



file

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

6 May 1982

Personal and Private

Dear Gordon

Caroline has shown me your telegram about Admiral Woodward and his somewhat unhelpful remarks; and I must say I agree that it would have been better if he had upheld the traditions of the silent service. He started by saying that the task force's job would be a walkover, and then said it would be a long and bloody fight. As I said in the House, his remarks were vivid and various. Even so, I do not think they have done our cause any lasting damage, and I am sure he has learnt his lesson. I certainly have every respect for the way he has carried out his professional duties, and that is perhaps the crucial test.

It was good to hear from you.

With best wishes,

*Lawrence*

*Robert*

Gordon Reece, Esq.

GC