

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH ARMY GROUP
APO 655

TOP SECRET
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LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS NUMBER 1

Copy No 55

Subject: Operations to Expand to Initial Lodgement Area.

To : Army Commanders.

1. Information.

a. The instructions contained herein are effective at 1200 hours, 1 August 1944. These instructions are in amplification and modification of Joint Operations Plan, U.S. Forces for Operation OVERLORD (revised 8 May 1944) which remains in force except where in conflict herewith. The period covered by these instructions is referred to as Stage I of Phase II in the Joint Operations Plan.

b. Situation.

(1) Enemy. See Annex 2, Intelligence.

(2) Own troops.

British Forces operating on our left (east) flank continue operations to secure the general line: VIRE-LE BENY BOGAGE - ST MARTIN DES BESAIGES - NOYERES - EVRECY DOUVIL - CAUVICOURT - River MUANCE to BURES - River DIVES to the sea.

c. Supporting Forces.

(1) Air Force.

Ninth Air Force supports the Twelfth Army Group.

IX Tactical Air Command will be in direct support of First Army.

XIX tactical Air Command will be in direct support of Third Army.

(2) Naval Force .

Naval Task Force 125 continues the transport of U.S. Troops to the Continent.

It will furnish naval support necessary for the capture of Brittany Ports.

It will assist in the opening of the port and beach area of ST-MALO, QUIBERON BAY and BREST, furnish necessary protection for convoys to these ports and assist in the opening of other BRITTANY ports as necessary.

It will assist in the opening of the port and beach area of St-Malo, Quiberon Bay, and Brest, furnish necessary protection for convoys to these ports and assist in the opening of other BRITTANY ports as necessary.

(3) Communications zone.

Communications Zone supports the operation.
Advance Section Communications zone organized the COTENTIN Peninsula including the port of CHERBOURG

Communications zone opens and develops the ports of ST MALO, QUIBERON BAY and BREST as possible after capture. Other BRITTANY Ports will be opened and developed as necessary.

2. Mission and Organization.

a. Twelfth Army Group operating on the right (west) flank of the Allied Forces will drive southward and westward to gain possession of the whole COTENTIN and BRITTANY Peninsulas, secure ST MALO, the QUIBERON BAY port area and BREST at the earliest practicable date, and will capture other BRITTANY ports as necessary. Third Army will operate on the right (west) of the First Army.

b. Boundaries.

(1) Army Group: PORT EN BESSIN (T7567) - ESCURES (T7565) exclusive to Twelfth Army Group, VAUCELLES (T7681) - COURTELAY (T7182) - LONGEAU (T7077) - inclusive to Twelfth Army Group, BALLEROY (T6869) - CORMOLAIN (T6764) - La LANDE SUR DROME (T6587) - FLAGY MONTAIGU (T6353) - exclusive to Twelfth Army Group, GDE RENOUDIÈRE (T6251) - MONT BERTRAND (T6146) - ETOUVY (T6437) - L'AUBESHIÈRE (T6928) TINCHERAY (T7423) - DOMFRONT (T8003) - inclusive to Twelfth Army Group.

(2) Army: LE MESNIL VICOT (T3668) - HAUTVILLE LA GUICHARD (T3464) - CERISY LA SALLE (T3553) - HAMBTE (T3544) - SOURDEVAL LES BOIS (T3641) - VILLEDIEU LES POZLES (T3932) - inclusive to First Army, CHERENCEY LE HERON (T4028) - BRECEY (T4220) RENFUVILLE (T4513) - inclusive to Third Army, ST HILLAIRE DU HARCQUET (T4703) - LANDIVY (Y5192) - ERNEE (Y5771) inclusive to First Army.

c. Troops

1.

(a) First Army	(b) Third Army
V ^{ème} Corps	VIII ^{ème} Corps
VII ^{ème} Corps	XII ^{ème} Corps
XIX ^{ème} Corps	Xv ^{ème} Corps
	XX ^{ème} Corps
1 st Infantry Division	8 th Infantry Division

2 nd Infantry Division	79 th Infantry Division
4 th Infantry Division	83 th Infantry Division
9 th Infantry Division	90 th Infantry Division
28 th Infantry Division	80 th Infantry Division
30 th Infantry Division	4 th Armored Division
α 29 th Infantry Division	5 th Armored Division
α 5 th Infantry Division	6 th Armored Division
α 33 th Infantry Division	2 nd French Armored Division
2 nd Armored Division	
3 ^d Armored Division	
7 th Armored Division	
α Until withdrawn to Army Group reserve	

(c) TWELFTH ARMY GROUP

Hq. & Sp Trs, Twelfth Army Group

Army Group Reserve:

9th Infantry Division} When withdrawn

35th Infantry Division} from line.

29th Infantry Division}

(2) Detailed troop assignment: See Annex 3, Troop List

3. Operations.

a. First Army will drive south in its zone and seized the area MORTAIN – VIRE (operation Map).

b. Third Army will drive in its zone and seize the area : RENNES – FOUGERES: Thence it will turn westward into BRITTANY with the mission of securing (1) ST MALO, (2) QUIBERON BAY, and (3) BREST and of clearing the rest of the BRITTANY Peninsula (operation Map).

c. Army Group Reserve divisions will be withdrawn from the line when the situation permits and will remain attached for administration to First Army until further orders.

d. For plannings purposes direct communication is authorised between armies, Ninth Air Force, Naval Task force 125 and Communications Zone.

4. Administration and Supply

See Administrative Instructions Number 1.

5. Communications.

a. Command Posts: to be announced.

b. See Annex 4, Signal Communications .

By Command of Lieutenant General Bradley:

LEWIS C. ALLEN
Major General, GSC,
Chief of Staff

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OFFICIAL:

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Brigadier General, GSC,
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