

File 5

FIRST MOD PRESS STATEMENT - 1st MAY (RELEASED 9.30am)

We have been enforcing the TEZ since noon (London time) on Friday 30th April in exercise of the right of self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter. The notice issued on 28th April made it clear that after 48 hours warning the airport would be closed and that any aircraft on the ground would be liable to attack. Early this morning British aircraft took action to enforce the TEZ and to deny the Argentines the use of the airstrip at Port Stanley. We are not yet able to give details but will do so as soon as we have authoritative information.

SECOND MOD PRESS STATEMENT - 1st MAY (RELEASED 1615pm)

Vulcan aircraft refuelled by Victor tankers attacked the Port Stanley airfield during the night. Subsequently at dawn Sea Harriers carried out further attacks. Both operations were successful.

All aircraft and personnel involved have now returned. There are no casualties. I will give some further details of the operations as and when I can.

THIRD MOD PRESS STATEMENT - 1st MAY (RELEASED 1745pm)

I can now give some further information about the raids carried out by our aircraft last night and this morning on military targets on Port Stanley airfield and Goose Green airfield. I can now confirm that runways and aircraft on the ground were hit, in particular the runway at Port Stanley was severely cratered. A full damage assessment is still awaited. All our aircraft and personnel returned safely.