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**Se refiere al derribo por fracidido de un helicóptero Gazelle, publicado por el Ministerio de Defensa de Gran Bretaña.**

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## **COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF FLEET REPORT**

# **LOSS OF AN ARMY AIR CORPS GAZELLE OVER THE FALKLAND ISLANDS ON 6 JUNE 1982**

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Deputy Chief of Defence Staff (Commitments)  
Ministry of Defence

12 November 1986

LOSS OF AAC GAZELLE OVER FALKLANDS - 6 JUN 82

Reference: MODUK's ABA/A2G/25A 051400Z AUG 86.

1. The report of the Board of Inquiry convened to determine the circumstances surrounding the loss of an Army Air Corps Gazelle helicopter on 6 June 1982 during the Falklands Campaign is forwarded as required at Reference A.
2. As the inquiry was not completed until 7 November, in-depth staffing of the report has not been possible within the deadline imposed. Nevertheless, it is readily apparent that the Board has produced a commendably thorough and balanced exposition of the facts despite the considerable difficulties imposed by the time that has elapsed since the incident.
3. The main conclusion, that the Gazelle was shot down by a Sea Dart missile fired from HMS CARDIFF, appears to be incontrovertible. It is equally clear that this most unfortunate event was an accident of war in which many factors played a part. While some criticism can, with the benefit of hindsight, be levelled in a number of areas, no significant blame can be attributed to any individual and, especially considering the prevailing circumstances and the lapse of time since then, the Board's recommendation that no action should be taken against any personnel is most strongly endorsed. It is in any case observed that disciplinary action under the Service Discipline Acts is now statute-barred.

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4 The Board's remaining conclusion and recommendation are agreed. Despite the detailed staff-work already undertaken to review National Procedures and Joint Service Instructions since Operation CORPORATE, it is clear that there is much still to be done. In particular, the difficulties in obtaining NATO agreement to changes in NATO procedures should not be underestimated. It is envisaged that the improvements required will need Joint Service authority and may indeed only be capable of resolution at that level. Accordingly, I consider that these are matters which properly fall to be undertaken by the Defence Staff.

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Admiral  
Commander-in-Chief

Enclosure: Report (2 Copies).

Information:

Assistant Chief of Naval Staff  
Ministry of Defence

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