



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

16 June 1982

Than Jan

You wrote to me on 10 June, drawing my attention to an article in The Times dated 9 June.

You would not expect me to speculate about the basis on which journalists develop their stories. In respect of this particular article, I can say only that neither I nor my press staff spoke to any journalists in the terms implied here. You know as well as I that politicians do not believe everything they read in the newspapers.

My colleagues and I will be outlining our approach to the long term future of the Falklands, and of the Islanders, over the coming weeks. They are matters for collective decision. I believe in pursuing the discussion with my colleagues within the confidentiality of Cabinet and Cabinet Committees. I do not intend to do so through the columns of the press.

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Tam Dalyell, Esq., M.P.