



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1
 Telephone 01-~~230 7672~~ 218 2111/3

MO 5/21

3rd April 1982

Handwritten initials:
 SIV

Handwritten: Dear David,

MILITARY NOTETAKER FOR OPERATIONAL DECISIONS

We are grateful for your agreement to the presence of a military notetaker at Cabinet or Cabinet Committee meetings on the Falkland Islands situation which may give rise to decisions on operational matters. The notetaker will be the Secretary to the Chiefs of Staff Committee or a member of his Secretariat. It is understood that this is subject to prior agreement.

This should provide a useful safeguard that Ministers' decisions are most rapidly translated into operational orders.

In the circumstances there may very well be occasions when meetings are called at short notice under No 10 auspices to discuss particular aspects of the situation. Perhaps I can leave it to John Coles, to whom I am copying this letter, to bear the same requirement in mind for such meetings.

I am copying this letter to John Coles (No 10) and to Brigadier Eyre (SECCOS).

Handwritten signature:
 (D B OMAND)

D J Wright Esq