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DS Int 5/2/15

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INTERIM REPORT FROM DGI IN WASHINGTON

1. DGI phoned me this afternoon to pass on the main points from his present visit to Washington.
2. DGI had meetings yesterday both with the CIA and the DIA. He talked to the assessment staffs about the Argentine situation. At a meeting chaired by Gen Williams, Chairman of DIA, the following points emerged:

CHIEF OF DEFEN	
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- a. Their assessments of Argentine capabilities agree with our own.
- b. They agree that we have naval superiority.
- c. They agree that we should be able to maintain the MEZ.
- d. They said they were very sceptical about our ability to assault the Falkland Islands successfully with the amphibious equipment that we have, and they were doubtful about the ability of Harrier to operate in seas that have a 20' rise and fall. (This from a US Admiral who has in the past commanded Royal Marines in exercises, and has had USMC Harriers under command).
- e. There was a general feeling at the meeting that we should play it long and bide our time.

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4. DGI returns tomorrow, Sunday, landing at 0800 local time at Heathrow, and will be in touch with this office on arrival.

M J Armitage

17 April 1982

M J ARMITAGE
Air Vice-Marshal
A/DCDS(I)

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