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SCAEF 21st MEETING

2nd June, 1944

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SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
Office of AC of S, G-3

Minutes of Meeting held in the ANXF Conference Room
at SOUTHWICK HOUSE at 1000 hours, 2nd June, 1944

PRESENT

General Dwight D. Eisenhower ✓
Air Chief Marshal Sir A. Tedder
Admiral Sir B.H. Ramsay
General Sir B.L. Montgomery
Air Chief Marshal Sir T.L. Leigh-Mallory
Lieutenant General W.B. Smith
Lieutenant General Sir H.M. Gale
Rear Admiral J.E. Creasy
Major General H.R. Bull
Major General K.V. Strong
Major General F.W. de Guingand
Air Vice Marshal H.E.P. Wigglesworth
Air Vice Marshal J.M. Robb
Brigadier General A.S. Nevins

I. WEATHER FORECAST

The agreed weather forecast was presented orally by Group Captain Stagg. Admiral Ramsay and Air Chief Marshal Leigh-Mallory stated the effect of the predicted weather conditions from the Naval and Air Force viewpoints, respectively. General discussion followed.

The Supreme Commander directed that the sailing of Bombarding Squadrons and other preparations necessary at this time should proceed. The next SCAEF meeting for further critical examination of the weather forecast is to be held at 2130 hours, 2nd June, in the ANXF Conference Room at SOUTHWICK HOUSE.

II. BOMBING ON D DAY AND SUBSEQUENT DAYS

Air Chief Marshal Leigh-Mallory discussed the plan for bombing, on D day and subsequent days, designated to establish a belt of bombed routes through towns and villages thereby preventing or impeding the movement of enemy formations toward the areas seized by our troops. He inquired as to his freedom to proceed with the execution of this plan in view of the civilian casualties which would result. Air Chief Marshal Tedder stated the necessity of being certain of the efficacy of this line of action.

The Supreme Commander announced his approval of the planned bombing as an operational necessity to assist the Army in landing and in securing a firm foothold.

III. WARNING THE FRENCH

Air Chief Marshal Leigh-Mallory inquired if any additional methods could be adopted to warn the FRENCH inhabitants of the bombing. Air Chief Marshal Tedder advocated the dropping of warning leaflets on D day and subsequent days to minimize civilian casualties.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority Guidelines for Com. Hdqrs. 7/5/72
By ARK NLE DATE 11/5/73

Downgraded to ~~SECRET~~ per
DoD dir 5200.9, 9-27-58.
WGL 7-18-67

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The AC of S, G-3, was directed to arrange with the PW Division for the provision of appropriate leaflets to be dropped by the Air Forces within the lodgement and cover areas on D day and subsequent days.

IV. NEXT SCAEF MEETING

It was announced that the next SCAEF meeting would be held in the ANKF Conference Room at Southwick House at 2130 hours, 2nd June, 1944.



DISTRIBUTION

- One copy each officer present
- One extra copy to Air Chief Marshal Sir A. Tedder
- One copy each to Lieutenant General F.E. Morgan
and Major General Hoyt Vandenburg
- One copy AG Records



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