

IMMEDIATE

REPRODUCTION 1116 (28)
8099
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D/AF Ops/TF47

AFDS(Pol) (Room 7128)

UK EYES A

FALKLAND ISLANDS UK ASSISTANCE

26 APR 1982

DNW Dist
ACNS (OP)
OF ACNS (.)
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NMISL
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(Signature)
No. 101

Reference:

A. Attachment to COS(Misc)158/742/4 dated 25 April 82.

1. The undermentioned comments are provided to the Reference.

2. In view of the oft repeated statements that the small number of UK aircraft carriers curtails and inhibits the provision of air support and the achievement of air superiority, it seems strange, to say the least, that the lending, leasing or purchasing of at least one US aircraft carrier is not at the top of the list of support items we would like to obtain from America. One can see all the problems in manning and operating a large carrier, but what is needed is a small or medium size carrier, as used by the USMC, to provide a platform for RAF Harrier GR3 aircraft - perhaps all that is needed in the way of personnel is a "UK steaming and communicating crew", members of the RAF Marine Craft Branch could be made available to help complement the ship. ACAS (Ops) will not clear a paper without this requirement, nor will he recommend clearance at higher level of a paper lacking this.

3. The following additional amendments are required:

a. Para 18h (4), after sonobuoys add "(Jezebel and/or Difar)". (Reason : these are the only types which are compatible with UK processing equipment).

b. Para 19d, amend "Special" to read "Gyro-stabilised" (Reason : correctly describes type of binoculars required).

c. Para 19, add new sub para e as follows:

"e. PNGs for Harrier, Nimrod, Vulcan and Victor aircraft". (Reason : this was included in the original AFD submission).

d. Add new para 21 as follows:

"21. Meteorology. Increased satellite and other meteorological coverage". (Reason : this was included in the original AFD submission).

4. There are 2 minor editorial errors:

a. "Materiel", above para 17.

b. CAPTOR, in para 18h (3).

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

25 APR

AF.O.R. (RAF)

John Price

J W PRICE
Air Cdre
Director AF Ops

25 Apr 82

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SECRET UK EYES A

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