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COS 37TH MEETING/82
FRIDAY 30 APRIL 1982 AT 1100 (ON CALL)

RELEVANT PAPERS

1. The following are enclosed:

- Agenda FLAG A
- INTSUM 300600Z FLAG B
- Own Force Tote (Map at TAB 1) FLAG C
- Minutes COS 35/82 FLAG D
- Minutes COS 36/82 FLAG E
- Actions in Hand FLAG F
- Record Of Decisions/Actions Completed FLAG G
- ROE in Force 300600Z APR 82 FLAG H
- FI Landing Operations - Reinforcements (Draft
OD(SA)) FLAG I
- Timing and Availability
of Shipping for 5 Bde FLAG J
- South Georgia Airstrip (ACDS(Ops) Paper) FLAG K
- new verbal* - Defence of Ascension Island (ACDS(Ops) Paper) FLAG L
- Op SUTTON - Directive C-in-C Fleet FLAG M
- Options for Landing Operations FLAG N

COMMENT

2. ITEM ONE - INTELLIGENCE. INTSUM is/will be at FLAG B. Verbal brief 0650A: (General) A mammoth signal giving raw data on Argentinian forces on FIs is being analysed and should lead to a reliable update of their ORBAT. The most important piece of info to emerge is that their troops now number around 10,000. Secondly, they have been using 4 new very short range battlefield radars ELTA (Israeli?), and have been blindly opening fire on the basis of information from it. (Navy) TG 79.1/79.2 is in vicinity of area 'R' as expected. TG 79.5 is in S edge of TEZ, and sub is still on station in MEZ. The CVA flew on some AIs last night. (Air) Argies seem to be hypnotised by the sea area between FIs and S Georgia, and have concentrated their recce 600 nm E of FIs.

5. ITEM TWO - OWN FORCES. (Naval). Battle Group has made better progress in past 24 hrs - now 250 nm from TEZ with latest ETA 010500Z. Plymouth is now returning to S Georgia. Antrim and Tidespring will then leave for ASI taking prisoners and civilians. 5 LSLs and Pearleaf are 150 nm SW ASI with Antelope following as escort. ETD of remaining ships unknown. Argonaut group is at ASI. Intrepid at Canaries, with ETA ASI 5 May. Ambuscade ETA ASI 10 May. Sir Bedivere sailed 291109Z. (Air). One Nimrod MRR flown. Argie freighter sighted 150 nm ASI, and heading towards it. 4 Victor AAR to refuel first wave of Sea Harriers routing to Banjul today. Aviation fuel to be re-supplied 7 May - stocks remain high meanwhile.

4. ITEM THREE - PR. Quiet night.

5. ITEM FOUR - ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED (FLAG F)

a. 0025 Op CORPORATE Military Appreciation. Due at COS today - now delayed. Out for 2 clearance this morning.

b. 0067. Op SUTTON - Prisoners. Due at COS today - now delayed.

6. ITEM FIVE - FI LANDING OPS - REINFORCEMENTS. Draft OD(SA) is at FLAG I, and paper on timing and availability of shipping for 5 Bde is at FLAG J. If speedy reinforcement is critical QE2 must be requisitioned forthwith to achieve an earliest sailing date of 8 May.

7. ITEM SIX - SOUTH GEORGIA AIRSTRIP. Paper is at FLAG K. It concludes that it would not be worthwhile to embark on this project.

8. ITEM SEVEN - DEPENDENCE OF ASCENSION ISLAND. ACDS(Ops) is to present a verbal brief only.

9. AOB. Report to COS the outcome of this morning's OD(SA).

Drafted by: SCDS
Dated: 30 Apr 82

(Wg Cdr W Mc Rae)