

SUBJECT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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OO KATHMANDU

PRIME MINISTER'S

RR DELHI

PERSONAL MESSAGE

GRS 250

SERIAL No. T 139 Ac/82

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 281615Z JUN 82
TO IMMEDIATE KATHMANDU
TELEGRAM NUMBER 72 OF 28 JUNE
INFO DELHI, MODUK (DS6).

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER
TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF NEPAL:

BEGINS. THE RESTORATION OF BRITISH ADMINISTRATION IN THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS, AND THE DISTINGUISHED ROLE PLAYED BY OUR
GURKHA TROOPS IN BRINGING THIS ABOUT, PROMPT ME TO SEND
YOU THIS MESSAGE.

FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE FALKLANDS CONFLICT I HAVE
BEEN DEEPLY CONSCIOUS OF THE STAUNCH SUPPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED
FROM YOUR GOVERNMENT, WHICH REVIVES FOR US MEMORIES OF THOSE
OTHER GREAT STRUGGLES IN THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM DURING THIS
CENTURY IN WHICH GURKHA TROOPS HAVE FOUGHT WITH SUCH
LEGENDARY GALLANTRY ALONGSIDE THEIR BRITISH COMRADES IN ARMS.
MY GOVERNMENT, AND THE BRITISH PEOPLE AS A WHOLE, ARE
ENORMOUSLY GRATEFUL FOR THAT SUPPORT.

WE WILL NOT FORGET THE EXEMPLARY COURAGE AND
DETERMINATION DISPLAYED BY THE FIRST BATTALION THE 7TH DUKE
OF EDINBURGH'S OWN GURKHA RIFLES AND THE CRUCIAL PART THEY
PLAYED. SHORTLY AFTER LANDING THEY ASSUMED
RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOTH THE DEFENCE OF THE DARWIN/GOOSE
GREEN AREA AND THE SURVEILLANCE OF THE SOUTHERN HALF OF
EAST FALKLAND ISLANDS. SUBSEQUENTLY THEY TOOK PART IN THE
RECAPTURE OF PORT STANLEY. I AM DELIGHTED THAT THEY
SUFFERED ONLY LIGHT CASUALTIES. THIS, NO DOUBT, WAS A

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REFLECTION OF THE GURKHAS' REPUTATION AS BRAVE, FEARLESS
AND ACCOMPLISHED SOLDIERS.

I SEND YOU, PRIME MINISTER, MY RENEWED THANKS AND
WARMEST GOOD WISHES. MARGARET THATCHER. ENDS.

PYM

DIST:

LIMITED

S A D

S A M D

P S

P S/MR HURD

P S/MR ONSLOW

MR WRIGHT

29/6. MR GIFFARD

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C O N F I D E N T I A L