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CABINET OFFICE LONDON
TO PORT STANELY

CONFIDENTIAL SIC MISC Ø16 OF 14 JANUARY 1983.

FOR MILITARY COMMISSIONER.
FROM PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

1. WE SHALL BE SENDING TO YOU BY THE FASTEST AVAILABLE MEANS LETTERS WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SIGNED, ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTOGRAPHS, TO A NUMBER OF THOSE SERVING UNDER YOUR COMMAND. MEANWHILE, PARAGRAPH 4 BELOW CONTAINS THE TEXT OF A LETTER TO YOU WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER HAS SIGNED THIS MORNING. SHOULD YOU WISH TO BRING ANY PART OF THIS LETTER TO THE ATTENTION OF HER MAJESTY'S FORCES IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS BEFORE THE SIGNED VERSION ARRIVES PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DO SO.

2. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION, THE PRIME MINISTER IS ALSO WRITING TO MRS. THORNE.

3. THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DID FOR US.

4. TEXT OF LETTER READS AS FOLLOWS:

+1 WRITE TO THANK YOU MOST WARMLY FOR ALL YOU DID TO MAKE MY VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS SO MEMORABLE AND SO REMARDING.
THOSE FOUR DAYS WERE ONE OF THE MOST WONDERFUL EXPERIENCES OF MY LIFE.

BRIEFINGS, YOUR CAREFUL ATTENTION TO MY PROGRAMME, YOUR COMPANY AND YOUR HOSPITALITY. THE DINNER WHICH YOU SO KINDLY GAVE FOR ME ON TUESDAY NIGHT WAS A MOST SPLENDID FINALE TO MY VISIT AND I SHALL ALWAYS TREASURE THE GIFT WHICH YOU PRESENTED TO ME ON THAT OCCASION.

I SHALL BE WRITING TO A NUMBER OF THOSE IN ALL THE SERVICES WHOSE UNITS I KNOW TO HAVE PLAYED A SPECIAL ROLE IN ORGANISING MY VISIT. BUT I SHOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD CONVEY TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED SERVICES, THE ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARY AND THE MERCHANT MARINE SERVING IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS MY GRATITUDE FOR THE FINE WORK THEY ARE DOING AND MY ADMIRATION FOR THEIR MATCHLESS SKILL AND PROFESSIONALISM. THE CAUSE IS GREAT. THE MEN AND WOMEN UNDER YOUR COMMAND ARE EQUAL TO THE CAUSE.

MANY THANKS TO YOU ALL+.

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

I write to thank you most warmly for all you did to make my visit to the Falkland Islands so memorable and so rewarding. Those four days were one of the most wonderful experiences of my life.

I am deeply indebted to you personally for your invaluable briefings, your careful attention to my programme, your company and your hospitality. The dinner which you so kindly gave for me on Tuesday night was a most splendid finale to my visit and I shall always treasure the gift which you presented to me on that occasion.

I shall be writing to a number of those in all the services whose units I know to have played a special role in organising my visit. But I should be most grateful if you would convey to all members of the Armed Services, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and the Merchant Marine serving in the Falkland Islands my gratitude for the fine work they are doing and my admiration for their matchless skill and professionalism. The cause is great. The men and women under your command are equal to the cause.

Many thanks to you all.

Warm regards.

Your sieuch

Major General D.C. Thorne, C.B.E.,

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D. C. Thorne CDE, Letter to Rajo - Sevenl Nilitary Comminione, Fallbland Irland 1+2 from the Drime Divite. I write to thank you most warmly for all you did to make my visit to the Falliand Frland so memorable and so rewarding. I shave made many visits outlinde the United Knyton but none ha log more enjoyable or I Thre four days were one of the most wondoful engineers of my life. and leaply indebted to you permally for For maluable briefing, you careful afterlier to my propoune, We company and pour logitality. They dinner at one Treaty ide, at while I had the please of making some of welling the and which you is lindly gave by upe on Treadly with was a most glandid timale to my just and I shall always
trease the peart your gift which you pearled to me as that occasion
trease I shall be writing to a marker of I have pland a policiele policie organish my visit. but my politicale & abound be most putatful of you would be the Horse Heal Awardant convey to all number of the Armed Sovices, and the Markout Marine seving in the Fullband Islands my qualitude to the fine worl they are doing it my admiration to their shill and more agreed. The manyore equal to the manyore equal. to the cause. Joy thanks to you all.

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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Vega This. Thorne

I thought you would like to know that during the visit

I have just paid to the Falkland Islands I found your husband
in the best of health and spirits. He is doing a marvellous
job as are all those under his command. It is such an
inspiration to see so much skill, courage and energy devoted
to so fine a cause.

I hope that the period between now and the time when your family are re-united again will pass quickly for you. I am sending with this letter a photograph which I thought that you and your children might care to have as a memento of your husband's service in the Falkland Islands.

Livery good wish.

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Mrs. David Thorne

Letter to the wife of Rajor-formal .
Thorne (pl. obtain delails from Ros).

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Plear Colorel Symes.

My warm thanks to you and your staff for your contribution to my visit to the Falklands. The programme and arrangements were flawless — a tribute to all the care and skill with which they were prepared and carried out. Thank you so much.

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Manganess Dalike

Colonel P.W. Symes

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Phan Coloral Woolnogh.

Thank you very much indeed for all the energy and skill which you and your staff put into planning and managing my visit to the Falkland Islands. The programme was skilfully designed and was executed with superb professionalism and efficiency. I am most grateful.

Your sincely against Lehren

Colonel H.A. Woolnough, O.B.E.

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Celle to Colonel H. A. Woodway OBE,

Chief of Hall

from the home Minds.

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MEMORANDUM

FROM: COS

HQ BFFI

DATE: 11

TO: Also

Subject Signed Pholing repty

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ome for his family it

H A WOOLNOUGH Colonel

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SIGNED PHOTOGRAPHS
Cornel H.A. WOOLNOUGH OBE Chief of Staff.
Group Captain RAP WILSON AFE RAF Senior Royal Air Phante Encoron amind: Captain D. S. DOBSON RN Senior Naval officer
Coronal P.W. SYMES Deputy Chief. of Staff.
Cornal. A.E.N. BLACK OBE Commander Royal Engineen.
Captain B. G. Young DSO RN. CO HMS ANTRIM
Commander N. WESTBERG RN. CO HMS
CHARYBDIS
Captain B. H. RUTTERFORD RFA Master RFA FORT GROWGE
huintienant Conomes P.R. IEVERS Co 37 Reguin ent Royal Engineers.
heintenant Coonell D.H. NEVILLE CO 157 Battalion Mala dela: Royal Hampshire Requirent
Flight humberoal J. Prince RAF OC Search & Resort
Warrant Micer J. A. MARTIN Station Warrant officer RAF STANLEY

Private Secretary. Lest as requested It The Rune Minister were to seen me for my family, This would be particularly helpful time D.C.T.

- 3. The letter refers to the requesting agency, according to the following list:
 - A HQ L Z
 - B ROYAL NAVY
 - C ROYAL ENGINEERS
 - D RAF STANLEY
 - E RESIDENT INFANTRY BATTALION
 - F RESIDENT FIELD BATTERY
 - G RESIDENT AD BATTERY
 - H RESIDENT RAPIER SQUADRON



4. The final group of figures is the date followed by the serial number of the request on that date.



THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Than Glade Black

It was a pleasure, during my visit to the Falkland Islands, to meet so many officers and men from the Royal Engineers and to see at first hand the most excellent work you are doing. The tasks in which you are engaged are so vital - the provision of accommodation for our troops, construction at the airfield and elsewhere throughout the Islands, minefield identification and clearance, to name but a few. I should be grateful if you would pass on to those under your command my congratulations and thanks.

Livery good with.

Your minely

K. O.B.E. May and 12 abber

Colonel A.E.N. Black, O.B.E.

Name and Address of the Party o

Colle to Colonel A. E. N. Black OBE, Commander dough Engineer.

Fullhal filed.

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Plear Colorel Neville

I much enjoyed meeting officers and men of
the 1st Battalion of the Royal Hampshire Regiment
during my visit to Goose Green, Port San Carlos
and Fox Bay East on 10 January. Throughout my
visit to the Falkland Islands I found the
professionalism and spirit of our Armed Forces most
inspiring. The Hampshires demonstrate these
qualities splendidly.

My best wishes to you all.

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Lieutenant Colonel D. H. Neville.

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Hear Colonel Ivers.

I wanted to let you know how deeply impressed I was, when I visited you on 9 January, by the work which you, your officers and men are doing. These vital construction tasks are absolutely central to our ability to achieve our objective in the South Atlantic and I have the greatest admiration for the way they are being performed, often in the most adverse conditions. Thank you very much indeed.

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Lieutenant Colonel P. R. Ivers, R.E.

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Plean Commander Westberg.

It was a great pleasure for me to visit HMS CHARYBDIS on 11 January. Thank you for receiving me so warmly.

It was good to see the skill and dedication with which you and those under your command are carrying out your vital role in the defence of the peace and freedom of the Falkland Islands. My best wishes to you all.

Commander N. Westberg, R.N.

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Commander N. Westles RN

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Plan Capteri Pulle Jord

It was a great pleasure to visit Fort Grange on 11 January and to meet you and so many of those under your command. You are all playing a most vital role in defence of the peace and freedom of the Falkland Islands and the skill and energy with which you carry out that role is greatly admired.

Thank you for receiving me so warmly. I wish you all, when the time comes, a safe journey home.

Town sincerch Mayour Shelp

Captain B.H. Rutterford

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Vean Cartain Tumbull.

It was a great pleasure, during my visit to MV Stena Inspector, on 11 January to meet you, Captain Mason and so many of those under your commands. I was deeply impressed by the work you are all doing in support of our ships and send my warm thanks and best wishes.

Captain John Turnbull.

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Captain John Turnbull

Master, MV Stema Snepelor

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It was a year please, during my wint to MV Stema

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ship and send to you all my worn thank and best works.

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

My visit to the Falkland Islands has provided me with many unforgettable memories. One which will always stand out among them is my reception on board HMS ANTRIM in San Carlos Bay in sparkling sunshine. We remembered together ANTRIM's role in different circumstances, in the recapture of South Georgia and in the Falklands campaign itself. Now you are defending the peace and freedom of the Falkland Islands and we all have the greatest confidence in the skills and determination of those whom you command. Please pass to all of them my thanks for their splendid work.

Thank you for the warmth of my reception, for a delightful luncheon and for your gifts which I shall always treasure.

My best wishes,

Captain B.G. Young, D.S.O., R.N.

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Cetter to Captain B. S. Formy of JSO RN Hors Antrini

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Pear Captain Dobson.

I thank you most warmly for everything which you, your staff and so many of those under your command did to give me, during my visit to the Falkland Islands, one of the most fascinating and rewarding experiences of my life.

I was delighted to be able to visit so many ships of the Royal Navy, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary and the Merchant Marine and thrilled to be able to go to the scene of so many of the stirring events of last year's campaign.

I send you all my best wishes. You are doing wonderful work.

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Captain D.S. Dobson, R.N.

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Cetter to Captain D. S. Dobson RN Service Warrel Office, Falland Islands, from the Irine Trimite

May I thank you most warmly for everything while you. you stall and so many of thre where your commend did to give me, during my visit to the Fallbal flood, one of the most becausing and rewarding expirames of my life. & was delighted to be able to visit so many many ship of the loyer way, the loyer bleet Awiling and the restant Raine and the security of so many of second to be able to visit the security of so many of the stining givents of last vai campaign Your all doing the most wenderful I send you all my best winder. Her are doing & worderful job work.