

SECRET

C
WG183 27/1238 147C1699

FOR CWG

PRIORITY 270905Z MAY 82

FROM CTF 317
TO MODUK NAVY

SECRET
SIC 19F/LAK
MODUK NAVY FOR DNW
O P 261025Z MAY 82 ZPW 270900Z MAY 82
FM HMS BROADSWORD
TO CTG 317.0
CTG 317.8
INFO RBDEC/CTF 317
TG 317.0
TG 317.8
XMT ALL RFAS
BT

SECRET
SIC 19F/LAK
OPERATION SUTTON
LOSS OF COVENTRY-SEQUENCE OF EVENTS.
1.COVENTRY AND BROADSWORD ON MISSILE TRAP/AD PICKET 12 MILES
NORTH OF PEBBLE ISLAND.CO 090 SP 12.PICKET HAD ALREADY DESTROYED
2 A/C DURING DAY USING 967 DETECTIONS VOICE REPORTED/X-MARKED
FOR SEADART.
2.1756Z TWO RAIDS DETECTED 10 MILES APART 260 180NM.TRACKED
IN TO SSW WEST FI 65NM WHEN WENT LOW OR WENT INTO RADAR COVER
OF HILLS.

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3.1813 RAID REDETECTED OVER HILLS BY 967/DBB.
RELEASED ON LINK 10 TO COVENTRY.SECOND CONTACT 10 MILES BEHIND
ALSO RELEASED TO LINK.
4.CAP AT THIS STAGE WERE OVER GRANTHAM SOUND (STN 34) AND N
FALKLAND SOUND (STN 33) (25 MILES TO EAST).COVENTRY COMMENCED
VECTERING STN 33 TOWARDS THREAT.
5.1817Z FIRST RAID DEPARTED COAST OVER PEBBLE IS AND COMMENCED
DIRECT APPROACH.STN 33 MAKING 90/90 APPROACH HAD TGT VISUAL AND
WAS AT 3 MILES TO INTERCEPT WHEN HAULED OFF AT BIRDS AFFIRM.
4.COVENTRY COMMENCED FIRING 4.5.AIRCRAFT MADE DIRECT APPROACH
TO BROADSWORD LOW LEVEL (30-60 FT) GWS 25 ACQUIRED BUT WAS
IMMEDIATELY CONFUSED BY DISCRIMINATION PROBLEM AND ALTHOUGH
RE-ALERTED UNABLE TO RE-ACQUIRE IN TIME.TWO BOMBS OVER BRIDGE,
ONE CLOSE TO MAINMAST,ONE THROUGH STBD SIDE UP THROUGH FLIGHT
DECK,STRIKING LYNX AND MK44.
7.SECOND PAIR CROSSED COAST HEADED NE AND TURNED IN FOR

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APPROACH ON STBD BOW FROM ESE. ACQUIRED AND TRACKED BY FWD GWS
25 LOW ANGLE RADAR. JUST BEFORE FIRING SEQUENCE INITIATED
COVENTRY TURNED STBD (TO OPEN 909 ARCS?) FIRED A DART, AND

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CROSSED GWS 25 LINE OF SIGHT BREAKING LOCK. CAP ORBITING SE
10 NM. TIME 1820Z.

6. ONE BOMB STRUCK COV PORT SIDE IN FAMR AREA. WATCHKEEPER HAD
TIME TO REPORT DAMAGE TO J2 AIR COMPRESSOR BEFORE BOMB EXPLODED.
COVENTRY STOPPED IMMEDIATELY, ROLLED OVER TO PORT WAS AT 70 DEG
WITHIN 15 MINS AND CAUGHT FIRE. ABANDONED SHIP.

9. A/C DEPARTED TO WEST, ONE TRAILING SMOKE HAVING BEEN RIDDLED
BY BROADSWORD RIFLE/LMG/GPMG BRIGADE.

10. COMMENTS.

A. RAID WAS SPECIFICALLY DIRECTED AGAINST 42/22 COMBO. TGT POSN
PROBABLY PASSED FROM EN OP. MT ROSALIE AREA. VISIBILITY WAS GOOD.

B. CAP WAS NOT VECTORED DOWN THREAT BEARING UNTIL TGT'S RELOCATED
, PROTECTION OF AOA FROM SE. RAID WAS CONSIDERATION.

C. ALTHOUGH BIRDS AFFIRM CALLED, V LOW TGT'S PROBABLY CONFUSED 909.
FIRST INDICATIONS TO BROADSWORD THAT ALL WAS NOT WELL WAS WHEN

4.5 COMMENCED FIRING.

D. ALL SHIPS IN BOMB ALLEY FAVOUR MASS SMALL ARMS FIRE AS FINAL
RESORT WITH MUCH USE OF TRACER. ARMOUR PIERCING 7.62 FOR GPMG
AND FLAK JACKETS FOR RIFLEMAN/MACHINE GUNNERS WOULD BE

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APPRECIATED.

A GOOD PROPORTION OF ARG A/C HAVE BEEN BADLY DAMAGED/DOWNED
BY SMALL CALIBRE WEAPONS ITS VERY GOOD FOR MORALE TO BE ABLE
TO THROW SOMETHING BACK

BT

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N

CXM	1	DSC(NAVY OPS)	ACTION	(CXU	1	DNOT(DO))
CWP	1	ACNS(O)				
CBQ	3	BATH SUPP. GROUP				
CAF	3	CGRM				
CWS	1	CNS				
CXK	2	COSSEC				
CAS	2	DQNPS				
CYG	1	DIC				
CWN	1	DOMS				
CWG	1	DS 5				
CXK	1	DSC(ROW)				
CAT	4	DST(FMV)				

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