

OPERATION "DECOMPOSE II"

Operation No. 1

JULY 1944

TOP SECRET

(Ref Maps 1/25,000 Sheets 124 I NW/BIS and 124 IV NE/BIS.)

Information

1. Enemy

Derived from Island Intelligence Summaries, Interrogation of PoW's, Reece Reports, Air Photographs and Partisan Sources.

Intention

2.

To cause casualties and damage and reduce morale of Garrisons of OREBIC (5990), KORCULA (5588) and POSTRANA (5885).

Method

3. Forces taking part.

Commander Lt-Col. J. S. Elliot
211/111 Fld Bty RA
Two Sections "C" Bty RSR
I Brigade XXVI Division NOVJ
Detailed strengths at Appendix "B"

4. Beaches

Green	PRZINA Cove 600838
Amber	Cove at 580831
Red	RAZNJIC Cove or RASOKANA (554830)

5. Programme.

Before D - 3

"X" OP and "Forward Agent" leave VIS for LAGOSTA.

D-3

"A" OP Party, with one other officer to remain to contact main party, sail for LAGOSTA.

D-2

"Q" OP Party leave VIS for PELJESAC.

"A" OP Party, "Forward Agent" and Partisan

Advance Party leave LAGOSTA for Amber Beach.

"A" OP Party goes on to BADIJA Island same night.

Main party (including guns) leave VIS for LAGOSTA. Partisan covering party leave VIS for LAGOSTA.

D-1

Main party and Partisan covering party leave LAGOSTA for Green Beach.

D Day

Covering party land Green Beach 00:01hrs

Main party land Green Beach 02:00hrs

Shoot 05:15 to 08:15hrs

Main party re-embark Green Beach for LAGOSTA about 08:15hrs.

Partisan covering party re-embark Amber Beach for LAGOSTA about 08:15hrs.

Main and covering parties land LAGOSTA about 12:00hrs.

D+1

Main and covering parties arrive VIS.

After dark Royal Navy collect PEDJESAC OP party.

1) Lying-up area

During daylight on D-1 main and covering parties and their craft will lie-up concealed in SKRIGEVA Cove (E3663).

2) FOOs

"X" OP Party will reach its OP at approx. 543878 during darkness night D-1/D Day.

"A" OP Party will reach OP on BADIJA Island (5787) by Partisan row boat from LUMBANDA during darkness night D-2/D-1, and will lie-up and observe of D-1 Day, returning by Partisan row boat on night D Day.

"B" OP Party will accompany Partisan covering force HQ and Liaison Officer and establish OP about 573842.

"Q" OP Party will be landed on North coast of PELJESAC night D-2/D-1 and reach OP about 559916 during darkness on night D-1/D Day.

Royal Navy are arranging to pick up from North Coast on night D+1/D+2.

"X" and "A" Op Parties return through Partisan channels.

3) Forces HQ.

On high ground around square 6083.

4) Gun position

On beach 600838 to 602837.

5) Covering Force

On high ground in squares 5884, 5784 and 5783.

Will report when in position and will not withdraw till ordered by Force HQ.

6) AA Protection

At Gun position by Section "C" Bty RSR with which own AA protection will be coordinated. One section "C" Bty RSR will be sited on craft.

7) Deception Plan

An LCI decorated to resemble a destroyer and producing gun flashes will patrol 2 or 3 miles off SE corner of KORCULA Island.

8) Arty Tasks

Task Table at Appenix "C"

Trace at Appendix "D"

Traces will not be used for shooting.

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1) Rations

With man: Unexpired ration. 24hrs Mess Tin (to be consumed on D-Day).

On Craft: 3 days Compo for use as follows:-

1st day for consumption at LAGOSTA on outward journey.

2nd day landed on beach and reloaded on departure.

3rd day remain on craft throughout.

Rations will be loaded according to strengths on craft under arrangements by OC 211 Fd Bty RA. Senior rank on each craft will take over and be responsible for issue and return of rations.

21. Water

Land with full bottles.

Reserve of one gallon per man on craft.

22. Dress

Battle Order

Caps Comforter and Steel Helmets

Mae Wests

Felt boots for OP personnel

23. Medical

Regimental Medical Officer 111 Fd Regt RA will set up aid post near Gun position.

Surgical team under arrangements of ADMS at LAGOSTA.

First Field Dressings will be carried.

Communication

24. Wireless

Appendix "E"

Wireless silence till 04:30hrs D Day

25. Line

Assault cable line will be laid from Force HQ to Gun position.

26. Synchronisation.

On completion of netting.

1) Light Signals

RAF have agreed to fire Verey Light Signals as follows:-

Two Spitfires approaching from SE over RACISTE (4590) at height 5000ft

between 19:15 and 19:30hrs on D-1, one or both will fire:

Green Lights meaning "Operation postponed 24hrs"

Red lights meaning "Operation Canceled"

No Signal "Proceed with plan as arranged".

In event of further postponement more Verey lights will be fired at same time next evening.

2) Naval Signals

As an alternative means of communication it will be possible to communicate with VIS through 22 set on LCI on "B" net and Naval Signals.

29. Figure Code.

P	A	T	H	F	I	N	D	E	R
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0