

ORIGINATORS FILE No. ¹⁴

~~TOP SECRET~~ ^{BSK}

SHAEF MESSAGE FORM

CALL

CIRCUIT No.

PRIORITY

TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

NR

SPACES WITHIN HEAVY LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)	SHAEF CP	ORIGINATOR Supreme Commander	DDE/map	DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 8 June 1944
TO FOR ACTION AGWAR				
TO (W) FOR INFORMATION (INFO) , SHAEF				MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS 0815290
(REF NO.)				GR 972
(CLASSIFICATION)				TOP SECRET SCAF-48

ACCOMPANIED BY ADMIRAL RAMSAY I MADE YESTERDAY A COMPLETE TOUR BY DESTROYER OF
90024 TOPSEC
THE LANDING AREAS BEGINNING ON THE RIGHT PD PAREN TO THE COMBINED CHIEFS OF
STAFF FROM EISENHOWER CITE SHSAC PD THIS IS SCAF NUMBER FORTY EIGHT PD UNPAREN
TO AGWAR FOR INFO SHAEF
THE LANDINGS ON THE COTENTIN PENINSULA APPARENTLY WENT ABOUT AS WELL AS COULD
BE EXPECTED WITH THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST AIRBORNE DIVISION CARRYING OUT ITS
MISSIONS IN GOOD STYLE PD INFORMATION OF THE EIGHTY SECOND AIRBORNE IS MEAGRE
BUT GENERAL BRADLEY INFORMED ME THAT THE SEVENTH CORPS HAD MADE CONTACT WITH IT
ED
PD ON BEACH O REPEAT OBOE ATTACK/BY THE FIFTH CORPS OPPOSITION WAS UNEXPECTEDLY
HEAVY DUE TO THE PRESENCE ON THE BEACHES OF A FULL GERMAN DIVISION WHICH WAS
ON MANEUVERS PD LOSSES HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLE IN THIS FORCE AND LANDINGS HAVE
BEEN MOST DIFFICULT DUE TO THE COVERAGE OF BEACHES BY HOSTILE ARTILLERY PD
MOREOVER A LARGE PORTION OF ~~D REPEAT DCG D REPEAT DCG~~ TANKS FOUNDERED ON THEIR
WAY TO THE BEACHES PD DUE TO THE ROUGH WEATHER DECISION WAS MADE ON THE OTHER
BEACHES NOT REPEAT NOT TO ATTEMPT TO SWIM IN THE ~~D REPEAT DCG D REPEAT DCG~~ TANKS
PD THESE WERE UNLOADED DIRECTLY ON THE BEACHES FROM THE LCT'S CARRYING THEM PD

DISTRIBUTION: C/S	COORDINATED WITH:		THI or TOR	Opr.
	THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION	Precedence URGENT		
		ORIGINATING DIVISION SHSAC		
		NAME AND RANK TYPED. TEL. NO. HARRY C. BUTCHER, Comdr.		
THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT IN CLEAR BY ANY MEANS	AUTHENTICATING SIGNATURE <i>Harry C. Butcher</i>		TIME CLEARED 0816280 By Cyphac	175
	INITIALS			

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~ *ASR*

AT NOON ON JUNE SEVENTH GENERAL BRADLEY FELT THAT CONDITIONS WERE IMPROVING ON O BEACH AND STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO REPLACE ARTILLERY WHICH WAS LOST IN LANDING DUE TO HOSTILE ARTILLERY FIRE AND SINKING OF LANDING CRAFT PD BECAUSE OF THE CONFIGURATION OF THE GROUND IN THIS PARTICULAR AREA SPOTTING FOR NAVAL GUNFIRE WAS RATHER DIFFICULT AND SINCE TROUBLE CAME FROM FIELD WORKS RATHER THAN FROM FIXED BATTERIES CMA BOTH AIR BOMBARDMENT AND NAVAL GUNFIRE WERE RELATIVELY *PART TWO* INEFFECTIVE IN ASSISTING THE LANDING PD PARAGRAPH ON THE WHOLE U S REPEAT UNCLE SUGAR ARMY FRONT THE IMMEDIATE TACTICAL PLAN HAS BEEN ALTERED WITH THE PURPOSE NOW OF BOTH CORPS MAKING AN EARLY DRIVE TOWARD CARENTAN TO JOIN UP CMA AFTER WHICH THE ORIGINAL CONCEPTIONS WILL BE PURSUED PD PARAGRAPH ON THE FRONT OF THE FIFTIETH BRITISH DIVISION PROGRESS WAS VERY GOOD ALTHOUGH CMA AS AT EVERYWHERE ELSE CMA UNLOADING WAS INTERFERED WITH BY THE ROUGH WEATHER PD LIKEWISE ON THE FRONTS OF THE THIRD BRITISH AND THIRD CANADIAN DIVISIONS PROGRESS WAS GENERALLY SATISFACTORY ALTHOUGH ROUGH WEATHER HAD FINALLY COMPELLED THE NAVAL FORCE COMMANDER TO DIRECT THE DRYING OUT OF LST'S BECAUSE RHINO FERRIES COULD NOT WORK PD ON THIS PARTICULAR FRONT THE BEACHES WERE FLAT AND HARD AND IT WAS BELIEVED THAT NO DAMAGE WOULD RESULT TO THE LST'S PD PARAGRAPH THROUGHOUT THE FRONT WE LOST CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS OF THE SMALLER LANDING CRAFT CMA BOTH BECAUSE OF ROUGH WEATHER AND MINES IN THE TOUCHDOWN AREAS PD THESE WERE TELLER MINES WHICH BLEW SIZEABLE HOLES IN THE LANDING CRAFT BUT ~~W~~ LARGE NUMBERS OF WHICH CAN BE REPAIRED AS SOON AS MAINTENANCE GROUPS CAN BE PLACED ASHORE AND START TO WORK PD THE LOSS OF THESE CRAFT CMA ADDED TO THE ROUGH WEATHER SLOWED UP THE LANDING OF ALL SUPPLIES AND AT NOON ON D PLUS ONE WE WERE APPROXIMATELY TWENTY FOUR HOURS BEHIND OUR EXPECTED SCHEDULE OF UNLOADING PD THE WEATHER IMPROVED MARKEDLY AT NOON ON D PLUS ONE PD IF THIS

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GOOD WEATHER STRETCH CAN BE PROLONGED FOR A FEW DAYS WE WILL DO MUCH
TOWARD CATCHING UP PD PARAGRAPH DURING ^{PART 3} THE COURSE OF THE DAY I TALKED
WITH GENERAL MONTGOMERY AND GENERAL BRADLEY AND WITH ADMIRALS KIRK CMA
VIAN CMA DOUGLAS ^{-pennant} PENNY AND OLIVER PD ALL WERE DISAPPOINTED IN THE
UNFAVORABLE LANDING CONDITIONS AND ALL FELT THAT IMPROVEMENT OF THE
WEATHER WOULD SEE A CORRESPONDING GREAT IMPROVEMENT IN OUR POSITION PD
PARAGRAPH UPON RETURN OF ADMIRAL RAMSAY AND MYSELF TO ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS
ABOUT TEN P M WE LEARNED THAT WE HAD APPARENTLY CAPTURED BAYEUX PD
PARAGRAPH EARLY THIS MORNING I AM INFORMED THAT A GERMAN COUNTER ATTACK
BY PARTS OF TWO PANZER DIVISIONS IS PUSHING IN ON THE RIGHT OF THE BRITISH
~~SECTOR~~ SECTOR AND HAS MADE SOME PROGRESS PD HOWEVER CMA YESTERDAY AFTERNOON
WHILE I WAS PRESENT ON THOSE BEACHES THE SEVENTH ARMORED DIVISION WAS BUSY
UNLOADING AND THIS EARLY ENEMY THREAT SHOULD BE EFFECTIVELY COUNTERED PD
PARAGRAPH ON THE AMERICAN BEACHES THE SECOND AND NINETIETH DIVISIONS
WERE DUE TO BEGIN LANDING LAST NIGHT AND CMA WHILE I HAVE HAD NO REPORTS
THIS MORNING CMA I BELIEVE THAT THE GOOD WEATHER LAST NIGHT SHOULD HAVE
PERMITTED THE LANDING OF CONSIDERABLE REINFORCEMENTS IN THOSE DISTRICTS
PD PARAGRAPH DUE TO THE FLUID NATURE OF THE BATTLE IT HAS BEEN EXTREMELY
DIFFICULT TO GIVE LOGICAL TARGETS TO MUCH OF OUR AIR FORCES BUT I AM
CONFIDENT THAT IF WEATHER PERMITS OUR AIR WILL INTERVENE EFFECTIVELY IN ANY
ATTEMPTED COUNTER ATTACKS BY THE ENEMY

end of message

CCS, SCAF 48

- 3 -

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