

P.A. Bm

ALO 050/6	
RECEIVED - REGISTRY	
INDEX	REGISTRY
PA	Action taken
	c.c.

52
See Set

Mr Wright

Mr Gillmore
Mr Fearn. SAMD

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE : 30 APRIL

....
ALO 231/K
FOLIO 10

1. It would be useful if you could brief the Committee about the matter raised in Mr Holmes' letter of 29 April to Mr Coles. (Copy attached)

2. Our reading of the Rules of Engagement which apply to aircraft in the TEZ suggests that there is enough flexibility in the ROE for the Islander and Beaver aircraft not to be liable to attack, provided they are not engaged on overtly military activities. The LADE colours are distinct from the livery of the Argentine Airforce. Rule 202 requires prior warning of 'commercial aircraft' and resort to Rule 104 (action to achieve a military task) only if Rule 202 is ineffective.

3. If the suffix SIERRA is adopted by Ministers, the Islander/Beaver aircraft might of course be at risk on the ground i.e. when not in use.

4. The main point to get across to the Committee is that the British force commanders, in interpreting their ROE in relation to the Islander or Beaver aircraft, need to be aware of the possibility that they are being used (as previously) for medical emergency purposes; and that the Prime Minister has taken a personal interest in such facilities functioning normally if possible.

982	
PA	Action taken

P. J. Weston

P J Weston
Defence Department

30 April, 1982

There was no opportunity to meet this at the Chiefs of Staff, but I showed this to Mr. Murray Stewart, who has kept a copy.

PJW
4/5.