

SPEAKING NOTES FOR CDSMILITARY SITUATION AS AT 230600A MAY 19821. Argentinian Forcesa. NAVYRETAINED UNDER
SECTION 3(4)

(2) Pressure from the Falklands command for action to be taken against UK carriers has increased. There are now indications that an air strike against them is being planned.

(3) The Falklands Command is pressing for bombing of the bridgehead area and suggests a South/North approach. This in their view would oblige UK to keep a radar picket frigate in the Falkland Sound to provide warning for landbased anti-aircraft defences.

(4) The lack of any reported or observed action by submarine SALTA in the TEZ must now cause some doubt as to her possible presence.

(5) Argentine reports confirm that the coastguard patrol boat RIO IGUAZU was run aground after being attacked by Sea Harriers in CHOISEUL Sound am yesterday. Soldiers were on board.

b. ARMY

(1) There is a report that the Argentinian garrison is attempting to deploy against the UK bridgehead. Movement is proving slow and difficult.

(2) Argentinian patrol activity continues on West Falkland.

c. AIR

(1) The Falklands command considered that the only air attack delivered on the UK forces yesterday was ineffectual and inefficient. It was made by two A4.

(2) There are indications that possibly three NEPTUNE maritime reconnaissance sorties took place am yesterday. Some coastal reconnaissance was also noted.

2. Own Forces

- a. Lack of Argentine activity yesterday enabled units ashore to consolidate positions uninterrupted.
- b. Only Argentine activity reported since Landings are:
 - (1) BRISTOL Unit (1300 NM NE of TEZ) detected Argentine 707 230 NM SW at 221205Z. CARDIFF detached and engaged with 2 x SEA DART when 707 closed to 31 NM. Both missiles passed astern.
 - (2) 2 x A4 entered anchorages at 222015Z. Attack not pressed home but one A4 ditched load. Not intercepted.
 - (3) SEA HARRIERS on CAP damaged an Argentine patrol boat in CHOISEUL SOUND (main inlet to GOOSE GREEN and DARWIN) pm yesterday.
- c. Land Forces. No engagements reported.
 - (1) 42 CDO RM now ashore as reserve.
 - (2) HQ 3 CDO BDE also ashore in position NE of SAN CARLOS settlement.
 - (3) Royal Artillery RAPIER Battery ashore. 9/12 fire units serviceable.
- d. Ships in Landing Area
 - (1) BROADSWORD and COVENTRY NW of FALKLAND SOUND.
 - (2) BRILLIANT, ARGONAUT, PLYMOUTH, GLAMORGAN, YARMOUTH N SAN CARLOS WATER.
 - (3) INTREPID, FEARLESS, LSLs and FORT AUSTIN off SAN CARLOS.
 - (4) CANBERRA (with ARDENT survivors), NORLAND, STROMNESS and EUROPIE FERRY cleared E of FIs night 21/22 May but all less CANBERRA were due to return to CARLOS WATER night 22/23 May.
 - (5) ANTRIM is with CANBERRA to E of FIs.

(6) The hospital ships HECLA, HYDRA and UGANDA are in area 15 NM N of NW tip of E FALKLANDS. HERALD is en route to same area ETA 25 May.

(7) Damage.

(a) UXB in ANTRIM removed. Now with CANBERRA to E of FIs. Damage to missile system being repaired.

(b) 2 x UXB in ARGONAUT defused. Remains at anchor inshore south of FANNING HEAD. Damage substantial although SEA CAT and LYNX operational.

e. Ships Outside TEZ

(1) SOUTH GEORGIA - no change.

(2) EXETER, AMBUSCADE, ANTELOPE now with HERMES Group E of FIs.

(3) En route to Holding Area (270 NM NW S GEORGIA)

QE 2 ETA 27 May

ATLANTIC CAUSEWAY)

NORDIC FERRY)

BALTIC FERRY)

ETA 29 May

5 Inf Bde
+

(4) BRISTOL Group now 900 NM N of TEZ.

f. Air

(1) NIMROD. Long range NIMROD yesterday gained ESM contact on 2 x 992 Radars while at 7000 ft in area 375 NM SW of TRISTAN DA CUNHA. Second ASI local surveillance sorties made no contacts. Similar sorties planned for today.

(2) HERCULES. AAR HERCULES made air drop to HMS ALACRITY to E of FIs. Drop to RFA OLNA (1300 NM SW ASI) planned for tomorrow.

(3) VULCAN. Intention is to return 1 remaining VULCAN to UK.

(4) HARRIER. A GR3 carried out a recce of WEDDELL Island (West of W FIs). Details NYK.

3. Submarines

- a. SPARTAN in GULF SAN JORGE. Reported possible search radar at 221200Z.
- b. SPLENDID off RIO GRANDE. No contacts.
- c. VALIANT NW TEZ Reported possible C130 radar at 221300Z.
- d. CONQUEROR N of TEZ No contacts.
- e. ONYX due RV BRISTOL Gp 230930Z. 900nm N of TEZ. SOA 9 kts.
- f. COURAGEOUS passing Equator about 222300Z.

4. Special Forces

- a. A day of reorganisation pending the insertion of Direct Action patrols tonight (23/24 May).
- b. 7 SAS Ops remain deployed.
- c. SAS destroyed 1 PUCARA with STINGER in the GOOSE BAY raid on 21 May.

5. CTF's Intentions

- a. NORLAND/STROMNESS/EUROPIC FERRY return CARLOS WATER night 22/23 May.
- b. Other intentions NYK.

SECRET
U.K. EYES A

155/82

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COS 57TH MEETING/82

SUNDAY 23 MAY 1982 AT 0930

RELEVANT PAPERS

1. The following papers are enclosed:

<i>out</i> Agenda	<u>FLAG A</u>
<i>out to ODSEA</i>	
<i>Keep</i> speaking Note <i>get 99</i>	<u>FLAG B</u>
<i>out</i> INTSUM 98 at 230600Z May	<u>FLAG C</u>
<i>out</i> CTF 317 SITREP 21 at 221830Z	<u>FLAG D</u>
<i>out</i> PM SITREP at 221900Z	<u>FLAG E</u>
<i>Keep</i> MAPS (x 4)	<u>FLAG F</u>
<i>out</i> Own Force Tote	<u>FLAG G</u>
<i>out</i> Minutes of Saturday's COS Meeting	<u>FLAG H</u>
<i>out</i> Actions in hand	<u>FLAG I</u>
<i>out</i> ROE in Force 230600Z May 82	<u>FLAG J</u>

ITEM 1 and 2 (INT AND OWN FORCES)

2. Please see speaking notes at FLAG B and INTSUM at FLAG C.

ITEM 3 (PR)

3. PR office report interest in the activities of CANBERRA - Argentinian casualties in particular. AUS(D Staff) is concerned about sparse information coming from FIs on progress of ground troops.

ITEM 4 (ACTIONS REQUIRED)

4. None required today (FLAG I).

ITEM 5 (AOB)

5. None reported.

Drafted by: SCDS
Dated: 23 May 82

(Wg Cdr W McC Rae)

1 of 1
U.K. EYES A
SECRET

CDS

1. Much as CDS debriefed at C II
2. You will need

1. There were initial reports that the Rapier with T Bty 12 AD Regt RA had not performed well on first being deployed ashore in the bridgehead. The FM was informed at her briefing at Northwood yesterday and showed a particular interest in the subject.

2. On further investigation it transpires that only one missile was fired and it malfunctioned. ⁸ Nine out of the 12 fire units are currently fully operational. The reason for the unserviceability of the other three equipments is not known. However, a 75% serviceability rate is normal, and perhaps better than might reasonably be expected after an 8000 mile deployment.

3. You should be aware that all second line repair and test equipment (13 personnel, 3 x 4 tonners and associated freight) were offloaded from INTREPID at Ascension, apparently because of loading constraints. The majority of this equipment and personnel were subsequently returned to UK and are now on board TOR CALEDONIAN ETA Falkland Islands 9/10 June.

4. The earliest Rapier Second Line support that will arrive in Falkland Islands is with 63 Sqn RAF Regt on ATLANTIC CAUSEWAY with an ETA Falkland Islands 31 May.

5. In his signal I9F 221207Z May 82 (8), CTG 317.1 states that the availability and serviceability of his Rapier AD system is now critical. This statement seems incompatible with the serviceability state given at para 2 above and probably stems from anticipation of random unserviceability occurring without the means to rectify it. He suggests that, in order to offset predictable systems failure, UK based Rapier assets be cannibalized to provide spares which should be delivered urgently to the Falklands, possibly by airdrop. This course of action is probably feasible and is now being investigated by the Army and Air Force Departments.

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CHIEF OF

24 MAY 1982

DEFENCE STATE

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CHK014 23/0041 14300089

FOR CXK

PRIORITY 221207Z MAY 82

ROW Distribution -

FROM CTG 317.1
TO MODUK ARMY
CINCFLEET
UKLF
LEA ANDOVER
12 ADREGT

SECRET

SIC 19F

OP CORPORATE PD

LEA FOR EME 8 PD 12 AD REGT FOR OC UKSPS PD

REPAIR PRIORITY RAPIER AD SYSTEM PD

1 PD AVAILABILITY AND SERVICEABILITY OF RAPIER AD SYSTEM IS NOW CRITICAL PD

2 PD EME REPAIR RESOURCES ARE SEVERLY STRETCHED AT FIRST LINE PD

3 PD SECOND LINE REPAIR ASSETS IN TRANSIT NOT YET AVAILABLE TO

LAND FORCES PD THEY ARE UNLIKELY TO BE OPERATIONAL UNTIL COLUMN

ALFA PD ARRIVAL ATLANTIC CONVEYOR IN AOA-LIMITED ASSISTANCE FROM

63 SQN RAF PD

BRAVO PD T AND 9 BTY SECOND LINE SP ON CALEDONIA PD

PAGE 2 RBDAPA 543 SECRET

4 PD IN ORDER TO OFFSET PREDICTABLE SYSTEMS FAILURE WE REQUIRE ALL AVAILABLE SPARE BLACK BOX/SUB UNITS WITH KNOWN HIGH AND MED FAILURE RATES TO BE PREPARED FOR IMMEDIATE ONWARD TRANSMISSION THROUGH ASI PD

5 PD THE POSSIBILITY OF HARRY UP BY AIR DROP SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AND INTENTION MUST BE TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM ADDITIONAL SUPPORT IN INTERIM PERIOD PD CANNIBALISATION CMM IN ERROR IF NECESSARY CMM OF ALL UK BASED RAPIER ASSETS IS RECOMMENDED

BT

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