

COS 68TH MEETING/82

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

pa.

CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX
TO
COS 68TH MEETING/82 HELD ON
FRIDAY 4 JUNE 1982 AT 11.00 am

ALQ 050/1

17 JUN 1982	
PA	CULTURE

OPERATION CORPORATEITEM 1. INTELLIGENCE

- SIR TERENCE LEWIN invited the Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence) to update them on current intelligence.
- LIEUTENANT GENERAL GLOVER (Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence)) reviewed the intelligence published in the latest summary (1). He assessed the position in relation to Argentina's efforts to acquire further Exocet missiles, and their changing perception of the outcome of the conflict. He said the Argentines probably had one TPS 43 and one TPS 44 radar operating in the Port Stanley area, and possibly a second TPS 43. Finally he assessed the Argentine capability for sea mining, and said that while there was a threat, the probability was low; rather he thought it more likely that mines with booby traps would be found on the shores.
- Summing up a short discussion SIR TERENCE LEWIN said that, although no specific threat had been identified, there was a risk that Argentine agents might attempt sabotage against Service establishments in the United Kingdom. They would wish to invite each Service Department to review its security measures where appropriate.

ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

- REAR-ADMIRAL BROWN (Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations)) outlined the deployment and operations of the Task Force.
- SIR TERENCE LEWIN said they would have seen a signal (2) from our Ambassador in Montevideo commenting on arrangements for HMS HECLA. He said they would all be grateful for the assistance provided by the Embassy, and noted that the Chief of the Naval Staff intended to

Notes:

- INTSUM No 122, 040600Z June 1982.
- Montevideo Tel No 422 031915Z June 1982.

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send a personal signal of thanks to the Ambassador. He instructed the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations) to examine the comments and ensure that on any future occasion the Services' procedures were better adapted to local requirements, and to inform him when the newly appointed Defence Attache would be in post.

6. SIR TERENCE LEWIN then referred to the need to coordinate action relating to the return of the QUEEN ELIZABETH 2 to the United Kingdom. He noted that the Navy Department intended on Monday 7 June to inform the families of survivors who were returning on board, and that the ship was to be returned to trade. He invited the News Release Group to prepare an appropriate announcement, which should also take account of any effects this might have on the publicity for the move of 5 Brigade.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

7. MR McDONALD (Deputy Chief of Public Relations) reported on press coverage.

8. Referring to the concern expressed (3) the previous day about the transmission of information by the Task Force to the Ministry of Defence, SIR TERENCE LEWIN assured the Committee that such delays as there were resulted from unavoidable operational conditions. There was no deliberate intention to withhold such information.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED

9. The Committee noted the summary of actions in hand (4).

ITEM 5. PRISONERS OF WAR

10. SIR TERENCE LEWIN said OD(SA) had agreed that morning that Prisoners of War taken before a general surrender should be repatriated from the Falkland Islands by the most practical route. It was intended to move approximately 1400 Prisoners of War in MV NORLAND, ideally to Montevideo, but failing that to Cape Town or possibly Ascension Island. He invited the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Notes:

3. COS 66th Meeting/82, Item 3.
4. Annex A to COS 67th Meeting/82.

to take urgent steps to inform Argentina through the Protecting Power of our intention to use MV NORLAND for this purpose, how the ship could be identified, and her intended route. The Argentines should also be told that the ship was loading Prisoners of War in San Carlos Water now, so that they did not launch air attacks against her. He went on to say the the Commander Land Forces Falkland Islands had discretion to delay the repatriation of certain prisoners such as senior officers, special forces, or those of intelligence interest. Finally, he invited the News Release Group to prepare appropriate statements covering the return of these prisoners.

ITEM 6. LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER ASTIZ

11. SIR TERENCE LEWIN said OD(SA) had agreed that morning that Lieutenant-Commander Astiz should be repatriated as soon as certain legal formalities on behalf of the French Government had been completed in the UK. The Army Department had made arrangements for his custody in this country, and the Attorney General would advise on the arrangements for further questioning. Once this was completed, the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff (Personnel and Logistics) should make arrangements to return Lieutenant-Commander Astiz to Argentina by civil aircraft as soon as possible. He concluded by inviting the Assistant Under Secretary (Defence Staff) to coordinate Ministry of Defence action with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Attorney General, and to ensure that initial publicity concentrated on our intention to repatriate Lieutenant-Commander Astiz, rather than on his detention-quarters at Chichester.

ITEM 7. FALKLAND ISLANDS GARRISON

12. The Committee discussed arrangements which should be made to coordinate planning for a future garrison in the Falkland Islands, noting that the Defence Policy Staff were preparing (5) a paper on possible options for the composition of such a garrison. Further work was urgently needed to define command and control arrangements, both in the transition period when it was no longer sensible to retain all or some of the elements of the present Task Force organisation but while a state of

Note:

5. COS 59th Meeting/82, Item 6.

hostilities still existed, and subsequently when peace had been declared. It was also essential to set up proper planning staffs as soon as possible, and to determine the most suitable location for them.

13. Summing up, SIR TERENCE LEWIN instructed the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Policy), in conjunction with the Service Departments, the Central Staffs and the United Kingdom Commanders-in-Chief Committee (Overseas), to prepare for their consideration the next week a paper setting out recommended command arrangements for the Falkland Islands once the Task Force in its present form was no longer required, and proposals for a planning staff to be set up as soon as possible. Meanwhile they would wish Service Departments to make provision for elements required for a garrison once Operation CORPORATE had been concluded.

Annex:

A. Operation CORPORATE - Actions in Hand (1 page).

ANNEX A TO
 CCS 68TH MEETING/82
4 JUNE 1982

OPERATION CORPORATE - ACTIONS IN HAND

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
0023	6/82 Item 1 (re-titled 40/82)	Military Options for Repossession of the Falkland Islands	ACDS (Pol)	DPS/DS 11	7/82 Item 4 12/82 Item 6 35/82 Item 4 40/82 Item 7 43/82 Item 5 50/82 Item 5 54/82 Item 5 62/82 Item 5	For COS O/C
0091	54/82 Item 5	Contingency Studies	ACDS (Pol)	ACDS (Pol)	62/82 Item 5	For COS O/C
0092	59/82 Item 6	Future Garrison Studies	CDS	ACDS (Pol)		
0093	61/82 Item 6	Rules of Engagement	ACDS (Ops)	OD(SA)	OD(SA) 28 May	
0095	67/82 Item 1	Replacement of Stores and Equipment	DCDS (OR)/ DUS (P)	OD Jul 82		Draft for consideration by COS/PUS
0096	68/82 Item 7	Garrison Planning and Command Arrangements	CDS	ACDS (Pol)		