

THIS ORDER WILL NOT BE TAKEN INTO THE AIR.

MOST SECRET

2 SOUTH STAFFORDS

O.O. No. 1

Copy No. . .

30 Jun 43

"BIGOT"

Ref Maps 1/25,000 Sheet 274 II S.W.
1/100,000 Sheets 274,277.
LADBROKE Town Plan
G.S. G.S.No.4579.

[...sections 1 to 4 not transcribed...]

INTENTION.

5. 2 SOUTH STAFFORDS will:-
- (a) Capture intact the bridges "WATERLOO" and "PUTNEY".
 - (b) Destroy coastal battery "MOSQUITO".
 - (c) Capture enemy defences at BILSTON, WALSALL and GNAT.
 - (d) Occupy and hold against enemy counter attack WATERLOO, PUTNEY, BILSTON and WALSALL.

METHOD.

6. General Plan

The Bn Gp will be divided into two Forces - North and South.

7. North Force.

- (a) Composition. A. and C. Coys and att'd tps.
- (b) Phases.
 - (i) The capture of WATERLOO and PUTNEY by A. and C. Coys.
 - (ii) The capture of WALSALL by C Coy (if C Coy cannot undertake this task it will be taken on by B Coy.)
- (c) Consolidation. A Coy area PUTNEY. C Coy Area WATERLOO.

8. South Force.

- (a) Composition. Bn Gp less A. and C. Coys.
- (b) Phases.
 - (i) The destruction of MOSQUITO by D Coy and the capture of BILSTON by B Coy.
 - (ii) The neutralisation of GNAT by the Glider Pilot Sqn.
 - (iii) The capture of WALSALL by E Coy.
 - (iv) The final liquidation of GNAT by B and D Coys.
- (c) Consolidation.
 - B Coy area BILSTON.
 - D Coy area High ground West of GNAT.
 - E Coy area WALSALL.
 - 2 Sqn Glider Pilot Regt on capture of GNAT revert to Deputy Bde Comd control at WATERLOO.

9. Detailed Plan as follows:-

North Force

10. A COY (a) Under comd 2 O.Rs. 9 Fd Coy R.E.
(b) Gliders available - 2 HORSAS and 4 WACOS.
(c) Landing area - N.W. of WATERLOO. See drawing 'A'.
(d) Tasks
(i) To occupy DUDLEY.
(ii) To capture GORNAL.
(iii) To establish all round protection in area PUTNEY.
(iv) To block the main road running North - South and East - West.
(v) To form ammn dump in area bridge 118293.

(e) Special Equipment

One airborne pannier containing ammn in ea of two HORSAS.
25 ft of 'rabbit' wire per Pl.
24 ft bangalore torpedoe per pl.
Pole charge per pl.
Two No. 18 Wireless sets.
Four grappling irons.

11. C COY (a) Under comd one officer and one O.R. 9 Fd Coy R.E.
(b) Gliders available - 4 HORSAS.
(c) Landing Area - S.W. of WATERLOO. See drawing A.
(d) Tasks
(i) To capture intact WATERLOO.
(ii) To occupy high ground 400 yds North of WALSALL.
(iii) To block road at road junc 300 yds North of WATERLOO.
(iv) To patrol to factory bldgs South of CALSHOT.
(v) To form ammn dump in area bridge 118293.
(vi) If possible, after capture of WATERLOO, to capture WALSALL.

(e) Special Equipment.

One airborne pannier containing ammn in ea of three gliders.
25 ft of rabbit wire per Pl.
One 24 ft Bangalore torpedoe per pl.
One pole charge per pl.
Two No. 18 Wireless Sets.
One flame thrower.
Four grappling irons.

South Force.

12. D COY (a) Under comd one sub sec 9 Fd Coy R.E.
(b) Gliders available - 11 WACOS (D Coy-10, 9 Fd Coy-1).
(c) Landing zone - See drawing 'B'.
(d) Tasks
(i) To destroy coastal bty MOSQUITO.
(ii) After destruction of MOSQUITO to be prepared to destroy gun posns at *[blank in one copy, erased in another]*
(iii) To be prepared to attack WATERLOO.

(e) Special Equipment.

Eight handcarts.
One Pole charge per pl.
One 24 ft bangalore torpedoe per pl.
25 ft of rabbit wire per pl.
Two No. 18 Wireless Sets.

13. B COY (a) Gliders available - 10 WACOS.
(b) Landing area - See drawing B.
(c) Tasks
(i) To occupy all enemy positions in BILSTON.

- (ii) To clear all bldgs on axis of advance from Pt B to WALSALL via Pt.C.
- (iii) To drop picquet of one sec at X rds 400 yds South East of BILSTON.
- (iv) To be prepared to hold BILSTON after Bn has consolidated.
- (v) To be prepared to destroy MOSQUITO in the event of failure of D Coy to land.
- (vi) To be prepared to liquidate GNAT.

(d) Special equipment.

Eight handcarts.
 One Pole Charge per pl and two for Coy H.Q.
 One 24 ft. Bangalore torpedoe per pl and two for Coy H.Q.
 25 ft of rabbit wire per pl.
 One flame thrower.
 Two No. 18 Wireless Sets.
 Four grappling irons.

14. D & B COYS must each be prepared to exchange roles and tasks.

15. E COY (a) Gliders available - 6 WACOS.

(b) Landing area - see drawing B.

(c) Tasks

- (i) To capture WALSALL.
- (ii) To clear all bldgs on axis of advance from Pt B to WALSALL.
- (iii) To be prepared to attack WATERLOO.

(d) Special equipment

Four handcarts.
 Four folding cycles.
 One 24 ft Bangalore torpedoe per pl.
 One Pole charge per pl.
 25 ft rabbit wire per pl.
 Two No.18 Wireless sets.
 Four grappling irons.

16. 2 Sqn Glider Pilot Regt.

- (a) Armament 75% O.R. pilots to carry rifles and 120 rds of ammn. Remainder O.Rs. to carry stens and 8 mags.
 Two No. 36 and two No. 77 grenades per pilot.
 Bren guns on a scale of one to every ten pilots with 20 mags per gun (2 S. Staffords to provide).
 All O.R. pilots to carry a pick or shovel (2 S. Staffords to provide).

(b) North Force Pilots will remain with their respective Coy HQs as a reserve force and will be prepared to:-

- (1) Protect the Coy ammn dump.
- (2) Rejoin their Sqn when ordered. RV will be S.W. corner of WATERLOO bdge.

(c) South Force Pilots (less H Coy (6-pdr) Pilots) will:-

- (i) Assist their respective glider loads to pull handcarts and carry ammn.
- (ii) Move to GNAT when ordered, and seize HIGH GROUND West of it.
- (iii) Seize high ground West of GNAT.
- (iv) To be prepared to take over the defence of WATERLOO under Deputy Bde Comd.

(d) H Coy (6-Pdr) Second Pilots will remain under command of the 6 pdr Det Comd throughout the op. First pilots will report to Sqn Comd at Bn RV.

17. Mortar Pl (a) Gliders available - 4 WACOS.
 (b) Landing area - see drawing B.
 (c) Tasks
 (i) To remain in reserve Area Bn HQ.
 (ii) To be prepared to: -
 Support co-ordinated attack on WATERLOO.
 (iii) To be prepared to take on D.F. and S.O.S.
 tasks from areas WATERLOO and PUTNEY.
18. Pioneer Pl (a) Gliders available - 2 WACOS.
 (b) Landing area - see drawing B.
 (c) Tasks
 To be prepared to:-
 (i) Protect comd post at rd and tk junc at 127269 and
 at Rd junc 127278.
 (ii) Assist with Bangalore torpedoes and pole charges
 at BILSTON, GNAT and WALSALL.
 (iii) Assist 9 Fd Coy R.E. in rendering WATERLOO safe
 for use by 5 Div.
 (iv) Assist in the destruction of guns at MOSQUITO and
 GNAT.
 (v) Clear minefields if and when encountered.
 (vi) Lay minefields up to 100 yds as ordered.
 (vii) Neutralize enemy booby traps.
 (viii) Construct command post area WATERLOO.
19. H Coy 2 dets 6 pdr gun
 (a) Gliders available - 4 WACOS.
 (b) Landing area - see drawing B.
 (c) Tasks
 (i) Establish all round protection in area S.W. of
 X rds 132268.
 (ii) Shoot up enemy posns at GNAT on C.O's orders.
 (iii) Shoot up pill boxes at BILSTON on orders of OC
 E Coy.
 (iv) Protect WATERLOO from armoured attack from
 direction of PUTNEY and LADBROKE.
20. 9 Fd Coy R.E.
 (a) 1 Offr and 3 O.Rs under command A and C Coys.
 One sub sec under command D Coy.
 Tasks as detailed for respective Coys.
 (b) One sec (less one sub-sec) Bn reserve.
 Task - to render WATERLOO safe for use by 5 Div,
 (c) When WATERLOO posn becomes stabilised, all REs under comd
 revert to Bde control.
21. Action on landing.
 Deplane with loads, form up as pls 200 yds ahead of leading glider of box
 and move to Coy RVs as quickly as possible.
 The following coloured lights will be used.
 A Coy - Green.
 C Coy - Blue.
 B Coy - Red.
 H Coy - Orange.
 D Coy - Orange.
 E Coy - Green.
 Bn H.Q. R.E., Fd Amb, Pnr Pl, Motr PI, Sig PI - Blue.
22. Coy Assembly areas

A & C Coys to be arranged by Coy Comds.
 B Coy - X Rds at 138266 North West side.
 H Coy - X Rds at 138266 South side.
 Fd Amb & Sig Pl - T Rd 134267 North side.
 R.E. - -do- West side.
 Mortar Pl - -do- East side.
 Bn HQ & Pilot Pl - Pt B.
 Glider Pilot Sqn - South of T June 29264.
 E Coy - East of T Junc 129264

Coys and sub-units will move off to Bn RV as soon as possible but NOT later than 25 mins after first glider lands. D Coy (MOSQUITO Coy) will go direct to own RV and on wireless order from C.O. go direct for MOSQUITO.

23. Bn RV Pt B X roads 132268.

Officers in charge C.O. 2 i/c Adjt.

Coys and sub-units will report by wireless on landing and the comd in person (less D Coy) at Bn RV as his Coy or sub-unit passes through.

24. Order of march from RV.

B Coy, 2 Sqn Glider Pilot Regt, E Coy, Command Post, Mortar PI, Pioneer PI, Sec Fd Coy R.E. (less sub sec), Fd Amb, Bn HQ, H Coy.

25. Routes.

D Coy direct to objective.

B Coy direct to BILSTON.

E Coy to high ground West of GNAT via rd junc 123272.

Mortar PI, R.E. Fd Amb, H Coy, Bn HQ - to T rd 127277 via rd junc 123272.

26. General Timings.

(a) Flight Double summer time i.e. G.M.T. + 2 hrs.

| | <u>Leaves PENARTH.</u> | <u>Crosses FINANCE.</u> | <u>Release.</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| First glider | 1920 hrs | 2125 hrs | 2210 hrs. |
| Last glider | 1940 hrs | 2145 hrs | 2230 hrs. |
| Release heights | WACOS 1500 ft over sea. | | |
| | HORSAS 3000 ft " " | | |

Last glider timings are for whole flight of 151 WACOS and HORSAS

(b) Landing North Force. Landed by 2212 hrs approx. D-1 Day.

Organised by 2235 hrs "

Bdges attacked 2315 hrs "

South Force. Land between 2210 and 2230 hrs.

[...sections 27 to 40 not transcribed...]

(Sgd.)

Capt.

Adjt, 2 South Staffords.

ACK.

41. Ack pro forma below.

Time of signature: 1515 hrs.

4 July 43

[...appendixes not transcribed...]

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