



AP Human Geography

The Falkland Question

Name: _____
 Section: _____
 Score: ____/5

Directions: Use the information below to fill out the chart of the different claims that have been made on the Falkland Islands. Once

completed try to come to a decision of who has the most claim to the Falklands.

Background: The Falkland Islands are a small set of Islands in the South Atlantic that have long been the source of a territorial dispute over the sovereignty of the Islands.



Historical dates

1592 First recorded sighting on August 14, by English sea captain John Davis in the ship 'Desire'.

1594 First recorded claim on February 2, by Richard Hawkins for Queen Elizabeth I

1690 First recorded landing made by English navigator, Captain John Strong in his ship the 'Welfare'. He named the channel dividing the two main islands 'Falkland Sound' after Viscount Falkland, then Treasurer of the Royal Navy.

Over the years several French ships visited the Islands, which they called Les Iles Malouines after the French port of St. Malo.

1764 The French diplomat and explorer, Louis Antoine de Bougainville, established a settlement at Port Louis on East Falkland.

1765 Unaware of the French settlement, Commodore John Byron landed at Port Egmont on West Falkland and took possession of the Islands for the British Crown.

The Spanish Government protested about the French settlement and Bougainville was forced to surrender his interests in the Islands in return for an agreed sum of money. A Spanish Governor was appointed and Port Louis was renamed Puerto de la Soledad, and placed under the jurisdiction of the Captain-General of Buenos Aires; then a Spanish colony.

1770 British forced from Port Egmont by the Spanish.

1771 Serious diplomatic negotiations involving Britain, Spain and France produce the Exchange of Declarations, whereby Port Egmont was restored to

Who's claim is being supported and how?

Britain.

1816 The provinces which constituted the old Spanish vice-royalty declared independence from Spain as the United Provinces of the River Plate. Spain refused to recognize any such independence. Argentinean independence not recognized until 1857.

1829 Buenos Aires announced a claim to the Falkland Islands based on inheritance from Spain. Luis Vernet was appointed unpaid Commander of Soledad and Tierra del Fuego. Britain registered a formal protest, asserting her own sovereignty over the Falkland Islands.

1831 Louis Vernet of Buenos Aires seized three American sealing ships, in an attempt to control fishing in Falkland waters. In retaliation, the US sloop 'Lexington' destroyed Puerto de la Soledad, and proclaimed the Islands 'free of all government'. Most of the settlers were persuaded to leave on board the 'Lexington'.

1832 Diplomatic relations between the US and Argentina broke down until 1844. Supporting Britain, the US questioned the claim that all Spanish possessions had been transferred to the Government of Buenos Aires and confirmed its use of the Falklands as a fishing base for over 50 years. The US declared that Spain had exercised no sovereignty over several coasts to which Buenos Aires claimed to be heir, including Patagonia.

1833 Argentinean garrison peacefully give up command Port Louis to British. Buenos Aires protested, only to be told: "The British Government upon this occasion has only exercised its full and undoubted right ... The British Government at one time thought it inexpedient to maintain any Garrison in those Islands: It has now altered its views, and has deemed it proper to establish a Post there."
Since this time, British administration has remained unbroken apart from a ten week Argentine occupation in 1982.

1845 Stanley officially became the capital of the Islands when Governor Moody moved the administration from Port Louis. The capital was so named after the Colonial Secretary of the day, Edward Geoffrey Smith Stanley, 14th Earl of Derby.

1947 The Falkland Islands are listed at the United Nations as a Non-Self Governing Territory (NSGT)

subject to the UN's decolonisation process.
 1960 UN Resolution 1514 grants the right of Self-Determination to all peoples of NSGTs.

1965 United Nations Assembly passed Resolution 2065, following lobbying by Argentina. This reminded members of the organization's pledge to end all forms of colonialism. Argentine and British Governments were called upon to negotiate a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute, bringing the issue to international attention formally for the first time.

1971 Communications Agreement was signed by the British and Argentine governments whereby external communications would be provided to the Falkland Islands by Argentina.

1982 On 2 April Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands and diplomatic relations between the two nations were broken off. Argentine troops occupied the Islands for ten weeks before being defeated by the British. The Argentines surrendered on 14 June, now known as Liberation Day.

2009 Following almost ten years of discussion and negotiation, a new Constitution for the Falkland Islands took effect on 1 January 2009. Marking an important milestone in the history of the Falkland Islands, the new Constitution provides enhanced local democracy and internal self-government, and enshrines the right of self-determination.

2013 Referendum held in March, overseen by international observers. Falkland Islanders voted to determine their future, 99.8% of the electorate voted YES to maintaining current political status as a British Overseas Territory.

"Our History - Historical Dates." Our People Our History. Falkland Islands Government, n.d. Web. 27 Mar. 2015. <<http://www.falklands.gov.fk/our-people/our-history/>>.

Who Has Claim

Top 3 Reasons Supporting Britain's Claim	Top 3 Reasons Supporting Argentina's Claim
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

