

LOOSE MINUTE

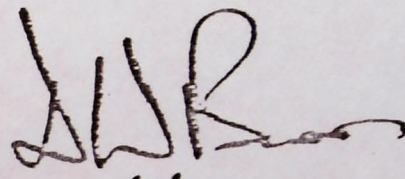
Ops Staff 7/10/2

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OP CORPORATE - THREAT FROM ARGENTINIAN CARRIER

1. Following discussions at Chequers on Sunday 25 April, ACDS(Ops) was tasked to produce a draft paper on how the threat from the Argentinian aircraft carrier (25 de Mayo) could be contained.
2. The attached draft is circulated for comment and clearance by 2230 tonight. The draft note will be considered by Chiefs of Staff at their meeting on 27 April.



D W BROWN
Rear Admiral
ACDS(Ops)

26 Apr 82

Attachment

Draft Note by ACDS (Ops)

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COS(Misc) 163/742/1

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OPERATION 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.

Attachment:

1. Note (2 pages).

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26 April 1982

COS S2(9)

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 A4'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

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