

APPENDIX "A".

Conference - GRQ MANILA 19 Apr 45.

Decisions reached at conference:-

1. OBCE ONE, OBCE SIX and OBCE TWO are to be carried out in that order. Plans for OBCE ops subsequent to OBCE TWO are suspended. OBCE ONE will proceed as planned, except for minor adjustments.
2. Co-operation by the BRITISH PACIFIC FLEET for the proposed carrier strikes is now not available.
3. 1 Aust Corps is authorised to vary the general concept of the operation, as further info becomes available.
4. Some RAAF units and ANF units are unlikely to be concentrated at MOROTAI before the sailing date. These units will be moved to arrive at MOROTAI in time for the follow up convoy.
5. The decision on a proposal by Air Forces, to include a heavy bomber wing in the air garrison for TARAKAN, was deferred until it is possible to see whether the air strip near VICTORIA HARBOUR can be extended to take heavy bombers, and whether the strip on the NW coast of TARAKAN can be developed (The heavy bomber strip needs 7000 feet whereas the present maximum appears to be 6000 feet; a fighter/attack bomber strip requires 5000 feet).
6. If heavy bombers are based on TARAKAN, the strips at PALIFFAPAN would be required for attack bombers and fighters only.
7. ANF have no responsibility for naval base construction. It is a problem to be dealt with subsequent to the operation and after negotiation with British authorities.
8. The LSTs allotted are available for one turn round and are to be released after Z plus 23. Other amphibious shipping including-  
5 APD  
Some LSM and LCI  
will be available for coastwise operations. Possibly 2 LST for carrying LVT may be obtained for coastwise operations.
9. An additional 4 LST are provided, making a total of 34 LST each available for one turn round. The additional 4 LST are provided to include an airfield construction unit (Note - probably two airfield construction squadrons may be required in the assault lift). One additional LST (KANDIHLA) is available for OBCE SIX. Two AE are probably available if required, and provided the US War Department accepts recommendations now before it.
10. The Engineer Boat Bn for OBCE SIX will also be required for OBCE TWO. Early release will have to be considered.
11. The LVT Bn allotted for OBCE TWO may be used for OBCE SIX, provided it is withdrawn in time for OBCE TWO. There is only one LVT Bn available for all the OBCE operations.
12. NL pontoon causeway available for OBCE TWO and OBCE FOUR should be sufficient for OBCE SIX and OBCE TWO requirements.
13. Air cover for the critical period i.e. Z day to say Z plus 6 is to be the subject of separate arrangements with the Air Forces supporting the operation.
14. OBCE SIX and OBCE TWO will be developed as supply points for the maintenance of the force in those areas. MOROTAI will be developed as an advanced Australian base. Direct maintenance shipments to OBCE SIX and OBCE TWO will, however, be economical and should be made (Future of TARAKAN force lytc be considered).

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15. Maps for OBCE SIX should be distributed by CE GHQ by 7 May.
16. If 8 Airfield Construction Squadron is not at MRCPAI in time for loading for OBCE ONE, the task force commander is authorised to substitute 2 Airfield Construction Squadron in its stead, this squadron to be allotted by GHQ for this purpose without delay.