



HISTORY OF SIGNALLING IN 100 OBJECTS THE TSC 502– 1982 TRANSPORTABLE SATCOM

The two dets returned from deployment in Saudi Arabia to 30 Signal Regt's base at Blandford, but one was redeployed to Airport Camp Belize for further trials (Photo 1), as tensions in the South Atlantic mounted. The TSC 502, used geo-stationary orbiting satellites and delivered two voice channels -1 for engineering, one common user and a 50 Baud Tg circuit using the T100. All circuits were encrypted. When hostilities commenced in early 1982 the TSC 502 was recalled from Belize, moved to Ascension Island (photo 2) and shipped to the Falklands. The troop commander, Captain J E Thomas Royal Signals, who later became The Royal Signals Corps SOinC, landed with one station at Ajax Bay and established communications with the UK within 30 minutes of landing, see picture 3. The second detachment was at South Georgia during the conflict, but then returned at the end of hostilities, when both were reunited at Port Stanley. The fourth picture shows Robert Fox preparing one of his press dispatches. His Goose Green dispatch was transmitted over the TSC 502 link to UK. The person with him was his press minder, Alan Percival. Subsequently the TSC 502 was deployed on many out of area ops and was replaced by the TSC 503 in the mid 1990s.

