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OPERATION CORPORATE - PARLIAMENTARY AND PRESS BRIEFINGS

Reference:

A. COS(Misc)86/742/1 dated 5 Apr 82 - 2058/A1

1. There was no time to do more than make a quick verbal comment on the brief before this morning's briefing took place but for the record para 15 is inaccurate and - without giving anything important away - should read:-

"The Argentinian Navy amounts to some 31,000 personnel, almost a third of whom are conscripts. They possess four conventional patrol submarines, one carrier, one cruiser, eight destroyers and three frigates, of these some are elderly. It has some modern destroyers and frigates which are armed with Exocet (surface to surface) or Sea Dart (surface to air) missiles. The aircraft carrier normally operates a mix of A-4 Skyhawks, tracker ASW patrol aircraft and SH-3B Sea King ASW helicopters. The A-4s are capable of air to air engagement or of delivering bombs. The Navy also operates some shore-based P-2E Neptune long range maritime patrol aircraft and a number of light helicopters which can be armed with a short range air to surface anti-tank weapon which might be used against ships.

B. T. Brown

Secretary/Chief of Naval Staff
 5 April 1982