

T O P S E C R E T

Date 12 Sep 44.
Copy Number 8.

O P E R A T I O N M A R K E T.

CRE 1 Airborne Div Op Instruction No.1.

Provisional Notes on CRE's Verbal Orders.

Ref Maps.....1:25,000 ARNHEM and adjoining Sheets.

Information.

1. (a) Enemy
- (b) Our ground troops.
- (c) Airborne tps. Composition and tasks.
- (d) 1 Airborne Div. 1 Polish Para Bde under comd. Task.
- (e) Bde tasks, and sequence of lifts. 1 Para Bde.
- (f) Airlanding Bde. Recce Sqn (less 1 tp) under comd.
 4 Para Bde. 1 Polish Para Bde and Re-supply.

Primary Tasks.

2. Seize intact and hold in order of priority of importance :

- (a) Main rd br at 746767
- (b) Pontoon br at 737774
- (c) Rly br at 706763

and neutralize and remove enemy demolition charges.

Secondary Tasks.

3. (a) Bde tasks in assault. Temporary operation of ferries: assist advance in built-up areas; use of flame-trowers, bangalore torpedoes, pole charges.
- (b) Removal of all barges, tugs and boats, ferries, to North bank of River NEDER RIJN, and operation - as necessary.
- (c) Blocks on all rd and rly approaches to ARNHEM.
- (d) Seize intact, hold, and remove enemy demolition charges from rd and rly brs at 779762.
- (e) Clearing of vehicles from LZ on to rds.
- (f) Other bde tasks in defence. (Loopholing and preparation of buildings for defence).
- (g) Supervision of waterworks, power stations, gas works.
- (h) Recce and seizure of enemy stores.
- (i) Operation of rly as necessary.
- (j) Operation of RE Stores Dump (Resupply and captured eqpt)

Allotment of RE and Tasks in Conjunction with 1 Para Bde.

4. (a) 1 Para Sqn and Two Dets 9 Fd Coy come under comd 1 Para Bde on landing, and remain under comd until arrival 4 Para Bde (second lift).

Tasks.

- (b) 1 Para Sqn RE
 - i. Assist 1 Para Bde on to objective with primary RE task of removing enemy charges from main rd br at 746767 and pontoon br at 737774.

Tasks (contd) 1 Para Sqn

- ii. Blocks on all rd and rly approaches to ARNHEM from North, NE, East, SE and South.
- iii. Removal of all ferries, barges, boats and tugs to North bank of river RIJN and West bank of IJSSEL (within 1 Para Bde area).
- iv. Seize intact and remove charges from rd and rly brs at 779762.
- v. Guarding and supervision of power stations and gas works.
- vi. Operation of ferries as necessary.

Tasks (c) Dets 9 Fd Coy under ccmd Recce Sqn.

Assist Recce Sqn on to (i) br at 746767.

(ii) br at 737774.

Neutralisation and removal of enemy demolition charges.

Assist Recce Sqn to hold brs until arrival 1 Para Bde.

- (d) On arrival 2nd Lift, 1 Para Sqn (less 1 Tp remaining under ccmd 1 Para Bde for defensive and other local tasks) reverts to u/c CRE and RV at Power Station 75376 and Dets 9 Fd Coy reverts to u/c OC, 9 Fd Coy. RV TAFELLAAN 718792.

Allotment RE and Tasks in Conjunction with 1 Airlanding Bde.

- 5. (a) One platoon 9 Fd Coy (with Det 261 Fd Pk Coy (Clarke Crawlers Det under ccmd) under ccmd 1 Airlanding Bde on arrival LZ.
- (b) Tasks.
 - (i) Clearing of vehicles from LZs on to roads.
 - (ii) Other bde defensive tasks.
 - (iii) On arrival 4 Para Bde (Second Lift) and occupation by 1 Airlanding Bde of new position. Rd and rly blocks from North and NW, and West.

Allotment of RE and Tasks in Conjunction with 4 Para Bde.

- 6. (a) 4 Para Sqn remains under ccmd 4 Para Bde until arrival Polish Para Bde (3rd Lift)
- (b) Tasks.
 - (i) Assist 4 Para Bde on to objectives.
 - (ii) Take over from 1 Para Sqn rd blocks into ARNHEM from North and NE.
- (c) On arrival Polish Para Bde, 4 Para Sqn (less one Tp remaining under ccmd 4 Para Bde for local tanks) come under ccmd CRE and concentrate area rly station 732782.

RE under ccmd CRE on Arrival LZ.

- 7. (a) (i) 9 Fd Coy (less one Tp permanently under ccmd Airlanding Bde and Dets under ccmd 1 Para Bde) come under ccmd CRE. HQ RV TAFELLAAN 718792.
- (ii) Tasks. One Det will seize and hold rly br at 706763 and remove demolition charges, and make temporary cut of rly from South.
- (iii) HQ and remainder of 9 Fd Coy RV TAFELLAAN 718792, and be prepared to operate ferries between rly br at 706763 and pontoon br at 737774 and rly.
- (b) Det 261 Fd Pk Coy RE (less Clarke Crawler Det).

Operation of RE Stores (Resupply and captured stores) in area FMC. All Dets will concentrate at RE Stores Dump area FMC.

Alternative Tasks in the Event of Rd Brs Being Blown by the enemy.

8. (a) The seizure of all ferries, barges, boats and tugs becomes of paramount importance to assist subsequent advance of 30 Corps.
- (b) Recce for (i) 6 Class 40 Raft Sites.
 (ii) One standard floating Bailey Br Class 40.
 (iii) One floating Bailey Br Class 40 on barges
 and preparation of approaches for the above.
- (c) Conversation of rly br at 706762 to max class rd vehicles.

Future Tasks.

9. Recce of River WAAL at NIJMEGEN for Bailey brs for 30 Corps, and subsequent maintenance of all Bailey brs in ARNHEM and NIJMEGEN areas.

<u>Glider Allotment.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1st Lift.</u>	<u>2nd Lift.</u>
10. (a) <u>9 Fd Coy</u>	19 gliders	14	5
	2 " 261 Coy	1	1
	1 " HQRE	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	22	16	6
(b) <u>1 Para Sqn</u>	3 gliders	3	-
	1 " 261 Coy	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4	3	1
(c) <u>4 Para Sqn</u>	3 gliders	3	-
	1 " 261 Coy	-	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4	3	1

Minimum Equipment to be taken.

11. (a) All units (less 261 Fd Pk Coy RE)

Explosives	Lbs	1500 per unit
Beehives	No	12 per unit
Rope Ladders	No	2 per Tp or Section.
Gym Shoes	No	2 per Tp or Section.
Mines A. Tk Mk V	No	50 per unit.
Hawkins Grenades	No	2 per man
Flame Throwers	No	6 per unit.

- (b) Dets 261 Fd Pk Coy RE

Clarke Crawlers	No	1
Jeeps and Trailers	No	3.

- To contain each : 25 A Tk Mines
 or 100 Hawkins
 Grenades
 300 lbs Explosives
 15 personnel.

- (c) 9 Fd Coy RE

Compressor Trailers	No	3
---------------------	----	---

Reports.

- 12. Sitreps as in Operation COMET. Daily as at 1800 hrs to reach CRE by any means by 2100 hrs.

Admin

- 13. HQRE will arrange resupply with 261 Fd Pk Coy RE jeeps and trailers.

Interccm

- 14. (a) HQRE area Tac HQ 1 Airborne Div ARTILLERIE PARK 735787.
 (b) Signals. As in Operation COMET.
 (c) As in operation COMET.
 (d) Code Signs. Issued separately.
 (e) Each unit (Incl Polish Para Bde) will, attach one liaison Offr or NCO (on bicycle or motorcycle) to report HQRE as soon as possible after arrival.

- 15. ACK

(Sgd) E. C. W. Myers
 Lieut-Colonel, RE,
 CRE 1st Airborne Division.

HQRE 1 Airborne Division.
 APO England.

Distribution.

1 Para Sqn RE.....	1
4 Para Sqn RE.....	2
9 Field Coy RE.....	3
261 Fd Pk Coy RE (Lieut.Skinner).....	4
1 Para Bde.....	5
4 Para Bde.....	6
1 Airlanding Bde.....	7
GSO1.....	8
CE.....	9
File.....	10
War Diary.....	11 & 12
Spare.....	14 - 20

O P E R A T I O N M A R K E T.

Amendment No. 1 to CRE 1 Airborne Division Op Instruction dated 12 Sep 44.

1. Heading.

- (a) Line 3. DELETE "PROVISIONAL".
- (b) Line 3. ADD "NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO THE AIR"

2. (a)

Para 8 (b)(iii)
ADD "Banks can be 5 ft above water level".

(b)

Para 8.
After sub para (c) INSERT new sub para (d) :-

- (d) Special attention will be given to approaches, and position of bank seats. If time and engineer resources permit, it may be possible to carry out preliminary work in this respect. It is considered that three approaches off the main axle will be sufficient, i.e., one for the six rafting sites, one for Bailey Pontoon Site, and one for Bailey Barge site. Approach roads should diverge from the main axis at a sufficient distance to prevent traffic congestion and delay near the crossings.

3. Para 12.

DELETE existing Para 12 and substitute :

Para 12.

Sitreps as from D Day.

- (a) Sitreps in accordance with CE instructions, but as at 1700 hrs daily to reach CRE by 1900 hrs.
- (b) Brief overnight sitrep (incl NIL for no change), as at 0730 hrs by W/T to reach CRE by 0800 hrs.

4. Distribution.

DELETE Copy No "14 - 20"
SUBSTITUTE "15 - 20"

ADD Polish Para Ede.....14

5. ACK.

(Sgd) E.C.W. Myers

Lieut-Colonel, RE,
CRE 1st Airborne Division.

APO England,
15 Sep 44.

Distribution:

As for CRE OP instr No 1 dated 12 Sep 44.
(As amended by Para 4 above)

OPERATION MARKET.

Amendment No 2 to CRE 1 Airborne Div Operation Instruction No 1
dated 12 Sep 44.

1. Para 15.

~~DELETE~~ ACK
INSERT new Para 15 :-

15. Demolitions.

- (a) No brs will be destroyed or prepared for destruction. Temporary minor rail cuts may be made for the purposes of local defence.
- (b) NO demolitions of any kind, and no destruction of signal communications (except German Field Cable) will be allowed. 1 Para Bde, will, however, ensure that the ARNHEM signal exchange is disconnected.

2. INSERT in order new Para 16. :-

16. Mines.

- (a) Mines will only be laid under RE supervision to ensure accurate recording.
- (b) Own and enemy minefields will be reported through normal channels by the quickest possible means, and in the case of enemy minefields, also to the nearest RE Unit.

3. INSERT in order new Para 17. :-

17. Recognition.

Friendly Dutch civilians properly enrolled for labour through the Civil Affairs Mission will be issued with blue- and white armbands as worn by DRs.

4. ACK.

(Sgd) C E P Sankey, Lt

HQRE 1 Airborne Division.
APO England,

for Lieut-Colonel, RE,
CRE 1st Airborne Division.

Distribution:- As for CRE Op Instruction No 1
dated 12 Sep 44.