RESTRICTED Covering SECRET UK EYES

Cas (Misc) 163/742/1 Copy No ... of 62 copies

2/1

PERATION CORPORATE - THREAT FROM ARGENTINE CARRIER

The attached Note by the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations) will be tabled for consideration by the Chiefs of Staff at their meeting on Tuesday 27 April 1982.

Distribution: Copy No: PSO/CDS 1 - 2 en to
Sec/CNS 3 - 17 re will
MA/CGS 18 - 25 tof a
PS/CAS 26 - 35 icur an
iary as
a line
Copy to:
PS/S of S 36 roached
PS/PUS 37
VCDS(P&L) 38

PS/FUS
VCDS(P&L)
38
DCDS(I)
39 - 40
crier
DCDS(OR)
41
QUS(P)
42
QUE for
ACDS(Pol)
43 - 44
ACDS(Ops)
45 - 47 48 AUS(D Staff) 49 DS 11 FCO (Def Dept) 52 Cabinet Office 53 - 62 COSSEC

26 April 1982

Covering SECRET UK EYES B RESTRICTED COS S2(9)

examined

PORATE.

Attachment: : :r come mediate

1. Note (2 pages). : rations ips on carrier



SECRED UN 1... in 1.

ATTACHMENT TO COS(Misc) 163/742/1

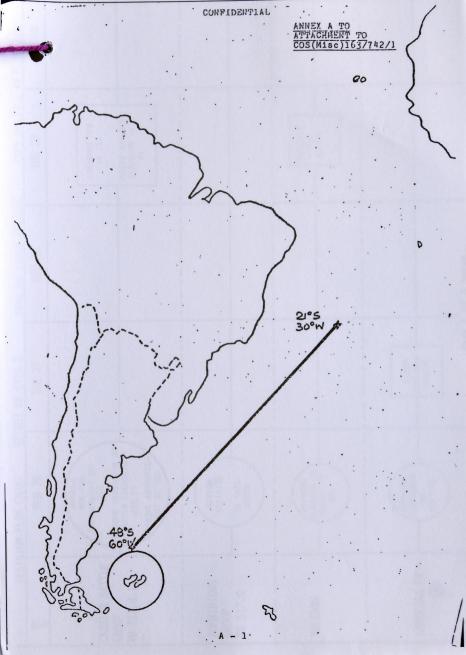
NOTE BY ACDS(OPS)

- 1. In consultation with the Navy Department, I have examined the threat posed by the Argentinian aircraft carrier (25 de Mayo) to our forces engaged in Operation CORPORATE.
- 2. The attack aircraft $(7-9~\text{A4}^{\,\prime}\text{s})$ embarked in the carrier have a combat radius of 500 nm. Should the carrier come within this range of British units it will pose an immediate threat. This threat extends to all ships engaged in operations in the Falklands area but particularly to those ships on passage to and from Ascension Island.
- 3. It is for consideration that notice should be given to the Argentinian authorities through the Swiss that we will regard any movement of their carrier south and east of a designated boundary as a hostile act which will incur an appropriate response. In order to designate the boundary as simply as possible, it is proposed that it should be a line drawn between positions 48°S 60°W and 21°S 30°W. This would ensure that the carrier would risk attack if it approached within 500 nm of our forces.
- 4. The action to be taken against the Argentinian carrier would be in accordance with the Rules of Engagement (ROE) in force. This would avoid the creation of any special ROE for this purpose.

Annex:

A. Map (1 page).

One page only



LECISION FLOW CHART SECRET UK EYES B TIME OF ISSUE 252100Z COPY NO. 10. OF 71 CO					OF 71 COLLES
E	MON 26	TUE 27	WED 28	THU 29	FR 30
CARRIER BATTLE GROUP TU 317.8.1	APPROVE ROE FOR ENFORCEMENT OF TEZ APPROVE INSERTION OF ADVANCED ELEMENTS INTO FI APPROVE ANNOUNCE- MENT OF TEZ			COMMENCE OPS IN TEZ INSERT ADVANCED ELEMENTS INTO FI	
AMPHIBIOUS GROUP TG 317.0	REVIEW DECISION TO SAIL SOUTH				
VULCANS	APPROVE VULCANS TO DEPLOY TO AS I			EARLIEST FIRST SORTIE	
CANBERRA PR	APPROVE CANBERRA PR SORTIES	FIRST POSSIBLE SORTIE	of 3 pages		