

Civilisation anglophone | Compréhension Orale

PM Margaret Thatcher decides to war against Argentina - The Iron Lady [CORRECTION]

Gentlemen, the Argentinian Junta which is a fascist gang – **has invaded** our sovereign territory. **This cannot be tolerated**. May I make plain my negotiating position. I **will** not negotiate with criminals or thugs. The Falkland Islands belong to Britain, and I want them back. Gentlemen, I need you to tell me today if that is possible.

Possible... just, Prime Minister. We can have a Task Force ready to sail in forty-eight hours. [...]

The government **has now decided** that a large task force will sail, as soon as all preparations are complete.

[...]

The U.S. Secretary of State **has arrived**, Prime Minister.

GENERAL HAIG:

So, you are proposing to go to war over these Islands. They're thousands of miles away, a handful of citizens, politically and economically... insignificant, **if you'll excuse me** –

MARGARET

Just like Hawaii, I imagine.

GENERAL HAIG

I'm sorry?

MARGARET

1941, when Japan attacked Pearl Harbour. **Did** America go cap in hand and ask **Tojo** [Hideki Tojo was a Japanese politician, military leader and convicted war criminal who served as prime minister of Japan and president of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association from 1941 to 1944 during World War II] for a peaceful negotiation of terms?

Did she turn her back on her own citizens there because the islands **were** thousands of miles from mainland United States? No, no, no!

We will stand on principle or we will not stand at all.

GENERAL HAIG

But Margaret with all due respect when one **has been** to war....

MARGARET

With all due respect sir, I **have done** battle every single day of my life, and many men **have underestimated** me before. This lot seem bound to do the same but they will **rue** [regretter] the day.