

Extract from Senior British Land Advisor(SBLA) (Maj Gen Whitley) to PJHQ 'Decision Imperatives' dated 5 January 2003

Recommendations

As the man on the ground fully involved in CFLCC planning and preparation and with a 'feel' for what is operationally possible in time, I most strongly recommend the following:

- a. It is recognised now that any opportunity for worthwhile UK involvement of land forces in the North has come and gone.
- b. UK tailored forces of a divisional headquarters, 3 Cdo Bde RM, 16 AA Bde and the necessary logistic C2 and CSS is committed to the South through KUWAIT.
- c. Acceptance in principle, of a UK Area of Operations and mission in the area of southern Iraq bounded in the north by the EUPHRATES.
- d. All efforts are devoted to enabling deployment, communications, C2, RSOI and sustainment to be made, in coordination with the US, with refinement of tactical employment to be developed by GOC 1(UK) Armd Div with 1 MEF.

The effect of timely decisions on the above on our own ability to successfully conduct operations and on our US allies cannot be underestimated.