

Mr. Ingham .

23/5

PRESS DIGEST - SUNDAY 23 MAY 1982

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FALKLANDS

Treatment

People: We are there - 5,000 troops on road to Stanley.

Mirror: 51 days later the picture (used by many other newspapers) that tells the world why we are back - cuppa for a brave para.

News of the World: We have got 'em. Troops set for quick victory.

Express: Our troops go sweeping on.

Mail: Freedom! 5,000 troops in 10 mile bridgehead.

Telegraph: 5,000 British troops now in Falklands - Mrs. Thatcher seeks early surrender.

Observer: Assault troops dig-in and "are there to stay". Your aim is total victory.

Sunday Times: Next target Port Stanley; we are moving fast; 5,000 troops set up 10 mile bridgehead.

Comment

People: We salute our men at war but Britain must seize every opportunity for peace while the fighting is at its fiercest; on the World Cup it says we should go but we must insist on our louts behaving themselves.

Mirror: The Pope, by going ahead with his visit, will not be seen to be taking sides. But if he can cancelled it is there a single Argentinian who would not have felt he was endorsing their cause?

News of the World: Still time for the Argentines to get out without further loss of life but it is a slim chance. Galtieri and co. are too carried away with their own bombast of their own to see sense. Winston Churchill remarks how reassuring it is for us to know that Benn and his friends would allow their fellow Britains to suffer under the role of such as Astiz.

Express: Praises the performance of our troops and your leadership; you have given back to the British people the pride and dignity which for too long have been missing from their lives. Michael Toner says what we have we keep and don't forget that the Falklands can be an asset with its agriculture, fishing and oil potential. John Junor says that since Ireland regards itself as a foreign country why do we not treat it as such - why give them the vote in Parliamentary and local elections and why do we allow them to come here to live on Social Security?

Mail: Once the Islands are recovered what then? The nation would not understand, nor should it, when so much blood and treasure have been expended on the high seas and on the battle field only for politicians to fritter away the prize at the conference table.

Telegraph: Says we have done our bit not merely to maintain our own national honour and defend the rights of our own subjects but also to steel the nerve of the rest of the world to fight for the values it cherishes. But unless the Argentine garrison collapses like a house of cards we still face a hard slog and mounting casualties. The terms of diplomatic trading have now been altered in our favour. Peregrine Worsthorne says we are in the Falklands only because the Islanders are unmistakably kith and kin - we would not be there if they were British citizens with coloured skins, spoke with strange accents or worshipped different Gods.

Observer: You have conducted both the diplomatic operations and the military build-up, as well as the domestic political dimension, with remarkable skill, and single-mindedness. But the notion that a bloody drubbing will teach the Argentines to keep quiet indefinitely is misleading and we need to leave them with some honourable political exit.

Sunday Times: Our forces deserve more robust support than the latest ditherings from Foot but what will be the position when we regain the Islands? It will be very difficult to contemplate transferring Sovereignty in the foreseeable future. But we shall then need a military and administrative effort which is out of proportion to our needs and interests; the reasons for seeking a settlement have not changed and we should not forget our wider interests. Hugo Young says if we have to have war you are a born war leader; if he were a soldier in the South Atlantic he would be glad to have a leader like yourself.

#### Military

All but nine of forty Argentinian troops defending Fanning Head fled - those rounded up were wet, cold and miserable.

Twenty feared dead and thirty wounded on HMS Ardent which was hit by 14 rockets and a bomb.

Mail says Harriers are in command of the skies.

#### In the Argentine

Their propaganda becomes ever more hysterically lying.

Mail says Galtieri seems to have lost control over the situation and the Junta split - the allegation is that the Air Chief won't fly unless an Admiral sails his ships.

Sunday Times says Russia has blown a yawning gap in the Argentine economic defences - its grain buyers have been mysteriously absent since 22 March and the signs are that they will try to buy from the USA.

Cargo-Lux accused of ferrying arms to the Argentine - Luxembourg Government to investigate.

People features a Buffet Lunch party at the British Ambassador's residence while our troops were taking the Islands.

Diplomacy

Costa Mendez launches an attack on Britain in the UN.

NATO Ambassadors reaffirm support for Britain.

Sunday Times - Expects Foreign Ministers to renew sanctions.

Pope calls for a ceasefire and says he will visit Britain unless our Archbishops advise otherwise; also prepared to go to Argentina.

Oil: Observer says Atlantic rich field secretly entered into negotiations with the Argentines for drilling rights in Falkland waters claimed by Britain.

Politics: Mail says Mr. Whitelaw and Mr. Pym decided at the outset to restrain you and that if you were compelled to resign each would support the other for the leadership which would have been decided by who had the greatest support in the House.

Fund: Mr. Beaumont-Dark, MP, launches a fund for the families of servicemen casualties in the Falklands.

OTHER NEWS

Woodrow Wyatt, Mirror, says we should not be alarmed about the effect of the farm price increase - what matters is what happens to the veto.

Express says during the past few days Britain has been making it clear that we are not a country to be pushed around and that is a message the men in Brussels would do well to take on board.

Mr. Pym is expecting a £600m rebate from the EC this week on our 1982 Budget contribution.

Ronnie Butt, Sunday Times, says perpetual vigilance in the EC is the price of Sovereignty.

Keith Richardson, Sunday Times, says we made three errors - we failed to realise how lukewarm were our partners to Argentine sanctions; we never believed that our partners would override the Luxembourg compromise; and we have always underestimated the resentment about your remark: "Give me back my billion".

#### ECONOMY

The fall of inflation into single figures continues to get substantial coverage.

Express says there are unmistakable signs of success for your economic policies coming from industry.

Telegraph says with the single figure inflation you have now established a bridgehead in your other battle. The economic weather is set fairer than at any time since you took command.

Peter Shore in the Observer says the most important lesson of the Falklands is what can be done when the priority is clear and there is a national will to achieve it - if we gave unemployment the same energy we should amaze ourselves with what we could achieve.

Institute of Employment Research at Warwick which works for the MSC says unemployment will stay over 3 million for the rest of the 1980's.

#### UNIONS/PAY

Express says that the first reports are coming in of members of the CPSA taken over by the left, and not receiving voting papers.

Scargill reported to have got a Barbican flat.

POLITICS

News of the World, and some other newspapers, suggest that Mr. Pym in a speech last night raised hopes of an early General Election.

Mail says Benn is heading for an outright challenge to Foot for the leadership.

Alan Watkins, Observer, says the received view is that you have won yourself another 5 year term but a lot of your supporters will ask themselves whether the Falklands has been worth it if all you do after this is hand it over to the UN.

INDUSTRY

Sunday Times expect De Lorean finally to bite the dust tomorrow.

LAW AND ORDER

Observer says Lord Denning is to be sued by two black jurors in the Bristol riots case because he has alleged in a book that they failed to convict guilty people because they were "their own".