

Gliederung der großen Verbände

Stand: 23.6.44 Oeheim Kommandosache!



O. B. Südwest

O. B. Südwest, Ia / Id, Nr. 0634/44g. kdas
45 Ausfertigungen
45. Ausfertigung

Heeresgruppe unmittelbar	14.				10.				v. Zangen	
	XIV.	I.	LXXV	Armee unmittelbar	LXXVI.	LI.	Armee unmittelbar	Befh. von Küste	Befh. op 2 Abt. Küste	Armee unmittelbar
715.	462. (Turk)	29. 26.	16. 77	362 (neu)	H. S. 305	71. 278.	94.		188. Res.	42. Jg.
	90. 20. Lw. Feld	4. 356.			1. 334	5. 114. Jg.			Rgt 3 Brandenburg	Befh. Alpenvorl.
65.	3.		19. Lw. Feld		15.	44 H. u. D.				34.
										F. Fest. Brig. 435

Order of Battle of Major Formations

O.B.SW

Directly under Army Group	14 Army					10 Army			Army Abteilung v. Zangen				
	14 Pz Corps		1 Para Corps		Directly under Army	76 Pz Corps	51 Mtn Corps		Directly under Army	75 Inf Corps	Comdr Venetian Coast	Comdr Op Zone Adriatic Coast	Directly under Army
715 Inf Div	162 Inf Div (Turc)	90 Pz Gren Div	29 Pz Gren Div	26 Pz Div	92 Inf Div absorbed by	H.G. Pz Div	71 Inf Div	278 Inf Div	334 Inf Div	16 SS Pz Div		188 Res Div	Comdr Alpen- vorland
		20 Lw Fd Div	4 Para Div	356 Inf Div		1 Para Div	5 Mtn Div	114 Jg Div	94 Inf Div absorbed by	42 Inf Div		3 Branden- Burg Regt	
65 Inf Div	19 Lw Fd Div (in trans-Div it)	3 Pz Gren			362 Inf Div	15 Pz Gren Div 44 Inf Div (H.u.D.)			305 Inf Div	135 Fort Bde Comdt Elba 34 Inf Div			

Order of Battle of Major Formations

O.B.SW

Directly under Army Group	14 Army				10 Army				Army Abteilung v. Zangen				
	14 Pz Corps	1 Para Corps		75 Inf Corps	Directly under Army	76 Pz Corps	51 Mtn Corps		Directly under Army	Comdr Venetian Coast	Comdr Op Zone Adriatic Coast	Directly under Army	
715 Inf Div	162 Inf Div (Turc)	29 Pz Gren Div	26 Pz Div	16 SS Pz Gren Div	362 Inf Div (new)	H.G. Pz Div	305 Inf Div	71 Inf Div	278 Inf Div	94 Inf Div		188 Res Mtn Div	42 Jg Div
	90 Pz Gren Div	20 Lw Fd Div	4 Para Div	356 Inf Div		1 Para Div	334 Inf Div	5 Mtn Div	114 Jg Div			3 Branden- burg Regt	Comdr Alpen- vorland
65 Inf Div	3 Pz Gren Div			19 Lw Fd Div		15 Pz Gren Div			44 Inf Div (H u.D)				34 Inf Div
													135 Fort Bde

ARMY GROUP "C"

G.H.Q. FORMATIONS UNDER COMMAND

21 Jun 44

(Translation)

981A10. (D160)

Ref: para 22

27 Copies
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x) in process of formation
xw) in transit

O.B.S.W

ARMIES		Directly under Army Group	10 Army			14 Army				Army Abteilung v. Zangen (87 Inf Corps)				General Plenipotentiary of German Armed Forces in Italy
CORPS			Directly under Army	76 Pz Corps	51 Mtn Corps	Directly under Army	14 Pz Corps	1 Para Corps	75 Inf Corps	Directly under Army Abteilung	Cmdr Venetian Coast	Cmdr Op Zone Adriatic Coast	Cmdr Op Zone Alpenvorland (Mil Cmd 1010)	
(English)	(German)		3	4	5	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	16
Senior artillery commanders	Heeh Art Kdre	G.H.Q. Coastal Arty Cdr SW	316			317								
Artillery commanders	Art Kdre			476	451		414	122	107		Coastal Arty Cdr 200 (static)			
G.H.Q. artillery regimental headquarters for special employment (mech)	H. Art Rgt Staebe a.b.V. (mot)			553				2 Arty Instr Bde	554					
G.H.Q. assault gun brigades	H. Stu Gesch Brig		214 914					907						
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (10 cm gun mech)	Heeres Art Abt (10 cm Kan mot)													
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (15 and 17 cm gun battalion (mech))	H. Art Abt 15 u. 17 cm Kan Abt (mot)		557 (less 4 Bty) 923 (Bty)			I Arty Instr Bde 2 (less 1) 764, 922 (Btys)								
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (flare shell mech)	H. Art Abt (I.G. mot)													
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (1t fd hows mech)	H. Art Abt (1e P.H. mot)					III/Arty Instr Bde 1								
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (1t fd hows caterpillar tractor)	H. Art Abt (1e P.H. R.S.O.)		602, 733			II/51								
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (hy fd hows mech) or (hy fd hows 10 cm guns mech)	H. Art Abt (s.P.H. mot) bzw (s.P.H. 10 cm Kan mot)			450	(document damaged)	IV/Arty Instr Bde 2		451						
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (21 cm mortar mech)	H. Art Abt (21 cm Moerser mot)		4/557		(document damaged)	I/Arty Instr Regt 2								
Batteries light field guns 18	Battr 1e P.K. 18				(document damaged)	Sters								
High mountain batteries	Hochgebirgs Battr				(document damaged)						3, 4			
G.H.Q. artillery battalions (22 cm mortars mech) or (22 cm mortars, partly mobile)	H. Art Abt (22 cm Moerser mot) bzw (22 cm Moerser tbew)			998 mech	(document damaged)	988								
G.H.Q. artillery batteries (21 cm guns)	H. Art Battr (21 cm Kan)					659, 660								
Battalion headquarters	Abt Staebe													
a) 7.5-10.5 cm	a) 7,5-10,5 cm													
b) 10.6-17 cm	b) 10,6-17 cm													
c) 17.1 cm and heavy	c) 17,1 cm u. schw													
G.H.Q. Flak battalions	H. Flak-Abt				302	307								

number.
a file is
and kept
tral Reg-
is better
ely nec-

Artillery

Fixed Artillery

APP D to 24

GERMAN HIGH COMMAND

ORDER FOR ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT
OF THE GOTHIC LINE

2 Jun 44

(Photostat and Translation)

981A10. (D161)

Ref: para 27

-- GEM -- -- G K D O S --

1 KP + GWASL NR 08223 2/6. 1415.--

OB. SUEDWEST .==

GLTD.: OB. SUEDWEST .-

GEN D PI U FEST .--

CHEF H RUEST U RDE / .--

ZENTRALE / DER OT . BEI GENSTDH .--

BEVOLLM. GEN D DT WEHRM IN ITALIEN .--

GEN ST D H / FUER GEN QU .==

BETR.-- VERSTAERKTER / FESTUNGSMAESSIGER / AUSBAU

DER V.- STELLUNG .--

1.) DER FUEHRER HAT BEFOHLEN , DASS DER

- FESTUNGSMAESSIGE AUSBAU / DER APENNIN - STELLUNG --

- UNTER VERSTAERKUNG DER HIERFUER BISHER

EINGESETZTEN KRAEFTE UND MITTEL BESCHLEUNIGT

DURCHZUFUEHREN IST . VORDRINGLICH SIND :.--

A) HERSTELLEN DER PANZERSICHERHEIT IN DEN

PANZERGEFAEHRTE TEN ABSCHNITTEN UNTER BESONDERER

SCHWERPUNKTBILDUNG AN DEN FUER DEN VERKEHR
NOCH NOTWENDIGEN DURCHGAENGE .--

B) BESCHLEUNIGUNG / DES FESTUNGSMAESSIGEN AUSBAUES,
MOEGLICHST IM FELSHOHLBAU , AN DEN HAUPTDURCHSTOSSLINIEN ,
BESONDERS FUER ZAHLREICHE ARTILLERIE UND PAK GEGEN
BOMBENANGRIFFE GESICHERT BEZW. VERSCHARTET . AUF
GRUND DER ERFAHRUNGEN IM SENCER RIEGEL IST EIN
DURCHGEHENDES STELLUNSSYSTEM AUCH AN DEN ALS WENIG
ZUGAENGLICH BEURTEILTEN GEBIRGSFRONTEN ERFORDERLICH .--

C) -- GROSSVERMINUNG IN AUSREICHENDER TIEFE
(AUCH IN EINFACHSTER FORM) VOR GESAMTER STELLUNG
UNTER EVAKUIERUNG / DER / ZIVILBEVOELKERUNG IM VORFELD UND
IM HAUPTKAMPFELD .--

D) -- SCHAFFEN EINER SPERRZONE -- VON ETWA 10 KM TIEFE
VOR DER HKL , IN DER NACHHALTIGE ZERSTOERUNG ALLER
VERKEHRSWEGE , ANLAGEN UND UNTERKUENFTE VORBEREITET UND ,
SOWEIT MOEGLICH . SCHON JETZT DURCHGEFUEHRT WIRD .--

2.) VERANTWORTLICH FUER DIE DURCHFUEHRUNG DES
GESAMTEN AUSBAUS UND ERFUELLUNG DER FUHRERERFORDERUNG
BLEIBT UNTER DEM OB. SUEDWEST. DER BEFEHLSHABER
DER ARMEE - ABT. V. ZANGEN . UM IHM DIE PERSONELLEN
UND MATERIELLEN GRUNDLAGEN FUER DIE SOFORTIGE
STEIGERUNG DES AUSBAUES ZU SCHAFFEN , HAT DER
FUHRER BEFOHLEN : .--

A) -- GEN D PI U FEST -- VERSTAERKT DIE FEST PI.-
ORGANISATION DER APENNIN - STELLUNG SO, DASS DIE
ERFORDERLICHE STRAFFE FUHRUNG SICHERGESTELLT WIRD .--
MIT DER FESTUNGSPIONIERTECHNISCHEN GESAMTLEISTUNG
IST EIN BESONDERS BEFAEHIGTER UND IN DIESER ART DES

AUSBAUS / ERFABRENER FEST PI KDR ZU BETRAUEN .
- ZUR DURCHFUEHRUNG DER VERSTAERKUNG WIRD EIN
FEST PI STAR AUS DEM SUEDOSTRAUM ZUR VERFUEGUNG
GESTELLT . EIN WEITERER IST DER OSTERFRONT
ZU ENTNEHMEN .--

FUER VERSTAERKUNG -DER GESTEINSBOHRKRAEFTE
WIRD 1 KOMPANIE AUS DEM BEBEICH DES
VEHRMACHTSBEFEHLSHABERS /NORWEGEN ZUGEFUEHRT . UEBER
GEWINNEN WEITERER GESTEINSBOHRER - UND
BAUTRUPPEN IST BESCHLEUNIGT VORSCHLAG VOPZULEGEN .
ERFORDERLICHE BAUGERAETE , INSBESONDERE
GESTEINSBOHRGERAETE , DRUCKLUETERZEUCER USW.
SIND IN MOEGLICHST GROSZER ZAHL ZUZUEHREN
UND DEN BEBEITS JETZT IN DER STELLUNG /ARBEITENDEN
KRAEFTEN ZUZUWEISEN .--

AN -- STAHLUNTERSTAENDEN -- USW . SIND ZUNAECHST

Vertrag	Nr.	Von	Bis	Cag	Zeit	Mitarbeiter (Stk.)	
						1944	1945
Forschung							
Fabrikation							
Transport							
Wartung							

100 OT - STAHLUNTERSTAENDE (60 SCHON IN ZUFUEHRUNG NACH ITALIEN, 40 BISHER FUER PYRENAEEN VORGESEHEN) UND 26 OT - STAHLUNTERSTAENDE MIT PANZERTURM ZUZUFUEHREN, 4 WEITERE NACH BEREITSTELLUNG (BIS 1.7.) GEN D PI U FEST PRUEFT UND MELDET WEITERE ZUWEISUNGSMOEGlichkeiten (OHNE RUECKGRIFF AUF DIE 40 FUER DEN OSTEN BEREITGESTELLTEN) ...--

B) CHEF H PUESTI RDE STELLT IN DEN MOEGlichen UMFANG BAU- BATTALLIONE ALS RAHMENPERSONAL ZUR BEAUFsICHTIGUNG VON ARBEITSKRAEFten AUS ITALIEN AUF UND MELDET BALDMOEGlichST ZAHL, GLIEDERUNG UND TRANSPORTBEREITSCHAFT, ES GENUEGT BEWAFFNUNG MIT HANDEFUERWAFFEN UND BESETZUNG MIT AELTEREN JAHRGAENGEN ...--

C) OB SUEdWEST FUEHRT DIEJENIGEN ITALIENISCHEN BAUKRAEFTE, DIE IN DER C- STELLUNG INFOLGE FEINDEINWIRKUNG NICHT MEHR EINsATZFAEHIG SIND IN DIE APENNIN - STELLUNG ZURUECK, UM SIE DORT UNTER DEUTSCHEM RAHMENPERSONAL GEMAESS ZIFF. 2 B)

ZUSAMMENZUFASSEN, DER ZUM STELLUNGSBAU BENoETIGTE LKW- RAUM IST DER OT VON OB. SUEdWEST ZU BELASSEN ...--

D) BEVOLLMAECHTIGTER GENERAL DER DEUTSCHEN WEHRMACHT IN ITALIEN STELLT IM EINVERNEHMEN MIT DEN ZUSTAENDIGEN STELLEN, UNTER AUFRICHTERHALTUNG BISHERIGER VORHABEN, ZIVILE ARBEITER - BATTAILLONE, INSBESONDERE AUS ZU EVAKUIERENDER BZW. ANSASSIGER MAENNLICHER BEVOELKERUNG, IN DEM BEREICH DER APENNIN- STELLUNG AUF. EINGLIEDERUNG IN DIE BAU- BATTAILLONE GEMAESS ZIFF 2 B), GESCHLOSSENE

UNTERBRINGUNG UND DEUTSCHE VERPFLEGUNG SIND
VORZUSEHEN. BEV GEN D DT WEHRM IN ITALIEN MELDET
VORAUSSICHTLICHES GESAMTAUFKOMMEN UND ZEITPLAN
DER AUFSTELLUNG. --

DIE NICHT IN DEN ARBEITER - BATTALIONEN ERFASSTE
BEVÖLKERUNG II DER AUSBAUZONE

(TIEFE INSGESAMT ETWA 20 KM) IST, AUCH IM
HINBLICK AUF DIE S OFORT ANLAUFENDE GROSSVERMINNUNG
UND DIE VORGEGEHENEN SPERREN UND ZERSTOERUNGEN,
ZU EVAKUIEREN. VORBEREITUNGEN S OFORT EINLEITEN,
ABSICHTEN MELDEN. --

CHEF H RUEST U BDE FUEHRT UMGEHEND DEM
BEVOLLMAECHTIGTEN GENERAL IN ITALIEN FUER
EVAKUIERUNGS- MASZNAHMEN UND ABTRANSPORT DER
MAENNlichen ARBEITSKRAEFTE 2 000 DEUTSCHE SOLDATEN
NACH ITALIEN ZU (BEREITS BEFOHLEN). --

E) OT- ZENTRALE WIRD GEBETEN, DAS DEUTSCHE
OT- RAHMENPERSONAL IN DER APENNIN - STELLUNG
SO ZU VERSTAERKEN, DASS ES DEN ERHOECHTEN
KRAEFTEINSATZ, ENTSPRICHT UND, OHNE SCHAECHUNG
DER KUESTENFLANKEN / AN LIGURISCHEN MEER UND DER
ADRIA -- NOERDLICH-- DER APENNIN - STELLUNG,
ALLE SONSTIGEN MASSNAHMEN ZU TREFFEN, UM DIE
GEFORDERTE ERHOECHTE BAULEISTUNG ZU ERREICHEN. --

F) GEN ST D H / GEN QU SIEHT IM INNENVERTEILUNGSPLAN
ZUR DURCHFUEHRUNG DER GROSSVERMINUNG ERHOECHTE
ZUTEILUNG AN OK. SUEDWEST VOR. KUERZUNG IM
SUEDOSTEN UND NORDEN WIRD HIERZU IN KAUF GENOMMEN.
MOEGLICHKEITEN DER ERHOECHTEN FERTIGUNG VON
BEHELSMINEN IN ITALIEN SIND ZU PRUEFEN. --

3.) GEN D PI II FEST LEGT MONATLICH ZUM 10.
(ERSTMALS / ZUM 10.7.) MELDUNG UEBER AUSBAUSTAND
UND BAUFORTSCHRITT (EINSCHL. VERMINUNG) AN
OKV / WEST VOR. --

GEZ. KEITEL OKV / WEST / OP (H) NR. 005612/44 G. K. ++

Copies to: O.B.SW
General of Engineers &
Fortifications
Chief of G.H.Q. Armament &
Recruitment
O.T. Central at G.H.Q.
General Plenipotentiary of the
German Armed Forces in Italy
G.H.Q./Q.M.G.

Ref: Additional Fortress-like Construction in the Defence Position.

- 1.) The Fuehrer has ordered that work on fortress-like construction in the Apennine position be accelerated, and that, in order to achieve this end, the manpower and materiel committed be augmented. The following points are important:
 - a) Anti-tank security in those sectors threatened by tanks, with particular attention to those openings still necessary for traffic.
 - b) Acceleration of fortress-like construction, where possible rock-tunnelling, along the main lines of attack, with special provision of loopholes and other protection against bomb attack for numerous artillery emplacements and anti-aircraft guns. Based on experience in the Senger Riegel, an elaborate system of positions is called for, even on those mountain fronts which are considered almost inaccessible.
 - c) Extensive mining operations in adequate depth (even though in the simplest form) in front of the entire position, involving evacuation of the civilian population in the outpost area and the main battle area.
 - d) Preparations for creation of an obstacle zone about 10 km in depth in front of the main line of resistance, by lasting demolition of all traffic routes, installations and shelters; these operations to be carried out at once if possible.
- 2.) The Commander of Army Abteilung v. Zangen remains responsible under O.B.SW for the execution of all the construction work, and for the fulfilment of the Fuehrer's demands. In order that he may have a framework to build on as regards personnel and materiel, for immediate acceleration of the construction work, the Fuehrer has ordered:
 - a) That the General of Engineers and Fortifications strengthen the fortress engineer organization of the Apennine position in such a way as to ensure the requisite efficient organization. A specially capable Fortress Engineer Commander, experienced in this type of construction, to be entrusted with the technical side of the entire

fortress engineer work. A fortress engineer staff from the Southeastern zone will be placed at his disposal for carrying out the additional construction. Yet another staff is to be brought from the Eastern zone.

For strengthening the rock-drilling forces, a company will be brought from the zone of the C.-in-C. Norway. A proposal is to be submitted immediately regarding the recruitment of more rock-drilling and construction troops.

The necessary construction equipment - particularly rock-drilling equipment, air compressors, etc - is to be obtained in as large a quantity as possible and immediately routed to the forces already working in the position. As regards steel foundations etc, to begin with, 100 O.T. steel foundations (60 are already on the way to Italy, 40 were intended for the Pyrenees) and 26 O.T. steel foundations with panzer turrets are to be brought, with an additional four on completion (by 1 Jul). The General of Engineers and Fortifications will examine and report on further possible assignments (exclusive of the 40 which are in readiness for the East).

- b) The Commander of G.H.Q. Armaments and Fortifications will form as many construction battalions as possible, as a cadre for the supervision of Italian labour forces, and will report as soon as possible on the number, organization and degree of readiness for transport. It is enough that they be armed with side-arms and they may be drawn from the older age-groups.
- c) O.B.SW will withdraw to the Apennine position those Italian construction forces in the C-Position which as a result of enemy action are no longer fit for commitment. There they will be assembled, and a German cadre provided, in accordance with 2b. O.B.SW will provide the Organization Todt with the vehicles required for the construction work.
- d) In collaboration with the competent authorities, and while proceeding with previous plans, the General Plenipotentiary of the German Armed Forces in Italy will form civilian labour battalions in the Apennine position zone, particularly from the male population which is to be evacuated, or which is domiciled there. It is intended that they be incorporated in the construction battalions, in accordance with 2b; that they occupy separate billets; and that they be allotted German rations. The General Plenipotentiary of the German Armed Forces in Italy will report on the probable number in all, and on the date on which they are expected to be ready.

The population in the construction zone (altogether about 20 km in depth), and in the areas immediately to be affected by the extensive mining operations and the intended barriers and demolitions, is to be evacuated.

Preparations are to be initiated immediately, and intended action reported.

The Commander of G.H.Q. Armament and Recruitment will immediately route 2,000 German soldiers to the General Plenipotentiary in Italy (the order has already been issued) for evacuation measures and recruitment of the male labour forces.

- e) O.T. Central is requested to strengthen the German O.T. cadre in the Apennine position, to an extent in keeping with the increased labour commitment, and without weakening the coastal flanks on the Ligurian Sea, and on the Adriatic north of the Apennine position, and to take all other measures necessary to attain the required construction performance.
 - f) G.S. Army/Q.M.G. will see to it that O.B.SW be given an increased allotment of mines for the extensive mining operations. The fact that this will mean a shortage in the Southeast and in the North must be accepted. Possibilities of increased production of emergency mines in Italy are to be examined.
- 3.) On the tenth of each month (beginning 10 Jul) the General of Engineers and Fortifications will submit a report on the construction situation and a construction progress report (to include mining operations) to OKW/Armed Forces Operations Staff.

(signed) Keitel OKW/WFSt/Op. (H)

No. 005612/44 Top Secret

51 MTN CORPS

MAIN WAR DIARY

(Translation of) for

17, 18, 19 Jul 44

981A10. (183)

Ref: para 57

(War Diary 51 Mtn Corps. 17 - 19 Jul 44)

17 Jul 44
[Corps H.Q.] :
Permanent
quarters
Pennabilli

After hours of artillery preparation, as expected, the enemy attacked Mte Cetrone on both sides of the Tiber on a wide front with a strong spearhead. After severe fighting, the enemy succeeded in capturing the height. A further assault on Hill 611 led to a penetration 3 km southwest of 92/32. In the remainder of the Corps zone, the night passed without serious fighting.

During the morning, our counter-attacks succeeded in sealing off and reducing the penetration area north of Mte Cetrone. East of the Tiber, the heavy defensive action continued throughout the morning. Intense artillery fire on our positions and artillery firing positions.

In the sector of 278 Inf Div, after the most intense artillery and mortar fire, and with extremely heavy commitment of fighter-bombers and bombers over the main battle area and over the supply routes between 42/49 and north of 42/65, with the point of main effort at Case Nuove and along the highway 42/65 and 10/37, the enemy advanced to the attack with strong forces, including about 120 tanks.

After successful defensive action against the first waves of the attack, the enemy succeeded, after smashing our forces, in pushing in our front at Case Nuove and Point 360 4 km northwest of 42/65. Fighting in the sector of 278 Inf Div assumed more and more the character of a major attack. With the scanty reserves released from the adjoining sector, it was possible by evening to form an emergency sealing-off front on the general line 42/18 - 2 km south of 10/37 - 10/38 - 3 km west of 10/44 - 2 km south of 10/44. The bitter fighting continued. Seven enemy tanks were destroyed. In the sector of 44 Inf Div, in the area 2 km northwest of Mte Santa Maria, an enemy assembly position (three battalions) was smashed by concentrated fire. Sustained heavy enemy artillery fire in the left divisional sector.

On the right wing of 114 Jg Div a counter-attack resulted in a further narrowing down of the enemy's penetration area.

East of the Tiber, the enemy was able to extend his penetration area from Hill 611 against 1 Bn 721 Jg Regt, which was much exhausted by fighting, and after moving up new forces supported by intense artillery fire, he was able to push our troops back still further; and these withdrew, still fighting, behind the stream sector 2 km southeast of 92/32. The enemy

suffered heavy casualties from concentrated artillery fire, with one tank destroyed. Our own losses were considerable.

In the sector of 5 Mtn Div, continuous enemy movements, with one armoured scout car destroyed by artillery.

71 Inf Div successfully supported the defensive action of 278 Inf Div by attacking the enemy tanks and assembly positions in the area south of 42/49.

2 En 3 Brandenburg Regt arrived, and placed under command of 44 Inf Div. 733 Lt Arty Bn placed under command of 44 Inf Div.

Intention: To hold the present line. The left sector of 114 Jg Div taken over by 5 Mtn Div.

Withdrawal of left Corps sector to the general line 42/48 - south of 10/37 - south of 10/39 - 10/47.

71 Inf Div takes over the right battalion sector of 278 Inf Div.

The following battalions are reported as exhausted by fighting: I/721, I/992, II/992, I/994, II/994 and I/993.

Very lively activity by enemy ground attack aircraft and bombers.

- 0034 hrs Out: Report to Tenth Army on gun assignment for 44 Inf Div.
- 0855 hrs In: Report from 278 Inf Div: From 0615 hrs the most intense artillery fire, fighter-bomber and bomber commitment with the point of main effort in the Case Nuove and Hill 360 areas.
- 1010 hrs Out: Order to 278 Inf Div: After the release of Lt-Comdr Klusemann by the Division, the name of the new combat commander [for Ancona] is to be submitted.
- 1247 hrs Out: Order to 114 Jg and 5 Mtn Divs for withdrawal to the new line. Boundary lines.
- 1900 hrs Memo: Telephone conversations between C.-in-C. Tenth Army and General Commanding 278 Inf Div. Rather serious penetration. Necessity for withdrawing wing to "Hildegard" line south of Ancona recognized by Commander-in-Chief. But Ancona must definitely be held.
- 1915 hrs Out: Order to 71 and 278 Inf Divs for withdrawal to new line, and holding the height northwest of Candia di Ancona.

1916 hrs

Out: Order to 71 Inf Div: 3 En (Russian)
578 Regt 305 Inf Div to be moved up for com-
mitment in construction work in Green Line.

2000 hrs

In: Order by Tenth Army for further maintenance
or reorganization of divisional battle schools.
Staffed by picked instructors.

-

In: Request from 2 En 3 Brandenburg Regt for
recognition of a day of guerrilla warfare on
4 Jun on Mte Fello at Luco ne'Marsi (British
paratroops).

-

In: The Chief of the General Staff Tenth Army
asserts that the General Staff work is not
accurate. There are discrepancies in the
strength returns.

18 Jul 44

Permanent
quarters
Pennabilli

In the sector of 278 Inf Div, the heavy attacks
continued throughout the night. The enemy
followed up steadily with fresh armoured forces
and captured Polverigi. Mte Bogo, which had
temporarily been lost, was recovered in a
counter-attack. Ofagna was held to the last.
Continuing his thrust in the direction of
Chiaravalle, the enemy pushed through to
Agugliano, where fighting is still in progress.
At approximately 2200 hrs the withdrawal move-
ments began as ordered. Combat outposts and
covering parties still in contact with the
enemy on the entire front. The enemy suffered
severe and bloody losses. Our own casualties
were considerable.

71 Inf Div has taken over the right sector of
278 Inf Div. After dark, in the right Corps
sector, the enemy attacked on a wide front
from Mte Cetrone to Hill 375, 2 km southwest of
92/32. Isolated penetrations were quickly
cleaned up by local counter-attacks, and the
attack was brought to a halt for the most part
by midnight.

From 0420 hrs enemy artillery fire increased
in intensity in the right divisional sector.
Artillery from 71 Inf Div is still firing in
support of its neighbour's motor vehicle
traffic, and shelling enemy concentrations in
the area south of 42/49. Since 0600 hrs the
combat outposts of the Division 4 km southwest
of 42/47 have been attacked, and shelled by
artillery. Our own reconnaissance brought in
a captured Italian.

In the sector of 278 Inf Div, after moving up
new tanks (about 200 tanks in all were counted),
the enemy was able to push forward from 10/37
to the North and Northeast. According to the
latest report from the Division, the enemy
is advancing with tanks and infantry from
Castel d'Emilio towards the North and from

10/37 towards the Northeast in the direction of Torrette a Mare, with the spearhead in the Tasso il Taglio region. According to the report of a liaison officer, the enemy tank spearhead is said to have reached the localities Camerata, Picena, Crancetta and Castelferretti. The "Wildflecken" battalion, which was moved up in lorries, has been thrown forward to Hill 274, 3 km northeast of 10/37 to take over.

Our withdrawal movements, handicapped by strong enemy aircraft commitment, are under way. Formation of an emergency sealing-off front on the line 10/33 - 10/36 by 278 Fd Repl Bn. The transfer of two battalions from the right sector of 71 Inf Div is in progress. It is not yet known whether our forces in the area south of 10/41 will be able to fight their way through. The moving up of the "Wildflecken" battalion was hindered by gunfire and mine-laying carried out by sabotage troops landed in the Fano area. When the operation was finished the enemy re-embarked.

In the remaining Corps sector the morning passed quietly. 3 Bn (Russian) 578 Regt 71 Inf Div has been dispatched to the area ordered. No further reports from 278 Inf Div had come in by 2100 hrs. A liaison officer has been dispatched to the Division. In the sector of 114 Jg Div, at about 1600 hrs, the enemy attacked in company strength from Monte Cedrone in a northwesterly direction. At the same time, enemy assault detachments and companies, pushing forward from Hill 566, were thrown back with bloody losses. Reinforcements observed in the Monte Cedrone sector were effectively shelled by our artillery. In the sector of 5 Mtn Div an enemy armoured scout car was destroyed 4 km southwest of 57/33. An attack by approximately two companies on the left sector of 71 Inf Div was repelled by our artillery.

Intentions: To withdraw the left Corps sector to the general line: 42/11 - 42/28 - 10/31 - 10/36.

To relieve the two right battalions of 71 Inf Div, and move them into the sector of 278 Inf Div, leaving small covering parties in the former sector. To move one company from 5 Mtn Div into the sector of 278 Inf Div.

To dispatch an armoured scout platoon from 44 Inf Div to guard the coastal highways.

To hold the present line in the remaining Corps sector.

Lively enemy aerial reconnaissance and ground attack aircraft activity.

- 1127 hrs Out: Order to 71 Inf Div and 278 Inf Div: The enemy has broken through the sealing-off front in the sector of 278 Inf Div. By early on 19 Jul the Corps withdraws, while holding the position on the left wing of 5 Mtn Div. To form a covering force behind the new sector of 278 Inf Div, II/211 and I/194 are to be relieved by 71 Inf Div and moved up to 278 Inf Div. To release these, 71 Inf Div is dispatching battalions II/191 and II/194 from the Green Line.
- 1254 hrs Out: Order to 278 Inf Div: During the night 18/19 Jul the following are moved up from Corps Witthoef: 914 Aslt Gun Ede, 525 G.H.Q. Anti-tk En, one 17 cm battery from 557 C.H.Q. Arty En. The Brigade will be committed only as a whole. Employment of the Brigade for anti-tank defence is forbidden.
- 1652 hrs Out: Report to Tenth Army. Request for arms for battalions II/191 and II/194 from 71 Inf Div.
- 1715 hrs Memo: Telephone conversation between C.-in- C. Tenth Army and General Commanding:

The situation does not look good. General Hoppe hopes to be able to withdraw the greater part of the troops from the area threatened with encirclement, and to commit them in the new positions. The Commander-in-Chief promises to send strong forces. The General Commanding requests that he be given a free hand in good time, as things may soon come to a head on the other wing too.
- 1800 hrs Memo: Tel con: Corps Ops Officer, Major Eurchardt, G.S.C., to Ops Officer, Tenth Army, Colonel Berlin, G.S.C.:

The Corps requests permission to withdraw to the line 92/14 - 92/29 in the event of a major attack on the right wing.
- 1845 hrs In: C.-in- C. Tenth Army expresses his recognition to 44 Inf Div and 114 Jg Div.
- 1903 hrs Out: Order to 5 Mtn Div and 278 Inf Div: 5 Mtn Div to move up a strong company with improvised mechanization to the sector of 278 Inf Div during the night 18/19 Jul.
- 1915 hrs Memo: Tel con: Maj-Gen Wentzell and Major Eurchardt, G.S.C.:

In case of overwhelming enemy attacks, the Corps has permission to form up in the rear areas.
- 2400 hrs Out: 44 Inf Div dispatches armoured scout platoon to 278 Inf Div during the night 19/20 Jul, to guard the coastal highways against enemy commandos.

19 Jul 44

Permanent
quarters
Pennabilli

The following report received from 278 Inf Div: After a successful breakthrough with strong tank forces at Agugliano, on 18 Jul a new tank battle developed in the area Camerata - Picena - Castel d'Emilio - Paterno di Ancona. Though the troops were already much exhausted by fighting, it was possible to form a defence front towards the South and Southeast on the general line Grancetta - Passo il Taglio, and so to make possible a withdrawal of the forces south of Ancona. It is owing to the stubborn stand of the troops holding this line that the mass of the troops south of Ancona were able to withdraw to the Esino sector.

The enemy's plan to cut off the forces at Ancona with his superior tank strength did not succeed. Of 15 batteries, only two or three, which were committed in close combat in anti-tank fighting, had to be blown up. The mass of the assault guns and anti-tank guns were able to withdraw in time. The number of tanks put out of action has increased to 16.

On 18 Jul 1900 hrs, 278 Inf Div held the following line: Height at Maria Nuova - the heights from Mazzanrugno - Mulino d'Agugliano - the Esino sector as far as the mouth of the river.

On the whole the night passed quietly.

After bringing up additional tanks, the enemy continued his concentrated tank thrusts during the night and the morning in the sector of 278 Inf Div, with the point of main effort at 10/34. South of 10/34 he succeeded in crossing the Esino with about 30 tanks, and pushing forward in a westerly direction to north of the highway 10/31 - 10/34. There are more tank concentrations of up to 30 tanks southeast of 10/34. With further groups of from about 30 - 40 tanks the enemy pushed forward as far as the region 10/36. Here three armoured scout cars with infantry on board, and supported by fire from about 30 tanks, succeeded in crossing the ford south of 10/36, and reaching the northern bank of the river. The fighting, which owing to lack of the requisite anti-tank weapons, is bitter and accompanied by heavy losses, still continues.

278 Inf Div withdrew fighting to the general line: North of 10/31 - the eastern border of Mte San Vito - the eastern border of Mte Marciano - 2 km southeast of 10/35.

In the remaining part of the Corps zone, the morning passed without any serious fighting.

An attack in company strength against the left wing of 71 Inf Div, 2 km southeast of 10/32 was repulsed.

In the afternoon 278 Inf Div was able to repel further enemy thrusts on the general line: 10/31 - 3 km west of 10/33 - 2 km northwest of 10/36. The enemy is still bringing forward tanks in the area 10/34 - 10/36 and along the coastal highway. Since Jul, 26 tanks have been put out of action by the Division.

In the fighting of the last few days the Division has lost approximately 2000 men.

In the remaining part of the Corps zone the day passed quietly.

.....

2 En 211 Gren Regt, 1 En 194 Gren Regt and 3 En 85 Mtn Jg Regt placed under command of 278 Inf Div.

During the morning there was lively enemy aerial activity; during the afternoon there was little, owing to bad weather.

1800 hrs

Memo: Tel con: C.-in- C. Tenth Army and General Commanding:

278 Inf Div hard hit, and has re-assembled in covering position on the Esino. New breakthrough of tank spearhead at Chiaravalle. Proposal by General Hoppe for a new line. The main thing is, that 278 Inf Div should be able to hold on until reinforcements arrive. Intention: To commit 1 Para Div as relief. The situation on the right gives no anxiety.

1901 hrs

Out: Order to 5 Mtn Div, 71 Inf Div and 278 Inf Div: The enemy has captured Chiaravalle on the left wing of the Corps.

In spite of intense tank concentration, he has not succeeded in breaking through.

By 20 Jul 0600 hrs, 71 Inf Div, with II/211 again under command, takes over the right sector of 278 Inf Div.

2050 hrs

Out: Order to 114 Jg Div, 44 Inf Div and 5 Mtn Div: On recognition of a major enemy attack, the divisions are authorized to withdraw to the general line: 92/16 - 92/21 - north of 92/31 - 92/40 - 92/41 - 92/42.

2400 hrs

In: Approval from Tenth Army for withdrawal of left wing to a new line of resistance during the night 19/20 Jul.

Out: Order to all divisions re condition reports, monthly training report and replacement report.

Out: Order to all divisions for reconnoitring an advanced position from 4 - 6 km in front of the Green Line. In the sector of 114 Jg Div the position is to be especially developed. It is intended to hold it for some time.

APPENDIX "G"
to H.S. Report No. 24

51 MTN CORPS

ALLIED DISPOSITIONS AND INTENTIONS
IN THE ADRIATIC SECTOR

22 Jul 44

(Photostat and Translation)

981A10. (D199)

Ref: para 63

Entwurf!

Anlage 2 zu
3724/44 geh.

Gen. Kdo. LI. Geb. A. K.
Ic Nr. 137/44 g. Kdos.

K.Gef.Std., den 22.7.1944.
12 Ausfertigungen
12.Ausfertigung.

Betr.: Feindbeurteilung für adriatischen Küstenabschnitt.

1030
798 / 12
448 24/3

An

A. O. K. 10.

Das Gen.Kdo. rechnet damit, dass der Feind nach Einnahme von Ancona auf dem Ostflügel seiner Front eine Bereitstellung grösseren Stils durchführt, um mit massierten Kräften, insbesondere Pz.-Verbänden, die eigenen Linien zu durchstossen, und in der oberitalienischen Tiefebene die deutschen in Italien stehenden Kräfte aus der Flanke aufzurollen und von ihren rückwärtigen Verbindungen abzuschneiden.

Hierfür sprechen folgende Feindfeststellungen der letzten Zeit:

- 1.) Zahlreiche Gefangenenaussagen über eine Grossaktion im Raum Ancona-Rimini, evtl. verbunden mit einer Landung.
- 2.) Aussagen poln. Gefangener, dass sie nach Einnahme von Ancona durch frische brit. Truppen abgelöst werden sollen.
- 3.) V-Mann-Aussagen, wonach Abzeichen 1. engl.Div. und V.engl. A.K. im Raum Pescara-Teroli und Abzeichen 1.kanad.Korps, 1.kanad.Div. und 12.südafrik.Div. im Raum Osimo erkannt sind.
- 4.) V-Mann-Aussagen vom 14.7.44 aus Perugia, wonach Kräfte der 5. Armee von W an die Ostküste verlagert und farbige Divisionen zugeführt werden sollen.
- 5.) Wahrnehmung eines aus der Gefangenschaft zurückgekehrten deutschen Soldaten, der im Bereich der 3. poln. Div. englischsprechende Soldaten mit blauen roteingefassten Baskenmützen, angeblich keine Pz.-Soldaten gesehen haben will.
- 6.) S.Qu-Meldung über Auftreten engl. und kanad. Netze im Adriabschnitt.
- 7.) Seit längerer Zeit beobachtete Bewegungen mit der Hauptrichtung West-Ost vor Abschnitt 5.Geb.Div. (bestätigt durch Aussage einer Frontläuferin aus Fabriano, vom 19.7.44).
- 8.) Auftreten von zahlreichen Schiffseinheiten bereits am 2. Tage nach der Einnahme im Hafen Ancona. Zunehmender Schiffsverkehr in den folgenden Tagen.
- 9.) Durch V-Mann beobachteter Aufmarsch schwerster Artl. im Kampfraum NW Ancona.

Unter der Voraussetzung, dass die 8. Armee die Führung im adriatischen Küstenabschnitt beibehält und der Gegner am Prinzip der Trennung amerik. und engl. bewaffneter Verbände festhält, kommen folgende bisher bekannte Verbände für eine derartige Operation in Betracht:

I. kanad. Korps mit 1. kanad.Div., 5.kanad.Pz.Div. und evtl. Teilen 4.kanad.Pz.Div.(?)

V.engl.A.K.: 6. und 8. ind.Div., 1. und 5.engl.Div., 2. Brig.
der 1.engl.Luftlande-Div., 24. Garde-Brig.,
1. Rgt. der 23. Pz.-Brig., 6. austral. Div. (?),
12. südafrik. Div.

In den V-Mann-Meldungen wird auch vom Herüberschieben
amerik. Verbände von W gesprochen.

Um den Aufmarsch des Gegners möglichst frühzeitig zu er-
kennen, sind seitens des Gen.Kdo. folgende Massnahmen getroffen:

- 1.) Die Divisionen sind über die vorgenannten Möglichkeiten
unterrichtet und angewiesen, durch rege Gefechtsaufklärung
zahlreiche Gefangene und Frontläufer einzubringen, die über
sämtliche Wahrnehmungen, die mit den genannten Kombinationen
im Zusammenhang stehen können, eingehend zu vernehmen sind.
- 2.) Die dem Gen.Kdo. taktisch unterstellten Abwehrorgane, der
Frontaufklärungstrupp 150 und der Pi.Vers.Trupp 257 arbeiten
mit Schwerpunkt im Küstenabschnitt. R-Leute wurden eingebaut
in:

Chieti, Catignano, Ancona, Jesi;

ihre Arbeit hängt jedoch, da ihnen nur Netzgeräte mitgegeben
werden konnte; von der Wiederingangsetzung der von uns zer-
störten B-Werke ab. Meldungen stehen daher bis jetzt noch
aus. Die Arbeit dieser Abwehrorgane ist erschwert durch das
z.Zt. durch die militärische Lage bedingte geringe Angebot
von V-Leuten. Das Gen.Kdo. hat den Divisionen Mittel zur
Verfügung gestellt, um im eigenen Bereich eine Frontnauf-
klärung durch Gelegenheits-V-Leute mit begrenztem Ziel durch-
zuführen, hier sind auch bereits brauchbare Ergebnisse er-
zielt worden. (Erkennen des Artl.-Aufmarsches, der Abzeichen
des I. kanad. Korps, der 1. kanad. Div. und der 12. südafrik. Div.
im Bereich 278. J.D.).

- 3.) Der dem Gen.Kdo. zugeteilte Nahaufklärungszug Heide-Inge
schiebt in den nächsten Tagen in den Raum der 278. J.D.
einen Nahaufklärungstrupp vor, um eine restlose Erfassung
des fdl. Funkverkehrs zu gewährleisten. Die Arbeit des Nah-
aufklärungszuges ist z.Zt. erschwert durch die Ausfälle von
hochwertigem Fachpersonal durch Feindeinwirkung, Versetzungen
und Abkommandierungen. Eine Zuführung von geeignetem Fach-
personal ist in Anbetracht des besonders grossen durch diesen
Trupp zu betreuenden Abschnitt erforderlich.

Das Gen.Kdo. weist darauf hin, dass die durch die vor-
genannten Aufklärungsmittel erzielten Ergebnisse zur Herstellung
eines zuverlässigen und zeitgerechten Feindbildes der laufenden
Überprüfung durch die Luftaufklärung bedürfen, die sich nicht
nur auf den unmittelbaren Küstenraum erstrecken darf, da der
Gegner seine Vorbereitungen voraussichtlich zum Teil weiter land-
einwärts treffen dürfte. Nach einer V-Mann-Meldung ist für die
Landungsvorbereitungen der Raum von Fabriano-Macerata bis Porto
Civitanova vorgesehen.

Die Möglichkeiten einer Landung in der tiefen linken Flanke
des Korps im Raum Rimini-Lago di Cormacchio werden vom Gen.Kdo.
wie folgt beurteilt:

Der Gegner dürfte bei den bisher durchgeführten Landungen
die Erfahrung gemacht haben, dass derartige Unternehmungen bei
einem entsprechenden materiellen Einsatz zwar im allgemeinen
glücken, jedoch mit hohen Verlusten verbunden sind.

Er wird daher versuchen, sein Ziel - Durchbruch in die lombardische Ebene - zunächst auf dem Landwege zu erreichen. Das adriatische Küstenland mit seinem hügeligen und stark bewachsenen Gelände bietet für einen an Pz. und Inf. zahlenmäßig überlegenen Gegner hierfür günstige Voraussetzungen. Sollte es dem Gegner an einer Stelle trotz mehrmaligem Anrennen nicht gelingen, den eigenen Widerstand zu brechen, so ist mit einer überholenden Landung in der linken Flanke des Korps zu rechnen.

Handwritten signature

Verteiler:

nachr. an:	✓1.) A.O.K. 10	1.	Ausfertigung
	✓2.) 5.Geb.Div.	2.	"
	✓3.) R.Gren.D.U.u.D.3.		"
	✓4.) 71.I.D.	4.	"
	✓5.) 114.Jg.Div.	5.	"
	✓6.) 278.I.D.	6.	"
	✓7.) Arko 154 451	7.	"
	✓8.) Flivo	8.	"
	✓9.) Zug Heide Inge	9.	"
	✓10.) Fr.Nah-Aufklärungstr.150	10.	"
	✓11.) Pi-Vers.Tr. 257	11.	"
	12.) Entwurf	12.	"

Verteiler überprüft:

Handwritten signature: Meyer

(11)

D r a f t

H.Q. 51 Mtn Corps
Intelligence No. 137/44 Secret

22 Jul 44

12 Copies
Copy No. 12

Ref: Appreciation of the Enemy Situation
in the Adriatic Coastal Sector

To: Tenth Army

It is thought by Corps Headquarters that the enemy, after capturing Ancona, is moving into a position of readiness with strong forces on the eastern wing of his front, with the object of breaking through our lines with massed forces, especially tank formations, and rolling up the German forces in Italy from the flank into the plains of Northern Italy, and so cutting them off from their communications in the rear areas.

The following information which has recently come to hand concerning the enemy favours this theory:

- 1.) Numerous prisoner of war statements referring to a major action in the Ancona - Rimini area, possibly connected with a landing.
- 2.) Statements of Polish prisoners to the effect that after the capture of Ancona they were to be relieved by fresh British troops.
- 3.) Statements of agents, whereby badges of 1 Brit Div and 5 Brit Corps have been identified in the Pescara - Termoli area, and badges of 1 Cdn Corps, 1 Cdn Div and 12 S. Afr Div in the Osimo area.
- 4.) Statements of agents from Perugia dated 14 Jul 44, according to which troops belonging to the Fifth Army were to be transferred from the West to the East coast, and coloured divisions moved up.
- 5.) Statement of a captured German soldier who subsequently escaped, to the effect that he had seen English-speaking soldiers in the zone of 3 Pol Div wearing blue berets with red borders, apparently not armoured troops.
- 6.) Report from reliable source on the presence of British and Canadian networks in the Adriatic sector.
- 7.) Movements which have been observed for some time past forward of 5 Mtn Div, having a main West - East direction (confirmed on 19 Jul by the statement of a female line-crosser from Fabriano).

- 8.) The appearance of numerous vessels in the harbour of Ancona even on the second day after the capture of the town. Increasing shipping activity during the succeeding days.
- 9.) The moving into position of heaviest artillery in the battle area N.W. Ancona was observed by an agent.

Assuming that Eighth Army retains command in the Adriatic coastal sector, and that the adversary adheres to his principle of keeping the American and the British forces separate, the following identified formations come under consideration for an operation of this nature:

- 1 Cdn Corps with 1 Cdn Div, 5 Cdn Armd Div and possibly elements of 4 Cdn Armd Div (?)
- 5 Brit Corps: 6 and 8 Ind Divs, 1 and 5 Brit Divs, 2 Bde 1 Brit Airborne Div, 24 Guards Bde, 1 Regt 25 Armd Bde, 6 Aus Div (?), 12 S. Afr Div.

In reports from agents there is also talk of transferring American formations from the West.

In order to identify the enemy's movement into assembly position as early as possible, Corps H.Q. has taken the following measures:

- 1.) The divisions have been informed of the aforementioned possibilities, and directed, by means of active combat reconnaissance to bring in numerous prisoners and line-crossers, who are to be searchingly cross-examined on all statements which might have any bearing on the subject.
- 2.) The security organizations which are tactically under the command of Corps H.Q., 150 Front-line Recce Det and 257 Engr Experimental Det, are centred in the coastal sector. We have placed radio operators in Chieti, Catignano, Ancona and Jesi. But as they could only be supplied with "network" equipment, their work depends on the re-starting of the power plants destroyed by us. Up to now no reports have come in from that source. The work of these security organizations is rendered more difficult by the shortage of agents, which is caused by the military situation. Corps H.Q. has placed means at the disposal of the divisions for organizing a front-line short-range reconnaissance service in their own zones, using casual agents and having a limited objective. Useful results have already been achieved by these means. (Recognition of the artillery concentration, badges of 1 Cdn Corps, 1 Cdn Div and 12 S. Afr Div, in the zone of 278 Inf Div)
- 3.) During the following days the Short Range Reconnaissance (Wireless Interception) Platoon Heide-Inge attached to Corps H.Q. pushes forward a detachment into the zone of 278 Inf Div, to ensure complete coverage of enemy radio traffic. The work of the short-range wireless interception platoon is rendered more difficult at present by the loss of valuable technical personnel through enemy action, transfer and detachment. In consideration of the particularly large sector for

which this unit is responsible, additional qualified personnel is needed.

Corps H.Q. points out that the results achieved by the aforementioned methods of information-gathering, in order to produce a reliable and up-to-date enemy picture require constant checking from the air, and aerial reconnaissance should not be confined to the coastal area, as it is probable that enemy preparations will extend farther inland. According to the report of an agent, it is planned to make preparations for the landing in the area from Fabriano - Macerata - Porto Civitanova.

The likelihood of a landing on the deep left flank of the Corps in the Rimini - Lake of Cormacchio area is assessed by Corps H.Q. as follows:

The enemy should know from experience gained in previous landings that operations of this nature, though they generally succeed if materiel is committed in sufficient quantity, are accompanied by heavy losses.

Hence he will first try to achieve his goal - the breakthrough into the Plains of Lombardy - by land. For an adversary numerically superior in armour and infantry, the Adriatic coastal area, with its hilly and thickly wooded terrain, offers favourable conditions for this operation. If in spite of repeated attempts, the enemy should fail to break our resistance at any point, a landing behind the lines on the left flank of the Corps may be expected.

K1

(Initials of C. of S. 51 Mtn Corps)