



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

WEDNESDAY, 16 JUNE 1982

FALKLAND ISLANDS APPEAL

The Government has decided to support a national appeal to assist families of British servicemen who have suffered in the Falkland Islands dispute and Falkland Islanders who might be in severe hardship as a result of the dispute.

I have discussed the proposal with the National President of the RSL, Sir William Keyes, who has indicated that the RSL is willing to organise and co-ordinate the appeal nationally.

The Commonwealth Government will be contributing \$250,000 towards the national appeal.

In addition, the Government has agreed that contributions towards the appeal made during the course of the present financial year and the next financial year will be tax deductible.

I welcome the decision of the RSL to accept the national co-ordinating role and thank Sir William Keyes and his Executive for their part in launching the appeal.