2. Item

2 - OWN FORCES - ROEs FOR SSIJS



3. Rationale (to include forces involved, implications for other decisions and other Departments)

HMS SPARTAN arrives in the Falklands op area late on 11 April. She will require ROEs and operational instructions by 8 April, preferably on 7 April.

A draft note to S of S is attached.

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- 4. Decision Required from BOH COS

 Approval/Nove/ReferotoxCOS/TWCXFOFOWAI/THE
- 5. Date/Time Decision by which Required
 At 060930A meeting
- 6. Disposal by Controller DSC

Referred: Out of Committee/CCTV/Meeting at

on

A 3964

→ Sec 1SL

Copies to: Sec VCNS Sec ACNS(O) DS 5

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR SSNS

Draft papers which First Sea Lord may wish to forward to SECCOS for consideration by the Chiefs of Staff at their meeting 0930 6 April, are attached.

6 April 1982

P M H LIVESAY
Captain, Royal Navy
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL WARFARE

Page 1 of 6 pages

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR THE SSN

- 1. Rules of engagement are the means by which political control can be exercised in a position of military confrontation. They explain and define the scope for action by the Military Commander who is confronting the enemy. To be successful they must define with precision the limits of the action authorised and, at the same time, allow the commander on the spot the maximum freedom to achieve the aim encompassed by the rules.
- 2. This is best achieved by establishing in advance a broad selection of rules giving a variety of options from which the political directive may be selected and authorised.

 These rules should be promulgated in advance of the operation so that the Military Commander concerned is familiar with them.
- 3. The basic rules are those which will preserve the status quo. From these a series of rules is developed defining the escalatory steps by which military forces can achieve the expanded political aim. The rules set out in the attached paper are specifically for use by SSNs employed on OPERATION CORPORATE. Rules of engagement for other forces will be developed and submitted separately.
- 5. The rules proposed for the SSNs are thus a catalogue of options defining the military consequences which the submarines are required to achieve to meet the political aim.

at all and the SSN held clear. As the political and military aims expand the rules can be invoked to achieve the desired effect after clearance by Ministers at the appropriate time.

Annex A:

Proposed Rules of Engagement for SSN's

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OPERATION CORPORATE

PROPOSED RULES OF ENGAGEMENTS FOR SSN's

- 1. The following Rules of Engagement (ROE) for SSN's are proposed as the list from which specific rules may be selected.
- 2. All these rules may be further limited by the designation of a specific geographic area in which they will be in force.

IMPLICATIONS

- ONE Remain Covert. Carry out
 surveillance of area allocated. .

 If detected evade. If unable
 to evade prosecuting units
 may be attacked only if they have
 attacked first.
- TWO Remain Covert. Carry out
 surveillance of area allocated.

 If detected evade. If unable
 to evade prosecuting units
 may be attacked in self defence.
- THREE All vessels positively identified

 as ARGENTINIAN warships, submarines

 and naval auxitiaries may be attacked.

FOUR - Any submarine detected may be presumed to be ARGENTINIAN.

Night/poor
visibility
attacks
very unlikely
Non ARGENTINIAN
submarines may
be attacked in
error if present.

TIVE - All vessels which can be positively identified as ARGENTINIAN may be attacked.

SIX - If there is any doubt as to the anationality of a merchant vessel that vessel is not to be attacked.

SEVEN - All merchant vessels which can be positively identified (eg by deck cargo) as carrying military supplies may be attacked.

eIGHT - After the first successful attack
on a vessel withdraw from scene of
action and report. Current rules
are cancelled after attack and
Rule TWO is automatically in force
until further orders.

IN LICATION Submarines will have insurmountable problem with merchantmen. They will certainly not be attacked at night and probably not at all. Merchantmen will almost certainly not be attacked. No night attacks. Non ARGENTINIAN ships may be attacked. If submarine satellite communications are defective submarine will have to use HF radio and be vulnerable

to detection.

IMPLICATIONS

As Rule EIGHT

on a vessel withdraw from scene of action and report. Having reported continue, patrol in accordance with ROE in force. If unable to clear

- After the first successful attack

report after 12 hours continue patrol in accordance with ROE in

force.

- After the first successful attack As Rule EIGHT TEN

on a vessel withdraw from scene of action and report. If Rule EIGHT is in force and you are unable to clear your report after 12 hours then Rule EIGHT may be deemed cancelled and Rule NINE to have been in force.

- After the first successful attack ELEVEN on a vessel continue patrol in accordance with ROE in force.

TWELVE - Situation Reports are to be made As Rule EIGHT at (designated) intervals on (designated) units detected.

THIRTEEN - All vessels within designated area Non ARGENTINIAN may be attacked.

ships may be attacked.