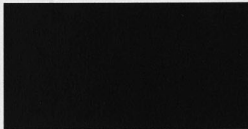


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EXCLUSIVE

FINAL COPY
SPECIAL HANDLING
DIR (O/R)
DR J.A. Johnson
CS R.R. Benjamin
SP [REDACTED]
J M.E. HERMAN
K [REDACTED]



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FM GCHQ LDN

TO GCHQ

INFO SUKLO

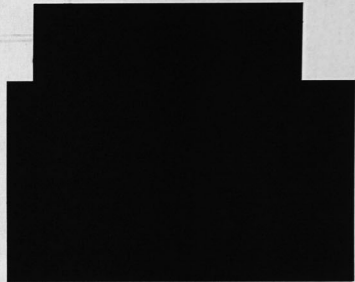
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EXCLUSIVE FOR DIRECTOR(O/R): DR(JOHNSON): CS(BENJAMIN): DP [REDACTED]:

J(HERMAN): K [REDACTED]: - 2 COPIES: L [REDACTED]: P [REDACTED]: R [REDACTED]:

S [REDACTED]: V [REDACTED]: Z [REDACTED]: D1 [REDACTED]: FROM [REDACTED]

HEREWITH JIC HIGHLIGHTS FOR 4 MAY 1982:


1. THE MEETING WAS HELD AT UKEA LEVEL SO THE ALLIES WERE NOT PRESENT. DGI ALONE REPRESENTED MOD, AND Z REPRESENTED GCHQ. OTHERWISE A FULL HOUSE
2. THE REVIEW OF DAILY ASSESSMENTS ON THE FALKLANDS WAS ALMOST A NON-EVENT. DGI SPOKE OF MOD SATISFACTION WITH THEM: FCO SAID NOTHING BUT SMILED: COORDINATOR WISHED TO GET THEM OUT EARLIER. ON THIS LAST, ROBIN O'NEILL SAID THAT THE TARGET TIME OF 1400 HAD BEEN MET, AND BETTERED, OVER THE WEEKEND, BUT THAT SECRETARIAL LIMITATIONS MADE IT MORE DIFFICULT IN THE WEEK. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION IT WAS AGREED THAT IN VIEW OF THE NEED TO ENSURE THAT MEMBERS OF THE CIG HAD PROPERLY DIGESTED ALL AVAILABLE INTELLIGENCE BEFORE THE MEETINGS, THEY SHOULD NOT BE ADVANCED TO 1030: BUT THE JIS SHOULD TRY TO SPEED UP THE TYPING AND REPRODUCTION PROCESS.

3. A NUMBER OF POINTS AROSE FROM THE DISCUSSION OF ASSESSMENTS (PARAGRAPHS 3 TO 5 BELOW) THE CHAIRMAN TOLD US THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE CABINET HAD ASKED WHETHER THE COMMITTEE SHOULD LOOK AT WHAT OPTIONS WERE OPEN TO ARGENTINA TO MOUNT UNORTHODOX ATTACKS ON THE U.K. OR ITS INTERESTS; HIJACKS, KIDNAPS, TERRORISM IN THE U.K. THE COORDINATOR ADDED THE POSSIBILITIES OF AN ATTACK ON ASCENSION (ADDRESSED IN A PREVIOUS PIECE, SAID ROBIN O'NEILL) AND LIBYAN ASSISTANCE TO ARGENTINA. THE ASSESSMENTS STAFF WAS TASKED TO THINK ABOUT THE PROBLEM AND PRODUCE A DRAFT REPLY TO SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG. DGSS WISELY REMARKED THAT THEY SHOULD RESTRICT THEMSELVES TO OPTIONS WHICH THE ARGENTINES REALLY COULD CARRY OUT, AND SHOULD DISTINGUISH BETWEEN GOVERNMENTALLY-BACKED OR-INSPIRED AND FREELANCE ACTION. PRESUMABLY K WILL BE ASKED FOR INPUTS OR COMMENTS. (K TO NOTE).

4. THE COORDINATOR REMARKED ON THE PUBLIC RELATIONS ASPECTS OF THE SINKING OF THE BELGRANO. IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WAS VERY DIFFICULT WITHOUT RISKING INTELLIGENCE SOURCES (ARN EXCLAM.) TO SUBSTANTIATE THE THREAT WHICH IT HAD POSED TO THE TASK FORCE. "C" COMMENTED THAT IT WOULD NOT IN ANY CASE BE WISE TO GET INTO THE HABIT OF GIVING DETAILED JUSTIFICATIONS OF MILITARY ACTION: THE CHAIRMAN ADDED THAT MR NOTT'S STATEMENT HAD MADE THE POSITION CLEAR. THE COORDINATOR GLOOMILY PREDICTED FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS, AND IT WAS AGREED THAT INTELLIGENCE WAS NEEDED ON THE POSITIONS, SECRET AND PUBLIC, OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. IN THIS CONTEXT, PUBLIC POSITIONS MIGHT BE THE MORE IMPORTANT. (K TO NOTE).

5. THE COORDINATOR ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THERE WAS NEED FOR AN ASSESSMENT ON RELATIONS BETWEEN ARGENTINA AND CHILE: ROBIN O'NEILL SAID THAT A PIECE WAS IN HAND FOR THURSDAY. (K TO NOTE).

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TO GCHQ

INFO SUKLO

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SECTION TWO

EXCLUSIVE FOR DIRECTOR(O/R): DR(JOHNSON): CS(BENJAMIN): DP [REDACTED]:

J(HERMAN): K [REDACTED] - 2 COPIES: L [REDACTED]: P [REDACTED]: R [REDACTED]:

S [REDACTED]: V [REDACTED]: Z [REDACTED]: DI [REDACTED]: FROM [REDACTED]

HEREWITH JIC HIGHLIGHTS FOR 4 MAY 1982:



7. THERE WERE SEVERAL ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS:

A. THE COORDINATOR ASKED HOW LONG AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS COULD CONTINUE TO COPE WITH THE SITUATION, ADDING THAT HE SAW NO SIGN OF AN END TO IT. DGI SAID THAT THE DIS HAD PUT 70 EXTRA STAFF ON TO THE CRISIS AND COULD COPE INDEFINITELY, BUT OTHER WORK WAS SUFFERING HE MENTIONED DSTI, DEI AND CURRENT INTELLIGENCE ON OTHER AREAS. "C" SAID THAT SIS COULD COPE. I SAID THAT GCHQ TOO COULD COPE, BUT WAS INDEED UNDER STRESS, AND THAT ANOTHER CRISIS IN THE SAME OR ANOTHER PART OF THE WORLD MIGHT CHANGE THE SITUATION RADICALLY. THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT THIS WAS GENERALLY TRUE FOR MEMBERS AND FOR ASSESSMENTS STAFF.

B. THE COORDINATOR MENTIONED THAT HIS MINUTE TO SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG ON THE WELCHMAN CASE HAD BEEN PASSED ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED TO THE PRIME MINISTER. THE CHAIRMAN WAS TO BRIEF THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, AND DGI THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE.

C. THE COORDINATOR WAS TO COORDINATE (WITH FCO) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROJECTED FAREWELL VISIT OF ADMIRAL INMAN, PROBABLY ON 17-18 MAY I HAVE SIGNALLED SUKLO AND DR SEPARATELY ABOUT THIS.

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SECTION THREE AND FINAL

EXCLUSIVE FOR DIRECTOR(O/R): DR(JOHNSON): CS(BENJAMIN): DP(MURLEY):  
J(HERMAN): K (LITTLE): - 2 COPIES: L(WYNN): P(FOSTER): R(MIDDLETON)  
S(ELLIS): V (RIDLINGTON): Z(SAUNDERS): D1(CUMMINS): FROM SAUNDERS.  
HEREWITH JIC HIGHLIGHTS FOR 4 MAY 1982:

E. DGI SAID THAT HE HAD VISITED NORTHWOOD ON MONDAY WITH DMSI  
TO SATISFY HIMSELF THAT INTELLIGENCE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FLEET  
AND THE TASK FORCE WERE AS GOOD AS THOSE FOR MOD. HE SAID HE  
WAS GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THE WAY THINGS WERE WORKING AND IN  
PARTICULAR PRAISED THE LINKS BETWEEN MOD, FLEET, TASK FORCE AND  
GCHQ.

B. THE MEETING WAS OVER BEFORE 1700.

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