

En-
closure

4856

14

Admiralty July 12. 1782.

Minute
July 12. 1782

Present.

Lord President +

Lord Brouncker

Duke of Richmond

Lord Shelburne

Mr Townshend

Lord Ashburton

General Conway

Mr Pitt

Lord Keppel.

It is humbly recommended to your Majesty that Lord Howe
upon his return to St Helena in case he should not have fallen in with
the Combined fleet, which sailed from Cadix & is supposed to be destined
for the port of Brest, be instructed to proceed again off Brest with the
Squadron under his Command, & such other of your Majesty's Ships of the
Line as can be conveniently collected for the purpose of joining his Lordship.
Taking with him under his care, the Briton of 50 guns & the East India
Ships under his Convoy, and after his Lordship has satisfied himself
that the Combined fleet is in the port of Brest, directing the Captain
of the Briton to proceed with his Convoy, agreeable to the Orders he shall
have received from the Admiralty for his conduct and future
destination

destination, That his Lordship do there continue to Block up the
Enemy in their port, till such time as he judges the Bristol & her company
may be out of danger of the Enemy's getting up with them,
When this service is performed, It is Humbly recommended to your
Majesty, that Lord Howe be ordered to dispatch with as little
loss of time as possible, Vice Admiral Milbanke & Sir Richard Hughes
with ten or Eleven ships off Line Off the Texels, returning to Vice
Admiral Milbanke the Admiralty's Orders for his conduct in the North sea.
And that his Lordship be ordered to repair himself with the remainder
of his fleet to Torbay or St Helens, as he may judge most convenient,
for his Repeating such additional force as may be brought forward in his
Absence.