

19
TOP SECRET

NOTES OF CONFERENCE 0900I 28 APR 45

1. These notes are in two parts:
2. PART I - General information
PART II - Planning information
2. Present PART I

GOC

Commander and BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

Commander and BM 24 Aust Inf Bde

Commander and DAQMG 1 Aust Beach Gp

9 Aust Div Planning Staff

Naval Planning Team

Reps Air Force Planning Team

S3 727 Amphibian Tractor Bn

CO 593 Engr Boat and Shore Regt

3. Question book

Attention was drawn to the fact that the question book is held in G Planning Office, for use by units and formations. Questions placed in the book would be passed to Corps and the answers would be given in the summary of decisions and passed to all concerned.

4. Despatches for 26 Aust Inf Bde

- (a) All despatches for 26 Aust Inf Bde are to be left in G Planning Office NOT later than 1100 hours daily.
- (b) Despatches left prior to the inception of the regular courier service, will be dropped by aircraft to the convoy en route.

5. Shipping advice

It was advised that the GENERAL MCRAE would arrive MOROTAI with elements of 24 Aust Inf Bde approximately 30 Apr 45. NO advice as to other shipping with divisional units aboard has been received.

6. Corps' Commander's visit

It was advised that the Corps Commander would be visiting the area during the afternoon.

7. LOB

*Command
COs 2/15
2/17*

GOC directed that 2IC of units were NOT to be considered as automatically being left out of battle. It was necessary for these officers to have up to date battle experience. Brigade Commanders were advised that if they considered that a CO needed resting and the operation permitted he should be LOB, and the 2IC command the unit.

PART II

1. LST HARDS

*Command
2/15
2/17*

Due to the embarkation of American units, further HARDS are required for the embarkation and loading by follow up convoys for OBOE ONE and for OBOE SIX. The PMLO and CRE were carrying out a reconnaissance for this purpose, in conjunction with the navy 28 Apr 45.

*SC
10
Lign
mlo*

2. "Slimming down" of OOB

- (a) RAAF figures were NOT yet to hand.
- (b) Due to further "slimming", vehicles could now be accommodated in shipping allotted for the operation. However, there was a surplus for the assault convoy. This was being adjusted at a conference of brigade commanders and staffs, CRA, CRE representative, GSOI, GS0II, GS0III, AA and QMG and MLOs.

3. Amphibious shipping

It was advised that five extra LSMs may be allotted. GOC directed that planning would be based on the firm shipping figure. If however, extra craft were made available, a direction would be given as to the allotment.

4. Artillery

It was expected that 4 x 75mm howitzers will be made available to 20 Aust Inf Bde. If this was so, in view of shipping allotment 4 x 25 prs may have to be left behind. This matter would be fully considered in the detailed planning.

5. Air bombardment OBOE SIX

/of The plan as submitted had been accepted and forwarded to Adv LHQ with the exception/railway targets. GHQ were being requested to authorise the bombing of railway bridges and if this failed locomotives to be destroyed.

J A Y DENNISTON
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GS 9 Aust Div

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