

**Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE) Libraries
MCoE HQ Donovan Research Library
Fort Benning, Georgia**

Report date: September-October 1944

Title: XVII Corps Airborne outline plan – Naples II,

Author: United States Army XVIII Corps (Airborne)

Abstract: This report was the XVII Corps Airborne plan to land by glider and parachute during daylight of D-Day in the general area of Zundorf-Seiglar-Sieg River-Rhine River, all exclusive; seize, clear, and secure the area to assist the rapid crossing of First Army Troops; and to prepare for further operations as First Army directed.

Number of pages: 22 p.

Notes: From the MCoE HQ Donovan Research Library, Fort Benning, GA. Documents collection. Call #: D767.68 .U218

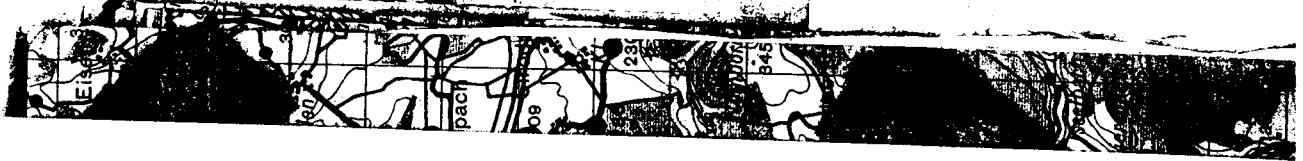
Classification: Unclassified; Approved for public release

D 767.68

XVIII corps abn outline plan -

U 218

NAPLES II



JPG

1232

Goes

Here

HQ. XVIII AB Corps
Office of the AC of S G-2 *downgraded to*
PI Section

PI CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF LZs and DZs OF
AREAS NOS. 1-5

UNCLASSIFIED

OPERATION MILAN TWO

Area No. 1

Description of Fields: There are approximately 60 suitable fields in this area. Average size as follows:
100 by 230 yds - 40 fields
125 by 250 yds - 12 fields
150 by 300 yds - 8 fields

Obstacles: Steep hills and wooded areas in North and West portions; Vineyards and steep slopes along the RHINE RIVER, and other streams; Orchards and tree-lined roads.

Rating: LZs - fair
DZs - fair

Area No. 2

Description of Fields: There are 88 suitable fields in this area. Average sizes as follows:
125 by 250 yds - 56 fields
225 by 350 yds - 25 fields
300 by 500 yds - 7 fields

Obstacles: Obstacles in this area are tree-lined roads connecting towns; quarries, high tension lines, vineyards, orchards, and wooded areas.

Rating: LZs - Good
DZs - Good

Area No. 3

Description of Fields: There are approximately 12 suitable fields in this area, with average size as follows:
100 by 200 yds - 6 fields
130 by 200 yds - 4 fields
150 by 470 yds - 2 fields

These fields are not together and are surrounded by forests.

Obstacles: Steep hills and forests and high tension line running through area.

Rating: LZs - Poor
DZs - Poor

Area No. 4

Description of Fields: There are only approximately 6 fields suitable in the entire area. Average size of these fields is 150 by 250 yds.

Obstacles: Steep hills and forests throughout area; orchards and tree-lined roads in cultivated sections; many scattered trees are found in the cultivated fields.

Rating: LZs - poor
DZs - poor

HQ. XVIII AB Corps
Office of the AC of S, G-2
PI Section

Downgraded to
~~TOP SECRET~~
448

PI CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF LZs and DZs OF
AREA NOS. 1-5 (Continued)

OPERATION MILAN TWO

Area No. 5

Description of Fields: Cultivated and open fields are found scattered throughout area but are isolated by forests and are located on hills and ridges. The few fields that occur on gentle slopes are filled with scattered trees.

Obstacles: Steep hills and wooded sections throughout area; Vineyards, railroads, roads, deep gullies and streams. Scattered trees in cultivated fields.

Rating: LZs - poor
DZs - poor

~~TOP SECRET~~
448

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

HQ. XVIII A/B Corps
Office of the AC of S
G - 2 PI Section

Information as of
19 Sept. 44

AREA NO. 1

PI REPORT OF LZs and DZs

Location: Area lies N of Rhine River and W of Wied River and extending N from the Rhine to an E - W line through HAMMERSTEIN.

Topography: Steep hills rising to heights of 300 meters are found in North and West portions of area. These hills taper to gentle slopes in area between WOLLENDORF and RODENBACH and between LEUTESDORF and HULLENBERG.

Surface: 50% of entire area is heavily wooded. In the portion between LEUTESDORF and HAMMERSTEIN extensive vineyards cover the steep slopes along the Rhine River and extend inland along small streams flowing into the Rhine. Less extensive vineyards are found along the bank of the Rhine from LEUTESDORF to junction of Wied River. 30% of the area is in open cultivation, and the remainder is villages and towns.

Description of Fields: Fields are made up of several different crop plots, but no obstructions can be seen between plots. The fields are separated by secondary roads and fences. Although an accurate count and measurement has not been made, there are approximately 60 suitable fields as follows:

- 100 by 230 yds - 40 fields
- 125 by 250 yds - 12 fields
- 150 by 300 yds - 8 fields

Obstacles: Steep hills and wooded areas in North and West portions; Vineyards and steep slopes along the Rhine river and other streams; orchards located in the vicinity of populated places; and most main roads are tree lined. Some of the secondary roads separating fields are lined with trees; however, the majority are not, leaving the approaches to the fields clear.

LZs: The fields in the area are so grouped as to form two landing zones. One is located between LEUTESDORF and HULLENBERG and extending northward. There are approximately 35 suitable fields located there ranging in size from 100 x 230 yards to 150 x 300 yards. The second landing zone is located in an area bounded by the towns of RODENBACH, WOLLENDORF, IRLICH, and the steep slopes of the Wied River. In this zone there are approximately 25 suitable fields ranging in size from 100 x 230 yards to 150 x 300 yards.

DZs: DZs coincide with LZs.

Ratings: LZs Fair
DZs Fair

(Map Sht S2
GSGS 4416)
Sortie 106 G 2980, 19 Sept 44
3115-25, 4115-23
3176-79

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

HQ XVIII A/B Corps
Office of the AC of S
G - 2 PI Section

Howe's
AREA NO. 2

Information as of
19 Sept. 44

PI REPORT OF LZs and DZs

Location: Area North of Rhine River between WIED and SAYNE Rivers, extending Northward to East-West line through ISENBURG.

Topography: Flat to gently rolling from the Rhine River North to towns of GLADBACH, HEIMBACH, AND WEIS. Increasingly hilly and woody toward the Northeast, highest elevation 350 meters.

Surface: 70% of the area cultivated; 20% is heavily wooded; 10% populated and industrial places. The wooded area includes the HEIMBACHER and WEISER forests in the Northeast portion. Between these forests and the towns of OBR. BIEBER, HEIMBACH, & WEIS is a strip approximately a mile wide which is cultivated up to 50%. Thin woods make up the remainder of this strip. Portion of area South and West of OBR. BIEBER and HEIMBACH to the Rhine River is extensively cultivated.

Description of Fields: There are approximately 88 suitable landing fields in this area. 27 of these are South of the R.R. between NEUWIED and ENGER, and the remainder are generally South and West of GLADBACH and HEIMBACH. Distribution of fields according to average sizes, and the approximate number of each is as follows:

125 x 250 yards	-	56 fields
225 x 350 yards	-	25 fields
300 x 500 yards	-	7 fields

Most of the fields are composed of several different crop plots, but no obstructions can be seen between the plots.

Obstacles: Three quarries averaging 150 yards square near the Rhine River Southeast of NEUWIED, and a high power line (85 feet high) running from Southeast of Neuwied to ENGERS are the major obstacles in the area South of the RR. . Other obstacles are roads separating fields; and the R.R. to the North. North of the R.R. and just East of the road between ENGERS and WEIS are six quarries averaging 100 x 300 yards. Four quarries averaging 100 yards square, and one quarry 60 x 900 yards are located approximately one mile Southeast of GLADBACH. Four vineyards averaging 200 x 250 yards are just South of GLADBACH.

LZs: There are two principal LZs in the area: (1) South of R.R. between NEUWIED and ENGERS with 27 suitable fields ranging in size from 110 x 230 yards to 300 x 450 yards; (2) South and West of GLADBACH and HEIMBACH with approximately 55 fields averaging from 125 x 250 yards to 225 x 350 yards.

DZs: DZs coincide with LZs.

Ratings: LZs - Good
DZs - Good

(Map Sht S2) GSGS 4416
Sorties: 106G2980
3126-33, 3165-72
4124-33
Sortie: 7/3094
3040-45, 4042-45

~~TOP SECRET~~

HQ. XVIII A/B Corps.
Office of the AC of S
G - 2 PI Section

~~TOP SECRET~~
QAB
AREA NO. #

Information as of
19 Sept. 44

PI REPORT OF LZs and DZs

Location: Area bordering Rhine River between SAYN and LOHR Rivers, North to ISENBURG and East to North-South line through HILLSCHIED.

Topography: Entire area composed of steep hills reaching elevation from 300 to 340 meters.

Surface: 85% heavily wooded. Includes the SAYNER, BENDORFER, VALLENDARER and western edge of HOHRER forests. Remainder of area cultivated fields and populated areas. These fields are in the vicinity of BENDIRF, STROMBERG, CAAN, NAUORT, ALSBACH, KAMMERFORST, HILGERT, and HOHR.

Description of Fields: Fields are made up of different crop plots, but no obstructions can be seen between them. Although no accurate count has been made, there are approximately 12 fields as follows:

100 by 200 yards	- 6
130 by 235 yards	- 4
150 by 470 yards	- 2

These fields are located in isolated areas surrounded by forests.

Obstacles: All fields are surrounded by forests. WUSTE and FER Rivers run Northeast from VALLENDAR through area. High tension power lines (approximately 85 feet high) runs southeast from BENDORF to WANDHOF. Steep hills and forests cover the entire area.

LZs: In the area 1600 yards Northeast of BENDORF are four fields composing the only landing zone. These range in size from 130 yards by 190 yards to 100 yards by 380 yards. The remainder of fields are isolated in forests.

DZs: DZs coincide with LZs.

Ratings:

LZs	- Poor
DZs	- Poor

(Map Sht S2
GSGS 4416)
Sorties: 106G/2980
Photos: 3135-3143
4135-4143
3155-3164
4288-4295
3196-3204

~~TOP SECRET~~

HQ. XVIII A/B Corps
Office of the AG of S
G - 2 PI Section

changed to
~~TO: [REDACTED]~~
~~[REDACTED]~~
9213
AREA NO. 4

Information as of
19 Sept. 44

PI REPORT OF LZs and DZs

Location: Area extending along East bank of RHINE RIVER from the LOHR RIVER south to opposite the center of KOBLENZ and eastward to North-South line through NEUHAUSEL.

Topography: Very hilly with irregular slope westward to RHINE RIVER. Elevation ranges from elevation of 65 meters along RHINE to 350 meters in Eastern portion of area.

Surface: Approximately 70% of area is wooded, including orchards, the Eastern portion being entirely covered by forests except in vicinity of NEUHAUSEL. Orchard areas are found Northeast of NIEDERBERG and scattered throughout cultivated sections in central and western portions of area. Vineyards are located along steep slopes of streams in the area.

Description of Fields: The number of suitable fields is reduced because ~~at~~ some are widely scattered and isolated in wooded areas, while others are eliminated by virtue of location on steep slopes, hills and ridges. Fields are separated by tree rows, fences, orchards, and hedges. An accurate count has not been made, but it is estimated that not over six suitable fields with an average size of 150 x 250 yds are located in entire area.

Obstacles: Steep hills and forests throughout area; orchards and tree-lined roads in cultivated sections. Many scattered trees are found in cultivated fields.

LZs: Suitable fields are so widely separated that no landing zones are present. Steep slopes eliminate other open places.

DZs: Presence of above mentioned obstacles and lack of grouping of suitable fields eliminate possible drop zones.

Ratings: LZs: - poor
DZs: - poor

(Map: Sht S2)

GSGS 4416

Sortie: 106G/2980

3198-3226

4198-4226

~~[REDACTED]~~
~~[REDACTED]~~

HQ. XVIII A/B Corps
Office of the AC of S
G - 2 PI Section

downgraded to
~~TOP SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~
AREA NO 5

Information as of
19 Sept. 44

Location: Area extending East along East Bank of RHINE RIVER from opposite the center of KOBLENZ South to village of BRAUBACH and extending Eastward to N-S line through FACHBACH.

Topography: Entire area very hilly and cut in half by LAHN RIVER. Hills on each side of this river rise sharply from a water level of approx 65 meters to an elevation of from 250 to 350 meters.

Surface: 50% of entire area is heavily wooded. Widely scattered cultivated fields make up approx 30% of area. The remainder is populated districts along RHINE RIVER. Some vineyards are found along steep slopes immediately adjacent to LAHN RIVER.

Description of Fields: Cultivated and open fields are found scattered throughout area but are isolated by forests and are located on hills and ridges. The few fields that occur on gentle slopes are filled with scattered trees.

Obstacles: Steep hills and wooded sections throughout area; Vineyards along steep slopes adjacent to LAHN RIVER; roads, railroads, and populated districts along RHINE RIVER; Deep gullies and streams throughout area, and scattered trees in cultivated fields.

LZs: Suitable fields are so isolated that no landing zones are present.

DZ's: Above mentioned obstacles eliminates any possible DZ.

Ratings: LZs - poor
DZs - poor

(Map: Sht S2
GSGS 4416)

Sortie: 106G/ 2980
Photos: 3257-67
4256-67
3270 & 4270
3225 & 4225
3276 & 4276
Sortie: 7/3094
Photos: 4055-61
3057-61

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~
HEADQUARTERS XVIII CORPS (AIRBORNE)
Office of the Commanding General

APO 109, U.S. Army
19 October 1944.

Subject: XVIII Corps Airborne Outline Plan - NAPLES II.

to : Commanding General, First United States Army.

1. Mission: To land by glider and parachute during daylight of D Day in the general area: ZUNDORF - SEIGLAR - SIEG RIVER - RHINE RIVER (all exclusive); seize, clear and secure that area to assist the rapid crossing of FIRST ARMY troops; and to be prepared for such further operations as FIRST ARMY may direct.

2. Commander: Major General M. B. RIDGWAY.

3. Forces: Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XVIII Corps Airborne
54th Signal Battalion (- Company C)
193d Field Artillery Battalion, 105 mm Howitzer
6th Airborne Division (British)
17th Airborne Division (U.S.)

4. Plan:

a. Air Movement: By IX Troop Carrier Command, Major General P. L. WILLIAMS, Commanding, direct from departure fields in United Kingdom on D Day and such succeeding days as weather and tactical situation dictate.

b. Air Support Desired:

(1) Details of escort from departure fields to landing area:
Omitted.

(2) Prior to D Day:

(a) Install radio and visual navigational aids in FIRST ARMY Zone West of RHINE.

(b) Destroy or drive off all hostile flak within range of Troop Carrier Command flight routes, (artillery with FIRST ARMY to assist).

(c) Attack enemy troop concentrations and movements, particularly armor and artillery, in or enroute to landing area, except as noted in paragraph (d), below:

- 1 -

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

COPY: Reproduced by AG of S, G-2, XVIII Corps (AB), 23 November 1944.

4023 G

~~TOP SECRET~~

Ltr, Hq, XVIII Corps AB, subject: "XVIII Corps Airborne Outline Plan - NAPLES II", dated 19 October 1944 (continued).

- (d) No bombing of targets within the landing area, paragraph 1., above, except on specific request of XVIII Corps Airborne. (Artillery fires on targets within this area to be coordinated with XVIII Corps Airborne).

(3) On D Day:

- (a) Small scale fighter-bomber attacks on designated villages and known defensive works in landing area between H-30 and H-15 minutes.
- (b) Large scale bombings with heavies and mediums along high ground East of line: ELSDORF - TROISDORF and South of line: SIEGBURG - BEVEL, if wind is westerly between H-90 and H-30 minutes, if wind is easterly between H-90 and H-150.
- (c) Continuation of (2) (c), above.
- (d) Fighter-bombers on air alert available to both divisions until darkness D Day.

(4) After D Day:

- (a) Normal air support missions.
- (b) Escort for succeeding troop air movements or air resupply.
- (5) Bomb line beginning D Day: RHINE South to PORZ - thence Railroad to TROISDORF and South to SIEG RIVER Crossing - SIEG RIVER to junction with RHINE - thence RHINE South.
- (6) All details of foregoing to be worked out in Air Plan.

c. Objectives:

- (1) 6th Airborne Division (British): Clear the area: UCKENDORF - SIEGLAR (both exclusive) - North bank of SIEG - East bank of RHINE - NIEDER KASSEL (exclusive).
- (2) 17th Airborne Division (U.S.): Clear the area: ZUNDORF - LIBOR - UCKENDORF - NIEDER KASSEL (all inclusive) - East bank of RHINE.

d. Initial MLR, contact points between divisions and reconnaissance line shown on overlay.

- 2 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

COPY: Reproduced by AC of S, G-2, XVIII Corps (AB), 23 November 1944.

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

Ltr, Hq XVIII Corps AB, subject: "XVIII Corps Airborne Outline Plan - NAPLES II", dated 19 October 1944 (Continued).

e. Artillery Support Desired:

- (1) Divisional artillery of divisions on West bank in direct support of XVIII Corps Airborne beyond the general line: ZUNDORF - LIBUR - UCKENDORF - KRIEGSDORF - ESCHLAR (all inclusive) to limit of range.
- (2) Corps and ARMY artillery general support Northeast of Railroad from PORZ to SIEGLAR.

f. Reinforcing Units Desired: As quickly as possible after H Hour, and generally in order indicated, the following are desired:

(1) For each airborne division:

1 Field Artillery Battalion, 105 mm Howitzer, Truck Drawn
1 Tank Destroyer Battalion, 3" (Towed)
Service Elements

(2) For Corps: To be submitted when tactical plan becomes known.

g. Air Resupply: Two (2) days air resupply to be set up on departure fields in United Kingdom.

h. Enlargement of Bridgehead:

- (1) It is assumed that enemy strength will not permit advance beyond North-South Railroad at face of high ground until forces in bridgehead have been reinforced by one (1) reinforced infantry division and reinforced artillery, tank destroyer, etc., for the two (2) airborne divisions.
- (2) It seems probable that a coordinated attack Eastward by these forces would not be possible prior to daylight D/2 and more likely D/3.
- (3) At the earliest time that troops and supplies are available, however, these forces should attack to seize the critical high ground along the general line: ALTENRATH - RATH and so deepen the bridgehead to roughly 15,000 yards.
- (4) In the operation it is suggested that the airborne divisions reinforced be employed to attack on the shoulders with the infantry division attacking in the center.

5. Comments:

a. There are three (3) alternatives:

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

Down grade 6
~~TOP SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Ltr, Hq XVIII Corps AB, subject: "XVIII Corps Airborne Outline Plan - NAPLES II", dated 19 October 1944 (Continued).

- (1) Attach both airborne divisions to the Corps whose Zone of Attack includes the landing area.
- (2) XVIII Corps Airborne to command all forces East of the RHINE until the line in paragraph 4.h.(3) is reached and secured.
- (3) XVIII Corps Airborne to command all forces on East bank until such other earlier time as other Corps is prepared to assume control.

b. Recommendation of this vital element is withheld until the scheme of maneuver of the FIRST ARMY and its planned employment of the airborne divisions subsequent to landing are known.

6. Questions:

- a. What Corps and Divisions will ARMY employ in this crossing?
- b. Where will the boundaries between units be?
- c. What is the scheme of maneuver?
- d. What command set-up will most effectively support that scheme of maneuver?
- e. If XVIII Corps Airborne is to control operation, will it control Corps and Divisional Artillery on West bank? If so, how?
- f. If some Corps other than XVIII is to control operation, what will role of XVIII Corps Airborne be?
- g. What is estimated time by which following can arrive on East bank?
 - (1) 2 Field Artillery Battalions, 105 mm Howitzer
 - (2) 2 Tank Destroyer Battalions, 3" (towed).
 - (3) 1 Infantry Division.
- h. In the event of bad weather, is the ARMY prepared to withhold the operation until such day as weather will permit airborne operations?
- i. After seizure of the West bank, how many days does ARMY estimate will elapse before D Day?
- j. When does ARMY estimate Y-day will be?

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

COPY: Reproduced by AC of S, G-2, XVIII Corps (AB), 20 November 1944.

Revised to
~~TOP SECRET~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Ltr, Hq XVIII Corps AB, subject: "XVIII Corps Airborne Outline Plan - NAPLES II", dated 19 October 1944 (Continued).

M. B. RIDGWAY,
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

- 5 -
~~TOP SECRET~~
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

COPY: Reproduced by AC of S, G-2, XVIII Corps (AB), 20 November 1944.

~~TOP SECRET~~

HQ, XVIII CORPS AB
Overlay to accompany Outline Plan
NAPLES II

OFFICIAL: SURLES
G-3

RIDGWAY
MAJ. GEN.

MAP:
6565 4414, 1:25,000



Rcn to be Planned and
Executed by Divs. in
their Zones.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~Security of the Command~~
APG

HEADQUARTERS XVIII CORPS AIRBORNE
Office of the Corps Commander

AGO 109, U. S. Army
08 October 1944

MEMO FOR: Chief of Staff, FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY.

SUBJECT: NAPLES II.

1. Planning for this operation has proceeded to the point where I believe it is necessary for this Headquarters to confer with your staff, primarily for the purpose of obtaining the ARMY Commander's views on the Command set-up after H-Hour, and the contemplated ground scheme of maneuver desired of the elements of this Corps after seizure of its initial objectives.

2. It is suggested that a party comprising the Commanding Generals of the Sixth British and 17th US Airborne Divisions, with one staff officer each, and myself, come to FIRST ARMY Tactical CP at such date and hour subsequent to 10 October 1944 as may be agreeable to the ARMY Commander. Weather permitting, the party could arrive at such time in the morning as should permit completion of the conference and departure of the party the same day.

3. Your comments are requested.

M. B. RIDGWAY,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

P.S. When the date and hour has been designated, it is requested that motor transportation for this party await its arrival at the ST. TROND Airfield.

Copies to: CG, Sixth British Airborne Division
CG, 17th US Airborne Division.

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~Security of the Command~~

1613

SUBJECT:- Operation NAPLES II.

Commanding General,
XVIII US Corps Airborne.

On being placed under your command for planning of NAPLES II I informed Lieut General Brereton that I did not consider that any unit of my division should be employed again on an operation until it had made one collective training jump.

General Brereton concurred. I am sure you will agree that this is sound.

Action has been taken to arrange the training jumps and I will inform you as to their progress. It is anticipated that they will be completed about mid October.

R.N. Gale

(R.N. GALE).

Major General,

Commander, 6 British Airborne Division.

APO, England.

29 Sep 44.

1434

downgraded to
~~TOP SECRET~~
79113

6ABD/532.

TOP SECRET
Auth: CG, XVIII Corps (AB)
Initials <i>H. L.</i>
Date 24 SEP 1944
<i>Flaunghadot</i>
<i>Q123</i>

HEADQUARTERS, XVIII CORPS (AIRBORNE)
Office of the Corps Commander

CG

APO 109 - U. S. Army
24 September 1944

Subject: Operation Naples Two.

To : Commanding General, First Allied Airborne Army.

1. Paragraph 5 of "Outline Plan for Operation Naples Two", 21 September 1944, includes 6th British Airborne Division as available on and after 1 October 1944.

2. The Commanding General of this Division informs me today that he will have received less replacements and equipment shortages on 30 September 1944; that his parachute battalions had been reduced from 600 to 200; and that losses in his glider infantry battalions were somewhat less.

3. It is my opinion that this Division should be allowed an absolute minimum of thirty days, beginning 1 October 1944, prior to being re-committed to action. This period will suffice to absorb the large number of loss replacements, reconstitute command to the lower echelons, and, weather permitting, provide a minimum of one tactical jump for each infantry parachute battalion. The last five to seven days will, in any event, be required for operational planning in preparation for a movement to departure airfields. This minimum period of thirty days should be increased to six weeks unless the need for this Division is of the most urgent nature.

4. I recommend that "Outline Plan for Operation Naples Two" be modified at once to show the availability date of the 6th British Airborne Division as on and after 1 November 1944, and that the decision on this recommendation be communicated to all concerned headquarters at the earliest practicable date.

M. B. RIDGWAY,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS XVIII CORPS AIRBORNE
Office of the Corps Commander

APO 109, U. S. Army
23 September 1944

SUBJECT: Operation NAPLES II, Outline Plan.

1. To drop two divisions by parachute and glider east of the RHINE, between ^{PORZ}~~BORZ~~, ALTEN Forest and the SIEG River during daylight on D-Day, to seize, clear and secure a bridge-head to permit the crossing by FIRST ARMY along the front

^{PORZ}
~~BORZ~~ - RHEIDT.

2. For divisional missions and boundaries, see overlay.

3. To request maximum destruction of hostile flak defenses within range of the objective area prior to D-Day.

4. To request following air missions during daylight of D-Day, prior to H-Hour:

a. Maximum destruction or neutralization of flak within range of objective area.

b. Attack of defended villages or other localities within objective area.

c. Attack of known troop concentrations within striking distance of objective area.

5. Plan to provide for following contingencies:

a. Drop of maximum parachute and glider force of both

-i-

~~TOP SECRET~~

*Revised to
B-1000-1 QAB*

~~TOP SECRET~~

Having read to [redacted] 943

divisions which available lift will permit.

b. Drop of maximum parachute force and only such gliders as will permit minimum heavy weapons support.

c. Parachute force only.

6. To provide for no more than one day's air resupply.

2

M. B. RIDGWAY,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

2-
~~TOP SECRET~~

Memorandum concerning Operation NAPLES 2.

Colonel SCHELLHAMMER, G-1, XVIII Corps, contacted a Major STYLES of the British Airborne Division at about 10:00 AM, September 22nd. He reached them through telephone SALISBURY sub-trunk 34, Extension 66. He informed Major STYLES that the Chief of Staff, XVIII Corps, desired to have liaison officers from his headquarters, representing administration, supply and operational staff, to meet at Headquarters XVIII Corps today to discuss Allied Airborne operations.

Colonel SCHELLHAMMER was informed that practically all chiefs of sections were on leave and that junior staff officers would report at Headquarters XVIII Corps at 2:00 PM today to learn of the desires of Colonel EATON, Chief of Staff.

This Headquarters can be reached by telephone through MOORE Park, asking for British 6th Airborne Division, or through the SALISBURY sub-trunk 34 Exchange.

J. B. Quinn
J. B. Q.
Dep C/S

Memorandum concerning Operation NAPLES 2.

Colonel SCHELLHAMMER, G-1, XVIII Corps, contacted a Major STYLES of the British Airborne Division at about 10:00 AM, September 22nd. He reached them through telephone SALISBURY sub-trunk 34, Extension 66. He informed Major STYLES that the Chief of Staff, XVIII Corps, desired to have liaison officers from his headquarters, representing administration, supply and operational staff, to meet at Headquarters XVIII Corps today to discuss Allied Airborne operations.

Colonel SCHELLHAMMER was informed that practically all chiefs of sections were on leave and that junior staff officers would report at Headquarters XVIII Corps at 2:00 PM today to learn of the desires of Colonel KATON, Chief of Staff.

This Headquarters can be reached by telephone through MOORE Park, asking for British 6th Airborne Division, or through the SALISBURY sub-trunk 34 Exchange.

J. B. G.
Dep C/S