

FC 1919

SECRET

LANDING FORCE SITREP AS AT 292359Z MAY 82

19

GENERAL

1. Information in this SITREP is based on CTF 317 SITREP No 28 covering the period up to 291830Z May, supplemented by additional information received in various other signals.
2. The period covered has seen the capture of Darwin, Goose Green, Douglas and Teal Inlet, and the capture of 900 prisoners. Present Land Force dispositions are shown on the map at Annex A.

OPERATIONS ASHORE

3. Major unit activities are summarised as follows:

a. 2 Para.

(1) At approximately 290500Z it was known that the enemy positions at Port Darwin had been overrun and approximately 80 - 100 Argentinians taken prisoner. Goose Green was surrounded but had not been taken. One enemy Pucara was shot down in the Goose Green area. One Scout helicopter was also lost. There was evidence that Argentinian troops had used white flags to lure men of 2 Para into the open before opening fire.

(2) At 290730Z it was reported that the Argentinians would attempt a heliborne troop landing in the rear of 2 Para, although there is no evidence that this occurred.

(3) At 0935Z the forces encircling Goose Green had started negotiations for the safe conduct of 112 civilians in the Recreation Hall.

(4) At 1450Z the Argentinians surrendered to 2 Para. At some stage L Company of 42 Cdo RM and 3 x 105mm lt guns had joined the unit. The report of the action said that initial stiff resistance had been encountered at Darwin and a 10 hour fire fight had ensued. Goose Green was finally taken after a night approach march and a day spent in a lying up position. 2 Para and a Company of 42 Cdo attached at night and by firstlight had cleared a position 6Km in depth occupied by an Argentinian Battalion dug in and supported by at least 2 x 105mm Pack Howitzer and some 30mm LAD guns. The Commanding Officer of 2 Para was killed clearing a machine gun position. In excess of 900 PW including 6 x VIP and 120 wounded were taken.

(5) 2 Para suffered the following known casualties in addition to the RM officer pilot of the Scout helicopter reported in the previous SITREP:-

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Killed | Commanding Officer
2 Officers
8 JNCOs and Soldiers (These may not be final figures) |
| Wounded | 1 Officer
25 NCOs and Soldiers. |

(6) In a signal to the Regimental Colonel of the Parachute

SECRET

CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF	
DATE	COPIES
2/5/82	
CDS	CNS
	CGS
HQ SCDF (A)	ICA S
SCDF A 1	SCDF S
SCDF S 1	SCDF S 2
SCDF S 3	SCDF S 4
SCDF S 5	SCDF S 6
SCDF S 7	SCDF S 8
SCDF S 9	SCDF S 10
SCDF S 11	SCDF S 12
SCDF S 13	SCDF S 14
SCDF S 15	SCDF S 16
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SCDF S 87	SCDF S 88
SCDF S 89	SCDF S 90
SCDF S 91	SCDF S 92
SCDF S 93	SCDF S 94
SCDF S 95	SCDF S 96
SCDF S 97	SCDF S 98
SCDF S 99	SCDF S 100

FILE: 201/12

Regiment, the Brigade Commander, 3 Commando Brigade RM paid tribute to the fighting spirit of 2 Para.

- b. 45 Cdo RM. Remain firm in Douglas Settlement. There are no reports of casualties or prisoners.
- c. 3 Para. Remain firm in Teal Inlet Settlement. 1 PW was taken.
- d. 42 Cdo RM. Remain Port San Carlos area, minus 2 Coys.
- e. 40 Cdo RM.

(1) Are now in San Carlos/Bonnars Bay/ Ajax Bay area as follows:

A Coy GR 603855
B Coy GR 624780
C Coy GR 556857

(2) At 290511Z 40 Cdo were bombed in the San Carlos areas. The bombs fell in open contry and there were no casualties.

COMMAND

4. Having visited CTG 317.8 in HMS HERMES, CLFFI is now embarked with his staff and elements of HQ 5 Inf Bde in HMS FEARLESS.

CASUALTIES

5. Following yesterday's bombing attack on the BMA the following are the casualty figures at 291200Z. These figures do not include the incomplete 2 Para casualties at para 3a(5) above. Cumulative totals are in brackets.

<u>Classification</u>	<u>RM</u>	<u>Army</u>
Killed	3 (11)	Nil (21)
Missing	Nil (1)	Nil (Nil)
VSIL	3 (3)	Nil (2)
SIL	1 (2)	Nil (3)
Reported cas	16(28)	20 (47)

6. An ambulance ship will enter San Carlos water tonight to take off Argentinian and own casualties to hospital ship UGANDA.


LOGISTICS

- 7. 2 x UXB are still located in the FDS.
- 8. 59 Indep Cdo Sqn RE have built 260m STOL runway at Port San Carlos with refuelling facility but no cover or hides.
- 9. BV 202 are proving invaluable for resupply and casevac.

PW

10. CTG 317.1.1 now holds 900 PW including wounded. These are being housed in the abandoned Refrigeration Plant at Ajax Bay, and in the LSL Sir PERCIVALE in San Carlos Water. CTG 317.1.1 has requested that the Argentinian authorities be informed accordingly. PW may be transferred to MV NORLAND in due course, but in any case the Brigade Commander is very concerned about his ability to hold large numbers of PW for any length of time.

30 May 82



R J ELLIOTT
Maj RM
for CGRM
MB X 6295

ANNEX:

A. Land Forces Deployment Map

Distribution:

CDS
Navy Ops (2)
Sec NSAG (9)
Army Ops
RAF Ops
FIST
SOG

CHIEF OF STAFF

MESSAGE ROOM

- 1. TIME MESSAGE RECEIVED 1620A 29 May.
- 2. MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM CTF Duty Staff
- 3. MESSAGE RECEIVED BY DNOT
- 4. TEXT OF MESSAGE

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1. Argentines at Goose Green surrendered to 2 i/c 2 Para at 291450Z.

2. POW in excess of 500.

CHIEF OF STAFF		DEFENCE STAFF	
DATE	29.5.82	Copies	1
CDS		ENES	
PA		ACDS	
VCDS		ACDS (P&L)	
SC/DCS		ACDS (P&L)	
PA/DCS		ACDS (P&L)	
FILE	2008/12	SEV	

5. Distribution:

- PSO/CDS
- COSEEC
- DS1 (responsible for further distribution to S of S, POS, AUS(DS), Resident Clerk)
- SCFL (responsible for VCDS (P&L) and/or ACDS (P&L))
- DIC
- ~~ACDS~~
- Army Ops
- AF Ops
- ~~CDS (as appropriate)~~