



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Press Secretary

The Whitford 20vii

Such as I would like to help I cannot recommend Ministers to give Mr. Forsyth exclusive access on specified terms - i.e. those in 13 (2), plus a significant proportion of the proceeds of the book to the South Atlantic Fund.

I believe this would be extremely difficult to justify and would set the Sunday Times and others against the Government.

It would be necessary to instruct officials/military on the lines of 13 (2) (ii) and (iii) whatever access he was given. And we should seek to achieve an understanding on the lines of 13 (2) (i)

with whoever sought our help.

Thus to me the question is whether, in helping it, forgetting to the extent of identifying 50 to be featured as story tellers, we are prepared to go as far, in terms of effort, in helping others.

There can be no question of anticipating or getting wires crossed with Franks. Thus in practice there are substantial limits on the extent to which any of the 50 identified can assist.

We might be clear about this at the outset even if (NoD) / (No etc) we prepared to help in identifying people to help with the story

John 20/7