

COS 22ND MEETING/82

Copy No 17

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
 CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a Meeting held in Room 5301, Ministry
 of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall,
 on SATURDAY 17 APRIL 1982 at 10.00 am

PRESENT

Admiral Sir Henry Leach,
 Representing the Chief of the Defence Staff

Rear-Admiral A J Whetstone,
 Representing the
 Chief of the Naval Staff

Lieutenant General Sir Thomas Morony,
 Representing the
 Chief of the General Staff

Air Marshal Sir David Craig,
 Representing the Chief of the Air Staff

ALSO PRESENT

Rear-Admiral J W T Walters,
 Representing the Vice Chief of the
 Defence Staff (Personnel and Logistics)

Lieutenant General Sir James Glover,
 Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff
 (Intelligence)

Brigadier D H A Swinburn,
 Representing the Assistant Chief of the
 Defence Staff (Policy)

Brigadier H J Goodson,
 Representing the Assistant Chief
 of the Defence Staff (Operations)

Colonel D J Milton,
 Representing the Assistant Chief of the
 Defence Staff (Signals)

Brigadier R E L Jenkins,
 Director Defence Operational
 Movements Staff

Mr R M Hastie-Smith,
 Representing the
 Permanent Under Secretary

Mr I S McDonald,
 Deputy Chief of Public Relations

Mr R T Jackling,
 Representing the Assistant
 Under Secretary (Defence Staff)

Mr P R H Wright,
 Foreign and Commonwealth Office

SECRETARIAT

Lieutenant Colonel J B R Peacock
 Commander M Bickley

C O N T E N T S

PART I - ITEMS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING

- 1-6(1) OPERATION CORPORATE
- 7.(1) GIBRALTAR

PART II - ITEMS DEALT WITH PRIOR TO THE MEETING

NIL

Notes:

- 1. Recorded as a Confidential Annex.

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COS 22ND MEETING/82

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX
TO
COS 22ND MEETING/82 HELD ON
SATURDAY 17 APRIL 1982 AT 10.00 am

OPERATION CORPORATE

ITEM 1. INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

1. SIR HENRY LEACH (Acting Chief of the Defence Staff) invited the Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence) to update them on current intelligence.

2. LIEUTENANT GENERAL GLOVER (Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence)) reviewed the intelligence situation, as outlined (1) in his latest signalled summary. In the subsequent discussion he said he would give the Chief of the Naval Staff later that day a Defence Intelligence Staff assessment of the report (2) that mines might have been laid in the entrance to Port William in the Falkland Islands.

ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

3. There had been no changes to the Force Tote Sitrep (3) already published.

4. SIR DAVID CRAIG (representing the Chief of the Air Staff) said that 9 Victor aircraft would arrive on Ascension Island in the next two days. On arrival they would come under the operational command and control of the Air Officer Commanding 18 Group as Air Commander responsible to the Commander-in-Chief Fleet.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

5. MR McDONALD (Deputy Chief of Public Relations) reviewed the major articles in the daily newspapers.

Notes:

1. INTSUM No 26 170600Z April 1982.
2. CINCFLEET I9F/UAJ 161950Z April 1982.
3. Force Tote Sitrep (Issue 23).

6. In discussion the following points were made:
 - a. The Permanent Under Secretary intended to discuss again with London newspaper editors the desirability of avoiding the publication of reports which might be construed as irresponsible or mischievous. The Chief of the Naval Staff would take similar action privately with those retired senior naval officers who had made public comments.
 - b. There should be no official comment on the return of HMS SUPERB to Faslane, nor should publicity be given to the requisitioning of MV NORLAND.

ITEM 4. DECISIONS REQUIRED

7. The Committee reviewed the forecast of decisions (4). A revised forecast is at Annex A.
8. SIR HENRY LEACH informed the Committee that Ministers had agreed (5) Rules of Engagement for Operation PARAQUET. These covered three sets of circumstances: operations on the high seas; operations within the Argentine-declared 200nm zone; and the operation to repossess South Georgia. He had authorised Commander Task Force 317 (CTF 317) to implement the high seas package. The Operation PARAQUET high seas rules had also been passed to CTF 317 for use by HMS BRILLIANT's group when authorised by further signal; that authorisation had not yet been given.
9. In discussion the point was made that it was essential to correlate military and political decisions, and identify any critical factors in their timing. Political factors were complicated by the uncertainties surrounding the outcome of US Secretary of State Haig's mission, but it should be possible to forecast when military decisions would be needed if planned operations were not to be delayed.
10. Summing up, SIR HENRY LEACH said they would wish to instruct the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations), in conjunction with the Navy and Air Force Departments:

Notes:

4. Annex A to COS 21st Meeting/82.
5. OD(SA)(82) 8th Meeting.

Part I to COS 22nd Meeting/82
17 April 1982

a. To prepare a simple summary of planning dates for the various elements of the Task Force, which he would send to the Secretary of State that afternoon for information.

Note by the Secretary

The summary has been sent (6).

b. To prepare a summary of forecast military decision points for all aspects of Operation CORPORATE for submission to the Secretary of State the next day. They would wish to consider this at their next meeting.

ITEM 5. STUDY INTO THE SCOPE FOR DELAYING LANDING OPERATIONS IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS

11. The Committee agreed Terms of Reference (7) for a study into the scope for delaying landing operations in the Falkland Islands, as amended by them in discussion.

Note by the Secretary

The Terms of Reference have been issued (8).

ITEM 6. CHILE

12. SIR HENRY LEACH said they would wish to consider a report (9) from our Air Attache (designate) in Chile.

13. Summing up their discussion, SIR HENRY LEACH said they would wish to instruct the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations), in conjunction with the Air Force Department and the Defence Secretariat, to prepare a draft submission to the Secretary of State for their consideration at their meeting the next day.

Note:

6. CDS 2038/1/1 dated 17 April 1982.
7. COS(Misc 127/742/1 dated 16 April 1982.
8. COS(Misc) 129/742/1 dated 17 April 1982.
9. SANTIAGO EAA/I9F 161705Z April 1982

ITEM 7. GIBRALTAR

14. The Committee considered a Note (10) which had been prepared in response to a query (11) by the Prime Minister.

15. Summing up a short discussion SIR HENRY LEACH said they would wish to instruct their Secretary to amend the Note in the light of their discussion; and to agree that he should then forward it to the Secretary of State.

Note by the Secretary

The Note has been forwarded (12).

Annex:

A. Operation CORPORATE - Forecast of Decisions or Actions Required (1 page).

Notes:

10. COS(Misc) 128/742/1 dated 16 April 1982.
11. PS/Prime Minister Minute dated 14 April 1982.
12. CDS 2046/1 dated 17 April 1982.

OPERATION CORPORATE - FORECAST OF DECISIONS OR ACTIONS REQUIRED

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
0009	4/82 Item 3 para 11	Availability of Chilean airfields	AFD	Ministers		FCO are investigating
0015	5/82 Item 1 para 7	Sale of Hunter aircraft to Chile	AFD	FCO		FCO have despatched signal
0023	6/82 Item 1	Op CORPORATE - Military Appreciation	COS	DS 11	7/82 Item 5 12/82 Item 6	To be revised -
0055	20/82 Item 2	OP SUTTON - Effects of delay	ACDS(Pol)	COS	22/82 Item 5	For COS 19 Apr 82
0056	20/82 Item 3	OP SUTTON - Plan	ACDS(Ops)	CINCFLEET		To MOD 19 Apr 82 for COS 20 Apr 82
0057	22/82 Item 4	Military Decision Points	ACDS(Ops)	Ministers		For COS 18 Apr 82
0058	22/82 Item 6	Chile	ACDS(Ops)	Ministers		For COS 18 Apr 82

One page only