

OPERATION CORPORATE - DAILY SUMMARY NO 59 - 4 JUNE 1982

POLITICAL AND BACKGROUND

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1. UN Throughout 3 June there was considerable activity in and around the Security Council, as the pro-Argentine faction attempted to rally the nine votes necessary to call for a vote on the Spanish-Panamanian draft resolution and HBMA UN, supported by the FCO and Embassies in the relevant countries, gathered abstentions to deny the other side the necessary numbers. In this, the UK was abetted by the US and French delegation, who wished to avoid a vote on 3rd, lest they had to join in the veto. The Council met in formal session at 1730Z on the 3rd to consider a slightly amended Resolution, which gave HBMA the opportunity to ask for a further delay while it was further discussed by the FCO and ascertain what amendments would be required. These were expected to be substantial, as HBMA explained to the Spanish delegate: the latter, stating that the Panamanians and Argentinians would be unable to accept the inclusions of specific reference to Argentine withdrawal within a fixed period or a clear link between withdrawal and a ceasefire, was inclined to call for an immediate vote. This was averted due to the obvious inclination of Zaire and Togo to abstain, thus depriving the draft Resolution of its nine votes. The Council agreed, at 2230Z, to defer the meeting until 2000Z on 4 June (04008, Text of Sp/Pan draft, 04009, 04010).

2. No details have been received as yet of the exchanges between HBMA UN and the Foreign Secretary prior to the vote at the Security Council Meeting on 4 June. The Spanish-Panamanian draft was not further amended and the necessary nine votes were obtained by the sudden switch of the Japanese Government, which instructed the Japanese Ambassador "to his obvious chagrin", to support the draft Resolution. Nine nations supported the draft, four (France, Jordan, Guyana and Togo) abstained and the US unwillingly joined the UK in vetoing it. The US Ambassador then attempted to change her vote to an abstention and the "truly grotesque" (HBMA) performance excited much more media attention than did the UK's predictable veto (FCO sitrep 5 June). (The UK last exercised its veto on 30 April 1981, in connection with a South Africa sanctions draft Resolution).

3. HBMA Paris reported that the French authorities are beginning to show their worry about their political and commercial relations with Latin America, probably more so now that the Argentine Ambassador in Paris is being recalled. There is a feeling abroad in the Quai d'Orsay that the French have now done enough to be helpful and that they are supported by the US in asking that the UK does something in return: M Cheysson has stated in the Press that France supports President Reagan's call for a truce to enable the Argentines to withdraw and that he was sorry that he had not heard the expression "negotiation" in British mouths in recent days (04051).

4. HBMA Amman saw King Hussein and the Jordanian Prime Minister on 3 June and was assured that Jordan would continue to abstain in any Security Council vote which did not include an amendment by the King of Spain and had told him that Jordan's position on this fundamental matter of principle could not be altered. However, HBMA points out that Jordan is also involved in the attempt to bring the Gulf war before the Security Council and that Spain (with Japan) is one of Iraq's preferred supporters: the Prime Minister feels that the UK has so far been unsympathetic to Jordanian activities in the Security Council. HBMA is of the opinion that even if we disagree with their tactics we should be particularly sensitive to their deeply felt concern over the Gulf war if we wish to retain Jordanian support (03048).

1) Ex/Am/Pan  
2) Lile  
cc: D. Lunn

5. The Vulcan at Rio The "Shrike" anti-radiation missile was removed from the Vulcan which diverted to Rio/Galeao under Brazilian Air Force supervision and removed to a locked store room 2km from the aircraft: dipclear for the arrival of an RAF Hercules to remove the missile has not been granted and the Air Attache, Brasilia, was not permitted to station a Service guard with it, although he was given a key to the store room. The US Ambassador has been instructed by Washington to support HMBAs efforts to secure the release of the missile and to make highest level representations to the Brazilian Government in the event that the missile's technology might become compromised (04048, 04063).

6. The reason for the delay in refuelling the aircraft, to permit it to continue, as was promised in the Air Minister's communique on 3 June, was confirmed to HEMA by the Head of the Brazilian MFAs Americas Department at 2045Z on 4 June as being due to an Argentine Note (1300Z) requesting the internment of the Vulcan, in accordance with the Rio Treaty Resolution of 29 May and the 1923 Hague Rules of Air Warfare (duties of neutral states). The Brazilian Government had reached no decision and the official could give no answer as to when the "consideration" would be complete. The MFA believes that there is some parallel between the cases of the Vulcan and Astiz - we were holding him, while stating that he is to be released, while awaiting clarification of requests from friendly governments to question him (04075). HEMA had earlier suggested that the use of Brazil as a staging post on the Libya-Argentine arms route might provide an opportunity for putting pressure on the Brazilians: an Argentine aircraft due in Recife later on 4th could be drawn to their attention with a suggestion that they should search it and impound any arms found (04070).

7. The cancellation of the 23rd annual UNITAS exercise was announced in Washington on 3 June. A Brazilian Navy Office spokesman is quoted as saying that this was a consensus decision, the participating countries considering that it was not opportune this year (04066).

8. Peru Summary No 58, para 4, referred to the meeting between HEMA Lima and the Peruvian MFA. At the same meeting, HEMA and Sr Arias discussed Anglo-Peruvian relations and the way in which they might be affected by what was regarded as the UKs notable hardening of position since the Argentine rejection of the last draft interim agreement. Arias said that this made it difficult for countries such as his own, which regarded themselves as belonging to the west to overcome the the deep divisions and grave problems which the conflict had generated. It was difficult to escape the conclusion that the UKs desire was to inflict ignominious defeat and consequent humiliation on Argentina and in the aftermath there might be unpredictable consequences for governments whose ideological sympathies lie with the west, particularly in the event of an economic and political collapse in Argentina. These considerations might be of secondary importance to the UK but they are of primary importance to Peru, which would like to see greater awareness in Britain of the dangers to which British interests were exposed even in the democratic countries of Latin America (03073).

9. Brigadier Lami Dozo was interviewed by Mexico's Channel Two TV station. He spoke calmly and plausibly, with no sign of bitterness, emphasising that the conflict had turned Argentina into an adult, united nation and that he was reasonably (emphasised) optimistic as to the outcome of the continuing conflict, in which the current Falklands campaign was but one battle. He denied that his pilots were suicidal or even heroic - "they were just well-trained Argentines with moral values doing their duty" (04026).

10. The Mexican MFA gave an impromptu Press conference on his return from abroad. The Falklands crisis was deplorable and would complicate North/South relations and affect Latin American relations with the USA, but he did not think that the impact would be decisive or permanent or extraordinarily serious, while Mexico's own relations with the USA would not be directly affected although Latin America as a whole did not favour the way in which a member of the OAS had taken action (by supporting the UK) against a brother republic. (04026).

11. The Irish Department of Foreign Affairs is confident that surveillance measures which have already been introduced will detect any change in Ireland's small and traditional pattern of imports from Argentina which would indicate an attempt to re-export. There is reluctance to introduce the licensing of imports but the necessary drafts are ready and could be introduced within 24 hours if a suspect consignment is detected (04033).

12. Non-Aligned Meeting Havana The final scheduled date of the Plenary Session has been reached with only half of the speakers having spoken and is expected to continue late into the night of 4/5 June. The reference to the Falkland Islands in the general statement of international problems in the final communique has been withdrawn at Yugoslav insistence and should therefore only appear in the Latin American section. Drafting is continuing. The Caribbeans and Africans have resisted a one-sided text. Clumsy references to apartheid in Costa Mendez' speech were reportedly greeted with laughter by some African representatives who recalled that Argentine had never previously supported their efforts against South Africa. General feeling is that the reference in the communique will probably be even-handed while making reference to previous NAM support for Argentine sovereign claim, but the UK veto in the Security Council may affect the outcome (FCO sitrep, 04056).

#### OPERATIONS

13. Fog continued to limit flying operations in the TEZ and over the island low cloud prevented flying in the vicinity of high ground. The intended disembarkation of Sea Harriers and Harrier GR3s to the San Carlos forward operating base was postponed, but six Sea King (four Mk 5 and two Mk 2) were landed to provide heavy lift (04006).

14. CARDIFF and ACTIVE detached from the Battle Group at 1800Z to conduct NGS off Port Stanley - they will rejoin at 1100Z on 5th (04065). A separate message (from CTFs staff) announced that NGS operations have been suspended until the land-based Exocet threat has been clarified and that reconnaissance of probable sites is in hand (04006). HMS ALACRITY reports she has now fired 1,736 rounds from her 4.5". EFC is 1750 rounds and she is certain to exceed this during the operation: "3. Propose to continue until it falls off" (04012).

15. INVINCIBLE and ERILLIANT detached to proceed to Beauchere Island, 65nm south of East Falkland at 2000Z and will rejoin the Battle Group at 1100Z on 5th (04065).

16. MONSUNEN is now friendly and is engaged on carrying freight between the Transport Area and Bluff Cove in support of 5 Inf Bde. SIR GALAHAD has joined SIR PERCIVALE at Teal Inlet (04065). It is proposed that one of the ISLs at Teal should be armed with captured Rheinmetall RM 202 AA guns (04006).

17. Exocet Attack on 25 May The following account comes from the 4 June edition of "Aerospace Daily":

## 17. (Cont)

"Sources said the British Government told Westinghouse its radar (TPS-43) was the key targeting instrument in the ATLANTIC CONVEYOR attack and that Westinghouse officials urged that it be knocked out. The real target of the May 25 raid which sank the ATLANTIC CONVEYOR was not the container ship but a Type 21 British frigate, the AMBUSCADE. They said the AMBUSCADE detected the Super Etendards as the Argentine planes turned on their target acquisition radars 50 miles from the fleet. Although the aircraft's radars were on for less than 30 seconds, sources said, they managed to fire a single Exocet. The AMBUSCADE responded by firing chaff rockets to hide, sources said. They said the Exocet's flight became "destablized" as the missile encountered the chaff. But the Exocet emerged from the chaff cloud, and it was then that its radar locked on to the ATLANTIC CONVEYOR and hit the ship's side. Soviet satellite targeting was not involved, sources said. The TPS-43 was the really lethal source of intelligence, said a source, who added that it is still in operation".

16. Argentine Naval Forces It is still believed that TG 79.1 is in harbour. 79.2 is in the vicinity of Punta Delgada, 79.4 is south of Bahia Blanca, 79.3 remains in the southern area. The three submarines are believed to be in Puerto Belgrano but there is a slight possibility that SAN LUIS is in the TEZ (Duty Cdr).

17. Air The 400nm Ascension Nimrod sortie updated the position of the PRIMORYE within 20nm, to the south-east of the island (04065). Two Harrier GR3 modified for the carriage of "Shrike" are at Ascension, awaiting the order to join the Task Force (Duty Cdr).

18. Land Forces

- a. 3 Cdo Bde 3 Para is in position to the north west of Mont Langdon. 42 Cdo on Mont Kent is in "eyeball to eyeball" contact with Argentine forces: a patrol ran into a minefield on the night of 2/3 June and one man was wounded - contact was made with a five-man Argentine patrol which lost three killed. 45 Cdo is moving up in rear of 42 Cdo and it is intended that the two units will attack the Two Sisters feature by late 6 June.
- b. 5 Inf Bde 2 Para is at Bluff Cove, 1/7 GR is moving up and the two Guards battalions will move to Bluff Cove during the night of 5/6 June. Brigade HQ is located at Camilla Creek House.
- c. Maintenance Areas and Beach-head 40 Cdo continues to hold the San Carlos FMA. No 63 Sqn RAF Regiment is now ashore at San Carlos with eight Rapier fire units; four Rapier units of T Battery, 12 AD Regt, have been disembarked at Teal Inlet. Considerable logistic relocation is in progress (04065, LF sitrep).

19. M Coy 42 Cdo, South Georgia, has constructed improvised GPMG AA mountings and is maintaining an anti-submarine watch by a reconnaissance section at Husvik. Training is progressing, mail and limited resupply are obtained from visiting ships and morale is high. (04018).

MOVEMENTS

20. GLASGOW and ARGONAUT have been released from CORPORATE: further details of their damage is included in serial 04043. The former is due to RAS(L)

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RAS(L) from BRITISH TAMAR, 300nm north of Ascension, on 8 June: ARGONAUT will leave TRALA on completion of storing and begin her return to the UK (Duty Cdr).

21. a. ENGADINE is due in the TEZ at 1800Z on 6th and the MCM trawlers PICT, CORDELLA and JUNELLA are en route from South Georgia (04065, Duty Cdr).
- b. TOR CALEDONIA is due in the holding area north east of South Georgia on 9th and CONPENDER BEZANT and ST EDMUND on 11 June.
- c. WIMPEY SEAHORSE is due to arrive at South Georgia, where she will lay moorings, on 8 June (04057, Duty Cdr).
- d. MINERVA escorted BLUE ROVER, STROMNESS and CANSBERRA out of the TA on the night of 3/4 June, while PENELOPE escorted INTREPID and ELK in.
- e. ARROW remains in the TA, with FEARLESS and SIR LANCELOT and SIR TRISTRAM.

22. FEARLESS has reported superficial and localised damage to her bow plating, incurred while attempting to RAS urgently needed AVCAT from TIDEPOOL during the early hours of 31 May. The tanker was at anchor and yawing in wind gusting up to 35 knots and sustained damage to lifeboat davit (FEARLESS 042230Z).

23. DUNBARTON CASTLE, who RV with QELI 50nm south west of Ascension today, is to embark 114 passengers, two urgently required bulky freight items, 21 tons of ammunition and educational stores (transferred from QE II) and as many 3" chaff rockets kits as can be loaded for CTG 317.8 and 0 (Duty Cdr, 04069).

#### STUFT AND LOGISTICS

24. RANGATIRA has been cleared for helicopter operations (with limitations for the Wessex) and is fitted with night-flying equipment (04032). She does not meet DG Ships stability criteria and additional bulkheads are being fitted - completion is expected at midnight on 11/12 June (NSAG).

25. The ST HELENA will receive a special astern RAS rig which is being designed and constructed; the earliest completion date is 10 June (NSAG).

26. The next STUFT departures will be SCOTTISH EAGLE, which will leave to become a resident tanker at South Georgia on 5 June, and the ammunition ship LAERTES, which will leave with WMR ammunition for four battalions on 6 June; on arrival she will bring stocks to 60 days worth limited war rates for eight battalions (04065, Duty Cdr, LF sitrep).

27. A Return of Shipping to Owner - ROST - procedure is being developed to establish a routine. BSC has stated that this should allow for RN equipment to be removed in an HM Dockyard prior to ROST contract work (BSC 67, NSAG).

28. GOOSANDER is laying one mooring at Ascension and WIMPEY SEAHORSE will lay three at South Georgia. CTF 317 considers that a further requirement exists for two swinging moorings off Port Stanley for heavy ships, specifically the Forward Support Ship with ships alongside, damaged warships at extended notice for power and heavy supply ships unloading. It is requested that two swinging moorings be made up at Devonport for shipment to WIMPEY SEAHORSE (04057).

29. CTF 317 has proposed that up to three NAAFI Bulk Issue Stores, manned by volunteer NAAFI personnel should be established ashore in the Falklands, the stores being obtained from combat stores ships in the short and medium terms (04045).
30. The necessity for the return to the UK of defective equipment and components has been stressed by CTF 317. If this is not done, future maintenance and spares support will be jeopardised: at present repair cycles for many items are at a standstill due to high usage and low returns (04049).
31. One of REGENTS RAS rigs is unusable and needs shore crane facilities to effect repair (04011).

MATERIAL

32. Israel has denied a British Press report of missile sales to Argentina - she states that she has never sold any Gabriel ship to ship or any other missile system (02029).
33. It has been deduced that the TPS-44 radar installed at Port Stanley has a maximum range as great as 200nm (04013).
34. Further details of fitting of 20mm CRAA to ships detailed for CORPORATE, including the provision of Vulcan Phalanx for GLASGOW, are contained in serials 04015 and 04060, NSAG notes and BSC 67.
35. Details of the Sidewinder (AIM-9L) fit in the Nimrod 2 are in serial 04053.

HOSPITAL SHIPS

36. CDS has instructed ACDS(OPS) to examine the comments in HBMA Montevideo's signal on the transfer of British wounded via Uruguay (03061) and ensure that on any future occasion the Services' procedures were better adapted to local requirements. CNS intends to send a personal signal of thanks to the Ambassador (COS mtg 62). The Uruguayan authorities, under pressure from the Argentinians, now require ICRC certification that medical stores deliveries do indeed contain medical stores only (04020, 04016).
37. The Hospital Ship visit programme to Montevideo is believed to be:
- |              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| 6 - 7 June   | HYDRA (Dipclear arranged) |
| 10 - 11 June | HERALD                    |
| 14 - 15 June | HECLA                     |

HBMA Montevideo requires urgent confirmation.

38. ICRC representatives are to be messed aboard HM Ships and UGANDA as "sponsored visitors", under Vote 2L (04020). Details of the ICRC mandate aboard British Hospital Ships are given in 03064.
39. BAHIA PARAISO has embarked wounded from UGANDA and agreed to proceed east about to Fox Bay. She has expressed a wish to embark wounded at Port Howard: this might afford the opportunity to embark an ICRC observer in her, by helicopter in the Falkland Sound (04058).

PRISONERS OF WAR

40. The NORLAND will not be ready to leave the TA with her POWs until 5 June (04006). She has painted the letters "PW" on her funnel and flight deck but no other special markings. The PCO has been requested to contact the

40. (Cont)

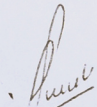
to contact the Argentine authorities, through Brazil, for agreement to repatriation through Montevideo, in anticipation of an Uruguayan reply (04097). If this cannot be arranged, then Cape Town or Ascension may be used (COS mtg 68).

41. Commander of the Task Groups are to copy unclassified POW reports to MOD. Information on Special Category POWs is to be classified as "Confidential" senior officers, Special Forces and those of intelligence interest came under this heading and may be delayed at the discretion of CLFFI. Astiz is to be repatriated after the Attorney-General has advised on the arrangements for further questioning and certain legal formalities have been completed on behalf of the French Government (COS mtg 68).

OTHER

42. Instructions for the crediting of all donations specified for the South Atlantic Fund are given in Serial 04064.

43. Facilities for the landing of Foreign Press representatives after the re-occupation of the Falklands are to be considered by CINCFLEET: the question will be raised at the 5 June DOE meeting (NSAG).



JDB

Head of Naval Historical Branch

Checked by: R H PURCELL  
Lieutenant Commander Royal Navy