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JIC(82) 35th Meeting

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CABINET

JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of a Meeting held in
Room 215, Cabinet Office on
THURSDAY 17 JUNE 1982 at 11.00 am

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

Mr J L Jones
Security Service

'C'

Sir Brian Tovey
Government Communications
Headquarters

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT

Air-Vice Marshal M J Armitage
Ministry of Defence

Mr C O Spencer
Canadian High Commission
(Items 1 and 2)

Mr P R Anderson
Canadian High Commission
(Items 1 and 2)

Mr B S Gorman
Australian High Commission
(Items 1 and 2)

Mr R J O'Neill
Assessments Staff

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Mr P G Wallis
Assessments Staff

Captain N L Browne
Assessments Staff
(Items 1 - 4)

Mr A J Colquhoun
Assessments Staff
(Items 1 - 3)

Mrs J P Hamilton-Eddy
Assessments Staff
(Items 1 - 3)

Mr D I Miller
Assessments Staff
(Item 1)

SECRETARIAT

Mr T W Savage
Commander A H R York
Mr F J Wilson
Mr P J Bulstrode
Mr D J Kiernan

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1. CURRENT ASSESSMENTS

The Committee had before them the following draft current assessments -

- a. Part II of the Weekly Survey of Intelligence (JIC(82)(WSI) 24) consisting of an item entitled "36th Session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA)".
- b. A Note entitled "Poland: Opposition to Martial Law" (JIC(82)(N) 57).

After a detailed discussion of these items the Committee -

1. Approved JIC(82)(WSI) 24 as amended by their discussion, instructed the Secretary to issue it in final form and agreed that the item should be released to NATO.
2. Approved JIC(82)(N) 57 as amended by their discussion, instructed the Secretary to issue it in final form and agreed that the Note should be edited for release to NATO.

2. IMMEDIATE ASSESSMENTS

The Committee took note of the following Immediate Assessments issued since their previous meeting -

- a. FALKLAND ISLANDS - daily assessments
JIC(82)(IA) 128, 131, 134, 137, 139, 142, 144
- b. ISRAEL/LEBANON/SYRIA
JIC(82)(IA) 129, 132, 135, 138, 140, 143

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3. CURRENT ASSESSMENTS: ITEM BEARING A NATIONAL CAVEAT

The Committee had before them a draft Note entitled "Aims and Objectives of the United States and the Soviet Union in the Middle East Crisis" (JIC(82)(N) 58), circulated under a UK EYES A caveat.

After a detailed discussion, the Committee -

- a. approved JIC(82)(N) 58 as amended by their discussion and instructed the Secretary to issue it in final form;

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4. IMMEDIATE ASSESSMENT BEARING A NATIONAL CAVEAT

The Committee took note of JIC(82)(IA) 141, a daily assessment on the Falkland Islands issued on 15 June.

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5. FALKLAND ISLANDS - FUTURE WORK

THE CHAIRMAN said that in view of the changed situation in the Falkland Islands it would be useful for the Committee to discuss what work on the subject would be required in the immediate future. In addition, it might be helpful to review the working of the Committee's administrative machinery during the crisis to ascertain if there were any lessons that could be learned for the future.

During discussion it was noted that future Assessments on the Falkland Islands and related matters, some of which would be in the form of Notes, would need to concentrate on -

- a. internal developments within Argentina, including matters relating to the return of prisoners from the Falkland Islands;

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- b. the movement of Argentine armed forces, particularly until confirmation of cessation of hostilities in the South Atlantic;
- c. attempts by the Argentine Government to recoup losses of military equipment by procurement overseas, which subject was closely linked to the difficult problem of endeavouring to persuade our allies of the continued need to embargo arms supplies to Latin America in general.

In regard to the need for continued Daily Assessments on the Falkland Islands, it was noted that much would depend on Ministerial requirements and the flow of intelligence. The formal response of the Argentine Government to the British request for a general cessation of hostilities would be critical in this respect. However, it was hoped that the number of meetings, particularly those at weekends, could be reduced in the near future, thereby reducing the load on Cabinet Office Typing and other support services and on the Assessments Staff.

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Regarding the proposed review of how the Committee's administrative procedures had coped with the crisis, it was suggested that the Assessments Staff should prepare a paper outlining the effectiveness of the CIG Daily Assessment arrangements, which the Committee could use as a basis for further discussions.

THE CHAIRMAN, summing up, said the Committee would wish to agree that the Assessments Staff should proceed with work related to the Falkland Islands in accordance with their discussion. The Assessments Staff should consider, in the light of the latest information available on Friday 18 June, what

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CIG arrangements would be necessary for the weekend of 19-20 June. The Committee would wish to return to the subject at their meeting on Monday 21 June.

The Committee -

1. Took note, with approval, of the Chairman's summing up.
2. Invited the Chief of the Assessments Staff to proceed accordingly.

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6. VISIT TO FEDERAL GERMAN REPUBLIC BY VICE-ADMIRAL SIR ROY HALLIDAY AND MR R J O'NEILL (16 JUNE 1982)

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7. DISCLOSURE OF UK INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITY
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18 June 1982