

The Tom Harrison Mass-Observation Archive

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Dear Observer,

Autumn Directive Postscript

The Lord Mayor of London has announced the details of the Falklands Parade, described as 'a salute to the task force'. This will take place on October 12th and it is expected that a quarter of a million people will line the route; it will no doubt be reported by television.

We had an excellent response to our Falklands 'Special Directive' (three large boxes full) but few wrote after, the taking of Port Stanley. I thought that the forthcoming parade would give you your opportunity for the final summing up, including perhaps, your recollections of local reactions to the controversy over the Peace/ Victory service in St Paul's Cathedral.

If you do see it on television, or if friends do, or if it is discussed locally, we would dearly like to have your reports.

If you are in London on October 12th and, whether by chance or design, are amongst the expected 'quarter of a million', we would like to have 'on the spot' accounts of reactions of the crowd.

This will be our last request for reports on the Falklands.

Yours sincerely,
David Pocock

Notes: The cost of the parade is to be met from the City of London Corporation's private funds.

According to the Times: "No member of the Royal Family will be taking part, as their presence would usurp the host, the Lord Mayor, from his position of taking the salute. Prince Andrew will be on leave and is therefore not expected to be one of the representatives from H.M.S. Invincible."

If you do report on this event, please keep the report separate from your Autumn Directive material, but do not feel obliged to post it separately. Any time over the next three months will be fine.