

**TOP SECRET**

**UMBRA**

**UK EYES A**

Reference D/3502DQ/2304/14 ✓

24 May 1982

190

H1 J1 K K2 L M21 P S V V2 Z GCOL GCID copy to each

DR-DP to see on file

FAIKLANDS: NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 23 MAY 1982

Present: DR, H1, J1, K, P, ASO, V, Z, D1.

1. DR said that it would be necessary to consider whether collection and production priorities would need to be adjusted now that the invasion had taken place.



3. ASO said that she had sent a signal to [redacted], but no one at Northwood seemed to know his whereabouts.

4. MOD INTSUMS had included the fact that Argentinian 707s had sighted a British submarine. There might be questions in Whitehall about how they had managed to locate it and it would be important to establish whether the 707s could have sighted it when flying a normal patrol.

5. K had replied to a signal from [redacted] asking why there had been no reports on low level ARN activity. The explanation was that the traffic had not been sent back: remonstrations to Northwood had now put this right. The difficulty was that the only ship with dedicated comms is the Hermes: the traffic had been taken by other ships and had not had sufficient priority to get through. A lesson for the future was that more dedicated comms were needed.

6. Z reported the following items:



b. Action on continued in relation to arms sales;

c. the message relating to downgrading of Cat 2X to SECRET had been sent out by Northwood.

7. K reported the following items:

a. despite the fact that schedules had been made, air attacks on 22 May did not take place;

b. a paratroop brigade was possibly waiting at Comodoro Rivadavia: 24-hour comms were being set up with the Commander of this brigade;

c. Argentinian requests for attack suggested interest in the whereabouts of a "light carrier";

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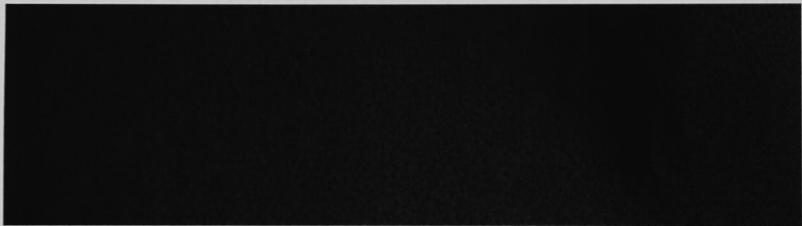
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- d. whereabouts of certain ships and submarines: the SALTA was not seen often in communications though serial numbers suggested that some messages might be being missed;
- e. Argentinian request that censorship from the mainland should be cancelled;
- f. aircraft were loading with MATRA missiles to take to ASPORA;
- g. Argentinian messages giving British losses on 21 May: estimates were somewhat too high;
- h. a message indicated Argentinian willingness to fall in with the Peruvian peace plan for equidistant withdrawal.
8. On the level of <sup>M</sup>ARM traffic, H1 said that 39 messages had been received following the dearth described in para. 5. above. They were still reusing key. The linguist had not had time to scan all the messages but some had already been reported by the ships and these reports would be reissued. The point had been made that there was a need to have the unit producing the intelligence colocated with the Task Force HQ.
9. V briefed in the following items:



11. J1 reported

- a. that the 2 Bears which had flown from Luanda to Cuba had returned to the USSR on 22 May;



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12. P had nothing of significance to report.

13. H1 said

a. that the torrential rain at Oakley on the night of 21 May had put the IBM machine and a generator out of action: this was being put to rights. It had demonstrated the need for an alternative method of decrypting [REDACTED] and a [REDACTED] computer was being programmed for this. It could accept a perf tape input;

b. the L Division Comsec run had gone through perfectly;

c. preventive maintenance on [REDACTED] had begun;

[REDACTED]

f. on ARK 7 [REDACTED] messages had been intercepted, and 5 decrypted.

14. ASO reported:

a. the [REDACTED] equipment had not been put on the FORT GRANGE;

b. 8 RAF linguists had arrived at UKC 204 and were expecting a brief. Since they had been sent straight from Gibraltar it was not clear what kind of brief was required: this would be sorted out on Monday. They might help with the NIMROD material where the linguist help was badly needed;

c. STYLO personnel were OK and Lt Col Dobson would be informed of this at Loughborough;

d. an HSRO was being sent to UKC 204 to assist the O.C. who was under very heavy pressure and had asked for help.

*Par* [REDACTED]  
D1