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COS 74TH MEETING/82

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX  
TO  
COS 74TH MEETING/82 HELD ON  
MONDAY 14 JUNE 1982 AT 12 NOON

ALQ 050/1	
RECEIVED IN COUNTRY	
DISSEMINATED	SECURITY
INDEX	CLASSIFIED

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 gave an assessment of the Argentine perception of current operations. He said that further reports confirmed his earlier assessment (2) that the Argentine Air Force was only likely to mount periodic selective attacks. Finally he summarised the Argentine casualty figures and their losses of equipment to date.

ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

3. REAR-ADMIRAL BROWN (Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations)) outlined the current deployment and operations of the Task Force.
4. SIR TERENCE LEWIN summarised the immediate plans and intentions of the Task Force Commander.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

5. MR McDONALD (Deputy Chief of Public Relations) reported on press coverage.
6. In discussion the following points were made:
  - a. Concern was expressed at the hostile attitude the press had adopted towards the Ministry of Defence. Careful consideration should be given to ways of remedying the situation, possibly including an

## Notes:

1. INTSUM No 142, 140600Z June 1982.
2. COS 73rd Meeting/82, Item 1.

informal meeting of the Chiefs of Staff with editors at an appropriate time after the recapture of Port Stanley.

b. The Task Force Commander intended to forward to the Defence Public Relations Staff some information on successful operations such as those involving SSNs and Hercules aircraft, for release to the press at an appropriate time.

c. It now seemed unlikely that a ship could be provided as a base for additional journalists, as they had previously discussed (3), on grounds both of availability and cost. However, the matter was still being investigated.

7. In discussion the following points were agreed:

a. Notwithstanding criticism from the press, the Ministry of Defence should continue to apply the criteria that no information which might prejudice either operations or British lives should be released.

b. The News Release Group should prepare a statement that day, to say that the Ministry of Defence could neither confirm nor deny Argentine reports of civilian casualties in Port Stanley. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office would ask the International Committee of the Red Cross to confirm the facts as soon as possible.

c. In the light of the changed operational situation, they would in future allow the names of individuals selectively to be released to the press, and in particular allow 'local boy' stories to be released.

d. The Permanent Under Secretary should be invited to examine whether statements made by an Argentine on London Weekend Television 'Weekend World' that the Argentines had set out to occupy the Falkland Islands and South Georgia peacefully could be rebutted.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED

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

Notes:

3. COS 69th Meeting/82, Item 5.
4. Annex A to COS 73rd Meeting/82.

ITEM 5. FUTURE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

9. SIR TERENCE LEWIN said the present pattern of daily meetings of their Committee placed a heavy burden on their own time and on their staffs, and he considered that the situation had now reached the stage where they could reduce the frequency of their formal meetings. He proposed that they should be briefed daily on current intelligence, operations and public relations by CCTV; and they should meet twice weekly to discuss intelligence assessments, future plans and any other business not connected with the Operation. He would also brief them informally after OD(SA) meetings as required. Subject to their agreement, he proposed to instruct their Secretary to make the necessary arrangements.

10. The Committee agreed with the remarks of the Chief of the Defence Staff.

Note by the Secretary

The arrangements for briefings and meetings have been promulgated in COS 1105/742/1 dated 14 June 1982.

## Annex:

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



ANNEX A TO  
 COS 74TH MEETING/82  
 14 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	COS (Misc) 256/ 742/1 dated 3 Jun 82
0091	54/82 Item 5	Contingency Studies	ACDS (Pol)	ACDS (Pol)	62/82 Item 5	COS (Misc) 255/ 742/1 dated 3 Jun 82
0092	59/82 Item 6	Future Force Levels (formerly Future Garrison Studies)	CDS	ACDS (Pol)	71/82 Item 2	For COS 22 Jun
0093	61/82 Item 6	Rules of Engagement	ACDS (Ops)	OD (SA)	OD (SA) 28 May	Periodic Review by OD (SA)
0095	67/82 Item 1	Replacement of Stores and Equipment	DCDS (OR)/ DUS (P)	OD Jul 82		DUS (P) 369/82 dated 11 Jun 82
0096	68/82 Item 7	Garrison Command and Control Arrangements	CDS	ACDS (Pol)	71/82 Item 2	Dependent on 0092 and 0099
0097	69/82 Item 5	Provision of Press facilities	PUS	CPR/AUS (D Staff)	74/82 Item 3	
0098	69/82 Item 6	South Sandwich Islands	CDS	CINCFLEET	73/82 Item 6	
0099	71/82 Item 2	Military Appreciation - Operations after Repossession	CDS	ACDS (Pol)		For COS 24 Jun
0100	72/82 Item 5	Prisoners of War	AD	AD		