

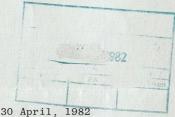
Mr Gillmore Mr Fearn. SAmD

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE : 30 APRIL

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)

ALO 231 1

- 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 actos 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.



Bushing

P J Weston Defence Department

There we no opportunity to min two at the Chips of State, but I should think to the Money Street, we has her high a copy.

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