FC 022

SECRET

P/SO

I think CDS knows this. Does he know that CAS has minuted SofS?

B/F in memory pad

Sept

Jan (A)1

Jan 10 Apr.

File No. 33

CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

DATE 7/4/82	COPIES
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FILE: 2033/1	DS SEC

LOOSE MINUTE

41-4-1

PS/SofS

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OPERATION CORPORATE - GURKHA INVOLVEMENT

Reference:

A. FCO letter dated 5 Apr 82. — A3910a

1. CGS wishes SofS to know that he is in fundamental disagreement with Stephen Lamport's note (of 5 Apr), putting forward a view about the use of Gurkhas as part of 5 Infantry Brigade, their parent formation.

2. Whilst CGS feels that, at present, the likelihood of 5 Brigade (the follow up force) becoming involved in Operation CORPORATE is small, he believes that it would be a great psychological error to remove the Gurkhas from their normal fighting formation; their retention in which has been agreed by the Chiefs of Staff. To his knowledge, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office have raised this sort of objection in every case where Gurkha involvement has been proposed such as Cyprus and Belize. In both cases their view has eventually been discarded and the ultimate results have been entirely successful.

3. CGS would be grateful if, should there be any question of the Gurkhas being withdrawn from 5 Brigade, he could discuss the issue with SofS.

7 Apr 82

M J D WALKER
Lt Col
MA to CGS
Ext 7114 Room 6198
Main Building

28m

SECRET

3. 8/4