

Falklands,

Malaysia, Suez,

PRIME MINISTER

Northern Ireland

Panorama

This will be your first major interview since the Falkland Islands situation arose and much more substantial than the ITN interview on 5 April.

Panorama are likely to take up even more of the 50 minutes of interview with the Falklands to the exclusion of domestic issues - unemployment, inflation, pay and law and order plus the current political situation.

We are also into a very fast moving story. The media interest changes with events. And Panorama intend to operate in the light of the latest news. (I think it important that we try to exclude your being asked to comment on news to be fed into the programme while the interview is taking place). However, in the absence of details about the success of the South Georgia landing, it is already clear what the main questions are likely to be tomorrow, especially on the political front. I shall deal with these later.

I think the interview is likely to fall into several parts:

Where are we now? - updating the public on the whole enterprise.

D.A.S.

How did we get into this? This brings up the question as to whether the Government over-reacted by sending the Fleet; are the Falklands (or the Falklanders) worth it?

How do we get out of it? Any chance of getting the Argentinians off the Island peacefully? And what's the point when apparently they are going to remain and we are willing to negotiate on sovereignty?

Finally, what are the political consequences? Can you retain the support of Parliament and the international community now that force has been used by the UK?

Talk to S. George // U.N. peace keeping force

U.N. Chamber / Peter 2 self-determination

c. 17.

Judgment - No disputing Britain's
sovereignty. 'I don't know'.

Russell Johnson.

'I don't know'.

Winston Churchill

'Hung about for
more than 3 weeks'.

Results of the Poll from George Carey.

He said he won't be using all of the following figures; he will keep you posted.

If there was a general election tomorrow how would you vote?

Conservatives 39% Labour 32% SDP/Liberals 28%

Satisfied or dissatisfied with how the Government is handling the situation?

Satisfied 76% Dissatisfied 20% Don't know 6%

There were various questions about action in the future:

Should we sink Argentine ships in Falkland waters?

58% yes 35% no

Should we bomb Argentinian military and naval bases on the mainland?

33% yes 58% no

Should we use military force to retain British sovereignty?

69% yes 24% no

There seemed to be general support for action but not so much for specific action.

General questions done before S Georgia landing:

Whether we should fire the first shot if diplomatic talks are still in progress?

43% should if necessary 51% shouldn't

Do you think retaining British sovereignty is worth British servicemen's lives?

58% yes 37% no

As above but if Falkland Islanders' lives are in danger?

46% yes 48% no

Opinion of Mrs Thatcher - 20 better 15 down 64 same

83% believed Falkland Islanders' right to final say should be included in any agreement.

57% are unhappy about idea of the Government going to war now if in the long term the plan is to give the Islands up; 35 don't think it wrong, 8 don't know.

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Advt

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Finally, what are the political consequences? ~~xxxxxx~~ Can you retain the support of ~~xxxxxx~~ Parliament and the international Community

Take reference. Article 51. ~~xxxxxx~~

Examples:

Malaysia.
Cyprus
Ni.
Iceland.

Disappeared!

True: Are