

Ref: B06468

1. SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG *RA*
2. MR COLES ✓
- cc Mr Hilary
Mr Colvin
Mr McLean

Caroline
pl. arrange the meeting as
suggested.

A.J.C. 16/4

John
all set up for
14.30. *el. 16/4*

Falklands: Possible Emergency Bill

At OD(SA) this morning the Prime Minister agreed to hold an ad hoc meeting early next week to consider the question of whether early passage of an Emergency Bill was likely to be necessary. The general mood of the Sub-Committee was hostile; but it was recognised that several of the Ministers concerned were not present.

2. Mr Wright has now agreed with No 10 that this ad hoc meeting should be at 2.30 pm on Monday 19th April. The papers for it are the reference under Parliamentary Affairs at the Cabinet's meeting on 14th April (CC(82) 17th Conclusions, Minute 1, Conclusion 2); and the draft Bill which has now been circulated to all members of the Cabinet (C(82) 12, which may by Monday have been replaced by a revised version). Subject to your views I suggest that No 10 should invite the following to this meeting. Home Secretary (who would be in charge of any Bill); the four Ministers whose Departments at official level regard early passage of a Bill as desirable, viz Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, Defence Secretary, Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of State for Trade; the Lord President, Chief Whip and Lord Privy Seal as Business Managers; ~~and~~ the Attorney General; and Sir Robert Armstrong and myself. The Paymaster General should perhaps also be invited, as a member of OD(SA).

15th April 1982

R Wade-Gery
R L WADE-GERY

I agree.

The Home Secretary intends to circulate a note which will deal with the contents as well as with the timing of the Bill.

RA 16. iv. 82