

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

The circulation of this paper has been strictly limited.  
This copy is issued for the personal use of .....

CIL

JIC(82) 16th Meeting

Copy No...70.

UK EYES A

CABINET

JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a Meeting held in  
Room 215, Cabinet Office on  
TUESDAY 6 APRIL 1982 at 2.30 pm

PRESENT

Mr P R H Wright  
Foreign and Commonwealth  
Office (In the Chair)

Lieutenant-General Sir James Glover  
Ministry of Defence

Mr J L Jones  
Security Service

'C'

Sir Brian Tovey  
Government Communications  
Headquarters

Sir Antony Duff  
Cabinet Office

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT

Mr H Warren-Gash  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Air Vice-Marshal M J Armitage  
Ministry of Defence

Mr R J O'Neill  
Assessments Staff

Mr P G Wallis  
Assessments Staff

Brigadier A B D Gurdon  
Assessments Staff

Wing Commander D I Scott  
Assessments Staff

Captain J J R Tod  
Assessments Staff

TOP SECRET - UK EYES A

SECRETARIAT

Commander A H R York  
Mr F J Wilson  
Mr P J Bulstrode

CONTENTS

Item No	Subject	Page No
1	FALKLAND ISLANDS: IMMEDIATE ASSESSMENTS (JIC(82)(IA) 12 and 13)	1
2	THE CAPABILITY OF THE ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES (JIC(82)(N) 28)	2
3	THE FALKLAND ISLANDS (JIC(82)(N) 29) (EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE ARGENTINE INVASION)	3
4	REVIEW OF INTELLIGENCE: FALKLAND ISLANDS	3
5	FALKLAND ISLANDS: ASSESSMENTS STAFF FUTURE WORK	4
6	PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS OVER THE EASTER PERIOD	4

## 1. FALKLAND ISLANDS: IMMEDIATE ASSESSMENTS

The Committee considered JIC(82)IA 12 and 15, Immediate Assessments on the above subject, the first two in the daily series of Immediate Assessments which the Committee had commissioned. During a brief discussion it was agreed that the Assessments Staff should continue to review the intelligence available on a daily basis and would produce Immediate Assessments as warranted. It was agreed that all Agencies and Departments should be sure to take part in the daily CIGs because the resulting assessments were of considerable value in providing Ministers and Officials with a community view on the mass of information both covert and overt currently available on this crisis. The Assessments Staff should attempt as far as possible to draft their assessments in such a way that the Intelligence Allies could be fully involved. Where necessary, the Immediate Assessments could be issued with a UK EYES ONLY supplement.

THE CHAIRMAN, summing up the discussion said that the Committee would wish to agree that the Immediate Assessments were apposite and provided a valuable updating of the latest intelligence available in the crisis. The Assessments Staff should continue to review the situation on a daily basis and produce assessments as warranted.

The Committee -

1. Took note, with approval of the Chairman's summing up.
2. Took note of JIC(82)(IA) 12 and JIC(82)(IA) 15.
3. Invited the Chief of the Assessments Staff to proceed in accordance with the Chairman's summing up.

## 2. THE CAPABILITY OF THE ARGENTINE ARMED FORCES

The Committee had before them JIC(82)(N) 28, a draft Note on the above subject which had been revised to take account of the points raised at the Committee's last meeting (JIC(82) 15th Meeting).

During discussion it was noted that although this present draft reflected the judgements in the latest MOD study, it was inevitable that these would be further revised as more information became available. It was nevertheless agreed that it would be useful for the Committee to issue the Note now and up-date it as necessary in the future, rather than delay it further.

THE CHAIRMAN, summing up the ensuing detailed discussion, said the Committee would wish to approve the Note as amended by their discussion. Although it was not desirable to remove the UK EYES A caveat, it would be helpful if the existence of the Note could be brought to the attention of the Intelligence Allies. The Committee would wish to agree therefore that the Chief of the Assessments Staff should arrange an oral briefing for the [redacted] representatives in London and for the British Defence Liaison Staff to be authorised to make use of the Note in discussion with the Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) and other military authorities in Washington.

The Committee -

1. Approved JIC(82)(N) 28 as amended by their discussion and instructed the Secretary to issue it in final form.
2. Instructed the Chief of the Assessments Staff to proceed in accordance with the Chairman's summing up.

THIS IS A COPY. THE ORIGINAL IS  
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3 (4)  
OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

3. THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Committee had before them JIC(82)(N) 29, a draft Note on the above subject.

THE CHAIRMAN said that as the Note represented a review of events leading up to the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands the title should be amended to reflect this more clearly. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office had prepared a separate paper for the Prime Minister which detailed press comment and public statements in Argentina about the Falkland Islands since the end of December 1981. The Assessments Staff may wish to make use of this paper when making final amendments to the Note.

THE CHAIRMAN, summing up a detailed discussion, said the Committee would wish to approve the Note as amended by their discussion and to agree that its title should be amended to "THE FALKLAND ISLANDS: EVENTS LEADING UP TO THE ARGENTINE INVASION."

The Committee -

1. Took note, with approval, of the Chairman's summing up.
2. Approved JIC(82)(N) 29 as amended by their discussion and instructed the Secretary to issue it in final form.

SECRET UK EYES A

4. REVIEW OF INTELLIGENCE: FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Committee had before them a letter from Sir Antony Duff informing them that the Prime Minister had called for an investigation into the intelligence available on the current Argentine/Falkland Island dispute and the use made of it in the Committee's assessments. He had also circulated with the letter draft terms of reference for such a study and had recommended that Mr D R Nicoll, who had recently completed for the Committee similar studies on previous crises, be given the task.

TOP SECRET - UK EYES A

THE CHAIRMAN, summing up a brief discussion, said that the Committee would wish to approve the decision to engage Mr Nicoll for the investigation and approve the proposed terms of reference. All Departments and Agencies should be ready to provide Mr Nicoll with whatever assistance was necessary to enable him to complete his task.

The Committee -

Took note, with approval, of the Chairman's summing up.

SECRET UK EYES A

5. THE FALKLAND ISLANDS: ASSESSMENTS STAFF FUTURE WORK

Mr O'Neill informed the Committee that he had received requests from the Defence and Oversea Secretariat and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for an assessment of the Argentine economic situation with particular reference to their vulnerability to economic pressure. This could be undertaken, using the economic assessments staff, and a draft produced by the following week. The Assessments Staff would also be prepared to review the study being produced by the Foreign and Commonwealth Research Department into the Rio Treaty and write an assessment should it prove necessary.

The Committee -

Took note.

UK CONFIDENTIAL

6. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS OVER THE EASTER HOLIDAY PERIOD

THE CHAIRMAN said that bearing in mind the continuing crisis over the Falkland Islands the Committee would wish to consider its programme of work over the Easter Holiday period.

TOP SECRET - UK EYES A

TOP SECRET - UK EYES A

During a brief discussion it was noted that in addition to the arrangements already approved and published in JIC(82) SEC 10 dated 25 February, (JIC(82) 8th Meeting Minute 11 refers), the Assessments Staff would hold daily CIGs with the intention of producing Immediate Assessments as justified by the available intelligence. There would be no need to plan for formal meetings of the Committee but members should hold themselves in readiness should events justify calling a meeting at any time.

The Committee -

Took note.

Cabinet Office

7 April 1982

TOP SECRET - UK EYES A