

DIRECTIVE TO COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES
SUPPORT UNIT ASCENSION ISLAND

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NSAC under

The Directive to the Commander British Forces Support Unit Ascension Island has been approved by VCDS(P&L) and is attached for your information.

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Attachment:

Directive to Commander British Forces Support Unit Ascension Island (3 pages).

Distribution:

Copy No:

CDS	1
CNS	2 - 3
CGS	4 - 5
CAS	6 - 7

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VCDS(P&L)	8
DCDS(I)	9 - 10
ACDS(Pol)	11
ACDS(Ops)	12 - 13
ACDS(S)	14
ACDS(P&L)	15
Navy Ops	16 - 17
Army Ops	18 - 19
Air Force Ops	20 - 21
DOMS	22 - 23
DSC Coord	24 - 27
SCPL	28
DS 12	29 - 31
Cabinet Office	32
FCO (Def Dept)	33
SECCOS	34 - 43

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DIRECTIVE TO COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES SUPPORT UNIT ASCENSION ISLAND

SITUATION

1. Ascension Island has been nominated for the forward logistic support of British Forces on Operation CORPORATE in the Southern Atlantic. In the initial stages of the Operation the predominant requirement is for Naval support but support to all three Services will be required as operational plans develop.

APPOINTMENT AND COMMAND

2. You are appointed Commander of the British Forces Support Unit Ascension Island (BFSU Ascension Island). This directive defines your responsibilities. You will have under your command all British Forces stationed on the island in logistic and administrative support of Operation CORPORATE. In addition you will assume command of individuals and minor units staging through the island, who are not under independent command.

RESPONSIBILITIES

3. You are responsible to the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff (Personnel and Logistics) (VCDS(P&L)) for the effective and efficient operation of BFSU Ascension Island in support of those UK forces on Ascension Island and on operations in the Southern Atlantic. In particular you are responsible for:

- a. The provision of administrative and logistic support facilities in support of operational forces both deployed on the island and in the South Atlantic.

b. The security of military installations on the island used in support of Operation CORPORATE and assistance with the security of Wideawake airfield in conjunction with the Commander US Forces Ascension Island.

c. The general administration, conduct, discipline, security and welfare of all forces placed under your command.

4. Political Direction. In any matter involving the local population or indigenous civilian facilities you are to consult as necessary with the Administrator of the island. You should keep the Administrator informed of the military situation as it effects the island.

5. Liaison with American Forces Ascension Island. You are to liaise as required with the Commander US Forces Ascension Island, keeping the Administrator informed, for assistance in the completion of your responsibilities.

SECURITY

6. You are to ensure that all British Forces on Ascension Island are made aware of the need for strict control of security and that information on the future intentions of our forces is not to be made known to any other agency.

ADMINISTRATION

7. Single Service Commanders on Ascension Island are responsible to CBFSU but accountable to CINCFLEET, CINC UKLF and AOCinC STC respectively for all matters of single-Service administration. You are, however, responsible for coordinating all administrative and logistic matters where more than one Service is concerned, including accommodation, messing and welfare. Where administrative and logistic matters affect more than one Service you should refer for guidance to the

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staff of VCDS(P&L). However, you are empowered to make local standing orders in consultation with Service Commanders affecting the conduct and discipline of servicemen on the island.

8. The administration of discipline of British Service personnel under your command is vested in you and you are appointed to be their Commanding Officer for the purposes of the Navy, Army and Air Force Acts.

MEDICAL

9. You are to make preparations for the reception and onward transit of casualties to the UK, within available Service and civilian resources. Further instructions on arrangements for casualty evacuation will be issued as necessary in due course.

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

10. On administrative and logistic matters of joint-Service concern your point of contact is the staff of VCDS(P&L). For routine matters you have direct access to the single Service Departments as required.

REPORTS

11. You are to report to VCDS(P&L) staff any important matters which have operational, administrative and logistic implications. On the termination of your appointment you are to forward a full report to VCDS(P&L).