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GENERAL

NAVAL PLANS

1. TEZ takes effect 1100Z today. On diplomatic front overnight telegram from Washington indicates that Argentina has rejected latest UK proposals (Washington telegram 292148Z).
2. Latest debrief of returning Falkland civilians provides some specific data on ARG dispositions, including military HQ's on the islands (MODUK I9P 292235Z).
3. BBC team in PUNTA ARENAS has requested permission through BRITDEFAT SANTIAGO to fly into Stanley in chartered aircraft; presently with COSSEC for action (BRITDEFAT SANTIAGO 292100Z).

OWN FORCES

4. At 0600A today the Battle Group was calculated as having 240 nm to run to the edge of the TEZ. At 0400A Fleet had not yet had confirmation that PLYMOUTH had detached to return to South Georgia, but this was probably underway. On present estimates ANTRIM and TIDESPRING (the latter with POW's now embarked) will sail for Ascension pm 1 May Saturday with BAS parties + 2x Uruguayans, 2 x Chileans and 1 x Spanish civilians. BLUE ROVER continues her solitary journey south to S Georgia as relief for TIDESPRING ( latest ETA 061200Z May).
5. The 317.0.1 group including 5 LSL's and PEARLEAF escorted by ANTELOPE sailed approx 2000 yesterday 29th. ANTELOPE was slightly delayed, having been tasked to intercept and shadow the Argentine mership GLACIAR PERITO MORENA (8480 tons) out to 100 nm from the island.
6. The final plan for sailing the remaining Amphibious Unit, from Ascension is under discussion at Fleet; we have no details in DSC as yet. UGANDA has been ordered to remain Ascension for further orders when she has topped up with fresh water from FORT TORONTO. FEARLESS, CANBERRA and ELK remain at Ascension with ARGONAUT and ARDENT. REGENT, PLUMLEAF and STROMNESS arrive Ascension today, while TIDPOOL has an ETA of 5 May (next Wednesday).
7. Other arrivals Ascension on 5 May include INTREPID, EUROPIC FERRY and ATLANTIC CONVEYOR, with NORLAND due 6 May, as is BAYLEAF. The hospital ships HYDRA and HERALD also reach Ascension on 6th May, with HECLA having already arrived Saturday 1st.
8. The "ELLA" MCM Group (TG 317.0.3) rendezvoused with PICT 60 miles off Finisterre at 0400Z today before proceeding South.
9. LEEDS CASTLE sailed yesterday for Ascension, ETA 10 May; her consort DUMBARTON CASTLE arrives Portland on Saturday. CS IRIS is en route ASC, ETA 12 May.
10. SIR BEDIVERE has sailed UK and also arrives Ascension on 10 May, as will AMBUSCADE, who sails from Gibraltar on Monday.
11. BRAMBLELEAF continues North with her contaminated fuel.
12. Tugs TYPHOON and SALVAGEMAN continue en route to Tristan de Cunha.
13. EXETER and GREEN ROVER are in Tortola, West Indies.

091  
456

14. Submarines continue to patrol in their assigned areas.
15. Other amplifying data on CORPORATE units is in the current Force Tote.

#### AIR FORCES

16. 2 NIMROD surface surveillance sorties were flown out of Ascension yesterday. No significant sightings have been reported. By 1000Z today RAP expect to have 14 Victors at Ascension, and 2 Vulcans.

#### ARGENTINE FORCES

17. The 25th MAYO is expected to have rejoined the joint 79.1 and 79.2 groups late yesterday, but locating information is sparse. More significantly is the lack of information on the Type 42 HERCULES, although a recent locating report could place her with 79.1 and 79.2. (If the possibility that she has sailed as a singleton to intercept UK units astern of the Battle Group is accepted, she could pose a serious threat to our resupply/reinforcement route. However, this would be a significant change in current deployment patterns, despite any predilections to emulate the GRAF SPEE.....).

18. The other contact of concern without hard INT available is the SALTA. No amplification of the reported Chilean<sup>4</sup> sighting SE of the TEZ has yet been received (MODUK signal to BRITDEFAT SANTIAGO 291016Z).

19. Additional reference positions to the SW and South of the TEZ have been established. In this area 79.3 continues to form up, with the BOUCHARD and PEDROBUENA believed to be en route to join following repairs to BOUCHARD.

20. The submarine SAN LUIS is assessed as being in her OPAREA NE of Stanley. A CHNS(W) report on the remaining Guppy Class, SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO, indicates that she is one step removed from razor-blades, but a slim outside possibility remains that she could move in extremis from Mar del Plata.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

21. The Harrier deployment by air to Ascension via Banjul starts 0900Z today with the first 3 a/c carrying out 10 x IFR en route Banjul and 4 x IFR Banjul - ASG. A total of 8 a/c will be ferried out.

22. ROE MODUK 292005Z updates ROE's v. Miscellaneous surface units, encountered in TEZ, viz fishing vessels potentially engaged in surveillance, or intelligence gathering.

23. "Slanted" reports are being circulated by ARG attachés in Lima that UK losses on S Georgia included 200 casualties, a helicopter, and EXETER sunk by shore-based rockets. (BRITDEFAT LIMA 291518Z).

24. Action is in hand to airlift small arms and ammunition to Ascension for issue to all service personnel (UK RAOC 291925Z).

25. MV KINTERBURY arrives Gibraltar 5 May to outfit CARDIFF (ex-ARMILLA) and resupply priority armament stores.

OPDEFS

26. a. ANTELOPE Lynx Compass - limited to VMC - Weapon restriction involved.
- b. ANTRIM Port SEACAT. SCOT
- c. ARDENT 992 - Stabilisation
- d. ARGONAUT 182
- e. ARROW Stbd Olympus. 912 tempy repair. SEACAT - manual only.
- f. COVENTRY Stbd Olympus - emerg only. 182. 965 - emerg only.
- g. GLAMORGAN 966 - tempy repairs.
- h. SHEFFIELD 182
- i. BRAMBLELEAF } Fuel tanks contaminated. TIDESPRING as a result of
- j. TIDESPRING } previous pumpover.
- k. SIR LANCELOT Port 20 ton crane limitation.
- l. SIR TRISTRAM Unable to code/decode special handling traffic.

WEATHER

27. a. FALKLANDS

Sunrise 1102Z Sunset 2036Z

Light winds low cloud and poor visibility.

- b. SOUTH GEORGIA

Fresh winds, low cloud and poor visibility. Rough seas persisting.

STOP PRESS

28. TIDESPRING signal 292130Z: fuel sampling shows that contamination may not now exist. Response from DST(FMU) required to confirm. (see OPDER's 26).

*Invincible RED 300407Z - AMR 707 identified 50 37S  
42 10W*

*as 300407Z.*

*(No further amplifying info - signal passed from CTF 317)*

*A*