

PRESS STATEMENT - 12 NOON 21 MAY

The Task Force has landed a number of raiding parties on the Falkland Islands during the night. These raids are still in progress. Early indications are that they are achieving their objectives. Bombardment from ships in the Task Force continued in the vicinity of Port Stanley and other areas in East Falklands. Harriers from the Task Force have mounted attacks in the Fox Bay area. All these activities have been directed against Argentine military targets including fuel and ammunition dumps and military stores.

Sadly in the course of a transfer of personnel between ships in advance of these operations a Royal Navy helicopter with 30 men on board met with an accident and ditched. Nine of those on board were rescued. One dead body was recovered. Twenty are missing, presumed dead. The next of kin have been informed.