

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

COS 44TH MEETING/82

Copy No .02. of 79 copies

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX
TO
COS 44TH MEETING/82 HELD ON
FRIDAY 7 MAY 1982 AT 11.15 am

OPERATION CORPORATEITEM 1. INTELLIGENCE

1. SIR TERENCE LEWIN invited the Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence) to update them on current intelligence.
2. LIEUTENANT GENERAL GLOVER (Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence)) reviewed the intelligence published in the latest summary (1). He said that Aerospatiale had confirmed that they had supplied only 5 air-launched EXOCET missiles to Argentina. The further 5 ordered by Argentina had not been delivered, nor the 2 ordered by Peru. He had also received technical advice that the sea-launched EXOCET missile could not be converted for air launching.

ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

3. The Task Force organisation was set out in the Force Tote Sitrep (2).
4. The operations of the previous 24 hours had been summarised in the television briefing preceding their meeting.
5. In discussion the following points were made:
 - a. If HMS SHEFFIELD were to sink or be sunk, careful consideration would need to be given to the timing and content of any announcement.
 - b. The first 2 Nimrod aircraft modified for air-to-air refuelling should be operational at Ascension Island on 9 May, and a further 2 aircraft 2 days later.

Notes:

1. INTSUM No 66 070600Z May 1982.
2. Force Tote Sitrep Issue 42.

Page 1 of 5 pages

COS S22(7)

SECRET

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

6. In discussion it was agreed that aircraft accidents should be reported through operational channels and not peacetime administrative channels. All such reports were to include a recommendation from the Task Force Commander on the timing and content of any announcement.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

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

8. In discussion the point was made that we were in danger of losing the public relations war. It was essential that the goodwill of the press, and in particular of our accredited defence correspondents, was retained. Steps should be taken urgently to improve the situation; such measures might include:

- a. The adoption of a more positive attitude to the rapid release of factual information.
- b. The provision of routine reports from the Task Force Commander at a greater frequency, for the better information of the Defence Public Relations Staff when dealing with queries.
- c. The provision of facilities for background briefing by Service specialists on matters of topical interest such as the conversion of merchant shipping for Service use, and the modifications to aircraft to enable air-to-air refuelling to be carried out.
- d. The nomination of a panel of experts, approved by the Ministry of Defence, who would be given background briefings in depth, and who would then be available to make authoritative comment when required.
- e. The relaxation of restrictions on reporting our activities at Ascension Island, particularly when Argentine prisoners of war were being repatriated.

9. Summing up, SIR TERENCE LEWIN said they would wish to agree that urgent measures should be taken to improve our relations with the press, and that he and the Permanent Under Secretary together should investigate the setting up of a suitable panel of experts. They would wish to invite the Service Departments to make factual reports more readily available, and to provide background briefings on any suitable topic by Service specialists. They would also wish to agree that the restrictions they had imposed on reporting from

Ascension Island should be relaxed, and that the Deputy Chief of Public Relations should, in consultation with the Permanent Under Secretary and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, make proposals for greater publicity of our activities on the island. Finally, they would wish him to discuss further with the Task Force Commander the possible provision of more frequent reports on operations, with a view to improving the speed and accuracy of our press releases and answers to questions.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS REQUIRED

10. The Committee noted the summary of action in hand (3).
11. In discussion the point was made that Rules of Engagement were urgently required for use by surface ships against Argentine commercial aircraft conducting surveillance. These should, if necessary, be handled separately from the main Rules of Engagement package (4).
12. Summing up, SIR TERENCE LEWIN said they would wish to instruct the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations) to bring forward to him immediately after their meeting the proposed Rules of Engagement for use against Argentine commercial aircraft, for him to seek OD(SA) approval.

Annex:

- A. Operation CORPORATE - Actions in Hand.

Notes:

3. Annex A to COS 43rd Meeting/82.
4. COS(Misc) 203/742/1 dated 6 May 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(PoI)	DPS/DS 11	7/82 Item 4 12/82 Item 6 35/82 Item 4 40/82 Item 7 43/82 Item 5	To be updated for COS 13 May
0065	-	Maintenance of a British Garrison in the Falkland Islands	VCDS(P&L)	VCDS(P&L)	VCDS(P&L)127/3/3 dated 19 Apr 82 33/82 Item 9	For COS 11 May
0066	-	Long Term Measures to Sustain Op CORPORATE	CDS	DCDS(OR)	CDS 2038/1/1 dated 22 Apr 82 D/DORS/58/1 dated 26 Apr 82	For COS o/c by 7 May
0076	33/82 Item 9	Long Term Logistic Requirements	VCDS(P&L)	VCDS(P&L)		Included in 0065
0084	43/82 Item 6	Concept of Operations - Op CORPORATE	CDS	CINCFLEET		
0085	43/82 Item 6	Concept of Operations - Op SUITON	CDS	CINCFLEET		

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
0086	43/82 Item 7	ROE Package	ND	COS		For COS o/c
0087	43/82 Item 8	Active Service arrangements for RFA/ MS personnel	ND	SofS		
0088	43/82 Item 9	Honours and Awards	CDS	DS Sec		
0089	43/82 Item 11	Special Forces Plans	ACDS(Ops)	ACDS(Ops)		For COS 12 May

RESTRICTED

Copy No

51

81

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

PART II MINUTE Nos 101 - 105

For attachment to the MINUTES of the
43rd Meeting/82 of the Chiefs of Staff
Committee:

ITEMS DEALT WITH PRIOR TO THE MEETING

ALQ 050/1		
MAY 1982		
IN	F	

na MB

Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

6 May 1982

COS RU2(17)

RESTRICTED

101. DEFENCE OF ASCENSION ISLANDRESTRICTED

The Chiefs of Staff have taken note of a note (1) prepared by ACDS(Ops). ACDS(Ops) has been informed.

Note:

1. Attachment to COS(Misc) 199/742/1 dated 5 May 1982.

102. GOVERNOR OF HONG KONGRESTRICTED

The Chiefs of Staff have agreed the draft signal (1) to the Governor of Hong Kong subject to written amendment (2). MA/CDS has been informed.

Notes:

1. CDS 2051/1 dated 2 May 1982.
2. CGS 45-5 dated 4 May 1982.

103. CONTROL AND REPATRIATION OF ARGENTINE PRISONERS OF WAR FOLLOWING OPERATIONS ON THE FALKLAND ISLANDSRESTRICTED

The Chiefs of Staff have taken note of a note (1) prepared by VCDS(P&L) and agreed its recommendations subject to written amendment (2) (3). MA/ACDS(P&L) has been informed.

Notes:

1. Attachment to Cos(Misc) 191/742/1 dated 2 May 1982.
2. CGS 41-4-1 dated 4 May 1982.
3. CNS 7331/5 dated 4 May 1982.

104. REPATRIATION OF PRISONERS OF
WAR AND FOREIGN CIVILIANS DETAINED
IN SOUTH GEORGIA

RESTRICTED

The Chiefs of Staff have taken note of a note prepared by VCDS(P&L) (1) and agreed its recommendation subject to written amendment/comment (2) (3). MA/VCDS(P&L) has been informed.

Notes:

1. Attachment to COS(Misc) 190/742/1 dated 2 May 1982.
2. CNS 7331/5 dated 4 May 1982.
3. PUS SW/82/641/9/31/F dated 4 May 1982.

105. SPECIAL PROJECT GROUP - PAPER NO 6

RESTRICTED

The Chiefs of Staff have agreed a paper (1) prepared by the Special Projects Group subject to written amendment (2). The Special Projects Group has been informed.

Notes:

1. Attachment to COS(Misc) 192/742/1 dated 3 May 1982.
2. CGS 41-4-1 dated 4 May 1982.