

COS
By S.A.T.

PERSONAL COVERING SECRET

510/506
MO 5/21 [116/82]

411

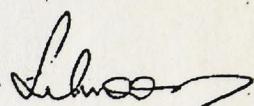
RULES OF ENGAGEMENT - SOUTH GEORGIA PARTY

1. I have studied the signals sent from MODUK and from HMS ENDURANCE concerning Rules of Engagement for the Royal Marines landed in South Georgia, between the period 23 March - 3 April. The following is a chronological resume of the relevant developments.
2. On Tuesday 23 March HMS ENDURANCE deployed ashore Royal Marine observation posts under the command of the OCRM HM ENDURANCE (Lt Mills), with the task of observing the activities of the Argentinian Scrap Merchant Party at Leith Harbour.
3. These parties were covered by Rules of Engagement which were appropriate to their role at the time. These are at Flag A. You will wish to note that the rules for opening fire at this stage were of necessity restricted.
4. Eight days later, on the afternoon of Wednesday 31 March, MODUK Navy warned CINCFLEET of the possibility of an Argentinian landing on the Falklands, and mentioned the option of moving HMS ENDURANCE at short notice rapidly towards the Falklands, (Flag B). That Wednesday evening (3112015Z) the executive order was given by MODUK Navy to HMS ENDURANCE (Flag C) to proceed with despatch to Port Stanley, landing all Royal Marines at Grytviken.
5. Two hours later specific orders were sent from MODUK (Navy) giving the party their tasks (Flag D). At this stage the Rules of Engagement contained in Flag A were to continue to apply, and the OCRM was ordered to take these Rules of Engagement ashore with him. The signal was originated by Dept of CGRM, and cleared by DNOT and DS5.
6. On the night Thursday/Friday 01/02 April the major decisions were made to launch the Task Force in the light of the intelligence of an immediately impending Argentinian invasion. Amongst the many other orders issued, a MODUK signal (Flag E) was sent to HMS ENDURANCE passing a warning to the Royal Marines ashore in South Georgia of the strong possibility of an Argentinian assault. The Op Tasks in Flag D were cancelled, and the ROE in Flag A were cancelled. The Royal Marines were ordered 'to open fire without warning on any Argentinian landing in South Georgia, providing you are certain they are armed'. This signal was initiated by Dent of CGRM at the wish of the First Sea Lord, in accordance with the guidance of the Cabinet. It was written in consultation with DNOT and DS5. Twenty minutes later a necessary rider was sent (Flag F) telling the South Georgia party not, at that stage, to make any move to arrest the Argentinian working party at Leith Harbour.
7. On the morning of the 2 April the invasion of the Falkland Islands took place, and on South Georgia, Mills prepared his positions at the mouth of King Edward Cove. That evening HMS ENDURANCE signalled FCO London (Flag G), copy to MODUK Navy, (Flag G), copy to MODUK Navy, stating that the Bahia Paraiso was on the point of sending a signal which was likely to demand the surrender of the shore party in South Georgia. In the absence of HEGFI, Captain HMS ENDURANCE asked what instructions were to be passed to the shore party. (This signal was received in the DSC at about midnight local 2/3 April).
8. Up to this point it is considered that there had been no inconsistency in the instructions issued to Lt Mills and his party. However it is considered that the MODUK response (Flag H) to HMS ENDURANCE'S signal was confusing. The phrase 'If Argentinians then invade, RM Detachment is to resist invasion using force in accordance with ROE laid down in YDA/WF4/19F 232001F Mar (Flag A)' is

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contradictory as the ROE in Flag A are self defence ROE and are not applicable to repelling an invasion. The signal was initiated by the Defence Secretariat at a time of great pressure, and at the time Dept of CGRM were not consulted. It is understood that subsequently DNOT considered with Dept of CGRM and the Defence Secretariat the possibility of yet a further signal cancelling Flag H, but in the event it was considered that this would add even more to the confusion. I believe from hearsay that the Captain of ENDURANCE may have subsequently sent a signal direct to the detachment, perhaps to clarify the contradiction.



I M H MOORE

Lt Col RM

NB 4312

7301

PERSONAL COVERING SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

CAF 101 23/2125 082A5191

FOR CAF

IMMEDIATE/IMMEDIATE 232001Z MAR 82

FROM MODUK NAVY
TO CINCPOL
HMS ENDURANCE
INFO HE GOV FALKLAND ISLANDS
FOF 3
HMA BUENOS AIRES
NP 8901
FCO LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL

SIC JDA/W4A/LDQ/A3A

FCO LONDON FOR SAND

SOUTH GEORGIA - RULES FOR USE OF SMALL ARMS

REF: MODUK NAVY-JDA/W4A/LDQ/A3A 232000Z MAR 82

(CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE)

1. CARRIAGE AND ISSUE OF ARMS.

A. PERSONAL ARMS AND AMMUNITION MAY BE TAKEN ASHORE FOR USE IN SELF DEFENCE ONLY.

B. CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE FACT THAT OPEN DISPLAY OF WEAPONS MAY EXACERBATE SITUATION AND BE OPEN TO SUBSEQUENT MISREPRESENTATION BUT MAY ALSO HAVE DETERRENT OR STABILISING EFFECT.

C. IN GENERAL TERMS, HOWEVER SERVICEMEN SHOULD NOT BE PUT IN POSITION OF DANGER IN WHICH THEY CANNOT DEFEND THEMSELVES.

D. WEAPONS ARE NOT TO BE ISSUED WITHOUT AMMUNITION.

E. INDIVIDUALS ISSUED WITH WEAPONS ARE TO BE CAREFULLY BRIEFED ON INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPENING FIRE.

2. USE OF MILITARY ARMS.

A. MILITARY ARMS MAY BE USED ONLY IN SELF DEFENCE WHEN THEY PROVIDE THE ONLY WAY OF PROTECTING SERVICEMEN FROM DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY. USE OF ARMS IS TO BE LIMITED TO THE MINIMUM NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THIS, CONSISTENT WITH NEED FOR LOW-KEY APPROACH AND CORDIAL BUT FIRM EXCHANGES.

B. WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT THE SENIOR PERSON PRESENT SHOULD CONTROL THE USE OF ARMS. IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE INDIVIDUALS MAY AND SHOULD TAKE SUCH INDEPENDENT PROTECTIVE ACTION AS CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE.

3. INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPENING FIRE.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CAF 101 23/2125 082A5191

FOR CAF

IMMEDIATE/IMMEDIATE 232001Z MAR 8

FROM MODUK NAVY
TO CINCPLEET
INFO HMS ENDURANCE
HE GOV FALKLAND ISLANDS
FOB
HMA BUENOS AIRES
NP 8901
FCO LONDON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-SIC JDA/W4A/LDQ/A3A

FCO LONDON FOR SAND

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3. INSTRUCTIONS FOR OPENING FIRE.

A. THESE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY TO COMMANDERS CONTROLLING FIRE OR TO INDIVIDUAL SERVICEMEN ACTING INDEPENDENTLY

B. GENERAL. MINIMUM FORCE IS TO BE USED ONLY TO SAFEGUARD LIFE. IF FIRE IS OPENED

1. ONLY AIMED SHOTS ARE TO BE FIRED

2. NO MORE ROUNDS THAN ARE NECESSARY TO SAFEGUARD LIFE ARE TO BE FIRED

3. WHERE POSSIBLE AUTOMATIC WEAPONS ARE TO BE ON SINGLE SHOT. AUTOMATIC FIRE SHOULD ONLY BE USED IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

4. ONLY PERSONS ARMED WITH FIREARMS OR OTHER WEAPONS ARE TO BE FIRED UPON

5. MAGAZINES SHOULD BE LOADED WITH LIVE AMMUNITION AND FITTED TO WEAPONS BUT UNLESS FIRE IS ABOUT TO BE OPENED NO LIVE ROUND IS TO BE IN THE BREACH AND WORKING PARTS ARE TO BE FORWARD

C. WARNING. WARNING IS TO BE GIVEN BEFORE OPENING FIRE.

D. GUIDELINES. YOU MAY FIRE ONLY IF THERE IS NO OTHER WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF OR THOSE FOR WHOM YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FROM THE DANGER OF BEING KILLED OR SERIOUSLY INJURED AND THEN ONLY USING THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF SHOTS NECESSARY

BT

DISTRIBUTION JDA

N

CWG 1 DS 5 ACTION (CYR 1 Res Clerk)

C3F 1 ACS(FIN S) LONDON 2

CXU 2 DNOT

CAF 2 DS 16

DISTRIBUTION W4A

N

CAF 2 CGRM ACTION (CWV 1 RCDO(N))

CAS 2 CGRM(OAB)

DISTRIBUTION LDQ

N

CXU 2 DNOT ACTION (CXU 1 DNOT(DO))

CWP 1 ACNS(O)

CAS 1 DNSC

CXR 1 DNW

CWG 1 DS 5

CYK 1 STP(N)

DISTRIBUTION A3A

N

CXK 4 COSSEC ACTION (CXK 1 DSC)

CAB 3 ACDS(POL)

CWJ 1 AUS(D Staff)

CAB 1 CAS

CWR 1 CDS

SECRET

DUTY COMMANDER
31 MAR 1982

BIG

5

3

CXU154 31/1654 09083846

FOR CXU

IMMEDIATE/IMMEDIATE 311625Z MAR 8

FROM MODUK NAVY
TO CINCFLEET
INFO MODUK

S C R E T

SIC LDQ

1. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT CURRENT INTELLIGENCE INDICATES POSSIBILITY THAT ARGENTINIAN UNITS MIGHT BE IN A POSITION TO

LAND TROOPS NEAR PORT-STANLEY ON OR AFTER 2 APRIL.

2. MINISTERS ARE CONSIDERING WHETHER HMS ENDURANCE SHOULD REDEPLOY TO FALKLAND ISLANDS. PENDING DECISION HIS ENDURANCE IS TO REMAIN AT SEA TO THE NW OF LEITHWHERE SHE CAN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE SURVEILLANCE OF SHORE PARTY BUT CAN PROCEED TOWARDS PORT STANLEY WITHOUT DELAY IF THIS SHOULD BE REQUIRED

T

DISTRIBUTION LDQ

N

CXU 2 DNOT ACTION (CXU 1 DNOT(DO))

CWP 1 ACNS(O)

CA 1 DNSC

CXK 1 DNW

CWG 1 DS 5

CYK 1 STP(N)

C CWQ 1 DSC(NATO) ACTION (CXK 1 DSC)

CXU 2 DNOT

B/F

D

3

5

CONFIDENTIAL

CXW126 31/2047-09084635

FOR CXU

IMMEDIATE/PRIORITY 312015Z MAR 82

FROM MODUK NAVY
TO CINCFLT
INFO MODUK
HE GOV FALKLAND ISLES
NP 85A1

Later reported by CINCPACFLT

CONFIDENTIAL

SIC LDC

FROM CH NAVY LDC 311625Z MAR 82 (NATO).

1. ENDURANCE IS TO PROCEED WITH ALL DESPATCH TO PORT STANLEY.
2. BEFORE DEPARTURE ENDURANCE IS TO LAND AT FRYTVILLE AND LOAD WITH COMPLETE SCALES OF WEAPONS AMMO AND RADIOS PLUS ADDITIONAL TONES AS REQUIRED.
3. FURTHER SITAL OR RM EMPLOYMENT FOLLOWS

DISTRIBUTION BY DO

CXU 2 DNOT ACTION (CXU 1 DNOT(DO))
CWP 1 ACNS(C)
EAS 1 DNSC
DXR 1 DNM
DWG 1 DS 5
DYN 1 STP(N)

CXK 1 DSC(NATO) ACTION (CXK 1 DSC)
CXU 2 DNOT

SECRET

ZPAO 31/2140 090E4796 SPECIAL HANDLING

FOR ZPA

SECRET

FLASH/FLASH 312223Z MAR 82

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

317072 3

B/F

FROM MODUK NAVY
TO CINCFLEET
INFO MODUK
HE GOV FALKLAND ISLAND
HMS ENDURANCE
NP 8901

RECLASSIFIED EARLY CO-BRITISH
UK EYES B

DO NOT
DRAFT

ACNS(1)

DS5

SECRET UK EYES BRAVO -

SIC AAA/LDQ

EMPLOYMENT OF RM DETACHMENT ON SOUTH GEORGIA.

- A. MODUK NAVY LDQ 312015Z MAR 82
- B. MODUK NAVY JDA/W4A/LDQ/A3A 232001Z MAR 82 39
1. PENDING RECEIPT OF FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRARY, MISSION OF RM DETACHMENT REMAINING SOUTH GEORGIA IN PRIORITY ORDER IS TO
 - A. MAINTAIN UK PRESENCE ON SOUTH GEORGIA
 - B. PROTECT BAS PERSONNEL AT GRYTU IKEN
 - C. MAINTAIN SURVEILLANCE OF ARGENTINES AT LEITH HARBOUR
2. APPRECIATE TASK AT PARA 1C MAY BE DIFFICULT AND COULD PRESENT DANGERS FOR ISOLATED PARTY. SURVEILLANCE MAY BE REDUCED TO 1-OP IF NECESSARY ENSURING POSSIBILITY OF CLOSE CONTACT WITH ANY ARGENTINES IS KEPT TO MINIMUM BY KEEPING OP AT DISTANCE.
3. ROE ARE IAW REF B. OCRM TO TAKE COPY OF REF B ASHORE AND ANY AMENDMENTS WILL BE ISSUED IN CLEAR.
4. RECOMMEND COMMAND OF RM DETACHMENT RETAINED BY CO HMS ENDURANCE. REAR LINK COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE VIA INSECURE MEANS THROUGH BAS GRYTU IKEN. IF TIME PERMITS AND DEPARTURE OF HMS ENDURANCE IS NOT DELAYED, ARRANGEMENTS TO ESTABLISH LOCAL CODE EG SLIDER SHOULD BE MADE.

Flag A

ORIG: BRUCE BRANCH: OPS CGRM EXT: 2270-6105

BT

DO NOT 21522

GRM

DSC (NAD) 21522

CS SEC

MINISTER OF STATE (AF)

RUSH DSC } 21522
RC }

UK EYES B
SECRET

S E C R E T

RESTRICTED

CAF009 02/02CS 092AD302

FOR CAF

FLASH/FLASH 021455Z APR 82

CORRUPT DTG: THIS SHOULD READ 020155Z

FROM MODUK NAVY
TO HMS ENDURANCE
INFO CINCFLEET
HEGFI

RESTRICTED

SIC LDQ/W4A/19F

SUSPECT ASSAULT ON SOUTH GEORGIA. PASS TO RM/DET. 1. STRONG POSSIBILITY OF ASSLT ON GRYTVIKEN BY 400 ARG VINES FROM DESTROYER/PARASO. POSSIBLE TIME 021300 LOCAL. 2. CONCENTRATE ALL FORCES GRYTVIKEN IMMEDIATELY. CANCEL ALL OP TASKS. ENLIST SP FROM BAS PERSONNEL BY AGREEMENT WITH BASE COMD. 3. CANCEL ROE IN MODUK NAVY JDA/W4A 232001Z. NAME YOU ARE TO OPEN FIRE WITHOUT WARNING ON ANY ARG PARTY LANDING ON SOUTH GEORGIA PROVIDED YOU ARE CERTAIN THEY ARE ARMED. 4. IN CONSULTATION WITH BASE COMD AS REP HEGFI TAKE ALL NEC STEPS TO RESIST ARG ARMED INCURSION FROM SEAWARD

BT

DISTRIBUTION LDQ

N
CXU 2 DNOT ACTION (CXU 1 DNOT(DO))
CWP 1 ACNS(C)
CAS 1 DNSC
CXR 1 DNM
CWG 1 DS-5
CYK 1 STP(N)

DISTRIBUTION W4A

M
CAF 2 CGRM-ACTION (CMW 1 RDCD(N))
CAS 2 CGRM(OAB)

DISTRIBUTION 19F

N
CXK 1 DSC(RCW). ACTION (CXK 1 DSC)
CYR 1 ACOS(S)
CXQ 1 ASD-2
CMJ 1 FAUS(Destaff)
CAF 2 CGRM
CYT 1 CMSO

CONFIDENTIAL

CX5105 02/1221 09240343

FOR CAF

FLASH/FLASH 021215Z APR 82.

FROM MODUK NAVY
TO HMS ENDURANCE
INFO HQGFI
INFO CINCFLT

CONFIDENTIAL

SIC LDQ/W4A/19F

SUSPECT ASSAULT ON SOUTH GEORGIA PASS TO RM DET.

A. MODUK NAVY LDQ/W4A/19F [REDACTED] APR 82 FURTHER TO REF A, MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO ARREST ARG WORKING PARTY AT LEITH HARBOUR

BT

DISTRIBUTION LDQ

N
CXU 2 DNOT ACTION (-CXU 1 DNOT(DO))
CWP 1 ACNS(O)
CAS 1 DNSC
CXR 1 DNW
CWG 1 DS
CYK 1 STP(N)

Log

DISTRIBUTION W4A

N
CAF 2 CGRM ACTION (-CWV 1 RCDO(N))
CAS 2 CGRM(OAB)

DISTRIBUTION 19F

N
CXX 1 DSC(ROW) ACTION (-CXX 1 DSC)
CYH 1 ACDS(S)
CXQ 1 ASD-2
CWJ 1 AUS(D Staff)
CAF 2 CGRM
CYT 1 CNSO
CXK 2 COSSEC
CYD 1 DO OOS(AT)(RAF)
CYG 1 DIS
CXV 1 DNAW
CXU 2 DNOT
CAS 1 DONS
CWJ 1 DS-11

OGRI	
RM	
2 APR 1982	
ACTION	DIS
Comd. 19F	
Serial No. [REDACTED]	

CONFIDENTIAL

SRI
LUGG
KLU

SECRET

022200Z APR 82

FROM HMS ENDEAVOUR
TO FOC LONDON
INFO CINCFLEET
MODUK NAVY

SECRET

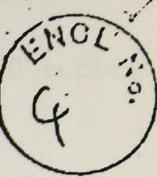
1. BASE COMMANDER GRYTVIKEN CALLED BY AIR BAIA PARAISO AND TOLD THAT AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE NOW TO BE PASSED AFTER 03000Z.
2. IT IS ASSUMED THAT THIS MESSAGE WILL ASK GRYTVIKEN TO SURRENDER THE BASE AS QUOTE SOUTH GEORGIA IS IN ARGENTINE HANDS UNQUOTE IN THE ABSENCE OF HEGF; WHAT INSTRUCTIONS DO YOU WISH PASSED TO BASE COMMANDER QUES.
3. I WILL BE IN A POSITION TO SUPPORT MY ROYAL MARINES AT GRYTVIKEN AT APPROX 031500Z

BT

DISTRIBUTION - 10P

DMR	1	DCO(RM) NOTICE (DMN = 1 DCO)
CMDR	1	ACOPS(S)
CMP	1	ACMS(C)
CNO	1	ADM 2
CNS	1	ADM 2 STAFF
CAF	4	CCRM
CNS	1	CNS
CNT	1	CNSG
CNS	2	CCSEBC
CAT	1	CDTFCM(AT)(RAF)
CNS	1	DIO
CIV	1	DMAM
CNS	1	DMW
CNS	1	DMW
CNS	1	DSB 11
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S-E-C R E T



OWI/OSI 03/0000 093A/091

FOR CDR

FLASH/FLASH 030915Z APR 82

FROM: HMAS ENDURANCE
TO: CHIEF FLEET
INFO: COO LONDON

THE ASSESSMENT OF COMCEN IS THAT THIS
DTG IS CORRUPT AND SHOULD BE 030815Z APR 82.

S E C R E T
SIC 19F/LDQ/EAL
OPERATION CORPORATE

REFERENCE ENDURANCE 19F/LDQ/EAL 022000Z APR 82

1. IF STATEMENT FROM BAHIA PARATOC AT 031000Z ASKS
FOR BASE TO BE SURRENDERED BASE COMMANDER SHOULD NOT COMPLY.
HE SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT ANY ATTEMPTED LANDING WILL BE
RESISTED. IF ARGENTINIANS THEN TRY TO RM DETACHMENT IS TO
RESIST INVASION USING FORCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ROE LAID DOWN
IN JDA/WAA/19F 232001Z MAR, BUT THEY SHOULD NOT RESIST
BEYOND THE POINT WHERE LIVES MIGHT BE LOST TO NO AVAIL.

BT

DISTRIBUTION 19F

CNR	1	DSC (ROW)	ACTION	(CDR)	1	DSC ()
CDR	1	ACDS(S)				
CWF	1	ACNS(O)				
CXQ	1	ABD 2				
CDU	1	AUS(O staff)				
CAF	4	CGRH				
CDS	1	CNS				
CDT	1	CNSO				
CXE	2	COSSEC				
CDL	1	DD OPS(AT)(RAF)				
CDY	1	DFO				
CDV	1	DMAW				
CDR	1	DRM				
CDG	1	DGS				
CDJ	1	DRM				
CDL	1	DRM				
CDT	1	DRUG COORD				
CDY	1	DST(FMV)				
CDV	1	DO 2				
CDR	1	DUST				
CDP	1	VOCG(P&L)				
CDM	1	DSC(MAVY OFS)				