



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

My dear General,

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,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

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



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 January 1983

Dear Mrs. 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.

Very good wish,

Yours sincerely

Margaret Thatcher

Mrs. David Thorne