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Mr Wright

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ALG 050 / 1	
30 APR 1982	
cc	PS/PUS
Taken	Mr Ure
	Mr Williams, UND
	Mr Weston, Defence Dept

1. I attended the Chiefs of Staff meeting this morning. Mr Nott was not present.

Despatch of Amphibious Forces and Addition of One Brigade

2. I have recorded the discussion on this subject separately in the background to my brief for the PUS's meeting at Sir R Armstrong's Group today.

Rules of Engagement to cover Argentine Aircraft Carrier

3. Points raised on this subject have also been covered in my brief as in paragraph 2 above.

Intelligence

4. DCDS(I) reported on the negotiations known to be taking place between an Argentine and a South African company for the procurement of Exocet. Other points raised by DCDS(I) are covered in today's CIG report. I should add however that I asked MOD to check an ITN film last night purporting to show Argentine Mirage 3 aircraft at Stanley airport. This has been done. The film footage (as distinct from the commentary) shows the aircraft at an airport on the mainland. DIS continue to maintain that no Argentine combat aircraft use Stanley.

Argentine POWs

5. Sir F Cooper made the good point that it would be important to ensure that Argentine POWs were given a thorough medical check up by an ICRC representative when they arrived at Ascension Island. Otherwise, the Argentines might ensure that on reaching Buenos Aires the prisoners would bear the hallmarks of maltreatment by British forces. I should be grateful if Mr Williams could look into this and liaise with DS 11 in MOD. I mentioned the Uruguayan offer of help. The MOD think that a Uruguayan ship would not offer much advantage since it would be difficult, perhaps even impossible, to transfer the prisoners from ship to ship at sea. Once they were in Ascension they could be flown back to Montevideo, ~~or Buenos Aires~~. DCDS(I) made the point that we would need to ensure that they did not glean useful intelligence while on Ascension Island.

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D H Gillmore

29 April 1982

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