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**Report date:** September-October 1943

**Title:** Conference report from Field Order No. 1 on Markham Valley

**Author:** United States Army 503<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment

**Abstract:** The following report for this conference is from Field Order No. 1, 503<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment dated 3 September 1943, and is a report of operation in Markham Valley, 6 September 1943, and from a talk by LTC Cane, A-2 on the staff of General Kenney at the time of the operation. Conference was led by LT C.B. DeGavre on 30 October 1943. The report includes sources of information, training review, move of Regiment, general plan of HQ and mission of 503<sup>rd</sup> in plan, joint training, intelligence, reconnaissance, and details of operation from field order #1, and maps.

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D 793.58 FO #1 Markham Valley

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## **FOUND HANGING IN THE MESS.**

Perhaps your Mess cannot boast of any Japanese trophies hanging on the wall. It is hoped so, anyway. But too many can. The people who refuse to pass on enemy weapons and equipment may easily be killing themselves. Intelligence needs these articles so that information of value can be passed back to you. Next time you capture anything, pass it on. After all—

### **WHY KILL YOURSELF?**

#### **PART I—JAPAN.**

##### **KNOW YOUR FOE.**

Never was the saying "Knowledge is Power" truer than it is in war time. To know the plans of your enemy is to know a counter measure that will defeat him.

This series does not give you his plans, but it gives you an indication as to what might happen should you come up against such problems as those below. Study them, and then turn to Appendix A.

##### **Problem No. 1.**

You are the Intelligence Officer in a battalion which has been ordered to attack the Japanese. The enemy positions are about three miles from your present area, and your Commanding Officer has decided to put in his attack at dawn on the next day. During the evening preceding the day for the attack a number of patrols have been sent out to reconnoitre the enemy positions. A N. C. O. from one of these patrols tells you the following:—Behind the enemy's main positions, in wooded country, was a line of candles placed in tins and running from front to rear. He could not see how far the line stretched, but he saw seven of the tins at intervals of about 25 yards. He could not get near enough to see exactly what the tins and candles were for, but he thought perhaps it was a Japanese improvisation for laying a smoke screen. What do YOU think?

##### **Problem No. 2.**

Your battalion is holding a defence position where wide outflanking movements by the Japanese are not possible. You know, however, that the Japanese are going to launch an attack. Can you anticipate what form this will take?

##### **Problem No. 3.**

Sometime before the battalion which you command is to put in an attack against an enemy position, a number of Japanese orders are captured which show you that the defence is made up of the following:—

2/16i  
I/BiA  
1/4 IMG

This should help in telling you what you're up against. Does it?

##### **Problem No. 4.**

You have attacked the enemy. Many Japanese have been killed; others have been captured; the rest have fled. Behind them the Japs have left a large store of hand grenades, which you recognise as the type "91". You decide that some of these will be useful to your own troops, and, so have them distributed. What instructions would you have passed on to your men when distributing the grenades?

## ENEMY METHOD.

## Defence.

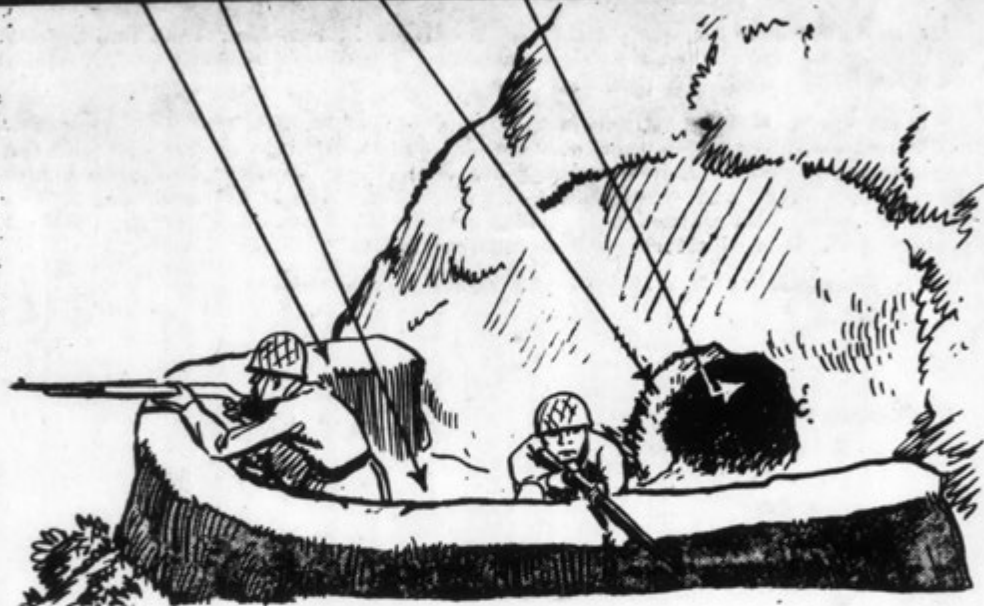
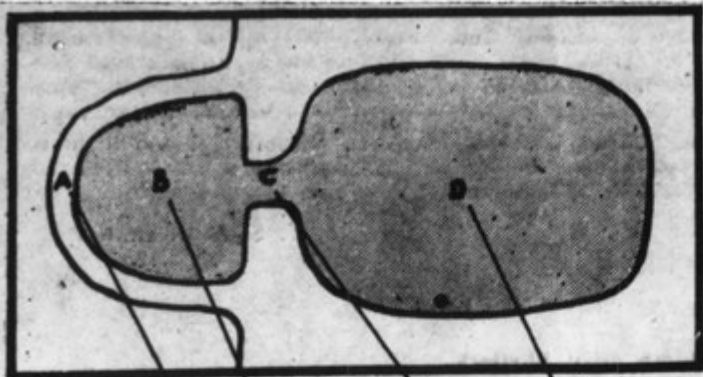
## 1. Defence Positions in the Pacific and Burma.

*The Pacific.*

This sketch (b) shows a typical Japanese defence position encountered on Attu Island—a machine gun emplacement flanked on either side by two-man caves for riflemen. Notice that the enemy had cut a small ditch right through the middle of the emplacement, so that a running supply of snow water would be available at all hours. These streams also made it difficult to identify the emplacements from air photographs.

Figure (a) shows a cross-section of a two-man cave, and figure (c) the cross-section of a machine gun emplacement.

Most of the Japanese emplacements and caves were constructed on mountain sides. Very few were found on top of ridges or at the foot of mountains.



- A. 2 FT. WIDE PARAPET SURROUNDING B.*  
*B. PLATFORM SURROUNDED BY 2' HIGH WALL & LARGE ENOUGH TO ALLOW TWO MEN TO TAKE UP POSITION.*  
*C. ENTRANCE TO CAVE DUG IN BANK.*  
*D. ACTUAL CAVE 4'x7'; 6' HIGH.*

Not unlike the two-man cave encountered on Attu Island, is this position reported from Burma.

The parapet of the position—surrounding a well of about 2 feet deep—was in all cases made of mud which had dried hard in the sun. The inner chamber varied from the maximum dimensions shown in the sketch to a minimum of approximately 3 feet square. This chamber was dug back into the bank of a chaung and the roof was supported by logs or bamboos. In certain cases revetting of side walls and roofing had been done with thin bamboos. As the banks of the chaung exceeded 30 feet in height, these chambers were completely proof from air attack.

The chambers had been used for various purposes—as offices, store dumps and as sleeping quarters for the men.

A Battalion Report.

## 2. Notes from Attu Island.

Dead native grasses were extensively and cleverly used by the Japanese in camouflaging their areas on Attu Island. Pits dug to house ammunition and other supplies were invariably covered with such grass. Some tents were camouflaged with grass which had been interwoven with loosened strands of rope.

The enemy had also tightened up track discipline—a point in which he is usually very lax. One cook house, erected on the bank of a creek, had no entrance except from the bank of the stream.

U. S. A. I. B. No. 12.

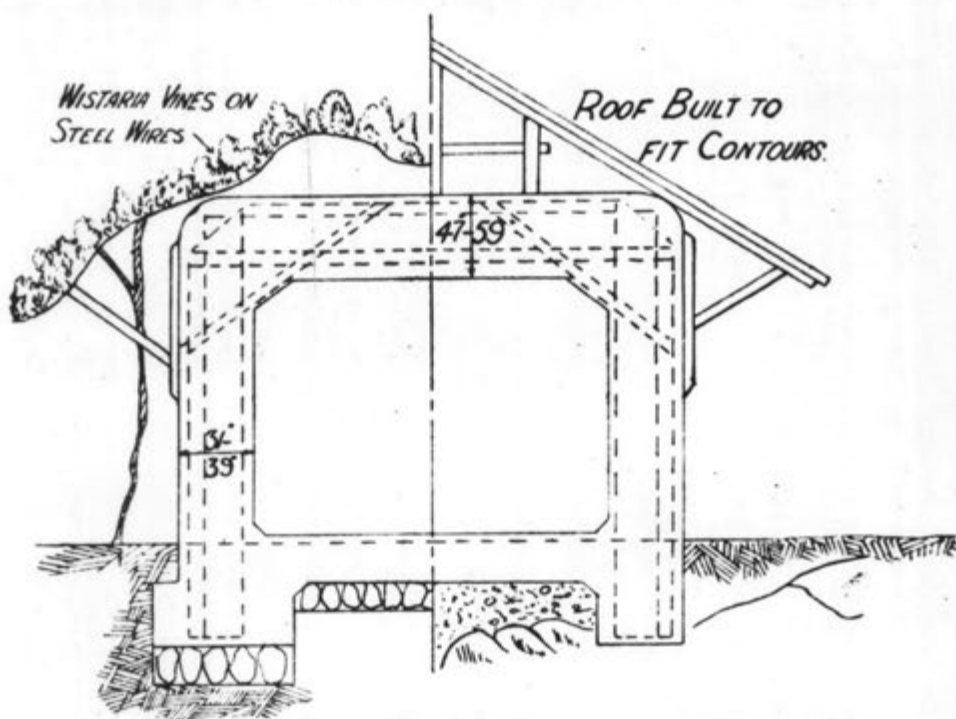
## ENGINEERS.

### 3. The Construction of Bomb proof Shelters.

Reproduced from an enemy pamphlet published in December 1939, and picked up three years later in the Buna area, these sketches illustrate types of bomb proof shelters planned by the Japanese.

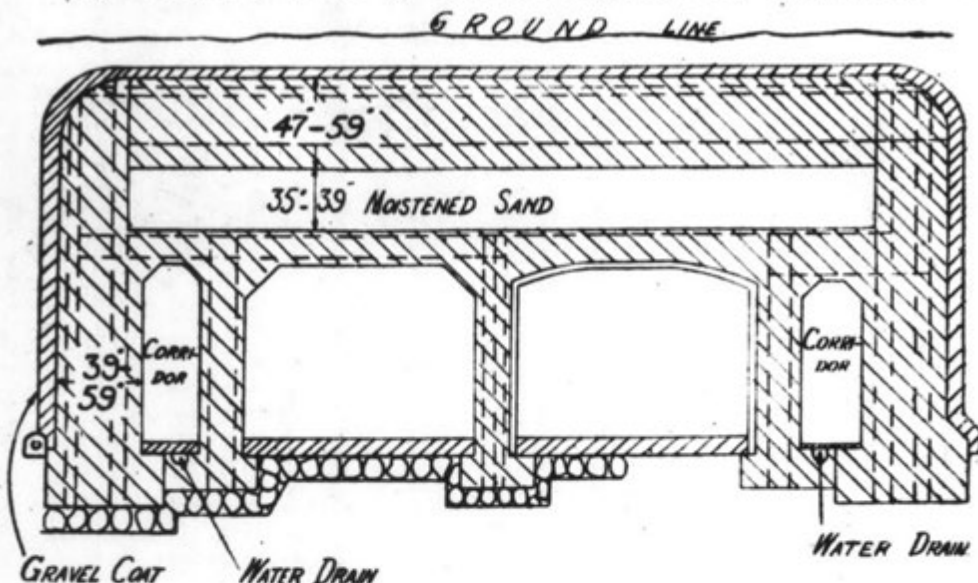
In the main, their construction is lavish, but to us many of the structural principles employed are either obsolete or obsolescent in the light of modern European experience. A noteworthy point is that even in 1939—two years before they entered the war—the Japanese laid great stress on camouflage. The engineers were also warned to "study carefully the nature of the ground and probable methods of attack" before constructing the shelters.

(a) Defence Post, Coast Artillery Emplacement or Observation Post.



The alternative designs for foundations, shown on the left and right halves of the diagram, are for use on varying types of site. Note, also, the suggestions for camouflage.

(b) Underground Shelter for Personnel, Ammunition or other stores.



The faith in a moistened sand and burster course displayed in the notes accompanying this drawing is not justified by European experience, and in fact, the whole drawing betrays in its structural conception the tendency of the Japanese to copy rather than to work from first principles.

#### EQUIPMENT.

##### 4. Rifles in the Japanese Army.

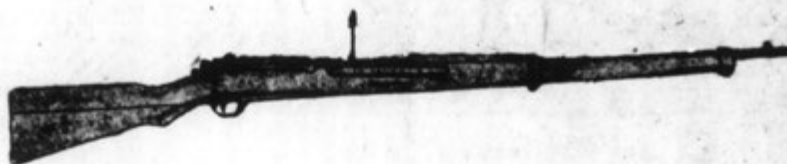
For some time the Japanese have been in process of replacing their 6.5 mm. (.256 inch) rifles with a 7.7 mm. (.303 inch) weapon. This new rifle is known as the type "99". Below are given specifications of the rifle together with those of the 6.5 mm. rifles it is replacing. It should be noted that any of these weapons may still be encountered.

##### Type "99".



Weight . . . . .	8 lbs. 13 ozs.
Length without bayonet . . . . .	44 inches.
Calibre . . . . .	7.7 mm. (.303 inch).
M. V. . . . .	2350-2400 ft./sec. according to type of ammunition.
Magazine capacity . . . . .	5 rounds.
Sights . . . . .	Barley corn foresight ; regular and battle aperture back-sight. Sighted to 1,500 metres (1,650 yards).

The rifle is fitted, near the upper sling swivel, with a folding monopod about 12 inches long. This is believed to be used on certain types of ground when the firer is in the lying position.



Weight . . . . .	9½ lbs.
Length without bayonet . . . . .	50 inches.
Calibre . . . . .	6.5 mm. (.256 inches).
M. V. . . . .	2,500 ft./sec. (approximately).
Magazine capacity . . . . .	5 rounds.
Sights . . . . .	Barley corn foresight; leaf and slide backsight. Sighted to 2,400 metres (2,640 yards).

NOTE.—This rifle has been found fitted with a regular and battle aperture backsight.

### "Meiji 38" Short Rifle.



Weight . . . . .	7 lbs. 8 ozs.
Length . . . . .	38 inches.
Calibre . . . . .	6.5 mm. (.256 inch).
Magazine capacity . . . . .	5 rounds.
Sights . . . . .	Barley corn foresight; leaf and slide backsight. Sighted to 2,000 metres (2,200 yards).

### "Meiji 44" Cavalry Carbine.



Weight . . . . .	8 lbs. 12 ozs.
Length with bayonet extended . . . . .	51½ inches.
Calibre . . . . .	6.5 mm. (.256 inch).
M. V. . . . .	2,500 ft./sec. (approximately).
Magazine capacity . . . . .	5 rounds.
Sights . . . . .	Barley corn foresight, leaf and slide backsight. Sighted to 2,000 metres (2,200 yards).

NOTE.—The bayonet of this rifle is not detachable, but folds down under the stock.

### 5. A New A.A. Weapon—and a Warning.

An explosive cylinder with a parachute has been recovered by ground forces in Burma. The weapon is thought to be used against low flying aircraft, and consists externally of a black metal cylinder 3 inches in length and diameter 0.7 inch. Attached to the cylinder by a cord 3 feet 6 inches long is a paper parachute about 2 feet in diameter. On the outside of the cylinder the Japanese characters for "DANGEROUS—DO NOT TOUCH" are painted in white.

A small charge contained in the cylinder is detonated by means of a match head attached to the parachute cord, which, on being struck by a part of an aircraft, jerks the matchhead through a match composition in the cylinder.

All ranks should be warned that these cylinders, if found on the ground are DANGEROUS, as a jerk on the cord or parachute may cause explosion. The cylinder should be picked up carefully, holding both cylinder and parachute.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### 6. Personal Equipment and Rations carried for a Special Operation.

The tables given below are taken from orders issued by the commander of a regiment operating in the Mubo area of New Guinea. They show the types and weights of rations and the scale of clothing and equipment carried by the man, for two phases of this operation—the march to contact and the mopping-up.

##### (a) Rations.

Article.	Unit.	During March for Mubo Concentration (for 7 days).		During the Mopping-up Operations (for 5 Days).	
		Enough for:	Weight.	Enough for:	Weight.
Polished Rice . . . . .	21 $\frac{2}{5}$ ozs.	5 days	6 lbs. 11 ozs.	3 days	4 lbs. $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.
Hard Tack . . . . .	24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	1 day	1 lb. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	1 day	1 lb. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Concentrated Foods . . . . .	24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	1 day	1 lb. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	1 day	1 lb. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Canned Meat . . . . .	1 oz.	10 days	10 ozs.	6 days	6 ozs.
Powdered Bean-Paste . . . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	10 days	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	6 days	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Sugar . . . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	10 days	5 ozs.	6 days	3 ozs.
Salt . . . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	10 days	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	6 days	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Dry Bonito (fish) . . . . .	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	1 day	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	1 day	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Pickled Apricot . . . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1 day	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	1 day	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Powdered Soy Sauce . . . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.	10 days	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	6 days	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.
Tea . . . . .	3 ozs.	2 days	6 ozs.	2 days	6 ozs.
Total . . . . .	..	..	12 lbs. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	..	9 lbs. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ozs.

(b) *Clothing and Equipment.*—Personal equipment: 1 field cap; 1 neck-shad- cloth; 1 steel helmet; 1 helmet net; 1 pair summer trousers; 2 summer shirts and underpants; 1 raincoat; 1 pair boots; 1 pair puttees; 3 pairs socks; 1 haversack; 1 pack; 1 mess tin; 2 cooking tins; 1 identification tag; 1 sewing kit with 1 pocket knife and 1 reel of thread; 1 shelter tent; 1 pair rubber-soled shoes; 1 mosquito net; 1 mosquito head-net; 1 pair hand covers used against squitoes; 1 gas-mask; 1 camouflage net; 1 blanket; leather oil; 1 pair gloves. For mopping-up operations, exclude 1 summer shirt and underpants; 1 pair trousers; sewing kit; rubber-soled canvas shoes; 1 blanket; and leather oil.)



*Comment.*—It will be noted that the day's rations, less fuel, come to under 2 lbs. per man. Fuel would be obtained locally. The list of clothing is very formidable, but it may be doubted if all this was actually carried. Items such as gas-masks are apt to be left behind. The weight of clothing carried, which includes that worn on the man, is not given.

### 7. Road Movement of Units and Vehicles.

The mobility of Japanese units in relation to roads of various width and gradient is shown in these charts. captured from the enemy in the South-West Pacific.

#### (a) Road Movement Abilities of Units.

Type of unit.	Width of Road.	Maximum Gradient.	Minimum Corner (Radius).	Fording Limit.
Dismounted Troops (Column of three).	8.2 ft.	..	..	2.62 ft.
Mounted Troops (Two files).	8.2 ft.	..	..	3.28 ft.
Field Artillery	9.84 ft.	1/10 (1/6 if the road is short and straight).	Level 32.8 ft. Sloping 82 ft.	1.64 ft. to 2.62 ft.
Mtn. Artillery— Limbered Pack horse	4.92 ft. 3.28 ft.	1/6 (1/3 if as above) 1/3 (1/6 if as above)	19.68 ft.	1.31 ft. 2.62 ft.
Hvy. Fd. Artillery— Limbered	9.84 ft.	1/20 (1/8 if as above).	Level 32.8 ft. Sloping 82 ft.	1.64 ft. to 2.29 ft.
Motor Drawn	13.12 ft.	1/6 (1/3 if the length is less than 10 yds.).	Level 32.8 ft. Sloping 49.2 ft.	1.31 ft.
Fd. A. A. Gun	13.12 ft.	1/6	Level 32.8 ft. Sloping 49.2 ft.	Same as above.
Transport— Vehicle	6.56 ft.	Same as for Mtn. Artillery.	..	1.64 ft.
Pack horse	3.28 ft.	..	..	2.62 ft.

#### (b) Road Movement Performance of Vehicles

Type of vehicle.	Weight (in tons).	Maximum Gradient.		Radius in which a vehicle can turn.	Minimum Road width.	Fording Limits.
		Ice-Free.	Freezing.			
Tank	Medium 11. Light 7.	2/3	Depends upon road surface, but climbing ability is considerably lessened. Non-skid equipment is necessary.	Maximum 24.6 ft.	About 12 ft.	3.28 ft.
Heavy Armoured car.	3.4	1/3				2.62 ft.
Light Armoured car.	2.3	1/2 1/3				2 ft.
Caterpillar tractor.	4.0	1/3				1.3 ft.
6-wheel vehicle	3.5	1/3				1.3 ft.
6-wheel passenger car.	2.5	1/3				1.3 ft.
Motorcycle with sidecar.	0.44	1/5				1.3 ft.

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## 8. Moral Training for the Troops.

The importance attached to moral training in the Japanese Army is once again illustrated by these translations from an infantry private's notebook, picked up recently in a South-West Pacific area. The translations are, as far as possible, literal, but the order of his notes has been changed slightly to make the text clearer.

(a) *General*.—"Points in which our National Policy is outstanding in the world:—

- (i) "We have a line of Emperors unbroken for eternal ages.
- (ii) We have never lost national glory.
- (iii) We are a whole nation united as one large family under the Imperial Household."

(b) *The Army's Aims*.—Under the title of "The mission of the Japanese Army", the writer gives the following three tasks:—

- (i) Exaltation of Imperial prestige.
- (ii) Guarding of the state.
- (iii) The expansion of national power.

(c) *The Infantry Arm*.—"Infantry is the backbone of the army and it is the main point of co-operation of the various branches of the service. It always has the principal duty on the battle field and is the branch that decides the result of the battle.

"A feature of the infantry is to carry out the battle regardless of terrain or time, and to annihilate the enemy by assault. Furthermore, the infantry must carry on the battle even though it is not supported by any other branch of service. Troops must always respect their weapons, and love their horses."

(d) *Patrols*.—The following were given as essential characteristics for a patrol:—

- (i) *Swiftness and eagerness.*
- (ii) *Intrepid spirit and coolness.*
- (iii) *Dauntlessness and attentiveness.*
- (iv) *Originality of plan.*

## PART II.—GERMANY.

### AIRBORNE TROOPS.

#### 1. A. Double Role for Paratroops

The Germans now envisage a double role for their parachute forces. They can either be dropped behind the enemy lines to disrupt communications and attack isolated units, or they can be dropped in their own lines, lifted in MT and rushed forward as infantry reinforcements to threatened sectors.

Only small numbers of paratroops appear to have been dropped behind our lines in Sicily. These were split into groups of six and had the tasks of sabotage and attacking gun positions.

When making a descent paratroops usually carried a rifle, pistol or machine pistol with 100 rounds in the case of a rifle, 60 for a pistol and 6 magazines (192 rounds) for a machine pistol. Up to 8 hand grenades were carried by each man. Rations carried were sufficient for six days.

Most units were transported in Ju52s. Ten or 12 men were in each aircraft and every second aircraft is reported to have carried an ammunition container and a piece of heavy infantry equipment. Three or four ammunition boxes (each 300 rounds) were dropped for each MG; 70 rounds for each light mortar. Folding bicycles were also dropped.

Descents were made at twilight and during darkness from heights varying between 300 and 600 ft. The time of descent from 600 ft. was given as 38 secs.

M. E. F. P. I. N. 54.

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10-  
**APPENDIX A.**

**KNOW YOUR FOR—THE ANSWERS.**

**Problem No. 1.**

It is highly probable that the enemy were preparing to withdraw.

Japanese withdrawals in the Papua Campaign of new Guinea were generally carried out at night. His method of maintaining direction was to tie wires from his forward positions down to a track, and to light these routes with candles concealed in tins with the light shining towards the rear.

Whenever the Japanese withdrew they immediately brought down heavy fire on their evacuated positions.

**Problem No. 2.**

The Japanese does not like putting in a frontal attack, but when there is no alternative, he usually carries it out on rather widely separated points and each on a narrow front. The maximum effort is made against one of these points.

He made many such attacks in Guadalcanal. This is what one report says of them:—

"These attacks were clearly intended to be simultaneous, but, in fact, co-ordination was rarely achieved and the Americans were therefore able to move their reserves to meet the succeeding threats.

".....The attacking groups, dispersed on a wide front, passed out of the control of their higher leaders as soon as the attack began, and no efforts were made to reinforce their attacks, with the result that they rarely made any progress. Because of their stereotyped methods they were apt to be disconcerted by surprise."

**Problem No. 3.**

The following is the system of numbering of units within a Japanese Infantry Regiment:—

Battalions are numbered I, II and III in each regiment. Rifle Companies are numbered serially throughout the regiment—1 company to 12 company in the most common (i.e., 4 companies per battalion) organisation. Battalion MG companies take the number of their battalion—I, II and III MG companies. Gun platoons do the same. Rifle/LMG platoons are numbered within the company.

The Japanese opposing you are:—

2/16i=2 Coy. 1st Bn., 16 Inf. Regt.

I/BiA=Gun Platoon, 1st Bn.

‡ IMG=One platoon, MG Coy., 1st Bn.

**Problem No. 4.**

The drill for throwing the Japanese type "91" hand grenade is different from that of our own. After withdrawing the safety pin, *the head of the grenade has to be struck on a hard surface before throwing.*

A word of warning is also necessary. Although the delay fuze is supposed to be 4 to 5 seconds, the delay train has been known to burn in much less time. Therefore, the grenade should be thrown immediately the head has been struck. While the delay train is burning, a considerable quantity of black smoke is emitted from the escape hole at the base of the fuze tube. Care should be taken to keep the hand clear of this hole.

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Dictate

1. Introduction - Reason for presenting work Ham Valley.
2. Sources of Information
3. Situation and Conception - visit to Port M.
4. Training review
5. Move of Regt.
6. Provisions for secrecy
7. General plan of G.H.Q. and mission of 503 in plan.
8. Joint Training
9. Intelligence Reconnaissance
10. Detail plan from F.O. No. 1 503rd
11. Detail plan of preparation - softening
12. Preparation - wellback - slight order other as planned training bases.

Include loading plan  
+ attached

13. Execution to begin with take  
off H-3 through jump  
14. Execution of ground plan  
to end of operation.

15. Conclusion  
Doctrine followed.

Mass  
surprise  
Suitable mission within Cof  
Landing areas unhampered  
Suitable air bombardment prep.  
Daylight when possible  
Reconnaissance  
Joint training: & can  
A/B Operations will work

16. Questions

A

B

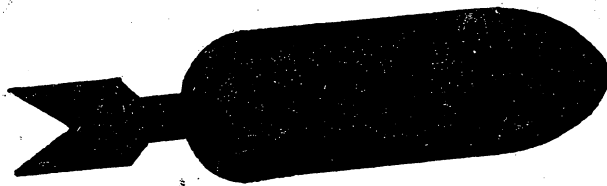


C

**D**

**E**

G



\*  
5. Plans, ~~and Preparation~~ <sup>Training and Concentration</sup> - Troops.  
~~5. Plans, and Preparation~~  
a. ~~Secrecy~~ -

Secrecy was maintained initially by publishing a notice that the 503rd pch inf was to conduct a joint training exercise with the 32nd div.

On D-7 sand tables were <sup>UNCLASSIFIED</sup> ~~used~~ for briefing. On D-4 the regimental order was published and all officers advised.

On D-1 all men were told the operation was to be a combat mission but were not told where.

On D day, at time of exploding maps were issued to each man.  
b. ~~Concentration in New Guinea~~  
The Regiment was divided into 3 Bns and Regtl. Hq. for the move from Australia to New Guinea. On 18 Aug, '43 the 2nd Bn. moved by air to Port Moresby, N.G.

On 20 Aug the regiment less 2nd Bn. moved by boat from Cairns Queensland Aust. The entire regiment was assembled at Port Moresby on 23rd Aug.

## Training -

c. Training was extensive on the part of ~~the~~ the 54th troop carrier wing, the 503rd <sup>and the 5th fighter command</sup> parachute infantry. All parachuteists were again put through training in individual and crew served weapons, in scouting and patrolling and various other phases. The troop carrier wing concentrated for several days up to D-1 on flying the prescribed formation which was <sup>elements of</sup> set ships echeloned to the right <sup>with 30 seconds between elements</sup> rear. All pilots were veterans.

d. Reconnaissance & maps. - On D-6 the Right C.O. and Para C.O.'s & staffs flew a low aerial reconnaissance over the area. The 7th Airt. Div and the 5th Air Force provided excellent maps and photographs.

e. Loading Plan - 82 trucks were provided and numbered exactly as 82 planes parked by a prearranged plan. At H-7 the first of 3 serials moved to planes for loading and the next two at 30 minute intervals. Loading finished at H-3.

8) Loading plan

82 trucks numbered as planes  
trucks in 3 serials (each Bn.

✓ H-7 1st serial moved & 2  
serials 30 min at 30 minute  
intervals. Trucks to planes

---

9) Loading Loaded at H-3

Assembly 45 min

---

✓ H-2 planes on course

10) Flight & drop.

✓ Cover P-38s, P-39s, P-40s (check,  
B-24s  
Total 303 planes

Total drop  $4\frac{1}{2}$  minutes - (check)

✓ B-24s & B-17s Bombed villages &  
marked main Rd.

11) Assembly - No resistance on landing.  
difficult pit-pit & Kunai grass 6-10'  
tall. At H+2 work was begun  
on landing strip



Prep of strip - began H+2  
or 1000. 1 Bn worked & with  
2<sup>nd</sup> Aust Pnr Bn (worked all night)  
at 1000 D+1 1st plane landed  
bring heavy Engr equipment. Plane  
landed every 15 min.

2 other strips were started & soon  
planes were landing on all 3.

Action - 503 was purely defensive.

CG 7<sup>th</sup> Aust Div would permit no  
offensive action by night.

7<sup>th</sup> pushed through def. positions  
and move on Heath & Lee from W

9<sup>th</sup> Aust Div landed D-1, 15 miles from  
Lee (S.E.) & moved N+E

3rd Bn 503 was ordered to move  
down to cover Log C & rear of 7<sup>th</sup>

1 Bn<sup>503</sup> moved back to Maruby to  
prepare for another mission

On 15 Sept 3rd Bn engaged enemy  
(about 200 Japs took part) at Bumber River Valley.

Bn. Caused japs to take new line of  
evacuation. Bn held until 17th & was  
ordered to withdraw

104330

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Conference by Lt. Col. C. B. DeGavre 30 Oct 1943

Operation of 503d Prcht Inf., Markham Valley, Sept 6, 1943.

1. The material for this conference is taken from F.O. #1 503d Prcht Inf  
*503rd Report of the operation*  
dated 3d Sept 1943, and from a talk by Lt. Col. Cane, A-2 on the staff of  
General Kenney at the time of the operation.

2. I shall deal only lightly with the events leading up to the Markham  
Valley operations except to remind you of the recapture of Buna and Gona. In  
forcing the Japs to the north, several small forces had worked well up the  
island to points south of the Markham River. Operating aircraft from Port  
Moresby against Lae or any other target east of the mountains was an extremely  
difficult job because of the necessity of crossing the Owen Stanley Range. Prior  
to further operations against Jap held towns to the north and on the east of  
the mountains General Kenney performed a feat which many said could not be done.  
He moved an entire air base from Port Moresby over the mountain and set it up  
on the northeast coast. Dobodura was improved and enlarged and a base built

a few miles further north for fighters. *IP The warning order was received  
from G.H.Q. 24 July 1943 for 1 Bn. only. Right C.O. and staff proceeded*  
3. General Plan. *to Port Moresby to confer with CG 5th Div. Jones and  
CG 7th Aust. Div. At this time need was seen for the entire*

With the Japs concentrated at Lae there was presented an excellent  
opportunity to execute a pincer movement using airborne troops moving on Lae  
from the west, down the natural approach offered by the river and an amphibious  
force landed east or northeast of Lae. The plan then developed to land the  
amphibious force east of Lae, land the 503d Parachute Infantry Regiment about  
twenty (20) miles up the Markham River to the west, and move in as soon as

*regiment.  
A request  
was made  
to G.H.Q.  
and approved  
to use the  
regiment.*

DECLASSIFIED IAW AR 380-5  
DTG 23 Jun 09

- 1 -

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KF

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possible, air-landed troops at Nad Zab Emergency Landing Strip. In addition to forces mentioned above, forces previously moved up were to press north and protect the 503d and subsequent landings from the south side of the Markham River.

Phase II of the general plan called for withdrawal by air of the 503d to Port Moresby after being relieved by Australian troops air-landed. This plan ~~was~~ <sup>materialized</sup> ~~not put into effect.~~ <sup>for only one battalion.</sup>

4. 503d Mission - The regiment was given the mission of jumping on Z Day H hour on fields indicated on operations map to capture the area Nad Zab - Gobmatsung-Gabsonkek, cover preparation of Nad Zab emergency landing field and begin preparation of the field prior to arrival of 2/2 Australian P.R.N. Bn.

5. <sup>Plans, Training and concentration by troops.</sup> Intelligence ~~mission.~~ \*

a. Enemy troops which could possibly effect the operation.

- (1) At Heaths there were 200 Japs. Heaths plantation is 16 miles to the southeast and 7 hours walking time.
- (2) At Boana there were 200 Japs. Boana is 16 miles north and 11 1/2 hours walking time.
- (3) Kaiapit there were possibly 200 Japs. Kaiapit is 50 miles northwest and 2 to 3 days march.
- (4) Larger bodies of troops were at Lae, Madang, Wewack and Rabaul, but could not be engaged early enough to effect the initial operation.

Troops at Lae were as follows:

Base Troops	1640
Combat Troops	4620
Total	<hr/> 6260

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Of course there were a few others around the area of Lae probably totaling not more than 8000.

- (5) Until August 25 a patrol came to Gabmatzung and Gabsonkek from the garrison at Lae. It was composed of 100 Japs and arrived at fairly regular intervals of 2 weeks between visits. The patrol appeared in the late morning and departed in the early afternoon.
- (6) After August 25 the patrol made its visits daily and in greater strength. 200 Japs usually arrived. No interest was ever noticed on the part of any patrol in the emergency landing strip west of Nad Zab.

b. Roads.

- (1) The Markham road was the only road in the area worthy of the name. It was overgrown and suitable for one way motor transport only on its eastern end. From Lae to a point 8 1/2 miles east of Nad Zab only, was it suitable for motor transportation.

- (2) Distances along other tracks are as follows:

Road	Distance	Marching time	Condition
Gabsankek - Camp Diddy	6 miles	3 1/2 hours	wet
Camp Diddy- Boana	9 miles	8 hours	wet

- (3) Two roads lead to west beside Markham Road. Both are only trails but are over low flat and dry ground.
- (4) Multiple trails lead north and south but only one good road leads east of the Markham although there are 2 other trails.

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c. Markham River -

Markham River is at Nad Zab, 1 mile wide, 20 feet deep in Channels, with flow of 5 - 8 mph.

d. Vegetation - The valley is of alluvial soil with a gravel top.

Trees are from 25 - 35 feet tall except for coconut which grew to 65 feet. Kunai grass covered the entire area.

e. Climate.

Nad Zab was at this time of year a natural dividing line. East of it was in the wet season and west in the dry. Wind blew from the east in the A.M. and switched so as to blow from the west at noon. Velocity 10-20 mph.

f. Towns, Villages, etc.

Gobmatzung Mission was the only permanent structure in the area. It, however, had previously been demolished by the Japs. 20 - 30 groups of native, grass thatch huts were to be found in the area.

6. <sup>Air</sup> Preparation. (Use Chart) (*Attack on Wewak*)

a. 48 B-25's bomb and strafe 1, 2 and 3 at H-1 min.

b. 6 A-20's smoke targets 1, 2 and 3 at H-1 min.

c. Planes of 5th Bomber Command, bomb targets 4 and 5 from H/5 min to H/30 min.

d. One Sdn B-25's on air alert 1/3 at a time from H/36 min to H/5 hours.

7. Detail Plan of 503d Parachute Infantry.

a. 1st Bn. (Less one Rifle Platoon.)

Jump on Field B, and

(1) Capture Nadzab E/L Strip and defend

(2) Commence preparation of strip for air-landed troops - remove

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grass, improve for 2400'.

- (3) One Co to be prepared to move west to protect 2/2 Australian P.N.R. Bn.
  - (4) All companies during daylight to establish defensive positions on outer defense ring.
  - (5) Bn will reconnoiter during daylight for close perimeter defense of the E/L strip.
  - (6) Close defense positions will be occupied at 1720.
  - (7) Provide 12 groups of 1 NCO and 10 privates each to unload 1st 12 planes to land on E/L strip.
  - (8) 1 rifle platoon jump on field "D" to cover assembly of 1st Bn, Hq and Service Companies.
  - (9) 1 officer and 1 squad will effect liaison with 2/2 P.N.R. Bn and guide it to Nadzab.
- b. 2nd Bn. will jump on field "A" on Z day, H hour and
- (1) Capture Gabsankek and protect from north and northwest.
  - (2) Organize defensive positions as shown on operations map and occupy at 1720.
- c. 3rd Bn. will jump on "C" field on Z day, H hour and
- (1) Capture the area of Gabmatzung and protect area from the east.
  - (2) Carry 22 dummy loads and
  - (3) 1 Co jump on field "G" and establish a road block as indicated on map and furnish an outpost on the right east flank
  - (4) 1 platoon jump on field "E" to cover the assembly of the 3rd Bn.
- d. Regtl Hq Co, Serv Co will jump on field "B" as part of 1st Bn serial.

Service Company attached to Headquarters Company.

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- (1) Be prepared to open nets immediately on landing.
- (2) Lay out panels for jump of artillery at H/1 hr.
- d. 2/4 Australian Fld Regt.

Jump on field "F" at H/1 hour. Planes to be loaded day before, flown to Tsili - Tsili. When parachute planes drop parachute troops they will rendezvous over Tsili - Tsili and at that time planes of artillery will take off.

NOTE: A great deal of care was exercised in planning to drop the artillery.

- (1) One officer was in each plane only one of whom was to drop.

All the rest returned to Port Moresby.

- (2) Drop was H/1 instead of H.

- (3) Artillery did not take off until they knew all was safe, etc.

e. Lt. Secs 2/5 Australian Field Amb upon arrival in area will establish aid station.

f. 2/2 Australian P.N.R. Battalion will come under command of 503d on crossing river and move to E/L strip without delay.

g. 2/6 Australian Field Co. will upon crossing come under command of 503d and will reconnoiter west of Nadzab for positions.

h. Sig Det 7th Australian Division will after crossing river come under 503d command and furnish communication for 2/2 P.N.R. Bn.

i. Regimental Executive will stay aloft as Regimental Air O.P. and jump on order of ground C.P.

j. 54th Troop Carrier Wing will

Carry 503d

Det 2/4 Australian Field Regiment

Engineer Stores.

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- k. (1) Bombers (B-25) will bomb and strafe targets 1, 2 and 3 at

H-1.

- (2) A-20's smoke 1, 2 and 3 at H-1.
- (3) Bombers will bomb 4 and 5 from H/5 to H/30.
- (4) Bombers - 1/3 squadron on air alert (B-25) at a time for 4 1/2 hours beginning at H/36 minutes.
- (5) 1 squadron P-30 on ground alert at Tsili - Tsili available on call thru forward base by SCR 188.

l. Administrative details.

- (1) 3 bases Port M, Tsili - Tsili, Combat area.
- (2) 3 B-17's on 3 and z/1.
- (3) 10 gliders expected on GL strip.
- (4) 10 C-47's on call on z day, loaded.
- (5) Procedure - By radio to regiment - By regiment to plane - Bn mark fld.
- (6) 2/3 of supply was in Forward area and only 1/3 at Port Moresby.
- (7) Bundles of blankets and shelter halves were made up as follows in bundles of 12 of each (12 blankets and 12 shelter halves)  

Hq Co	9	)	
Serv Co	8	)	To be picked up by S-4
Each Bn	39	)	
- (8) Mosquito bars, 12 per bundle were to go with messes.

m. Movement by Air.

Serial No. 1	34 planes	from Wards Strip
Serial No. 2	24 "	" Jackson Strip
Serial No. 3	24 "	" Wards Strip

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## 8. Execution.

### a. Formation of train.

Port Moresby

C-47

B-24

~~Dobodura~~

A-20

B-17

fighters further north.

*Assembly 45 min at H-2 planes on  
Course, Rendez-  
-vous over*

### b. ~~Rendezvous~~

### c. Bombing and strafing - as planned.

### d. Smoke. *as planned*

### e. Bombing at 4 and 5 as planned.

### f. Troops - " "

- (1) Altitude reported lowest ever used but suspect not less than 450'.

### ~~(g) Formation V of V's.~~

g. As to the remainder of the operation, very little of the detail is known. The 503d did not meet opposition on the Nadzab strip or in the immediate vicinity. On the following day about 5000 Australian troops were air landed on the strip prepared by the 503d and the 2/2 Australian P.N.R. Bn. Acting on a preconceived plan the Nadzab force moved southeast toward Lae, to tighten the pincer. In the meanwhile, the amphibious landing east of Lae had taken place supported by 7 F.A. Bns. In withdrawing up the Markham Valley, the Japs ran into the 503d moving down. Severe fighting took place and when the smoke cleared away the remaining Japs were squeezed to the north and escaped in the direction of Wewak. No further details of the land operation are available involving the 503d Parachute Infantry.

END

- 8 -

# SECRET

Secret

# Notes for Conference

1. Material and Source.
2. Background -
3. General Plan
4. 503rd Mission -
5. Intelligence Annex
  - a. Enemy Troops
    - (1) Heaths 200 - 16
    - (2) Boana 200 - 16
    - (3) Kaiapit 200 - 50
    - (4) Lae, Madang, Wewak, Rabaul
      - (a) Lae  $1640 + 4620 = 6260$
    - (5) Patrols before and after August 25, 1943.
  - b. Roads.
    - (1) Markham, Extent and Condition.
    - (2) 2 west
    - (3) 2 east
    - (4) North and South
  - c. Markham River.
  - d. Vegetation
  - e. Climate
  - f. Towns and villages
6. Preparation for attack
  - a. Attack on Wewak, Targets 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and Smoke
7. Detail Plan of 503rd Prcht Inf.
  - a. 1st Bn. (Less one Rifle Co.) B Field
    - (1) Capture E/L Strip
    - (2) Commence prep of E/L Strip
    - (3) Be prepared to protect 2/2 P.N.R. Bn.
    - (4) Establish outer ring defense.
    - (5) Recon. for close perim defense
    - (6) Occupy close defense at 1730.
    - (7) 12 groups of 1 NCO and 10 men to unload planes.

- (8) 1 Plat jump on Field D to cover Bn Assembly
- (9) 1 off and 1 sqd meet 2/2 P.N.R. Bn.
- b. 2nd Bn. (A Field)
  - (1) Capture Gabsankek - protect N & W
  - (2) Prepare defensive posits.
  - (3) Prepare and man close in posits by 1730
- c. 3rd Bn (C Field)
  - (1) Capture Gabmatzung
  - (2) Carry 22 dummies
  - (3) 1 Co on G Fld - Road Block - outpost
  - (4) 1 Platoon on E Fld to cover assembly
- d. Regtl. Hq. Co. Serv Co. B Field as part of 1st Bn. Serv  
att to Hq Co.
  - (1) Open radio nets.
  - (2) Panels at H/1 for Det 2/4 Fld Regt.
- e. 2/4 Fld Regt (Field F) at H/1 hr. 4 planes - 4 American officers.
- f. Lt Sec 2/5 Field Amb.
- g. 2/2 Aust P.N.R. Bn - Move to Nadzab
- h. 2/6 Aust Fld Co. protect W and N.W.
- i. Sig Det 7th Aust Div
  - Comm. for 2/2 P.N.R. Bn.
- j. Regtl Exec - stay aloft.
- k. 504 T C Wing.
  - (1) Carry 503
  - (2) " Det 2/4 Aust Fld Regt.
  - (3) Engineer Stores.
- l. Preparation.
  - (1) Bombers B-25 1, 2 and 3
  - (2) A-20 smoke 1, 2 and 3
  - (3) Bombers bomb 4 and 5 H/5 to H/30
  - (4) 1 Sqdn bombers 1/3 at time
  - (5) 1 Sqdn P-39's on gnd alert - Tsili - Tsili.

m. Admin Details.

- (1) 3 bases 2/3 and 1/3
- (2) 3 B-17's on z and z / 1
- (3) 10 gliders on gl strip (expected)
- (4) 10 C-47's loaded on call
- (5) Procedure - Bn to Regt.
- (6) Blankets - shelter halves in bundles

n. Movement by air of T C aircraft

Serial 1	34	Wards
Serial 2	24	Jackson
Serial 3	24	Wards

- o. (1) Moresby C-47  
B-24
- (2) Dobodura A-20  
B-17  
B-25

8. Execution

- (a) formation of train
- (b) Rendezvous
- (c) Bombing and strafing - as planned
- (d) Smoke
- (e) Bombing at 4 and 5 as planned
- (f) Troops. " "
- (1) Altitude reported low 450'
- (2) Formation V of V's

9. Conclusion of operation.

10. Questions.

11. Pictures etc.

END

#58

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Preassigned Signal Code

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## STATION AUTHENTICATOR CODE

1. The Station Authenticator Code will be used to authenticate station on opening of net and anytime thereafter if doubt exists as to identity of station or person you are working with. It is used as follows: Any challenge made will be made in block based on time element, That is a challenge made at 0430 hour will be made from block in effect at that time.

The operator issuing challenge will transmit, following his call, a combination of two letters, two numerals or a letter and numeral from any grid reading from upper left to lower right. The challenged operator answers challenge by giving the two letters or numerals or combination of the two that will complete the grid reading from the upper right to lower left.

EXAMPLE : ABLE challenges SUGAR at 0615 hour thusly :

"SUGAR, this is ABLE, Give me ZED HOW"

"ABLE, this is SUGAR. SEVEN BAKER"

SUGAR operator may then challenge Able operator, using the same procedure with another grid from the block in effect at that time.

### 0001-0800 HOUR

Z 3 Q 7 A C  
Y R P L 5 T  
B D 2 H K 6  
M E F J U 8

### 0801-1600 HOUR

B R G H U C  
S A E Z M 6  
5 L W K 8 Q  
D F 7 O P N

### 1601-2400 HOUR

4 S C P G M  
A 5 D J H Q  
B U X L W 6  
2 E K T N 9

SIGNAL OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS  
PREARRANGED MESSAGE CODE

1. This code is intended primarily for transmission of messages by means of voice radio sets. Short messages, the use of which can be anticipated in certain situations, should be prepared in advance. Example: How many casualties have you would simply become "EK" and in answering the message could be sent -- "HDfour" meaning we have four casualties.

PREARRANGED MESSAGE CODE

A

ENCODING SECTION

HO Advance (d) (ing)  
FB Aid Station  
BB Air Field, Clear Off  
CM Alternate Assembly area at  
AO Ambush \_\_\_\_\_ at or in vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_  
FA Ammunition dump  
AX Ammunition running low  
BS Artillery  
AH Assembly area at \_\_\_\_\_

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BL Assembled  
IX Attack (ed) (ing)  
BM Attack held up at  
AU Attack ~~located at~~ located at  
CA Attack resumed  
EP Attack, air, requested on enemy ~~located at~~  
HH Attack, we are ready to  
AF Are waiting further orders

B

DC Base of fire, establish in vicinity of  
KA Battalion  
GU Beach head established  
CH Bombardment successful; we will attack  
FY Bridge

C

DU Capture and hold until  
EK Casualties, how many have you?  
HD Casualties, we have  
FW Command Post  
IK Command Post, move your to

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AC Command Post now moving to—  
EX Company  
GZ Covering fire, place on—  
CE Contact, have lost with—give their position if possible  
HP Counterattack and recapture area at —

D

FZ Dam  
DH Defend — until —  
DL Destroy — at —

E

IH Enemy  
AZ Enemy breaking through  
AB Enemy contacted  
HR Enemy forming for counterattack—  
HJ Enemy holds—to our—; concentrate mortar fire at once  
BH Enemy, none observed at  
HN Enemy reinforcements arriving  
CZ Enemy repulsed  
EB Enemy, request information of

RESTRICTED

GY Enemy sighted at

F

DK Fight delaying action against -- at --  
HQ Fire falling short "Whose"  
CD Fire, heavy, being received from --  
AG Fire requested at--  
IL Flank  
BW Food and water running low  
ID Front

G

AK Gas concentration at--

H

AV Held up by machine fire from--  
AY Help, send at once  
FK Highway

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I

BF Inform me when all is clear

K

BA Keep your relative position; you are getting too far ahead

L

IB Left

GM Lift--Fire

BI Location, give your

CU Location of our unit is--

GX Locate us; we are lost

M

EZ Machine gun

HY Miles

GS Mines located at--

AL Mission accomplished

DW Mission, and continuing on

FQ Mortar

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IR Move (d) (ing)  
DD Move by the following route —  
GG Must withdraw

Q

FX Observation post  
IC Objective  
CI Objective, our next will be—  
AP Objective taken

P

BZ Patrol being sent out to silence —  
GJ Personnel, need replacement of at once  
CJ Planes, enemy, coming from —  
HB —Plane firing on our troops  
EW Platoon  
HU Position now organized  
GA Power line  
GC Power plant

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R

DP Held enemy — at —  
CC Reconnaissance make, to—  
KF Regiment  
EQ Report to me at—  
IG Request  
HZ Right  
DV Road block, establish at—  
HX Road block at

S

FV Scout car (s)  
EC Situation, what is the  
HK Smoke screen needed at —  
EY Squad

T

FP Telephone exchange  
FJ Telephone line  
BG TNT, bring up more  
GB Tunnel

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U

GV Unable to cross--

W

EF Wait for instructions

DB We don't understand; explain it in detail

IZ With draw do--

GP what is ahead of us

GQ What is to our--

Y

IY Yards

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NUMBERS

PG 1, st  
YZ 2, nd  
WD 3, rd  
SC 4, th  
QW 5, th  
VH 6, th  
RC 7, th  
XC 8, th  
PY 9, th  
UL 0,

DIRECTION

KN North  
KV South  
KB East  
KH West  
KO Northeast  
KW Northwest  
KC Southeast  
KI Southwest

PERSONNEL

TA Regimental Commander  
TX Regt'l. Exec. Off.  
TY Regt'l. S-3  
TC Regt'l. Surgeon  
TZ Battalion Commander  
TL Battalion Exec. Off.  
TK Battalion S-3  
TE Company Commander

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS

XA  
XB  
XC  
XD  
XE  
XF  
XG  
XH  
XI

XJ  
XL  
XM  
XN  
XO  
XP  
XQ  
XR  
XS

XT  
XU  
XW  
XY  
XZ

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# S U P P L E M E N T - G R O U P S

## SEE DECODING SECTION

### DECODING SECTION

AB Enemy contacted  
AC Command post now moving to--  
AF Awaiting further orders  
AG Fire requested at--  
AH Assembly area at--  
AK Gas concentration at--  
AL Mission accomplished  
AO Ambush--at or in the vicinity of--  
AP Objective taken  
AU Attack -- located at --  
AV Held up by machine fire from--  
AX Ammunition running low  
AY Send help at once  
AZ Enemy breaking through

BA Keep your relative position; you are getting too far ahead  
BB Clear off air fields  
BF Inform me when all is clear

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BG Bring up more TNT  
BH No enemy observed at—  
BI Give your location  
BL Assemble at—  
BM Attack held up at—  
BS Artillery  
BW Food and water running low  
BZ Patrol being sent out to silence—

CA Attack resumed  
CC Make reconnaissance to—  
CD Receiving heavy fire from—  
CE Have lost contact with—give their position if possible.  
CH Bombardment successful; we will attack  
CI Our next objective will be—  
CJ Enemy planes coming from—  
CM Alternate assembly area at—  
CU Location of our unit is—  
CZ Enemy repulsed

DB We don't understand; explain in more detail  
DC Establish base of fire in vicinity of—  
DD Moved by the following route  
DH Defend—until—

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DK Fight delaying action against---at---  
DL Destroy-----at-----  
DP Raid enemy ----at-----  
DU Capture and hold----until----  
DV Establish road block at -----  
DW Am continuing on mission ---

EB Request information of the enemy  
EC What is the situation  
EF Wait for instruction  
EK How many casualties have you  
EL Air attack request on enemy --- located at ---  
EQ Report to me at ---  
EW Platoon  
EX Company  
EY Squad  
EZ Machine gun

FA Ammunition dump  
FB Medical aid station  
FJ Telephone Line  
FK Highway  
FP Telephone exchange  
FQ Mortar

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FV Scout car (s)  
FW Command Post  
FY Bridge  
FZ Dam  
FX Observation Post  
  
GA Power line  
GB Tunnel  
GC Power Plant  
GD Must withdraw  
GE Need personnel replacement at once  
GF Lift---fire  
GP What is ahead of us  
GQ What is to our---(rear or flank)  
GS Mines are located at---  
GU Beach head established  
GV Unable to cross  
GX We are lost; locate us  
GY Enemy sighted at---  
GZ Place covering fire on---  
  
HB ---Plane firing on our troops  
HD Have ---casualties  
HH We are ready to strike

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HJ Enemy holds—to our—; concentrate mortar fire at once  
HK Smoke screen needed at—  
NN Enemy reinforcements arriving  
HO Advance (d) (ing)  
HP Counterattack and recapture area at—  
HQ —fire falling short  
HR Enemy forming for counterattack at—  
HU Organization of my position now complete  
HX Road block at—  
HY Miles  
HZ Right

IB Left  
IC Objective  
ID Front  
IH Enemy  
IG Request  
IK Move your command post to—  
IL Flank  
IR Move (d) (ing)  
IX Attack (ed) (ing)  
IZ Yard  
IZ Withdraw to—

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NUMBERS

PG 1, st  
PY 9, th  
QW 5, th  
RC 7, th  
SC 4, th  
UL 0,  
VH 6, th  
WD 3, rd  
XZ 8, th  
YZ 2, nd

DIRECTION

KA Battalion  
KB East  
KC Southeast  
KF Regiment  
KH West  
KN North  
KO Northeast  
KV South  
KW Northwest  
KI Southwest

PERSONNEL

TA - Regt'l. Commander  
TC - Regt'l. Surgeon  
TE - Co. Commander  
TK - Battalion S-3  
TL - Bn. Liaison Off.  
TX - Regt'l. Ex. Off.  
TY - Regt'l. S-3  
TZ - Bn. Commander

SUPPLEMENT GROUPS

XA  
XB  
XC  
XD  
XE  
XF  
XG  
XH

XI  
XJ  
XK  
XL  
XM  
XN  
XO  
XP

XQ  
XR  
XS  
XT  
XU  
XV  
XW  
XY

XZ

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SECRET  
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FO<sup>H</sup> 1 - MARKHAM Valley Op<sup>n</sup>

by  
S03 d Pnclt INX.

RESTRICTED

Date 11/3/47  
Classification cancelled or changed to RESTRICTED  
By Letter HQ ACP, 100.0  
dated 28 Dec 43, Subject "Downgrading",  
W. A. Wilbur Col. Inv. Librarian.

W. A. Wilbur

Hamilton Field  
25 September 1943

Dear Hugh:

I have been having quite a time getting around to the story of the 503d, but here goes finally. The parachute and airborne operation took place as follows:

September 6 - 503d (1,800 men) jumped using 82 planes.  
Attached 25 Australian artillerymen with 2  
disassembled field guns.

X September 7 - Australians (about 2,200) jumped plus about 40  
men of the 503d.

September 12 - 13 - Australians (about 5,500) airlanded.

TOTAL PERSONNEL - 9,000.

The jump took place at Nadzab Airport about 20 miles from Lae up the Markham Valley. The landing area was flat and grassy and more than ample for the requirement. It was bordered with trees and shrubs. First man to jump was Colonel Kinsler who expressly desired to do this as an example to his men. The drop was not on the airport proper but very close to it. No opposition was encountered on the jump (503d jumped first) and consequently the 503d suffered no casualties other than normal jump injuries. Immediately upon landing the 503d seized the airport and then fanned out setting road blocks to guard against enemy approach from the northeast (Lae). Still no enemy, so the 503d acting in a preconceived plan in conjunction with a division landed northwest of Lae, moved toward Lae to effect a pincer and frustrate any efforts on the part of the Japs to withdraw up the valley. Of course, you know the Japs were driven out of Lae by the division (plus 7 battalions of artillery). The Japs retreated up the Markham River Valley until they bumped into the 503d and Australians. Things were pretty hot and before the Japs took to the jungles, they lost considerable in captured and killed.

At the present time, there is a number of Japs on the loose in the area but the majority are beating it on back trails for Wewak which should be reinforced considerably if they make it because not one half of the 20,000 estimated Jap force was accounted for as of yesterday. Nevertheless the situation is now under control and the 503d has received its baptism of fire. It was good training for their next assignment which will not be as easy.

Am leaving tomorrow at 5:00 PM which gives me a good night of rest. Please excuse the scribbling but my knees make a very poor desk. More later when I get there.

Remember me to all.

UNCLASSIFIED

Ever sincerely,

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Conference by Lt. Col. C. B. DeGavre 30 Oct 1943

Operation of 503d Prcht Inf., Markham Valley, Sept 6, 1943.

1. The material for this conference is taken from F.O. #1 503d Prcht Inf dated 3d Sept 1943, and from a talk by Lt. Col. Cane, A-2 on the staff of General Kenney at the time of the operation.

2. I shall deal only lightly with the events leading up to the Markham Valley operations except to remind you of the recapture of Buna and Gona. In forcing the Japs to the north, several small forces had worked well up the island to points south of the Markham River. Operating aircraft from Port Moresby against Lae or any other target east of the mountains was an extremely difficult job because of the necessity of crossing the Owen Stanley Range. Prior to further operations against Jap held towns to the north and on the east of the mountains General Kenney performed a feat which many said could not be done. He moved an entire air base from Port Moresby over the mountain and set it up on the northeast coast. Dobodura was improved and enlarged and a base built a few miles further north for fighters.

### 3. General Plan.

With the Japs concentrated at Lae there was presented an excellent opportunity to execute a pincer movement using airborne troops moving on Lae from the west, down the natural approach offered by the river and an amphibious force landed east or northeast of Lae. The plan then developed to land the amphibious force east of Lae, land the 503d Parachute Infantry Regiment about twenty (20) miles up the Markham River to the west, and move in as soon as

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possible, air-landed troops at Nad Zab Emergency Landing Strip. In addition to forces mentioned above, forces previously moved up were to press north and protect the 503d and subsequent landings from the south side of the Markham River. Phase II of the general plan called for withdrawal by air of the 503d to Port Moresby after being relieved by Australian troops air-landed. This plan was not put into effect.

4. 503d Mission - The regiment was given the mission of jumping on Z Day H hour on fields indicated on operations map to capture the area Nad Zab - Gobmatsung Gabsonkek, cover preparation of Nad Zab emergency landing field and begin preparation of the field prior to arrival of 2/2 Australian P.R.M. Bn.

## 5. Intelligence Annex.

a. Enemy troops which could possibly effect the operation.

- (1) At Heaths there were 200 Japs. Heaths plantation is 16 miles to the southeast and 7 hours walking time.
- (2) At Boana there were 200 Japs. Boana is 16 miles north and 11 1/2 hours walking time.
- (3) Kaiapit there were possibly 200 Japs. Kaiapit is 50 miles northwest and 2 to 3 days march.
- (4) Larger bodies of troops were at Lae Madang, Wewack and Rabaul, but could not be engaged early enough to effect the initial operation.

Troops at Lae were as follows:

Base Troops	1640
Combat Troops	4620
Total	<hr/> 6260

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Of course there were a few others around the area of Lae probably totaling not more than 8000.

(5) Until August 25 a patrol came to Gobmatzung and Gabsonkek from the garrison at Lae. It was composed of 100 Japs and arrived at fairly regular intervals of 2 weeks between visits. The patrol appeared in the late morning and departed in the early afternoon.

(6) After August 25 the patrol made its visits daily and in greater strength. 200 Japs usually arrived. No interest was ever noticed on the part of any patrol in the emergency landing strip west of Nad Zab.

## b. Roads.

(1) The Markham road was the only road in the area worthy of the name. It was overgrown and suitable for one way motor transport only on its eastern end. From Lae to a point 8 1/2 miles east of Nad Zab only, was it suitable for motor transportation.

(2) Distances along other tracks are as follows:

Road	Distance	Marching time	Condition
Gabsankek - Camp Diddy	6 miles	3 1/2 hours	wet
Camp Diddy- Boana	9 miles	8 hours	wet

(3) Two roads lead to west beside Markham Road. Both are only trails but are over low flat and dry ground.

(4) Multiple trails lead north and south but only one good road leads east of the Markham although there are 2 other trails.

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c. Markham River -

Markham River is at Nad Zab, 1 mile wide, 20 feet deep in Channels, with flow of 5 - 8 mph.

d. Vegetation - The valley is of alluvial soil with a gravel top.

Trees are from 25 - 35 feet tall except for coconut which grew to 65 feet. Kunai grass covered the entire area.

e. Climate.

Nad Zab was at this time of year a natural dividing line. East of it was in the wet season and west in the dry. Wind blew from the east in the A.M. and switched so as to blow from the west at noon. Velocity 10--20 mph.

f. Towns, Villages, etc.

Gobmatzung Mission was the only permanent structure in the area. It, however, had previously been demolished by the Japs. 20 - 30 groups of native, grass thatch huts were to be found in the area.

6. Preparation. (Use Chart)

a. 48 B-25's bomb and strafe 1, 2 and 3 at H-1 min.

b. 6 A-20's smoke targets 1, 2 and 3 at H-1 min.

c. Planes of 5th Bomber Command, bomb targets 4 and 5 from H/5 min to H/30 min.

d. One Sdn B-25's on air alert 1/3 at a time from H/36 min to H/5 hours.

7. Detail Plan of 503d Parachute Infantry.

1st Bn. (Less one Rifle Platoon.)

Jump on Field B, and

(1) Capture Nadzab E/L Strip and defend

(2) Commence preparation of strip for air-landed troops - remove

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grass, improve for 2400'.

- (3) One Co to be prepared to move west to protect 2/2 Australian P.N.R. Bn.
  - (4) All companies during daylight to establish defensive positions on outer defense ring.
  - (5) Bn will reconnoiter during daylight for close perimeter defense of the E/L strip.
  - (6) Close defense positions will be occupied at 1720.
  - (7) Provide 12 groups of 1 NCO and 10 privates each to unload 1st 12 planes to land on E/L strip.
  - (8) 1 rifle platoon jump on field "D" to cover assembly of 1st Bn, Hq and Service Companies.
  - (9) 1 officer and 1 squad will effect liaison with 2/2 P.N.R. Bn and guide it to Nadzab.
- b. 2nd Bn. will jump on field "A" on Z day, H hour and
- (1) Capture ~~Gabmatzung~~ and protect from north and northwest.
  - (2) Organize defensive positions as shown on operations map and occupy at 1720.
- c. 3rd Bn. will jump on "C" field on Z day, H hour and
- (1) Capture the area of Gabmatzung and protect area from the east.
  - (2) Carry 22 dummy loads and
  - (3) 1 Co jump on field "G" and establish a road block as indicated on map and furnish an outpost on the right east flank
  - (4) 1 platoon jump on field "E" to cover the assembly of the 3rd Bn.
- d. Regtl Hq Co, Serv Co will jump on field "B" as part of 1st Bn serial.

Service Company attached to Headquarters Company.

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(1) Be prepared to open nets immediately on landing.

(2) Lay out panels for jump of artillery at H+1 hr.

d. 2/4 Australian Fld Regt.

✓ Jump on field "F" at H+1 hour. Planes to be loaded day before, flown to Tsili - Tsili. When parachute planes drop parachute troops they will rendezvous over Tsili - Tsili and at that time planes of artillery will take off.

NOTE: A great deal of care was exercised in planning to drop the artillery.

(1) One officer was in each plane only one of whom was to drop.

All the rest returned to Port Moresby.

(2) Drop was H+1 instead of H.

(3) Artillery did not take off until they knew all was safe, etc.

e. Lt. Secs 2/5 Australian Field Amb upon arrival in area will establish aid station.

f. 2/2 Australian P.N.R. Battalion will come under command of 503d on crossing river and move to E/L strip without delay.

g. 2/6 Australian Field Co. will upon crossing come under command of 503d and will reconnoiter west of Nadzab for positions.

h. Sig Det 7th Australian Division will after crossing river come under 503d command, and furnish communication for 2/2 P.N.R. Bn.

i. Regimental Executive will stay aloft as Regimental Air O.P. and jump on order of ground O.P.

j. 54th Troop Carrier Wing will

Carry 503d

Det 2/4 Australian Field Regiment

Engineer Stores.

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k. (1) Bombers (B-25) will bomb and strafe targets 1, 2 and 3 at

H-1.

(2) A-20's smoke 1, 2 and 3 at H-1.

(3) Bombers will bomb 4 and 5 from H/5 to H/30.

(4) Bombers - 1/3 squadron on air alert (B-25) at a time for 4 1/2 hours beginning at H/36 minutes.

(5) 1 squadron P-30 on ground alert at Tsili - Tsili available on call thru forward base by SCR 188.

l. Administrative details.

(1) 3 bases Port M, Tsili - Tsili, Combat area.

(2) 3 B-17's on 3 and z/1.

(3) 10 gliders expected on GL strip.

✓ (4) 10 C-47's on call on z day, loaded.

(5) Procedure - By radio to regiment - By regiment to plane - Bn mark fld.

(6) 2/3 of supply was in Forward area and only 1/3 at Port Moresby.

(7) Bundles of blankets and shelter halves were made up as follows in bundles of 12 of each (12 blankets and 12 shelter halves)

Hq Co 9  
Serv Co 8  
Each Bn 39

)  
) To be picked up by S-4  
)

(8) Mosquito bars, 12 per bundle were to go with messes.

m. Movement by Air.

Serial No. 1	34 planes	from Wards Strip
Serial No. 2	24 "	" Jackson Strip
Serial No. 3	24 "	" Wards Strip

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8. Execution.

a. Formation of train.

Port Moresby

Bobodura

C-47

A-20

B-24

B-17

fighters further north.

b. Rendezvous

c. Bombing and strafing - as planned.

d. Smoke.

e. Bombing at 4 and 5 as planned.

f. Troops - " "

(1) Altitude reported lowest ever used but suspect not less than 450'.

(2) Formation V of V's.

g. As to the remainder of the operation, very little of the detail is known. The 503d did not meet opposition on the Nadzab strip or in the immediate vicinity. On the following day about 5000 Australian troops were air landed on the strip prepared by the 503d and the 2/2 Australian P.N.R. Bn. Acting on a preconceived plan the Nadzab force moved southeast toward Lae, to tighten the pincer. In the meanwhile, the amphibious landing east of Lae had taken place supported by 7 F.A. Bns. In with drawing up the Markham Valley, the Japs ran into the 503d moving down. Severe fighting took place and when the smoke cleared away the remaining Japs were squeezed to the north and escaped in the direction of Wewak. No further details of the land operation are available involving the 503d Parachute Infantry.

END

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G-2 No  
104330-1

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SECRET  
Auth CO 503 Prcht Inf  
Initials KHK  
Date 3 Sept 43

Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43. 1615 hr.

FO Number 1

MAPS: HEATH'S 3507 -1:25,000 Series.  
NABZAB 3506 -1:25,000 Series.

1. INFORMATION:

- (a) See Int Annex - Incl 1.
- (b) (1) Other extensive operations will be taking place at the same time as operations of the 503d Prcht. Inf.
- (2) TSILI TSILI Force are cooperating by establishing patrols on the south bank of the MARKHAM River, from excl junc WATUT and MARKHAM Rivers to incl ONGA..
- (3) WAMPIT Force will be operating on the south bank of the MARKHAM River against the enemy in the area of MARKHAM Point.
- (4) 5TH AIR FORCE will be cooperating in the operation with 4 AC Sqdn. RAAT providing the necessary Army Co-operation.
- (5) B COMPANY PIB will patrol the area to the North and Northwest of NADZAB landing strip.

2. MISSION:

The 503D PRCHT INF will jump on Z Day at H Hr on fields as indicated on jump field sketch - Incl 2.

- (a) Capture the area NADZAB - GABMATZUNG - GABSONKEK with the object of covering the preparation of NADZAB E/L Field.
- (b) Establish a rd block across MARKHAM Valley Rd in the area of junc rd and track at (44.5-54.6) with the object of denying enemy movement into the NADZAB area along the rd.
- (c) Commence preparation of NADZAB landing field prior to arrival of the 2/2 AUST PRN BN.
- (d) Relief of and troop distribution of 503D PRCHT INF will be as shown on operation map,, phase II - Incl 6..

TROOPS

503d Parachute Infantry  
Det 2/4 Aust Fd Regt  
2/2 Aust Prn Bn (less det)  
2/6 Aust Fd Co (less det)  
Det Sigs: 7th Aust div  
Lt Sec 2/5 Aust Fd Amb

3. (a) The 1st Bn plus demolition sec, less one (1) rifle plt will jump on Field "B" on Z Day at H Hr and accomplish the following:

- (1) Capture the area of the NADZAB emergency landing strip and place close perimeter defense around same to cover the preparation of the landing strip and deny enemy infiltration into the area.
- (2) Commence preparation of landing strip on the site of the present NADZAB emergency landing field until arrival of the 2/2 AUST PNR BN.. All grass cut will be removed from strip. Runway length must be at least 2400 feet - Incl 5.
- (3) One (1) company will be prepared to move on orders CO 503D PRCHT INF to area designated to protect native workers attached to 2/2 PNR BN.
- (4) For routes and direction of principal effort - see operations map Incl 3.
- (5) During daylight, one (1) rifle company 1st Bn will establish defensive positions as indicated on operations Map.- Incl 3.
- (6) BN HQ CO., 1st Bn., will establish a defensive position as indicated on Opns. Map - Incl 3.
- (7) Two (2) RIFLE COs, 1st BN., will establish a defensive position as indicated on Operations Map. Incl 3.

Declassified 1AW 380-5

~~SECRET~~ Dtd 23 Jun 09

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(8) Reconnaissance parties of the two (2) Rifle Cos will, during the hours of daylight, reconnoiter defensive positions of the close perimeter defense of the landing strip.

(9) Defensive positions of the close perimeter defense as shown on Opns Map will be occupied at 1720 hr. 5:20 P

(10) Twelve (12) grps consisting of one (1) NCO and ten (10) EM under the comd of two (2) officers designated by CO, 1st BN, 503d PRCHT INF will, upon arrival of the first twelve (12) planes landing on NADZAB strip, unload these planes.

(b) One (1) Rifle Plt., 1st BN., will jump on Fld "D" on Z Day at H Hr and will have the mission of covering the assembly of the 1st BN., REGT'L HQ CO and SERVICE CO.

(1) This Rifle Plt will rejoin the 1st BN upon orders of the CO., 1st BN.

(2) For routes and direction of principal effort - see opns Map. Incl 3.

(c) A patrol from 1st BN consisting of one (1) officer and one (1) squad will effect the liaison with 2/2 PNR BN and guide 2/2 PNR BN to NADZAB.

(d) The 2d BN., plus demolition sec, will jump on fld "A" on Z Day at H Hr and accomplish the following:

(1) Capture the area GABSONKUK and deny enemy infiltration from the North and Northwest.

(2) For routes and direction of principal effort - see Opns. Map. Incl 3.

(3) Defensive positions as indicated on Opns Map at 1720 hr. 6:00 P

(e) The 3d BN., plus demolition sec, less one (1) rifle Co and one (1) rifle plt will jump on Fld "C" on Z Day at H Hr and accomplish the following:

(1) Capture the area GABMATZUNG and deny enemy infiltration from the EAST.

(2) For routes and direction of principal effort - see Opns Map. Incl 3.

(3) Twenty two (22) dummies and twenty two (22) dummy re-supply bundles will be loaded in the first twenty two (22) planes of the 54th TROOP CARRIER WING, that will transport the 3d BN.

(f) One (1) Rifle Co of the 3d BN will jump on Fld "C" on Z Day at H Hr and establish a rd block as indicated on Opns Map. Incl 3.

(1) This Co will furnish two (2) outposts, strength of at least one half squad as indicated on Opns Map. Incl 3.

(2) For routes and direction of principal effort - see Opns Map. Incl 3.

(g) One (1) rifle plt of the 3d BN will jump on field "E" on Z Day at H Hr with the mission of covering the assembly of the 3d BN..

(1) This plt will rejoin the 3d BN upon order of the BN CO.

(2) For routes and direction of principal effort - see Opns Map. Incl 3.

(h) REGT'L HQ CO will jump on field "B" on Z Day at H Hr and will establish defensive position in vicinity of Regimental C.P.

(1) REGT'L HQ CO, less demolition sec, will move and jump as part 1st BN. flight.

(2) REGT'L HQ CO will open all communication nets and be prepared to lay out panel for artillery jump.

(3) CAPTAIN CASKEY is responsible for panel marking NADZAB strip and Glider Landing Area. See Incl 5.

(4) For routes and direction of principal effort - see Opns Map. Incl 3.

(i) SERVICE CO, less detachment, will jump on field "B" on Z Day at H Hr and will be atchd to REGT'L HQ CO for defensive position to assist in defense of Regimental C.P.

(1) They will be prepared to gather and distribute equipment and supplies.

(2) LT HORNER is designated as Combat Area S-4.

(3) LT BUCHANAN will be prepared to operate any motor transportation either captured or allotted to this organization.

(4) SERVICE CO, less detachments, will move and jump as part of the 1st BN flight.

(j) The LT SEC 2/5 AUST FD AMB will, upon arrival, establish aid station as indicated on Opns Map. Incl 3.

(k) DET 2/4 AUST FD REGT, will, on Z Day at H plus 1 Hr, jump on Fld "F" and move to gun positions as outlined on Opns Map. Incl 3. For asgmt of support and special fire missions, see Field Artillery Annex - Incl No. 4.

(1) CAPT ROSE, LT ARMSTRONG, LT KETT and LT WHITAKER will accompany this unit fr take off fields to jump field.

(2) These off will act as jumpmasters for this unit and Engr stores.

(3) LT ARMSTRONG only rpt only will jump on Fld "F" on Z Day at H plus 1 hr.

(4) Other off will return to Camp Supply Base at Port Moresby after drop.

(5) Four (4) planes allotted for this jump will be loaded on Z minus 1 day at PORT MORESBY and proceed to TSILI TSILI on Z day. These planes will take off and proceed to jump field on Z Day when the flights of planes return from dropping parachute troops and rendezvous at TSILI TSILI.

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(1) 2/2 AUST PNR BN (less det) will, on Z Day, upon approaching North bank of the MARKHAM river, come under comd of 503d Prcht Inf and will proceed to NADZAB strip with utmost speed to prepare L/S on site of the present NADZAB emergency landing field.

(1) See Opns Map for asgmt in the perimeter defense of NADZAB L/S.. These positions will be occupied by 1720 hr.

(2) Construction of strip will be expedited, 2400 feet minimum length. All grass cut will be removed. See incl 5.

(m) 2/6 AUST FD CO (less det) will on Z day, upon approaching the North bank of the MARKHAM river, come under comd of the 503D PRCHT INF and will form recco patrols to operate in area west of NADZAB in vicinity of ERAP river.

(n) DET SIGS 7TH AUST DIV will, upon approaching the North bank of the MARKHAM river, come under comd of the 503D PRCHT INF, and will operate and furnish communication for the 2/2 AUST PNR BN.

(o) Regt'l EX Off, 503d Prcht Inf, will on Z Day be the air observer for the Regt'l CP.. He will jump upon orders of the grd Regt'l CP..

(p) AIR:

(1) 54TH TROOP CARRIER WING, will on Z Day, transport 503d PRCHT INF, DET 2/4 AUST FD REGT and ENGR stores for 2/2 AUST PNR BN (less det).

a. DET 2/4 AUST FD REGT will jump on fld "F" on Z Day at H plus 1 hr. See Signal Annex for panel display, Incls 2 and 7.

b. Engr stores will be dropped on NADZAB landing strip.

(2) Three (3) Sqdns of B-25s will bomb and strafe NADZAB area at targets 1 - 2 and 3 on Z Day at H-1 minute. See Bombing Sketch. Incl 8.

(3) Three (3) flights of A-20s will smoke targets 1, 2 and 3 on Z Day at H-1 min..-See Bombing Sketch, incl. 8.

(4) Bombers, type and number as designated by 5th BOMBER COMD, will bomb targets 4 and 5 on Z Day at H plus 5 min to H plus 30 min..-See Bomb sketch incl 8.

(5) One (1) Sqdn B-25s will furnish air alert for 503D PRCHT INF on the following schedule:

One third Sqdn for one and one half hrs.

One third Sqdn for one and one half hrs.

One third Sqdn for one and one half hrs.

Commencing on Z Day at H plus 36 minutes.

a. CAPT KELLY, LT RAMBO, AND LT CATES will be liason and air observers with these sqdns. One (1) of the above named off will be with ea one third of air support. Upon completion of liaison on Z day, CAPT KELLY and LT CATES will proceed to TSILI TSILI and there will report to MAJOR IMHOFF.

(6) One (1) Sqdn of P-39s on grd alert at TSILI TSILI, available upon call thru Forward Base SCR-188.

(7) Armed recco flts as directed by 5th AIR FORCE will patrol track GAB-MATSUNG - HEATHS on Z Day.

(8) Three (3) B-17s will be available on Z-1 day for re-supply missions on Z and Z plus 1 day.

(9) Three (3) to ten (10) gliders are expected to arrive, loaded with stores, on Z day, CAPT CASKEY will display "T" panels as indicated on Incl 5.

(10) Six (6) to ten (10) C-47s will be at TSILI TSILI on Z day loaded with stores. On order of CO 503D PRCHT INF by SCR 284-188 net, these planes will take off and land at NADZAB landing strip. See incl 5.

(q) AIR DIVERSION:

(1) Twenty two (22) planes of 54TH TROOP CARRIER WING will drop one (1) dummy and one (1) dummy re-supply bundle on Z Day at H plus 6 minutes at woods south of YALU.

(2) It is the responsibility of 3d Bn to load dummies and dummy re-supply bundles in planes.

(3) It is the responsibility of personnel of 54TH TROOP CARRIER WING in the 22 planes to discharge dummies and dummy re-supply bundles.

(r) (1) Z Day will be designated by this Hq.

(2) H Hr will be the time of jump.

(3) In the event Z Day is postponed, a msg in the clear will be sent to all concerned using code word MARCUS rpt MARCUS. This will indicate the opn has been postponed 24 hrs. If further postponement of 24 hrs becomes necessary, a similar msg will be sent using the code word LEO rpt LEO. For any further postponements, this code word LEO rpt LEO will be sent a 2d time to indicate another 24 hrs delay and so on for any 24 hrs delay.

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(4) restricted areas on Z Day from H plus 5 min to H plus 30 min will be indicated on Bombing Sketch incl #8. Entering these areas is prohibited for the times indicated.

(5) Anti-aircraft measures against high altitude enemy planes will be passive. Anti-aircraft measures against low level strafing or bombing will be active using such weapons as may be diverted by orders in the event of enemy grd attack.

(6) All movements to asgd positions will be expedited.

(7) Any pursuit of enemy will be limited to the accomplishment of task asgd.

(8) Reco will be limited to the accomplishment of the task asgd.

(9) Liaison between units will be the responsibility of unit comdrs, operating in this fashion: operating counter-clockwise, the unit on right will contact unit on left.

(10) Camouflage discipline will be strictly maintained.

(11) Units will be supplied by air with concertinas and mines upon call to supply planes.

(12) Five (5) copies of the scaled overlay of the mine fields will be prepared by units laying fields. One (1) copy will be forwarded to the Regt'l CP, distribution of remaining copies will be within unit.

(13) Orgn of grd and priority of work as per SOP, see incl 9.

(14) Units by creation of outposts will cause to be established delaying positions and false fronts.

(15) The CO, 503D PRCHT INF and PVT CORNETT will ride in plane 1 of the 1st Bn flight. Regt'l S-3, Mr. Sgt. PETERSON, Pvt. BOYER will ride in plane 7 of 1st Bn flight.

(16) Nothing larger in size or strength than one (1) platoon will be indicated on any one map, sketch, or overlay taken in combat.

4. (a) See Administrative Annex.

(b) Recommendations for honors and awards will not repeat not be called for until notified by this Headquarters.

5. (a) See Signal Annex.

(b) For location of CP's, see Operations Map, Phase I, Incl. 3..

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Off.

OFFICIAL:

*Harris T. Mitchell*  
HARRIS T. MITCHELL,,  
Capt., 503d Parachute Infantry,  
S-3..

ANNEXES:

- 1 - Intelligence Annex
- 2 - Jump Field Map
- 3 - Operations Map, Phase I
- 4 - Field Artillery Annex
- 5 - Nadzab Strip Construction and Glider Landing Area.
- 6 - Operations Map, Phase II
- 7 - Signal Annex
- 8 - Bomb, Strafe, Smoke Map
- 9 - Priority Work SOP
- 10 - Medical Annex
- 11 - GRS Annex
- 12 - plane, Parking Plans
  - a. Ward Strip
  - b. Jackson Strip
13. a, b, c, Personnel Annex
- 14 - Administrative Annex
- 15 - Air Support Annex
- 16 - Allotment of Newspaper Correspondents and Cameramen.
- 17 - Distribution List.

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Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

INTELLIGENCE ANNEX TO ACCOMPANY FIELD ORDER NO. 1

1. Summary of Enemy Situation:

a. General: There has been very little enemy activity in the NADZAB area, and there are no known garrisons or fixed defenses either at the strip or in GABSONKEK or GABMATZUNG villages.

b. Garrisons: Permanent enemy garrisons nearest to NADZAB are located as follows:

	STRENGTH	DIRECTION AND DISTANCE FROM NADZAB (approx)	WALKING TIME (approx)	REMARKS
HEATH'S	200	SE-16 miles	7 hrs.	
BOANA	200	N-16 miles	11½ hours	Believed to be mostly labor troops working native gardens there.
KAIAPIT Patrol Base	(Strength Unknown)	NW-50 miles	2-3 days	

c. Patrols: (1) A foot patrol of 100 Japs from LAE, under a Major, had been visiting the area every two weeks up until the middle of August, apparently checking the natives in GABMATZUNG and GABSONKEK.

(2) Recently (25 Aug) a heavily armed patrol of 100-200 Japs has been patrolling the area daily, arriving at GABMATZUNG from the East just before noon, and departing East again on the MARKHAM Road in the afternoon. The patrol seems to shown no interest in the landing strip.

(3) Patry of 100 Japs moved thru GABMATZUNG towards KAIAPIT on 22 Aug. 60 japs were seen at GABMATZUNG MISSION on 29 Aug. Believed to be part of daily patrol.

2. Essential Elements of Information:

a. Composition and tactics of Enemy patrols: A patrol of 100-200 men will usually be armed with the following weapons:

20-40 SMG's (.30 Cal.), 40-80 rifles (.256 Cal.), several MG's (2.56 and .303 Cal.), and 8-10 Knee Mortars, and will include medic's, several men on bicycles, several standard bearers, and marines (the latter carrying the rifles).

b. Even though the enemy has in the past suspected or known opposing troops to be in a vicinity, in this operational area, he has almost without exception approached the vicinity along a main track, with a portion of his force out to one flank, .. When confronted, he invariably attempts a flanking movement..

c. Enemy troops in other Areas: Large numbers of enemy troops which could be quickly brought into the NADZAB area are stationed at LAE, MADANG, WEWAK, and RABAU. Of these, however, only a very few of those stationed at LAE can be expected to arrive in the NADZAB area (in addition to the daily patrol) in time to effect our operations. Estimate of strength of LAE garrisons of 20 Aug is as follows:

BASE TROOPS		1640
COMBAT TROOPS		
1st Bn, 14th FA	390	
Arty Unit of SASEBO 5	500	
14th Pioneer Unit (part)	130	
80th Regt., 20th Div (part)	2500	
3d Bn, 21st Inf Regt	800	
41st Inf Regt (remnants)	100	
21st IMB Arty	100	
21st IMB Engrs	& 100	
TOTAL TROOPS IN LAE AREA		4620
		6260

d. Hostile Aircraft: Nearby enemy air bases make enemy air attack in force possible by 11:30 hr. Planes to be expected include the following types: JILY, SALIY, HELEN, AND DINAH (twin-engined bombers); and the ZEKE and TONY (fighters).

*fighters*

SECRET

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NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

e. Roads and Trails in Vicinity: (1) There is only one approach to the area which may be classed as a road. This is the MARKHAM VALLEY ROAD, and is the main approach from both East and West. It is wide enough for single lane motor transport, but is heavily overgrown, and is not passable for M/T from LAE beyond MUNUM (8½ miles East of NADZAB).

(2) Of the other tracks to the North and East of NADZAB, the following is known:

TRACK	DISTANCE BETWEEN POINTS (approx)	WALKING TIME (approx)	CONDITION
GABSONKEK-CAMP DIDDY	6 miles	3½ hours	Wet
CAMP DIDDY-BOANA	9 miles	8 hours	Wet
CAMP DIDDY-NGASAWAPUM	6 miles	2 hours	Good, Bench Cut Track
GABSONKEK-NGASAWAPUM	5 miles	3 hrs	Wet
GABMATZUNG-NGASAWAPUM (by MARKHAM VALLEY ROAD)	6½ miles	2½ hours	Good

(3) There are two tracks leading into the area from the west, in addition to the MARKHAM VALLEY ROAD. All three approaches are over flat, dry terrain, and permit walking time of 2½-3 miles per hour.

f. Markham River: Is approximately one mile wide at NADZAB and not fordable. About 20 feet deep in channels, with flow of between 5 and 8 miles per hour.

g. Vegetation. Alluvial soil and gravel covers the whole area. Trees average 25-35 feet in height (except coconut palms, which average 60 feet). Grass averages 4-5 feet, mostly kunai.

h. Climatic Condition. (1) The area is on the edge of a belt which is at present in the "dry" season. East of the NADZAB area, however, begins an area which is now in the "wet" season. Fog usually covers the area in the early morning, and occasional heavy showers may be expected.

(2) The wind blows down the valley from the west until Noon, when it changes quickly and blows from east to west for the remainder of the day. velocity varies between 10-20 mph.

(3) Times of rising and setting of the sun and moon as shown below:

DATE	SUN RISES	SETS	RISES	MOON	SETS
sept 4	0613	1813	0910		2140
5	0612	1813	0955		2230
6	0612	1812	1042		2322
7	0611	1812	1133		-
8	0611	1812	1226		0017
9	0610	1812	1323		0113
10	0610	1812	1423		0202
11	0609	1811	1523		0312

i. Native dwellings. It is anticipated that no natives will be encountered in the area (see par 4 below). There are, however, at least 20 groups of thatch-roofed native huts within a radius of 2½ miles of NADZAB. The mission building at GABMATZUNG (demolished) was the only permanent structure in the area.

3. RECONNAISSANCE. Will be provided by "B" Company, PIB, covering approaches to the area from the west and North. Reports to be submitted by that unit to this hq at 0800, 1200 hr and 1900 hr daily. Initially, aerial reconnaissance of MARKHAM VALLEY ROAD.

4. PRISONERS AND CAPTURED DOCUMENTS. (1) Every effort will be made to take prisoners. They will be immediately evacuated thru Bn to Regt'l Hq, being detained only long enough to relieve them of all arms. Arms removed will be forwarded to Regt'l Hq with the guard escorting the prisoner. Immediately upon capture and until turned over to intelligence personnel at Regt'l Hq, prisoners will be forced to keep arms upraised, fingers laced behind head.

(2) Captured documents and materiel will be forwarded immediately upon capture or discovery thru Bn to Regt'l S-2.

(3) Locations of enemy dead will be reported without delay to Regt'l -2, thru intelligence net.

b. Natives:

If natives are encountered, they will be taken into custody and evacuated the same as Jap prisoners, except they will not be forced to keep arms upraised. They will be dealt with in a friendly but firm manner. Conversation with them or persuasion used on them will be limited to that required to convince them to submit to our safe-keeping.



S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

C. The questioning and searching of enemy prisoners and dead, and the examination and collection of enemy documents and materiel will be done by intelligence personnel. Looting or mutilating of enemy dead, or the collection of enemy documents as "souvenirs" by any personnel is forbidden.

5. MAPS AND PHOTOS..No distribution after H Hour.

6. SECURITY.

a. General. (1) In the writing of messages, destroy all carbon papers by burning after use.

(2) If capture becomes imminent, or there is a possibility of the material falling into enemy hands, all maps, sketches, messages and documents must be destroyed, by burning, if possible.

(3) If captured, answer no questions, other than name, rank, and serial number.

b. passwords. (1) The following list of passwords will be used commencing with No. 11 at H hour on Z Day:

Password No. 11	-	LAGER LABEL
Password No. 2	-	LIVELY FILLY
Password No. 3	-	RAILWAY TROLLEY
Password No. 4	-	LAZY LULLABY
Password No. 5	-	LAMBS WOOL

(2) The first word given will be used as a challenge and will be answered by the second word. The password must be used with care and only when necessary to establish recognition. Words must be pronounced by both parties slowly, distinctly, and softly.

(3) Password remains in effect until changed by this Hq. Order changing it will state number of next password and effective time of change.

7. INTELLIGENCE REPORTS.

A. Submitted by companies to Bn S-2 hourly (written or by 511, following SITREP form as issued) commencing at H hour plus 1.

b. Submitted by Bns to Regt S-2, over Intelligence 511 net hourly, as soon as net is opened after H hour, and according to following schedule:

1st Bn.	At 15 minutes after the hour.
2d Bn.	At 30 minutes after the hour.
3d Bn.	At 45 minutes after the hour.

c. (1) If intelligence 511 net becomes inoperative, due to mechanical failure or radio silence, company and Bn reports will be submitted by runner (other than intelligence personnel), adhering as closely as possible to above schedule.

(2) In the event companies are unable to contact their own Bn Hq, but contact exists with another Bn, reports will be submitted to the adjacent Bn for forwarding to Regt.

(3) During the hours of darkness, no reports will be required unless there is a change in the situation.

d. Situation reports from this Hq to lower echelons will be made by intelligence 511 net whenever a change in the situation immediately effects the particular echelon.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Pch. Inf.,  
Exec. Off.

OFFICIAL:

*Harry L. Snavely*  
HARRY L. SNAVELY,  
Capt., 503d Pch. Infantry,  
S-2.

ANNEX NO. 1.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

FIELD ARTILLERY ANNEX TO ACCOMPANY FIELD ORDER NO. 1

1. Mission of DET 2/4 FD REG is to support 503D PRCHT INF.
2. For planned concentrations on call through artillery liaison officers attached to 2d and 3d Bns, see Field Artillery Map attached.
3. Special Fire missions will be located and called for through artillery liaison officer attached to 2d and 3d Bn.
4. Registering of planned concentrations will be approved by this hq prior to firing.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Off.

OFFICIAL:

*Harris T. Mitchell*  
HARRIS T. MITCHELL,  
Capt., 503d prcht Infantry,  
S-3.

S E C R E T



REFER TO THIS MAP AS PORTION  
OF NADZAB 73 29 1 : 25,000 SERIES





Annex #4

F.A. Annex



# SECRET OPERATIONS MAP PHASE No 1

## PORTION OF NADZAB MAP 1:25,000

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES GRID  
SOUTHERN NEW GUINEA ZONE

WARNING! GRID ON THIS MAP DOES NOT AGREE  
WITH GRID SHOWN ON NADZAB 1 INCH TO 1 MILE  
PROVISIONAL EDITION

REFER TO THIS MAP AS PORTION  
OF NADZAB 73 29 1:25,000 SERIES

NOTE:  
SITUATION REPORTS  
FROM B Co. PIB  
AT:  
0800 hr.  
1200 hr.  
1900 hr.



SECRET  
OPERATIONS MAP  
PHASE No 1  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

7.6

operational



ANNEX NO 3



PHOTOMAP NADZAB  
NEW GUINEA

TAKEN INTO  
COMBAT

REFER TO THIS MAP AS  
PHOTOMAP 3543 NADZAB

JUMP  
FIELDS

WARNING—ARBITRARY GRID



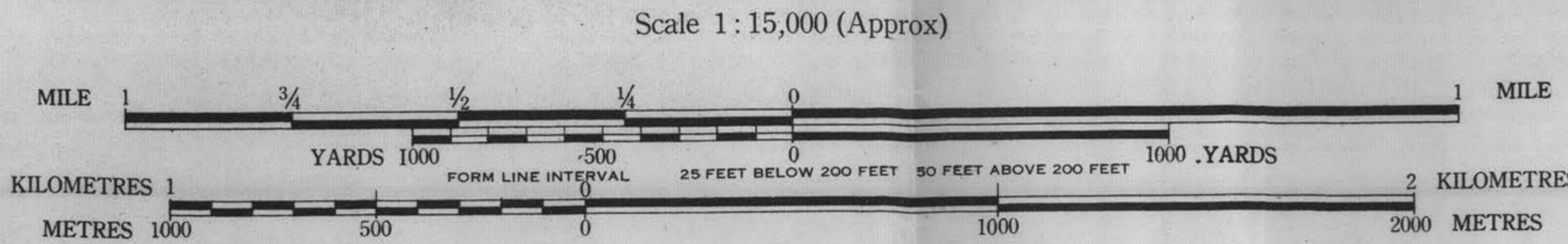
Abt. 6°10'  
APPROX TRUE NORTH  
APPROX MAGNETIC NORTH

NGF/706/3543

AIR By 8th Photo Squadron  
PHOTOGRAPHY: 5th Air Force  
Mission 221x

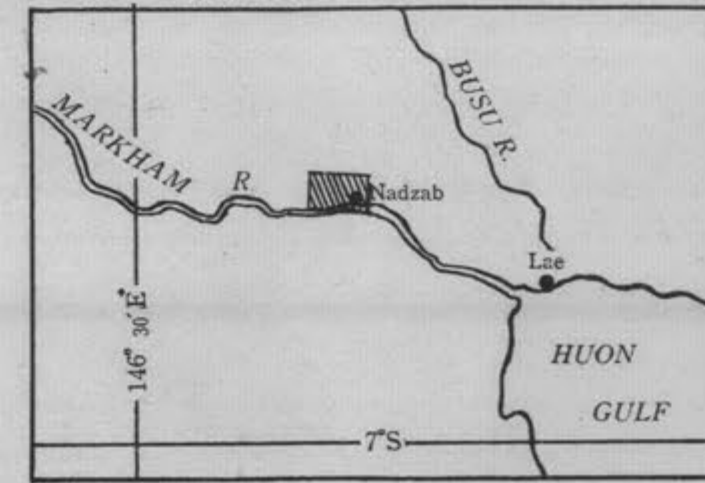
COMPILATION & 2/1 Aust. Army Topo.  
REPRODUCTION: Survey Coy.

Main Track (Black or White) .....  
Other Track (Black or White) .....  
Probable Track (Black or White) .....



Scale 1:15,000 (Approx)

LOCALITY SKETCH  
LAKE NADZAB PHOTOMAP SERIES



REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY. AUGUST 1943

TO GIVE A GRID REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET			
POINT NADZAB			
EAST		NORTH	
Take west edge of square in which point lies and read the figures printed opposite this line on north or south margin	18	Take south edge of square in which point lies and read the figures printed opposite this line on east or west margin	12
Estimate tenths eastwards	8	Estimate tenths northwards	4
REFERENCE 188		124	
REFERENCE 188124			
UNIT.....METRE SQUARE.....3000 REFERENCE TO NEAREST.....			

..SECRET..  
NOT TO BE  
TAKEN INTO  
COMBAT



UNCLASSIFIED

Annex #2



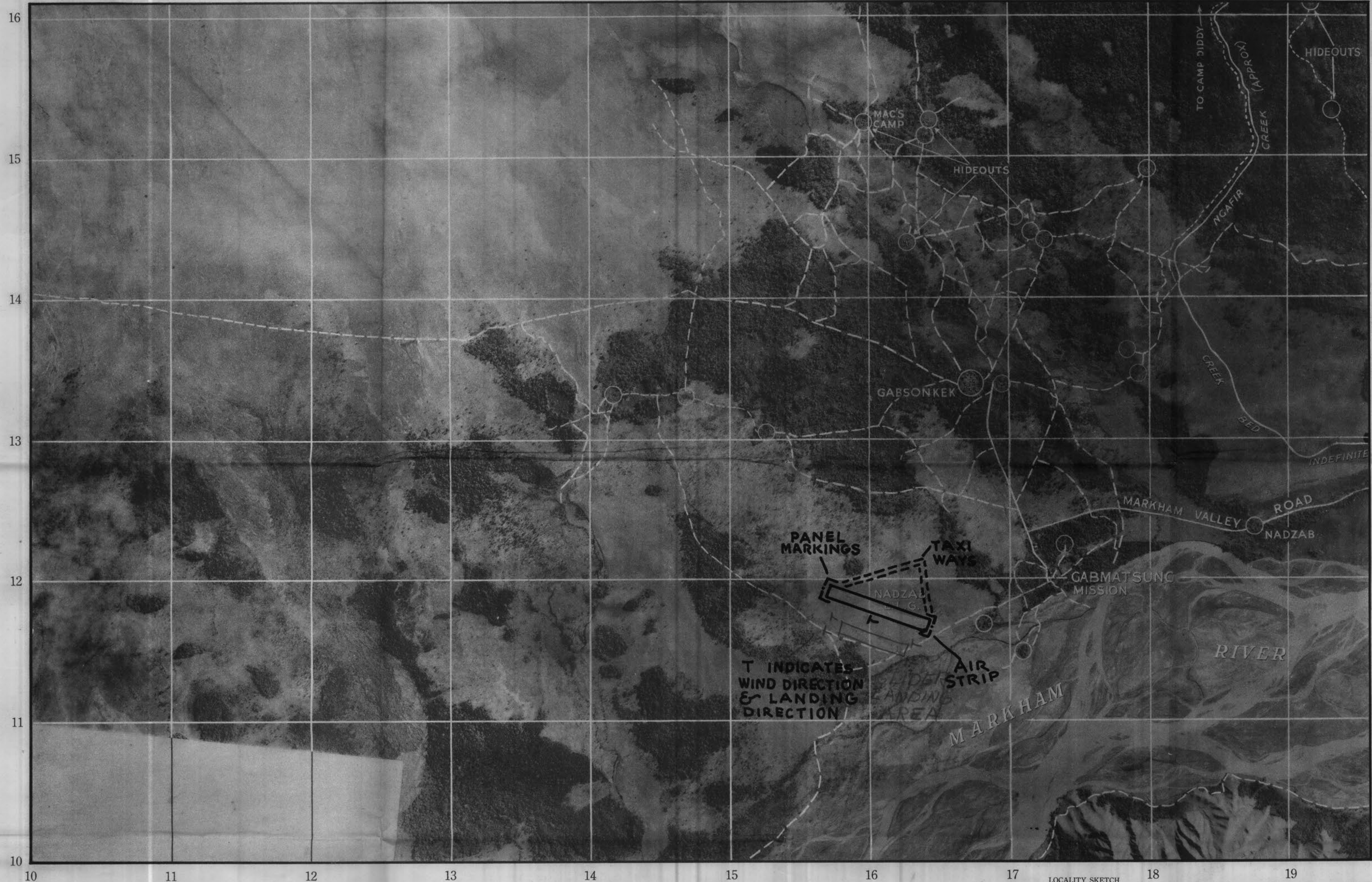
SECRET

PHOTOMAP NADZAB  
NEW GUINEA

*not to be taken  
into combat*

REFER TO THIS MAP AS  
PHOTOMAP 3543 NADZAB

WARNING—ARBITRARY GRID

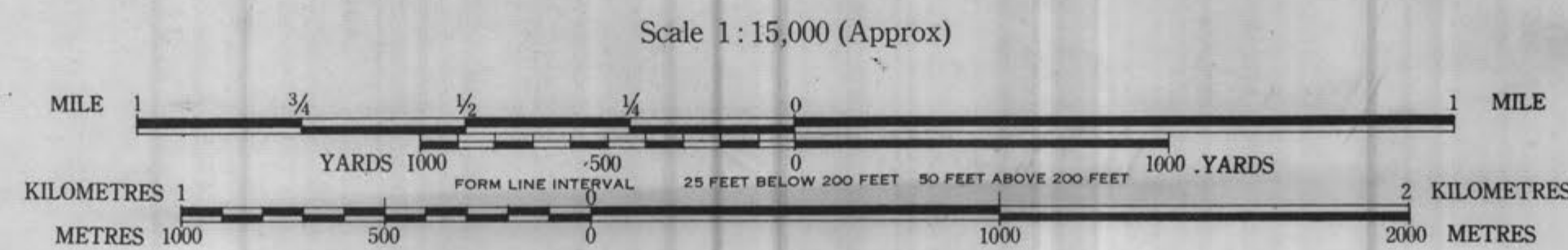


NGF/706/3543

AIR PHOTOGRAPHY: By 8th Photo Squadron  
5th Air Force  
Mission 221x

COMPILATION & REPRODUCTION: 2/1 Aust. Army Topo.  
Survey Coy.

Main Track (Black or White) -----  
Other Track (Black or White) - - - - -  
Probable Track (Black or White) . . . . .



LOCALITY SKETCH  
LAKE NADZAB PHOTOMAP SERIES



REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUSTRALIAN ARMY TOPOGRAPHY COY. AUGUST 1943

TO GIVE A GRID REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET			
POINT <b>NADZAB</b>			
EAST		NORTH	
Take west edge of square in which point lies and read the figure printed opposite this line on north or south margin		Take south edge of square in which point lies and read the figure printed opposite this line on east or west margin	
18		12	
Estimate tenths eastwards		Estimate tenths northwards	
8		4	
188		124	
REFERENCE <b>188124</b>			
UNIT METRE SQUARE 1000 REFERENCE TO NEAREST 100			

SECRET



ANNE #5  
Landing Strip and  
Glider Landing Areas.

CLASSIFIED

The following  
image(s) may be of  
poor quality due to  
the poor quality of  
the **original**.

CK

HQ 503RD PRCHT INFANTRY  
APO 704  
31 AUGUST 43 1900 Hr

SIGNAL ANNEX TO FO NO. 1

1. The following radio nets will be established immediately after drop is completed:

- a. Company-Platoon 536 radio net with call names as follows:  
Hq Co 1st Bn--HAY Hq Co 2d Bn--HAT Hq Co 3d Bn -- HAZY  
"A"-----HARRY "D"-----HENRY "G"-----HEAD  
"B"-----HACK "E"-----HALO "H"-----HAM  
"C"-----HAG "F"-----HALL "I"-----HAPPY

Platoon designation in the rifle co will be obtained by adding numeral "One", "Two" or "Three" for the respective plats. Thus "HAG TWO" designates 2d plat, co C. Within the Bn Hq Co the numerals "On2", "Two" will be assigned with the co call name within the LMG plat, and the numeral "Three" and "Four" will be assigned with the company call name within the 81mm mtr plat.

- b. Bn-Co 511 radio net with call names and channel as follows:  
1st Bn Hq -- HAND -----Channel 1  
2d Bn Hq -- HEAT -----Channel 2  
3rd Bn Hq -- HARE -----Channel 3

Co call names will be same as shown for 536 radio net.

- c. Regt-Bn 511 radio net with call names and channels as follows:  
Regt Hq -----HART -----Channel 6  
Bn Hq call names will be same as shown for Bn-Co 511 radio net.

- d. Regt-Bn 284 radio net with call signs and freq as follows:  
Net Call-----2CR Frequency 4270 KCS.  
Regt (NCS)-----HR8 These call signs will not be changed. This  
1st Bn-----9LU net will open immediately after drop and  
2nd Bn-----ER2 maintain a listening watch after net estab-  
3rd Bn-----AD6 lished. If comm by 511 radio fails or  
cannot handle volume of traffic this net  
will be utilized to supplement 511 net.

- e. Regt-Air Support-Supply Plane 284 radio net with call names and freq as follows:

	Call Names
Frequency: 4475 KCS	Regt -----ILLINOIS
	Air Support-----SPRINGFIELD ONE
	Supply Plane-----SPRINGFIELD TWO
	Artillery-----SPRINGFIELD THREE

This net will use voice transmission only.

- f. Regt-Fwd Base Rad net with freq and call signs as follows:  
Regiment -----7ZW Freq -- 4320  
Fwd Base-----063 (Oboe)

Those calls for air support to be relayed to fighter units at MORESBY will be transmitted in M-09 code to 188 set at fwd base and marked to be relayed to radio set, Adv Echelon, 5th Air Force. The radio call signs of the radio set 5th Air Force is - PF3.

g. Regt-Pioneer Bn 511 radio net with call name and freq as follows:

Regt-----HART                      Freq --- 4845 KCS(Channel 4 for 511 )  
PioneerBn-HART ONE

This net will close as soon as the Pioneer Bn has come under direct control of the Regtl Comdr and upon his orders.

h. Regt-Bn 511 Intel Net with call name and freq as follows:

Regt-----SEARCH                      Channel 4(4845 KCS)  
1st Bn-----SEARCH ONE  
2nd Bn-----SEARCH TWO  
3rd Bn-----SEARCH THREE

i. Artillery-Observer 511 radio net with call name and freq as follows:

Artillery Control-----COW                      Channel 4(4845 KCS)  
Observer One-----COW ONE  
Observer Two-----COW TWO

SINCE THERE IS MUCH DUPLICATION OF FREQUENCIES WITHIN BOTH THE 536 AND 511 RADIO NETS, EXTREME CARE MUST BE OBSERVED TO KEEP TRANSMISSIONS TO A MINIMUM AND TO BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL IN THE USE OF CALL NAMES.

1. In addition to those nets listed above, one 511 radio set with operator will be with the Regtl Comdr. This set will have all channels, thus making it possible for the Regtl Comdr to work any unit within the regiment.

Call name of set with Regtl Comdr---CONTROL

When not working some unit this set will stand-by on channel 6

2. Wire net between Regt and Bn, Bn and Co and Bn and HW Plat will be established as soon as practicable. Telephone code name "Queen" will be used in this net. For Bn designation, add "Red", "White" and "Blue" for the respective bns. After Air Landing Troop Units arrive, wire will be laid to Regt and the three bns. Code name for this net will be "Raleigh" with Bn designations as shown above.

3. Airplane to ground visual signals and meanings are as follows:

- | AIRPLANE MANEUVER                   | MEANING TO GROUND TROOPS         |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. 360° left turn-----              | Request CP Identification        |
| 2. Alternate Dips and Climbs-----   | Request front line marking.      |
| 3. Rock Wings-----                  | Mission completed                |
| 4. Yaw right and left-----          | Am going to drop msg             |
| 5. 360° right turn-----             | Msg Understood                   |
| 6. Sharp "S" turns-----             | Will support you-indicate target |
| 7. Circle right, rocking wings----- | Msg NOT understood-repeat.       |

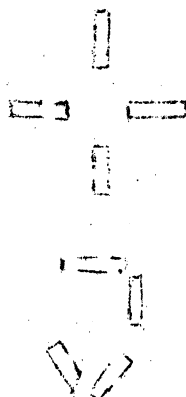
4. Sound Signal Code will be used as follows:

<u>SIGNAL</u>	<u>MEANING</u>
1. Three (3) blasts whistle, vehicle horn, siren or klaxon repeated several times, or three equally spaced shots with rifle or pistol. Individual call out nature of impending danger and indicate its direction.	Air, mechanized or parachutists attack.
2. Percussion sounds such as triangle, iron rails, or empty cartridge cases, struck rapidly and continuously.	Gas Alarm
3. Four (4) blasts of whistle, vehicle horn siren or klaxon	All clear.

5. Panel identification code numbers are assigned units as follows :

Regt----183	Panel identification of CP location will
1st Bn---175	be displayed when called for by friendly
2nd Bn---181	plane. (See par 3 for airplane signal).
3rd Bn---195	To indicate that an identification group

is being displayed, an indicator group consisting of two panels laid out horizontally twelve feet apart with a signal panel laid out vertically twelve feet above them. Then three figure group assigned unit will be laid out below the indicator group to be read from top to bottom and not from left to right. The panel displays for numeral one (1) to ten (10) of the SIMPLIFIED AIR-GROUND CODE will be used for numerals one (1) to zero (0). Example of panel display for identification 1st Bn C F



6. Pyrotechnic signals will be used with airplanes as follows:

<u>PYROTECHNIC SIGNAL</u>	<u>MEANING TO PLANE</u>
White prcht or white clust	---You are hitting our troops
Green prcht or Green Clust	-----Present position foremost friendly troops.

7. Pyrotechnics signals will be used for ground to ground signaling as follows:

<u>PYROTECHNIC SIGNAL</u>	<u>MEANING TO OTHER GROUND TROOPS</u>
Amber prcht or amber clust	ero---Lift mortar fire.

8. The Simplified Air-Ground Code will be used by units down to include bn hq to communicate by panel with combat aviation in close air support. Target designation by panel will be displayed only on order of Regtl or Bn Comdrs. All calls for air support by radio will be relayed to regt for coordination by the Air-Support Off.

9. The following codes will be used:

Company-Battalion-----Rearranged Msg Code  
Battalion-Regt-----Cipher Device, M-94  
                                Rearranged Msg Code  
Regt - Fwd Base-----Convertor M-209  
Regt-Pioneer Bn-----None

10. Authenticators are prescribed as follows:

Co-Bn Net -----Authenticator in Rearranged Msg Code  
Bn-Regt Net-----do do do  
Regt-Fwd Base-----System prescribed by Sixth Army  
Regt-Pioneer Bn-----Authenticator in Rearranged Msg Code.

11. Key phrases for cipher device are assigned as follows. If action lasts beyond six days, the key phrase for 1st day will be used for seventh day, etc.

1ST DAY

22-1-12-13-5-25-7-17-19-8-6-2-14-4-24-3-20-10-11-15-9-21-18-16-23  
V A L L E Y F O R G E A N D W A S H I N G T O N V

2ND DAY

4-15-24-6-16-23-14-1-21-12-7-9-2-19-17-22-13-8-10-11-3-20-5-18-25  
F O X H O U N D S L I K E P O T L I K K E R F O X

3RD DAY

16-10-13-22-5-17-23-4-6-20-2-15-1-7-11-8-18-24-3-21-19-12-14-25-9  
S N O W I S W H I T E R A I N I S W E T S N O W I

4TH DAY

13-10-9-6-3-18-1-24-5-19-11-14-15-12-21-17-7-4-8-22-23-2-20-25-16  
L I F E B O A T D R I L L I S N E C E S S A R Y L

5th DAY

14-1-16-2-17-4-8-12-21-11-22-25-13-15-5-18-10-23-7-3-24-9-19-20-6  
M A N A N D F I S H S W I M D O G S E A T F O O D

6TH DAY

9-14-1-18-19-11-20-10-15-3-4-12-16-13-21-5-22-2-17-6-23-25-7-8-24  
G R A S S I S G R E E N R O S E S A R E S W E E T

12. Code names and panel symbols for resupply bundles as follows:

<u>BUNDLE UNIT</u>	<u>CODE NAME</u>	<u>PANEL DISPLAY</u>
MEDICAL -----	CLAW -----	
AMMUNITION, 60MM -----	EAGLE -----	□
AMMUNITION, 81MM -----	SHARK -----	+
AMMUNITION, CAL. .30 LMG -----	LION -----	V
AMMUNITION, CAL. .45 -----	HORSE -----	H
AMMUNITION, CAL. .30, M-1 -----	TIGER -----	V
AMMUNITION CAL. .50 CARBINE -----	CARBON -----	└
AMMUNITION CAL. .30 for .03 -----	BIRD -----	△
GRENADE, HAND -----	PIG -----	□



GRENADA A.T.-----BLAST-----

— — —  
— — —  
— — —

BATTERIES AND FLARES-----SEAL-----

— — —  
| | | |  
— — —

DEFENSE GUNS-----CALF-----

— — —  
T V  
— — —

RADIO SCR-511-----WHALE-----

— — —  
— — —  
— — —

RADIO SET SCR-284-----MAN-----

— — —  
T I  
— — —

FLAME THROWER-----BLAZE-----

— — —  
N  
— — —

BARBED WIRE-----SCRATCH-----

— — —  
K  
— — —

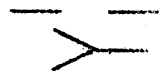
Special panel display to be used to indicate following message:

Artillery drop here-----

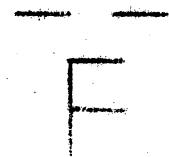


This display will be shown only on orders of the Regtl Comdr.

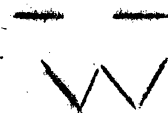
RATIONS-----BEAN-----



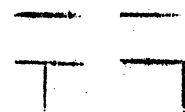
DEMOLITION-----SMASH-----



WIRE-----COBRA-----



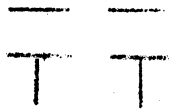
MACHINE GUN CAL..50--FROG-----



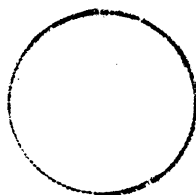
AMMUNITION, ARTILLERY--BAT-----



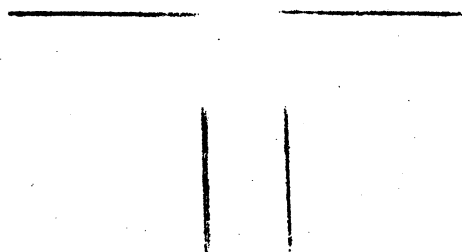
MINES-----WORM-----



Example of panel display calling for one medical resupply unit:



Panel symbol for resupply unit may be displayed on any side of circular panel, taking advantage of side giving maximum observation from air.



All calls for resupply by radio will be sent to regt for transmission to fwd base. Bns will consolidate requests from companies and relay them to regt. Radio call name of unit will be used for identification:

Example of radio msg calling for resupply:

HAND TEN FIG (Location) 1440 1200 means 1st Bn wants ten units of hand grenades dropped at (location) at 1440 and that original msg was signed at 1200.

If supply planes are overhead requests will still be sent to regt. The Combat S-4 will contact plane by radio and transmit supply needs of unit to plane. He then contacts bn by radio and has them display the circular resupply panel to mark drop field for that unit and has the panel left displayed until resupply for that unit has been completed. If radio communication fails with the plane, the Combat S-4 will cause Bn to display the circular panel, and panel symbol assigned to resupply unit adjacent to the circular panel. Each display indicates one unit needed. For additional supply of same unit the circular panel will be lifted and waved for Supply Officers observation as the plane approaches for initial drop of the unit and the panel will then be placed back on the ground. If only one unit of resupply is needed, as the plane comes over to drop that unit, the panel symbol for next unit desired will have already been displayed.

If supply plane is overhead and desires to call in the additional supply planes on ground alert at fwd base, the plane overhead will shift radio frequency from 4475 KCS to 4820 and call the 188 radio set at fwd base and pass his msg. The supply planes on ground alert at fwd base will maintain liaison with the 188 radio set. These transmissions will be in CW only and will be sent in "clear". Call signs as follows will be used:

188 set at Fwd Base-----063 (Oboe)

Supply plane overhead-----JIM

13. A one or two letter code group has been assigned to geographical locations. Positions will be reported using these code groups in relation to your position. Some of these groups are identical with code groups in the Freearranged Message Code Book. Where there is any duplication in these groups, all the message will be sent in the clear except the location which will be given using the code for that position.

By order of COLONEL KINSLER:

OFFICIAL:

*Lawson B. Caskey*  
LAWSON B. CASKEY  
Captain 503d Prcht Inf  
Comm O

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt Col 503d Prcht Inf  
Ex Off

The following  
image(s) may be of  
poor quality due to  
the poor quality of  
the **original**.

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30.	
	23
	24
	25
	26
	27
	28
	29
	30
<p>In this direction</p> <p>Issue in 100 yr units and at by dis- playing in light of a new population panel for from above chart long. and in the 100 years.</p>	

19

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SECRET  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

OPERATIONS, PHASE II

1. Occupation of positions as indicated on Operations Map, Phase II, will be on orders of this headquarters.

2. Subject to tactical situation the 1st Bn., 503d PRCHT INF will, upon orders this headquarters, be relieved and move by air to Camp Supply Base, Port Moresby.

3. 503D PRCHT INF (less 1st Bn) will be relieved and move by air to CAMP Supply Base, Port Moresby, upon arrival of 1st Bn 21 AUST INF BDE.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Off.

OFFICIAL:

*Harris T. Mitchell*  
HARRIS T. MITCHELL,  
Capt., 503d Prcht Infantry,  
S-3.

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED



SECRET  
OPERATIONS MAP  
PHASE NO 2  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

# PORTION OF NADZAB MAP 1:25,000

WARNING: GRID ON THIS MAP DOES NOT AGREE  
WITH GRID SHOWN ON NADZAB 1 INCH TO 1 MILE  
PROVISIONAL EDITION

REFER TO THIS MAP AS PORTION  
OF NADZAB 7329 1:25,000 SERIES



SECRET  
OPERATIONS MAP  
PHASE NO 2  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT



Annex #6

OB

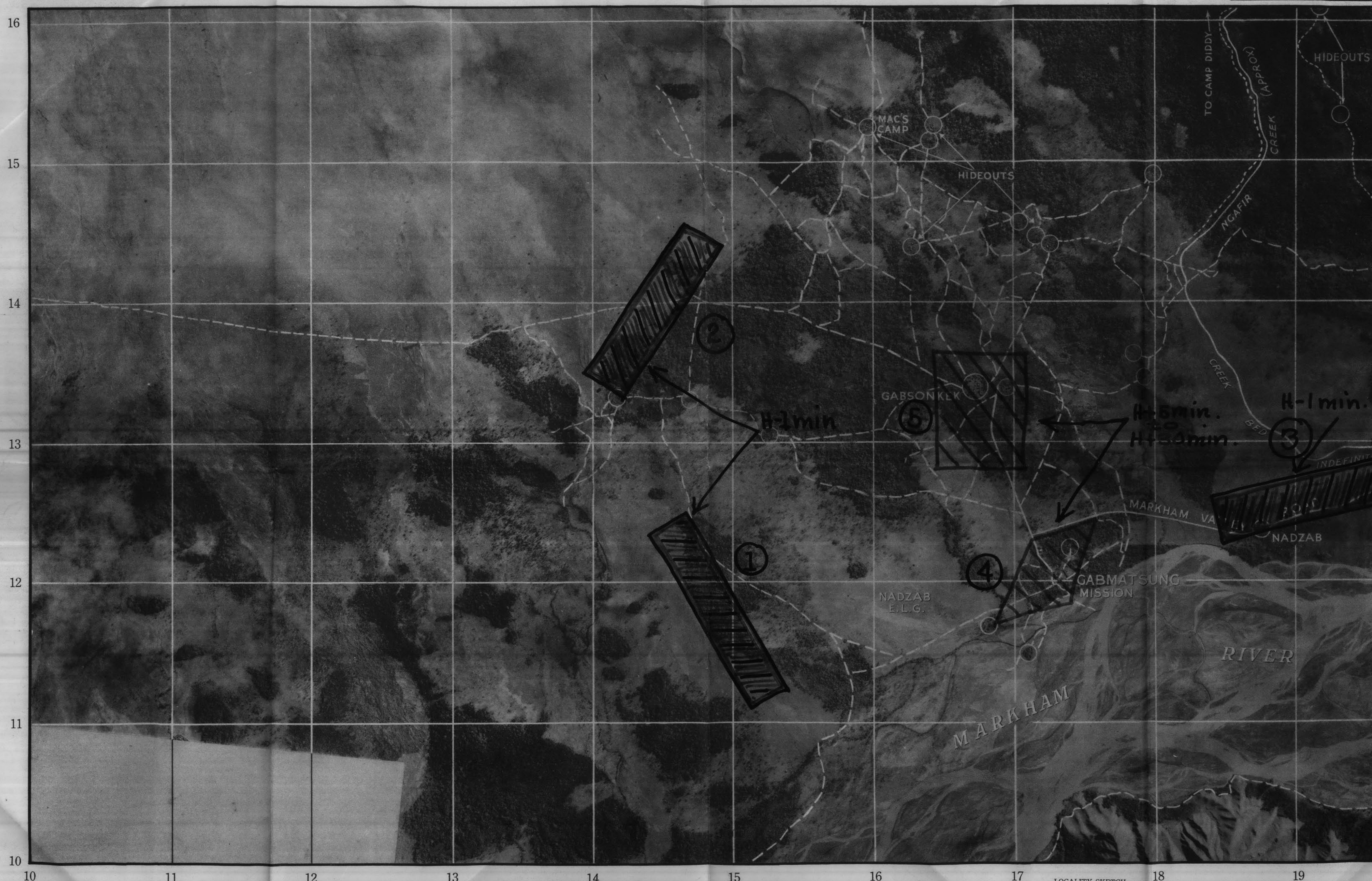
Phase II

Movement by air of  
503 to Port Moseby.






UNCLASSIFIED



WARNING-ARBITRARY GRID



# Legend

	Bombing
	Smoke
	Strating
	Bomb Smoke Strating
	Target No

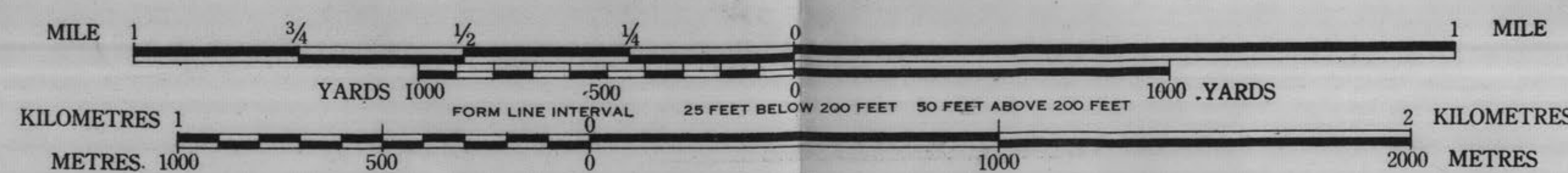
NGF/706/3543

AIR PHOTOGRAPHY: By 8th Photo Squadron  
5th Air Force  
Mission 221x

COMPILATION & 2/1 Aust. Army Topo.  
REPRODUCTION: Survey Coy.

Main Track (Black or White) \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Track (Black or White) \_\_\_\_\_  
Probable Track (Black or White) \_\_\_\_\_

Scale 1 : 15,000 (Approx)



LOCALITY SKETCH  
E NADZAB PHOTOMAP SERIES



REPRODUCED BY 2/1 AUST. ARMY TOPO. SURVEY COY. AUGUST 1943

TO GIVE A GRID REFERENCE ON THIS SHEET			
POINT <b>NADZAB</b>			
EAST		NORTH	
Take west edge of square in which point lies and read the figures printed opposite this line on north or south margin	18	Take south edge of square in which point lies and read the figures printed opposite this line on east or west margin	12
Estimate tenths eastwards	8	Estimate tenths northwards	
188		12	
REFERENCE <b>188124</b>			
UNIT.....METRE SQUARE.....1000 REFERENCE TO NEAREST.....			



Amec #8  
Areas for Striping  
+ Bombing

OK  
21

HEADQUARTERS 503D INFANTRY  
OFFICE OF THE REGIMENTAL COMMANDER

A. P. O. 704,  
28 August 1943.

MEMORANDUM TO: All Unit Commanders.

1. The following paragraphs outline the steps in priority of work in preparation of field fortifications. These steps should be known by all commanders of all commands whatever size unit. These steps in the general group sequence will cover average conditions, modifications may be made to cover existing conditions:

a. DEPLOYED DEFENSE (when the attack is imminent or already launched):

- (1) Road blocks.
- (2) Anti-tank obstacles and mine fields.
- (3) Digging foxholes, individual pits.
- (4) Digging shallow emplacements for automatic weapons.
- (5) Removing small obstructions to improve fields of fire of individual weapons.
- (6) Establishing temporary command and observation posts.
- (7) Camouflage of installations and suppression of signs of occupancy.

b. HASTY FORTIFICATIONS (completed in six (6) hours):

- (1) Machine gun, mortar, and anti-tank rifle emplacements.
- (2) Improvement of fields of fire, not to be obvious.
- (3) Improvement of individual pits.
- (4) Obstacles to include road blocks, anti-tank mine fields, anti-personnel mine field, and barbed wire.
- (5) Improvement of temporary command posts, observation posts, and aid stations.
- (6) Camouflage in all tasks, utilizing natural cover to maximum.
- (7) Construction of switch positions of men and weapons, i.e., alternate and supplementary.

c. Mine field construction should be at the rate of approximately fifteen (15) mines per man/hour which includes burying in medium soil.

d. Intrenchments should be completed in these average times:

- |                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| (1) One man foxhole                   | 2 hours              |
| (2) Two man foxhole                   | 2 hours              |
| (3) LMG emplacement, shallow          | $\frac{1}{2}$ hour   |
| (4) LMG emplacement, open standing    | $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours |
| (5) LMG emplacement, 3 foot hole type | 2 hours              |
| (6) 60 mm mortar emplacement          | 2 hours              |
| (7) 81 mm mortar emplacement          | 5 hours              |

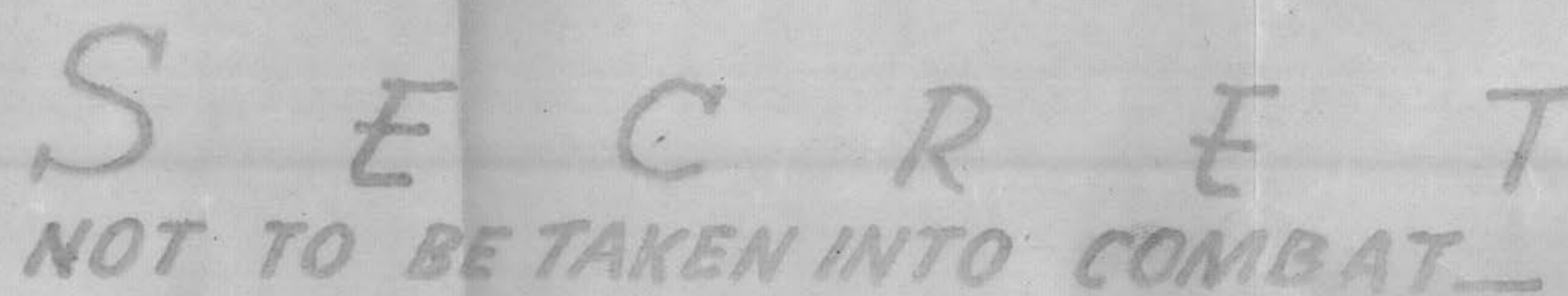
e. Barbed wire entanglements should be constructed in these average times:

- (1) Four (4) strand fence used as protective obstacle, 200 yards per hour.
- (2) For wiring at night increase time required by 50 percent.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

*Donald A. Crawford*  
DONALD A. CRAWFORD,  
WOJG, 503d Infantry,  
Adjutant.







Ames #125  
part 1  
Parking Plan  
Wardens

S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Hq. 503d Prcht Inf.  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

MEDICAL ANNEX TO ACCOMPANY FIELD ORDER #1

1. Regimental and Battalion Aid Station Groups will jump with Initial Drop Bundles.. Regimental Aid Station located at (40.2-54.3).
2. Battalion Surgeons will report location of Bn Aid Stations to Regimental Surgeon immediately upon establishment of same.
3. On earliest resupply mission, resupply bundles, two (2) per Battalion and Regimental Hq. Section will be dropped at station indicated in Par. 1.
4. Immediately after receipt of casualties at Bn Aid Stations, both walking and litter cases will be evacuated, via covered route, to Regt'l Aid Station which will be collecting post for all casualties of units involved.
5. On later resupply mission, four (4) resupply bundles will be dropped at Regt'l Aid Station.
6. For each ten (10) litter cases evacuated to Regt'l Aid Station, one (1) Medical Aid man will be assigned to the Regimental Surgeon from the Bn concerned.
7. Battalion Surgeons will submit casualty reports to the Regt'l Surgeon covering six hour periods beginning with H Hr. Six hour reports will continue for period H Hr to H plus forty-eight hours.. Thereafter reports will be submitted covering twenty four hr periods from midnight to midnight. Negative reports will be submitted. Casualties will be reported by name, rank, A.S.N., and Company in all cases on reverse side of Form 86 F.
8. Duties of aid men and of Aid Station Groups will be carried out in accordance with existing Medical SOP.
9. Anti-Malaria Measures: Mosquito repellent 612 will be applied before Dermablage is applied. Mosquito repellent must be reapplied on exposed skin surfaces every four (4) hours. During the hours of darkness, complete clothing will be worn. Personnel when sleeping will wear mosquito head-net and gloves. One (1) atabrine tablet will be taken daily.
10. All water used for drinking must be chlorinated by using two (2) halazone tablets per canteen of water.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Off.

OFFICIAL:

*D. A. Crawford*  
D. A. CRAWFORD,  
WOJG, 503d Prcht, Inf.,  
Adjutant.



S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

GRAVES REGISTRATION ANNEX TO ACCOMPANY FIELD ORDER #1.

1. As soon as the tactical situation permits all American and Allied dead will be borne by personnel of unit concerned to area in vicinity of the Reg't'l Aid Station located at (40.2-54.3) where a cemetery will be established.
2. Personal effects will not be removed from bodies except under the direction of the Graves Registration Officer at the time of burial.
3. Cemeteries for enemy dead will be established in areas where they have fallen and burial will take place under the direction of the senior officer in command in those areas.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Officer.

OFFICIAL:

*D. A. Crawford*  
D. A. CRAWFORD,  
WOJG, 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Adjutant.

S E C R E T

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SECRET  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Anna W.  
P.O. 15  
Livingston  
Jacksonville, Tenn.

SECRET

503RD PRCHT INF  
APO 704  
31 AUGUST 43 1615 Hr

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNEX NO. 1 FIELD ORDER NO. 1

1. SUPPLY

a. RATIONS

(1) There will be three supply points. Forward Base located at Tsily-Tsily, Camp Supply Base located at PORT MORESBY and combat area supply base.

(2) Rations will be allocated at these supply points as follows: 2/3 supply at Forward Base and 1/3 supply at Camp Supply Base

(3) Each Bn will be furnished additional rations upon call. Method of call - See Signal Annex Incl 7.

(4) Each individual will jump with 2 boxes rations Type K and 4 rations type D. These rations will be issued by RSO 3 Sept 43.

(5) Gasoline and oil resupply will be on call at Forward Base. Method of Call - See Signal Annex Incl 7.

b. AMMUNITION

(1) Amount Individual jumps with - see Memo No. 3 this hq dated 5 April 43 previously issued.

(2) Supply points for ammunition will be at forward base and camp supply base. 2/3 supply at forward base and 1/3 supply at camp supply base.

(3) Resupply of ammunition will be on call. Method of call - See signal annex Incl 7.

c. Tactical situation will determine location of drop fields for resupply by air. Drops will be made to Bns as per SOP unless Regtl order creates a Regtl Drop Field and DP.

2. EVACUATION

a. Casualties - See Medical Annex Incl 10.

b. Burial - See GRS Annex Incl 11

c. Immediately upon being relieved each unit commander will conduct an inspection to insure completeness of equipment. All items damaged will be returned with personnel to Camp Supply Base, Port Moresby for salvage.

d. Captured Materiel - See Intel Annex Incl 1.

e. Prisoners of War - See Intel Annex Incl 1.

3. TRANSPORTATION:

a. DAPM, the Aust Div, will provide 112 trks for transportation to plane loading areas. These trks will be broken into three (3) serials as follows:

(1) Serial No. 1 - 1st Bn, Regtl Hq Co and Service Co.

(2) Serial No. 2 - 3d Bn

(3) Serial No. 3 - 2nd Bn

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b. Serials will be spotted as follows:

(1) Serial No. 1, consisting of forty five (45) trks, will be spotted by DAPM, 7th Aust Div, on RSO Rd. Head of Column facing Rigo Hwy.

(2) Serial No. 2, consisting of thirty three (33) trks will be spotted by DAPM, 7th Aust Div, on Rigo Hwy in vicinity 3d Bn Mess head of column facing WEST, in direction of ANIMAL AREA.

(3) Serial No. 3, consisting of thirty four (34) trks will be spotted by DAPM 7th Aust Div in area opposite Regtl CP.

c. Trks will be loaded with fourteen (14) personnel and initial drop bundles.

d. Date and hour of loading to be announced later by this hq.

e. Control of serials to plane loading areas will be under direction of DAPM, 7th Aust Div.

f. Plane loading areas will be as follows. Two (2) at WARDS STRIP and one (1) at JACKSON STRIP. Serial No. 2 (3d Bn) will proceed to JACKSON STRIP. Serial No. 1 and 3 will proceed to WARDS STRIP. ✓

g. The 3d Bn will be responsible for the movement of 22 dummies with parachutes attached and 22 ammo boxes filled with sand and parachutes attached to planes one (1) to twenty two (22) incl. These will be used for the diversion drop. One (1) additional trk will be allotted to the 3d Bn for this movement.

#### 4. PLANE LOADING ASSIGNMENTS

a. Serial No. 1, allotted planes 1-34 incl on WARDS STRIP

b. Serial No. 2, allotted planes 35-58 incl on JACKSON STRIP.

c. Serial No. 3 allotted planes 59-82 incl on WARDS STRIP.

d. Tactical loading of planes will be the responsibility of the bn and separate unit commanders.

e. For location of planes. See sketch of revetments Incl 12.

f. Plane loading list will be submitted to Regtl S-3 on Z-1 day at 1700 hr, one (1) copy will accompany each officer or EM in charge of each plane for transmittal to the pilot.

#### 5. PERSONNEL

a. The CO, RHQ Co will establish a stragglers post in the vicinity of the Regtl CP.

b. The three supply points and personnel assigned are:

(1) Forward Base C.O. - Major Imhoff.

For personnel see personnel Annex No. 13 a .

(2) Camp Supply Base C.O. - Capt. Rose

For personnel see personnel annex 13b.

(3) Rear Base C.O. - Lieut Hill

For personnel see personnel annex 13c.

#### c. MISSION:

(1) Forward Base will supply the Regt in the combat area by car or panel. See Sig Annex Incl 7. Replenishment of supplies will come from Camp Supply Base at Port Moresby.

(2) Camp Supply Base will constitute a reserve of supplies maintaining a level of 1/3 requirement of all supplies. In the event supply function fails at forward base due to weather or enemy action, Camp Supply Base will be prepared to supply the Regt in the Combat Area by air from Port Moresby. In this event camp supply base will be notified by assigned radio net.

(3) Rear Base will provide necessary care, maintenance and supply of parachutes and other similar items of equipment. Also maintain and operate existing rear base functions. It will be prepared to receive such personnel as directed by orders to Rear Base.

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(4) Storing of unit equipment at camp supply base will be the responsibility of each unit commander.

(5) The Safeguarding of equipment and the protection of the camp will be the responsibility of Capt Rose.

d. Each Bn and Separate Unit will prepare bundles consisting of the following:

(1) 12 each blankets WOD  
(2) 12 each tents shelter halves with necessary poles, pins and ropes.

(3) The number prepared by each unit is as follows:

Regt Co ----- 9 bundles  
Service Co----- 8 bundles  
1st Battalion - 39 bundles  
2nd Battalion - 39 bundles  
3rd Battalion - 39 bundles

(4) Bn bundles will be spotted at each bn mess and Regtl Hq and Ser Co at Ser Co Mess on Z-1 day. Regtl S-4 will move blanket bundles to supply planes.

(5) Each Bn, Hq and Ser Co will prepare rolls of mosquito bars on basis of one bar for two men and 12 bars per roll. These will be spotted at unit kitchens and will be moved with kitchen equip.

e. Mail service will be as directed by the Regtl Comdr as the tactical situation permits.

f. The carrying of musette bags are optional. The reserves to the T/5 assembly will repeat will be worn.

6. REPORTS REQUIRED FROM UNITS

a. No original copy of the morning report will be carried. A new morning report will be started on a new form on Z-1 day and carried in lieu of original copy of morning report.

b. S-1 Periodic Reports will be sent to the S-1 twice daily. Time 0700 hr and 1700 hr.

c. S-2 periodic reports will be sent to Regtl CP hourly starting at H plus 1 hr. See Intel Annex.

d. S-3 Periodic Reports will be sent to Regtl CP daily at 1700 hr.

e. S-4 Periodic Reports will be maintained at Combat Area, Forward Base, Camp Supply Base by officers in charge. These will be made out daily for a 24 hr period from 1700 to 1700 hr.

f. Journals will be maintained by units down to and including companies.

g. Regtl Hq will send situation reports to GHQ 7th Aust Div daily at 0700 hr, 1400 hr and 1900 hr.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

a. If practicable units will ball and chain their chutes and with weapons container with ripcord place in kit bag and carry same to assembly area. Sgt. McCullough will be responsible for the packing up of chutes. Sgt McCullough will report to Lieut Horner(Combat S-4) for further instructions.

b. Regtl S-3 is responsible for the marking of the planes of the 54th Troop Carrier Wing.

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c. MESS AND KITCHEN MOVEMENTS

- (1) 2d Bn and 3d Bn mess sections complete as to personnel . . rations, and equipment will be prepared to move by air from Camp Supply Base to combat area on Z plus one day.
- (2) Regtl Off Mess and 1st Bn mess will remain at Camp Base to provide for camp supply base personnel.
- (3) Lieut Whitaker is responsible that kitchens and mosquito bars are on trks on Z plus one day and for movement to combat area.
- (4) Movement of rations to messes at combat area will be responsibility of RSO.
- (5) Rations for camp base supply will be responsibility of Capt. Rose.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

*Joe S. Lawrie*  
JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lieut Col 503d Pchnt Inf  
Ex Off

OFFICIAL:

*James W. Imhoff*  
JAMES W. IMHOFF,  
Major 503d Pchnt Infantry  
S - 4.

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PERSONNEL ANNEX NO. 13a

FORWARD BASE

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Major Imhoff          | 16. T/4 Branum      |
| 2. Lieut Russell         | 17. T/4 Guillemette |
| 3. Lieut Dick            | 18. T/4 Dorman      |
| 4. Lieut Campbell, E. C. | 19. T/5 Riley       |
| 5. Capt Lane             | 20. T/5 Bauman      |
| 6. WO Smith              | 21. T/5 Roy         |
| 7. M/Sgt Staley          | 22. T/5 Uptergrove  |
| 8. S/Sgt Efferson        | 23. T/5 Craig       |
| 9. S/Sgt Gustavason      | 24. T/5 Bak         |
| 10. S/Sgt Taylor         | 25. T/5 Schwartz    |
| 11. Sgt Pazniokas        | 26. T/5 Greene      |
| 12. Pvt Schwab           | 27. Pfc Sarver      |
| 13. Pvt Morningstar      | 28. Pfc Louie       |
| 14. Pvt Norris           | 29. Pvt Ryan        |
| 15. Pvt Whitley          | 30. Pvt Lovedahl    |

SECRET



The following  
image(s) may be of  
poor quality due to  
the poor quality of  
the **original**.

Capt. Rose  
T/Sgt Ryle  
Sgt. Gude  
T/4 Blair  
T/4 Bryant  
Cpl Oakey  
Cpl Turner  
Cpl. Hinds  
Pvt Erhart  
Cpl Moore  
T/5 Ablesser  
Cpl Mullins  
Cpl Baldwin  
Cpl Miller  
Pfc Holt  
Cpl Carpenter  
Cpl Schuhmann  
Cpl Spann  
Cpl Phillips  
T/5 Hoagland  
Pvt. Salstrom  
S/Sgt. Corker  
T/Sgt McGarvey  
T/5 Harden  
Pvt Burns  
T/5 Smith, S. E.  
T/5 Deyo  
T/5 Mosey  
M/Sgt Garner

SECRET

Lt. Whitaker  
Lt. Kett  
Cpl Gardner  
Pvt McKeon  
Pvt Olivier  
Pfc Sadler  
Pfc Thedford  
Pvt Sprague  
T/4 Dugas, C.  
Pfc Stallworth  
T/5 Kungle  
Pvt Epworth  
Pvt Sewell  
Pvt Scarnati  
Pvt Campbell  
Pvt Bradley  
T/5 Rowland  
Pvt Seay  
Pvt Crum  
Pfc Gray  
Pfc Wedler  
Pfc Sokira  
Cpl Smith, S. H.  
Pfc Slowe  
T/5 Thagard  
Sgt Romanelli  
Pvt Lane  
Pfc Sedell

Pvt Rhoday  
T/5 Champney  
Pvt Mew  
T/5 Hammond  
T/5 Simmons  
T/5 Pogachnik  
T/5 DeGrange  
S/Sgt Phillips  
Pfc Stiers  
Cpl Villers  
T/5 Dinges  
Pvt Wilson  
Pvt Dilling  
S/Sgt Swann  
Pvt Thiel  
Pvt Frankhouser  
Pvt Kemp  
Pvt Tomlinson  
T/5 Sheller  
Pvt Robson  
Pvt Wenzil  
Pvt Vaughn  
Pvt Peters  
Pvt Mullis  
Pvt Bevilacqua  
T/5 Shepherd  
T/4 Girtman  
Pvt Kowalak

b. 1st Battalion:

T/4 Carnes  
T/4 Gay  
T/4 Latham  
T/4 Warren  
T/4 Murphy  
T/5 Diamond  
T/5 Williams  
T/5 Phillips

T/5 Pulliam  
T/5 Gray  
T/5 Campbell  
Pfc Cawley  
Pfc Brown  
T/5 Bergeron  
Pvt McConnell  
Pvt Rossego

2d Battalion:

S/Sgt Thompson  
Sgt Berthiame  
T/4 Ferrina  
T/4 Griffin  
T/4 Gross  
T/4 Hynes

T/4 McCullough  
T/5 Curtis  
Pvt Johnson  
T/5 Kilpatrick  
T/5 Schneider  
Pfc Scrafford

T/5 Weigl  
Pvt Baldwin  
T/5 Hilker  
Pvt Bergum  
Pvt Byrd  
T/4 Smith, H.

3d Battalion:

/Sgt Miller  
gt Tidwell  
/4 Binkley  
/4 Blanton  
/4 Blackburn  
/4 Mornini  
/5 McDonald

T/4 Patin  
T/4 Zajdowics  
T/5 Carter  
T/5 Wilson  
T/5 Rupright  
T/5 Foster  
T/5 Gorski

Pfc Andre  
Pfc Buxton  
Pfc Salter  
Pvt Borkowski  
Pvt Hannah

SECRET

*SECRET*

PERSONNEL ANNEX NO. 13c

REAR BASE

1. Lieut Aldrich	43. Lieut Rooney
2. S/Sgt Thompson	44. Pvt Rogers
3. T/5 Harmon	45. Pfc Imel
4. Pvt Gilbert	46. Pvt Johnson
5. S/Sgt Dollar	47. Pvt Bishop
6. Lieut Hill	48. Pfc. Wooten
7. WO Roberts	49. Pvt Parks
8. S/Sgt Tooley	50. Pfc. Bohan
9. T/4 Nazarchyk	51. Pfc Shirley
10. Cpl Geier	52. Pvt LeBlanc
11. T/5 Camp	53. Pvt Hart
12. T/5 Hennessey	54. Sgt. Wilson
13. Pvt Dziechciarz	55. Cpl McGrory
15. Pfc Watta	56. Pvt DeShaies
16. Pfc Gruell	57. Pvt Rodriguez
17. Pvt Highfield	58. Pfc Connely
18. T/5 O'Neil	59. Pfc Grubb
19. Sgt Capitelli	60. Pvt Hill
20. Pvt Martin	61. Cpl Adkins
21. S/Sgt Rini	62. Pfc Davis
22. S/Sgt DeWeese	63. Pfc Hall
23. T/4 Stookesbury	64. T/5 Neupert
24. T/5 Morris	65. Pvt Silverman
25. T/5 Fernandez	66. Pfc Wooten
26. T/4 Develleskis	67. Pfc Ownby
27. Pfc Hauck	68. Pfc Gibson
28. Pvt Bonfield	69. Pfc Standifer
29. Pvt Pinkowitz	70. T/4 Von Halla
30. Pfc Fiorelli	71. Pfc Dent
31. S/Sgt Woods	72. Pvt Dalton
32. Pfc Collins	73. Pvt Green
33. Pvt Weber	74. Pvt Bastin
34. T/4 Brandstetter	75. Pfc Little
35. Pfc. Escobedo	76. Pfc Eaker
36. Pvt Myrick	77. Pvt Hudson
37. Pvt McLean	78. Pvt Valvanis
38. Pvt White	79. Pfc Dablock
39. Pfc Rupp	80. Pvt Carlos
40. Poole	81. Pvt Roberts
41. Lieut Wilson	82. Pvt Corbin
42. Pfc Evje	83. Pvt Kunicki

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84. Pfc. Crowe  
85. Pvt Welch  
86. Pvt Manjoras  
87. Pvt Craddock  
88. Pvt Harris  
89. Pvt Avery  
90. Pvt Gee  
91. Pvt Bongilli  
92. Pvt Adkins  
93. T/4 Roland  
94. Pvt Brooks  
95. Pvt Dean  
96. Pfc Hamby  
97. Pvt Walker  
98. Pvt Fite  
99. Pfc Ellis  
100. Pfc Hood  
101. Cpl Zolman  
102. Pvt Berez  
103. Pfc Ballard  
104. Sgt Smith  
105. Pvt Haldey  
106. Pvt Webb  
107. Cpl Stiles  
110. Pfc Sullivan  
111. Pfc. Roberts  
112. 1st Lieut Buthorn  
113. Pfc Cribb  
114. Corp. Heis  
115. Cpl Williams  
116. Pfc Fuller  
117. Pvt LaVelle  
118. Pvt Young  
119. Pvt Bigsley

SECRET

**S-1 PERIODIC REPORT**

~~SECRET~~

**S-1 REPORT<sup>1</sup>**

From: (Date and hour)  
To: (Date and hour)  
Issuing unit  
Place of issue  
Date and hour of issue

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Maps: (Those needed for an understanding of the report.)

1. STATION LIST.
2. ADMINISTRATIVE INSTALLATIONS FOR REPLACEMENTS, PRISONERS OF WAR, STRAGGLERS, AND REFUGEES.--Location at close of and changes during period.
3. STRENGTH OF THE COMMAND (by organization).
4. CASUALTIES (by organization).
  - a. Killed.
  - b. Sick, gassed and wounded (subdivided into evacuated and nonevacuated).
  - c. Captured.
  - d. Missing.
5. GRAVES REGISTRATION (status of burials and location of cemeteries.)
6. REPLACEMENTS (received or expected.)
7. PRISONERS OF WAR (captured and evacuated).
8. STRAGGLERS (by organization).
9. MORALE (show state of subordinate units if not uniform).
10. CIVILIAN POPULATION (status of evacuation; unusual events incident to control and administration).

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**S-1.**

**NOTES**

1. Submitted as ordered by the commander. To be supported by such maps and annexes as are necessary to make a complete record of the existing situation and of the operations during the period. When any part of the subject matter of the report can be shown clearly on a map, this should be done. In such cases no entry need be made under the appropriate heading of the report except the statement, "Map." Units smaller than the division usually submit one report based on the appropriate topical headings of the four section reports. When a marked change has occurred in any organization, this fact will be noted.
2. Omit any subheading under which there is nothing to report.

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**SECRET**

S-2 PERIODIC REPORT

S-2 REPORT<sup>1</sup>

From: (Date and hour)  
To: (Date and hour)  
Issuing unit  
Place  
Date and hour

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Maps: (Those needed for an understanding of the report.)

1. ENEMY SITUATION AT END OF PERIOD.<sup>2</sup>

- a. Enemy front line (or nearest elements).--Location and nature.
- b. Defensive organization.--Trenches, emplacements, observation posts, command posts, obstacles, etc.
- c. Units in contact.--Composition of units, with identifications if known; location of their flanks; estimated combat efficiency (strength, training, physical condition, morale, and other pertinent factors).
- d. Artillery.--Location and calibers.
- e. Reserves and other forces capable of intervention.--Location, strength, composition, dispositions, estimated combat efficiency, and where and when they probably can be employed.
- f. Supply and evacuation establishments.--Location and nature.

2. ENEMY OPERATIONS DURING PERIOD.<sup>2</sup>

- a. General summary.--Action of enemy force as a whole.
- b. Operations of component elements.
  - (1) Antiaircraft artillery.
  - (2) Antitank units.
  - (3) Armored forces.
  - (4) Artillery.
  - (5) Aviation, combat.
  - (6) Aviation, observation, including balloons.
  - (7) Cavalry.
  - (8) Chemical Warfare.
  - (9) Engineers.
  - (10) Infantry.
  - (11) Tanks.
  - (12) Administrative elements.
- c. Miscellaneous.--Such enemy activities, movements, or changes since last report as are not conveniently included in b above.

3. MISCELLANEOUS.<sup>2</sup>

- a. Estimated enemy casualties, including prisoners.
- b. Morale.
- c. Supply and equipment.
- d. Terrain not under our control.
- e. Enemy's probable knowledge of our situation--Observation, reconnaissance, prisoners and documents lost by us, inhabitants, etc.
- f. Weather and visibility, including meteorological conditions in enemy territory.

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S-2 REPORT (continued)

g. Any enemy intelligence not specifically covered by headings of this report.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.—A discussion of each of the lines of action open to the enemy which may affect the accomplishment of our mission, in order of their possible imminence. For each capability, the effect of time, space, terrain, present known dispositions, and other factors in the situation should be evaluated. The earliest estimated time at which the enemy can put each into effect should be stated. When applicable, the possible result of the adoption by the enemy of any capability should be included.

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S-2.

NOTES

1. Submitted as ordered by higher authority or the commander. To be supported by such maps and annexes as are necessary to make a complete record of the existing situation and of the operations during the period. When any part of the subject matter of the report can be shown clearly on a map, this should be done. In such cases, no entry need be made under the appropriate heading of the report except the statement, "Map." Units smaller than the division usually submit one report based on the appropriate topical headings of the four section reports. In a fast moving situation, this report may consist of a few essentials which can be quickly compiled and rapidly transmitted.
2. Omit any subheading under which there is nothing to report.

SECRET

S-4 PERIODIC REPORT

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S-4 REPORT<sup>1</sup>

From: (Date and hour)  
To: (Date and hour)  
Issuing unit  
Place of issue  
Date and hour of issue

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Maps: (Those needed for an understanding of the report.)

1. LOCATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE TROOPS AND INSTALLATIONS.<sup>2</sup>--Changes during and location at close of period.
2. STATUS OF SUPPLY (all classes).--On hand, en route, remaining credits; broken down into the several classes, and as necessary further broken down into important items.
3. STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION.--By organization; vehicles on hand serviceable and unserviceable; replacements expected.
4. STATUS OF EVACUATION (men and animals).--Evacuation during period and casualties in hand at close of period.
5. CONDITION OF ROADS AND STATUS OF CIRCULATION.
6. SALVAGE AND CAPTURED MATERIAL.--Amounts, kinds, reissues, and evacuation of.
7. ACTIVITIES.--Anything of particular importance or of interest.

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S-4.

NOTES

1. Submitted as ordered by the commander. To be supported by such maps and annexes as are necessary to make a complete record of the existing situation and of the operations during the period. When any part of the subject matter of the report can be shown clearly on a map, this should be done. In such cases, no entry need be made under the appropriate heading of the report except the statement, "Map," Units smaller than the division usually submit one report based on the appropriate topical headings of the four section reports.  
Omit any subheading under which there is nothing to report.
2. Less installations pertaining to replacements, prisoners of war, stragglers, and refugees. (See par. 2, S-1 Report).

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OK

S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

ANNEX NO. 15 TO ACCOMPANY FIELD ORDER NO. 1

AIR-GROUND SUPPORT

1. Air support will be available as follows:

- a. H hour to H plus  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours - 4 B-25 planes on air alert over the target area.
- b. H plus  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours to conclusion of mission - by request through regiment. The absolute minimum time required before the requested mission can be flown is four (4) hours.

2. Communication to B-25 planes on air alert:

- a. By panels - see Signal Annex, Incl. 7.
- b. By radio from Regimental CP.

3. In addition to the airplane signals listed in the Signal Annex, the following signal will be added:

Green blinking light from pilot's cabin of flight leader signifies "MISSION COMPLETED".

4. A B-25 carries the following ammunition:

- a. 450 rds. 50 cal. per gun.
- b. 12 fragmentation bomb clusters. The bursting radius of one cluster is approximately sixty (60) yards.

5. Under usual circumstances the above ammunition will be sufficient for:

- a. Eight (8) strafing missions.
- b. Three (3) bombing missions.

6. In requesting air support missions, the following safety precautions should be observed:

- a. The target designated for attack should not repeat not be closer than 300 yards to our front line.
- b. Our front lines should be indicated to the supporting planes by orange and white panels.

BY order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Off.

OFFICIAL::

*Donald A. Crawford*  
DONALD A. CRAWFORD,  
WOJG, 503d Parachute Inf.,  
Adjutant.

ENCLOSURE #15

S E C R E T

(1)

S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

ANNEX NO. 16 TO ACCOMPANY FIELD ORDER NO. 1

PRESS CORRESPONDENTS

1. Press Correspondents and photographers are assigned to enplaning as follows:

a. With 1st Bn - Regt'l Hq Co - Service Co flight:

Plane #1 (first line) - TURCOTT  
Plane #7 (second line) - WIDDIS, AP Photo.  
Plane #8 (second line) - WESTON, Morning papers.  
Plane #25 (fifth line) - KLEBAN

b. With 2d Bn:

Plane #6 (first line) - COURTNEY, London Times  
Plane #7 (second line) - DRIVER, DID  
Plane #15 (third line) - MARIAN, ABC

c. With 3d Bn:

Plane #1 (first line) - SMITH, Chicago Times  
Plane #7 (second line) - Sgt. WILLIAMS, Sig. Photo  
Plane #15 (third line) - PETERSON, Evening Papers

d. With B-17 Supply Plane:

CROTCHET - Universal News  
CASWELL - UP, AP, INS.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Off..

OFFICIAL:

*E. A. Crawford*  
E. A. CRAWFORD,  
WOJG, 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Adjutant.

S E C R E T

INCLOSURE #16

S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

Hq. 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
APO 704,  
3 September 43 1615 hr.

APPENDIX NO. 1 TO FIELD ORDER #1.

RESUPPLY PDAN

1.. Planes:

- (a) Three (3) B-17 bombers will be used for resupply. These planes will come from 43rd Squad of the 5th Bomber Command.
- (b) Two (2) B-17s will leave for Forward Base Z minus 1 day to report to MR. SMITH for loading.
- (c) One (1) B-17 will take off from Jackson Strip on Z Day.
- (d) Resupply planes will be numbered 1 to 3 for radio calls.

2.. Plane Loadings:

- (a) Plane No. 1 will take off from JACKSON STRIP loaded as follows:
  - (1) 75 ea. land mines
  - (2) 100 ea. anti-personnel mines
  - (3) 50 ea. concertinas
  - (4) 81 mm shell 12 units
  - (5) 60 mm shell 24 units
  - (6) M/G Ammo 15 units
  - (7) Grenades, hand, 20 units.
- (b) Plane No. 2 will be loaded on call at Forward Base loaded as follows:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Artillery ammo, 125 rls.</li><li>(2) 50 Cal. m/g</li><li>(3) Anti-personnel mines, 200</li><li>(4) Concertinas, 60</li><li>(5) 81 mm shell, 15 units</li><li>(6) 60 mm shell, 25 units</li><li>(7) Med. Resupply, 1st Bn - 2 Bdl.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(8) Grenades, hand, 20 units</li><li>(9) A. T. Grenades, 10 units</li><li>(10) M/G Ammo, 15 units</li><li>(11) 50 Cal. Ammo, 4 units</li><li>(12) Med. Resupply, 2d Bn, 2 Bdl.</li><li>(13) Med. Resupply, 3d Bn, 2 Bdl.</li><li>(14) Med. Resupply, RHQ, 6 Bdl.</li></ul>
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- (c) Plane No. 3 will be loaded on call at Forward Base loaded as follows:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) Artillery Ammo, 125 rds.</li><li>(2) 81 mm shell, 15 units</li><li>(3) 60 mm shell, 25 units</li><li>(4) M/G Ammo, 15 units</li><li>(5) Grenade, hand, 20 units</li><li>(6) Flame Throwers, 2 units</li><li>(7) Defense Bundles, 3d Bn.</li><li>(8) Defence Bundles, 2d Bn.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(9) Defence Bundles, 3d Bn.</li><li>(10) A.T. Grenade, 10 units</li><li>(11) Cal..30 Ammo 8 rd., 15 units</li><li>(12) Cal..30 Ammo, carbine, 15 units</li><li>(13) 50. Cal. Ammo, 4 units</li><li>(14) T.S.M.G. Ammo, 10 units</li><li>(15) Radio 511, on call.</li></ul>
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3. Planes will return to Forward Base when their dropping is completed re-loaded as follows:

(a) Plane No. 1

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) C. P. Tents, 2 ea.</li><li>(2) M/G Heavy, 1st Bn.</li><li>(3) M/G Heavy, 2d Bn.</li><li>(4) M/G Heavy, 3d Bn.</li><li>(5) M/G Ammo, 15 units</li><li>(6) Signal Ground, 2 units</li><li>(7) 81 mm shell, 15 units</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(8) 60 mm shell, 25 units</li><li>(9) Grenade, hand, 20 units</li><li>(10) A.T. Grenade, 10 units</li><li>(11) Cal. .30 Ammo, 8 rd, 15 units</li><li>(12) Cal. .30 Ammo, 5 rd, 10 units</li><li>(13) Cal. .30 Carbine, 15 units</li><li>(14) T.S.M.G. Ammo, 10 units</li></ul> |
|---|--|

(b) At this time it is planned that the ground will be stabilized and normal plane loadings for planes returning will be done. Plane will wait on call.

4. Plane loadings are subject to change due to requirements of the combat troops.

S E C R E T  
NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO COMBAT

APPENDIX NO. 11 (Cont'd)

5.. Plane Crews:

- (a) Each plane will consist of ten (10) men.
  - (1) Four (4) at rear door to throw bundles.
  - (2) Four (4) at bomb bays to throw bundles.
  - (3) One (1) at bombardier as jumpmaster.
  - (4) One (1) at radio room as radio liaison.
- (b) Jumpmasters:
  - (1) Major IMHOFF
  - (2) Lt. DICK
  - (3) Lt. RUSSELL
- (c) Radio Liaison:
  - (1) W. O. SMITH
  - (2) Lt. CAMPBELL
  - (3) Mr. Sgt. STALEY
- (d) Enlisted Men at Forward Base will be split up eight (8) men per

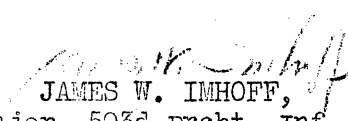
plane.

6. MAJOR IMHOFF will jumpmaster all planes if possible.

By order of Colonel KINSLER:

JOE S. LAWRIE,  
Lt. Col., 503d Prcht. Inf.,  
Exec. Off.

OFFICIAL:

  
JAMES W. IMHOFF,  
Major, 503d prcht. Inf.,  
S-4.

# DISTRIBUTION LIST

UNIT	FO	ANNEXES NO 1-17	APPENDIX NO 1 & 2	MAPS	PHOTOS	PREARRANGED MSG CODE	SIMPLIFIED SWPA PANEL CODE
GHQ	1	1	1	Sec Map Dist List	Sec Photo Dist List	1	1
5th AF	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
7th Div	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
6th Army	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
ABC	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
1st Marine Prcht Regt	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
C.O.	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
Ex O	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
S-1	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
S-2	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
S-3	1	1	1	do	do	1	1
S-4	1	1(No. 7-8)	1	do	do	8	8
Surgeon	1	1		do	do		1
C.O. 1st Bn	1	1(No. 7-16)	1		do	16	16
C.O. 2d Bn	1	1(No. 7-16)	1		do	16	16
C.O. 3d Bn	1	1(No. 7-16)	1		do	16	16
Air Support Officer	1	1(No. 7-4)		do		4	4
Sig Off	1	1(No. 7-3)		do		10	3
2/2 Pioneer Br	1	1		do		1	1
Det 2/4 FD Regt		1(No. 3) 1(No. 4)					
Press		12(No. 16 only)					
File	2	2	2	do	do	2	2

NOTE: No. 7 is Signal Annex

# MAPS, PHOTO MAPS, AND AERIAL PHOTOS DISTRIBUTION LIST

## MAPS:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>
Portion of Nadzab	1750	1 per jumper
New Guinea (LAE)	19	3 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
New Guinea (NADZAB)	16	3 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
New Guinea (HEATHS)	19	3 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
NADZAB	198	10 per co, 3 per bn
Provisional Map (ROAMER)	19	3 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
Provisional Map (Waino)	14	3 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
Provisional Map (LERON)	19	3 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
Provisional Map (NADZAB)	13	3 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co

## PHOTOMAPS

### Verticles:

NADZAB	150	7 per co, 3 per bn
CABSONKEK	38	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
MARKHAM POINT	40	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
HEATHS	18	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
MUNUM	35	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
ATZERTA RANGE	20	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
LAE	20	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
LABO	20	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co
NARAKAPUR	20	4 per bn, 1 RHQ, 1 Ser Co

### Obliques:

NADZAB STRIP (Looking SE)	100	6 per co, 3 per bn
NADZAB STRIP (Looking 160°)	100	6 per co, 3 per bn
NADZAB STRIP (Looking E)	100	6 per co, 3 per bn

## AERIAL PHOTOS:

### Obliques:

	Set	
A.S.P. No. 117	14	10 per 2d Bn
A.S.P. No. 118	14	10 per 1st Bn
A.S.P. No. 119	14	10 per 3d Bn