

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

COS 18TH MEETING/82

Copy No 49 of 57 copies  
14 APR 1982MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEECONFIDENTIAL ANNEXTOCOS 18TH MEETING/82 HELD ON  
TUESDAY 13 APRIL 1982 AT 3.30 pmRECEIVED IN  
CONTROL POINT11 12 1  
10  
9 3 13  
8 4  
7 6 5ITEM 1. OPERATION PARAQUET

1. SIR MICHAEL BEETHAM (representing the Chief of the Defence Staff) said they would wish to consider the Operation Order for Operation PARAQUET (1) prepared by the Commander-in-Chief Fleet.
2. In discussion the following points were made:
  - a. The success of Operation PARAQUET would be vital from both the military and political points of view.
  - b. There was a lack of hard intelligence on the situation on South Georgia. Tactical intelligence was required as soon as possible.
  - c. The operation order over-estimated the Argentine air threat but this gave a margin of safety.
  - d. Careful attention should be paid to public relations policy for the operation.
  - e. Rules of Engagement for the operation would need further consideration, including geographical limits for attacks on Argentine reinforcement shipping.
  - f. If it became necessary to increase the size of the landing force, options could be either to divert HMS HERMES, carrying a Royal Marine company group, or to await the arrival of the LSLs carrying 45 Commando. In any event, there would be a delay of at least 5 - 7 days in mounting the operation. The diversion of HMS HERMES would breach the integrity of the Carrier Battle Group, with implications for sea and air control around the Falkland Islands.

## Note:

1. Attachment to COS(Misc) 112/742/1 dated 13 April 1982.

Page 1 of 5 pages

COS S15(10)

SECRET UK EYES A

ALQ 050/1			
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY			
DESK OFFICER		REGISTRAR	
INDEX	PA	Action Taken	

Part I to COS 18th Meeting/82  
13 April 1982

3. The following points were agreed in discussion:
  - a. The plan met the aim of the operation, which they had set (2).
  - b. The force level assigned to Operation PARAQUET allowed no margin for error but, based on the current assessment of Argentine strength on South Georgia, it was adequate.
  - c. If intelligence indicated significant increases over the present assessment of Argentine strength on South Georgia, the operation would probably require a whole Commando Group. This in turn would call for a complete reappraisal of both operations PARAQUET and CORPORATE.
  - d. Attention should be paid to the possible mining threat in Cumberland Bay, even though this had not been substantiated.
  - e. Rules of Engagement were required for all forces participating in the operation.
4. Summing up their discussion, SIR MICHAEL BEETHAM said they would wish to take note of the Operation PARAQUET operation order, and to stress the great importance they attached to the successful achievement of the operational aim; to observe that attention should be given to the mining threat; and to instruct the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations) to inform the Commander-in-Chief Fleet accordingly (3). They would also wish to invite the Navy Department to prepare for their consideration Rules of Engagement for the forces involved in Operation PARAQUET. Finally they would wish to instruct their Secretary to prepare a draft submission (4) to the Secretary of State for their approval, informing him of their decisions.

Annex:

- A. Forecast of Decisions or Actions Required (3 pages).

Notes:

2. Attachment to COS(Misc) 99/742/1 dated 9 April 1982.
3. Issued as MODUK I9F 132000Z APL 82.
4. Circulated as COS(Misc) 117/742/1 dated 13 April 1982.

OPERATION CORPORATE - FORECAST OF DECISIONS OR ACTIONS REQUIRED

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
[REDACTED]						
0015	5/82 Item 1 para 7	Sale of Hunter aircraft to Chile	AFD	FCO		FCO have despatched signal
0022	5/82 Item 7	Delay Belize Withdrawal by 3 months	AD	Ministers		Submission forwarded 9 Apr 82
0023	6/82 Item 1	Op CORPORATE - Military Appreciation	COS	DS 11	7/82 Item 5 12/82 Item 6	To be revised -
[REDACTED]						
0032	8/82 Item 1	Publicity for bunkering facilities	FCO	FCO Ministers		

THIS IS A COPY  
THE ORIGINAL HAS BEEN  
CLOSED FOR  
40 YEARS UNDER FOI  
EXEMPTION No. 271(a)(d)



ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
0033	8/82 Item 5	Amphibious Operations	ACDS(Pol)	ACDS(Pol)	11/82 Item 1 16/82 Item 4 17/82 Item 5	For COS 14 Apr 82
0037	12/82 Item 5	Argentine Appreciation	DCDS(I)	DCDS(I)		For COS 14 Apr 82
0039	14/82 Item 1	Confirmation of Argentine Naval dispositions	DCDS(I)	DCDS(I)		
0040	14/82 Item 1	Argentine CAP capability over Falklands	AFD	AFD		
0041	14/82 Item 3	Skeleton press releases for use if engagement occurs	DCPR	COS/Ministers		DCPR has circulated to S of S/COS
0042	14/82 Item 3	No press to land at Ascension	DCPR	ND		To inform TF Commander

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
0045	16/82, Item 1	Update of any information of Argentine mining of the Falklands	DCDS(I)	DCDS(I)		For COS
0046	16/82, Item 1	Need for clear warning during TV briefings of inherent inaccuracies in Argentine positional information displayed and why such information has changed since previous Briefing	ACDS(Ops)	DCDS(I)/ ACDS(Ops)		
0049	17/82, Item 6	Maritime Exclusion Zone Terminology		DS11		
0050	17/82, Item 8	Fuel on Ascension Island	AFD	AFD		