

2038/1/1

Internal:
A/CDS
SCDS/A
Fleet

- CNS
- CGS
- CAS
- PUS
- VCDS(P&L)
- DUS(P)
- DUS(FB)
- DCDS(OR)
- ACDS(Pol)
- ACDS(Ops)
- SECCOS

SECRETARY OF STATE

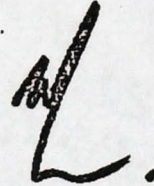
OPERATION CORPORATE - OPERATION AND SUPPORT PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

1. We need to make certain planning assumptions to govern our logistic and support planning. These will need to be continually reviewed but I believe we need to promulgate a first set now.
2. I, and my colleagues have given the matter thought and I believe the following three broad assumptions need to be made:
 - a. Operational and support planning should be based on 6 months duration of operations in the area, assuming 25% battle attrition of naval, and maritime air forces.
 - b. The duration of the land battle should be not more than 30 days, but logistics will be required for an occupation force of up to 6 months.
 - c. Strengths of units, weapons and logistic support within the NATO area should be restored to declared levels as soon as possible.
3. The Navy Department have already done some work on identifying items of equipment which could be brought forward, additional support measures and the need for reprovisioning of stocks and reserves. The other two Service Departments need to undertake similar work; for example there is the question of running on Vulcans, to which you have already given initial consideration (1). All of this needs Central co-ordination and ordering of priorities to make sure that the long term defence programme does not become distorted.
4. Because judgements assessing military resource priorities are involved I believe that a 3-star officer is required and for that reason I have given the overall co-ordination of this

SECRET
UK EYES A
U.K. EYES A

work to DCDS(OR), with ACDS(Pol), ACDS(Ops) and ACDS(P&L) working to him. He will also keep the assumptions under review.

5. One of the early tasks I want DCDS(OR) to undertake is to examine the implications of sustaining operations for longer than 6 months, or for more than 30 days at limited war rates.



22nd April 1982

CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE STAFF

Note:

1. MO 5/21 of 20 Apr 82.

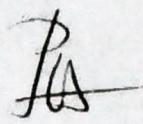
U.K. EYES A
UK EYES A
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PSO/CDS

OPERATION AND SUPPORT PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

1. I have had a final version typed for CDS' signature.
2. I have not amended the assumptions in para 2 on the lines that CNS proposed. My reasons for doing this are that:
 - a. CNS' new assumption (b) seems a wishy-washy sort of assumption to me.
 - b. The present assumption can be amended or used to derive CNS' thought.
 - c. It has not been cross-cleared.
 - d. CDS in my draft does not commit himself to saying that his colleagues agreed the three assumptions.
3. I have therefore only amended para 2 by changing the number 4 to 3, taken PSO' amendment to para 3 and the change to para 5.

22 Apr 82
Head of SCDS(B)