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OPERATION CORPORATE: COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS

1. Your note MO5/21 dated 5 April 1982 sought my views on the command of the Task Force both afloat and if the Royal Marines go ashore.
2. The Commander-in-Chief Fleet has full command of the Task Force. This he exercises from his operational HQ at Northwood where he controls all communications and has access to all available intelligence.
3. Operational command of the Force is vested in Flag Officer First Flotilla as Combined Commander of the Task Force. He in turn will delegate operational control of the Amphibious Task Force (the landing ships and their escorts) to Commodore Amphibious Warfare. Once the Royal Marines are firmly established ashore operational control of the landed force would be transferred to Brigade Commander No 3 Commando Brigade as Commander Land Forces. Until he lands, the Brigade Commander is embarked in HMS FEARLESS with the Commodore Amphibious Warfare.
4. I am satisfied that this normal and well tried command and control structure for maritime and amphibious operations works well and I see no reason to depart from it at this time.
5. The officers presently in command appointments within the Task Force are:

Rear Admiral	J F	Woodward	(Flag Officer First Flotilla)
Commodore	M C	Clapp	(Commodore Amphibious Warfare)
Brigadier	J H A	Thompson	(OC 3 Commando Brigade)

A short CV on each officer is attached. All of these are new appointments and the officers are carefully selected.

6. Depending on the military operation decided we might consider sending out a 3-star officer, briefed up to date on the political background to join the Task Force via Ascension Island as overall Force Commander.

5th April 1982

CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF

Att

REAR ADMIRAL J F WOODWARD

John Forster Woodward

Date of Birth: 1 May 52

Entered Royal Navy: 18 Jan 46

Promoted Commander - 30 Jun 67

Captain - 30 Jun 72

Rear Admiral - 7 Jul 81

Principal Appointments

As a Commander:

- 1967-69 HMS Maidstone and HMS Neptune, as Commanding Officer Submarine Commanding Officers' qualifying course.
- 1969 Joint Services Staff course.
- 1969-71 HMS Warspite in command
- 1971-72 Junior Naval Member directing staff, Royal College of Defence Studies.

As a Captain:

- 1972 Junior Naval Member directing staff, Royal College of Defence Studies.
- 1972-74 Ministry of Defence as Assistant Director of Naval Plans (Warfare)
- 1974-76 Captain (sm) Submarine Sea Training.
- 1976-78 HMS Sheffield in command
- 1978 Temporary duty on staff of CinC NavHome Command
- 1978-81 Ministry of Defence as Director Naval Plans

As a Rear Admiral:

- 1981 Flag Officer 1st Flotilla

COMMODORE M C CLAPP

Michael Cecil Clapp

Date of Birth: 22 Feb 32

Entered Royal Navy: 12 Jan 50

Promoted Commander - 30 Jun 68

Captain - 30 Jun 74

Commodore - May 81

Principal Appointments

As a Commander:

1968-70 HMS Jaguar in command.

1970-72 Ministry of Defence for duty with Director of Naval Air Warfare, as staff officer.

1972-74 HMS Norfolk as Executive Officer.

As a Captain:

1974-77 Ministry of Defence as Assistant Director of Naval Plans (Warfare).

1977-78 HMS Leander in command.

1979-81 Naval Director Joint Maritime Operational Training Staff and Commanding Officer, Royal Naval Element RAF Turnhouse.

As a Commodore:

1981 Commodore Amphibious Warfare on the staff of Flag Officer 3rd Flotilla. Promoted Commodore for that task.

BRIGADIER J H A THOMPSON OBE ADC

Julian Howard Atheiven Thompson

Date of Birth: 7 Oct 34

Commissioned in RM: 6 Nov 52

Promoted Lieutenant Colonel - 31 Dec 74

Colonel - 30 Jun 78

Brigadier - 6 Jan 81

Principal Appointments

As a Lieutenant Colonel:

1974-75 Army Staff College Camberley as a member of the Directing Staff.

1975-78 40 Cdo RM as Commanding Officer

As a Colonel:

1978-79 HQ Cdo Forces RM as Colonel General Staff

1980 Royal College of Defence Studies as student

As a Brigadier:

1981 Commander 3rd Commando Brigade (appointed 6 Jan 81)

