

111 Field Regiment Operation Instruction No.5
11th November 1944
SECRET

INFORMATION

1) Enemy

- a) Is reinforcing RISAN. PoW reports state that one or more enemy infantry divisions aim to break out and escape via RISAN - GRANOVO - VILUSE thence NORTHWARDS.
- b) In MOSTAR area moved about two Battalions from NEVESINJE to KILINO SELO (east of MOSTAR) on about 8th Nov. The above two factors may indicate an attempt to open up an escape corridor.
 - i) (Note the road bridge at AVTOVAC 7408 is at present underwater an impassable).

2) Own Troops

- a) FINNEY. This force includes 211 Bty less A Troop; Troop of RSR, Troop 43 (RM) Commando, plus detachment of heavy weapons in investing LEDENICE and RISAN in conjunction with Partisan forces.
- b) FORSYTH (BILECA force) 476 Bty less F troop, plus A troop 211 Bty together with flight from RAF Regt with anti-tank guns and armoured car is guarding against enemy thrust on BILECA from NORTHWARDS via PLANA. Maj Cheeseman, 2 i/c 111 Fd Regt i/c of force.
- c) F Troop 476 Bty, with Major Winterbottom i/c Defence of DUBROVNIK.
- d) Force HQ and RHQ 11 Fd Regt at TREBINJ.
- e) B Echelon and LAD at DUBROVNIK

3) INTENTION

111 Fd Regt in conjunction with FLOYDFORCE elements will:

- a) enforce max delay on and/or blocking against the enemy attempting to escape from area SCUTARI - PODGORICA - CETINJE.

b) protect L of C

c) protect DUBROVNIK base.

4) METHOD

a) A Troop 211 Bty will leave area BILECA and rejoin FINNEY forthwith, taking all ammunition.

b) 476 Bty less one Troop. Major Cheesman will co-ordinate the deployment and tactical dispositions of the RAF regiment flight, plus heavy weapons, with fire support from one Troop 476 Bty. This must be such as to ensure a minimum of 6 hours delay on enemy approaching PLANA from the North.

c) On conclusion of sub para (ii) above, Major Cheesman will revert to normal function as 2 i/c and BHQ 476 Bty will return to DUBROVNIK, reverting to Commander Major Winterbottom. Rear link from FORSYTH force (Troop 476 Bty and RAF Flt) to FORCE HQ will initially be provided by Force Signals and subsequently by RAF Flight. FORSYTH will then be commanded by OC RAF Flight with E Troop 476 Bty in support.

d) OC 476 Bty, with 476 Bty (less 1 troop) will be responsible for Arty defence of DUBROVNIK and for co-ordinating HAA fire in ground role (on arrival of D Troop 64 HAA). Watch is to be kept for any enemy threat on DUBROVNIK from NW via METKOVIC.

e) On arrival of 212 Bty, and if the tactical situation permits, 212 Bty will move forward and deploy against RISAN area. Regimental Survey Officer in conjunction with 2 i/c will recce and survey a Bty area for 212 Bty; to put it on regimental grid with 211 Bty and later RSR.

5) ADMINISTRATION
Ammunition

a) Quartermaster 111 Fd Regt in conjunction with Supply Officer FLOYDFORCE will ferry forward maximum amount of ammunition to VILUSE dump henceforth until further orders.

b) TREBINJE dump will be left as is at present.

Medical

- i) RAP FINNEY - Captain KEIFT RMO 111 Fd Regt
- ii) RAP FORSYTH - Captain WARD RMO RAF Fd Sqn
- iii) Captain MARMION at present at Advanced Dressing Station
(ADS) BILECA will revert back to TREBINJE in reserve.

- 6) The following wireless telephone sets will be effective with effect from 11 Nov.
 - a) Force HQ (TREBINJE) - FINNEY - FORSYTH
 - b) Force HQ (TREBINJE) Rear HQ (DUBROVNIK) - VILUSE
- 7) DRLS Details being issued by Signals Officer. Jeep will be used by night or in bad weather.
- 8) RHQ In barracks at TREBINJE, adjacent to Force HQ.