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**HMS BULWARK & HMS ALBION OFF TO SOUTH AMERICA**

The Brazilian Navy has formally signed an agreement to acquire the Royal Navy amphibious assault ships, HMS Albion and HMS Bulwark, during the LAAD Defence & Security 2025 event in Rio de Janeiro.

The agreement, described as a “protocol of intentions,” was signed on Wednesday and comes during the bicentennial year of diplomatic relations between Brazil and the United Kingdom.

The acquisition of the Albion-class landing platform docks (LPDs) would, say the country, significantly bolster Brazil’s capacity for amphibious operations, disaster relief, and humanitarian response.

The vessel will join helicopter carrier HMS Ocean, sold years ago, to the Brazilians. According to an official update from Brazil’s Navy news service, the ships are being sought not only for their strategic military utility but also for their ability to support domestic civil operations. *“We have seen the need for Navy ships to support the population in the various calamities that have occurred due to climate variations, such as the floods that occurred in São Sebastião in 2023 and in Rio Grande do Sul in 2024,”* said Admiral Edgar Luiz Siqueira Barbosa, Director General of Navy Material.

He added that Brazil has long valued British-built naval assets. “Several British ships, throughout the existence of the naval fleet, have been incorporated incorporated into the MB. Albion JJJJJGGGGlass assault ships

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