

GO/111A/8

TOP SECRET

Brig.

B.M.

S.C.

10.

PLANNING 9 AUST DIV

NOTES ON CONFERENCE HELD 0915 I 30 ^{MAR} APR 45

1. Present

Planning Staff 9 Aust Div
Planning Staff 26 Aust Inf Bde
Planning Staff 2 Aust Beach Gp
Naval Planning Team
Maj VARRACCHIONE S3 727 Amphibian Bn
Brig PLRTER
Wing Comd MUNRO RAAF.

2. Int

GSO III (Int) outlined latest int of :-

- (a) old Dutch CD guns
- (b) beach obstacles along LINGKAS beach
- (c) recent activities seen on southern tip of TARAKAN ISLAND.

3. CRA outlined deliberations of conference held 292000I to coord naval and air bombardment planning.

4. Comd 26 Aust Inf Bde outlined results of previous days planning :-

- (a) H hr - NOT before 0815 hrs.
- (b) LSTs take $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs to dry out. Unloading time ^{available} is 7 hrs if LST beach at high tide. For every hour after high water LSTs are beached, unloading time is reduced by 2 hrs.
- (c) Mud flat on beach has NO bottom and NO possibility of vehs going over it. An LVT test on similar mud is being carried out ³¹ 30 Mar. *if LVT are available*
- (d) Availability of LGVPs and folding boats with outboard motors attached is being investigated.
- (e) Coconut log obstacle if ideally sited is approx 18 ins below water at high tide.
- (f) Beach may be concave which will allow craft to beach closer to shore. Low oblique air phs should provide answer.
- (g) Due to obstacle, ^{consideration must be given to H hr being at low tide.} ~~H hr may be better at low tide.~~ Breaching of obstacle being investigated, use of smoke close up may be necessary.
- (h) Tides - On P plus 2, high tide is approx one hr later than on P Day.
- (j) Possibility of ldg arty on island SADAU (PELAK) is being investigated. Landing appears easy and would give early arty sp for the ldg.
- (k) Admiral ROYAL and Comd 26 Aust Inf Bde are keen on rehearsal and this is being investigated. Time factor main deterrent.

- (l) Beaches have been designated by joint agreement.
- (m) The estimate of 6 days required to make the airstrip available for a wing of fighters is based on having constr equipment ready for work at the airstrip on P Day. Getting heavy air force eqpt shore is a difficulty.
- (n) Consideration of alternative beaches is under way.

Causeways

26 Aust Inf Bde want twice the number causeways they have been allotted. Only 10 causeways available for OBOE ONE and TWO. It may be possible to tow causeways used in OBOE ONE to OBOE TWO, but this would be abad risk for planning purposes. 1 Aust Corps to be asked if additional causeways available.

- 5. Capt DUGAN and Planning Staff are available for planning on OBOE TWO.
- 6. Comd Amphibian Tractor Bn considered that LVT4s would NOT bog on LINGKAS beach until they reached approx 3 ft of water.
- 7. Question of representing that a high a proportion of " 6 davit " LSTs be allotted - Aust Div is deferred until a definite requirement of LCVPs is known.

8. Deception Plan

- (a) Owing limited tps, a deception plan if arranged would probably have to be a naval bombardment one.
- (b) In OBOE ONE, the necessity for a deception plan is doubtful.

W. J. Ramsay *W. J. Ramsay*
for Lt Col
GS & Quest bco

DISTRIBUTION

Naval Planning Team
26 Aust Inf Bde ✓
Comd
G
AA and QMG