

COS(Misc)148/742/1

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RULES OF ENGAGEMENT - ENFORCEMENT OF FALKLAND ISLANDS MARITIME AND AIR EXCLUSION ZONE

FILE

1. The attached draft submission to the Secretary of State has been prepared in accordance with the instructions (1) of the Chiefs of Staff.

2. Unless the Secretary, Chiefs of Staff Committee hears to the contrary by telephone (Ext 6347) by 0900 Friday 23 April 1982 it will be assumed the Chiefs of Staff have agreed the draft.

Note:

1. COS 27th Meeting/82, Item 5.

Attachment:

Draft Submission.

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 1. *Authorisation by*
 2. *26 Apr.*
 3. *Announcement*
27 Apr.

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Missions will have limited powers to adjust after implementation.

CNS
a. Rules will effect the Plans.

6. Authorisation unless otherwise directed.

22 April 1982

COS S17(13)

20 APR 1982
HQ 359
STAFF

ATTACHMENT TO
COS(Misc) 148/742/1

SECRETARY OF STATE

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR ENFORCEMENT OF FALKLAND ISLANDS
MARITIME AND AIR EXCLUSION ZONE

1. Approval has already been given for Rules of Engagement (ROE), for the following operations concerning the Falkland Islands in addition to Operation PARAQUET:

Falkland Islands

- a. SSN operations in the Maritime Exclusion Zone (MEZ).
 - b. High Seas transit of surface forces and aircraft towards the Falkland Islands.
 - c. SSN surveillance operations outside the MEZ.
2. The first surface units are due to enter the UK declared Falkland Islands 200 mile Maritime Exclusion Zone on 29 April. Their primary task will be enforcement of the Exclusion Zone [in preparation for Operation SUTTON] and they will require full knowledge of the requisite ROE by 27 April, in order to finalise their plans. ?

3. In order to establish an air blockade and to enhance the survivability of UK forces within the Maritime Exclusion Zone (MEZ) it will be necessary to declare a 200 mile radius AIR EXCLUSION ZONE, based on the current MEZ from sea level to unlimited height and also to close Port Stanley airfield. The associated Rule of Engagement suffixes must allow attack of:

- a. All aircraft positively identified as ARGENTINIAN Air Force or ARGENTINIAN Naval Aircraft (SUFFIX LIMA)

b. All aircraft which can be positively identified (eg by unloading on the ground or dropping from the air, stores or personnel) as carrying military supplies or military personnel.

(SUFFIX PAPA)

c. All aircraft on the ground in the Falkland Islands.

(SUFFIX SIERRA)

d. Runways and airport installations including airfield defences in the Falkland Islands.

(SUFFIX TANGO)

4. It will usually not be possible positively to identify aircraft flying in cloud or at night (except in bright moonlight), conditions in which the Argentinians might choose to conduct air dropping operations, especially if the runway had been put out of action. To assist in the prevention of such activities UK air defence aircraft will need authority to engage unidentified aircraft at night and in low visibility. The following additional suffix is therefore proposed:

a. All aircraft that cannot be positively identified because of cloud or light conditions. (SUFFIX UNIFORM).

5. In the case of merchant ships the rules provide for a warning to be administered before any offensive action is taken. In the case of commercial aircraft the same applies with the exception of commercial aircraft covered by suffixes PAPA, SIERRA and UNIFORM.

The Air Exclusion Zone declaration, when announced by international Notices to Airmen (NOTAM), should advise all Commercial and Military authorities to route aircraft clear of the Zone. The UK official notifications of the intent to establish the Air Exclusion Zone and to close Port Stanley should be withheld until we are able to enforce them effectively to avoid encouraging enhanced Argentinian air logistic effort. Current ICAO practices permit declaration of an Air Exclusion Zone, in an emergency, to be effective on receipt.

7. With the limited UK maritime air assets likely to be available, it will not be possible to establish immediate air supremacy over the whole of the Air Exclusion Zone. The first charge on the Sea Harriers is likely to be to contribute to Task Force self-defence when integrated with surface-to-air missiles. Having established local air supremacy, an Air Exclusion Zone could be successfully enforced in a selected area of interest in the direction from which the threat is expected. Successful prevention of Argentinian air logistics flights to the Falklands will require denial of Argentinian use of the airfield and its facilities.

8. Approval to attack any Argentinian warship, combat aircraft or submarine detected within 25 miles of UK warships, RFAs or supporting ships has already been given for units enroute to the Falklands area. This took account of submarines and EXOCET-fitted surface units. As UK forces move further south

they will be threatened by EXOCET launched from up to 40 miles by Argentinian Super Etendard aircraft which may be shore or carrier based. It is therefore proposed that the caveat for Operation CORPORATE now be amended to 40 miles in respect of Argentinian aircraft.

9. Operations against targets within the Exclusion Zone will not necessarily be mounted from platforms inside the zone, certainly in the early stages. The area limits are accordingly widely cast and for simplicity are similar to those ordered for the High Seas (South) Serial 2/82. The ROE proposed apply only to units engaged in directly enforcing the Exclusion Zone and then only to targets inside that zone.

10. This submission proposes the necessary Policies and ROE, and defines the necessary time and geographical limits associated with enforcement of the Exclusion Zone. One rule - ROE 123 - and three new suffixes - SUFFIX SIERRA/TANGO/UNIFORM - have been introduced that have not appeared in any previous catalogues.

11. Recommendation. I recommend you seek early agreement of the proposed Political Policies and corresponding Military Policy Rules to permit the signalling of ROE on 27 April latest. At the same time we should make the appropriate declarations concerning the Air Exclusion Zone and closure of Port Stanley airfield.

April 1982

CDS

TOTAL

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT FOR ENFORCEMENT OF
FALKLAND ISLANDS MARITIME AND AIR EXCLUSION ZONE

1. a. Exclusion Zone Limits. A circle 200 nm radius centred on position 51° 40' South 59° 30' West and from seabed to unlimited height.
- b. ROE Area Limits and Applicability. Applicable to all UK forces directly engaged in enforcement of the Exclusion Zone in the South Atlantic South of 35° South and West of 20° West excluding:
 - (1) Brazilian and Uruguayan claimed territorial seas of 200nm.
 - (2) Areas South of 60°S.

c. SSN ROE applicable only within the Exclusion Zone.

2. Time Limits. When ordered until further notice.

(UK forces south of 35°S and not directly engaged in enforcement of the Exclusion Zone continue to be governed by Operation CORPORATE High Seas Serial 2/82.) *PARAQUET Force as covered separately.*

3. Recommended Policies.

POLITICAL

MEANING

EXPANSION

CHARLIE

Escalate

Enforce the Maritime and Air Exclusion Zone, establishing a blockade to prevent the entry or exit of Argentinian surface ships, submarines and aircraft.

MILITARYSurface Ship and Aircraft

- 104 Commanding Officers and Aircraft Captains may take such action as is necessary to achieve their military task, but are not to exceed it.
- 123 Carry out attacks against designated targets with conventional weapons.
Caveat: Applicable to targets within Exclusion Zone only.

With suffixes

- INDIA All vessels positively identified as ARGENTINIAN warships, submarines and naval auxiliaries (latter as designated separately). Night and low visibility attacks will be seriously hampered.
- JULIETT All submarines detected which are assessed to be conventional may be presumed to be ARGENTINIAN.
- LIMA All aircraft positively identified as ARGENTINIAN AIR FORCE or ARGENTINIAN NAVAL aircraft.

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PAPA All aircraft which can be Non ARGENTINIAN positively identified (eg by aircraft may, if unloading on the ground or by assisting the dropping from the air stores ARGENTINES, be or personnel) as carrying attacked. military supplies or military personnel.

SIERRA All aircraft on the ground in the Falkland Islands.

TANGO Runways and airport installations including airfield defences in the Falkland Islands.

UNIFORM All aircraft that cannot be positively identified because of cloud or light conditions.

202 Authority is delegated to attempt to warn off all enemy units which constitute a threat.

(MERCHANT SHIPS) (COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT WITHIN EXCLUSION ZONE)

And Caveat: If application of Rule 202 is ineffective resort should be made to Rule 104.

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205 Authority is delegated to attack any Non ARGENTINIAN ship, submarine or aircraft that units are included. demonstrates hostile intent.

With suffix:

| | | |
|---------|--|--|
| JULIETT | All submarines detected which are assessed to be conventional may be presumed to be ARGENTINIAN. | There are unlikely to be non ARGENTINE conventional submarines in the area but only NIMRODS and JEZEBEL fitted SEA KINGS will be able to confirm whether submarine is conventional or nuclear. |
|---------|--|--|

1 ?
 And Caveat: Any Argentinian warship or submarine detected within 25 miles and any Argentinian combat aircraft detected within 40 miles of UK Warships, RPAs or Supporting Ships is deemed to be demonstrating hostile intent.

206

Authority is delegated to assume that one attack by an enemy unit is the first in a planned multiple attack. All threatening units may be attacked in order to prevent a pre-emptive attack and ensure survivability.

(ARGENTINIAN)

207

For the purpose of self-defence, attack on one unit may be considered an attack on all other units in company.

208

Notwithstanding other Rules which may be in force the commander of a unit has the inherent right to use such force in self defence as may be necessary to protect his command and the lives of his men.

403

Maritime International Law is not to be broken unless it is necessary in order to achieve the aim.

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(Concluded)

| <u>SSNs</u> | <u>MEANING</u> | <u>EXPANSION</u> |
|-------------|--|--|
| FOUR | All vessels positively identified as ARGENTINIAN warships, submarines and naval auxiliaries may be attacked. | Night/poor visibility attacks very unlikely. |
| FIVE | Any submarine detected not classified nuclear may be presumed to be ARGENTINIAN and may be attacked. | |
| TWELVE | After the first successful attack on a vessel continue patrol in accordance with ROE in force. | |
| THIRTEEN | Situation reports are to be made at discretion on all ARGENTINE units. | |