

Nº 278

from sitrey whom for Australia due to retire who I will check gooding

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1) Ps to sops

0/39/2

CDS

Copy to: CNA/1SL Sec/VCNS

"on the edge" of the TEZ

DISEMBARRASSMENT OF CORPORATE SHIPS

- CNS has asked me to let you know CinCFleet's intentions for the disembarrassment of CORPORATE ships.
- 2. The current plan is that RFA FORT AUSTIN will be first to return to UK but the date is not yet known. She has capacity to carry twenty two weapons in approved stowages and as many inert training/ surveillance weapons as can be stowed, boxed, in a dedicated hold. Transfers will be conducted on the edge of the TEZ as scheduled by CTG 317.8. The order of priority for first shipment is:
  - a. INVINCIBLE total outfit
  - b. HERMES part outfit (9 + 2 trainers)
  - c. RFA RESOURCE total outfit (rounds ex-REGENT)
  - d. All other training weapons

CTG 317.8 will signal the schedule when known. Disembarrassment is to be conducted without prejudice to CORPORATE operations.

3. The balance of HERMES outfit will be transferred to the next available and capable RFA leaving the area, which is probably RFA REGENT. This may not be possible for some time: CTF will signal when total disembarrassment is completed.

2 June 1982

A J WHETSTONE Rear Admiral ACNS(O)