

*Opposite "6"*

TOP SECRET

PLANNING 9 AUST DIV

NOTES ON CONFERENCE LATELY 4 APR 45

1. present

As for conference held 0900I 3 Apr 45.

2. CGOTTI(Int)

- (a) Adv LHM have requested urgent movement LT GOUDIE RFA to this area - expert on inland waters TWAIIW.
- (b) Read details of movement of DUTCH CD guns at FARNHAM etc - KAROFGANI.
- (c) Read latest information received on possibilities and by which means oil fire defence could be accomplished at TWAIIW.

3. CGOTTI(Air)

- (a) Notes from 13 Bomber Command conference 3 Apr 45.

(i) As a result of shipping searches in PARE PARE area:-

1 probable patrol boat -	sunk
13 schooners -	damaged

(ii) OELIN airfield was attacked by Liberators at the end of a nil shipping search.

(iii) RAAF aircraft sank two barges, damaged buildings in HALAPERA and carried out sweeps.

- (b) Missions for 4 Apr 45

(i) Shipping search over MANASER at dawn thence to SALIMPAN. If abortive bombs will be dropped on OELIN. This is to be repeated late in afternoon.

(c) Status of OELIN airfield (BANGTHASIN)

Strips 1 and 2 are almost completely covered with craters as a result of attacks during the past week. It is definitely unserviceable.

Strip 3 is serviceable for only 1400 feet..

4. CRA

- (a) Air force have agreed to be available to smoke for 1 hour on p minus 1 day in support of RAE demolition parties. A tolerance of 15 minutes has been allowed.
- (b) As an alternative if airforce unable to perform task, a naval smoke plan has been arranged.

5. CO Signs 9 Aust Div

25 Aust L of C Signs are responsible for providing signal communications in this area.

6. Comd 2 Aust Beach Gp

Requested information on completion of equipping naval beach signal section.

CO Signs replied that as 46 sets would NOT be made available in time US Army sets SCR310 were to be provided from GHQ reserves.

7. Equipment

- (a) GOC stated that air transport for movement of equipment to this area is very limited. Bearing this in mind immediate action must be taken to have any equipment required moved by sea with units moving from AUSTRALIA.
- (b) A Branch are to ascertain if there are any difficulties in the completion of issue of War Establishment. If so action can be taken to expedite.
- (c) DAAG gave details of task force pool stores being moved to this area by "THE GARRISON". Further information is held by A Branch in 9 Aust Div memo 137/3/940.

8. Staff appointments

CCOII(L)	HR 9 Aust Div	-	Mr J G H TURNER
DAAG (L)	HR 9 Aust Div	-	Mr J W WILLIS
RE(L)	24 Aust Inf Bde	-	Capt J BURN
RE(L)	26 Aust Inf Bde	-	Capt A J FROSSEK

9. NTCA

The strength of the NTCA unit for OPON ONE is 15 officers 66 other ranks.

10. NEI infantry battalion

1 and 2 Cos First NEI Bn have been ordered to move from PEAK and ROLLUNDIA to KOROTAI. ETA approximately 5 Apr 45.

11. Reinforcements and deficiencies in unit strengths

26 Aust Inf Bde - DAAG gave figures of personnel still on leave and reinforcements required by infantry battalions of 26 Aust Inf Bde.

12. Movement of remainder of divisional task force

A Branch is to obtain advice of shipping allotted to movement remainder of divisional task force.

13. Movement of planning teams

- (a) GOC directed that arrangements be made to move 20 Aust Inf Bde Planning Team to arrive this area by 12 Apr 45.
- (b) COs of battalions of 26 Aust Inf Bde should arrive in three or four days.

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13. (continued)

(c) Planning group of infantry battalions of 20 and 24 Aust Inf Bdes should be moved forward on following suggested basis:-

Assault battalions - CO, assistant adjt, 10  
Reserve battalion - S IC, adjt.

(d) COs of artillery regiments, commanders of field companies and other main commanders as requested to come forward with infantry battalion planning teams.

14. Progress of planning OBOS ONE

- Commander 26 Aust Inf Bde is to issue outline plan on 5 Apr 45.
- Divisional draft operation order will be issued on 6 Apr 45.
- GOC estimated that planning for OBOS ONE should be well under way in one week which would then allow approximately 30 days for OBOS TWO.

15. Breaching of obstacles OBOS ONE

Commander 26 Aust Inf Bde requested that 5 sets on each of two frequencies be made available from outside 26 Aust Inf Bde sources for use in breaching beach obstacles.

GOC stated that none would be released from divisional pool and suggested that sets may be obtained from 2/3 Aust Pmr Bn.

16. H. Ship "ROCKY ISLAND" is expected to arrive DORSETHE 6 APR 45.

*Gloucester Bay for*  
(J A Y DUNSTON) Lt Col  
GS 9 Aust Div

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