

TOP SECRET

SAS BRIGADE OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 6,
OPERATION OVERFORD
1 SAS REGT.

Copy No. 11

17 May 44.

HQ SAS Tps/TSB/5/G

Reference Maps 1:250,000 GSGS 4042, 2738.

GENERAL.

1. SAS Brigade Operation Instruction No. 2 is CANCELLED, and will be destroyed by fire, and a destruction certificate forwarded to this HQ.
2. You will now concentrate on building up a secure base in the area NE of CHATEAU CHINON N2232, codename HOUNDSWORTH, from D day onwards with a view to strategic operations against the enemy lines of communications from the SOUTH of FRANCE to the NEPTUNE area as occasion may occur or as developments in the main battle may dictate.
3. You will earmark 3 parties each of 5 men to be held in reserve to carry out any tactical task at short notice which 21 Army Group may require.

INFORMATION.

4. 21 Army Group are forwarding an appreciation of the main rd and rly communications most likely to be used by the enemy for the movement of strategic reserves. On receipt of this, with detailed information to be obtained from SPECIAL FORCES you will be able to select suitable points against which to mount an operation, either from this country or from the base area.
5. 2 SAS will be operating to your EAST.

METHOD.

6. Operations of 1 SAS will normally be confined to an area bounded by a line WEST: AVRANCHES T2818 - DOMFRONT T8005 - MAYENNE Y8172 - SABLE SUR SARTHE K0019 - thence river SARTHE to ANGERS C8279 - thence river LOIRE to the sea. EAST: All inclusive RIVER SEINE from mouth to MONTEREAU Y4688 - thence river YONNE to AVALLON N1878 - ARNAY LE DUC N6339 - PARAY-LE-MONIAL S3763 - RIOM W69 - TULLE F53 thence SOUTH to the SPANISH Frontier.

Minor operations may be conducted outside this area, but no major operations may be undertaken without reference to me.

7. PHASE I - ADV RECCO PARTIES: On approximately D - 10 two officers will be dropped in your base area under auspices of SPECIAL FORCES, and their tasks will be as under :-

- (a) To recon the area with a view to its suitability as a base, taking into consideration strength and organisation of resistance groups in the area, danger of enemy interference, and availability of supply dropping points and storage facilities.
- (b) To prepare the reception of parties as detailed in phase II below.
- (c) They will rely on the SPECIAL FORCES organiser they will find on the spot for assistance, and any information they may acquire will be passed back through SPECIAL FORCES channels.

Sheet 2.

8. PHASE II - MAIN RECCE PARTIES on night D - 1/D two parties of each: On approx 8 men will be dropped in the above area, they will be carried in; separate aircraft, and each will include two wireless operators and two JEDBURGH sets and one EUREKA. They will be met by the Adv Recce Parties and proceed with the preparation of the base area. They will liaise closely with the local SPECIAL FORCES organiser but will not be under command.

9. PHASE III - BASE PARTIES: From night D+3/D+4 aircraft will be available to take one troop to complete the preparation of the base area. They will only be despatched on demand from main recce party and will not be committed to offensive operations unless specifically ordered to do so.

10. The further build up of the base area will depend on reports received from the Base Area Commander, requirements for operations to be mounted from the base area, and on the progress of the main battle.

11. You yourself will remain in this country for the planning and mounting of later stages of the operation, and will not participate in any operation without my consent.

ADMINISTRATION.

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

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

14. To meet demands of local resistance a special reserve of ready packed containers has 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.

15. A separate movement order will be issued for the move to transit camps which will take place on approx May 26.

16. A separate administrative instruction will be issued.

INTERCOMMUNICATION.

17. From D day you will have one net working "one to one" between a 12 HP set in this country and a Jedburgh set with main recce party in the Base Area. Your remaining three terminals may be employed at your discretion.

18. Each party will carry a MCRI receiver on operations for listening to the Broadcast station from Base Signals in this country. It is hoped to find a simple and secure code for passing of map references to parties.

19. You will be allotted one Phantom patrol consisting of an officer and two other ranks which you may either use for establishing communications with the main base or at a later stage of the operations at your discretion.

20. A detailed signal instruction will be issued separately.

Sheet 3.

21. Tac Brigade HQ will open at HQ Airborne Troops, MOOR PARK on 26 May.
Main Brigade HQ will remain at this location.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

[Signature]
Brigadier,
Commander,
SAS Troops.

DISTRIBUTIONCopy No.

1 SAS Regt.	1. 1.
2 SAS Regt.	2. 2.
Lieut-Colonel, R. L. Broad MC.	3.
HQ Airborne Troops (Main)	4, 5 & 6.
SAS Phantom.	7.
File.	8 & 9.
War Diary.	10 & 11.
Spare.	12 & 13.

142 RECEIPT FORM in lieu of A16.

To be completed and returned to - HQ SAS Troops,
c/o APO. England.

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the undermentioned :-

<u>Reference No.</u>	<u>No. of copies.</u>	<u>Copy Nos.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
HQ SAS Tps/ TSB/5/G dtd May 44.	1	3	

Signed _____

Address _____

TOP SECRET
=====AMENDMENT NO.1 TO SAS BRIGADE OPERATION
INSTRUCTION No.6.
=====Copy No. 1026 May 44.

1. Amend Para 2 to read as follows :-

"You will now concentrate on building up secure bases in the areas NE of CHATEAU CHINON N2232, codename HOUNDSWORTH, and WEST of CHATEAU ROUX, codename BULBASKET, from D day onwards with a view to strategic operations against the enemy lines of communications from the SOUTH of FRANCE to the NEPTUNE area as occasion may occur or as developments in the main battle may dictate"

2. Delete paras 7, 8, and 9 which will now read :-

Para 7 Night D-1/D. ADVANCE RECCE PARTIES. Two officers with a Jedburgh party will be dropped in HOUNDSWORTH area from SOE A/c. A Reception party will be arranged. Their tasks will be as under:-

(a) To recce the area with a view to its suitability as a base, taking into consideration strength and organisation of resistance groups in the area, danger of enemy interference, and availability of supply dropping points and storage facilities.

(b) To prepare the reception of parties as detailed in para (8) below.

(c) They will rely on the SPECIAL FORCES organiser they will find on the spot for assistance, and any information they may acquire will be passed back through SPECIAL FORCES channels.

Para 8. MAIN RECCE PARTIES

(a) Approx night D+1/D+2. Contingent favourable reports being received from Advance Recce Parties above, two parties each of eight men will be dropped from separate aircraft into HOUNDSWORTH. Each party will take a wireless terminal.

(b) Two parties each of eight men will be dropped from separate aircraft into BULBASKET. Each party will take a wireless terminal and a EUREKA. It is anticipated that final information on the area will be received through SPECIAL FORCES communications after D day, and if possible, a reception party will be arranged.

Para 9. BASE PARTIES.

Night D+4/D5. If favourable reports are received from Main Recce Parties, one troop will be sent into both HOUNDSWORTH and BULBASKET to complete the preparation of the base areas.

ACK.

APO England.
26 May 44.
ECB/RS.

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

DISTRIBUTION as for Operation Instruction No.6.
