

TOP  
SECRET

42

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O 091014Z JUN 82 (TDTG)

FM CTF 317

TO CTG 317.1

INFO CTG 317.8

CTG 317.0

BT

T O P S E C R E T

SIC AAA/IGN

EXCLUSIVE FOR CDR FROM CINC

1. THAT WAS A CRUEL BLOW YOU SUFFERED YESTERDAY. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TROUBLE TO PHONE ME AND SHARE YOUR REACTIONS. IT WAS GOOD TO HEAR YOUR POSITIVE AND PRESS ON VIEW POINT. HAVING SLEPT ON THE NEWS I SUMMARISE MY MORNING THOUGHTS WHICH YOU MAY FIND USEFUL.

2. FIRSTLY THE MORALE FACTOR AND, ASSOCIATED WITH IT, PRESS ACTIVITIES BY THOSE WITH YOU AND HERE IN UK. I HAVE TAKEN ACTION TO MINIMIZE PRESS COMMENT HERE, ALBEIT IN DUE COURSE WHEN WE HAVE THE FACTS WE SHALL HAVE TO DISCLOSE CASUALTIES BUT IN SUCH A WAY I HOPE AS TO KEEP THE DISCLOSURE OF IMPLICATIONS TO MINIMUM. I HAVE NO DOUBTS OVER YOUR CAPABILITY TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEM ON THE GROUND.

3. SECONDLY, ON MINIMIZING THE IMMEDIATE EFFECTS OF PGSING MEN AND EQUIPMENT, I CANNOT IN THE SHORT TERM IMPROVE ON THE INTENTIONS YOU MENTIONED LAST NIGHT, I ONLY HOPE THE SITUATION HASN'T GOT WORSE WITH MORE ACCURATE COUNT. LET US KNOW IF WE CAN HELP. WE SHALL ACCELERATE HELO SUPPLY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

4. THIRDLY, THE PROBLEM OF MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM OF YOUR BUILD UP IS IN FACT THE MOST DIFFICULT. IN RELATIVELY GOOD FLYING CONDITIONS IT WOULD, I AM SURE, BE UNACCEPTABLY RISKY TO HAVE ANOTHER LSL IN FITZROY/BLUFF UNDER ARG OBSERVATION DURING THE HOURS OF DAYLIGHT. SIMPLY TOO MANY EGGS IN ONE BASKET.

5. FINALLY I WAS VERY ENCOURAGED BY YOUR DETERMINATION TO KEEP UP THE PRESSURE. I FULLY UNDERSTAND YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT IN MOUNTING OPERATION TO CAPTURE STANLEY, A FIRST STEP THAT WAS TOO SMALL FOLLOWED BY A PAUSE COULD BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE. NEVERTHELESS, AS YOU SAID LAST NIGHT, 3 CDO BDE ON HIGH GROUND IN BAD WEATHER WILL DETERIORATE. THEREFORE A PRELIMINARY OPERATION SO THAT YOU ARE KNOCKING ON THE FRONT DOOR AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE MUST BE WORTH CONSIDERING.

6. I AM IN NO DOUBT ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE PROBLEMS FACING YOU. BUT NEITHER DO I LACK CONFIDENCE IN YOUR CAPABILITY TO OVERCOME THEM, INDEED ALL THE ABOVE IS PROBABLY OLD HAT BY NOW. YOU MIGHT LIKE TO CALL ME TOMORROW AND CONFIRM.

BT

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TOP SECRET REC 1

MOD FORM 102 No. ....

SERIAL NUMBER.....42

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