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COS 70TH MEETING/82

Copy No. 59

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

MEETING to be held in Room 5301, Ministry  
of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall  
on WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE 1982 at 9.15 am

AGENDA

1. INTELLIGENCE
2. OWN FORCES
3. PUBLIC RELATIONS
4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED
5. FUTURE GARRISON OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND DEPENDENCIES  
(COS(Misc) 259/742/1 dated 4 June 1982).
6. UNFORESEEN MATTERS WHICH THE CHIEFS OF STAFF  
OR THE SECRETARY MAY WISH TO RAISE

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J A C G Eyre  
Brigadier  
Secretary  
Chiefs of Staff Committee

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE ATTENDING

VCDS(P&L)	*DDOMS	DMO
DCDS(I)	PUS	ACAS(Ops)
DCDS(OR)	AUS(D Staff)	D of D(Ops)
ACDS(Pol)	*DCPR	Hd DS 11
ACDS(Ops)	FCO(Def Dept)	Hd DS 5
ACDS(P&L)	ACNS(O)	Hd DS 8
*ACDS(S)	COS CGRM	D of DPS(C)

\* Items 1-4 only.

COS 70TH MEETING/82

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX  
TO  
COS 70TH MEETING/82 HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 9 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 said there was further evidence to support his earlier assessment (2) that reinforcements had parachuted into West Falkland, and he assessed the quantity of combat supplies which had been flown into East Falkland. He also reported the current deployment and activities of the Argentine Super Etendard aircraft, which indicated a lack of Exocet AM39 missiles. Turning to arms supplies, he said that up to 240 tonnes had been supplied so far from Libyan sources, and flown by Argentine aircraft through Recife.
3. LIEUTENANT GENERAL GLOVER went on to assess the likely Argentine concept of operations for the defence of Port Stanley, the point in their defences which they would see as the most vulnerable, their ability to sustain the fight in terms of combat supplies and morale, and the situation which would have to be achieved before Brigadier General Menendez would be likely to contemplate an honourable surrender. In conclusion, he said the JIC were preparing (3) an assessment of Argentine military capability and options following our repossession of the Falkland Islands. On the evidence available at present, he considered that the Argentine Government would wish to continue hostilities, that their 3 Services would have

## Notes:

1. INTSUM No 132, 090600Z June 1982.
2. COS 69th Meeting/82, Item 1.
3. JIC(82) 32nd Meeting, Item 1e.

Page 1 of 4 pages

617

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17 JUN 1982	
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INDEX	A

sufficient capability to do so, and that the overall Argentine intention might be to raise the cost of the operation to an unacceptable level for the UK in order to force the British Government to change its policy.

ITEM 2. OWN FORCES

4. REAR-ADMIRAL BROWN (Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Operations)) reported on the deployment and operations of the Task Force. In subsequent discussion it was noted that the Army Department were now providing a daily report on the activities of Gurkha troops to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for onward transmission to Kathmandu.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

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

6. In discussion the following points were agreed:

a. The News Release Group should prepare a statement about the attack by C130 aircraft on a US-owned Liberian-registered tanker the previous day, highlighting the instructions sent in English to the ship by the Argentines after the attack, which made it clear that it was Argentine aircraft that had carried out the attack. This statement should be released as soon as possible.

b. The News Release Group should prepare, for issue as soon as possible, a statement on the casualties in HMS PLYMOUTH.

c. Speculation about the casualties resulting from the attacks on SIR GALAHAD and SIR TRISTRAM should be discouraged; there was insufficient information to make a statement at that stage.

d. The News Release Group, in conjunction with the Army Department and the Task Force Commander, should prepare a presentation, to be given that afternoon, on the landing by 5 Infantry Brigade.

ITEM 4. ACTIONS AND DECISIONS REQUIRED

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

Note:

4. Annex A to COS 69th Meeting/82.



ITEM 5. LONG TERM OPERATIONS

8. SIR FRANK COOPER (Permanent Under Secretary), referring to the assessment given by the Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (Intelligence) under Item 1, said he considered there was a need for a comprehensive and wide-ranging study into the possibility that operations would be continued by the Argentines for a long period of time after the fall of Port Stanley, and possibly after the UK had repossessed all the Falkland Islands. Argentine attitudes, capabilities and possible courses of action should be examined, with a view to determining the countermeasures which the British Government might have to take and the military operations which might be required. He said the paper (5) on the future garrison, which they were due to discuss later that day, and the papers on military options (6) and contingencies (7), did not go into the subject in sufficient depth.

9. Summing up a short discussion, SIR TERENCE LEWIN said they would wish to discuss the matter further at their meeting that afternoon.

## Annex:

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

## Notes:

5. Attachment to COS (Misc) 259/742/1 dated 4 June 1982.  
6. Attachment to COS (Misc) 256/742/1 dated 3 June 1982.  
7. Attachment to COS (Misc) 255/742/1 dated 3 June 1982.

ANNEX A TO  
 COS 70TH MEETING/82  
 9 JUNE 1982

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 COS (Misc) 256/ 742/1 dated 3 Jun	
0091	54/82 Item 5	Contingency Studies	ACDS (Pol)	ACDS (Pol)	62/82 Item 5 COS (Misc) 255/ 742/1 dated 3 Jun	
0092	59/82 Item 6	Future Garrison Studies	CDS	ACDS (Pol)	COS (Misc) 259/ 742/1 dated 4 Jun	For COS 9 Jun
0093	61/82 Item 6	Rules of Engagement	ACDS (Ops)	OD(SA)	OD(SA) 28 May	Periodic review by OD(SA)
0095	67/82 Item 1	Replacement of Stores and Equipment	DCDS (OR)/ DUS (P)	OD Jul 82		
0096	68/82 Item 7	Garrison Planning and Command Arrangements	CDS	ACDS (Pol)		
0097	69/82 Item 5	Provision of Press facilities	PUS	CPR/AUS (D Staff)		
0098	69/82 Item 6	South Sandwich Islands	CDS	CINCFLEET		