

Recvd 30 Apr 45 - 1830hrs D4

24

TOP SECRET

OBOE SIX

NOTES ON PLANNING CONFERENCE HELD 09301

29 APR 45

1. Present

Planning Staff HQ 9 Aust Div  
Planning Staff 20 Aust Inf Bde  
Planning Staff 24 Aust Inf Bde  
Planning Staff 1 Aust Beach Gp  
Heads of Arms and Services  
Reps Commander Task Gp 78.1  
Reps 1 TAF RAAF

2. Outline landing diagram OBOE SIX

(a) PMLO explained outline landing diagram submitted to Commander Task Gp 78.1 for consideration.

(b) 20 Aust Inf Bde

- (i) Movement of one LSI from GREEN BEACH after landing assault battalion to unload at YELLOW BEACH will cut down time available for unloading with consequent decrease in amount of stores and vehicles which can be carried.
- (ii) Generally conforms with 20 Aust Inf Bde requirements except that Commander does NOT wish to be bound by any present timings.
- (iii) Reserve battalion 20 Aust Inf Bde is NOT quite organised and boated as an assault battalion, but is as much so as shipping permits.
- (iv) 20 Aust Inf Bde explained that the only troops available at present to unload stores are reserve battalion and part of MG Coy and requested that Bde LOB be included in assault shipping as unloading labour to avoid using reserve for labour. The amount of stores to be landed balanced against unloading facilities presents difficulties and it will be necessary to confine amount of stores to be landed on YELLOW BEACH to maximum which can be unloaded.

(v) Reserve

Reserve should be held afloat on call to ensure mobility so that brigade commander can employ as and where necessary.

(c) 24 Aust Inf Bde

- (i) Outline generally in accordance with 24 Aust Inf Bde requirements.
- (ii) Commander 24 Aust Inf Bde desires to allot two troops of tanks to each assault battalion and therefore requests that these be landed early if possible. Three troops are being landed early at present but fourth is also required.

Comd  
Bm  
14  
SC  
10  
by  
MLO



(d) Divisional reserve

GOC directed that divisional reserve should be loaded so that they can remain afloat until required which may NOT even be on Z day. Reserve must be mobile to undertake support of brigades or as an assault force to take advantage of opportunities.

(e) LVTs

*Letter to div*  
LVTs will revert to divisional command as reserve immediately after assault.

(f) Landing of tanks

Arrangements should be made to land heavy mechanical equipment of brigade workshops and beach group workshops to assist tanks ashore.

*MM*  
(g) Timing of waves

Any unit stores or vehicles definitely required by formations / must be loaded so that they come in on definite time in view of uncertainty of communications. */(on Z day)*

(h) NL pontoon: causeways

PMLO suggested that LSTs carrying LVT be loaded with low priority stores so that fully loaded LSTs will carry NL pontoons and can commence earlier discharge.

EMBARKATION

3. Duties of staffs as set out in 9 Aust Div GS Instruction 29 should be studied carefully by all prospective OC Troops, Ships Adjts and Loading Officers etc. Clear understanding of their duties will speed up embarkation.

STOWAGE DIAGRAMS

4. When stores, vehicles etc as advised by units have been included on stowage diagrams there can be NO variation unless under exceptional circumstances. Accurate details of type and size should be given.

PACKAGES

5. GOC directed that all packages be of a size and weight which can be carried by two men, except in the case of bulky items which cannot be broken down into small packages. Units will NOT load unnecessary equipment and stores on guns and vehicles.

ORDERS

6. GOC stressed the necessity for close study of orders and instructions by all commanders whether senior or junior.

*J A Y Denniston*  
(J A Y DENNISTON) Lt Col  
GS 9 Aust Div

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*[Signature]*