

TOP SECRET ATOMIC AND PERSONAL AT.C. NO 557
TOP SECRET ATOMIC PERSONAL

FE9



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone 01-218 ...2193 (Direct Dialling)

01-218 9000 (Switchboard)

PERMANENT UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE

SIR FRANK COOPER GCB CMG

PUS/82/538
9/31/F

Copy No 4 of 4 Copies

Hidden copy to:
PSO/CDS
DS17 - Mr Brennan

Sir Antony Acland KCVO CMG
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
LONDON SW1

11 May 1982

Sir Antony

FALKLAND ISLANDS: NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Thank you for your letter of 5 May. I quite understand and totally share the reasons behind your concern lest HMS Sheffield was carrying a surveillance round when she was hit.

2. All the active weapons are rounds on Hermes and Invincible, with the exception of a small number of the RFA Resource and on RFA Fort Austin (which also has the surveillance round removed from Sheffield). In addition, HMS Coventry (Type 42) has a surveillance round on board; the Task Group Commander has been instructed to remove this as soon as the tactical situation permits. All these ships are in the main element of the Task Group.
3. In the event it did not prove possible, largely for reasons of storage capacity, to concentrate all the weapons on the carriers, and the weapons from the Type 22s were therefore removed to the RFAs.

*Yours ever
Frank Cooper*

FRANK COOPER

*Permission given to CDS
to send a copy of this
minute to CNS
(565) Series A repro top 1 of 2 of 4
also for them to show their copy
to SecDef & ACDs (ops)
Dawilliam
14/5*

Page 1 of 1

TOP SECRET ATOMIC AND PERSONAL
TOP SECRET ATOMIC PERSONAL

SECRET

SECRET

Covering TOP SECRET ATOMIC and PERSONAL

COVERING

ES
684

TOP SECRET ATOMIC

LOOSE MINUTE

PERSONAL

D/DS17/5/6

DS17 say the word has not yet been
removed from COVENTRY and they don't
know when it will be thought safe to do so.
Send the letter.

PS/PUS

FALKLAND ISLANDS: NUCLEAR WEAPONS

As requested, I attach a draft reply to
Sir A Acland. I have confirmed with the Naval
Staff that CINCFLEET has been ordered to have
the surveillance round removed from COVENTRY
when the tactical situation permits.

D. Brennan

6 May 1982

D BRENNAN
DS17
MB9340 7917MB

middle: PS/DS5

*Draft letter destroyed 12/5/82
✓ have PUS | 82 | 538.
man*

SECRET

Covering TOP SECRET ATOMIC and PERSONAL

TOP SECRET
ASOMCC



Permanent Under Secretary of State

DS 17 (Mr Brennan)

FANGLANDS : NUCLEAR
WEAPONS

Please could you let me have a draft reply to the attached. Following a word between CBS (who has now seen your earlier minute) and CRT, I gather that action to remove the surveillance word from COVERTLY is likely.

C May.

FWA
PS