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DOE MEETING, 5 JUNE

1. There was no meeting of the Chiefs of Staff this morning. I attended a meeting of the Defence Operations Executive.

Intelligence

- 2. There is little to add to the information in the Intsum. Not reported in the Intsum was unconfirmed information that a Peruvian ship of the same type as the ILO was due soon to dock in Hamburg where it might take on torpedoes for type 209 submarines. Both the Peruvian and the Argentine navies are equipped with these submarines.
- 3. There was some evidence that high flying aircraft had overflown the West Falklands in the course of the night. This operation could have been a re-supply air drop but the DIS had no confirmation.

Own Forces

4. I attach (not for all) the ACDS (Ops) brief for the DOE meeting. The last 24 hours have seen further consolidation of British positions, although operations have been hampered by bad weather. We expect an attack by 2-Commando on the Twin Sisters mountain within the next 48 hours. The Argentines are believed to have one battalion in that area.

Public Relations

5. There was further discussion of how to handle the media following the re-capture of Port Stanley. The MOD Chief Press Representative has a paper on this subject in hand which may be put to the Chiefs of Staff on Monday, 7 June. As you know, Mr MacInnes is working on a draft FCO paper for OD(SA) which will cover some of the same ground. It will be very important to ensure that the world's press is given due warning that only authorised press will be allowed on the island and that attempts to land with chartered aircraft or by other means will involve the immediate return of the aircraft or vessel. I made the point that there were a number of South American journalists sympathetic to the British cause and that there would be considerable advantage in ensuring that such people were among those included in the authorised press corps.

D H Gillmore

5 June 1982