

BIGOT -
MOST SECRET
MSB/5/G

Subject :- SAS Brigade Operation Instruction
No 3

- 1. The attached operation instruction would be issued now to O.C 4 French Para Bn if it were not for the limitations imposed for security reasons.
- 2. In order to simplify the instruction it is, therefore framed as if addressed to 4 French Para Bn but all preliminary work on it will be done by Lt.Col.Broad.
- 3 When issued the final distribution will NOT be as shown.
- 4. ACKNOWLEDGE

Home Forces
30 Mar 44

R.B. Broad
Brigadier,
Commander,
SAS Troops.

Distribution:-

To:-	Op Instr.	Appx A	Appx B	Appx C
Lt.Col R.BROAD.MC.	1	1	1-2	1
Lt.Col.R.B.MAYNE.DSO.	2	2	3	-
HQ Airborne Tps (Main)	3-4	3-4	4-5	-
File	5-6	5-6	6-7	2
War Diary.	7-8	7-8	8-9..	-

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S.A.S Brigade Operation Instruction
No 3
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MSB/5/G

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MOST SECRET

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Copy No. .7. .

. 30. Mar 44

OPERATION - OVERLORD

Ref Maps : GSGS 2738 FRANCE 1:250,000

GENERAL

1. The following instruction does not represent your final tasks since dispositions and information will change between now and D day, but sufficient information is now provided to enable you to begin planning forthwith.
2. The majority of the tasks contained in Appendix B will be required but some may be altered or others added.
3. You will immediately carry out a preliminary examination of the task and inform me as soon as possible.
 - (a) How many parties you consider to be necessary to undertake the tasks laid down.
 - (b) How many parties will be available in reserve for employment on other tasks, with suggestions for their employment.

INFORMATION

4. The exact date and location of the main seaborne assault will not yet be disclosed to you. You have been informed verbally of the approx date and area.
5. All relevant information will be issued to you as it becomes available.
6. A summary of the existing information regarding the probable dispositions and intentions of the enemy is attached at Appendix A.
7. 1 S.A.S Regt will be carrying out similar tasks EAST of your area.

TASK OF 4 FRENCH PARA BN

8. You will do everything in your power to delay the movement of enemy reserve divisions which will probably be located as follows :
 - (a) HUELGOAT W 49 at present 353 Inf Div.
It is vital to the success of the operation that the movement EASTWARDS of this mobile reserve division should be delayed to the maximum possible extent.
 - (b) RENNES T 05 - LAVAL Y 64.
At present 155 and 179 Panzer-Reserve (tank training) divisions; a fully equipped Panzer division may appear here later.
It is vital to the success of the operation that the movement N E of these formations should be delayed to the maximum possible extent.
9. You will arrange to provide information :-
 - (a) On movements past certain specific defiles.
 - (b) On certain specific demolitions.
 - (c) General information regarding - (i) Movement through the area.
(ii) Strength and action of resistance groups.
 - (d) Targets specially suitable for bombing

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10. You will do everything in your power so to encourage and strengthen the resistance groups in BRITTANY by the knowledge that French troops are fighting with them that the spirit of revolt shall coalesce into a movement which cannot be controlled by the German or French paramilitary armed forces.
11. You will provide approx 10 parties (5 men each) for special operations elsewhere in France in connection with the cover plan.
12. You will hold 15 Jeep patrols in readiness for use after D day.
13. You will establish a Regt re-supply area in BRITTANY WEST of a line AVRANCHES T21 - LAVAL - NANTES 005.

METHOD14. Limiting Factors

- All parties will drop on the night D-2/D-1.
- No offensive action will be taken by any parties until the night D-1/D.
- No reinforcing parties can be sent in before approx D + 4
- No gliders can be used before D day.
- No personnel who have taken part in planning or who know more than the task of their own stick will be dropped before D day.

15. Telecomms & Roads

The first task of the majority of parties will be to cut all possible telephone and telegraph communications simultaneously throughout the entire area early during the night D-1/D. These parties will then carry out tasks designed to hinder road movements by the use of road blocks, craters, attacks on convoys, etc., Details are shown in Appendix B.

Arrangements must be made for the telecomms to be cut again as soon as repaired.

16. V.Ps

The first or subsequent task of certain parties will be attacks on petrol dumps and similar V.P's and on Rly comms. Details are shown in Appendix B

17. Road Watching

Special road watching parties will be established to cover certain defiles. These parties will remain concealed as long as possible in order to provide continuous information. They will not take offensive action unless forced to do so in self defence. Details are shown in Appx B.

18. Re-Supply Area

The Regt re-supply area will be selected after further study of the area mentioned in para 13. One or more small parties will be dropped in the area during the night D-2/D-1 with W/T comms in order:-

- (a) To select suitable resupply areas for main groups.
- (b) Contact local resistance groups.
- (c) Select SDP's.

Each party will carry EUREKA, flares etc.,

19. Organisation of resistance in Brittany

On about D+4 the majority of your reserve parties will be dropped or landed by glider in BRITTANY in accordance with the information which has by then become available. You will yourself assume command in the area and will endeavour to organise French resistance. You will organise the re-supply area so as to convert it into a major centre of resistance to which supplies can regularly be sent and from which parties can continue to operate.

Every effort will be made to supply you with the necessary arms and supplies for the purpose, supply being by air in the first instance.

If resistance is crushed by the enemy and it is no longer possible for your troops to continue to operate, you will arrange evacuation to ENGLAND by sea in accordance with instructions which will be issued later, in order to re-equip for further operations.

20. Escapes

(a) All parties will continue to operate offensively in the area as long as possible.

(b) All parties will then make their way to the Regt Re-supply area whence they will either be re-equipped and given fresh tasks or will be got out by sea.

ADMINISTRATION

21. All men will carry 7 days special rations and will be equipped in accordance with the task they have to carry out.

22. All re-supply will be to one or two main re-supply areas. No attempt will be made to re-supply individual parties.

23. Supplies of food, ammunition, explosives, medical comforts, clothing, arms, equipment etc., are being held at special depots near British airfields and all articles most likely to be required will actually be ready packed. You may assume that your force can and will be re-supplied by air providing it is possible for you to select suitable D.Z's on which supplies can be dropped without interference.

INTERCOMMUNICATIONS

24. Every party will be equipped with one MOR.1 receiver on which to listen to a Broadcast from Base Signals. The batteries should last 100 hours continuous use and should therefore last at least 7 days if used carefully.

25. Each party will carry one pigeon which will be released on D+1 or D+2 with information regarding the success or failure of the first operations.

26. You will provide one really good terminal, which should be duplicated, at your H.Q. in BRITAIN and in any area selected for resupply.

You will in addition find as many other terminals as possible.

You will be prepared to provide up to three terminals to work with 1 SAS Regt.

27. The detailed signal plan will be issued later.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Home Forces.
30 Mar 44
RWM/ANL.

R. J. M. Smith
Brigadier,
Commander,
SAS Troops.

BIGOT - TOP SECRET.

AMENDMENT No.1 TO SAS BRIEADDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION
No.3.

Copy No. 8

CANCEL Para 11 of Above.

APO ENGLAND.
23 Apr 44.
ECB/RS.

Bennet
Maj.,
B.M.,
SAS Troops.

DISTRIBUTION

As for Operation Instruction No.3.
(Less Lieut-Colonel.R.MAYNE).
