

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
BEACH GROUP
540TH ENGINEER REGIMENT
A.P.O. #758

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: S E C R E T
: AUTH: CG 45th Div.
: INITS: *ALW*
: DATE: *5 Sept 1943*
:

4 September 1943.

Field Order No. 2

Maps: Italy 1/250, Sheets 35 and 36.

I. a. The assault will be opposed initially by units of the Coastal Divisions. These are composed of troops assigned to specific fixed defences, and to motorized groups roughly equivalent to our battalion, with a disproportionate number of machine guns and a battery of 75's. These mobile groups will probably be employed as local reserves.

Total estimated enemy troops in general vicinity of landings on D-Day:

Three German Divisions
One Italian Division
Two Italian Coastal Divisions

b. Fixed defences consist of concrete pill boxes, strong points surrounded by wire, machine gun emplacements, tank traps and anti-tank ditches and numerous prepared battery positions.

The beaches may be wired, with booby traps, tank and anti-personnel mines. The exits and defiles are probably mined. Important road junctions are covered with road blocks, anti-tank ditches and registered artillery fire.

II. Mission:

a. General: Sail with assault convoy prepared to land in support of any of the planned assaults on Italy.

b. Specific: Organize and operate the necessary beaches for the landing of troops and supplies of the 45th Division combat teams.

c. Troops:

157 RCT
179 RCT
Beach Group.

III. a. First Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment -- See Annex 1.
Second Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment - See Annex 1A.

IV. Administrative Instructions.

a. Uniform:

Wool, O. D.
Leggings
Helmet, steel

b. Individual Equipment:

(1) Individual arms with belt full of ammunition and one bandolier.

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The haversack or bag will contain:

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The haversack or bag will contain:

- 1 Raincoat
- 1 Pair socks
- Toilet Articles
- 1 can insect powder
- 1 bottle Halazone tablets
- Salt Tablets

(2) A blanket roll containing the following will be prepared by each Enlisted Man and will accompany soldier:

- 1 Shelter half, poles, pins, ropes.
- 1 Blanket
- 1 Suit Underwear
- 2 pairs socks
- 1 pair of shoes
- 1 pair Leggings
- 1 Suit of Fatigue Clothes
- 1 Mosquito Net

c. Rations:

- 1 type C to be issued on craft for consumption during voyage.
- 1-1/3 type K, to be carried ashore with individual.
- 1 type C, and 1 type K, will be carried in kitchen truck.

d. Water:

- Full canteen of water will be carried by individuals going ashore.
- Every vehicle will carry 1 - gal. can of water.
- All commanders will enforce strict water discipline throughout the operation.

e. Gas and Oil:

Each vehicle will land with tank full (90%) and carrying extra gasoline and oil as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1/2 and 3/4 Ton | 1 - 5 gal. can. |
| Large Vehicles | 2 - 5 gal. cans. |
| All vehicles | 5 qts. oil in cans. |

f. Baggage.

Officers baggage and barracks bags will be loaded in vehicles to come on 3 and 4 follow-up.

g. The Commanding Officer of the Beach Group will perform the following functions:

- (1) Clear the beach
- (2) Erect markers
- (3) Mark Routes
- (4) Establish a motor park
- (5) Operation of 2 1/2 ton Amphibious (Dukws)
- (6) Select and establish dumps
- (7) Mark dumps
- (8) Develop beach and/or dock installations and beach roads.
- (9) Establish clearing stations and evacuation across beach.

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- (10) Furnish guides for traffic control
- (11) Unload all ships and craft directly into dumps, avoiding accumulation of supplies on beach.
- (12) Receive and check into dumps.
- (13) Units operating dumps will submit hourly reports of supplies on hand, received and issued, supplies delivered from beaches.
- (14) Provide labor for issuing from dumps under supervision of C-...
- (15) Erect and operate prisoner of war enclosures, utilizing detachment Co. "A" 504 M. P. Bn., prepare and submit Nominal Rosters.

h. Supply:
See Annex 2.

i. Medical:
See Annex 3.

j. Prisoners of War:
See Annex 4.

V. a. Command Post:
Beach Group ---- Colonel G. W. Marvin.
1st Bn., 540th Engr. Regt. ---- Lt. Col. D. J. Manning
2nd Bn., 540th Engr. Regt. ---- Maj. C. S. Monnier

b. Radio silence until H-hour.

George W. Marvin
GEORGE W. MARVIN
Colonel, C.E.,
Commanding.

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Annex 1 to Field Order No. 2.

1. First Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment will assist the landing of the 179th Infantry Regiment.
2. Battalion team 286th Signal Co. (Amphb) is attached to the First Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment, and will assist them in lateral and forward communication.
3. Company "A", 53rd Q.M. Bn., is attached to the 1st Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment, and will assist the unloading of supplies by use of Dukws. Dukws will not travel forward of the beach dumps except on orders from the shore party commander.
4. 242nd Q.M. Bn. will assist the 1st Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment in the unloading and transporting of supplies from the craft to the beach dumps.
5. A detachment of Company "A", 504th M. P. Bn. will assist the 1st Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment, in the control of traffic and operation of POW enclosures.

X. The Engineer Shore Party C. O. is in command of the beach, subject to orders of Higher Headquarters. His decision as to movement of vehicles, personnel and supplies across the beaches is to be observed. Vehicles will not debarke until signalled to do so from the shore.

No supplies will be issued from the beach.

It is necessary for effective operation of the beach; that only persons engaged in necessary work will be allowed on the beach; all other personnel will stay off the beach unless required there by official business. The Shore Party C. O. has authority to utilize labor of all idle enlisted personnel, men separated from units, and stragglers until they can be returned to their organization.

Within the limits dictated by G-2, the Shore Party C. O. may utilize properly guarded prisoners if casualties and or flow of supplies demand it. Before decision to employ POW labor is made, all sources of Allied personnel will be exhausted.

Shore party vehicles will not be commandeered; vehicles needed will be requested of S. P. Commander.

Upon landing each unit or detachment will report to the Beach Command Post.

Within the framework of general beach security, as provided by the Engineer Shore Party each separate unit or detachment commander will be responsible for both ground and anti-aircraft defence of his unit, personnel, installations and equipment. Weapons will not be fired except at positively identified enemy targets.

Lt. Col. D. J. Manning is appointed Beach Provost Marshal; Assistant Provost Marshals will be: 1st Lt. R. E. Irvin, 1st Lt. H. Poivey, 1st Lt. S. R. Sadowski.

By Order of Colonel MARVIN:

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S. A. Knapp
S. A. KNAPP
Capt., C.E.,
S-3

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Annex 1A to Field Order No. 2.

1. Second Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment will assist the landing of the 157th Infantry Regiment.
2. Battalion teams 286th Signal Co. (Amphb) is attached to the Second Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment, and will assist them in lateral and forward communication.
3. Co. "A", 242 Q.M. Bn. will assist the 2nd Bn. 540th Engr. Regt. in the unloading and transporting of supplies from the craft to the beach dumps.
4. A detachment of Co. "A", 504th M. P. Bn. will assist the 2nd Battalion, 540th Engineer Regiment, in the control of traffic and operation of POW enclosures.

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Shore party vehicles will not be commandeered; vehicles needed will be requested of S. P. Commander.

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Within the framework of general beach security, as provided by the Engineer Shore Party each separate unit or detachment commander will be responsible for both ground and anti-aircraft defence of his unit, personnel, installations, and equipment. Weapons will not be fired except at positively identified enemy targets.

Major C. S. Monnier is appointed Beach Provost Marshal; assistant Provost Marshals will be 1st Lt. T. J. Rice, Capt. E. A. Nagy.

By Order of Colonel MARVIN:

S. A. Knapp
S. A. KNAPP
Capt., C.E.,
S-3

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Annex 2 to Field Order No. 2.

Supply:

1. All supplies will be transported across the beach and will be placed in supply dumps, behind the dune-line, by the Engineer Shore Party. Issue of supplies will be under the supervision of Division G-4 or his representatives.

2. The supply channels are: Units will send necessary transportation to supply dumps for the supplies. Supplies will be drawn through the Division G-4 representative at the dump.

By Order of Colonel MARVIN:

S. A. Knapp
S. A. KNAPP
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Annex 3 to Field Order No. 2.

Medical Annex:

- I. Medical Supply:
Initial: Limited to equipment actually carried in by the men.
Later: Equipment carried by Battalion Aid Stations.
- II. Evacuation:
Army Aid Stations: Each company will initially set up and operate an aid station supplemented by the Battalion Aid Station. These stations will care for all beach casualties. Initial evacuation will be done by hand carry (litters). Casualties will be evacuated from these stations by the Shore Party Commander.
- III. Burial:
Initial: This will be done by Company Burial Parties, to which is attached a Medical Department Enlisted Man, to tag those not already tagged, and remove the tags from all those before burial. Each company will have a G. R. S. officer.
Later: The Chaplain, 540th Engineer Regiment will assume control of burying activities.
- IV. Salvage:
Clothing, etc. of wounded men will be collected in dumps near the aid station, and later disposed of.
Weapons: No weapons will remain in the Aid Station, or in vehicles marked with the Red Cross. Dumps will be established for such weapons.
- V. Prisoners of War.
Wounded prisoners brought to Aid Station directly will be immediately searched, and all documents, weapons, and anything that might be of military value, will be removed, placed in his coat or hat, and sent to the P. W. enclosure.
Wounded Prisoners brought to Aid Station from the P. W. Enclosure will be treated after all urgent cases, Allied, have been cared for.
If prisoners talk, contact the Shore Party C. P. at once, and bring a prisoner interrogator, or use any man in the vicinity who speaks the language.
- VI. Stragglers:
Stragglers will be used at the nearest Aid Station that needs them.
- VII. Sanitation.
A high standard of sanitation is essential. Commanding Officers of all grades are responsible for the correction of sanitary defects in their areas. Medical officers are responsible for the detection of sanitary defects, and making recommendations for their correction.

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VIII. Rules of Land Warfare as applied to Medical Department Activities:
All medical personnel will refrain from entering combat activity.
No medical personnel will bear arms. No officer or Enlisted Man will require medical personnel to engage in combat.
No vehicle marked with the Red Cross will be used for any purpose other than medical or sanitary service.
Medical installations marked with the Red Cross will not be used for any purpose other than the service of the Medical Department.

By Order of Colonel MARVIN:

S. A. Knapp
S. A. KNAPP,
Capt., C.E.,
S-3

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ANNEX #1

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Annex 4 to Field Order No. 2.

Intelligence:

OPERATION OF BEACH PRISONER OF WAR ENCLOSURERef: SOP Hq 45th Inf Div Int Memo #17 5 Aug. 43; SOP P & R Adm Hq 45th Inf
Div 31 Aug 43; Int Instr AFHQ #32A 20 April 43.1. PRISONERS OF WAR.

a. All personnel belonging to armed forces of enemy captured in course of Military Operations whether land, naval, or air; enemy civilian personnel until their classification is determined by higher headquarters are to be treated as internees and kept separate from prisoners of war.

2. PROCEDURE:

a. It will be the responsibility of the shore party Commander to establish and maintain a Prisoner of War Enclosure. If Shore Parties land on widely separated beaches it will be necessary for each to construct and operate it's own POW; if beaches are adjacent the POW may be consolidated for the Battalion.

b. Attached (Appendix #1) is a suggested plan for POW Enclosure. These sizes are based upon an arbitrary flow of two thousand (2,000) POW's daily and must be varied depending upon the actual situation encountered. Main points to be remembered are: construction of a collection point for searching, and processing; construction of a Cage permitting segregation by nationality, rank; provisions for collection of confiscated materiel.

c. When prisoners arrive at Beach POW they will be escorted by MP's of 45th Inf Division. They should be already tagged and disarmed. The following steps will be taken by the Shore Party POW Section:

(1) At Collection Point-

(a) Searching - Articles to be taken from POW are: Weapons, Ammunition, trench knives, etc., Papers containing military information, scissors, jack knives, straight edge razors (not safety razors), sums of money in excess of \$30.00 (This will be receipted for by an officer and the money turned over to whatever agency (higher headquarters or navy) who receive POW,). Articles to be retained by POW are: watches, fountain pens, jewelry, personal letters, money up to \$30.00, blankets, mess kits, gas masks, steel helmets, or personal items, identification tags or cards.

(b) Processing - Each prisoner will have his last name, first name, rank, date of birth, date of capture, unit, identity disc details entered upon Nominal Roster (copy attached as Appendix #2). Directions as to number of copies (6) and distribution are indicated on Roster. Separate rosters will be kept for Germans and Italians. Any prisoners not tagged will be tagged at processing point if tags are available. Section of Cage in which POW is to be incarcerated will be indicated on tag (German Officer, Italian NCO, etc.)

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(2) At Cage - Prisoners will be kept segregated within sections of the cage. Prisoner labor will be utilized to dig latrines. Prisoners will be permitted to pitch pup tents if they remain overnight. Eating will be at regular times and supervised by Shore Party POW Section. Captured foodstuffs will be utilized to maximum. If none are available food will be obtained from Class I Dumps. Every economy in use of U. S. foodstuffs will be maintained. If shortage of food prevails meals might be cut to one a day. Water will be severely rationed and wastage prevented.

2. EVACUATION.

a. Normally evacuation will be by ship thru the Navy Beachmaster or Shore Party C. O. if no Navy Beachmaster is available. Communications between beach and Cage is necessary. Beach should call cage indicating number of Prisoners there is space for on craft. Correct number of prisoners will be called out of cage by Roster. This must be double checked. Prisoners will be escorted to beach by armed guard. Two (2) copies of nominal roster will accompany POW's. One (1) will be retained by skipper of ship. One (1) will be receipted for by naval officer in charge and returned to cage. If no craft are available for evacuation, prisoners will be held in cage until evacuated to Task Force Cage or until Shore Party is relieved of cage by Division at which time all rosters and records will be turned over and Shore Party responsibilities are ended.

4. INTERROGATION AND DOCUMENTS.

a. Normally interrogation will be conducted solely by special Divisional or Task Force POW Interrogator Teams, who will situate themselves in vicinity of Collection Point. They will be informed whenever officers are received at Collection Point. In the absence of specialized interrogators the Shore Party POW Officer may interrogate as regards information of direct interest to the Shore Party only. If no specialized interrogators are present, But Regimental S-2 is, he will conduct all interrogation.

b. If POW Interrogator Teams are available, all documents will be turned over to them. If they are not but Regimental S-2 is, he will receive all documents. If neither is present the Shore Party POW Officer will evaluate documents and forward direct to Division A. C. of S., G-2. Documents of especial importance are: any maps or overlays, operations orders, SOI, codes, defense plans.

5. SUGGESTED PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT FOR SHORE PARTY POW SECTION.

a. Personnel - One Officer in Charge;
 Searching Party - 2 EM.
 Guards for Collecting Point - 2 EM.
 Typist and Clerk at Processing Point - 1 EM.
 Italian & German Interpreter at Processing Point - 1 EM (each).

NOTE: Figures given here are for one shift. MF personnel if available should be utilized for searching and guard.

Guards at Each Cage - 4 EM.
 Reserve of Guards for Escorting - 6 EM.
 Interpreter at Each Cage - 1 EM.
 Runners - 2 EM.
 Message Center - 1 EM each at Beach Telephone if evacuation by craft is possible and 1 EM at Cage Telephone.

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- a. Personnel (Cont'd) Ration and Water Detail - 2 EM
(1 platoon from Engr. Shore Party for original construction of POW.)
- b. Equipment - Barbed Wire - 15 Reels.
Stakes or Long Pickets - 200.
Typewriters - 2.
Telephones - 2.
Stationery, carbon paper, Nominal Rosters,
POW Tags.
 $\frac{1}{4}$ Ton Truck - 1 (for runner).
 $\frac{3}{4}$ Ton W. C. - 1 (for rations and water, administration).
Machine Gun, Cal..30 - 1.

6. MISCELLANEOUS.

a. Captured Medical personnel will be used in treating of POW's. If none available, severe cases will be treated by Medical Aid Station. Minor injuries will be taken care of by Company Aid Man.

b. All documents forwarded directly to A. C. of S., G-2, by Shore Party POW Officer (in absence of Regimental S-2 or POW Interrogation Teams) will be marked as to date and time of capture, place found or captured, and identification of person taken from, if captured.

By Order of Colonel MARVIN:

Edward L. Fizdale
EDWARD L. FIZDALE
Captain, C.E.,
S-2.