



Subject filed on Guyana!
Dispute with Venezuela
wfo
Sept 12
C.F.O

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

16 September 1982

Dear Mr. President,

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T.178/82

Thank you for your letter of 27 August in which you kindly brought me up to date on your country's territorial dispute with the Republic of Venezuela.

As signatories to the 1966 Geneva Agreement, we too are concerned that the procedures contained in that Agreement should be followed by both parties to the dispute and a peaceful settlement reached, and we have consistently made clear that we attach considerable importance to this. On 18 June the Venezuelan Foreign Minister sent to Francis Pym a note in which, amongst other things, he reaffirmed Venezuela's desire for a peaceful solution reached through the Geneva Agreement. In his reply, Francis took this opportunity to stress the importance we attach to both parties fulfilling their obligations under this Agreement.

I am aware that, since writing to me, you will have received a further communication from the Government of Venezuela which rejects your proposal for a judicial solution to the dispute and /reiterates their

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reiterates their wish for a negotiated settlement. Whilst I recognise that this will be a disappointment for you and the people of Guyana, I am convinced that it is right to continue to act within the spirit of the Geneva Agreement and to pursue all the avenues that remain open to bring about a peaceful settlement. We shall continue to give our support to efforts by the Parties to reach a peaceful settlement.

I share your hope that the outcome of the Falklands conflict will serve to reinforce the principle that the unlawful use of force will not be condoned. Your support for us in those difficult times has not been forgotten.

Very good wish.

Yours sincerely

Raymond D. Hunter

His Excellency Comrade L. F. S. Burnham, O.E., S.C.
