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16477 A.P.
27 PYLADERS

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FM CTF 317
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BT

SECRET UK EYES BRAVO
SIC AAA/12F

PERSONAL FROM CINC TO COMMANDERS

1. FOLLOWING IS MY APPRECIATION AFTER CONSIDERING INT REPORTS OF QUOTE DIVERSION UNQUOTE BY ARG FLEET UNITS
2. ARG APPARENTLY NO LONGER SEE POSSIBILITY OF SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE OF FI. THEREFORE, ASSUME THEIR AIM IS TO ACHIEVE A TOLERABLE NEGOTIATING POSITION.
3. THEIR AIM COULD BE ACHIEVED BY A HIGH PROFILE SUCCESS SUCH AS:
 - A. HITTING A CARRIER
 - B. ATTACKING SAN CARLOS
 - C. ESTABLISHING AN UNDISPUTED PRESENCE IN SOME STRENGTH ON WEST FALKLAND.
4. I ASSUME DIVERSION IN PARA 1 IS DEDICATED TO ACHIEVING ONE OR MORE OF AIMS IN PARA 3. MANY DETAILED SCENARIOS ARE POSSIBLE BUT I ENVISAGE LIKELY ACTIONS BROADLY AS:-
 - A. FEINT BY FAST FF/DD FORCE TOWARDS CVBG TO DRAW OFF ESCORTS.
 - B. AIR ATTACK ON RESULTANT WEAKLY DEFENDED CVBG AND/OR MERCHANTS.
 - C. AIR ATTACK ON SAN CARLOS ALLIED TO RAID UP FALKLAND SOUND BY SOUTHERN BASED FPB.
 - D. AIR/SEA REINFORCEMENT OF WEST FALKLAND GARRISONS.
5. I ASSUME THE ARG DIVERSION OPERATION TO BE AN ALL OUT AND THEREFORE BRIEF EFFORT. SOG'S MUST COPE WITH SURFACE FORCES AND AIR DEFENCE WILL REST WITH AAA AND SUCH A/C AS YOU CAN LEAVE ASHORE TEMPORARILY.
6. IN ORDER TO COUNTER THE ACTIONS IN PARA 4 I ENVISAGE FOLLOWING BEING REQUIRED IN VARYING TIME SCALES:-
 - A. CARRIERS AND HEAVIES RETIRE WELL TO THE EAST.
 - B. STRENGTHEN AIR AND SEA VARD DEFENCE OF SAN CARLOS
 - C. DEVELOP SAN CARLOS STRIP AS MAIN FOB AND GOOSE GREEN AS EMERGENCY ALTERNATIVE HARRIER STRIP AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.
 - D. EMPTY SAN CARLOS HARBOUR AS FAR AS POSSIBLE.
 - E. UNCOMMITTED SSF ARE TASKED TO HARASS EXISTING ENEMY BY DAY IN EG, FOX BAY, PORT HOWARD AND AIRSTRIPS.
 - F. ESTABLISH SMALL BUT OVERTLY PERMANENT PRESENCE ON WEST FALKLAND, FOR INSTANCE ONE COMPANY AND A UNION JACK ON PEDDLE ISLAND.
7. OF COURSE THE PRIME EFFORT REMAINS TO ATTACK STANLEY. NEVERTHELESS I BELIEVE WE CANNOT AFFORD TO IGNORE CURRENT INT INDICATORS AND PARA 6 E AND F COULD BE WORTHWHILE OPS IN THE LONGER TERM.

BT

HQRM

TOP SECRET REGISTRY

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