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COS 64TH MEETING/82

Copy No 66. of 78 copies

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX
TO
COS 64TH MEETING/82 HELD ON
TUESDAY 1 JUNE 1982 AT 9.15 am

OPERATION CORPORATEITEM 1. INTELLIGENCE

1. SIR TERENCE LEWIN invited the Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence) to update them on current intelligence.
2. LIEUTENANT GENERAL GLOVER (Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence)) reviewed the intelligence published in the latest summary (1). He assessed Argentine naval dispositions and possible courses of action, and Argentine deployments on East Falkland.
3. In discussion the following points were agreed:
 - a. The bombing attack (2) by an Argentine C130 aircraft on the MV BRITISH WYE 400 miles North West of South Georgia, well outside the Total Exclusion Zone, was a serious extension of the conflict. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office should be invited to make a strong diplomatic protest.
 - b. The Permanent Under Secretary and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office should be invited to consider further what action could be taken about Argentine merchant ships loitering near Ascension Island. There was no security objection to these ships being named when visual identification had been obtained.
 - c. The Argentine notification that the hospital ship BAHIA PARAISO was to enter the Bay of Harbours on East Falkland had been given too late, and had not been received until after the ship

pm

AKG 050/1

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY

DESK OFFICER		REMARKS
INDEX	PA	Action Taken

Notes:

1. INTSUM No 116, 010600Z June 1982.
2. CTF 317 311657Z May.

Page 1 of 4 pages

had been intercepted by HMS PLYMOUTH. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office should be invited to take up with Brazil, as the Protecting Power, the need for timely notice of such movements.

d. The possibility of the Argentines trying to retain and perhaps reinforce West Falkland as a diplomatic counter in any future negotiations should not be overlooked.

ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

4. REAR-ADMIRAL BROWN (Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations)) outlined the deployment and operations of the Task Force.

5. Summing up a short discussion, SIR TERENCE LEWIN said that, in the light of the intelligence assessment of Argentine naval intentions and of the attack on the MV BRITISH WYE, he would raise again (3) at OD(SA) that day the question of attacks on Argentine naval ships within the 12 mile coastal limit.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

6. MR McDONALD (Deputy Chief of Public Relations) reported on press coverage.

7. In discussion, concern was expressed at the continued premature disclosure of operational plans and unit identities both in London and by reporters with the Task Force, which was causing strong reactions among the Force. Despite measures to improve security of information and control over reports, leaks were still occurring, not always from military sources. Furthermore, many reports were based largely on speculation. The Permanent Under Secretary, however, had spoken to the Acting Director General of the BBC about this the previous evening, and intended that day to remind the press generally about security.

8. Summing up, SIR TERENCE LEWIN said they would wish the News Release Group that day to announce details of Argentine casualties at Goose Green and Darwin Settlement, and to publicise the movements of the Argentine

Note:

3. COS 61st Meeting/82, Item 6.

hospital ship BAHIA PARAISO and its planned rendezvous with the SS UGANDA. He also said he would raise in OD(SA) that morning whether any publicity should be given to the capture at Goose Green of what appeared to be Napalm weapons.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED

9. The Committee noted the summary of actions in hand (4).

ITEM 5. BRIEFING ON OPERATIONS

10. MAJOR WALDEN (Staff of the Chief of the Defence Staff) briefed the Committee on the latest assessment of the situation by the Commander Land Forces Falkland Islands, and outlined the Commander's operational intentions.

Annex:

A. Operation CORPORATE - Actions in hand (1 page).

Note:

4. Annex A to COS 63rd Meeting/82.

OPERATION CORPORATE - ACTIONS IN HAND

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
0023	6/82 Item 1 (re-titled 40/82)	Military Options for Repossession of the Falkland Islands	ACDS(Pol)	DPS/DS 11	7/82 Item 4 12/82 Item 6 35/82 Item 4 40/82 Item 7 43/82 Item 5 50/82 Item 5 54/82 Item 5 62/82 Item 5	For COS O/C
0091	54/82 Item 5	Contingency Studies	ACDS(Pol)	ACDS(Pol)	62/82 Item 5	For COS O/C
0092	59/82 Item 6	Future Garrison Studies	CCS	ACDS(Pol)		
0093	61/82 Item 6	Rules of Engagement	ACDS(Ops)	OD(SA)	OD(SA) 28 May	
0094	62/82 Item 6	Replacement for ships lost in Operation CORPORATE	ND	S of S		For COS I/C 3 June