

THE RT HON DR DAVID OWEN MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

31 October 1984

The Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Thatcher MP
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

*RU
of PPS*

Dear Mrs Thatcher

Copy attached //

I have now seen the written reply from you to Tam Dalyell - Hansard Col. 595, 24 October 1984 - which appears to be in direct contradiction of the penultimate and last sentence on page 2 of your letter to me of 8 October where you state categorically that, "Ministers were not informed at the time of the precise course of the Belgrano when she was sunk. Indeed this information did not come to Ministers' attention until the end of November 1982."

file with TK

You said on page 3 of your letter that your statement and John Nott's of 4 May were based upon Conqueror's original report. Are you still saying that you did not know, and that John Nott did not know, the position and course of the General Belgrano when attacked?

This further episode only reinforces my view that you should make a statement to the House of Commons to put the record straight on these and other errors of fact.

*Yours sincerely
David Owen*

DAVID OWEN

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