

54A.

TOP SECRET.

SAS BRIGADE OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 38.
Operation LOYTON - OC 2 SAS.

Copy No. 9
 HQ SAS Tps/5/G

Reference Maps GSGS 2738 & 4042.

INFORMATION.

1. The importance to the enemy of the communications leading from the STRASBURG - SAARBRUCKEN area towards PARIS is clear enough, both for the movement of reinforcements and supplies into FRANCE and also in the event of a general withdrawal from FRANCE to GERMANY.

2. Although a good deal of sabotage has been carried out by Resistance groups in the area under consideration (the VOSGES), Resistance there does not appear to be fully organised and it has not been possible to send in any appreciable quantity of arms, though it is the intention to arm up to 7,000 men. There appears to be therefore ample scope for SAS action in this region.

INTENTION

3. (a) To co-operate with resistance groups at first in clandestine and later in overt offensive action in attacking enemy communications, installations, airfields and general harassing of the enemy. Also to assist resistance groups in becoming organised and in their training.
 (b) To report on enemy movements, including possibly the establishment with the assistance of the local resistance group of a continuous watch of main roads and railways.

METHOD.

4. As soon as possible after 5 Aug 44 a recon party of 10 all ranks will be dropped in the area mentioned, if possible to reception arranged through SFHQ. This party will be equipped with 2 Jedburgh sets, one 'S' phone and one Eureka. OC recon party will be fully briefed by EMFTI on the resistance situation before departure. A Jedburgh team will accompany the recon party.

5. The recon party will be followed by reinforcements as required up to one troop. If this party were successful and targets were available and aircraft supply problems proved easy, permission to increase the party to one sqn would almost certainly be given.

ADMINISTRATION.

6. The adm will be as in SAS Tps Adm Instr No.1 with amends.

7. 38 Group anticipate that, owing to the distance from the UK and the uncertain weather in this mountainous region, resupply will be difficult and intermittent. Aircraft loads must be carefully planned and ground parties must be able to accept large quantities on stores in one night so that full advantage may be taken of good weather.

INTERCOMMUNICATIONS.

8. OC SAS Phantom will issue signal instructions direct.

9. ACKNOWLEDGE.

57650
 SAS Troops (TAC).
 Airborne Tps,
 APO England.
 3 Aug 44.
 WBKS/RS.

DISTRIBUTION

[Signature]
 Brigadier,
 Commander,
 SAS Troops.