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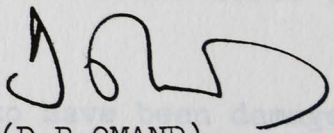
MO 5/21

DS 11 - Duty OfficerRELEASE OF INFORMATION TO THE PRESS

There were inevitably at yesterday's Press Conference in the MOD a large number of questions directed at DCPR about the bombing and bombardment of the Port Stanley airfield and Goose Green airstrip. Many of these questions inevitably could not be answered without prejudicing future operations, but there were some where I believe answers could have been given, had DCPR been allowed to give them and had he had the information. Indeed, in subsequent despatches from the Task Force more detailed answers were given than DCPR was allowed to in his press conference.

2. Taken from the transcript of the Press Conference is the attached list of the questions which were posed, and not answered, but to which answers might now be given. Could you please draw up this morning as full a response as we can to these questions and brief DCPR accordingly. I think taking this trouble will pay dividends over the next few days with the press correspondents.

3rd May 1982


 (D B OMAND)
 PS/S of S

MOD PRESS BRIEFING 2/5/82 1230 HRS

Questions posed and not answered to which answers might be forthcoming without risk of prejudicing future operations.

Q. Can we be clear about the aircraft attacking the British Task Force. You only talked about Mirage and Canberras, were Daggers involved, do you have any information of any other aircraft involved?

Q. Can you tell us how the single Mirage was shot down? How was the Canberra shot down? What type of weapons were used?

Q. Can you give us any other information about the types of targets we attacked besides the airstrip and planes on the ground?

Q. How long did the bombardment go on for?

Q. Can you describe splinter damage more fully?

Q. Can you give us any quotes at all from any of the Commanders about success?

Q. Are the airports open, operable or closed?

Q. Can you tell us whether any type of Tigercat missiles were used?

Q. Can you give us more information about the Vulcan attacks? Type of weapons, height of attack? What weapons did the Harriers use against the ground targets? Was the Harrier force split between air defence and attack?

Q. How many aircraft were believed to have been damaged on the ground?

Q. What were the targets for naval bombardment. Was bombardment necessary to carry out a task the aircraft failed to complete?

Q. How badly damaged was the Harrier reported as hit in the attack?

Q. Can you give some idea of the scale of the attacks launched against the task force?