

DOSE MINUTE

D/DS11/10/6/17

AUS(D Staff)

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ALQ 062/3

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NEWS RELEASE GROUP: LOSSES AND CASUALTIES

Reference:

- A. PS/PUS minute, SW/82/791/9/31/F to Head of DS11 dated 26 May 82.
 B. DCDS(I)26 dated 26 May 82.
 C. D/DS11/10/6/17 dated 27 May 82.

1. I attach revised tables on UK and Argentine losses and casualties which takes account of comments on the earlier version (Reference C) and views expressed elsewhere.
2. A table on helicopter losses is being prepared for consideration by the News Release Group.
3. I will insert the missing details in Table One as soon as possible tomorrow.

R. R. Wilkins
 R. R. WILKINS
 C B JENNINGS
 DS11

27 May 82

ESTIMATES OF UK AND ARGENTINE LOSSES AND CASUALTIES BASED ON REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

1. The attached tables are based on the latest estimates of UK and Argentine losses. They are based principally on reports from UK combat forces and Argentine official communiques. The figures commence with the invasion by Argentine forces of the Falkland Islands and South Georgia on 2 and 3 April respectively.
2. Operational figures are frequently subject to change as further reports are received. The attached tables therefore incorporate some corrections to previously published estimates of losses, especially so far as Argentine aircraft are concerned.

May 82

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

SHIPS(1)

	<u>UK</u>	<u>ARGENTINE</u>
A. <u>MAJOR NAVAL UNITS(2)</u>	2 type 42 destroyers - SHEFFIELD, COVENTRY 2 type 21 Frigates - ARDENT, ANTELOPE <u>4</u> TOTAL	1 Cruiser (BELGRANO) 1 submarine (SANTA FE) <u>2</u> TOTAL
B. <u>OTHERS(3)</u>	1 Transport vessel - ATLANTIC CONVEYOR = <u>1</u> TOTAL	2 Patrol Boats (SOBRAL, unidentified) 3 Transport vessels (RIO CARCARANIA, BUEN SUCESO, unidentified) 3 Others (NARWHAL, MONSUNEN, unidentified) = <u>8</u> TOTAL

Notes:

AS AT 1300 BST on 27 May 1982

(1) UK figures include all ships sunk or abandoned. Argentine figures include all vessels estimated as sufficiently damaged to make them non-operational or vessels captured.

(2) Includes aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, frigates and submarines.

(3) Includes all other vessels, including patrol boats, support ships and surveillance vessels.

PERSONNEL: CASUALTIES AND PRISONERS (1)(2)

UK

ARGENTINE

	Military	Civilian	Total		Military	Civilian	Total
Killed	76	3	79		About 500		
Missing(3)	33	7	40		Not known	Not known	Not known
Wounded(4)					About 200		
Prisoners in custody	1	0			5	23	28
Prisoners repatriated	92	0	92		150	39	189

Figures include all aircraft lost through combat or accident.

Notes:

- (1) UK casualties are as at 1300 BST on 26 May 1982. Argentine casualties are broad estimates only.
- (2) Prisoner figures are those officially notified to HMG. On occasion, receipt of such notification may take around one week from the date of capture.
- (3) Principally personnel missing from COVENTRY or ATLANTIC CONVEYOR.
- (4) Covers personnel seriously wounded since the outset of current operations. Number in serious condition at any one time will be considerably smaller.

TABLE THREE

FIXE WING AIRCRAFT(1)

	<u>UK</u>	<u>ARGENTINE</u>
	5 Harrier(2)	20 A-4Skyhawk
		17 Mirage III and V
		1 Canberra
		8 Pucara
		4 Mentor T-34
		1 Aeromacchi 339
		3 Light Aircraft
TOTAL	<u>5</u>	<u>54</u>

As at 1300 BST 27 May 1982.

Notes:

- (1) UK figures include all aircraft lost through combat or accident. Argentine figures include all aircraft destroyed by UK forces, but excludes those which may have been lost while returning to base as a result of damage sustained in combat or through accident.
- (2) Includes Royal Navy and RAF aircraft.

DCDS(I) 26

AUS(D Staff)

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ARGENTINE CASUALTIES

1. At the Chiefs of Staff Meeting this morning I undertook to produce an unclassified version of Argentine casualties. It is attached at Annex A.

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~~DCDS(I)~~

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26th May 1982

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RESTRICTED

UNCLASSIFIED ESTIMATE OF ARGENTINE CASUALTIES AS AT 260600Z MAY

1. PERSONNEL

	KILLED	WOUNDED	PRISONERS	
			HELD	REPATRIATED
NAVY	400 ⁽¹⁾	100 ⁽²⁾	1 ⁽³⁾	76 ⁽⁴⁾
ARMY (including Marines)	65 ⁽⁵⁾	100+ ⁽⁶⁾	10 ⁽⁷⁾	74 ⁽⁸⁾
AIR FORCE	60-70 ⁽⁹⁾	?	1 ⁽¹⁰⁾	
TOTALS	<u>530 approx</u>	<u>200+</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>150</u>

Notes:

- (1) Includes 382 from Belgrano. Balance is estimate from air and surface action against other ships.
- (2) Estimate.
- (3) Naval officer on board Narwhal.
- (4) Crew of Santa Fe.
- (5) Argentine communique of 21 May 82 (Financial Times 25 May 82).
- (6) Estimate of casualties from bombing and naval gunfire.
- (7) Astiz plus 9 captured in initial San Carlos landings.
- (8) South Georgia garrison.
- (9) Estimated from aircraft losses.
- (10) Pilot ejected 25 May 82.

EQUIPMENT

2. NAVY

- a. Captured. Santa Fe (sub).
- b. Sunk. Belgrano (cruiser).
Narwhal (fishing vessel).
- c. Damaged, believed sunk. Rio Carcarania (transport)
Buen Suceso (transport)
1 other transport
- d. Damaged Sobral (patrol boat)
Monsunen (Falkland Islands coaster)

1 coastguard vessel

3. AIRCRAFT

1 Canberra

16 Mirage III and V

21 A-4 Skyhawk

8 Pucara (8 on ground)

4 Mentor T-34 (all on ground)

1 Aeromacchi 339

3 Puma (1 on ground)

3 Light aircraft (all on ground)

1 Chinook

1 UH-1H

(48)

LOOSE MINUTE

DS11/10/6/17

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NEWS RELEASE GROUP: LOSSES AND CASUALTIES

1. Further to my minute of yesterday, I attach an updated table on Personnel which fills in the gaps in the previous version.
2. A table on helicopter losses is still being prepared for the News Release Group's consideration.

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John C. McKane

28 May 82

RP C B JENNINGS
DS11

(1) UK casualties are as at 1500 BST on 27 May 1982. Argentine casualties are broad estimates only.

(2) Prisoner figures are those officially notified to HMIC. On occasion, receipt of such notification may take around one week from the date of capture.

(3) Principally personnel missing from COVENTRY or ATLANTIC CONVEYOR.

(4) Covers personnel seriously wounded since the outset of current operations. Number in serious condition at any one time will be considerably smaller.

(5) Only one Argentine civilian death has been confirmed, and 4 wounded.

TABLE ONE

PERSONNEL : CASUALTIES AND PRISONERS (1) (2)

UK

ARGENTINE

	Military	Civilian	Total	Military	Civilian	Total
Killed	76	4	80	About 500	Not known (5)	About 500
Missing (3)	24	7	31	Not known	Not known	Not known
Wounded (4)	90	1	91	About 200	Not known (5)	About 200
Prisoners in custody	1	0	1	11	23	34
Prisoners repatriated	92	0	92	150	39	189

Notes:

- (1) UK casualties are as at 1300 BST on 27 May 1982. Argentine casualties are broad estimates only.
- (2) Prisoner figures are those officially notified to HMG. On occasion, receipt of such notification may take around one week from the date of capture.
- (3) Principally personnel missing from COVENTRY or ATLANTIC CONVEYOR.
- (4) Covers personnel seriously wounded since the outset of current operations. Number in serious condition at any one time will be considerably smaller.
- (5) Only one Argentine civilian death has been confirmed, and 4 wounded.