

MILITARY APPRECIATION PAPER FOR CHIEFS OF STAFF

NSAFC
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 ACNS(O)
 DN Plans
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 Hd JDS4

ENCL No.
 52

Outline

Aim of Paper - To review the military options, and their possible consequences, in support of Government policy to restore British Sovereignty to the Falkland Islands and their Dependencies.

Progress - ACDS(Ops) leading. Sections of paper being produced by specialist agencies and single service depts. ACDS(Pol)/AUS(D Staff) will co-ordinate/collate final paper. First inputs by 1900 today; paper in Preliminary Draft, ready by 0930 Monday morning; might be better and more fully cleared by all three services if delayed to close of play Monday or am Tuesday.

Skeleton of Paper

- a. Review of present situation.
- b. Factors affecting the aim.
 - (1) Weather/environment
 - (2) Intelligence capability
 - (3) Bases, allies, casualty/damage avoidance to Falkland infrastructure.
 - (4) Sustainability of operations
 - (5) Air/Sea lift capability
- c. Military Options
 - (1) SSN Operations. What they can achieve in advance of the Task Group, e.g. their unlimited use against Argentine assets, or their employment against LOC to Falkland Is; whether to operate against merchant ships or warships only; the possibility and effects of SSN operations being preceded by an ultimatum.

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FOI SECTION 27

(3) Task Force Operations

Sea control operations in advance of landing.

Blockade - Falkland Islands

Argentinian ports

Power projection against mainland shore targets

Offensive maritime operations with aim of
neutralising Argentinian Navy.

Conduct of Landing operations, including associated
maritime support.

Possible objectives: to gain foothold ashore leading
to negotiated settlement; or to evict Argentinian forces
altogether.

(4) Mining Operations. Against Port Stanley, or
Argentinian ports. This could only take place in a
later timescale.

(5) Other Measures.

d. Military Occupation. Once successfully re-occupied
the ability/cost to sustain the defence of the Falkland Is.
Supply, civil and military, garrison, air defence, guardships.

e. Effects of our Falkland Is Operations on our NATO
Commitments. Force declarations, weapon stocks, withdrawal
of forces declared to NATO Exercises.