### TOP SECRET

### OBOE SIX

# NOTES ON DIVISIONAL COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE AT 1 AUST CORPS AT 2615001

### 1. Present

Admiral ROYAL and Staff GOC 9 Aust Div GSO I GSO II GSO III (Int) AA and QMG PMLO CRA CRE CO 9 Aust Div Sigs CO Boat Bn 593 EB and SR S3 727 Amphibian Tractor Bn

### 2. Object

To reach initial agreement on the general frame work of operation OBOE SIX to allow planning to proceed forthwith on a firm basis.

# 3. Introduction by GOC

- (a) GOC gave outline appreciation of situation and outlined the task allotted to 9 Aust Div.
- (b) In view of the long distances over water involved in the operation, small craft in the objective area will be essential for tactical movement and re-supply.
- (c) GOC outlined enemy strength and locations and 9 Aust Div force order of battle.
- (d) Air

Targets for bombing prior to Z minus 5 have been requested.

(e) LVTs

Planning shows that it is mort desirable that two companies of amphibious tractors be allotted. If two companies are allotted, they will have to be returned to MOROTAI in time for operation OBOM T.D.

(f) ESB

Planning shows two boat companies will be necessary. Previous experience has been that wastage in these craft is relatively high when used continuously.

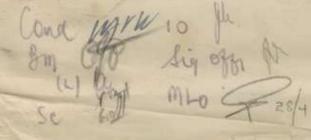
(g) LCTs

In view of long distances of re-supply a number of LCTs would be required in the objective area.

### 4. Plan

GOC outlined the 9 Aust Div plan. At present it is intended that assault landings of both brigades take place simultaneously.

5. Owing to the short time available, planning must proceed with all possible speed.



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# 6. Decisions reached on points raised by 9 Aust Div

- (a) Beaches, GREEN, RED, and BRO N are satisfactory to the Navy for assault landing. BLUE BEACH is being investigated further. WHITE BEACH is suitable only for LVTs.
- (b) Naval support available 4 cruisers, 16 to 18 destroyers. Of these, 4 cruisers and 8 destroyers would be available for naval bombardment.

## (c) Shipping

- (i) Navy understands USS "TITANIA" is allotted in addition to two AKA. "TITANIA" could carry only 300 short tons cargo.
- (ii) Navy agree that LCT can be towed to TARAKAN and proceed under own power to OBOE SIX.
- (iii) LSD and LST available for one turn round only.
  LSI, AKA, AFD available for initial trip only.
  LSM, LCI and support ships available until completion subsequent coastwise operations. Any craft fequined for coastwise operations must come from OBOE SIX allotment. Craft to be released on complotion ofdesignated coastwise operations.
- (iv) If two LST required for coastwise operations in objective area, they would have to be released when remainder LST complete their turnround (see sub paragraph 6 (111) above).
- (v) A question of signal communications required on alternative HQ ships and which ships could accommodate same, is to be investigated by signal officers of 9 Aust Div and Navy.

### 7. Navy suggests :-

- (a) Additional LVT be requested from higher authority in addition to those allotted for OBOE operations.
- (b) That definite assurance be sought as to the allotment of two AKA mentioned in 1 Aust Corps Staff Study.
- (c) That dive bombers from ZAMBOANGA would be useful for task during assault landing.
- (d) That naval bombardment of BRUNEI would NOT be very effective owing to long range.
- 8. With regard to subsiduary panding projected to take place by 24
  Aust Inf Bde on BLUE BEACH, Navy consider that it may be preferable
  to neutralise HAMILTON POINT area by air and naval bombardment
  during the landing on BRO N BEACH for a period of say 1 hours.
  Following this, subsidiary landing could then be effected.
- 9. It was agreed that a tentative landing diagram be submitted to the Navy prior to their departure on OBOE ONE.

(JAY DENNISTON) Lt Col GS 9 Aust Div

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