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SIGINT ALERT MARGAY

3/AA/97423-82

K25X 02304822126

TAG ARN NOPS AOPS AR

ARGENTINE SPANISH

ARGENTINE NAVAL/AIR ACTIVITY: DESTROYER TRINIDAD REPORTS RESULTS  
OF NAVAL/AIR EXERCISE

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FROM: TRINIDAD

TO: TASK GROUP 79.1

NO: F-1500

INTERNAL DTG 2204821930

MENCRI PHASE TWO.

A. THE EXERCISE ((WAS)) EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE. SUMMARY OF EVENTS:  
AT 1648 A LOBO ((I)) WAS DETECTED AT 93 MILES. AT 1653 THE ORDER  
WAS GIVEN FOR YELLOW ALERT AND AT 1655 FOR RED ALERT. LOBO CONTIN-  
UED TO APPROACH AND KEPT BETWEEN 12 AND 20 MILES IN RECONNAISSANCE  
HAVEING BEEN PICKED UP BY ((OUR)) OWN RADAR. BETWEEN ((B PERCENT  
170))2 AND 1709 FIVE MISSILES WERE FIRED . AT 1655 A LOBO WAS  
DETECTED AT 100 MILES, ESTIMATED ((TO BE)) SEVERAL LOBOS CIRCLING  
260/80. AT 1713 THE PAC ((II)) WAS ORDERED TO TAKE OFF. THE LOBOS  
ADOPTED COURSE 025 AND BEGAN THE NEW ATTACK FROM 350. THE PAC  
TOOK OFF AT 1720. +TRINIDAD+ INITIALLY BELIEVED THE LOBOS TO BE  
RETREATING AND ORDERED THE PAC TO BE POSITIONED IN THE AIR DEFENCE

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((WORD GARBLED)) WHICH MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO INTERCEPT ONCE THE  
ATTACK HAD BEGUN. DURING THE ATTACK FOUR MISSILES WERE FIRED  
FROM 19 MILES: TWO PRIOR TO THE ATTACK, THE THIRD WAS ORDERED TO  
BE DESTROYED IN FLIGHT AND THE FOURTH WAS FIRED WHILE THE LOBO  
WAS RETREATING. AT 1740 THE ORDER WAS GIVEN FOR THE LOBO, WHICH  
WAS RETREATING, TO BE INTERCEPTED. THE TRINIDAD'S DELAY IN GIVING  
THE ORDER PREVENTED INTERCEPT.

B. TRINIDAD'S FIRE CONTROL RADAR PICKED UP THE TARGETS AT 12 AND  
19 MILES RESPECTIVELY. THE THIRD MISSILE FIRED AT THE SECOND LOBO  
WAS DIRECTED TOWARDS THE CENTRE ((OF THE TARGET)) AND THE ORDER  
WAS GIVEN FOR THE MISSILE TO BE DESTROYED IN FLIGHT.

C. THE INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE OF UNITS ENABLED THE ATTACK TO BE  
FOUGHT OFF. TRINIDAD GAVE ORDERS TO INTERCEPT WITH EXCESSIVE DELAY.  
THE ATTACK WAS REPEATED ((B PERCENT IN OUTLINE))

D. 25 DE MAYO LOST CONTACT WITH TRINIDAD FOR 20 MINUTES FOLLOWING  
YELLOW ALERT.

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3/AA/974238

E. OMITTED. OCE ((11)) DID NOT LISTEN ON THE PAC CONTROL CIRCUIT.

G. ((SIC)) 1. I RATIFY WHAT WAS SUGGESTED IN ITEM GOLF MENCRI  
PHASE ONE: FIRING SEA-DARTS AT ATTACKING LOBOS BEFORE THE ATTACK  
WAS IMPLEMENTED WAS CARRIED OUT WITH LOW PROBABILITY OF IMPACT  
BECAUSE OF THE SIDE POSITION OF THE ATTACK WITH REGARD TO TRINIDAD.

2. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE AIRFORCE BE DESIGNATED:

A: OBSERVER AIRCRAFT: THE NECESSITY OF CARRYING OUT AN EXPLORATION  
IN CONTACT WITH AN AIRCRAFT EQUIPPED WITH RADAR AND KEEPING  
BELOW THE SEARCH RADAR LOBES AND OUT OF MISSILE RANGE.

B. ATTACK AIRCRAFT: CONTACT WAS MAINTAINED PERMANENTLY FROM 90  
MILES. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE APPROACH BE CARRIED OUT AT MINIMUM  
HEIGHT VECTORED BY SCANNER TO IMPEDE ((RAISING THE)) ALARM AND  
SUBSEQUENT ACQUISITION OF THEIR ARMS.

FOOTNOTES:

((1)) PROBABLE COVER TERM FOR HOSTILE ENTITY

((11)) AS IN TEXT

GCHQ COMMENT: FOR POSSIBLY RELATED INFORMATION SEE 3/AA/97414-82

ISSUED 23.4.82

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