

ENCL No.  
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SECRET

CXY112 15/1856 10504518

FOR CXM

IMMEDIATE 151530Z APR 82

FROM COMMCEN FCO LONDON  
TO MODUK

DIS: NCS  
CNSO  
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SECRET  
SIC U2C/19F  
SECRET

FM MONTEVIDEO 151530Z APRIL 82  
TO IMMEDIATE MODUK  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 151520Z OF 15 APRIL

SIC U2C/19F

FROM BRITDEFAT MONTEVIDEO

FALKLANDS CRISIS- DEBRIEF OF MR TERENCE HURLEY OF MARCONI RADAR SYSTEMS  
FURTHER TO OUR 151345Z OF 15 APRIL  
BEGINS  
TRINIDAD

1. VISITED TRINIDAD 15 MARCH 82 TO RE-SETUP TRANSMITTER FOLLOWING VALUE CHANGE IN FORWARD 909 RADAR. FREQUENCY 13.777 GHZ. AFT FREQUENCY AS IN UK. REQUIRES ESTIMATED TWO MONTHS TO CHANGE EITHER FREQUENCY, OR BOTH, DUE LACK OF EXPERIENCE IN WORKSHOP. TRANSMITTER POWERS BOTH RADARS NORMAL. BOTH RADARS HAVE TRAINING CONNECTOR CLUTCHES IN VERY POOR CONDITION. FORWARD RADAR ABOUT TO DROP CABLES WHEN DIRECTOR IN MOTION. OFFICER IN CHARGE IGNORED ADVICE TO DO SOMETHING QUICKLY, BASE WORKSHOP HAS PREPARED SPARE CLUTCH FOR USE. NO SPARE CONNECTOR CABLES HELD, NOR SPARE CONNECTOR. FORWARD RADAR TRIPS EVERY FIRST RUN-UP ON MONDAY MORNINGS DUE WATER GLYCOL SYSTEM. THIS INDICATES AIR LEAK FROM WAVEGUIDE INTO GLYCOL VIA WATER LOADS. THIS COULD TURN THE OTHER WAY FILLING WAVEGUIDES WITH LIQUID, HAS HAPPENED IN THE PAST ON HERCULES. SHIPS STAFF ARE KEEN AND INTELIGENT, BUT LACK

EXPERIENCE TO MAINTAIN RADARS IN OPERATIONAL CONDITION FOR LONG PERIOD. WHEN FAULT OCCURS, VERY OFTEN NOT RECOGNISED AS SUCH UNTIL CATASTROPHIC FAILURE DEVELOPS. BASE SUPPORT OF SIMILAR NATURE, DUE LACK OF RADAR IN BASE.

HERCULES

2. HERCULES DUE FOR REFIT STARTING JULY, BUT CANCELLED IN JANUARY DUE LACK OF FUNDS. MANY PROJECTS IN WORKSHOPS CUT BACK OR CANCELLED FOR SAME REASON. RUBBER LOSES THROUGHOUT SHIP YEARS OUTSIDE THEIR LIFETIME, NO SPARES HELD. HERCULES NOW FITTED WITH EXOCET, TWO LAUNCHERS EITHER SIDE ON 01 DECK AMIDSHIPS. THE SYSTEM

SECRET

IS OPERATIONAL AND HAS BEEN PROOF-FIRED. SOME FORM OF ECCM  
FITTED, SIMILAR UAA1, HAVE NO DETAILS.  
909 RADARS IN OPERATIONAL CONDITION, POWERS NORMAL, FORWARD  
FREQUENCY 13.8 GHZ, AFT 13.955 GHZ. AFT RADAR HAS SERIOUS OIL LEAK,  
SEAL AT BASE OF COLUMN FAILED, SATURATING INSIDE OF PENDANT CONTAINER

WITH OX 38. UNITS DIA AND DIC ARE REGULARLY IN WORKSHOP FOR

CLEANING, DUE ARCING IN EHT AREAS. UNIT M13 CHANGED SOME TIME AGO,  
FILTER CAPACITOR HELD. THEREFORE, NO SPARE M13 USELESS.

3. SHIP'S STAFF ARE HIGH STANDARD, CAPABLE OF MAINTAINING RADARS  
IN OPERATIONAL CONDITION UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS. THIS ALSO  
APPLIES IN GENERAL TO WEAPONS AND ELECTRICAL BRANCH OF HERCULES.  
400 HZ TRANSFORMER ON RACK G2D AFT, FEEDING MRA, FAILED MARCH 21.  
NO SPARE HELD. MRA OPERATIONAL, NOT POSSIBLE TO TEST.

BASE SPARES SITUATION TYPE 421S

4. EIGHT SPARE UNITS (D1B2) HELD, COLUMNS A TO H INCLUSIVE.  
PARALLEL FILTER HOLDING NOT KNOWN.

BELGRANO

5. CRUISER BELGRANO HAS SERIOUS FAULT ON ONE FIRE CONTROL RADAR  
TYPE 25. NO DETAILS.

CORVETTES

6. CORVETTE GUERRICO WAS HIT UNDER THE BRIDGE BY BAZOOKA SHELL,  
THREE SAILORS KILLED. SHIP IN PORT FOR REPAIRS. EXTENT OF DAMAGE  
NOT KNOWN.

7. CORVETTES OF FRENCH ORIGIN HAVE SERIOUS SPARES PROBLEM.

FIRE CONTROL RADARS ARE COMMERCIAL, 9.0 TO 9.3 GHZ MANUALLY  
TUNEABLE.  
DUE VIBRATION, BREAK DOWN REGULARLY.

AIR DEFENCE AND SHIP MOVEMENTS

8. REGRET NO DETAILS.

ENDS

HUTCHINSON

BT

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