



## 10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Press Secretary*

PRIME MINISTER

Press Digest for Saturday, May 22, 1982

### FALKLANDS

**Treatment:** D/Star - Island ports captured in fierce battles  
Sun: Our flag flies again, with picture of its being hoisted  
Mirror: -Many dead in battle for Falklands  
Express: Falklands - We're back! Five of our warships are hit; 17 Argentine 'planes shot down  
Mail: The British are Back!  
Telegraph: Savage fighting for Falklands; 5 Navy ships hit, two seriously; 17 Argentine planes shot down; bridgehead secured  
Guardian: Five warships hit as task force sets up bridgehead; light tanks go ashore with 1,000 troops  
Times: Troops gain Falklands bridgehead; 5 British ships hit in air attack; Argentina says it has sunk a destroyer and frigate  
FT: Troops establish bridgehead on Falklands; several other landings; UK and Argentina dig in their heels at UN

**Comment:** D/Star: Task Force facing two enemies in Falklands - Argentines and weather, but at home it is facing others: the odious group of Labour MPs who in effect voted for Galtieri. Bennites interested in only one thing - grabbing power and are Galtieri's greatest political weapon. They are administering a cowardly stab in the back from 8,000 miles. Nation must not forget them.

**Sun:** Bloody exchanges on first day proved extraordinary resolution of Britain's task force. Strong nerves will be required at home. We shall press on and we shall win.

**Express:** It is now plain we are answering Argentine aggression in the only way possible. The war we are engaged upon is limited. Its purpose is simple. In achieving our objective we will give ourselves back some of the weight and dignity we once had and many thought we had lost for good.

**Mail:** We are there to protect great and abiding principles

**Telegraph:** Battle has been fierce but there was only one alternative: to withdraw Fleet. Landings have shown what the past weeks did not always make clear - that a British Government is prepared to bear the costs of defending its people. Some of our friends abroad, particularly in EC, may forsake us - a pity. The Government has now passed a test of courage; that of the Task Force was never in doubt.

**Times:** From now on we can expect operations to build up to point where Islands are reclaimed. Pressure at UN for ceasefire should be resisted even, if necessary, by applying veto. Junta must not be given opportunity again to delay.

**Military:** Argentine aircraft hidden at San Carlos cause us trouble on the ground  
-Freak accident blamed for loss of helicopter with 21 lives  
-First Islanders freed  
-Express says Queen now in most worrying and poignant situation of any Monarch this Century with Prince Andrew with Task Force  
-Express says Galtieri is a man who now knows that he is going down in history not as one who recovered Falklands but as one who finally lost them

**Diplomacy:** Security Council meets without conclusion; Costa Mendez flies to New York  
-3 Latin American countries - Venezuela, Peru and Nicaragua - offer troops and weapons to Argentina; 8 threaten to withdraw Ambassadors from Britain  
-Reagan may step up aid for Britain with missiles and radar equipment; Haig ready to join search for peace again  
-Germans pledge renewal of sanctions but it looks like hard pounding for Mr Pym this week-end  
- Russia blames breakdown on our aggressive posture; stops buying Argentina grain but is believed to be playing the market to force prices down  
-Paisley backs you and says he wishes you showed same resolution against IRA

**POPE:** Expected to decide today whether to come to UK; but fears he won't with escalation in hostilities

**Media:** Robert Kee resigns after Aubrey Singer suspends him for a month for breach of contract  
-New York Times prints a highly critical piece (of Britain) by John Pilger, of Daily Mirror

**Politics:** Foot will sack 3 Front Bench spokesmen who voted against Government if they don't resign first

#### OTHER NEWS

**Inflation:** Very good coverage for drop in inflation into single figures for first time in over 3 years - and prospect of further falls brought out

Labour Party in Wales votes narrowly for incomes policy

**Unions/Pay:** NUR threatens all out strike by June 7 unless pay issues settled  
POEU to black Mercury project; won't link it with public system  
3 hospitals in Edinburgh hit by indefinite strike of ancillaries

**EC:** Guardian says farm price settlement is irresponsible but Budget settlement should be our priority; a generous settlement of this is no more than natural justice; something must be done and will be done. No club can afford majority voting unless the basic tenets of club membership have been settled. You will fight for a just solution and if it is necessary to withhold contributions then so be it

Robert Jackson MEP, in Telegraph: says Britain can stand a two pronged campaign in Falklands and Brussels and there is a positive advantage in forcing EC issues now. Many people on Continent experiencing a sense of shame and alarm at this week's turn of events; we should withhold payments if necessary. Even the Irish may find it difficult to try to do to Britain by way of retaliation what Community has decided it can't do against Argentina

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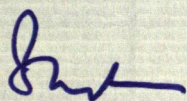
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FT says you have earned the room to tackle our EC problems in whatever way you choose, including an accommodation if you think it sensible

Industry: **Strong criticism about lack of safety instructions for use of electric lawn mowers after mother's death**

Iran deal rescues 2000 Talbot jobs

Education: Government target of cutting University spending by 15% over 3 years maintained in allocations announced yesterday.



**B Ingham**  
22.5.82