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Category/Department: General
Published: Thursday, August 31, 1989

On Aug. 30, Agriculture Minister Felipe Sola told reporters that his government wants no third country intervention in the issue of fishing rights around the Malvinas/Falkland Islands at an Oct. 17-18 meeting with British officials in Madrid. Britain and Argentina have agreed to participate in formal talks to resume diplomatic, trade and economic relations broken off in 1982. Sola said fishing rights would be one of the most important matters to be discussed in Madrid. He added that the British position on the issue is that all the countries that fish near the economic exclusion zone around the archipelago, including Uruguay, must participate in the discussions. In a statement published in the Aug. 24 issue of El Cronista Comercial, Argentine Deputy Foreign Minister Archibaldo Lanus said Port Stanley government (Malvinas islands) earns 35 million pounds per year from fishing licenses issued to transnational companies fishing in Argentine territorial waters. Between Feb. 1 and June 30, 132 licenses were issued, he added. (Basic data from Xinhua, 08/24/89; AFP, 08/30/89)

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