

MOD PRESS STATEMENT - 1 JUNE 0800 hours

Yesterday the Argentine Hospital Ship the BAHIA PARAISO, which was in the Total Exclusion Zone, was stopped and inspected by a party from the Task Force. This was within our rights under the Geneva Conventions which authorise such actions.

We had previously arranged for a message to be sent to Argentina requesting the BAHIA PARAISO to rendezvous with our Hospital Ship SS UGANDA, in an area which we have set aside for Hospital Ships some 30 miles North of Falkland Sound. Although it is not clear whether the BAHIA PARAISO received this message, the inspection party was welcomed onboard and the ship accepted the invitation to rendezvous with SS UGANDA. 140 wounded Argentine servicemen - who are receiving medical attention onboard the UGANDA - will be transferred to the Argentine ship for an early return home.