

111 Fd Regt Arty Group Operational Instruction No. 2

SECRET

27th March 1945

AIR OP

1. Air OP aircraft in this sector are flown by U.S. Army Pilots who usually carry an observer to direct fire. Owing to present shortage of observers it may not be possible for one to be carried on every sortie. In this case the pilot will report any movement etc seen and will attempt to adjust fire on to it.
2. The ground control station will be at one of the Btys of 111 Regt. 17 Medium Regt will maintain listening watch, but will be ready to speak direct to the aircraft if required to do a shoot. Army A channel will be the normal frequency.
3. When an aircraft is to carry out any special shooting (e.g. registration) a British observer will normally be carried. Btys may arrange through Group HQ for their own Officers to carry out this task, otherwise it will be done by one of the Liaison Officers attached to the flight.
4. U.S. Army Observers directing the fire of British guns will use the "procedure for cooperation with the RAF" given in RATM 13 Appendix II. British observers may use normal fire orders. In both cases corrections will be ordered not sensing. E.g. "Right 200" means "Switch guns 200 yds to the right".
5. Owing to ammunition restrictions, a shoot should be abandoned if undue difficulty is experienced in ranging (adjustment).
6. Air OPs will use codesign of 111 Fd Regt Rear Link plus suffix 20, 21 etc. 476 Bty and 17 Medium Regt will use codesigns of 111 Fd Regt Rear Link and 17 Med Regt Rear Link respectively.