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OPERATION CORPORATE - MILITARY OPTIONS ON 8 ROOM

Reference: COS(Misc)244/742/1 dated 26 May 82

CAS proposes the attached amendments to update the paper at reference.

1st June 1982

Annex:

(D.J. BONNER)
PS/CAS

RMY OPERATIONS ROOM

A. Proposed Amendments to COS(Misc)244/742/1

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ANNEX A TO CAS.91188 DATED 1 JUN 82

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO COS(MISC)244/742/1

It is suggested that the following changes should be included in the next edition of the 'Military Options' paper:

- a. Option 4. The first "PRO" listed is more military than political.
- b. Option 5. The recent escalation of the conflict and notably the losses of our own naval and merchant ships reduces the political significance of our own actions at sea. The first "Political CON" should be rephrased to read:

"Consequent heavy loss of life could engender strong OAS/World reaction against UK; could alienate our friends; engender increasing political pressure at home; and lead to possible reprisals, or unrestricted mob attacks, against UK civilians on mainland."

The note about the necessity to warn of attacks against the Argentine 707 is not understood. We have already fired SAM at it when it came close to elements of the Task Force sailing outside the TEZ.

- c. Option 6. This option has been overtaken by events. In view of the Government's declared intention to repossess the Falklands as soon as possible, it should be deleted.
- d. Option 7. Note (1) to read "Unlikely to be feasible...". Add to Note (4) "or if Argentinian attack aircraft could be destroyed on the ground."
- e. Option 8. While this is not now a feasible option as it stands because our forces are committed to repossession of the Falklands, small hit and run raids against specific high value targets might be. This option should either be deleted or re-structured. In Note (1) read "or" for "on" in last line if this option is retained in its present form.
- f. Option 10. Under Feasibility, amend second sentence to read "However the air EZ could not be sustained without operating air defence fighters from Port Stanley airfield or the eventual replacement..."
- g. Option 13. Second Military PRO to read "Successful attacks against airfields and aircraft on the ground would..."
- h. Option 15. There should be an option on unrestricted attacks on Argentine Naval Units. Pros and Cons as in Option 5, amended to delete mention of the 12 nm constraint. Forces available to include Buccaneer.

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