

111 Fd Regt Operational Instruction No. 1
16th March 1945
SECRET

Ref Maps Italy 1/25,000

Sheets 97 III SW, 96 II SW, 97 III NW, 96 II NE

This instruction is issued in confirmation of verbal orders already given and also contains some fresh instructions.

NOT TO BE TAKEN FORWARD OF BATTALION HQ

INFORMATION

1) ENEMY

Forward Defended Locality (FDL) along general line as follows: -

286 Infantry Regiment - BASSA 2110 - M. DELLA TESA 1908 - TREPPIGNANA 1706.

2 Bersaglier (Italian Regiment) FIATTONE 1506 - CASCIO 1305 - MOLAZZANA 1304 - BRUCCIANO 1103 - C. ACERA 0903.

There has been very little activity recently except occasional light shelling and mortaring. The enemy however have the advantage of observation and can see right down the SERCHIO Valley.

2) OWN TPS 473 Infantry Regiment hold the sector as follows: -

RIGHT - 2 Battalion on general line MONTEBONO 2108 - M. ROBBI 2007 - SOMMOCOLONIA 2006 - CAMPOGGI 1806.

CENTRE - 3 Battalion on general line PIETRATO 1706 - CASTEL VECCHIO 1605.

LEFT - 1 Battalion on general line BARCA 1505 - PT 437 1403 - Southern Half M. FAETO 1303 - CALOMINI 1202 - VERGENOLI 1002.

3) Arty in support of 473 Infantry Regiment:-

- a) Direct Support - 111 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery
473 Cannon Coy (6 x 105mm Howitzers)

b) General Support-17 Medium Regiment, less one Bty.

B Coy 760 Tk Btn (10 x 75mm Shermans)

Three guns 103 LAA Bty (40mm Bofors)

NOTE - 597 Field Artillery Btn (12 x 105mm guns) are in general support so long as they stay in the area.

METHOD

Gun Positions

P Bty (Temporary) A Tp - 197004. B Tp - 199006.

P Bty (Permanent) A Tp - 191013. B Tp - 188011.

R Bty (Permanent) E Tp - 190023. F Tp - 188021.

Firing line 330°. Arc from 40° to 300° Shoot down to FDLs.

P/17 Med Gun Regt position - A Tp - 1895020. B Tp - 18301. Arc 20° to 300°

473 Cannon Coy gun position - 187023. 103 LAA Bty (3 guns) gun position 171020.

OPs and Liaison.

(a) P Bty in direct support of 2 Btn on right. Liaison Officer at Btn HQ. OP at ROBBI 2007 (Codename WOODY).

(b) R Bty in direct support of 1 Btn on left. Liaison Officer at Btn HQ. OP at CALOMINI 1202 (Codename TEDDY) looking north.

(c) Direct support of 3 Btn (in centre) will be provided by E Bty until 22 March, thereafter as ordered. Liaison Officer at Btn HQ. OP at 169045 (Codename JOHNNY).

(d) 17 Med Regt is in general support. OPs at BARGA 183037 (Codename BRIAN), TIGLIORIA 151052 (Codename DICK) and CALOMINI 128028 (Codename GUS) looking North East.

(e) 473 Cannon Coy has one OP in each Btn sector, at 187043, 164043, 154056.

Calls for fire

- (a) Coy commanders may call for SOS fire, to be answered by three minutes intense unless otherwise ordered. Tasks are:

RIGHT 2 Btn -	DF 31	Bty 473 Cannon Coy
	DF 41	P Bty 111 Fd Regt - one tp.
	DF 43	P Bty 111 Fd Regt - one tp.
	DF 53	P Bty 17 Med Regt - one tp.
CENTRE 3 Btn-	DF 72	B Coy 760 Tk Btn
LEFT 1 Btn	DF 3	R Bty 111 Fd Regt - one tp.
	DF 4	R Bty 111 Fd Regt - one tp.
	DF 23	B Coy 760 Tk Btn
	DF 26	P Bty 17 Med Regt - one tp.
	DF 27	Bty 473 Cannon Coy

When not otherwise engaged all guns will be laid on SOS task

- (b) Liaison Officers at Btn HQs may order Direct Fire (DF) Scale from their own Btys without reference to RHQ. In case of actual attack this scale may be exceeded. All other calls through RHQ.
- (c) OPs may engage opportunity targets up to limit of ammunition expenditure laid down.
- (d) DF tasks - See 10 AGRA DF task table No. 13.
Counter Bty - CB Office at RHQ 17 Med Regt to whom all shellreps should be sent. See 10 AGRA HB list No. 30.

Defence and Counter attack plan - Se 10 AGRA 110/12 dated 13 March. All guns will be prepared to cover counter-attack laid down. In case of plan A this will involve pulling out of pits.

Local protection

- (a) On permanent positions gun pits will be dug, and bivouacs and CPs will be dug below ground level, unless in houses. On

temporary positions slit trenches will be dug.

- (b) Each troop will be prepared to turn out a patrol of one NCO and six men armed with rifles and TSMC at 20 minutes notice during the night.
- (c) P Bty's temporary position will, when evacuated by them, be maintained as an alternative position for either Bty, who must be prepared to move their on short notice.

Crest Clearance. Btys will submit as soon as possible to RHQ a trace showing areas which cannot be fired in owing to crest clearance.

ADM - See 10 AGRA Adm Instruction No. 8.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

- (a) Wireless will not normally be opened unless line communications fail, but will be tested daily (See separate instruction).
- (b) Line diagram issued separately. Btys will maintain their lines to Liaison Officers and OPs.
- (c) Code name 473 Infantry Regiment is CAMPAIGN. Btns are RED, WHITE and BLUE in order of seniority.