OPORD Operations

Operation Neptune Paragraph Three OPORD

Glossary:

- Parachute Echelon - Paratroopers who jumped into France
- Glider Echelon - Troops brought into France via gliders
- Seaborne Echelon - Not all the 101st parachuted into France. Many of the support troops came in over the beaches from ships.
- Enemy Battery - German artillery pieces (like the Band of Brothers episode concerning the landing and early fight in Normandy).
- Inundated - Flooded areas
- 6 digit #s - 365872 are grid coordinates of a specific place within 100 meters. This system was used before GPS.
- S-3 or G-3 - The Operations Staff Section of an army unit
- 81st AB AA - Airborne Anti-Aircraft Battalion of anti-aircraft guns
- AAA - Anti-Aircraft Artillery - anti-aircraft guns
- 65th Armd FA Bn SP - 65th Armored Field Artillery Battalion (Self Propelled). These are artillery (cannons) that are mounted on tracked vehicles.
- Leggings impregnated - Leggings are laced up boot gaiters between your boots and pants. The leggings were impregnated with an anti-chemical compound in case the Germans used poison gas against the invasion forces.
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Operation Neptune Paragraph Three OPORD

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Operation Neptune Paragraph Three OPORD

v. a. See Annex No. 2a, Landing Table.

v. b. See Annex No. 2a, Signal.

v. c. See Annex No. 2b, Signal Operations Instructions (Assault) Index 1-1.

v. d. See Annex No. 2c, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. e. See Annex No. 2d, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. f. See Annex No. 2e, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. g. See Annex No. 2f, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. h. See Annex No. 2g, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. i. See Annex No. 2h, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. j. See Annex No. 2i, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. k. See Annex No. 2j, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. l. See Annex No. 2k, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. m. See Annex No. 2m, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. n. See Annex No. 2n, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. o. See Annex No. 2o, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. p. See Annex No. 2p, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. q. See Annex No. 2q, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. r. See Annex No. 2r, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. s. See Annex No. 2s, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. t. See Annex No. 2t, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. u. See Annex No. 2u, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. v. See Annex No. 2v, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. w. See Annex No. 2w, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. x. See Annex No. 2x, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. y. See Annex No. 2y, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.

v. z. See Annex No. 2z, Signal Operations Instructions (Reference) Index 1-1.
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Page 5 of 4 of pages.

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HEADQUARTERS 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION
Office of the Division Commander

APO 472, U. S. Army
27 May 1944

AMENDMENT No. 1

TO FIELD ORDERS 1

1. Field Order No. 1, this Headquarters, dated 18 May 1944, is amended as follows:

   a. Paragraph No. 1b: Add: Subparagraph (2). The 82nd Airborne Division landing in the area near BERSIG LIEGE, at Pont l'Arche (26926), will destroy the crossings of the DOUBE RIVER at LEUV山坡LE LA BASTILLE (109910) and at Pont l'Arche (269228). It will then push westward and seize road center of St. SAUVUTR LE VINEUX.

   b. Paragraph 3a [1]. Change second sentence to read: “It will protect the north flank of Division within the regimental sector in close coordination with the 82nd Airborne Division.”

   Paragraph 3a [2]. Change to read: The 506th Parachute Infantry with 1st Platoon, Co "C" 326th AB Regt Bn attached; landing on Drop Zones "N" and "M" will execute the following missions.

      [a] No change.

      [b] Change to read: Defend the line of the DOUBE RIVER and estuary within the regimental sector. Secure the bridges at 499773 and 427876 and establish bridgehead south of the DOUBE RIVER for subsequent use or the Division. These bridges will be prepared for demolition. See Annex No. 3.

      [3] Change to read: The 501st Parachute Infantry (less 1st Platoon "C") with Co "C" 326th AB Regt Bn [less 1st Platoon] attached, landing on Drop Zone "N" will defend the line of the DOUBE and MENIN RIVER within the regimental sector. The bridges north of CAREY at 369869, 388855, and 383856 will be destroyed; the locks at 397856 will be seized and defended.

   [4] Change to read: The 3rd Bn, 501st Parachute Infantry landing on Drop Zone "C" will assemble in Division Reserve prepared to protect glider landing zone "B".

   c. Change Paragraph 5b to read:

      82nd Airborne Division --- To be announced.

      501st Parachute Infantry --- Annex No. 3. (Amend. 1)

   d. Change Annex No. 2 as follows: Drop zones for

      Serials 8 and 9; from "S" to "P".

   e. Annex No. 3 is rescinded and will be replaced by Amendment No. 1 to Annex No. 3 attached.

   f. Amendment to Annex No. 1 attached.

   g. Amendment to Annex No. 5 attached.

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Page 1 of 1 Pages

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Amendment No. 1 to Annex No. 5

TO FIELD ORDER No. 1, 18 May 44

1. Amend Paragraph 2a (1), Delete "ST. SAUVIER LE VIGONNE exclusive", Substitute "CARQUISEPOT inclusive".

2. Delete Paragraph 2a (2).

3. Amend Paragraph 2b (1), Delete "and 3rd",

4. Amend Paragraph 2b (2), Delete "and 3rd",

5. Amend Paragraph 3a as follows:

a. Delete (1), (2). (3), and (4).

b. Add (2) to read “Prepare to destroy” instead of "Destroy". Add: "Then destroy these bridges in the order of priority, 50th Para. and 506th Infantry Regiment."

c. Add (5) by deleting "and 443871 (Serial D)" and adding "and 443872 (Serial 3)"

6. Amend Paragraph 3b as follows:

a. Delete (1), (2), (3), and (4).

b. Add: (1), Destroy the crossing of the River DROUE at 383863; priority Serials 32, 33, 34 in that order.

c. Add (2), Destroy the railroad bridges at 369872 (Serial 32) and 370853 (Serial 32) in the order of priority given.

d. Add: (3), Open and control the locks at LA BARONNE after seizure (Serial 32), and mine the approaches to the dam from the south between the River GRUNE and the River DROUE. A high proportion of AP mines should be used.

e. Add (4), Prepare to destroy communications at GARENAN.

f. Add: (5), Disrupt enemy underground wire communications system in the vicinity of 408871 (Serial D).

7. For new regimental boundaries, See Annex No. 3, Operation overlay.

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Glossary:

- 6 digit #s - 482375 are grid coordinates of a specific place within 100 meters. This system was used before GPS.
- Mines - land mines
- LINNET - is an operation that was cancelled in August when Allied forces moved so quickly across France that the Linnet was overcome by events.
- S-3 or G-3 is the Operations Staff Section of an army unit.
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Page 5, File 101 AB Div, dated 14 September 1944, cont’d

(4) The glider element of D-Day lift will land on 15 September and move to areas as shown in Annex No. 2a (Glider assembly Plan). The Division Reconnaissance Platoon, less detachment, will be prepared to push reconnaissance toward SINTAKEL (406326) - BOST (371226) and LIJNDUI (511279).

(5) D-Day lift of 1 and D-Day lift of 2 day lifts. Units of these lifts will land on glider landing zone “15” as shown in Annex No. 2a. They will assemble as shown in Annex No. 2a and await orders.

(6) The bridges in the VRNHE (431376) and EZN (443323) areas will be ready with maximum speed immediately upon landing by the responsible paratroopers regiments. The most conveniently placed small group will rush these bridges without waiting for the assembly of large elements.

(7) (a) Operations and signal communications in the area will be preserved for the use of our own troops.

(8) The division artillery commander is responsible for follow-up support from British artillery and combat aviation.

(9) The 522nd Parachute Infantry Regiment is charged with securing LZ “15” for the D-Day glider lift.

(10) The Division will be brought to the south bank of streams to make them available for 99th Corps if required.

(11) Roads will be kept free of troops and vehicles by the Division after ground combat is over. This will permit the rapid transit of 99th Corps.

(12) Employment of glider pilots will be the same as for operation “LINNET.”

10. Administrative order zone as for “LINNET.”

a. Gas masks will be carried.

b. Signal annex (Annex No. 4)

c. Tentative Command Posts

(1) Division

(2) 522nd Airborne Division

(3) Division and Division Artillery (442559)

(4) 522nd Parachute Infantry Regiment (442561)

(5) 306th Parachute Infantry Regiment (442557)

(6) 307th Glider Infantry Regiment (435546)

(7) Orange or yellow flags, pennant, or smoke will be used to identify friendly troops.

For the Commanding General:

R. D. M. Blenner

R. D. M. Blenner

Lethbridge, Major, GOC,

[Signature]

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Disregard except for this is who (units) that received this order in distribution.

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