

SUBJECT : REHEARSAL - OBOE SIX

SECRET

K. 9 Aust Div  
G.327/25/12  
29 May 45

1. Scope of rehearsal

A rehearsal for Operation OBOE SIX will be carried out in the MOROTAI STRAIT area on 31 May and 1 Jun 45. Owing to the lack of suitable beaches in the area, the rehearsal will be confined to that phase of the operation from the time the assault convoy reaches the transport areas until the assault craft reach the beach.

2. Dates of Brigade Group rehearsals

20 Aust Inf Bde Gp landings on GREEN and WHITE BEACHES - 31 May

24 Aust Inf Bde Gp landing on BROWN BEACH - 1 Jun

3. Area }

4. Plan } See Amphibious Group Six Training Directive 4 - 45,  
attached as Appendix A.

5. Ships and landing craft participating

See enclosure D to Appendix A.

6. Landing hours

WHITE BEACH - 0915I 31 May 45

GREEN BEACH - 0915I 31 May 45

BROWN BEACH - 0915I 1 Jun 45

7. Estimated times of completion

Both rehearsals 1100I.

8. Observers

(a) Commander Task Group 78.1 has indicated his willingness to embark observers in ships and craft taking part in the rehearsals.

(b) Details of observers who are attending, ships from which they observe and embarkation arrangements are given in Appendix B.

9. Critique

(a) Commander Task Group 78.1 desires to hold a conference on USS ROCKY MOUNT at 0900I 2 Jun to discuss lessons learned from the rehearsals and matters requiring adjustment.

(b) Representatives to attend from 9 Aust Div are given in Appendix C. With the exception of representatives from HQ 9 Aust Div, officers attending should accompany the commanding officers of the ships in which they are embarked. Arrangements are being made with CTG 78.1 to arrange transport of div HQ representatives leaving Navy small boat jetty at 0830I 2 Jun 45.

DISTRIBUTION - see over

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

# DISTRIBUTION

20 Aust Inf Bde  
24 Aust Inf Bde  
~~26 Aust Inf Bde~~  
RAA 9 Aust Div  
RAE 9 Aust Div  
Sigs 9 Aust Div  
2/32 Aust Inf Bn  
3 Aust Ops Report Team  
2 Aust Mil Ldg Gp  
1 Aust Beach Gp  
727 ~~th~~ Amphibian Tractor Bn  
Boat Bn 593 EB and SR  
Commander Task Gp 76.1  
1 TAF RAAF  
83 Army Coop Wing  
1 Aust Corps  
7 Aust Div  
Comd  
G  
AQ  
File  
War Diary



File No. A16-3/(11)

TOP SECRET

Serial: 00027

TRAINING DIRECTIVE

ComPhibGrpSIX No. 4-45.

TASK ORGANIZATION

SEVENTH FLEET  
SEVENTH Amphibious Force  
(Task Force 78)  
Amphibious Group SIX  
(Task Group 78.1)

U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT, Flagship  
24 May 1945.

\* : Same as for ComPhibGrpSIX Attack Order No. A606-45.

1. Training exercises in preparation for the OBOE-SIX Operation will be conducted in selected areas in MOROTAI STRAIT on 31 May and 1 June 1945; the GREEN and WHITE Assault Units, with 20th Brigade embarked, on 31 May, and the BROWN Assault Unit, with 24th Brigade embarked, 1 June. The provisions of ComPhib-GrpSIX Attack Order No. A606-45 apply with the exceptions provided in this directive. Units participating will be those involved in all timed waves, plus reserves.
2. Ships concerned depart anchorages in time to arrive in the rehearsal Transport Areas, shown in the enclosures to this directive, at the times indicated by Task Unit Commanders. Commanders of the Assault Units concerned arrange details for the movement of their Units to insure ships participating arrive in time and in the proper order to facilitate the exercises. CTG 78.1 will arrange for clearing shipping from the rehearsal areas.
3. Loading of personnel in all participating ships will have been completed prior to the exercises. Boats required for the exercises but carried in ships not taking part, shall proceed under their own power so as to arrive at their stations by 0700 ITEM, and report in accordance with orders of the respective Assault Unit Commanders.
4. Due to the lack of suitable beaches in the exercise area, lines of buoys will be established to simulate the beaches. These buoys will be painted white or black and will be anchored approximately 100 yards outside of the coral reef. Arrival at these lines of buoys will simulate arrival at the beaches. On crossing the line simulating the beaches, landing craft turn and promptly clear the boat lanes as shown in the diagrams (Enclosures A, B and C hereto). Caution boat officers and coxswains not to pass beyond the buoys any farther than is necessary. Warn them that coral reefs are inshore of the buoys.
5. After withdrawing, the Boat Wave Guide Officer of each wave shall remain with the craft of his wave, prepared to repeat the exercise if ordered, or to lead them to their parent ship or to DUKW Beach as appropriate. Orders for such movement shall be issued by LCGO. Landing craft except LVTs, when directed at the conclusion of the rehearsal, will return to parent ships and be reloaded. LVTs proceed to the DUKW landing beach (RED Beach - MOROTAI) to be refueled as arranged by the 9th Australian Division, or return to their bivouac areas as appropriate. At the conclusion of the exercises, ships which are scheduled to reload LVTs, move to anchorages off-shore from the DUKW landing beach and as close in as safe navigation permits. LVTs will reload afloat as soon as they are refueled. Certain LSTs may not have completed final assault



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ComPhibGrpSIX No. 4-45.

TASK ORGANIZATION

SEVENTH FLEET  
SEVENTH Amphibious Force  
(Task Force 78)  
Amphibious Group SIX  
(Task Group 78.1)

U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT, Flagship  
24 May 1945.

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5. After withdrawing, the Boat Wave Guide Officer of each wave shall remain with the craft of his wave, prepared to repeat the exercise if ordered, or to lead them to their parent ship or to DUKW Beach as appropriate. Orders for such movement shall be issued by LCCO. Landing craft except LVTs, when directed at the conclusion of the rehearsal, will return to parent ships and be reloaded. LVTs proceed to the DUKW landing beach (RED Beach - MOROTAI) to be refueled as arranged by the 9th Australian Division, or return to their bivouac areas as appropriate. At the conclusion of the exercises, ships which are scheduled to reload LVTs, move to anchorages off-shore from the DUKW landing beach and as close in as safe navigation permits. LVTs will reload afloat as soon as they are refueled. Certain LSTs may not have completed final assault



TOP SECRET

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TRAINING DIRECTIVE

ComPhibGrpSIX No. 4-45.

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14. A critique of the exercises will be held aboard the USS ROCKY MOUNT (AGC 3) at 0900 ITEM on 2 June.
15. This directive constitutes an order to the Units concerned to conduct this exercise.

*Forrest B. Royal*  
FORREST B. ROYAL  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy,  
Commander Amphibious Group SIX and  
Commander Task Group 78.1

ENCLOSURES:

- (A) BROWN Beach Assault Unit Transport Area Diagram.  
(B) WHITE Beach Assault Unit Transport Area Diagram.  
(C) GREEN Beach Assault Unit Transport Area Diagram.  
(D) List of ships and landing craft participating.

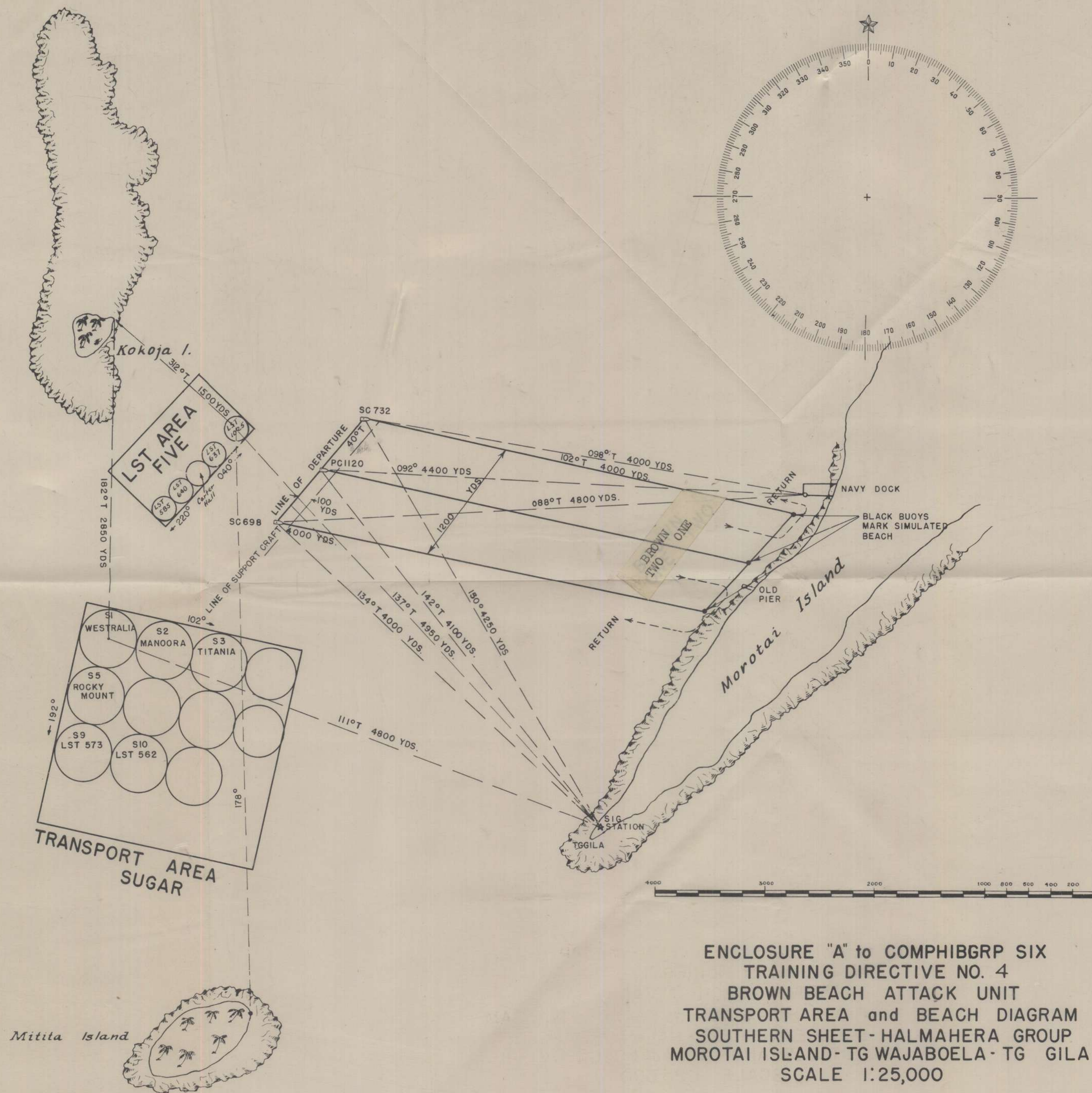
DISTRIBUTION:

Com7thPhibFor	(2) ComLSTFlot 24	(2)
ComGen1stAustCorps	(15) CTU 78.1.31 (LCI(L) 778)	(2)
ComGen9thAustDiv	(15) CTU 78.1.32 (LCI(G) 69)	(1)
Each ship participating	(1) CTU 78.1.33 (LCI(R) 71)	(1)
ComTransDiv 103	(1) CTU 78.1.41 (Lieut. DEVANEY)	(2)
ComLSTFlot 15	(2) ComLCIFlot 8	(2)

AUTHENTICATED:

*J.M. Hannan*  
J.M. HANNAN, Lt. Comdr., USNR.,  
Flag Secretary

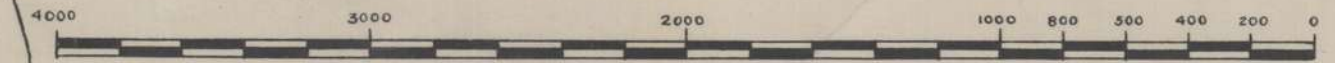






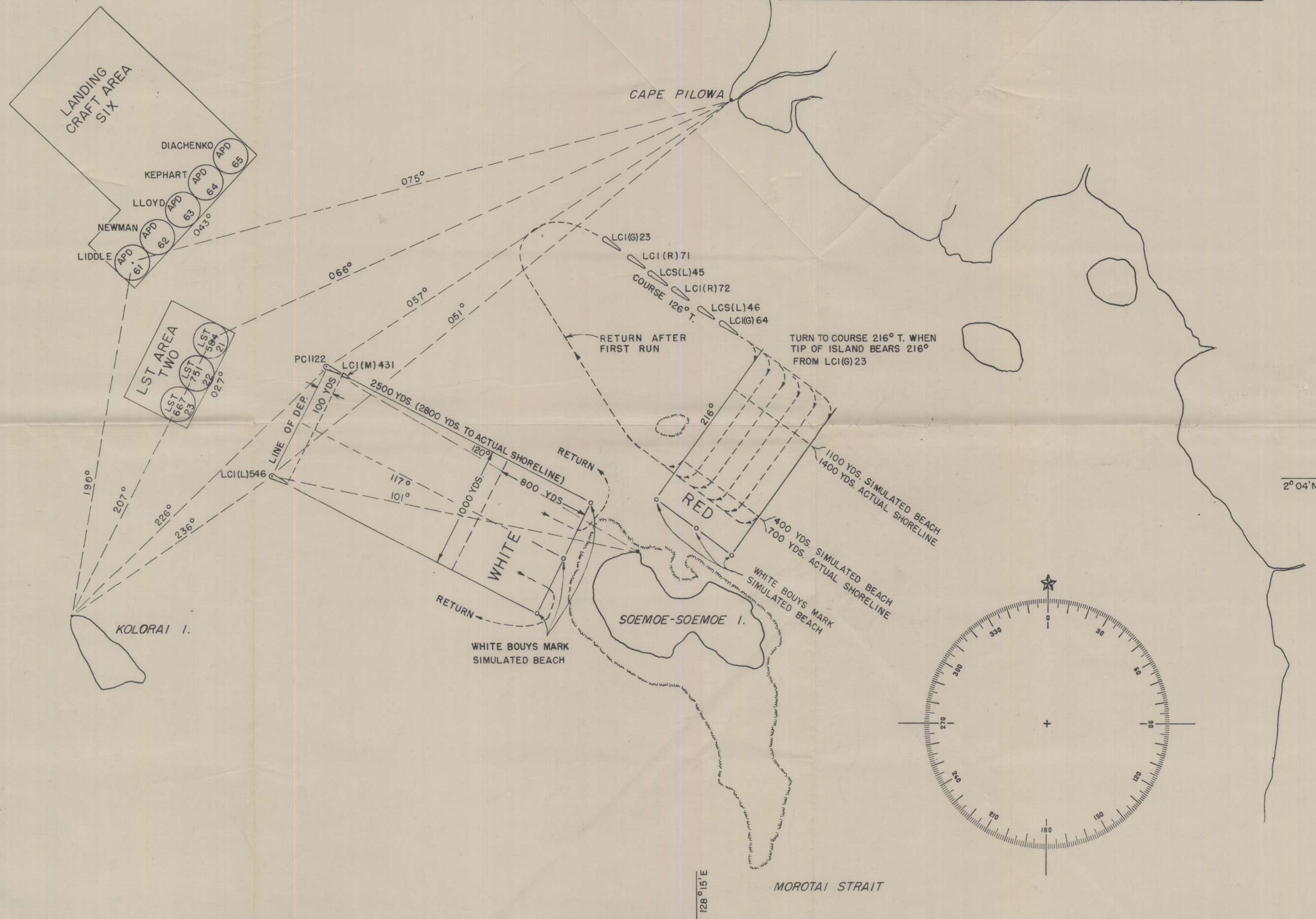
ENCLOSURE "B" to COMPHIBGRP SIX  
 TRAINING DIRECTIVE NO. 4  
 WHITE AND RED BEACH ATTACK UNIT  
 TRANSPORT AREA and BEACH DIAGRAM  
 SOUTHERN SHEET-HALMAHERA GROUP  
 MOROTAI ISLAND-TG WAJABOELA-TG GILA  
 SCALE: 1:25,000

SPENCER: MANEUVER OR ANCHOR  
 AS DIRECTED BY OTC

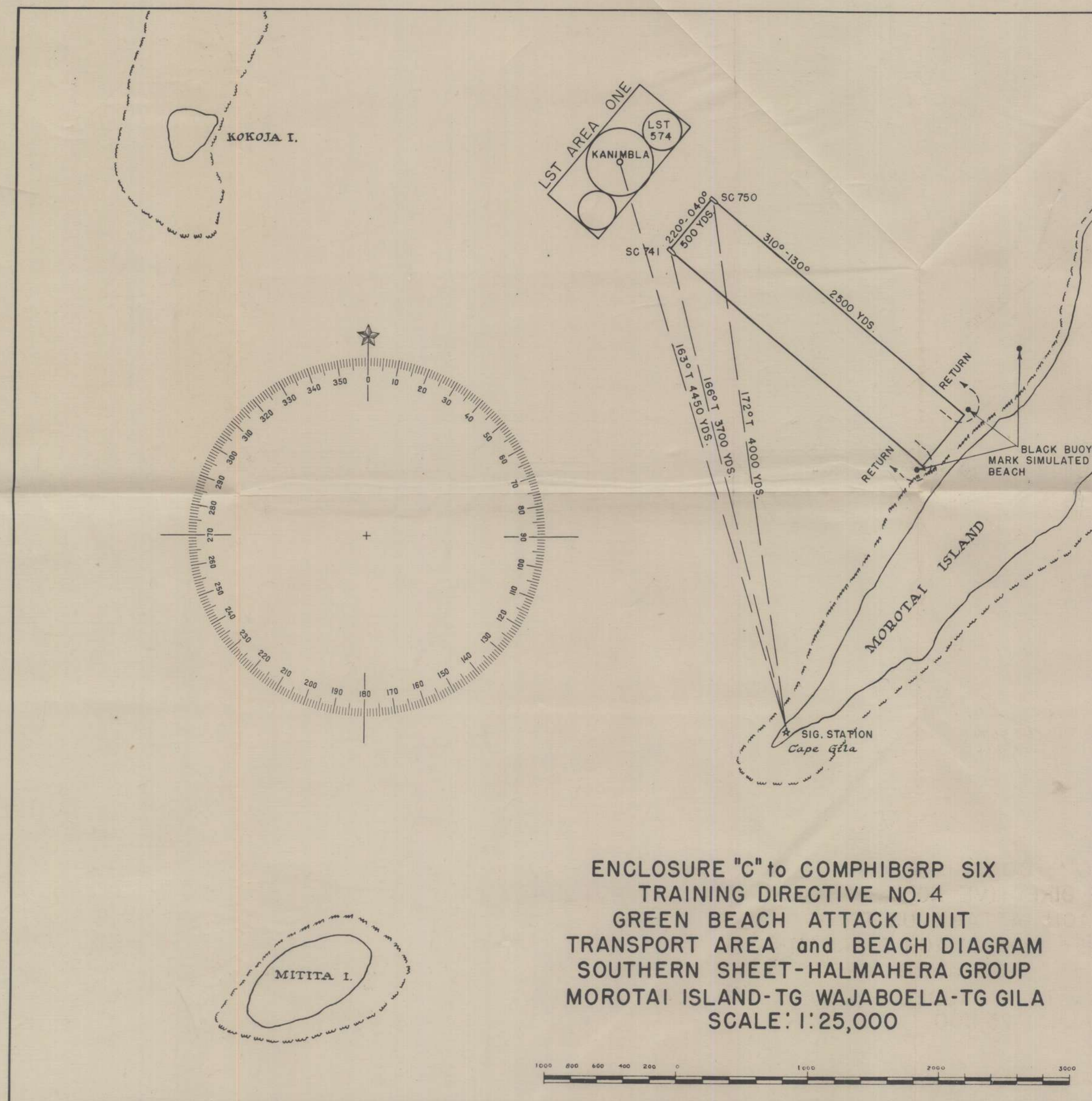


2° 04' N

2° 04' N









TOP SECRET

ENCLOSURE (D) TO COMPHIBGRP SIX TRAINING ORDER  
NO. 4-45.

LIST OF SHIPS AND LANDING CRAFT PARTICIPATING

<u>BROWN Beach</u>	ROCKY MOUNT	1 AGC
	WESTRALIA, MANOORA	2 LSI
	CARTER HALL	1 LSD
	TITANIA	1 AKA
	ISTs 637, 640, 1025, 585	4 LST
	ISTs 573, 562 (Div. Res.)	2 LST
	LCI(M) 359, 362	2 LCI(M)
	LCS(L) 58, 59, 60	3 LCS(L)
	LCI(R) 31, 34	2 LCI(R)
	LCI(G) 69 (F), 70	2 LCI(G)
	PC 1120	1 PC
	SC 698, 732	2 SC
<u>GREEN Beach</u>	KANIMBLA	1 LSI
	IST 574	1 LST
	LCS(L) 42 (F), 47	2 LCS(L)
	LCI(G) 65, 68	2 LCI(G)
	LCI(R) 74, 338	2 LCI(R)
	LCI(S) 961	1 LCI(S)
	SC 741, 750	2 SC
<u>WHITE Beach</u>	SPENCER	1 CGC
	LIDDLE, NEWMAN, LLOYD, KEPHART, DIACHENKO	5 APD
	ISTs 584, 667, 751	3 LST
	LCI(L) 546	1 LCI(L)
	PC 1122	1 PC
	LCI(M) 431	1 LCI(M)
<u>RED Beach</u>	LCI(R) 71 (F), 72	2 LCI(R)
	LCI(G) 23, 64	2 LCI(G)
	LCS(L) 45, 46	2 LCS(L)



SECRET

## Appendix B

OBSERVERS - REHEARSAL OBOE SIX20 AUST INF BDE GP - 31 MAY 45

(Issued in conjunction with 9 Aust Div G.327/25/12 of 29 May 45)

Serial	Formation or Unit	Name	To observe from ship	Embarkation arrangements
	<u>Adv LHQ</u>			
1		Lt Col W S CANTRELO	HMAS KANIMBLA	To be advised
2		Maj C E SAWREY		
3		Lt Col D A KESSELS	LST 667	
	<u>HQ 1 Aust Corps</u>			
4	GOC	Lt Gen Sir Leslie MORSHEAD	PC or LCI with Commander Task Gp 78.1	Embark Navy Pier 0800I
5	ADC	Capt F K THOMAS		To be advised
6	GS Branch	Capt M J BOULTER	HMAS KANIMBLA	
7	RAA	Lt Col H E WILLIAMS	HMAS KANIMBLA	
8	RAE	Capt L WHITE	HMAS KANIMBLA	
9	CSOs Branch	Lt C BOYLAN	LST 667	
	<u>1 Aust Combined Ops Sec</u>			
10		Lt Col A L ROSE	LST 667	To be advised
11		Lt Col E H EVANS	HMAS KANIMBLA	
	<u>7 Aust Div</u>			
12	GOC	Maj Gen E J MILFORD	PC or LCI with Commander Task Gp 78.1	Embark Navy Pier 0800I
13	ADC	Lt R LYLE		
14	Sigs 7 Aust Div	Lt Col D E PARKER		To be advised
15		Maj P G DONOVAN	HMAS KANIMBLA	
	<u>9 Aust Div</u>			
16	HQ 9 Aust Div	Maj Gen G F WOOTTEN		Embark Navy Pier 0800I.
17	ADC	Lt BICKFORD	PC or LCI with Commander Task	
18	GSO I	Lt Col J A Y DENNISTON	Gp 78.1	
19	GSO II	Maj T G TRAINOR		
20	GSO II (Ops Report)	Maj G W A ORMISTON		



Serial	Formation or unit	Name	To observe from ship	Embarkation arrangements
21	<u>HQ RAA 9 Aust Div</u> CRA	Brig T E EASTICK	PC or LC with Commander Task Gr 78.1	Embark Navy Pier 0800I
22	<u>HQ RAE 9 Aust Div</u> CRE	Lt Col D O MULLER	HMAS KADIMBLA	To be advised.
23	<u>Sigs</u> CO	Lt Col W J LAMBERT	USS SPENCER	To be advised.
<u>24 1ST INF BDE - JUN 45</u>				
24	<u>Adv LHQ</u> DMI	Brig J ROBERTS	USS ROCKY MOUNT	By small boat leaving Navy pier 0800I
25	<u>1 Aust Corps</u> GOC	Capt D W ALLEN	HMAS MANOORA	
26		Col R W CAMPBELL	HMAS MANOORA	To be advised.
27		Lt Gen Sir Leslie MORSEHEAD	USS ROCKY MOUNT	
28		Capt F K THOMAS	USS ROCKY MOUNT	By small boat leaving Navy pier 0800I.
29	ADC	Brig H WELLS	USS ROCKY MOUNT	
30	BGS	Capt A PRESCOTT		
31	CSOs Branch			
32	<u>1 Aust Combined Ops Sec</u>	Lt Col A C ROSE		
33		Lt Col E J EVANS	HMAS MANOORA	To be advised.
		Maj L T FRASER		
34	<u>9 Aust Div</u>			
35	GOC	Maj Gen G F WOOTTEN		
36	ADC	Lt F BICKFORD		
37	GSO I	Lt Col J A DENNISTON	USS ROCKY MOUNT	
38	GSO II (Ops Report)	Maj G W A ORMISTON		
39	AA and QMG	Lt Col A E MORGAN		
	PMLO	Lt Col M H MCARTHUR		
40	<u>HQ RAA 9 Aust Div</u> CRA	Brig T E EASTICK	USS ROCKY MOUNT	By small boat leaving Navy pier 0800I.
	<u>Sigs 9 Aust Div</u>			
41	CO	Lt Col W E LAMBERT	USS ROCKY MOUNT	As above.
				As above.



REHEARSAL - OBOE SIX9 AUST DIV FORCE OFFICERS TO ATTEND CRITIQUE 2 JUN 45(Issued in conjunction with 9 Aust Div G.327/25/12  
of 29 May 45)HQ 9 Aust DivGOC  
ADC  
GSO I  
GSO II  
AA and QMG  
CRA  
CO SigsMaj Gen G F WOOTTEN  
Lt F BICKFORD  
Lt Col J A Y DENNISTON  
Maj T G TRAINOR  
Lt Col A E L MORGAN  
Brig T E EASTICK  
Lt Col W E LAMBERT20 Aust Inf BdeComd  
BM  
CO 2/13 Aust Inf Bn  
CO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn  
CO 2/17 Aust Inf Bn  
CO 2/8 Aust Fd RegtBrig W J V WINDEYER  
Maj A J HILL  
Lt Col G E COLVIN  
Lt Col G H GRACE  
Lt Col J R BROADBENT  
Lt Col R L JOHNSTON24 Aust Inf BdeComd  
BM  
CO 2/28 Aust Inf Bn  
CO 2/43 Aust Inf Bn  
CO 2/12 Aust Fd RegtBrig S W C PORTER  
Maj H B STANILAND  
Lt Col R H B NORMAN  
Lt Col M R JEANES  
Lt Col G D HOUSTONDiv Reserve

CO

Lt Col T H SCOTT

1 Aust Beach GpComd  
Principal Beach MasterCol C J CUMMINGS  
Lt Comdr R McKAUGE727 Amphibian Tractor BnCO  
Executive OfficerMaj MAHURIN  
Maj VARRICHIONEBoat Bn 593 EB and S Regt

CO

Lt Col C V McCAFFREY