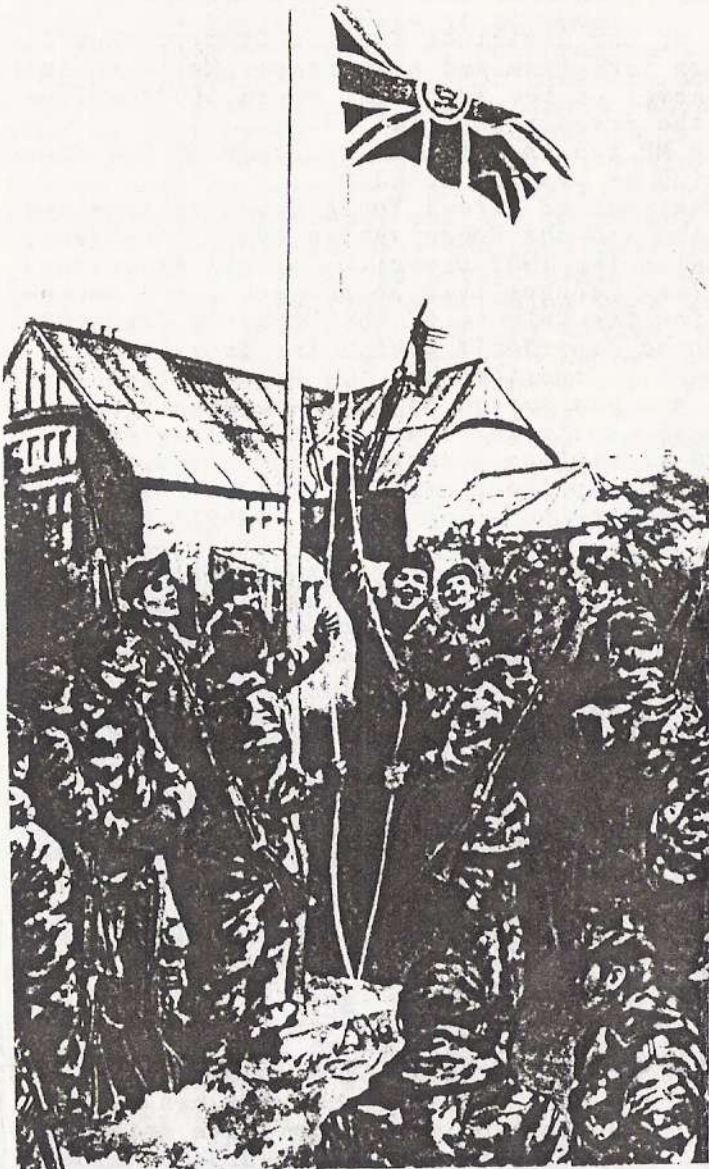


Vol 2 No 1

Summer 1983

LOOK RIGHT

The Magazine for Tory Hawks



Thatcher Factor '83

The Falklands:
One Year On...



PUBLISHER'S WARNING:

THIS PAPER IS NOT SUITABLE FOR WETS

Mark Taha

Will the Falklands Factor really "work"? It may seem absurd to many readers that such a question should be posed, but I am deadly serious about it. Naturally, the Government's resolute stand last year against the Argentine aggressors won mass support. Naturally, Mrs Thatcher's own popularity rocketed as people recognised her as one of the few men among, putting it crudely, Westminster's bunch of old women. Like her or not, people thought, she stood far above that pathetic old demagogue Michael Foot and the Fabian failures, hypocritical bonapartists, Marxist militants and block-vote bureaucrats known as Her Majesty's Opposition. However, the support which the Conservatives won over the Falklands crisis could still rebound on our party if people view the Government as simply using the Task Force for its own ends.

Even I am unhappy about several things: Lloyds bailing out the Argies with the Government's blessing; Jerry Wiggin accusing soldiers (rightly indignant about their living conditions on the Islands) of "malingering"; the Establishment's apparent willingness to negotiate with Argentina (all credit to Sir Bernard Braine and Sir John Biggs-Davison for their patriotic vigilance on this issue); and the Government's vacillating before the invasion when it now seems that a firm stand - a simple warning of the consequences of invasion - would have nipped the whole thing in the bud. I would suggest that people would be reassured if the following course of action could be taken:

1. State unambiguously that the Falklands are British, forever. Issue similar messages to Guatemala re. Belize and Spain re. Gibraltar.
2. Treat the UN with the contempt it deserves.
3. Make Keith Speed our navy minister again (he was completely vindicated) and appoint Julian Amery as successor to Mr Pym as Foreign Secretary. As defence is too important to be left to the politicians (no offence meant) perhaps Major-General Sir Jeremy Moore could be brought in as a Minister at the MOD?!
4. Prince Andrew will have to be given his own, as it were, Dukedom, one day; so how about Duke of the Falklands? He could even serve as Governor for a time.
5. Since the Argies are out to develop their own nukes, what about a nuclear base on the Falklands in anticipation - with its warheads aimed at Buenos Aires if need be? We should also be willing to "do an Israel" on Argentina's nuclear plants if that country is indeed about to acquire a nuclear capability.
6. Let us replace the communist May Day public holiday with June 14th, Falklands Day. It should be celebrated in the way Empire Day once was.
7. Although I generally oppose all such schemes - as one of the long-term unemployed - may I urge the Government to find jobs for all men leaving the Armed Forces? Men who've given the best years of their lives, and even come close to losing those lives, in the service of their country, surely deserve help far more than the ethnic minorities and other sections of society in whose favour the Establishment always seems to want to "positively" discriminate. Or me for that matter!
8. Let us improve conditions for our troops on the Falklands; if reports are accurate, then heads should roll.

These are my suggestions. I believe that they express not only my views but those of the majority of the people of this country. What do other readers think?

MAGGIE IN