



cc: Co.

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

5 July 1982

*Dear Michael*FALKLAND ISLANDS REVIEW

I have now had an opportunity of taking further with my colleagues the matters we discussed this morning.

We are ready to agree that there should be a short debate in the House on the proposed review. As I said when we met, I am keen that we should now lose as little time as possible in getting the inquiry set up. We should therefore like to take up your suggestion that the debate should take place from 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. this Thursday, 8 July, that the Supply debate on the Army should start at 7.00 p.m., and that the rule should be suspended to allow that debate to run on after 10.00 p.m. for as long as may be appropriate.

The debate on the review would be on a Government motion, to approve the statement which I should by then have made in reply to a Question which you agreed you would put down. We should need a Business motion before the debate on Thursday afternoon, and discussions are doing on through the usual channels about whether the statement which John Biffen will need to make on the change of business should be tomorrow afternoon or Wednesday. So I think that it would be best if you could put your Question down today, for Written Answer tomorrow.

I suggest that the Question might read on the following lines:

/ "To ask the

"To ask the Prime Minister, whether she will now make a statement, further to her reply to the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Orkney and Shetland on 8 April, on the proposed review of matters leading up to the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands."

In the reply I would say that we were proposing to appoint a Committee of Privy Counsellors; I would set out the terms of reference as agreed between us this morning; and I would disclose the name of the Chairman.

I am writing to the leaders of other Opposition parties to tell them what is now proposed, following my earlier consultations with them and our discussion this morning.

Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher

The Rt. Hon. Michael Foot, MP.