

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Seen by the P.M.

AK  
/Dn

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MOD casualty assessment remains 50-60 dead and about 120 wounded.

You should be aware that Mr. Nott and C in C Fleet had a lengthy argument before this afternoon's statement. I understand that C in C Fleet would like to leave open the idea that the casualty figures were considerably higher. He believes that this would help to confuse the Argentines who claim much higher casualties. The argument became an issue of confidence between the two men. Mr. Nott gave no casualty figures in his statement. But there are likely to be continuing arguments between the military and Ministers. The Ministers are understandably reluctant to get involved in calculated misinformation.

MAP

10 June 1982