

War Diary

TOP SECRET

Copy No.12.....

5 Jun 44.

HQ SAS Tps/TSE/5/GSAS BRIGADE OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 18Operation - OVERLORD2 SAS RegtGENERAL

1. SAS Brigade Operation Instruction No. 7 is cancelled, and will be destroyed by fire forthwith and a destruction certificate forwarded to this HQ.
2. 3 French Para Bn will operate separately and will NOT come under your command. It will however remain affiliated to you and you will give it such assistance as is possible from a planning point of view. In particular you will be prepared to hand over to OC 3 French Para Bn all details which are in your possession regarding JOCKWORTH and MOSTS.

Nothing will actually be given to OC 3 French Para Bn until further orders are issued by this HQ after D day.

3. You will concentrate on building up two secure bases:-
 - a) In the JURA area (sheet 23, GSGS 2738) Codename ABEL
 - b) In the VOSGES area (sheet 49, GSGS 4348) Codename LOYTON

LOYTON will be regarded as subsidiary to ABEL, the latter being the main base.

4. These bases will be established as soon as they can be maintained in the areas concerned, with a view to strategic operations against enemy lines of communication from GERMANY towards PARIS and EAST of the SAONE.
5. You will earmark 3 parties each of five men, to be held in reserve to carry out any tactical task at short notice which 21 Army Group may require.

These parties will be at 48 hrs notice to move to the Transit Camp from D day onwards.

INFORMATION

6. You have already had an appreciation of the probable enemy movements.

/Further information

Further information will be given to you as it becomes available.

7. 1 SAS Regt based on the MORVANS (codename HOUNDSWORTH), will be carrying out similar operations WEST of the SAONE.

METHOD

8. The timing of operations will depend on the following factors:-

Hours of darkness available to fly to the areas in question.

Progress of the air battle and the possibility of flying over FRANCE in daylight.

Reaction of civil population inside FRANCE after D day.

PHASE I

9. As soon as permitted I propose to despatch a recce party to each area. This party will either
 - a) Consist of a small party dropped to S.F. reception committee under S.F. auspices,
 - OR
 - b) Consist of about 16 all ranks, 2 SAS Regt, with your own communications.
10. These parties will:-
 - a) Recce the base areas with a view to their suitability as bases, taking into consideration strength and organisation of resistance groups in the area, danger of enemy interference, and availability of supply dropping points.
 - b) Prepare for the reception of operational parties.
11. These parties will be at 48 hours notice to move to the Transit Camp from D day onwards.

PHASE II

12. As soon as recce parties have reported that they can accept base parties and as soon as I am permitted to deploy main base parties, you will drop not more than one troop into each base area to complete the preparation of the area. These parties will be met by the recce parties.

These troops will be at three days notice to move to the Transit Camp after recce parties have left SCOTLAND.

13. The further build up of the base areas will depend upon:-

Operational requirements of SHARP.
Reports received from base commanders.

ADMINISTRATIVE

14. All men will carry at least 7 days special rations and will be equipped in accordance with the task they have to carry out.
15. Supplies of food, ammunition, explosives, medical comforts, clothing, arms, equipment etc, are being held at special depots near British Airfields. A proportion of these will be held in ready packed

/containers, and will

containers, and will be available for supply on demand by codeword from the base. Requirements of other equipment will have to be demanded in detail.

16. To meet the demands of local resistance a special reserve of ready packed containers have been supplied by SPECIAL FORCES, although you will only be responsible for supplying such partisans as may be of immediate value to you; the main resistance group supply will be carried out by SPECIAL FORCES with their own supplies and aircraft.

INTERCOM UNICATION

17. From D day onwards there will be one net allotted to you, working from a 12 HP transmitter in ENGLAND. You will establish at least one terminal in each base area, the remaining three terminals may be employed at your discretion.
18. Each party will carry a MORL receiver on operations for listening to the Broadcast station from base signals in this country.
19. You will be allotted one Phantom patrol which you may use at your discretion.

20. The Bde HQ - MOOR PARK
Main Bde HQ - Present location.

ACKNOWLEDGES.

[Signature]
Brigadier,
Commander,
SAS Troops.

Distribution:

2 SAS Regt	1
1 SAS Regt	2
Lt-Col R. Broad	3
Col Barry SFHQ	4
HQ Airborne Tps (Main)	5, 6, 7
SAS Phantom	8
38 Group	9
File	10, 11
War Diary	12, 13
Spare	14, 15