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MR. WHITMORE

Military Briefing on the Falkland Islands

You asked me this morning who should attend the military briefing on the Falkland Islands which is to be given at 10.30 am on Sunday 25th April. The list below contains members of OD(SA), the regular attenders, the Secretariat, and additional participants who will be needed. I have spoken to David Omand about the military participants. He has given me the details below. There is just a possibility, however, that the Ministry of Defence may wish to increase the numbers, but this is unlikely to involve the addition of more than one or two.

2. The full list would be as follows:-

OD(SA) Members: Prime Minister, Home Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, Secretary of State for Defence, Chancellor of the Duchy and Paymaster General.

OD(SA) Attenders: Chief of the Defence Staff, Sir Antony Acland, Sir Michael Palliser.

OD(SA) Secretariat: Sir Robert Armstrong, Mr. Wade-Gery, Mr. Facer
Brigadier Eyre.

The three single service Chiefs of Staff, the Commander-in-Chief Fleet Admiral Fieldhouse, Sir Frank Cooper, Mr. Patrick Wright (Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee) and two serving officers to participate in the briefing. (The Ministry of Defence have yet to decide which two officers will attend.)

This would mean a total of 20. There will in addition be yourself and Mr. Coles.

3. The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary may also wish Mr. Bullard (who is accompanying him to Washington) and the FCO Legal Adviser, Sir Ian Sinclair, to be available to advise as necessary if the military briefing should be followed by a discussion of diplomatic options. They would not be needed for the military briefing but they would bring the total number at Chequers to 24.

D. J. WRIGHT

22nd April 1982

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