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JIC(82) 32nd Meeting

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CABINET

JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a Meeting held in
Room 215, Cabinet Office on
MONDAY 7 JUNE 1982 at 3.30 pm

PRESENT

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

Mr R P Flower
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Vice-Admiral Sir Roy Halliday
Ministry of Defence

'C'

Sir Brian Tovey
Government Communications
Headquarters

Sir Antony Duff
Cabinet Office

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT

Mr J A Cradock
Security Service

Mr R J O'Neill
Assessments Staff

Mr P G Wallis
Assessments Staff

Brigadier A B D Gurdon
Assessments Staff

Mr M C Clements
Assessments Staff

Captain J J R Tod
Assessments Staff

SECRETARIAT

Mr T W Savage
Commander A H R York
Mr F J Wilson
Mr R D Lawrence

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1. FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Committee had before them JIC(82)(IA)s 107, 109, 110, 113 and 116, Falkland Islands Daily Assessments issued since Thursday 3 June. During a brief discussion the Committee -

- a. noted that the arrangements for producing the Daily Assessments were working well and Departments and Agencies were now suitably represented at the daily CIGs, which were providing an excellent forum for assessing the most recent developments;
- b. noted that, following a reallocation of available staff, the Assessments Staff would be able to devote more effort to studying appropriate aspects in more depth and slower time;
- c. noted that despite the additional demands of the latest events in the Lebanon, the Agencies, though under pressure, would be able to maintain for the foreseeable future the emergency arrangements they had set in hand to manage the Falklands crisis;
- d. agreed that the Assessments Staff should prepare a short piece for inclusion in the WSI to be issued on 11 June on the likelihood of continuing Argentinian hostile action and possible acts of terrorism, particularly against military installations in the United Kingdom, and against British troops in Germany or against assets in our overseas territories such as Gibraltar, Belize and Hong Kong;
- e. agreed that the Assessments Staff, in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence, should prepare a note on Argentinian military capabilities and options following repossession of the Falkland Islands, as a companion piece to JIC(82)(N) 55, "Argentine and International Attitudes following the Repossession of the Falkland Islands".

The Committee -

Invited the Chief of the Assessments Staff and the Ministry of Defence to proceed in the light of their discussion.

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2. ATTACK ON THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR IN LONDON

MR CRADOCK informed the Committee that following the arrest of those allegedly responsible for shooting Mr Sholomo Argov on 3 June a number of documents had been passed to the Security Service for analysis. Once these had been translated and studied, and other aspects of the incident analysed, a full report would be produced which would be made available to the Committee.

The Committee -

Took note.

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3. ASSESSMENTS FORECAST

During a review of proposed work for the immediate future the Committee -

a. agreed that the Assessments Staff should, in addition to those papers already in preparation or discussed under Item 1, examine Kenya, and South African Attitudes to a Namibia Settlement.

b. Noted that the Assessments Staff had set work in hand to produce a paper on the Chinese Nuclear Deterrent for early July.

The Committee -

Invited the Chief of the Assessments Staff to proceed in accordance with their discussion.

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4. VISIT TO FEDERAL GERMAN REPUBLIC BY VICE-ADMIRAL SIR ROY HALLIDAY

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR ROY HALLIDAY informed the Committee that he had been invited to visit Herr Kinkel, President of the Bundesnachrichtendienst (END), the Federal German Intelligence Service, for discussions on the Falkland Islands. He said that the Permanent Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Defence was keen for him to accept the invitation.

During a brief discussion it was agreed that such a visit would provide a valuable opportunity for demonstrating the United Kingdom's willingness to discuss intelligence matters relating to the Falkland Islands and to present Her Majesty's Government's case to the Germans. This was to be encouraged, particularly in view of the need to maintain support for the continuation of economic sanctions against Argentina.

THE CHAIRMAN, summing up, said that the Committee would wish to endorse the proposed visit. Departments and Agencies should consult with Vice-Admiral Halliday to alert him to any areas of contention and inform him of any points they wished to have raised. HM Ambassador to Bonn should be informed of the visit by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

The Committee -

1. Took note, with approval, of the Chairman's summing up.
2. Invited Departments and Agencies to proceed in accordance with the Chairman's summing up.

Cabinet Office

8 June 1982