

PRESS STATEMENT - 26TH MAY
12 O'CLOCK NOON

We have received further reports overnight about the outcome of yesterday's Argentine air attacks on the Task Force.

HMS COVENTRY, a destroyer, was hit and has been lost. The ATLANTIC CONVEYOR, a merchant ship requisitioned to support the fleet, was also hit and has had to be abandoned. The Harrier reinforcements she was carrying for the Task Force had already been disembarked.

Rescue operations to recover the crew of these two ships have continued throughout the night. As we get information on casualties we are informing next of kin.

The Secretary of State for Defence will be making a statement this afternoon in Parliament.