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**MAY03 – ANUNCIO DE DESPLIEGUE DE LA BRIGADA 5 Y DEL QE 2 (prem 19/624)**

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DRAFT PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON DEPLOYMENT OF 5 BRIGADE AND  
REQUISITION OF QE2

As part of our current plans 5 Infantry Brigade ~~has now~~<sup>are</sup> being brought to short notice to move forward to the South Atlantic area. The Brigade is stationed in the United Kingdom and is already earmarked for out of area duties. Authority has also been given to take up the shipping necessary to transport the Brigade and work to prepare the ships for this role is being set in hand.

This action is being taken because it would be imprudent to contemplate operations - of whatever kind - so far from the UK without reserves available nearer the theatre; We also have to prepare for the possible need to maintain a substantial garrison in the Falkland Islands.

Among the ships being requisitioned is the QE2. The Ministry of Defence of course greatly regrets the inconvenience caused to intending passengers, but the QE2's speed, size and facilities make her uniquely suited to carry substantial numbers of troops who may be required to go into action at short notice.

At the same time as the QE2 we are requisitioning two roll-on-roll-off ferries, 'Baltic Ferry' and 'Nordic Ferry' and a container ship, 'Atlantic Causeway' which will be used to transport the helicopters needed for the air support of the brigade.

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