

FC 790

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PSC

BRIEF FOR ACDS(OPS) - DOE MEETING 3 MAY 82 AT 1000AGENDA ITEM 1 (INTELLIGENCE)

1. The latest INTSUMS are in the DSC folder.

AGENDA ITEM 2 (OWN FORCES)

2. TOTE. As at 030600A May 82 is attached (1).

3. OPSUM. CTF 317 sitrep as at 021830Z MAY 82 (2). The main

points are:

- a. TG 317.8.

- (1) AIR. No ARG air activity since 012045. SEA HARRIER surface search for Aircraft Carrier conducted 2 May but not sighted.

- (2) SURFACE. NGS bombardment already reported 012300-020200Z.

Own fire concentrated on suspected Radars and areas beyond initial damage. Some dump fires started. NGS Gp rejoined main group overnight 1/2 May.

- (3) ASW. BRILLIANT and YARMOUTH supported by 3 SEA KING prosecuted last known position of Argentinian submarine SAN LUIS. Firm MAD and SONAR contact at 012200. Attacked with torpedoes, Depth Charges and mortar. No results observed. ASW Group rejoined main group overnight 1/2 May.

- b. SSNs. Position and movements are at Para 2 of (2) SPARTAN and SPLENDID patrolled without contact. CONQUEROR having hit BELGRANO with two torpedoes (MK8) is reported to have taken evasive action and left the group.

4. Attack Results. PR of Stanley Airfield flown pm 1 May 82 shows:

- a. Vulcan attack made single crater with first bomb halfway down runway just South of centre, remaining bombs landed over to SW over 1000M run without further damage.

- b. 3 x 1000lb retard bombs laid down by one SHAR during suppression attack all hit runway centre line causing damage over 150M in area of Vulcan hit.
 - c. Other damage done in stores and dispersal area at West end of runway by cluster bombs.
 - d. Goose Green result not known.
5. 5 INF BDE. OD(SA) yesterday authorised reinforcements to be made available to CINCFLEET in accordance with his request for 5 Inf Bde (slimline orbat) with supporting elements and additional 7 HARRIER GR3. The MODUK Army Warning Order to UKLF is attached (3). The meeting also authorised the taking up from trade of QE2 on 4 May and two ferries (BAL TIC FERRY and NORDIC FERRY) on 2 May. No publicity is to be given to these decisions until a Ministerial statement on 4 May. — *Since rescinded.*
6. Naval Air Squadrons. In support of 5 Inf Bde two Naval Air Squadrons are to be formed:
- a. 825 Sqn at CULDROSE with 10 SEA KING MK2 in Cdo Support role.
 - b. 847 Sqn at YEOVILTON with 16 WESSEX 5 in Cdo support role. Some aircrew are being withdrawn from N IRELAND on 4 May.
 - c. Both squadrons are to be ready to embark on 12 May. Aircraft will be embarked in ATLANTIC CAUSEWAY (Sister Ship of ATLANTIC CONVEYOR).
7. S GEORGIA.
- a. HMS ANTRIM and RFA TIDESPING sailed yesterday. ETA ASI 11 May. Embarked BAS/Prisoners are

ANTRIM

15 BAS

Capt ASTIZ

2 CHILEANS1 SPANIARDTIDESPRING

150 Prisoners

2 URUGUYANS

34 Civ Scrap Dealers

- b. ENDURANCE remains off S GEORGIA. PLYMOUTH detached
317.8 ETA S GEORGIA 4 May. BLUE ROVER ETA 6 May.
TYPHOON ETA 7 May.

OTHER NAVAL MOVEMENTS

8. TG 317.0. (Amphibious Group). HMS ANTELOPE with 5 LSLs
and 1 Tanker now 700 miles SW ASI. FEARLESS/INTREPID due to sail
7 May. (INTREPID, NORLAND, EUROPIC FERRY AND ATLANTIC CONVEYOR ETA
ASI 5/6 MAY).

AIR ACTIVITY

9. SEA HARRIERS. 2 supported by VICTOR tankers deployed from
BANJUL to ASI bringing the total number of SEA HARRIERS at ASI
to 8.
10. VICTORS also flew in support of HERCULES and NIMROD Air to
Air Refuelling trials in the UK.
11. NIMRODS. 1 SAR sortie was flown in support of the deploying
HARRIERS. A surface surveillance sortie was also flown in support
of the LSL group SW of ASI.
12. ASI. 5 x C130, 2 x VC10 and 1 x Belfast sorties were flown
to ASI yesterday.

DEFENCE OF ASCENSION ISLANDS

13. A summary of the preliminary report (4) of the Security
Survey Team is:

- a. Key Points identified but all unprotected and vulnerable.
Particular concerns are:

- (1) Power and water supplies on North Coast.
- (2) Bulk Fuel Installation on West Coast.
- (3) Airfield, incl dispersal area.
- (4) Ammo dump to NE of Airstrip.
- (5) Lack of coord def plan for Island.

b. Assets

- (1) NIMRODS.
- (2) GUARD Ship (HMS AMBUSCADE - ETA 10 MAY), helo and 5 man RM det (Large number of ships provide useful cordon at present but on departure, a large burden will be placed on Guard ship).
- (3) Liaison with US Agencies good but they do not have ability to cope with problems outside their base area, nor are they armed.
- (4) Arrival of small arms and ammo will enhance protection but storage will cause problems.
Armoury containers such as used in N Ireland needed.

14. Proposals. There is a need for:

- a. A Surveillance Radar. (Release of eqpt from 8 ^{RAF} _{eqpt.} Surveillance Troop Royal Artillery in GIBRALTAR?) Could be used in air and surface role for detection of close-in craft. (Det Str = 11 All Ranks).
- b. Defence Command Structure. A Wing HQ RAF Regt (13 all ranks) ideally suited to this role.
- c. Ground Force for KPs. plus a Quick Reaction Force. A Field Flight RAF Regt (33 all ranks) proposed less heavy weapons. Could be reinforced by troops in transit.
- d. Special SAS. Considered but discounted.

15. These proposals have been discussed with CBFSU and the Administrator. Former is concerned about increase in numbers which he feels are already over maximum possible permanent population. A further signal is to be sent today.

16. The proposals if implemented amount to an increase of numbers on the Island of 57 all ranks. The AD believe there will be difficulty in providing a Surveillance Radar particularly as one is in GIBRALTAR and one in N IRELAND.

LINE TO TAKE

17. Despite CBFSU's concern over the proposed increase in total numbers and the AD's concern about provision of the Surveillance Radar it is suggested that the overall plan is sound and should be supported.

SOG

18. Separate brief for ACDS(Ops) only.

AGENDA ITEM 3 (PUBLIC RELATIONS)

19. The main problems PR had overnight were concerned with the "PERUVIAN Peace Plan" and confusion arising from media reports suggesting there had been more attacks than those reported overnight 1/2 May.

AGENDA ITEM 4 (ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED) (5)

20. The DOE should take note of the actions in hand - the items of ACDS(Ops) concern are:

a. 0075 Defence of ASI.

The initial report by the Security Survey Team is discussed at para 13 above. ACDS(Ops) is due to report to COS on 4 May.

b. 0082 Special Forces. For COS 5 May. Please see SOG brief.

AGENDA ITEM 5 (UNFORESEEN MATTERS)

21. We do not know of any.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

22. Early Warning to Task Force from Edwards (6).

23. Reply to Edwards, cleared ND and DSAS, Released by Controller (7).