

SECRET

COS 1051/742/1

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OD(SA) DEBRIEF - 27 APRIL 1982

1. ROE for SSN. It was noted that both HMS SPLENDID and HMS CONQUEROR had ROEs which entitled them to attack conventional submarines in the course of their current operational tasks which covered considerable areas of the South Atlantic outside the MEZ. However, HMS SPARTAN whose task was to enforce the MEZ had only such authority within the MEZ. In view of the possibility that an Argentine submarine would shortly be approaching the MEZ, it was decided that all SSNs were to have the same Rules of Engagement with regard to Argentine submarines inside and outside the MEZ. It is implicit in this decision that HMS SPARTAN was free to engage the Argentine submarine outside the MEZ if and when it detected its approach.

2. Vulcans.

- a. It was decided that the Hercules support aircraft for the Vulcans could fly to Ascension Island today.
- b. Approval was given for the two Vulcans to fly to Ascension Island on 28 April but Ministers reserved the right to review this decision at their meeting on the morning of the 28th.
- c. A decision to give CINCFLEET authority to use the Vulcan bombing option would be taken at their meeting on Thursday 29 April.

27 April 1982

J A C G EYRE
Secretary
Chiefs of Staff Committee

One page only

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