



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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MO 5/21

11th June 1982

Alan 20ms

Seen by the Prime Minister. AHS uni

The Prime Minister will wish to know that my Secretary of State has agreed a request from the Commander Land Forces, Falkland Islands, that another Operation BLACK BUCK should be mounted overnight, to attack Port Stanley airfield. On this occasion the Vulcan aircraft will carry 21 1000lb bombs which will be dropped from medium level, and the tactical approach will be that on which the Prime Minister has already been briefed.

The Commander of the Task Force has carefully balanced the risk of the aircraft having to divert into Brazil on its return journey against the value of a successful raid.

The crew of the aircraft have been told that if they are unfortunate enough to have to divert into Brazil they must jettison any weapons and classified material. They will use the cover story that they were on a maritime reconnaissance sortie.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Brian Fall (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,

Alfred PIPER

(D T PIPER)

A J Coles Esq