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COS 27TH MEETING/82

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## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

## CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

## CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX

TO

COS 27TH MEETING/82 HELD ON  
THURSDAY 22 APRIL 1982 AT 11.00 amOPERATION CORPORATEITEM 1. INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

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 went on to say that the number of Soviet satellites in orbit (3 photographic reconnaissance and 8 ELINT) was not unusual, though their targeting was. He doubted if photography could be obtained by this means to provide intelligence on the current positions of our ships, as the Soviets normally recovered satellite photographs at three-weekly intervals. He concluded by saying that later that day he would circulate a revised assessment of the air defences of Port Stanley airfield.
3. The previous day HMS HERMES had identified military markings on an Argentine Boeing 707 aircraft carrying out surveillance of the Carrier Battle Group. There was concern lest the aircraft might be providing information to enable an Argentine submarine to be guided towards our ships. Rules of Engagement should be strengthened to classify as Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft any civilian aircraft with military markings carrying out surveillance within 25 miles of ships of the Task Force.
4. Summing up SIR TERENCE LEWIN said they would wish to instruct the Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations), in conjunction with the Navy and Air Force Departments and the Defence Secretariat, to prepare a draft submission to the Secretary of State for their consideration out of committee by 1500 that day, setting out proposed Rules of Engagement to counter surveillance by civilian aircraft. They would wish to note that Ministerial agreement was unlikely to be given before the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary returned from Washington.

## Note:

1. INTSUM No. 34, 220600Z April 1982.

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ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

5. The situation was set out in the Force Tote Sitrep (2).

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

6. Mr MACDONALD (Deputy Chief of Public Relations) reported on press coverage. He said he was taking steps to improve notification by the Task Force of major press events, such as the interview given the previous day by the Commander of the Task Group of which he had no forewarning.

7. In discussion it was agreed that in answer to questions it should be said that the Harriers for the ATLANTIC CONVEYOR were remaining in UK for further pilot training, and would join the ship at Ascension Island. If questioned further on corrosion, the press could be informed that action was in hand.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED

8. The Committee noted the summary of action in hand (3); a revised summary is at Annex A. It was noted that the paper on Prisoners of War (serial 0059) had not yet been finally cleared; they would wish to agree out of committee that day the principles it set out, while leaving for later a decision whether and when to take over the BAS ship BRANSFIELD.

9. The Committee also noted the Decisions Required (4), and agreed that the diagrams should be updated in the light of their discussion.

## Annex:

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

## Note:

2. FORCE TOTE Sitrep (Issue 28).
3. Annex to COS 26th Meeting/82.
4. Attachment to COS(Misc) 146/742/1 dated 22 April 1982.

OPERATION CORPORATE - ACTIONS IN HAND

ITEM	ARISING FROM COS MEETING	DECISION OR ACTION REQUIRED	SPONSOR	ACTION/ DECISION BY	CONTINUED	CURRENT STATE
0023	6/82 Item 1	Op CORPORATE - Military Appreciation	COS	DS 11	7/82 Item 5 12/82 Item 6	To be revised -
0059	23/82 Item 6	Prisoners of War	ACDS(P&L)	ACDS(P&L)	27/82 Item 4	For clearance O/C
0061	23/82 Item 7	Battle Casualty Replacements	ACDS(P&L)	ACDS(P&L)		
0064	25/82 Item 5	Assessment of Vulcan Capability	AFD	AFD		For COS 23 Apr 82
0065	-	Maintenance of a British Garrison in the Falkland Islands	VCDS(P&L)	ACDS(P&L)	VCDS(P&L)127/3/3 dated 19 Apr 82	By 26 Apr

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