

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

AMENDMENT NO 1
TO
COS 48TH MEETING/82
DATED 11 MAY 1982
CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX
ITEMS 1 - 5

Please remove and destroy Page 2
and substitute amended Page
(attached).

ALC 05011		
12 MAY 1982		
PA		

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

12 May 1982

COS RU1(39)

RESTRICTED

12 mile limit we had imposed on Argentine combat aircraft and warships; the Foreign and Commonwealth Office would consult the Defence Secretariat in preparing an answer.

5. Summing up, SIR TERENCE LEWIN said they would wish to invite the Air Force Department to prepare for their information a note setting out the present and proposed air to air refuelling capability of RAF aircraft involved in Operation CORPORATE, particularly C130 Hercules.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

6. MR McDONALD (Deputy Chief of Public Relations) reported on Press coverage.

7. In discussion the following points were agreed:

a. They would wish to invite the Permanent Under Secretary to coordinate the arrangements for publicity to be given to the transfer of Argentine Prisoners of War at Ascension Island. In this context, it was noted that the legal restrictions on what we could say about the incident in which an Argentine Prisoner of War had been shot on South Georgia should be clarified later that day. It was also noted that it would be necessary to re-open press communications from Ascension Island at the time of the transfer.

b. The television picture relay link which had been set up at Ascension Island should be activated, but photography on the Island should not be permitted.

c. They would wish to invite the Permanent Under Secretary to coordinate action to correct the misleading impression of their views about Operation CORPORATE given on the BBC Panorama programme the previous evening.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED

8. The Committee noted the summary of actions in hand (3).

ITEM 5. MAINTENANCE OF A BRITISH GARRISON IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

9. The Committee had before them a paper (4) by the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff (Personnel and Logistics), drawing together studies into the logistic problems which might be posed if we had to provide a garrison in the Falkland Islands after a successful military re-occupation.

Notes:

3. Annex A to COS 47th Meeting/82.

4. Attachment to COS(Misc) 185/742/1 dated 30 April 1982.