

PROVINCIAL PRESS

- Q. What can you tell us about the other actions?
- A. Really precious little - Teal and Douglas settlement are now in British hands.
- Q. Is that where the 9 soldiers were wounded?
- A. No. It is a round up of casualties. A figure from activities when the bridgehead was set up.
- Q. Not Teal?
- A. No.
- Q. 7,000 Argentinians in Stanley?
- A. I really do not think it would be profitable to speculate.
- Q. The loss of 12 soldiers, is that what you had planned for?
- A. We have been playing the Northern Ireland game, this is a different performance here - we do not have experience of that since Korea, so it is rather new.
- Q. The statement mentioned our dead and not the enemy dead, it looks bad if we report 12 of ours dead and none for Argentina?
- A. The fact of the matter is we have not got those figures.
- Q. You compared this to World War II - any battle this has been comparable to in particular?
- A. That was a personal view - the Parachute regiment have a great history. The only sort of operation would be a Battalion operation in Burmah. But you cannot really compare like with like.
- Q. Colonel Jones - should he have been in the front position?
- A. You put yourself in a position where you can most influence the battle. I would like to pay large tribute to his 2nd in command, somebody had to pick things up and get them going.
- Q. Should we have used the force we did?
- A. You make a judgement based upon the facts presented at the time - a highly successful operation with tragic casualties but very light.
- Q. Are the Argentinians Marines or Infantry?
- A. I do not know.

- Q. Where are the prisoners going now?
- A. The rules of the Geneva Convention lay down that you remove the prisoners from the scene of operations. They will probably be fed back into the bridgehead.
- Q. You obviously do not want to release them only to have them sent back?
- A. It would be a little silly.
- Q. Weaponry used?
- A. Probably about 4 rifles, machine guns, artillery and mortars.
- Q. Any hand to hand combat?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. Did they use their bayonets?
- A. I would be surprised - it did not seem that sort of operation.
- Q. The machine gun nest?
- A. I do not know - I presume they were dug in but it sounds like they were sited and dug in.
- Q. Out intelligence was not very good, we underestimated the strength of the enemy.
- A. We were all surprised by the numbers - you never really do know whats on the other side of the hill.
- Q. If we had known the strength of the garrison would we still have gone in?
- A. I do not know.
- Q. Is it possible that many may have got out?
- A. The weather is pretty nasty, I would suggest that they gave themselves up - I do not know.
- Q. Do you know about their state of dress?
- A. No, we do know that the area of Darwin was in a filthy condition when the Paras took it.