ask your assistance in reducing these delays.

4. I should be most grateful if you would endeavour to arrange for four (R) four passages to be allocated monthly from Montevideo for passengers from the Falkland Islands. These are minimum requirements but if in any one month owing to the irregularity of the service from Stanley, these passages could not be used, they would become available for passengers from Montevideo who would be notified by me.

G.T.C.

GOVERNOR.

10
64

BRITISH CONSULATE,
MONTEVIDEO.

May 28th, 1945

Dear Bradley,

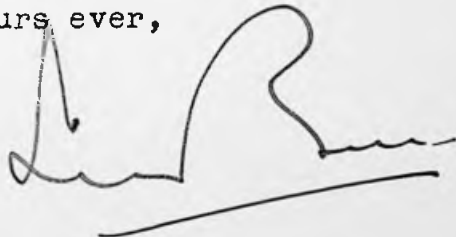
Your telegram of the 23rd May regarding passengers for the United Kingdom arriving in the s.s. Fitzroy. I am writing to say that, according to the instructions followed by the River Plate Passenger Committee Priority No.5 (transit passengers for overseas) does not apply to the respective passengers from the Falkland Islands but only to passengers reaching the River Plate by Ministry of War Transport.

I am, therefore, not able to give this priority to the eight persons you mention nor to Mr. Birt Elliot and his family, mentioned in your telegram of the 16th May.

You will understand, of course, the reason for this ruling. If Priority No.5 were granted to Falkland Island passengers, the result would be that they would obtain an unfair advantage over prospective passengers in Buenos Aires and Montevideo.

The passage situation here is still very bad and any private individuals arriving here in transit to the United Kingdom must face the prospect of having to wait in Montevideo a long time.

Yours ever,



K.G. Bradley Esq.,
Colonial Secretary,
Falkland Islands.

65
11

EXCERPT FROM LETTER RECEIVED FROM IAN BELL, ESQ., VICE-CONSUL,
MONTEVIDEO, DATED 31ST MAY, 1945.

Dear Bradley,

.....

Before I got your letter I had already written on the subject of priority No. 5 and told you that this priority of grading does not apply to any passenger from the Falkland Islands nor indeed to any passenger whose journey originates in the Western Hemisphere. We should grant it, for instance, to passengers arriving here from South Africa, but not to any passenger from the West Coast of South America, Brazil or the Falkland Islands. I am afraid that all the prospective passengers who have arrived by this Fitzroy have been told that they may have to wait many moons before continuing their journey. At the present time the passage situation is as bad as it ever was, and I see no likelihood of any improvement in the near future.

.....

Yours ever,

(Sgd.) Ian Bell.

DISCODE.

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 9th June, 19 45. Time:

Received: 19 ... Time:

Recd 9

IMPORTANT. No. 156. My telegram No. 92 of 31st March. Passages from River Plate.

2. Consul at Montevideo states that River Plate Passenger Committee at Buenos Aires, which apparently consists largely of shipping companies' representatives, refuses to grant to passengers from the Falkland Islands the priority laid down, presumably by the Ministry of War transport, for "in transit passengers from overseas".

3. This refusal is apparently on the ground that "they would obtain an unfair advantage over prospective passengers in Buenos Aires and Montevideo". How 'unfair'?

4. I regard this as entirely unwarrantable, if not impertinent. Their interpretation of "in transit" is impossible to maintain.

(a) Passengers from here travel 4000 miles to reach the Plate and are just as much "in transit" as those from anywhere else overseas.

(b) Residents on the Plate awaiting passages can stay in their own homes whereas Falkland Islanders incur the same expense as other in transit passengers. (vide my telegram under reference paragraph 2).

(c) British subjects from a British Colony should at least have precedence over Anglo-Argentines who have elected to live in and accept a double citizenship, that of a foreign country.

5. But this action by the Committee is much more serious than shewn in the previous paragraphs and I telegraph separately.

6. I should be grateful if you would make strong representations to the Minister of War Transport on this subject and assure that Falkland Islanders are at Montevideo in transit. They cannot be otherwise.

GOVERNOR.

ECODE.

13

TELEGRAM.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched : 9th June, 19 45. Time :

Received : 19 ... Time :

Rad 12

No. 157. SECRET. With reference to my telegram No. 156. The attitude of the River Plate Shipping Committee reflects most dangerously on the Argentine question. It is composed of very senior representatives of the leading Steam Ship Companies, (R.M.S.P., Houlders, L. & H; and the Naval Attache, Buenos Aires; their action in regarding Falkland Islanders as not in transit and therefore on the same footing as an Argentinian must have most serious political reactions; for the Argentine politicians will seize the obvious opportunity to support their claims which now apparantly are admitted by their senior people.

2. Apparantly the ruling about "in transit" applied to other Western Hemisphere countries which is quite understandable. They are (a) foreign countries and (b) except for Paraguay have other exits. The Falkland Islands is British and has no alternative exit.

3. I should be very grateful if you would point out to the Committee the grave political issues raised by their attitude and request them to modify their ruling.

GOVERNOR.

14.

DECODE.

No. 47.

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : 13th June, 19 45. *Time :* 1108.

Received : 15th June, 19 45. *Time :* 1030.

Recd 12.

No. 181. SECRET. Your telegram No. 156. Passages
from River Plate.

Representations are being to the Ministry of War
Transport.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

U.F. 5/12/44.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

No. 5.

From ~~The Secretary of State for the Colonies.~~

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched :	7th August,	19 45	Time : 1755
Received :	8th August,	19 45	Time : 0930

SECRET. No. 885. Your telegram No. 157. Ministry of War transport representatives in Buenos Aires will endeavour to arrange on carriage from Montevideo for six category 5 passengers (i.e., passengers in transit) by each sailing from Falkland Islands, provided that they are nominated by you. Other higher priorities will hold their priorities. Cwing to irregular shipping opportunities it may be impossible to avoid occasional hold up for 3 or 4 weeks in Montevideo but such Falkland Islands civilian passengers will be in far more favoured position than other British civilian passengers from Argentine and other South American countries.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

IN & OUT CODE 55534.

DECODE.

16

TELEGRAM.

M.P. No. S/12/44.

From His Excellency the Governor.

To The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Despatched: 17th August, 1945. Time:

Received: 19 Time:

Redis

SECRET. No. 220. Your Secret Telegram No. 223. I am most grateful for the arrangements made for Falkland Islands passengers. They will be a great help.

GUVNE.

G.T.C.

I think our "line"
should be to
arrange a
category list &
stick to it.

= Have we the
official priority list
as observed elsewhere?

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

DECODE.

17.

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary,.....

To E.W. Consul, Montevideo......

Despatched: 18th August, 19 45. Time: ...

Received: 19 ... Time: ...

Radio

Your semi-official letter 28th May paragraph 3. The following is the text of a telegram now received from the Secretary of State begins.

Ministry of War Transport representatives in Buenos Aires will endeavour to arrange on carriage from Montevideo for six category 5 passengers (i.e., passengers in transit) by each sailing from Falkland Islands provided that they are nominated by you. Other higher priorities will hold their priorities.

Owing to irregular shipping opportunities it may be impossible to avoid occasional hold up for 3 or 4 weeks in Montevideo but such Falkland Islands civilian passengers will be in far more favoured position than other British civilian passengers from Argentine and other South American countries. Ends.

2. We shall follow this carefully and meanwhile the Governor would be grateful if you would ask Committee to clear any Falkland Islanders still awaiting passages in Montevideo.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G. T. C.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched :	11th October,	1945	Time : 1140
Received :	12th October,	1945	Time : 0930

CIRCULAR No. 149. SECRET. I think you should know that the passage position is likely to be one of extreme difficulty during the next few months.

2. His Majesty's Government have recently undertaken a review of the shipping position following upon end of war with Japan and in view of provision which must be made for repatriating ex prisoners of war and for the movement of military personnel for reinforcement, demobilisation and other purposes it is unlikely that it will be possible during the next 5 months more than one quarter of the present demand for movement of civilian personnel. I realise that this must inevitably increase difficulties of Colonial Governments who are already suffering from man power shortage and whose personnel are badly in need of recuperative leave but I regret that it is not possible with shipping at present available to meet a greater proportion of civilian demands.

3. I cannot foresee exactly how this will affect particular areas but you may be assured I will do my best to ensure that Colonial requirements receive most favourable treatment possible. I have thought well however to warn you that these requirements can not at present be met in full and that there will be considerable delay in provision of passages for all classes of travellers including officers proceeding on or returning from leave.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

CCL. OFFICE "OUT". 03548-9.

*Originals returned to
Mr. Roberts 15.10.45*

COPY.

MR. T. G. BRAITHWAITE.

WE have just been advised of the arrival at Montevideo of four ladies from STANLEY for the United Kingdom. Their reasons for travelling are the following:-

To reside with sister in England.

In hope of getting work as housekeeper.

To volunteer for Land Army.

To act as housekeeper for sister.

All No. 5 Priority!

These come before the wives of Service Officials. For instance, Mrs. Villiers and daughter are in Priority 6. Mrs. V. is the wife of Commander Villiers who left for England some months ago.

5/7/45.

22a

COPY.

T E L E G R A M.

From U.K.S.R. Buenos Aires.

To Shipminder, London.

No. MAST 3380

of 3rd July, 1945.

Addressed London 3380 repeated Montevideo.

Your 3933.

Will endeavour to arrange on carriage for six category five passengers by each sailing from Falkland Islands to Montevideo provided they are nominated by Governor other higher categories will hold their priority (stop) Owing irregularity shipping opportunities it may be ⁱⁿ possible avoid occasional hold up for three or four weeks in Montevideo but such Falkland Islands civilian passengers will be ⁱⁿ far more favoured position than other British civilian passengers from Argentine and other South American countries.

COPY.

T E L E G R A M.

From U.K.S.R. Buenos Aires.

To Shipminder, London.

No. MAST,

of 30th June, 1945.

Your 3933 repeated Montevideo 197.

Propose rank all Falkland passengers at top of their respective priority categories (that is one to five) provided category five passengers are nominated by Governor to me on basis of six such passengers by each sailing from Falkland Islands to Montevideo the number to be increased by me when shipping prospects at any time look good stop Owing to irregular shipping opportunities it may be impossible to avoid occasionally stopover of three or four weeks at Montevideo but in any event Falkland Island civilian passengers will be in far more favoured position than other British civilian passengers embarking Plate from Argentina and other South American countries stop I should mention that Falkland civilian passengers have not hitherto been included in category five priority as perhaps erroneously we considered this was intended to apply in cases where there was a question of off landing passengers on a through ticket say from South Africa to, make room for passengers here who would otherwise have a higher priority claim.

COPY.

TELEGRAM.

From Ministry of War Transport. To M.K.S.R. Buenos Aires.

Despatched 29.6.45 - 13.15 Received 29.6.45 - 10.22

No. MAST 3933 of 29th June, 1945.

Addressed you repeated Montevideo Mast 197 my 3861 repeated Montevideo Mast 195 concern is being felt regarding on carriage of passengers in transit from Falkland Islands to U.K. who fall in category one to five of priorities suggested in my 151929 B/April 1944 not to Montevideo Please advise quickly what arrangements you have made or are making for these passengers apart from above priority ratings the matter is one of great political importance and considered this request should receive very favourable consideration.

MINISTRY OF WAR TRANSPORT.

COPY.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. T. G. BRATTHWAITE.

PASSENGERS FROM FALKLAND ISLANDS.

With reference to the cable which you received from the M.O.W.T. London, the contents of which you communicated to us confidentially, we presume that it must be considered as an order despite the wording to effect that their request should be given best consideration. That being so we would like to bring to your attention certain aspects of this business which you may perhaps like to pass on to London.

1. The treatment of passengers from the Falkland Islands as "Overseas" in Transit will automatically place all of them in Priority No. 5 thus giving them what we consider to be unfair advantage over the hundreds of British people in this country, Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay who are awaiting passages to the United Kingdom. Owing to the shortage of shipping on the West Coast it must be remembered that we have to take care of British residents in those countries as well as foreign diplomats and Consular officials proceeding to their posts in Europe. We also receive many requests from Brazil where we understand there is much congestion.
2. Proceeding then on the assumption that Falkland Islanders are to be considered as "Overseas" in Transit, the Governor should be requested to use his discretion as to the most urgent cases and not at least at the present time to send forward for embarkation at Montevideo those whose journey is not urgent. He should also be warned that owing to the present great scarcity of ships, those that do leave are very often completely filled with high priorities, Diplomats, Consular officials, Service officials and their families and volunteers. Consequently it would be advisable not to send too many persons forward at once for embarkation, as otherwise they might have to wait a long time at Montevideo. The original request or suggestion was for a minimum of four passages per month (or ship?) Perhaps during the present dearth of shipping this idea could be adopted. The uncertainty of communication between the Falkland Islands and Uruguay does not help to make things easy.
3. When Mr. Young, Managing Director of the Falkland Islands Company, London, was here some months ago, we sent at his special request a letter to the Manager of his Company at Stanley, a copy of which we attach. Mr. Young went to some pains to obtain for himself, through the Governor, a priority which was eventually cabled to us from the Falkland Islands. If this were necessary in his case, then persons coming from the Falkland Islands en route for the U.K. were not then at all events considered as being in transit and consequently entitled to Priority No. 5, otherwise the Governor's intervention on Mr. Young's behalf would not have been necessary.
4. When we took over from the Consulate-General in January last, we raised the question of passengers "in transit" and were given the ruling that referred only to persons

arriving/

arriving here or other South American port by H.M. Transport from Overseas. "In Transit" was not considered to refer to passengers from countries such as Chile, Peru, etc. or the Falklands. We still do not think that all residents of the Falklands are entitled to priority No. 5 which puts them ahead of all our business men, certain families of officials travelling on duty and many other worthy applicants. The remark made by H.M. Consul at Montevideo in his letter to us regarding the ~~ix~~ type of passenger passing through from Port Stanley (young women with no special object for travelling) should be borne in mind. As things are now since receipt of the cable from London these young women will take precedence of women volunteers from this country seeing that according to a recent ruling business men are to come before women volunteers.

We do not think that London will insist on their point when they know all the facts. As a matter of fact, we do not believe that the Governor of the Falkland Islands would consider the arrangement as being fair.

Passengers from Falkland Islands will take precedence of wives and families of diplomatic and consular officers (No. 6). Are we to refuse these in order to satisfy the demands of the Falklands?

COPY.

17th February, 1945.

D. W. Roberts, Esq.,
Manager,
Falkland Islands Company Ltd.,
PORT STANLEY.

Dear Sir,

At the request of Mr. L. W. H. Young we are writing to you with regard to the present passage situation. There is a great dearth of passenger-carrying ships for the United Kingdom and consequently there is a very long waiting list. There are chances for single men to get away on odd cargo boats from time to time, so that Mr. Goddard might be fixed up. On the other hand, we see very little hope of the Elliott family being able to leave for some months, and it would be unwise for them and any others to come forward for embarkation until they have been assured of passages. If they do come, it will be entirely at their own risk and responsibility. We send you with this letter a supply of passage Application Forms which should be completed by those requiring passages, and returned to us.

Yours faithfully,
For RIVER PLATE PASSENGER COMMITTEE

DECODE.

23

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.

To The Consular Section (British Embassy)

Despatched : October - 27th 1945 Time : ..

Received : 19 .. Time : ..

Car priority "Ritsroy" due 2nd November as in my S/O letter to
Bell of 25th September.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G.T.C.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

24

From The Colonial Secretary.

To H.M. Consul, Montevideo.

Despatched: September 22nd 19 45 Time:..

Received: 19 Time:

Recd.

My telegram 18th August. Following priority passengers for United Kingdom by next Fitzroy due Montevideo about 4th October:

2. Category one: Mr. & Mrs. Draycott, Mrs. Carleton, Miss Braxton. All Civil Servants travelling under Government orders at Government expense.
3. Category five: Governor's nominations Mrs Hirtle, private passenger. Mrs Howkins Naval wife passage paid by Admiralty.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G. T. C.

DECODE.

(25)

TELEGRAM.

M.P.S 148/44 + S/12/44

From The Colonial Secretary.

To H.M. Consul, Montevideo.

Despatched: December 24th 19 45 Time:

Received: 19 Time:

Recd 23.

My telegram 27th October. Following priority passengers for United Kingdom this "Fitzroy": category 5 Mr. and Mrs. A. Stewart and Miss E. Stewart.

*Acc M.P.
140/44*

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G. T. C.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

26

From The Colonial Secretary.

To H.M. Consul, Montevideo.

Despatched : February 7th 19 46 Time : 11.00.

Received : 19 .. Time : ..

Recd 25.

My telegram 24th December. Following priority passengers for United Kingdom by next "Fitzroy" due Montevideo about 15th February:

Category one. Messrs A.H.Hills and F.O'Sullivan. Both Civil Servants travelling under Government orders at Government expense. Category five: Governor's nominations Mrs. Creece, Mrs Gleadell, Miss Hills and Mrs. Crawford, all four being private passengers.

Duplicate filed in 140/44.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G. T. C

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

(27)

Duplicate filed in 140/44

From The Colonial Secretary.....

To H.M. Consul, Montevideo.

Despatched : February 27th 19 46 Time : 9.45.

Received : 19 .. Time : ..

Recd 26

by telegram 7th February. Following priority passengers for United Kingdom by next Fitzroy due Montevideo about 5th March.

Category one. Mr & Mrs. Browell

Category five. Mrs. Sladen, Mrs. Mercer all travelling under Government Orders at Government expense.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G. T. C.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

(28)

From The Colonial Secretary.

To H.E. Consul, Montevideo.

Despatched: April 2nd 19 46 Time: 16.30.

Received: 19 Time:

*Duplicate filed in
M.P. 140/44*

Recd 27

My telegram February 27th per next Fitzroy due Montevideo about April 10

Robert Blake asks whether he can have special priority to travel by air from the Plate to United Kingdom as soon after April 17th as possible.

2. This gentleman is of considerable importance in this community and I support his request on the grounds the the sooner he reaches United Kingdom the sooner the general policy of development in this Colony can be set in full motion.

3. The following priority passengers for United Kingdom are also travelling this Fitzroy:-

Category five: Mrs. E.A.Davis, Mrs. A. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. M. Rutter and child all being private passengers.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G. T. C.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

29

From H.M. Consul, Montevideo.

To The Colonial Secretary.

Despatched: April 4th 19 46 Time: 18.35.

Received: April 5th 19 46 Time: 10.00.

*Duplicate filed
in 140/44*

Reol 29.

Your telegram ^{2nd.} ~~4th~~ April. Air passage reserved for Blake April
23rd.

CONSUL.

G. T. C.

*Mr. Blake
informed by
phone
J.H.P.
5.4.46.*

DECODE.

(30)

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.

To H.M. Consul, Montevideo.

Duplicate filed in
M.P. 140/44

Recd 28.

Despatched : April 25th 19 46 Time : 14.00.

Received : 19 Time :

By telegram 2nd April. Following passengers for United Kingdom travel
ling this Fitzroy Category one Dr. J.E. Hamilton Mr. J.C. Hooley both Government
Officials. In addition eleven others of Category five with priority as
follows:-

Mrs. Hamilton (wife of Dr. Hamilton) Mr. and Mrs. Gilruth and 3 children
(probably three berths) Messrs Creece, Luxton and Dean and Mr and Mrs.
Harding.

Grateful if you would arrange for Creece Dean and Luxton travel by air,
seniority of priority in that order but Creece is important.

G.T.C.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DECODE.

No. 50.

TELEGRAM.

From The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To His Excellency the Governor.

Despatched : May 3rd 19 46 *Time :* 19.50.

Received : May 4th 19 46 *Time :* 09.30.

Circular No. 48. Confidential. My telegram No. ^{Red 20.} /49 Secret Circular
1945.

Shipping situation has again been reviewed.

It is still essential to have to give priority for troop movements to maintain approved rate of demobilisation because of its effect on man situation and also for approved leave scheme for troops serving overseas. It is also necessary to withdraw a small number of ships under phased programme for re-conversion for civil traffic to provide increased facilities for transport of civilians and re-establish normal shipping earning at the earliest possible date. In these circumstances passenger shipping situation will remain difficult for some months yet. Every effort will of course be made to meet essential minimum needs for civilian movements and to provide increased facilities as and when this becomes possible, but you will appreciate that in view of the small number of civilian passengers that be carried on troopships no real improvement in situation will be possible until these ships have been refitted for normal civilian passenger carrying purposes.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

G. T. C.



39

RIVER PLATE PASSENGER COMMITTEE

PASSAGE APPLICATION FORM

DATE DESIROUS OF TRAVELLING

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

. Telephone Number

NATIONALITY

PLACE and DATE of BIRTH

STATE OF HEALTH

CHILDREN - if any - (Particulars required ONLY if travelling with Parent)

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PLACE OF BIRTH</u>	<u>DATE OF BIRTH</u>
.
.
.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Where issued</u>	<u>Date of issue</u>
Particulars of Passport
Argentine Police Cédula Number
Object of Journey
.

If passage offered, is Applicant ready to leave on 24 hours' notice.

Independent passengers are warned that they must travel at their own risk, and be prepared to disembark en route and/or be transferred to another vessel, if officially requested to do so.

Unless illness or some other emergency prevents the Applicant from sailing, failure to take advantage of passage offered on or after the date requested, will necessitate cancellation of the application. Therefore, any changes in your plans which might occur after filing of this application should be notified immediately.

SPECIAL NOTICE: Passengers are warned that failure to have all travel documents in order well in advance of sailing date, may result in cancellation of passage. If in doubt, the Passport Office of His Majesty's Consulate General should be consulted in good time.

PLACE. DATE SIGNATURE.

OBSERVATIONS: (For use of RIVER PLATE PASSENGER COMMITTEE only)
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BRITISH EMBASSY,
(Consular Section),
MONTEVIDEO.
27th June, 1946

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I recently received from the River Plate Passenger Committee a list of priority classes in which it was seen that no special privileges were granted to civilian passengers from the Falkland Islands, this being a departure from previous arrangements. To cover the contingency that the Falkland Islands Government was not aware of the new arrangements I wrote to the River Plate Passenger Committee to enquire into the position and I enclose a copy of this letter. No formal reply has yet been received to this communication but it would appear from telephone conversations exchanged with the River Plate Passenger Committee that they have no record of any communication to the Government of the Falkland Islands notifying that Government of the revised system of priorities.

Red 90
110/14

In the meantime I have received your telegram of 23rd June, 1946, with the names of Falkland Islands civilians proceeding to Montevideo in "Fitzroy" en route to the United Kingdom, and it would appear that these persons left the Falkland Islands in the belief that they enjoy priority. As in the ordinary way these passengers might be delayed a matter of several months in Uruguay awaiting passage, I am specially presenting the position to the River Plate Passenger Committee urging that they should be given special consideration.

Red 90
52

You will see that in my letter to the River Plate Passenger Committee I suggested that passage applications should be completed in the Falkland Islands and although, /as

The Colonial Secretary,
Falkland Islands.

179

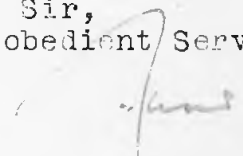
32^c

as stated, no reply has yet been received to this letter, I enclose a supply of passage application forms for the use of prospective travellers. I suggest that these should be completed and sent here if possible two or three months at least before the applicants desire to leave.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



His Majesty's Consul.

C O P Y



BRITISH EMBASSY,
(Consular Section),
MONTEVIDEO.
18th June, 1946

~~97a~~
32^a

Sirs,

As I now understand that all priority is withdrawn from independent passengers from the Falkland Islands, I feel that the Government of the Falkland Islands should be formally notified, and I should be grateful if you would indicate whether this has been done.

It is clear that under the new non-priority conditions independent Falkland Islands passengers will labour under a handicap if their applications for accommodation are lodged only after arrival at Montevideo, and I suggest accordingly that, if you agree, arrangements should now be made for passage applications to be completed in the Falkland Islands and transmitted to you through this Embassy. In this way the waiting period in Montevideo and the corresponding expense to the traveller would be reduced, and I should further suggest that it might be possible to give the independent passenger some idea of the date he might expect to leave the River Plate, so that he might make suitable arrangements to travel to Montevideo only two or three weeks before that date. Such an arrangement would place some limit on the inconvenience to such travellers.

I am,
Sirs,
Your obedient Servant,

His Majesty's Consul.

The River Plate Passenger
Committee,
Buenos Aires.

COPY



~~916~~
326

BRITISH EMBASSY,
(Consular Section),
MONTEVIDEO.
28th June, 1946

Sirs,

With reference to my letter of today's date transmitting passage application forms in respect of certain Falkland Islands passengers, I suggest that their cases should receive special consideration as they appear to have left the Falkland Islands in the belief that they enjoyed priority. I have not so far received a reply to my letter of the 18th June on the general subject of the position of independent Falkland Islands passengers, but I have taken the opportunity of the "Fitzroy" being in Montevideo to send a supply of passage application forms to the Colonial Secretary at Port Stanley with the suggestion that they be completed by would-be travellers well in advance of the date when they wish to leave.

Recd 326

I am,
Sirs,
Your obedient Servant,

[Sgd.] G. H. Eward

His Majesty's Consul.

The River Plate Passenger Committee,
Buenos Aires.

~~92~~
33



BRITISH EMBASSY,
(Consular Section),
MONTEVIDEO.
29th. June, 1946

Sir,

Recd # 32

2
Ref 33-6

With reference to my letter of the 27th June regarding the position of independent passengers from the Falkland Islands, I have the honour to enclose copies of two letters dated 25th and 27th June on this subject which I have received from the River Plate Passenger Committee.

You will see that in the earlier letter from the River Plate Passenger Committee the suggestion is made that the River Plate Passenger Committee be informed of the number of independent passengers in the Falkland Islands who are awaiting passages to the United Kingdom. I request, therefore, that you will as far as possible supply a list of all persons likely to desire to leave for the United Kingdom during the next four months.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Reply at Ref 94

[Signature]
His Majesty's Consul.

The Colonial Secretary,
Falkland Islands.

COPI.

33

RIVER PLATE PASSENGER COMMITTEE

Buenos Aires, 25th June, 1946.



Sir,

Red 32^a

With reference to your letter of 18th June regarding Falkland Islands passengers, you are quite right in your understanding that independent passengers from the Islands come under the same heading as those from here. We have not taken any steps so far, because there have not been many coming forward, and we thought that it was hardly worthwhile to change the system. The difficulty so far as we can see is the practical impossibility of giving any kind of notice of a steamer's departure which would be of any use to people living in the Falklands.

However, we are quite willing to fall in with your suggestion for passage applications to be completed in the Falkland Islands, and transmitted to us through you. It would be helpful if we could have some idea as to the number of those who are waiting for passages to the United Kingdom.

Yours faithfully,

FOR RIVER PLATE PASSENGER COMMITTEE

H. M. Consul,
British Embassy,
(Consular Section),
MONTVIDEO.

COPY.

RIVER PLATE PASSENGER COMMITTEE



Buenos Aires, 27th June, 1946.

Sir,

7 125 9200 *Reel ~~32~~ 32a*
Since writing our reply to your letter of the 18th June, we have received yours of the 24th quoting the text of a telegram received by you from the Colonial Secretary, Port Stanley.

It seems, therefore, that the Governor of the Falkland Islands should be informed immediately of the new arrangements. Will you advise, or would you like us to do so?

We shall, of course, have to take care of those passengers who are coming forward on the "Fitzroy".

We are, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

For RIVER PLATE PASSENGER COMMITTEE

H.M. Consul,
British Embassy,
(Consular Section),
MONT-VI ETC.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From The Colonial Secretary.

To H.M. Consul, Montevideo.

Despatched: July 6th 1946 Time: 10.15.

Received: 19 Time:

Red # 33.

Your letter 29th June. Presume "independent passengers" means passengers not nominated by Governor. If not, arrangement proposed is not reconcilable with Secretary of State's telegram further in my telegram

18th August 1945.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

G. T. C.

Reply at Red 36.

Quoted

Red 17
Instructions for
Passenger to
Port include Colony.



BRITISH EMBASSY,
(Consular Section),
MONTEVIDEO.
24th July, 1946

Sir,
Recd 35.

I have the honour to refer to your telegram of 6th July regarding steamship passages to the United Kingdom for Falkland Islanders and to append the text of a letter received from the River Plate Passenger Committee, who were furnished with a copy of that telegram :-

"With reference to my letter of the 10th July and our acknowledgment of the 12th, we confirm our telephonic conversation with you to the effect that for the time being it is not considered necessary to change the previous arrangements with regard to the priority of certain recommended passengers from the Falkland Islands.

"The passenger situation has eased somewhat, but should it be necessary later on, on account of the dearth of accommodation, we shall open the question again."

2. It seems that no undue difficulties are to be anticipated and that no special representations are necessary at this stage.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

[Signature]
His Majesty's Consul.

The Colonial Secretary,
Falkland Islands.

[Handwritten initials and date]
24/7