

PRIME MINISTER

c Sir R Armstrong

OD(SA) MEETING: 11 APRIL

A possible agenda for your meeting at 7.00 pm this evening will be -

✓ i. The diplomatic situation. Today's letter to Mr Whitmore from the Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary sets out the latest position. You will need to decide what our attitude should be when Mr Haig returns to London tomorrow.

*Paragraph deleted and retained under
Section 3(4).*

*AWayland
1 May 2012*

✓ iii. The Governor. Last Wednesday morning's meeting deferred a decision on whether he should be on-loaded as the Task Force passes Ascension. The Foreign Secretary will be briefed on when this option will expire and will be able to offer considered views on whether he favours the idea.

✓ iv. Declaration of War. President Galtieri appears to have threatened to declare war if we take military action against his forces, eg in the Exclusive Zone from tomorrow. The danger is perhaps remote, since even if he means it we seem unlikely to be offered an early target for military action. But the Home Secretary will be briefed on the implications, if war is declared on us.

v. Military situation. The Defence Secretary will be able to report on how soon new military decisions will need to be taken: eg what should be the Rules of Engagement for the Task Force? should we seize South Georgia (planning for this was authorised last Wednesday)? do we need to attack Port Stanley airfield?

R Wade-Gery
R L WADE-GERY

11 April 1982