

OPERATION CORPORATE

Taken from the PWO's Diary at the time on HMS GLAMORGAN
(transcribed by Danny Wort ex RS)

1982

- 2 April Argentine troops invade Falkland Islands. Garrison of about 80 marines put up a good fight killing and wounding Argies in a fierce gun battle. Marines run out of ammo and told to put down arms by Commander. 1500 Argentine troops against 80 but what a fight.
RAS(L) with BLUE ROVER – 158 tons
- 4 April South Georgia invaded marines from ENDURANCE put ashore, put up a good fight, fired anti-tank rockets at CORVETTE, seriously damaged it and brought down helicopter.
We are on our way to the Ascension Islands. Big Task Force underway.
RAS(L) TIDESPRING – 200 tons
- 5 April Britain mustering task force, Hermes and Invincible made ready, Cmdo Brigade and 1st parachute battalion embarked and with others.
“Tally Ho! Here we come Argies”
- 6 April Fearless sails from U.K. We are moving South.
RAS(L) TIDESPRING – 228 tons
- 10 April Arrive Ascension Islands much activity with Hercules bringing stores out from U.K.
RAS(L) APPLELEAF – 200 tons
- 12 April Vertrep stores all day, food, ammo and Beer
- 13 April More work bringing on stores
RAS(L) APPLELEAF – 212 tons
- 14 April Depart Ascension to R/V with Hermes. The Harriers look very impressive, hope they are good combat aircraft, though they are usually ground attack.
- 15 April Admiral Woodward to Hermes, flag in Command.
Steam back to Ascension.
- 16 April Prep for war, much activity, stores accounting, black out ship
- 17 April Heading South with SHEFFIELD, ALACRITY, ARROW, BRILLIANT, GLASGOW and COVENTRY.
RAS(L) OLMEDA – 324 tons
- 19 April Commence Phase 1 approach Falklands. We continue preps for war
- 21 April RAS(L) OLMEDA – 285 tons

- 22 April** Start defence watches 0200 port watch on
“Here we go”
- 23 April** Commence Phase 2 Falkland islands.
- 24 April** RAS(L) OLMEDA – 220 tons
- 25 April** ‘D’ day on South Georgia
PLYMOUTH, ANTRIM, BRILLIANT and ENDURANCE N.G.S on South Georgia.
4.5 inch HE, Many salvos. Sent in SAS and also the Marines land, Argies hoist white flag. Sub on surface, Brilliant Lynx engages with HSQ Missile and Cannons. Submarine burning and heavily damaged and is beached.
Argies surrender and are taken POW.
Now we are in it. “Don’t mess about with us blues”.
- 27 April** RAS(L) APPLELEAF – 122 tons
A visit from the “Burglar” Argie intelligence plane – Boeing 707. Intercepted by Harrier, I bet that Argie pilot panicked.
- 28 April** RAS(L) OLMEDA – 90 tons
Its getting hotter now, any day I reckon, the adrenalin is flowing, I realise that we are going to war, I wish I was back at home now, but I could not leave my comrades.
- 30 April** RAS(L) APPLELEAF – 100 tons
We all know that something will happen soon, tension is growing.
- 1 May** Yes here we go! A Vulcan from the RAF bombs Stanley airport. An hour or so later harriers leave the decks of HERMES and INVINCIBLE to bomb Argie positions, harriers return victory rolls over bows.
Hell! Here we go “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS – On anti-flash, trousers tucked in socks, aircraft attack imminent, we move like lightning close down to 1Z, harriers intercept, but Argies turn away, thank god. This cat and mouse tactic goes on for most of the morning.
We detach from the force, GLAMORGAN, ALACRITY and ARROW.
Christ, the Admiral is sending us in to the Falklands for N.G.S during daylight.
Here we go again “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”. We creep past the minefield, Jesus we must be mad, manoeuvre into position the 4.5 bark their wrath over the targets, and we pump shell after shell into the airfield and gun emplacements. 54 rounds of HE we send in, it must be murder, all that HE men must be dieing everywhere.
We turn and make speed to leave the area, Hell here come the Argies Mirage fighters coming from in land, up our blind arcs, we cannot bring Cat or Slug to bear. This is it, Dagger, Dagger, Dagger, we hear the sound of cannon fire, whoosh missiles the lot, two loud bangs underneath the water. The mirage fighter dropped its load but missed, ARROW was not so lucky, she took cannon fir on the superstructure, one man was wounded. On go the G6 turbines and away we go like bats out of hell.
Meanwhile fierce dog fights between Argies and our harriers, the harriers are downing the mirage fighters, our lookouts see them flaming into the water, no parachutes.

We were bloody lucky, I hope we don't do this N.G.S during the day again.
RAS(L) OLMEDA – 78 tons

2 May 0015. NGS again this time at night, not so bad this time, no Argies aircraft, 72 rounds 4.5 HE go inland, we turn and leave the area to rejoin the Fleet.
ARROW detached to chase fast patrol boat.
Re-embark ammo from RESOURCE.
RAS(L) OLMEDA – 139 tons

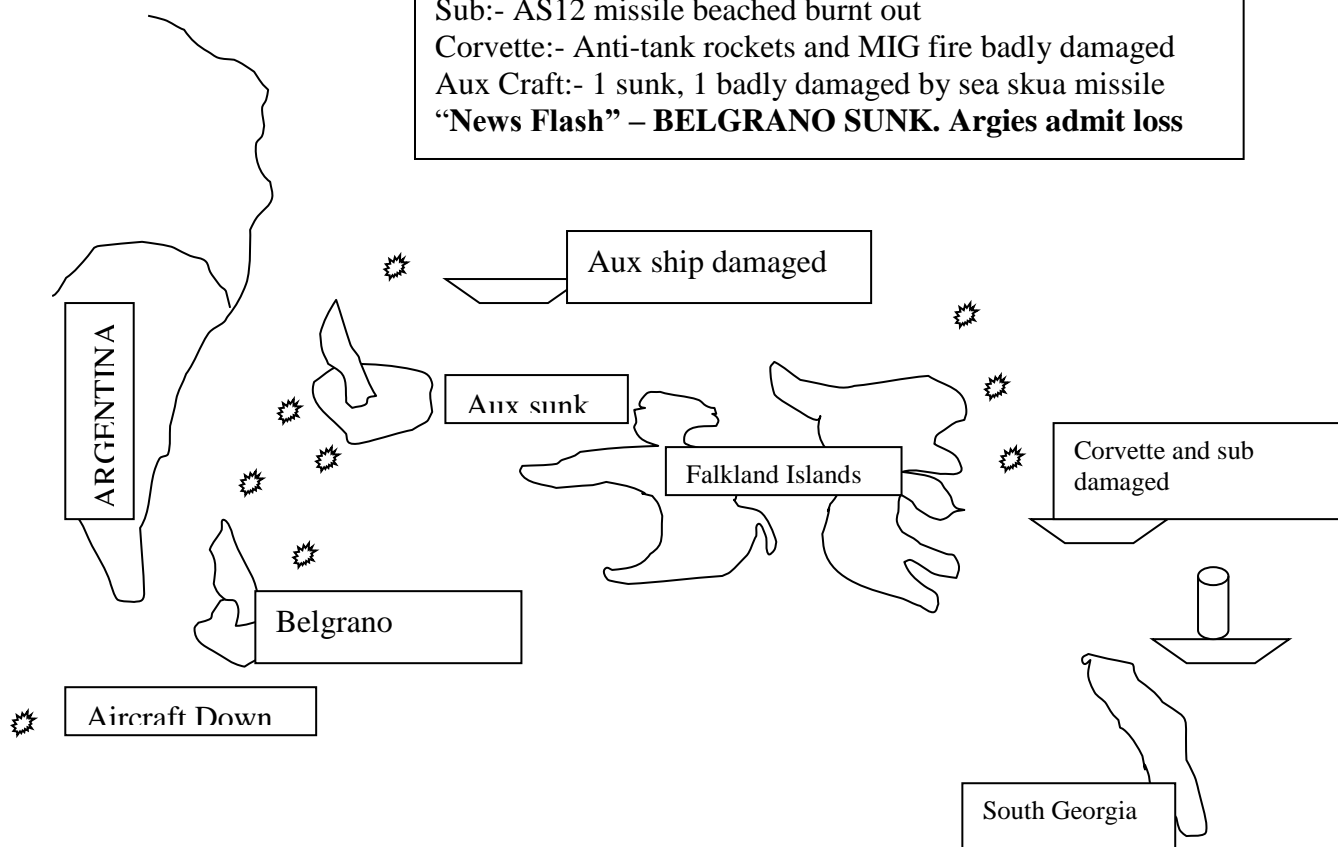
3 May The action hots up over night, CONQUERER torpedoes the Argie cruiser BELGRANO. Lynx helicopters engage 2 Argie ships with sea skua missiles. 1 ship sunk, 1 badly damaged, the main force retires to a holding position. The Argies have lost more aircraft than we thought, some of the damaged ones did not make it back home, more shot down in combat by harrier. Our pilots had a field day, we were lucky, we believe the Argies lost about 8 aircraft.
Argie Losses to date: -

1 Cruiser 8 mirage fighters
1 Corvette 1 Canberra bomber
1 Submarine
2 Ships

This Galtieri person must realise for the good of his people we must come to a compromise.

2100 "HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS" Contact made, combat air patrol launched to investigate, Neptune aircraft sighting 100 miles closed to 80 miles.
No action taken.

Cruiser BELGRANO: - 2 fish badly damaged
Sub:- AS12 missile beached burnt out
Corvette:- Anti-tank rockets and MIG fire badly damaged
Aux Craft:- 1 sunk, 1 badly damaged by sea skua missile
"News Flash" – BELGRANO SUNK. Argies admit loss



4 May Vulcan air strike carried out on Port Stanley area 0600 hrs approx. Argies must be losing heart on the island conditions are bad, bad weather over the last 36 hrs. Many casualties reported on the ground, airport reduced to ashes. Harriers are due in next to bomb Pucca aircraft on other small fields. We expect to vertrep stores to-day.

The events that are to follow I have had to leave for 12 hours to allow myself time to think.

1415

“HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”

The general quarters alarm is like a clock ticking away in my head, with my action man kit, I rush down to my action stations donning my anti-flash.

The situation is not very clear, panicked reports are hitting us from every angle. SHEFFIELD has been torpedoed; no we are not sure, now they say she has been hit by “Exocet”. GLASGOW reports that she is being fired at by submarine, now YARMOUTH is giving the same report. “What the hell is going on?”

We are all closed down now, frightened faces everywhere, a total fear you learn to live with. It amazes me that people are not on the verge of “total panic”. I believe the reason is that we don’t know what the hell is happening, or what the implications are, we just do our job.

The force launch combat aircraft patrols, it seems like ages since we have heard of their launch from the carrier group.

Clearer reports are coming in now. SHEFFIELD was hit by exocet carrying aircraft, “Super Entandard”, there is a cold feeling now we wonder who is next, what the hell happened, how can they allow that to escalate.

Poor SHEFFIELD, they didn’t know what hit them, what the hell is wrong with our radar, its useless, we need air cover, early warning radar is what we need, the Gannet used to supply this but alas that was when we were a Navy, with Fleet attack carrier forces.

Reports are coming in now, the SHEFFIELD is burning like hell, ARROW has detached to help her, fire raging everywhere now. The morale in the vicinity of me has dropped a mile, no more jubilant faces. “This is for real”, we have lost comrades on the SHEFFIELD though we don’t know how many.

Fire engulfing the SHEFFIELD now they abandon ship, she is finished, a burning wreck done by that thing Exocet. The very word brings fear to us.

Further news we lost a harrier today. Somewhere over the Falklands during an air strike, shot down by anti-aircraft batteries. No news of the pilot ejecting.

GOD IT WAS HELL TODAY, HOW MUCH MORE CAN WE TAKE.

5 May

After a somewhat subdued night I arise, Breakfast, around me are many saddened faces, much talk of yesterdays incident. Commander is on the broadcast, we lost 25 on the SHEFFIELD, but they are still sorting out the mess. Survivors transferred to HERMES.

I have gone on the upperdeck to rig for embarking avcat “Willies” a thirsty bird, really, that helicopter should control its drinking.

We had a quiet day today, visibility was bad, the Argies could not see us they would have to use radar and that gives us a chance to pick them up on Electronic warfare.

Much of today's talk has been about the SHEFFIELD, which is still afloat with most of the fires still burning, there is talk of salvage. I hope so as the Argies cannot claim then to have sunk it.

We still do not know the death toll, they will not release the list, which is onboard, or tell us how many survived, some of the lads have friends on there and are anxious to know details. The thoughts onboard are who is next, how many more can we afford to lose.

RAS(L) OLMEDA 248 tons Diesel, 20 tons Avcat.

6 May

We had a quiet watch during the night, still a great deal of talk about the SHEFFIELD, she didn't even fire a shot in anger, we shall learn a lot about this incident in time.

We have heard on the news about a possible ceasefire and UN moves toward a settlement, we can only hope.

There is a detailed report on the main notice board all about SHEFFIELD.

Exocet hit amidships 6 foot above the water line, it took out the machinery spaces and other compartments, the missile went upwards then exploded, the ship was filled with black acrid smoke mainly from the rocket fuel.

Casualties had terrible burns, there seems to have been many of them, men were in a state of shock.

The Captain said they did him proud, they fought the fires gallantly but they became white hot with the decks boiling, no fire main, eventually fires were uncontrollable and spreading towards magazines no alternative but to abandon ship.

1800

"HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS" here we go again, on battle gear and down to my action station. I have got this nearly to perfection now, anti-flash hood is now on before I reach the senior rates heads, most important this, if a fire ball appears the head and face are very much exposed.

Red alert, hostile aircraft closing the force, we fire chaff delta, it becomes very tense. The NGS spotters have rigged themselves machine guns on the bridge wings, they want to have a go at the Argies. The alert passes over yet again those anxious moments pass by and we relax to 2Y Defence.

2200

"HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS". I thought they had no night flying capability. This time it is a reconnaissance plane, but still it plays on your nerves.

Yahoo! Yahoo! We got mail today, it was nice to hear from our loved ones at home, they are constantly on our thoughts.

We have acquired a new nickname. "THE THREE MUSKETEERS", GLAMORGAN, ARROW and ALACRITY. We seem to be the only cabbages who do anything on this task force. Finally we lost a harrier today, it would seem that they collided together in bad visibility, as there were no Argies in the area.

7 May

"All quiet on the Western front"

I was awakened at 0745, had breakfast and we are now doing our stint at defence watch, the Commander has informed us that we shall be taking on stores and mail this morning.

1100

"HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS". Aircraft warning red, Bandits to the west 120 miles and closing. Its on anti-flash, grab battle gear and away to action stations. Combat air patrol harriers are out to engage the enemy. Chaff Delta is fired, the anxious moments, the waiting period, yet again the Argies break away and head for home.

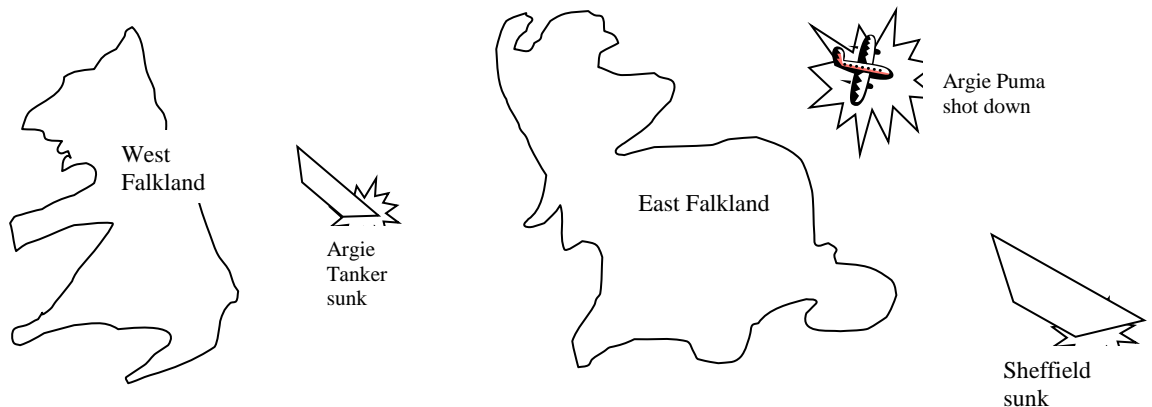
- 1800 **“HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”**. Aircraft warning red, Argies are at it again, harriers are up, but they turn away.
- 1900 **“HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS**. Aircraft warning red, buzzer goes again, same old routine, but we must be vigilant, we cannot afford to be sloppy. During the day we were detached for a surface action group, along with our other gallant musketeers, **ARROW** and **ALACRITY**, we found nothing and rejoined the group.
Relax to 2Y and a quiet night.
- 8 May Awoke this morning after a few hours sleep, the day starts with a **RAS(L)** **APPLELEAF** – 200 tons. The weather not too bad, visibility about 12 miles but its cold when you hang around.
The 992 radar is broken, hanging limply with its legs in the air. The maintainers are waiting for the parts to come from **FORT AUSTIN** by helicopter. We proved the rover gas turbine sump this afternoon and all was well.
At 1100 we went to action stations, much the same routine the Argies are trying our air defence system.
- 1530 **“HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”**. Yes here we go again, aircraft warning red, we close down to 1Z. No further action so we revert to 2Y and stand down.
- 1900 **“HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”**. This time there is a lot of air activity, **EW** detect a neptune and mirage fighters. They seem to be over by Port Stanley. No threat against us and we stand down to 2Y and go to supper.
The 992 maintainer has repaired his set and we are now back to weapons radar link. Thank God.
I find the professionalism on this ship is second to none, the Commander is a tower of strength, he always looks so calm and collected a fantastic person in a crisis, morale seems to be increasing again after the **SHEFFIELD** incident. We are learning to live with it. This is a hard working ship, we are the backbone of the task force, better trained and worked up than any, it is a privilage to be amongst such a smashing bunch of lads.
“GLAMORGAN No 1 MUSKATEER”
Not only that we received our second batch of mail today thanks to the “Fleet Air Arm”.
- 9 May A peaceful night for **GLAMORGAN** we gave screening cover for the carrier group.
YARMOUTH was detached to take **SHEFFIELD** in tow. She has been drifting, a burnt out hulk but salvageable.
ARROW and **ALACRITY** went inshore to punch in 90 rounds of H.E. a piece to let the Argies know we are still here, as we have let them have it a little quiet for a day or two.
BRILLIANT has gone ship hunting, **COVENTRY** will join her later and they will both try and knock down some Argie aircraft, we are after the **C130 Hercules** that creeps in now and again. Not to forget that the harriers also went in last night for a quick bomb in and out.
Harriers intercepted an Argentine fishing vessel, it was boarded by **SAS** and **SBS**, it turned out to be an intelligence gatherer, onboard were a naval officer and 2 ratings, during the attack 1 of the crewmen was killed and some wounded, crafty beggars had been watching us and intercepting signals.
COVENTRY and **BROADSWORD** were at the other side of the islands keeping the Argies at bay they sent the **C130 Hercules** packing after **COVENTRY** fired **Seadart** at max range, pity its missed, they should have waited until they saw the

whites of their eyes. She was later rewarded when they shot down a Puma Troop carrying helicopter.

You won't believe this but no action stations to-day

10 May **ARROW** and **ALACRITY** steamed in during the night hours and kept the Argies awake with NGS. We gave screening cover to the carrier task group. Some Chinese are leaving the ship and wish to return home to their families. They did well to stay up to now, Johnny Chan has opted to stay for now so has No1 and his oppo, good for them they have gained a lot of respect, after all they are civvies. I must also give praise to Ray Kite and his two assistants in the NAAFI who remain with us, it's the **GLAMORGAN** spirit. I don't believe it, no action stations again
RAS(L) APPLELEAF – 173 tons.

11 May The weather has continued much the same, poor visibility. **ARROW** and **ALACRITY** carried out their blockade on the islands. **ALACRITY** gained a contact and opened fire at 4½ miles with her 4.5” and blew up an Argie tanker bringing in fuel oil. We have been detached to escort the tankers and **BRITISH ESK** into the task force. **BROADSWORD** and **COVENTRY** have gone inland to tighten the grip, stopping the Argies airlifting supplies. BBC World service, we understand that the UN are negotiating for a cease fire. I hope they succeed. Willie has been kaput for the last couple of days, but she is now working again after receiving some new parts. She will be carrying out a “double bubble” late afternoon providing a screen. **YARMOUTH** has completed her tow of **SHEFFIELD** out of the 200 mile zone. **SHEFFIELD** began to list and finally sunk east of the Falklands.



11 May 1982

Argie losses: 1 Puma helicopter
1 Tanker

SHEFFIELD sank

12 May A quiet night, weather very lumpy, visibility still poor. We had an unsuccessful attempt to **RAS(L)**, though we did manage some very much needed 3” rockets. **BRITISH ESK** was due to pump over some fuel to **APPLELEAF** earlier on today but she has been hampered by the lousy weather.

- Later on the cloud cover broke and the sun managed to poke itself through, a bad sign on us as this means the Argies would be on their way again.
- 1710** Ah! Here we go “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS” aircraft warning red. Four A4 Skyhawks attacked the GLASGOW and BRILLIANT. BRILLIANT shot down 2 with sea wolf, at last a missile system that’s been used, another one ditched trying to avoid a missile. One did manage to get through and dropped a bomb which went in GLASGOWS super structure and out the other side, damage only slight they were very lucky.
- 1850** “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS” its grab battle gear and close up to 1Z. Carriers launch combat air patrol to intercept, but the Argies turn and go for home.
- 1930** Darkness is falling, revert to 2Y, stand down. Meanwhile in shore the SAS are being naughty boys, they are causing mayhem.
- 13 May** A quiet night with little or no activity. This gave the FLEET the chance to store ship and RAS(L).
RAS(L) APPLELEAF – 202 tons.
Since the 2 April we have taken on 3183 tons of fuel. Ah! No action stations today.
- 14 May** We were due to go into Pebble Island tonight and take out an Argie radar station, but the weather was against us – visibility sometimes down to 50 yards, now and then a mile.
Relatively quiet all day, no action stations at all.
Press and TV men embarked.
- 15 May** During last night we were detached with HERMES and BROADSWORD to conduct an insertion on Pebble Island, objective to take the airfield and various support. The programme went on later than expected, the SAS were put ashore by Sea-king off the HERMES. They took longer than intended, we gave NGS after they had been put under fire by the Argies, firstly we illuminated the target with star shell and then commenced a rapid bombardment of HE.
Approximately 90 rounds were fired in all. 10 aircraft destroyed, ammunition dump blown up. Later a harrier strike took out the radar installation. We then made our withdrawal at high speed to catch up with HERMES and then to join up with the main task group. We expected a counter attack from the Argies due to the fact that we were still in the Falkland area during daylight. We consumed 120 tons of fuel making our getaway. Fell out from action stations at 0815 and went to breakfast.
- 16 May** A pointer from yesterday, we have spent 60 days flashed now and the boilers are doing well. A few holes are beginning to appear now, aft fresh water tank lid is leaking, a welded seam has gone. Stanchion support in 3D mess weld has broken and various clasps and joins have started to split, this is mainly due to the bad weather and also the age of the ship (18 years).
The press and TV crews have left the ship, this was their first taste of action in the front line. Not much opportunity of this on the HERMES and INVINCIBLE, maybe now they will report the truth instead of them carriers hogging all the limelight.
During the latter part of the morning we completed a RAS(L) with OLMEDA – 297 tons of Diesel. A good all round RAS, not so cold and dry for a change.

BRILLIANT was detached to go and look at a surface contact, we believe that an Argie hospital ship is trying to smuggle supplies into the island – she will be sunk if found guilty.

16 May We have been ordered to leave the task force, go inland and bombard Argie positions later tonight.

17 May

0100 Well here we go again, No1 Musketeer. We steam at about 22 knots, we close up to Action Stations closing the coastline, “Willie” is airborne, she will be illuminating the Argie positions whilst we engage our 4.5 guns.

0120 The 4.5” opens fire, Thump, Thump, Thump, they bark their wrath as 56lb of HE whisks down on the Argies. We fire at several targets, in all 142 rounds of HE, 12 Star shell, “Willie” comes under fire so returns back on deck.

0310 We finish our naval bombardment and are now leaving the coast line to rejoin the Fleet. We expect to re-supply our ammunition sometime during the forenoon from RESOURCE.

1030 We commence to ammunition 240 rounds to embark.

1110 “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS” aircraft warning red, bandits approaching the force, combat air patrol are in the area so they are off to have a look. No sign of the enemy so we revert back to defence watch.

The sea slug system is now back operational and 992 radar is back on line. Thank goodness for that.

During the night the harriers attacked two supply ships, one was hit by bombs and rockets and sunk, the other was strafed by cannon fire and badly damaged. A relatively quiet day after the initial scare. We brought on the ammo from RESOURCE and commenced to fuse the shells, during the latter part of the day even I fused one as we had to supply four lads to help with this task, they enjoyed it, makes a change from patrol and cleaning flats.

18 May By standards a quiet night for GLAMORGAN. The force has split into 3 groups, HERMES has detached to the East to R/V with the FEARLESS group.

INVINCIBLE has detached to the West to go on a skirmish. We are now I/C of the supply group, OLMEDA, APPLELEAF, REGENT and RESOURCE with COVENTRY and GLASGOW riding point on picket.

RAS(L) OLMEDA – 160 tons.

1710 We detached to go inshore for more shore bombardment this seems to be the likely role we shall play each day now, there is another buzz going round that we might invade the islands within the next couple of days. Talks are still going on we always remain hopeful that a settlement will be reached in the future.

We received some mail today that’s a rare sight these days. Its taking a month for our mail to reach home and about 12 days for out coming mail to reach us, this is because the Task force grows bigger each week, they bring more troops and equipment down. Some days it becomes quiet boring and others we are on a knife-edge. We read papers that are several days old and the conflicting reports. I have been truthful with my writings in this diary, not only my accounts but others as well. The press at times have not given the proper accounts. In a way I am glad that we have not been mentioned to much, as this would only make our loved ones at home worry more.

19 May We are now only a few miles off shore, “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS” I am rudely awakened, stow my bed, get dressed, don my anti flash hod and gloves, grab my action man kit and close up. Minutes later the guns open fire

over the Falklands, I wonder if the shell I fused has been fired, Thump, Thump, Thump, salvo after salvo is pumped inshore, the devastation must be terrible.

0530 Bombardment is now complete and we are opening out to sea at high speed, we engaged 10 targets.

0550 Revert back to 2Y. We hope to be rejoining the main group at about 1400 hours. Having joined the main group we carried out a RAS(L) – OLMEDA – 178 tons. We shall be staying with the main body until 1800 when we detach again to do our nightly NGS at least somebody is earning their pay. No 1 Musketeer off again.

20 May We slowly approach the West Falkland island, tonights area of bombardment will be Port Stanley and other positions.

0220 “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”, we very quickly close up and assume state 1 condition Z in only a matter of minutes, we have got this off to a fine art now. Five minutes later the salvos are raining down on the Argie positions, a nightly softening up designed to keep them awake. We fired a total of 92 salvos, one particular target we have been aiming for tonight was a radar station, but without our spotting friends from 148 BTY, we didn’t have much luck tonight, still there is always tomorrow.

0350 No 1 Musketeer is now opening out to sea at high speed, we expect to revert to 2Y in about 20 minutes. We rejoined the main body at about 1100 Hrs, the weather is now getting worse and the wind stronger. We attempted a RAS(A) but RESOURCE has broken down.

1400 RAS(L) TIDEPOOL – 173 tons, finally completed RAS(A) 240 rounds of HE.

21 May Musketeer No 1 has now left the main group and we are slowly advancing on the shoreline, only 12 miles to go.

0130 “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”, we have closed the shoreline and are about to engage the seven targets we have been allocated. The 4.5” barks its wrath and salvo after salvo screams down on the enemy positions, the buzz going round is that we shall invade the islands early in the morning.

0320 We have just finished our final run and loosed off another 52 salvos, making 100 in all, we are now leaving the coast, making our way at good speed, back to the main group.

0346 Fall out from action stations. We have now joined the task force and have been told that we have made a landing on the East island, the amphibious group led by FEARLESS, have put ashore its main body of 45 Commando and 2 and 3 parachute Battalions.

0630 “D-Day has come” Hoisting Battle ensign! During the forenoon we consolidated our position ashore, pouring more troops, armour and supplies ashore. During the afternoon things begin to hot up ashore, the ships are coming under heavy air attack. Combat air patrol are engaging enemy bandits in heavy dog-fights over the islands, we are downing many Argie planes but some are getting through. ANTRIM has been hit, she has an un-exploded bomb in the aft section, ARDENT had received several hits, is on fire and believed to be sinking, BRILLIANT and BROADSWORD have been strafed by cannon fire, there have been some reports of some casualties. ARGONAUT has also been attacked and has bombs onboard that have failed to explode.

- The Argies have had many losses, we hear of A4 Skyhawks and Mirage fighters flaming into the seas, one harrier pilot has downed three himself.
- 1715 **“HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”**, air raid warning red, bandits closing the force. Now it looks like our turn, we launch combat air patrol. More heavy dog fights over the islands, harriers are downing more Argie planes, our brave exhausted pilots are doing a hell of a job, but there are many aircraft and we are too few. Its getting later and darkness is at last starting to fall, the Argies return to their airfields on the mainland and the threat returns to yellow. Todays Argie losses amount to 17 aircraft shot down and 2 helicopters.
Our glorious troops ashore have secured a beach head and the Argie garrison has surrendered, we have liberated some of the islanders, 33 in all, but we still hear of much heavy fighting going on.
- 1850 **Fall out from action stations.**
We use the darkness to ammunition from RESOURCE and RAS(L) OLMEDA – 129 tons.
- 22 May A relatively quiet night so far with the BBC world service confirming much of what I have written, so far the Argie claims are a little on the optimistic side. During the day our damaged ships have been carrying out repairs, ANTRIM has dealt with her UXB, the se slug and 1 seacat are out of action. BROADSWORD is now back fully operational, though BRILLIANT still has defects on exocet and seawolf systems. ARGONAUT is trying to raise steam, she is not too good at the moment but is progressing well. ARDENT has sunk losing about 20 men.
No air activity as yet from the Argies, ashore the troops have dug in and set up anti-aircraft missiles, namely Rapier and some guns. They have continued all day transporting supplies by helicopter and all seems to be going well. A harrier engaged a patrol boat and strafed it with cannon fire, it has been abandoned and left smoking and has gone aground.
- 23 May **0630 – 21 May 1982. British troops land at Port San Carlos and Pebble Island. Amphibious group supported by warships using NGS attack Port San Carlos and Pebble Island. Firm Bridge head achieved. Argentine garrison surrender after little resistance.**
So far a quiet night though we have been on the look out for prowling submarines, “Willie” was airborne providing a screen for the force. So far our casualties have been light some wounded and 20 missing, believed killed on the ARDENT, they have been transferred to the CANBERRA. She is now operating as a hospital ship and POW camp for the Argies, I hope it remains that way. The Argies can never win.
- 1730 **“HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS”** air raid warning red, super entendant closing the ship, we move quickly into top gear, don anti-flash, with action man kit at the short trail. I make my way to actions stations, in minutes we are closed down to 1Z. The 4.5” fires chaff delta, 3 rockets fire to provide a chaff Charlie screen, we manoeuvre into position protecting the support ship, seacat and se slug range onto the incoming bearing, we are ready.
- 1800 No sign of the enemy, we revert back to 2Y, meanwhile ashore things are hotting up, the Argie air force is making a strike at our positions, harriers are engaged in heavy combat and shooting down mirage fighters. Our ground forces are hitting back now. Rapier is downing aircraft as well as the infantry using blowpipe. We have heard that ANTELOPE has received some damage but only slight. BROADSWORD has also brought down an Argie plane with seawolf.

- 2300 "HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS". Here we go again, the officer of the watch saw a large explosion on the horizon. It is believed that a harrier met with an accident while taking off, her 1000lb bombs exploded, but we have not received any further news.
- 24 May All has quietened down now, support ships have gone in under the support of ARROW and ALACRITY to off load heavy equipment, tanks and armoured personnel carriers and other weapons.
 RAS(L) OLMEDA – 173 tons
 It has been very quiet for us out here but there has been some air activity ashore. The Argies have mounted 2 air raids about, 12 aircraft in all, of which 8 have been shot down. It is understood that harriers intercepted the first raid of which 3 Mirages were shot down, the other shed its load and headed home. The other wave mounted an attack on the San Carlos area and were destroyed by Rapier and seacat missiles, one was seen limping back home trailing smoke. Not such a good note, the ANTELOPE caught fire after the attempt to defuse a bomb onboard failed, we have no casualty figures as yet. She finally sank and her crew have been transferred to CANBERRA and other ships.
 Meanwhile SAS have gone in on Wodlle Island and other areas to blow up ammunition and fuel dumps. Ground attack harriers have bombed some small airfields and the army have taken Darwin and surrounded Goose Green. ALACRITY and ARROW engaged targets with 4.5" guns.
- VINCENTO DE MAYO**
25th OF MAY
- We have had what can only be classed as a horrific encounter today. It seems that one minute we are doing so well, then we receive a bloody nose. Air raids have been building up all day. COVENTRY and BROADSWORD have come under constant attack. They have shot down 3 more aircraft, but in a later attack COVENTRY was hit and sank almost immediately. We have received no news, only that survivors are being picked up by BROADSWORD who has also received some damage. This seems to be the normal routine over the last few days, no news of what is happening ashore, just the fact we are losing ships at an alarming rate and we shoot down their aircraft.
- 1940 "HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS", air raid warning red.
 Within two minutes ATLANTIC CONVEYOR has been hit by exocet and another splashed into the sea astern of us. No warning what so ever, we have been caught napping again, no harriers there to help us. AMBUSCADE detected the super entendard, but by the time we all closed up they had fired their deadly cargo, we fired chaff, both 3 inch rocket and 4.5 inch. We now firmly believe that this saved our bacon, but not the poor ATLANTIC CONVEYOR. She had no protection.
- 2010 We stand down, in the mess afterwards there are so many saddened faces, human life is so cheap in war, what's it worth no one gives a damn. Several minutes later we are told that we are to proceed inshore at high speed and engage Port Stanley air field. Sweet Revenge.
- 26 May We close the enemy shore line in darkness.
 0220 "HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS". I was already at action stations as I was on watch.

0350 We have closed the coastline. Whoosh, the sea slug fires in its surface to surface role, seconds later the 4.5" guns bark their wrath, thump, thump, thump a good rate of fire this. Our intention is to flatten the goddamn place, reduce it to ashes, that's why we have been sent in.
We have completed our NGS, approx 145 rounds fired, scattered over the target areas. It looks as if we stirred up quite a hornets nest, they have engaged us with shore battery, but we increase speed and are now leaving the coastline.

0435 Revert to 2Y
It has been a relatively quiet day for us out here in the task force. ATLANTIC CONVEYOR is still burning but she remains afloat. We cannot afford to lose that ship, she was carrying vital spares and spare aircraft, how could we have left so vital a ship within aircraft range?

27 May We are still waiting for our RAS(A) and RAS(L), but still no sign of these events taking place. Much work is going on inshore, stores being landed, landing pads for harriers, fuel and ammunition is being ferried in.
COVENTRY is still afloat, but in an upside down position, her keel is visible there is talk of sinking her with gunfire as she is blocking the entrance to San Carlos.

0300 At last the ship takes on fuel.
1000 RAS(A) and RAS(S) with REGENT including 148 shells.
During the afternoon air raids build up over the islands, another 3 Argie planes shot down and a couple more splashed. We lost 1 harrier, shot down by ground fire, but the pilot ejected safely, 1 more plane was slightly damaged. We have been detached to carry out another NGS and we are this time accompanied by two other ships. Some news on the ATLANTIC CONVEYOR, she had an explosion onboard as a result of the fire spreading to ammunition and she broke in half, the bow section has sunk but we believe the stern section is still afloat. Ashore the Commandoes and Paras are now beginning to advance on the Argie positions and much work is still going on as quickly as possible, the weather is still holding. BRILLIANT has gone to get repairs done to her Seawolf and exocet.

28 May We are now closing the coast.
0200 "HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS"
This morning we shall be firing two Seaslug and 50 rounds of HE. AVENGER and ALACRITY will be firing about 100 salvos each, we will be engaging several targets, radar installations and gun emplacements.
We have closed the coast line, Whoosh! Seaslug leaves the launcher and heads inland towards the Argie positions. The 4.5 gun now engages salvos of 10 tonight. Whoosh! A second Seaslug leaves the launcher, we are remaining just off the shore line whilst AVENGER and ALACRITY fire their salvos on to the Stanley areas. Each fire 100 rounds of HE and Starshell. ALACRITY's Lynx is doing the spotting and several targets have been hit. Meanwhile our troops inshore are advancing over the difficult terrain and taking Argie positions. Its looking good but there is heavy fighting yet to come. Having completed our NGS, we are leaving the coast line to rejoin the task force.

0520 Fall out from actions stations revert to 2Y
Our troops are fanning out and are now re-possessing more ground, but heavy fighting is going on. The weather hampered the Argie air force today, but we believe that some of their aircraft that did attack were splashed by Rapier,

- 29 May** A quiet night for the task force, apart from AVENGER and ALACRITY who went in for NGS. We have had a reasonably quiet day today, this enabled us to complete some minor repairs and sort ourselves out. A signal has come onboard, we are to proceed inshore early tomorrow for NGS.
RAS(L) TIDESPRING – 202 tons diesel
20 tons avcat
 Some information on inshore activities. The 2nd Paras have done very well, they have taken Port Darwin and surrounded Gose Green, they have taken nearly 1000 prisoners of war and these are becoming a problem. The Paras were heavily out numbered to start with and they accomplished a considerable feat. The casualties have been very light on our side, 15 dead and 34 wounded. Unfortunately the Colonel and other officers were killed when the helicopter they travelled in was brought down by blowpipe. Amongst the POW taken were some high ranking officers, that's even a better blow against the Argies. The offensive is now pushing further East to take Stanley, but there is much hard work still to be done. The marines to the North have also taken and secured the North of the island. More enemy aircraft splashed today by Rapier missile.
- 30 May** Stop Press! The ARGONAUT has finally dealt with her unexploded bomb and she is now leaving the objective area to rejoin the task force. I believe she will be going home as she only has one boiler operational.
 We have now closed the coast line. AMBUSCADE is about one hour behind us due to bad weather.
- 0130** "HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS". We close up in a matter of minutes and have assumed the ready position. Anti-flash on and hoods pulled up over our faces.
- 0205** The guns open fire and start to bombard Stanley airfield, we have woken the Argies up, they are engaging us with artillery fire from shore, the shots are landing in the water.
- 0229** Whoosh! Off goes Seaslug, if it doesn't land on target, it will provide a comedy show for the Argies ashore, it's a heap of old junk anyway. We now move down the coast to engage some more enemy positions, the SAS are ashore in this particular area with an NGS spotter. They have requested our help so as they can give accurate fire on top of the Argie positions, who have been giving a little bother.
- 0420** Fall out from actions stations.
RAS(L) – OLNA – 108 tons
 We have been told to proceed to the holding area to complete essential repairs. Boiler work, Port shaft, cooper roller bearing and other niggily jobs.
- 1730** "HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS". Air raid warning red. P[ossible super entendard bearing 180. We put up chaff. Two minutes later AM39 exocet heading for the ship. Brace! Brace! Brace!
 "OH MY GOD! We are done for, we are all lying spread eagled on the deck waiting for the worst. Several anxious minutes pass, it is apparent that CHAFF saved us, quick reaction from the operations room and from the bridge by putting the missile on the ships head, the missile splashed into the sea. We are lucky once again. These close shaves are making us all feel years older.
- 1800** Fall out from actions stations, air threat is now yellow. I zoom off up to the mess and put 3 tots into a glass and knock them back, "ah that feels much better".
 Meanwhile ashore some ships have been coming and going out of the objective area. We now know that 1400 POW were taken at Goose Green by 600 paras. More Argie aircraft shot down by EXETER and Rapier missiles.

- 31 May** We have now shut down one boiler and commenced defect work in the STR. Also work on the port cooper roller bearing is well under way as are countless other jobs.
We have had some reports from ashore now, some of them conflicting with the BBC World service. We claim 1200 POW amongst them some high ranking officers. There have also been some reports of ill treatment to the locals, locked up in a hall for thirty days without care, they were in a bad way when they were found by the 2nd paras. Their homes had been looted and ransacked, furniture and the settlements have been badly damaged. Another Argie trick is to show the white flag as soon as they come under fire, when the troops come to accept the surrender the Argies shoot at them. It makes us feel as though we should not take any more prisoners if that is the way they want to play it.
The RAF Vulcans went in again early today, backed up by harriers.
ALACRITY went in last night for another NGS.
- 1 June** Work has continued throughout the night to complete defect rectification. Meanwhile ashore our troops have advanced to within 12 miles of Port Stanley, fierce fighting is going on around Mount Kent. CARDIFF, AMBUSCADE and ALACRITY have gone close inshore to provide gunfire support. Further harrier strikes are continuing with news the construction of Goose Green airfield is nearly complete also San Carlos; more troops and supplies have been taken into the bridgehead area. Hercules C130 splashed by harrier and brought down plus one A4 skyhawk, one harrier returning from patrol got into mechanical difficulties, pilot ejected safely.
- 2 June** We are still out in the holding area and repairs have now been made to the 4.5 turret and the hoist, it was found that the breech was badly corroded in places due to salt water entering the barrels in heavy seas. Starboard boiler work is continuing and is nearing completion, this should be back on line later.
RAS(L) – TIDESPING – 168 tons
Gurkhas and Welsh guards have been landed to the North and are making their way towards Stanley. We have pushed the Argies into the Stanley area now, they hold only an area of 12 miles around Stanley, Mount Kent and other high grounds have been taken and our artillery is now engaging the enemy.
Goose Green is still being cleaned up and booby traps were triggered off killing Argies and some of our men. The Argies have become more co-operative about this and are telling us where the rest are in that area.
One evaporator has broken down but effective repairs are being carried out on this.
We are expecting a RAS(S) With FORT GRANGE during the night, food and other essential items we require.
- 3 June** The delayed RAS(S) has gone ahead overnight. During the day we have organised the logistic ships, got them into some reliable order and distributed mail to them. Meanwhile ashore the troops have been pushing forward very hard and it seems only a matter of days now before the final push into Stanley but the Argies will need softening a little first. Radar installations have been hit by the RAF with Vulcan bombers.

Argentine losses to date

Helicopters

12 Puma
1 Bell
1 Chinook

Aircraft

29 Mirage
25 Skyhawks
13 Pucara
2 Canberra
2 Skyvan

Ships

Belgrano
Santa Fe
Narwhal
Tug/PC
Supply Ship
Monson
2 F.P.B
1 Corvette

- 4 June** This is our fourth day here in the holding area, where we have at last got the merchantmen into some kind of order. The Admiral is very pleased with what we have done, so we have been told to stay put and continue the good work. We have been loaned a couple of Wessex 5 helicopters which we have put to good use deploying stores around the fleet.
Meanwhile ashore, the advance is continuing with the capture of three Argie patrols, 5 Brigade infantry are pressing their advance forward to the front with 8 Battalion Commando moving into position.
INTREPID and SIR TRISTRAM are moving into Bluff Cove to unload supplies, more troops and equipment. Another LCT will be coming in from the North, into Elephant Bay to support the thrust from the North.
Air activity has been sparse on both sides due to bad weather and visibility being poor.
A Vulcan over on a raid got short of fuel on the way home and landed in Brazil. It was released and allowed to return home.
- 5 June** A quiet night so far, most people are being stood down from their defence station, but not us, we keep plodding along.
INTREPID and SIR TRISTRAM have disembarked our friendly and affiliated comrades the Welsh Guards.
EXETER is going in for NGS in the Stanley area with a type 21 as support, who will later link up with INTREPID to cover as air support.
We as logistics control ship have done such a good job, praise has been heaped onto us for the way we have got the merchant ships into a good order, given them a better turn over and the supplies have reached shore much quicker than before. We have been pushing supplies about all day and we look more like a fleet auxiliary than a Destroyer.
Batteries of Rapier missiles have been moved forward to the front line position to protect the advance this will give them better cover when bad weather prevails. The Argies launched another on Mount Kent this morning but their bombing left a lot to be desired, they were off target, lets hope it stays that way.
- 6 June** GLAMORGAN out in the logistics area, continuing to supply the Task Force and control the merchant ships and keep them in order.
RAS(L) – TIDEPOOL – 280 tons
1136 gallons lub oil

Ashore the big push did not come last night but the pressure was kept up with **CARDIFF** and **EXETER** providing another NGS with the army pushing patrols. The Gurkhas and Welsh Guards land and push forward, Port Stanley is virtually surrounded now.

The ship has now reverted back to 1 in 4 watch system with a minimum defence capability.

- 7 June** Very low key, we are still directing supplies to other members of the task force. Ashore Welsh and Scots Guards have gone in to relieve some of the paras, this enables us to keep our troops fresh and bring them in from the cold, one thing the Argies cannot do. We still keep the pressure on and waiting for the big push. **ARROW** and **ACTIVE** NGS all last night, so have **CARDIFF** and **EXETER**, they claim to have shot down an Argie Canberra with Seadart.
- 8 June** **GLAMORGAN** still patrolling the logistics area with the merchant men, Canberra and RFA's giving them protection. Ashore the Gurkhas are moving South on East Falkland and taking ground each day now. Stanley has been completely surrounded, the Argies are virtually cut off. **NORLAND** has come out of the objective area loaded with Argie prisoners, they will be shipped off to Uruguay very shortly. The Argie air force attacked again today, **PLYMOUTH** shot down a Skyhawk with Seadart. During another attack **PLYMOUTH** was hit but sustained only light damage. Combat air patrol on a routine flight spotted 4 Mirage and engaged them, all 4 were splashed, some of the force have been detached to engage the shoreline tonight with 4.5 guns.
- 9 June** We are now back in defence watches as a result of the bombing of an American tanker some 500 miles North of the Falkland islands. They tried this ploy last week against one of our own tankers, they were not very successful. However, this time they achieved a hit, the trouble is the tanker was American and crewed by Italians. They used a Hercules rolling the bombs out of the hold doors at the rear of the plane. Then they came back to attack with rockets, one of our survey boats has gone to assist. Meanwhile we have recovered an airdrop and are proceeding inshore to deliver the supplies to the ships. On land, the Gurkhas are advancing South, 5 Brigade have captured Fitzroy Settlement, air raids have continued all day, two of the SIR boats have been hit and one is on fire with an LCT damaged also. **PLYMOUTH**'s damage was more severe than first thought, she has lost the use of her 4.5 gun and mortar HE10 with some fires aft, but these are understood to have been brought under control. **PLYMOUTH** will now leave the objective area and come into the logistics area for repairs. More Skyhawks and Mirage fighter aircraft have been brought down today. Rapier batteries and artillery are now positioned ashore for better defence.
- 10 June** Another day of moving stores around the fleet and delivering mail which arrived onboard. Another stores drop expected this evening, including 2 members of the SAS. Rather than me landing in this water. **TIDESPING** is completing her pump over from one of the large tankers and will be supplying us later.

Ashore the army have been probing the Argie defences and gathering information.

The stores drop arrived on time, with 2 SAS, who are now inshore, they don't seem to waste any time these blokes, in the water one minute, on our deck and off again all within 10 minutes.

11 June 0600 – RAS(L) – TIDESPRIING – 316 tons

20 tons avcat

The Commander made his normal speech at 0750 this morning, to tell us what had happened ashore plus any other news that he has received.

We received a signal overnight telling us that we are required to close the coastline to do NGS tonight and tomorrow night, the reason for this is that for the last 3 or 4 days the troops have been building up around Mount Kent and Mount Challenger. This is our front line on the Eastern side of the East Falkland island and now they are ready to advance further towards Port Stanley. We have been told that we are going in to bombard Stanley and surrounding area with 300 rounds of HE between 0030 and 0630 tomorrow morning.

The early part of the day has been our helicopter in the air delivering all the stores that we received in the air drop last night, this task being completed we detach at speed, joining up with the main task force at about 1300.

During the afternoon we had a slight amount of trouble with one of the gas turbines, this being sorted out we detach again and start to close the coast for our NGS role.

The amount of fuel taken onboard since the second of April is 5647 tons, this means that we have spent approx £1,129,400 on fuel and that is just for one ship in the task force.

2330 “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS” assume State 1 condition Z. Here we go again, but we cant grumble, it is the first time since the 30th May.

We are closing the coast line around Port Stanley with YARMOUTH and AVENGER for NGS.

12 June 0005 We are now in position waiting for orders from ashore, we do not know what our targets will be at the moment.

0045 The 4.5 guns bark their wrath over Port Stanley, Thump! Thump! Thump! As the HE whistles its way land wards.

It is going to be a long night as we are expecting to carry out NGS until about 0600.

0630 Fall out from actions stations. I rush up to the mess, strip off and go and start a bath and dhoby.

0636 BANG! We have been hit by a missile port side aft. “HANDS TO ACTION STATIONS” everyone runs like hell and closes up. The missile hit the hanger doors and exploded inward and downwards, the hanger and the helicopter are a write-off, the main galley is destroyed.

The stokers did very well, there was no panic and the fire fighting was carried out quickly and efficiently.

But “OH MY GOD”, now there are so many tired and long faces onboard, because of the loss of 13 lives, it is unbelievable.

All fires were under control and out within four hours, I hope to Christ they send us home now as we have no Seacat, no Seaslug and no 4.5 gun.

The co-operation of all departments this morning was fantastic, I think just about everyone took some part in the emergency and their help was very much appreciated by the main emergency people, the Stokers.

- 1800** We are now steaming back to the logistics area, hopefully for a few repairs by FMG who are on Stena Seaspread and on our way home. I don't want another day like this as long as I live and I would not wish it on my worst enemy.
At 2000 we are reverting back to 1 in 4 watches, at last some time in bed, I have had 3 hours sleep in the last 48 hours, but I am not the only one, most of the stokers are the same.
Included in the people who were killed was my new found friend from Bridport L/Ck SAMBLES.
After we had secured the ship and made it safe, we had a signal from the admiral, which said:
- “WHILE I AM VERY SAD AT THE CASUALTY LIST, I AM GLAD TO NOTE THAT YOU ARE THE FIRST SHIP IN THE WORLD TO SURVIVE AN EXOCET HIT”**,
- 13 June** After the turmoil of yesterday, we have a reasonably quiet day today, out in the logistic area i/c again.
We have been busy clearing up the mess in the hanger, galley and other places that were struck by shrapnel or the blast from the missile. We are expecting an air drop of stores and 54 SAS at 1700 today, we are spending most of the day alongside STENA SEASPREAD the FMG ship.
- 1530** We slip from STENA SEASPREAD and make our way to the airdrop area in company with ANDROMEDA and the tug IRISHMAN, we have to make our way 10 miles north before we are in the area.
- 1700** A C130 Hercules arrives and we learn that the second aircraft had to turn back for some reason, this aircraft circles and drops stores on one side and personnel on the other. The SAS start falling out of the plane, they look just like action men jumping out in waves of 10. Only 28 of the personnel are on this plane. As we were alongside STENA SEASPREAD we were all invited onboard for lunch, the lunch was fantastic we had steak, chips and peas followed by black forest gateaux and coffee.
We made our way back to the logistic area after the airdrop, but found that the weather has got worse and we are unable to go alongside STENA SEASPREAD, ashore we have been told that the ground forces have taken more hills and are now in a position to look down over Port Stanley.
- 14 June** We are still clearing up the mess in the ship and overnight it started to pour down in rain which hampered the welding. FMG are doing a fantastic job of patching us up, but we have still got two of our missile systems out of working order. Not a great deal else happening. The troops ashore are still pushing forward towards Port Stanley.
- 1730** White flag hoisted over Stanley, the Argies have surrendered. The problem we are going to have now is the transportation of POW back to a neutral country Uruguay.
- 15 June** Again we are still clearing up the mess and trying to find some calm weather so as FMG can complete the welding of the patch on our flight deck. I was called out at about 4 o'clock this morning to pump out water from where it had been pouring down in rain and the sea has been coming over the flight deck and straight down the hole.

**We have been told that 15000 prisoners have been taken on the Falkland Islands, now we have the mammoth task of clearing the troops from the islands, the CANBERRA has gone in to remove the first 5000.
At 0100 the surrender agreement was signed by the two commanders on the island.**

- 16 June** All the rubble has now been removed from the ship now and it just remains to scrub, scrub, scrub bulkheads, deckheads and decks, the chefs have cleaned the steam coppers and steam oven and are now using them to make soup and things. The chefs have done a fantastic job, coking for 450 in a galley which was built to cook for 40.
At 1700 we tried to do a stern RAS(L) but this was scrubbed round after 2 attempts we ended up doing a QRC. RAS(L) Port side with TIDEPOOL, we had got down that low that we had to take on 433 tons.
The weather has been so rough over the last few days that the FMG personnel have had to stay onboard; they finally managed to get back to their parent ship tonight.
We have started to raise a fund for the dependants of the people killed, this is beside the Atlantic fund, so far we have raised £9700 and are still thinking of more ways to help.
- 17 June** We have spent all day looking for a calm and sheltered area where we can go, so as FMG can finish off the welding and make us watertight.
It seems from the news that the Argentine does not want us to deliver their troops back to Argentina but take them to Uruguay. The first batch of prisoners have now been taken onboard the CANBERRA ready for transportation to the mainland.
We also heard that the president has resigned over the whole performance.
Late last night we received 42 bags of mail from our loved ones at home. Oh God, I wish we were alongside the wall in Pompey and going home every night.
We received onboard with the mail a film of the cup final which we have been watching tonight, we also have film of the replay which we will see on Saturday.
- 18 June** We wake up this morning to some good news, we have been told that after we complete all our repairs we shall be heading for home at long last.
The ship is steaming to Port San Carlos with STENA SEASPREAD and ACTIVE, so as we can complete our repairs in the lee of the land. The G6 and the port seacat are now back in working order.
- 1520** We have now anchored at Port San Carlos and STENA SEASPREAD has come alongside us.
On the brow of the hills all around us can be seen observation posts and Rapier missile sights that the army set up on landing.
By far the best news of today is the fact that we are to return home in company with PLYMOUTH, we expect to be away from the area sometime on Monday.
As we have now received this signal I have decided to terminate my diary as from tonight.