

NO FURTHER COPIES TO BE MADE

52

COS(Misc) 157/742/1

Copy No ¹⁶ of 22 copies

SPECIAL PROJECTS GROUP - PAPER NO 4

1. The attached paper (1) has been prepared by the Special Projects Group.
2. Unless the Secretary, Chiefs of Staff Committee, hears to the contrary by telephone (Ext 6347) by noon on Tuesday 27 April 1982, it will be assumed that the Chiefs of Staff have agreed to the implementation of the proposal.

Attachment:

Special Projects Group - Paper No 4 (1 page only).

Note:

1. Attachment to COS(Misc) 157/742/1.

Distribution:

This is OK by Mr

Copy No:

PSO/CDS	1 - 2
Sec/CNS	3 - 4
MA/CGS	5 - 6
PS/CAS	7 - 8

Mr Weston
Mr Gifford
Mr pa
27/4
23/4

Copy to:

PS/S of S	9
PS/PUS	10
ACDS(Ops)	11
ACNS(O)	12
DMO	13
ACAS(Ops)	14
AUS(D Staff)	15
FCO (Def Dept)	16
Cabinet Office	17
COSSEC	18 - 22

27/4
ALQ 050/1
~~*28 APR 1982*~~

23 April 1982

NO FURTHER COPIES TO BE MADE

SPECIAL PROJECTS GROUP - PAPER NO 4NIMROD AIR-TO-AIR REFUELLING CAPABILITYBACKGROUND

1. Studies have been carried out into the feasibility of Air-to-Air Refuelling (AAR) for Nimrod aircraft. The first aircraft with a trial installation will be ready for testing on 28 April.

PROPOSAL

2. It is proposed that a press release be made now, stating that the Nimrod MP aircraft currently deployed to Ascension Island will soon have the capability to carry out AAR.

DISCUSSION

3. The introduction of AAR gives the Nimrod virtually unlimited range of operations. In practice this would be limited by availability of sufficient Tanker Support.

4. Information already released gives Nimrod the capability of locating and then attacking submarines with Stingray (SPG Paper No 2). Further information that Nimrod would be able to operate for lengthy periods over Argentine waters would have a decidedly unsettling effect on the Argentine Navy.

RECOMMENDATION

5. It is recommended that the disclosure be made to the Press that, in the very near future, Nimrod Mk 2 aircraft will have an AAR capability.

One page only