

COS 30TH MEETING/82

Copy No ²³ 4.....

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a Meeting held in Room 5301, Ministry
of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall,
on SATURDAY 24 APRIL 1982 at 10.00 am

PRESENT

Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Beetham,
Representing the Chief of the Defence Staff

Admiral Sir Henry Leach,
Chief of the Naval Staff

Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Morony,
Representing the
Chief of the General Staff

ALSO PRESENT

Lieutenant General Sir James Glover,
Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff
(Intelligence)

Lieutenant General Sir Maurice Johnston,
Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff
(Operational Requirements)

Commodore R G Heaslip,
Representing the
Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff
(Policy)

Rear-Admiral D W Brown,
Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff
(Operations)

Air Vice-Marshal T B Stephenson,
Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff
(Signals)

Colonel M M S Finnis,
Representing the
Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff
(Personnel and Logistics)

Air Commodore A Beill,
Director Defence Operational
Movements Staff

Mr R M Hastie-Smith,
Representing the
Permanent Under Secretary

Mr I S McDonald,
Deputy Chief of Public Relations

Mr D H Gillmore,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

SECRETARIAT

Captain J E S Raymond RN
Lieutenant Colonel W S Bale

C O N T E N T S

PART I - ITEMS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING

1-4.(1) OPERATION CORPORATE

PART II - ITEMS DEALT WITH PRIOR TO THE MEETING

Nil

Note:

1. Recorded as a Confidential Annex.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEECONFIDENTIAL ANNEX
TO
COS 30TH MEETING/82 HELD ON
SATURDAY 24 APRIL 1982 AT 10.00 amOPERATION CORPORATEITEM 1. INTELLIGENCE

1. SIR MICHAEL BEETHAM (Representing the Chief of the Defence Staff) 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 assessed, that although there were some ten ships in Port Stanley harbour, none had broken the blockade.

ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

3. The situation was set out in the Force Tote Sitrep (2).
4. REAR-ADMIRAL BROWN (Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations)) said that the ATLANTIC CONVEYOR, which was due to sail from Devonport that evening, would carry 5 Chinook and 6 Wessex helicopters to Ascension Island, before proceeding to join the Task Force with additional RAF Harriers embarked.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

5. MR McDONALD (Deputy Chief of Public Relations) reported on press coverage. In discussion the following points were made:
 - a. Embarked Press. It was likely that the members of the Press on SS CANBERRA would ask to go ashore at Ascension to report on troops training on the island.

Notes:

1. INTSUM No 40. 240600Z April 1982.
2. Force Tote Sitrep (Issue 30).

Part I to COS 30th Meeting/82
24 April 1982

b. Press Article - The Times. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office was assessing options to counter the full page advertisement about the "Malvinas" which had appeared that day in the Times.

c. Message through the Swiss Government on Argentine Aircraft flights over the Task Force. A message (3) had been delivered to the Argentine Government at 1720 Buenos Aires time yesterday warning the Argentines of action that would be taken against aircraft which flew over or near to the Task Force. Any announcement to the media would have to be agreed in advance by Ministers. The Deputy Chief of Public Relations would refer any questions on this subject to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

6. In discussion the following points were agreed:

a. Position of RN Ships. No locations of RN ships should be given to the media.

b. Sea King Accident. A routine press announcement could be given regarding the Sea King accident.

c. Queen Elizabeth 2. In answer to any questions raised at the Press Conference on 24 April about the possibility of taking Queen Elizabeth 2 up from trade, it should be stated that there were no plans to use the ship.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED.

7. The Committee noted the Summary of Actions in Hand (4) and invited the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations) to reflect their proposed amendments in the next issue of the Decision Flow Chart and Diary (5).

Annex:

A. Operation CORPORATE - Actions in Hand.

Notes:

3. FCO Telegram No 64 of 23 April 1982.
4. Annex A to COS 28th Meeting/82.
5. D Ops 7/10/2, 232230Z April 1982.

OPERATION CORPORATE - ACTIONS IN HAND

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
0061	23/82 Item 7	Battle Casualty Replacements	ACDS(P&L)	ACDS(P&L)		
0065	-	Maintenance of a British Garrison in the Falkland Islands	VCDS(P&L)	ACDS(P&L)	VCDS(P&L)127/3/3 dated 19 Apr 82	By 26 Apr