

C.S.O.

1765/B

SECRET  
ROY/GEN/1#17

(Formerly)

SUBJECT:

VISIT OF DUKE OF EDINBURGH 1957.

Press Arrangements.

5/56

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CONNECTED FILES.

NUMBER AND YEAR.

1765/B

*Special Issue of Stamps*

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched : 9.5.56.      Time : 1600      Received :      :      Time :      :

SECRET. No:87  
Denton-Thompson.

Following for H.R.H.'s Private Secretary from

Governor is considering press arrangements for H.R.H.'s visit. Would you have any objection to Press Section of Colonial Office enquiring at this stage if press are making arrangements for journalists to come to Falkland Islands to cover the visit.

Cypher 'E' : PT.

Reply at 2

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 14.5.56.      Time: 1545      Received: 15.5.56.      Time: 0110

SECRET No:72.      Following from Vile begins:-

Your telegram No:87 Press Arrangements.

We have been in touch with the Palace.      I will telegraph again when we can give you our considered views.

Cypher 'E' : PT.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

2

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 18.10.56. Time: 1530 Received: : Time: :

SECRET. No: 228. Following for Vile begins:-

Your telegram No:72 Secret. I understand that one naval rating on Royal Yacht is experienced cinema photographer who will cover whole cruise and that H.R.H.'s guests on board may include an artist and photographer. We shall telegraph Information Department daily during visit giving material for press releases. There are local correspondents of Daily Telegraph and Times in Stanley. We are arranging for film here to be taken at Government expense copy of which we shall send your Information Department. Commentary on visit Falkland Islands is being broadcast locally and tape recordings will be sent to your Information Department. Can you think of any other steps I should take locally to secure publicity for visit. Do you know if any publicity arrangements are being made elsewhere by press or cinema or other publicity organisations. ends.

GTC : PT

DECODE.TELEGRAM SENT.

4

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched : 9.11.56. Time : 1130 Received : ; Time : ;

CONFIDENTIAL.

No: 250. Your telegram No: 125 Secret.

Following for Rogers begins:-

I shall if necessary catch Protector 18th January but I cannot get back from South Georgia before 15th January and it will mean great hurry. We have no information here about Duke's press party and it seems doubtful that one will materialize (see my telegram No: 228 secret). If there is no Duke's press party presume Protector could postpone sailing Montevideo few more days. Could you please find out about press party and if there is none request Admiralty postpone Protector sailing Montevideo until possibly 23rd January.

2. Paraguay Star leaves Montevideo 29th January arrives London 18th February. Since I have much baggage should prefer to travel by her. Alternatively I could fly arriving end January leaving baggage to follow by sea. In order to enable me to decide which to do could you give me any indication of latest date you think I should leave United Kingdom for Bahamas. ends.

GTC : PT

Copy to Royal Visit file (Mr. Trees).

Mrs. Gendal

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched: 14.12.56.

Time: 1630

Received: :

Time: :

PRIORITY

No: 278. Please pass following to Parker on Britannia begins:-

Daily Express correspondent John Comben is arriving Stanley 22nd December to cover Royal Visit. I could send him south in Biscoe or Protector to cover visit Dependencies but do not know if he is reasonable person or if he wants to go. In view possibility of foreign interference we would probably have to delay his radio messages from southern bases. What are your views.

GTC  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ : PT

Copy to FIDS/127 file.

## GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

6

FALKLAND ISLANDSSENT

Number

Office of Origin

Words

Handed In at

Date

18. 12. 56.

To

JOHN COMBEN, S.S. "PTTEROY".

I SHOULD BE GLAD TO KNOW WHETHER YOU HAVE MADE ANY ARRANGEMENTS WITH REGARD TO ACCOMMODATION HERE STOP IF NOT WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO MAKE SUCH ARRANGEMENTS ON YOUR BEHALF

COLONIAL SECRETARY

Time

ADT/MC

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

7

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 18th.12.56 Time: 0835 Received: 19.12.56 Time: 0905

5  
No. 123. Following from Royal Yacht "Britannia" to  
Ministry of Defence telegram 1022392. From Commander  
Parker for Governor begins "Your 27<sup>th</sup> December, 18th  
sent unclassified presents us with a fair account."

2. Grateful if you would quill up to date Press  
Arrangements so that we can make balanced decision  
ends.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

F/L:MF

See 13



1765/13.

*mos/poulet*

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

FALKLAND ISLANDS

8

SENT

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
				19,12.56
To	IMMEDIATE	MASTER	JOHN BISCOE	A/C FIDS

PLEASE TELEGRAPH IMMEDIATE REPLY WHETHER JOHN COMBEN  
DAILY EXPRESS REPORTER IS ON BOARD

SEC FIDS

Time

*Original at FIDS 127/35A*

## GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH SERVICE

FALKLAND ISLANDSSENT

9

Number	Office of Origin	Words	Handed in at	Date
	<i>John Biscoe</i>			19.12.56
To	SECFIDS	STANLEY		

NO PRESS REPORTERS ON BOARD

*1218*

MASTER

Time

*Original at FIDS 127/358.*

M/S. Gould

10

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From GOVERNOR to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched : 20.12.56. Time : 1100 Received : : Time : :

PRIORITY

Confidential. No: 284.

7

Your telegram No: 188. Press arrangements.

Regret my telegram No:278 unclassified.

2. No repeat no journalist is on either "Fitzroy" or "Biscoe" now en route Falklands from Montevideo. No other ships from Montevideo will arrive before visit over. There is no air service. No journalists have already arrived to cover visit. Therefore unlikely visit either Falklands or Dependencies will be covered by professional journalists.

3. One local resident is correspondent of Reuter and Times another is correspondent of Telegraph. Former is member of Executive Council and of committee responsible for arrangements of Visit, latter is highly respectable business man. Both can be relied upon to write nothing objectionable or unseemly.

4. Government is arranging for film to be taken of visit to Colony and tape recordings will be made of various events. Both will be submitted to Information Department of Colonial Office. Government will telegraph Information Department Colonial Office daily during visit to Colony giving material for press releases.

Cypher 'E' : PT

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched : 21.12.56. Time : 1945 Received 22.12.56. Time : 1120  
REPEAT 24.12.56. REPEAT 25.12.56. 1100

MESSAGE.

Confidential. No: 192.

Your tel. No:278 passed to Commander Parker on Britannia and his reply in our tel. No:188.

As far as we have been aware no correspondents were travelling from the U.K. to cover the Royal Visit to Falkland Islands. A small number were interested but after explaining impossibility of providing complete press facilities and that best offer that could be made was accommodation in Protector they decided principally because trip would have involved long absence U.K. that they would not attempt to cover visit. After discussion with Commander Colville at the Palace we also took the line that it would not be wished to have press representatives in John Biscoe during the period when the Duke would be on board in accordance with established practice that press are not allowed aboard Britannia. Comber has not been in touch with us and your telegram is first indication of his visit. If Comber raises with you possibility of travelling down to the bases you will doubtless wish to take the line that this can be arranged provided the Commanding Officer of Protector gives permission for Comber to be accommodated in Protector. Both Commander Colville and Admiralty concur in this view. Accommodation on Protector was offered to other correspondents and if Comber accepts a similar offer it should be made clear that it does not constitute an exclusive officially sponsored facility.

2. You mentioned in your telegram No:228 of 18th October that you would telegraph Information Department daily during Duke's visit with material for press releases. You will doubtless know Willis will be sending news cables back to Information Department during visit to South Georgia, Gough Island, Tristan da Cunha and possibly Trincomalee during period he is in Britannia. These cables will be cleared by Willis unalterable transmission and you may care to bear this in mind if you still propose sending other press material. We are not of course concerned with independent messages transmitted by local correspondents direct to news papers in this country.

3. Information Department will look forward to receiving copy of your finished film for screening Foreign Office and Commonwealth and Relations Office to enable them to consider overseas distribution.

Cypher 'E' : PT

See 17

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

12

From ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, SO. IN. GAZANIA.

To COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Despatched : 27th December, 19 56 Time : 1145

Received : 27th December, 19 56 Time : 0315

No. 100. Royal Visit. A Mr. Peter Powell aged 44 free lance photographer and journalist for the National Press (holder of an official press card) has arrived here as a guest of Lousberg Inuvit, Inuvik having been commissioned by British Chemical Agents Pfizer Ltd., to take a photographic record of mining operations.

2. He has requested permission to have a background seat during His Royal Highness's visit for photographic purposes. He informs me that he has given official press coverage on the coronation and other state occasions. Urge your views.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,

P/L:R

Reply at 14

DECODE.

13

TELEGRAM.

*From* ..... H.M.S. PROTECTOR.

*To* ..... GOVERNOR'S DEPUTY.

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*Despatched* : 27th December 1956      19      *Time* : 0900

*Received* : 28th December 1956      19      *Time* : 1430

SECRET.

From Governor.

All W/T messages concerning press arrangements  
Royal Visit must be encrypted. Use of plain language may  
jeopardize cypher.

Navy '6' : PT

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

14

From GOVERNOR'S DEPUTY.

To ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, SOUTH GEORGIA.

Despatched : 31st December 1956 19 Time : 14.30

Received : : 19 Time : :

SECRET.

No: 204. Your telegram No: 180. Royal Visit.

Subject to agreement of Leith Management there would be no objection to Powell being so placed as to afford him ample opportunity for good photography but he must be asked to exercise same restraint and discretion as you are asking private photographers to exercise.

2. Similar arrangements with regard to placing should apply in case of the point unless you see strong objection.

3. If he raises question of travelling from Leith to Grytviken during course of visit he should be informed that he must make his own arrangements as it would not repeat not be possible for him to travel on Britannia, Buseman or Southern Jester and exact movements of Protector not yet determined.

4. For your personal information only it might be possible to arrange for him to travel on Protector but this would be subject to Governor's concurrence and Captain's agreement and this must await their return to Stanley after which I will telegraph further.

5. In the meantime please telegraph personal assessment of person named and confirm you are fully satisfied as to his credentials.

6. Cypher must be used all messages connected with press arrangements or facilities Royal Visit.

Cypher 'E' : PT

see 13.

see 15

F.C.S

Pl. keep this under lock and key  
and return to Mr. Trees to note on  
his return to note for discussion with  
H.C.

2/11/18

2/12/18



DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

15

From ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

To COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Despatched : 6th January, 19 57 Time : 1848

Received : 7th January, 19 57 Time :

No. 9. My tel No. 180. and your tel No. 204. of  
1956. Powell. Person named now intends to sail  
"Harpon" before Royal Visit.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

P/L & GTC:MF

Our Ref. ...E....103.

Your Ref.....

Broadcasting Studio, *16*  
Stanley,  
Falkland Islands.

22nd February 1957.

Sir,

I am enclosing three reels of recording tape on which there is an edited edition of the commentaries on the Royal Visit.

The content of the reels is as follows,

- O 1. Arrival of Britannia and H.R.H. at the Public Jetty.
- O 2. Address of Welcome in Council Chamber; Race Meeting; Exhibition of peat cutting.
- P 1. Rifle competition; Exhibition of sheep, fleeces and horse gear; Exhibition by Spinners, Weavers and Dyers Guild; Tree planting by H.R.H. at Arch Green.
- P 2. Prize giving by H.R.H. in Town Hall. Sheep dog trials.
- Q 1. Visit to Fox Bay. Arrival, drafting, description of settlement, shearing, woolshed and baling.
- Q 2. Visit to South Georgia. Presentations, description of whaling factories at Leith and Grytviken, cutting up and processing of Finner whale.

I understand that these reels will be sent to the Central Office of Information but I would be grateful if you would consider advising the B.B.C. direct of their existence.

I am Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

*V. Hamison*

Director of Broadcasting.

S.G. Trees,  
Chairman Royal Visit Committee,  
Secretariat, Stanley.

B.I. ref: 1765/B

C.O. ref:

17

SEE 18

SAVING TELEGRAM.

From: The Officer Administering the Government of the Falkland Islands

To: The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date: 26th February, 1957.

No. 48. SAVING COLONY

|| Your telegram No. 192 Confidential of the 22nd December, 1956.

Royal Visit

I am enclosing three reels of recording tape containing edited commentaries of the visit to the Falkland Islands and South Georgia of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh and should be grateful if these may be passed to the Information Department.

The contents of the reels are as follows:-

- O 1. Arrival of H. M. Yacht "Britannia" and presentations to His Royal Highness at the Public Jetty.
- O 2. Address of Welcome in the Legislative Council Chamber and the Reply; Race Meeting; Exhibition of Pest Cutting.
- P 1. Rifle shooting competition; Exhibition of sheep, fleeces and horse gear; Exhibition by Spinners, Weavers and Dyers Guild; Tree planting ceremony at Arch Green.
- P 2. Prize giving by His Royal Highness in the Town Hall; Sheep dog exhibition.
- Q 1. The Royal Visit to Fox Bay - arrival, sheep drafting, description of Settlement, shearing and baling in the woolshed.
- Q 2. The Royal Visit to South Georgia - presentations, description of whaling factories at Leith and Grytviken, cutting up and processing of Finns Whale.

Perhaps the Information Department may wish to inform the B. B. C. of the existence of these reels.

The films taken during the Royal Visit are now being processed in the United Kingdom and will be returned here for editing. Arrangements are being made to provide you with a copy of the final film.

OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

From SECRETARY OF STATE to GOVERNOR

Despatched: 3/4/57      Time: 1200      Received: 4/4/57 Time: 0930

17 No.49. Your Savingram No.48. Royal visit enclosure not received.

REPLY AT 19

SECRETARY OF STATE.

Miss Canning/ Films I suspect?  
JB/4/4.

A.C.S.

yes the films went  
by surface mail, the savingram was  
despatched without enclosures by Air  
16<sup>th</sup> March.

PL/FBR.

n.c.

4/4/57.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM SENT.

O.A.G.  
From ~~GOVERNOR~~ to SECRETARY OF STATE

Despatched : 6/4/57      Time : 1200      Received : .....      Time : .....

17 telegram No. 17  
17 No.65. Your/49. Savingram 48 erroneously sent by  
air. Copy with enclosure forwarded surface route 16th March.

OFFICER ADMINISTERING GOVERNMENT.

PL/FBR.

19

17

17