Shingle
REPORT 278.

(1) OPERATION SHINGLE. AMPHIBIOUS LANDING OPERATIONS COMMENCED AT 0245 22ND JAN ON BEACHES NORTH AND EAST OF ANZIO (41-27 NORTH 12-37 EAST). LANDING WAS SYNCHRONIZED WITH OFFENSIVE ON 5TH ARMY FRONT. 1ST LANDINGS REPORTED SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED BY 0545 AND BEACHES SECURED AFTER VERY SLIGHT OPPOSITION. RANGERS REPORTED EASTERN LANDING ACCORDING TO PLAN AT ANZIO. 1ST RETURN CONVOYS AND FOLLOW UP CONVOYS HAVE SAILED. FIRE SUPPORT FOR ARMY PROVIDER BY HIS ORION HIS SPARTAN HIS PENELOPE AND USS BROOKLYN, SUNK BOATS AND BRITISH AND US DDNS.

(2) HIS FOOD FRENCH CR. LE FANTASQUE AND HIS INGLEFIELD WERE TO CARRY DIVERSIONARY BOMBARDMENT AND COASTAL FORCE MADE 2ND LANDING IN CIVITA vecchia AREA SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH LANDING
OPERATIONS.

(3) VERY LITTLE INFORMATION YET AVAILABLE ON ALL ABOVE OPERATIONS.

*RECEIVED IN 2 PARTS: PART 1 222211A NCR 277
PART 2 222217A NCR 243

1 COPY DELIVERED TO 290
From: AFHQ Command Post in Italy
To: Air Ministry London No. 362
War
Algiers No. 362

19 January 1944

From Fairbanks from Wilson to Air Ministry for British Chiefs of Staff, rapt Britman Washington for US Joint Chiefs of Staff 362 19th all.

I have arrived Caserta radiographic address Fairbanks where I will remain with Alexander, Cunningham, and Baker through crisis of operation SHINGLE. Telegrams should continue to be addressed Freedom from where those requiring my personal attention will be forwarded here. I find preparations SHINGLE well advanced with every prospect of achieving target date as planned. Enemy reserves are being drawn into the battle and the situation is developing favorably in this respect.

No Sig

ACTION: CC/S (Capt. Royal USN)
INFORMATION: OIF
C of S

CM-18-12590 (20 Jan 44) 00162 Jb

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JOB LETTER 7-3-73
BY DRS. DATE
MAY 2 2 1973

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SECRET
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING MESSAGE

January 5, 1944

FROM: A.F.H.Q. Algiers

TO: AGWAR for OPD (B.A.S.W. please pass)
War Office M.O. 4
Rptd Middle East
15 Army Group

NO: W 9354/24089

Signed Eisenhower cite PHGCT.

WEEKLY PLANNING TELEGRAM No 17.

1. Operation SHINGLE. Combined Chiefs of Staff have
authorized retention of 504 RCT of 82 Airborne Division for
operation SHINGLE. Estimated that 504 RCT will be returned
to U.K. in MKP 29 arriving U.K. about March 16. Formations
earmarked to take part in SHINGLE are Third US Infantry
Division and First British Infantry Division under 6th US
Corps.

2. Operation ANVIL. Expected that Force planning
will begin on or about January 10. Combined Chiefs of
Staff have been requested to replace one US Infantry
Division ex USA by an Airborne Division, for emergency
build up by air of ANVIL bridgehead should this prove
necessary.

3. Operation HERCULES. HERCULES now cancelled.
Units and resources earmarked for this operation will
be released for other purposes.

4. Build up into Italy. Consideration is being
given to move of 85th US Infantry Division and either
Fourth British Infantry Division or Ninth Ind Infantry
Division into Italy during February and March in place
of Ninth French Colonial Division and Sixth Armoured
Division.

CM-IN-3806 (6 Jan 44)

DECLASSIFIED
JCS LETTER, 7-6-72
BY DECEASED

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E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/22/44

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21-3533944B
5. For 15 Army Group and Middle East. These weekly planning telegrams are purely planning policy and are not to be quoted.
From: Algiers
To: War

No # 28 December 1943

To AGWAR (OPD) rptd Troopers MD4. Mideast from Freedom signed Eisenhower cite FOBOT BIGOT.

BIGOT. Weekly planning telegram number 16.

1. Planning decisions. At a high level conference on 25 December, question of launching SHINGLE reopened. As a result General Alexander has been instructed to make preparations for operation on basis of 2 divisional assault with airborne troops and some ARMOR to be carried out during last week January on following assumptions:

(A) 56 LST due return UK during January and on 7 February would remain for operation.

(B) 56 LST should start returning UK in mks 39 not later than 5 February. At same conference it was decided that HERCULES would be postponed indefinitely as the mounting of this operation would detract from main battle in Italy and would be running grave risk of prejudicing success of ANVIL.

2. Corsica. Construction work in Corsica to accommodate necessary air forces for ANVIL being given highest priority consistent with requirements for SHINGLE. All LST in Theater will be requested for SHINGLE. The withdrawal of LST for the Corsica build up will be compensated by an increased allotment once SHINGLE is over.

3. AFRQ will not now move to Caserta.
EXCEPT FROM WAR DEPARTMENT INCOMING DISPATCH OF 21 DECEMBER 1943, (CM-IN-14459) FILED "310 ANVIL".

* * * * * * * SHINGLE. Fifteenth Army Group advises there is no possibility of mounting SHINGLE by 15 January. Possible modified amphibious operation after that date is being examined. * * * * * * *
SECRET
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INCOMING MESSAGE

SECURITY CONTROL

From: G-3 (Plans) section A.F.H.Q. Algiers
To: U.S. War Dept (OPD)
War Office M.O.
rptd Middle East

No: W7519/13372 12 Dec.

BICOT

Signed Eisenhower cite BICOT. Weekly planning telegram number 14.

Para 1. Planning for seizure of ELBA being suspended. Reference item 1 last weeks telegram.

Para 2. 5th Army planning for RHODES continues. Timing intimately connected with advance of main forces which is still unpredictable but General CLANKE hopes to be able to estimate date of operation in about a week.

Para 3. Draft of ANVIL outline plan nearing completion. JPS will consider it next few days.

Para 4. Feasibility of HERCULES under urgent examination. Question hinges largely on timing date in earliest Middle East can launch assault via a vis latest date by which craft can be employed and still return in time for ANVIL. Appears at present that only conditions under which HERCULES is likely to be launched are those in which some change outside this theatre made it necessary to decide on a postponement of OVERLORD several months ahead of projected launching date of that operation.

Para 5. Middle East planners expected to arrive shortly to join A.F.H.Q. planners in discussion of various Mediterranean problems.

ACTION: OPD
INFORMATION: CC/S (Capt. Royal, USN); LOG

CM-IN-8873 (14 Dec 43) 1651Z 7th

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JCS LETTER 7-5-72
BY DSS, DATE
MAY 22, 1972

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NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/74
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WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING MESSAGE

SECURITY CONTROL
PRIORITY

From: AFRQ in North Africa
To: War - Cairo

Nr. W-7073/10964, 07 December 1943

Action AGWAR for OPD, Troopers for MO 4 rptd Mideast for information signed Eisenhower cite PROCT.

Planning should be undertaken immediately JPS are recommending. Weekly planning telegram number 13.

(1) Reference para 5 of last weeks telegram Employ French forces as assaulting and follow up units operation to be under joint command.

(2) Latest date on which decision whether to mount SHINGLE must be taken is 20th December.

(3) Operation ANVIL is under discussion with planners at Cairo operation cannot be mounted simultaneously with SHINGLE.

No Sig

ACTION: OPD
INFORMATION: CC/S (Capt Royal USN)
LOG

CM-IN-4905 (8 Dec 43) 0938Z bjm

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JCS LETTER, 7-5-72
BY DSS, DAIS
MAY 22 1973

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By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

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24-5339449C
MOST IMMEDIATE

January 21, 1944

To: Air Ministry for British Chiefs of Staff

Repeated Britman Washington for U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff

FREEDOM for Whiteley from Fairbanks from Wilson

This is MEDOOS Number 5

Left convoy 1600 hours slightly behind schedule but time in hand and sea calm. Assault takes place as arranged. Weather remains favorable. On fronts of two and ten corps enemy is counter attacking strongly and appears to be committing a large part of his reserves. No other enemy reaction so far.

ACTION: CC/S (Capt. Royal USN)

INFORMATION: OPD

Gen Strong

White House

Gen Arnold

Adm King

LOG

DECLASSIFIED per

SM522-71

Date - DEC 22 1971

Signature - RCAP

CM-IN-14347 (22 Jan 44) 1310 Z Jb

310 Shiino

COPY No. 21
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
OUTGOING MESSAGE

SECURITY CONTROL

Combined Chiefs of Staff
71469
January 21, 1944

CG
FREEDOM ALGIERS

BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF
US FOR LONDON ENGLAND

NUMBER: 7779
NUMBER: R-8409

For Wilson FREEDOM Algiers PAN 322, from the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

We are watching your hard battles in Italy with understanding interest and wish you every success in the daring operation ("SHINGLE") which you are undertaking.

No Sig

ORIGINATOR: CC/S Capt Royal USN
INFORMATION: CPD
Adm King
Gen Arnold
Gen Strong
White House

DECLASSIFIED per
JCS 29-71
DEC 22 1971

SIGNATURE

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E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94
RECEIVED FROM ARMY BY SCRAMBLER -

REPEATED BRITISH WASHINGTON FOR US JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNNUMBERED JANUARY 21, 1944
FREEDOM FOR WHITELY FROM FAIRBANKS FROM WILSON 409 CITE.

THIS IS MESSAGE NUMBER 5

LEFT CONVOY 1600 HOURS SLIGHTLY BEHIND SCHEDULE
BUT TIME IN HAND AND SEA CALM. ASSAULT TAKES PLACE AS
ARRANGED. WEATHER REMAINS FAVORABLE. ON FRONTS OF TWO
AND TEN CORPS ENEMY IS COUNTER ATTACKING STRONGLY AND
APPEARS TO BE COMMITTING A LARGE PART OF HIS RESERVES.
NO OTHER ENEMY REACTION SO FAR.

CM-IN-14347 ADM KING

DEPARTMENT

URGENT
PRIORITY
ROUTINE
DEFERRED
PRIORITY
ROUTINE
DEFERRED

INFORMATION
FOR ACTION

FAIRBANKS, WILSON

221434 JAN 1944

FAIRBANKS, WILSON

221434

FAIRBANKS, WILSON

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FAIRBANKS, WILSON

221434

FAIRBANKS, WILSON

221434
TO: BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF
FROM: AFEQ (signed Wilson)

MEDCOS: 21

Date is January 22nd, weather permitting.

ACTION: CC/S
INFORMATION: OPD
Gen. Strong
White House
C OF S
Adm. King
Gen. Arnold

CM-IN-13198 (20 Jan 44) 21272 jmj

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TO: BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF
FROM: FAIRBANKS (code for AFHQ (General Eisenhower))
MEDCS 20

Target date SHINGLE follows in my next MEDCS. COSMED 8 refers.

ACTION: CO/S (Capt Royal USN)
INFORMATION: OPD
Gen Strong
White House
C of S
Adm King
Gen Arnold

CM-IN-13197 (20 Jan 44) 2113Z ejm

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By RT, NARA, Date 4/21/94
INCOMING MESSAGE

Security Control

URGENT

From: AFHQ Command Post in Italy
To: Air Ministry London No #
Algiers No #
War 386

20 January 1944

To Air Ministry for British Chief's of Staff
repeated Britman Washington for US Joint Chief's of
Staff Freedom for Whiteley from FAIRFEEK from Wilson
386 20th NIL Cite PHGOT. This is AECOS number #

Decision to sail SHINGLE assault force taken at
1600 hours today. Weather conditions still favorable
and operations proceeding satisfactorily. I am embarking
tomorrow with C in C Med, Dever and Alexander to make
final decisions as regards launching on the spot.

No Sig.

ACTION: CO/3

INFORMATION:

OPD
Gen Strong
Adm King
Gen Arnold
White House
SUS
Log

CM-IN-13194 (20 Jan 44) 20582 mle

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E. O. 12356, Sec. 3.3 or Sec. 3.4
NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94

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NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94
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INCOMING MESSAGE

URGENT
SECURITY CONTROL

From: AFHQ Command Post in Italy
To: Air Ministry London
WAR
Algiers

20 January 1944

From Fairbanks from Wilson cite PFGOT. To Air Ministry for British Chiefs of Staff rptd Britman Washington for US Joint Chiefs of Staff and Freedom for Whiteley 378 201245.

This is MEDCO number 3.

1. Situation as reviewed at Commanders Conference at 1000 hours 20 Jan improved. Indications are that attacks by 5th Army which are proceeding satisfactorily are having effect of drawing local reserves as well as some of the general reserves in Rome area. Weather from Naval viewpoint perfect now and very promising forecast for next 36 hours. Weather forecast for air operations likewise good.

2. All arrangements for SHINGLE proceeding satisfactorily with every likelihood of maintaining target date provided only that weather holds. Final decision will be taken tonight 20-21 Jan as LOTS sail 1500 hours today 20 Jan.

3. I will elaborate plan in broad outline. French Corps continues its attack to the west on 21 Jan pressing hard on its right. Br 10 Corps making its main effort on its left with Br 5 Div and 56 Div and after completing bridgehead on right west bank of lower Garigliano turns north to capture high ground southwest of Cassino in San Giorgio area. US 2 Corps with 34th and 36th Div and elements 1st Arm Div attacks tonight to capture bridgehead across Rapido south of Cassino from where it will exploit northwest along HY 6 to Piedmonte-Aquino area. US 6th Corps

CM-IN-13126 (20 Jan 44)

310

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NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/18/44
From: APHQ Command Post in Italy
To: Air Ministry London no #
        WAR 378
        Algiers No #

with 3d US Div and Br 1st Div reinforced with Ranger Rns
and elements of US 1st Armd and 45th Div assault amphibiously
at 0200 hours 22 Jan, 3d Div south of Nettuno, Rangers vicinity
Anzio, 1st Div about 5 miles northwest of Anzio.
After establishing beachhead this force has final objective
of cutting 2 main roads about 12 miles southeast of Rome.

No Sig

ACTION: OC/S (CAPT. ROYAL, USN)
INFORMATION: GFD
        GEN. STRONG
        SOS
        ADM. KING
        GEN. ARNOLD
        LOO

CM-IN-13126 (20 Jan 44) 1844Z ong

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Per 6MR 688-71
Date: DEC 2 1971
Signature: RPH

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NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/94

COPY No. 16
TO: A.F.H.Q.
Repeated: Joint Staff Mission as C.O.W. (W) 1070
FROM: Chiefs of Staff

Following from Chiefs of Staff "SIGNED 6."
Reference MEDCOS 1.
In view of possible effects on civilian population high level decision will be required before attacks can be authorized. In order that we may give matter further consideration with view to making necessary representations to higher authority request full details of military advantages of proposed operation to SHINGLE and/or to main advance of Fifth Army.

ORIGINATOR: CC/S(CAPT. ROYAL, USA)
INFORMATION: WHITE HOUSE

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PER OM 588.71

DATE: DEC 22 1971

SIGNATURE: 

COPY No. 19

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To: Chiefs of Staff

Rptd: Joint Staff Mission
For U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff

From: Freedom, signed Wilson
Cite PHGC

Dated: 13th January, 1944

IMPORTANT

MDDCS NO. 1

1. Understand project for air attack on Tiber Dams already referred to you by Air Ministry. 15 Army Group consider that this operation may well prove most valuable to assist the later stages of SHINGLE for the main advance of 5th Army. While appreciating undesirable effects on civilian population CMA agree that in certain circumstances the operation should be launched.

2. Therefore request you approve the operation CMA to be launched only in the case of operational necessity at the discretion of the Allied CINC.

T.O.O. 131705A

Distribution

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U.S. Chiefs of Staff

310 Shingle

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DATE: DEC 22 1971

Signature: TRW

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NLR 101

By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/94
From: Algiers
To: War
No. W9218/23209 NAF 577, 3 January 1943

To AGWAR For Combined Chief's of Staff and to USFOR for British Chief's of Staff repeated CASINO and 15th Army Group signed Eisenhower cite PHOCS NAF 577.

BIGOT Commander in Chief's met at Tunis today to consider certain new factors connected with SHINOLE revealed by further planning since Christmas.

In view of the German reorganization of his battle front, it would now appear that by the end of D plus 3 he could concentrate, under best conditions for him, a maximum force of the equivalent of 3 Divisions plus 2 more battle groups in the area of the landing, if 5th or 8th Army's prior attack failed to draw his reserves into the frontal battle.

The withdrawal of landing craft as at present planned will leave none available for the build-up of forces landed in the assault. However, with the remaining LCSs it should be possible to keep the forces ashore at least partially maintained, given a reasonable degree of fair weather which cannot be relied upon.

The Germans are developing their defenses in front of 5th Army and no sure forecast can be given of the latter's position on SHINOLE D day. Therefore, it is not possible to give a time limit within which 5th Army and SHINOLE assault forces can join up. SHINOLE will go in with 8 days maintenance. If their junction cannot take place before D plus 8, then the alternatives of either maintaining or withdrawing the forces landed will have to

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Page 2

From: Algiers
To: War

No. W9218/23209 NAF 577, 3 January 1944

be faced. The former will be dependent on weather and craft then available. The latter should be possible if personnel only are withdrawn and all equipment left behind. This must inevitably lead to considerable losses in personnel and probably some of the craft required for ANVIL.

The conclusion reached was that in spite of SHINGLE being obviously a hazardous operation the prize to be gained is so high that the risk may well be worth taking. Therefore, planning and arrangements for the assault in the vicinity of Nettuno will continue so that advantage may be taken of any favorable change in enemy dispositions.

38 Miles Southeast of Rome

No Sig.

ACTION: CC/S (Capt. Royal USN)

INFORMATION: OPD
Gen Strong
Gen Arnold
C of S
Adm King

CM-IN-1700 (3 Jan 44) 21122 Jb

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PER JCS 29-71

DEC 23 1971

Signature: RHP

CM-IN-1700 (3 Jan 44) 21122 Jb

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NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/13/44

COPY No 19
WAR DEPARTMENT
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SECURITY CONTROL
PRIORITY

From: Algiers
To: War
No. W-9110/22551

This is (NAP 572) To AGWAR for Combined Chiefs of Staff rapt USFOR for British Chiefs of Staff. Signed Eisenhower. Cite FGFT. B1GFT.

1. Further to para 2 of NAP 552 and reference NAP 552. Following gives advance information of requirements for personnel and cargo shipping for the assault and subsequent build up bases on present outline plan. This plan is not yet approved and firmer requirements cannot be given for reasons stated in para 5 of NAP 569. It is emphasized that estimates in respect of cargo shipping depend on the provision of sufficient Port Battalion personnel to effect their discharge which is now under examination.

2. Figures are given for plan A for a 2 Division assault and for plan B for a 3 Division assault with allocation of additional craft as in para 4 of NAP 569. Figures refer to number or loading required in each 30 day period.

3. First 30 days. Total requirements plan A 267 MT ship loadings plan B 273 MT ship loadings. Of these 147 ships plan A and 153 ships plan B will be preloaded for the assault and immediate follow up and 120 ships plan A and B will be loaded for the subsequent follow up convoys. This involves an addition of 139 ship loadings plan A and 145 ship loadings plan B over Sextant allocation of 128. Estimated that 40 ships from the assault and immediate follow up convoys will be available for second trip in first 30 days.

CM-IN-1054 (2 Jan 44)

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NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/12/44

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVY SECURITY DIVISION

19
From: Algiers
To: War
No. W-9110/22551 2nd January 1944

4. Second 30 days. Plans A and B 120 MT ship loadings or 30 more than Sextant allocation of 90.

5. Third 30 days. 80 MT ship loadings plan A, 40 MT ship loadings plan B representing an increase of 5 ships over Sextant allocation of 75 in case of plan A and a saving of 35 for plan B.

6. Summary for 90 day period. Sextant allocation 293. Requirements plan A 467 or 174 in addition to allocation. Plan B 433 or 140 in addition to allocation.

7. Requirements for subsequent periods on maintenance basis.

8. Above assumes LST allocated to ANVIL are not withdrawn until build up is completed.

9. In order to contribute towards the provision of these additional demands shipping requirements for the maintenance of forces in Italy will be reduced as far as is practicable below the allocated number for internal Mediterranean movement.

10. By the maximum use of LST and MT/Store ships and by the staging of personnel before D day in Corsica it is hoped to limit our personnel shipping requirements for the assault and immediate follow up convoys to the Sextant allocation of 32,000 lift. This is in addition to the quadrant allocation of 3 LSI and the Sextant allocation of 6 more LSI and 3 XAF. NAF 569 refers. Requirements for subsequent follow up convoys cannot be accurately assessed until Task Force planning.

CM-IN-1054 (2 Jan 44)

Date- Dec 22 1971 19

Signature - NAF COPY No.

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From: Algiers
To: War

No. W-9110/22551 2nd January 1944

has developed. Our demands should not exceed the allotted 15,000 every 10 days and it may be possible to effect a reduction.

No Sig

NAF 552 is CM-IN-11026 (17 Dec 43) CCS
ACTION: CCS (Capt Royal USN)
INFORMATION: OPD
General Strung
General Arnold
Admiral King
LOG

CM-IN-1054 (2 Jan 44) 19592 Jb

Per JCS 29-71
DEC 22 1971

Signature - RHP
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER
OUTGOING MESSAGE

Combined Chiefs of Staff 71400
January 2, 1944

GC,
FREEDOM, ALGIERS

FOR BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF
USA FOR LONDON ENGLAND

NUMER: 6256

For Eisenhower: FREEDOM, ALGIERS, JAN 292, From the Combined Chiefs of Staff

Granted is authority to retain 504th Parachute RIC
of 82nd Airborne Division until completion of SHINGLE as
requested. RAF 572 is your reference.

No Sig

ORIGINATOR: CC/S (Capt. Royal Air)
INFORMATION: OPD
          CH (Gen Strong)
          CC RAF (Gen Arnold)
          COF B
          Adu King

ON-OUT-607 (2 Jan 44) 1932

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Date- DEC 22 1971
Signature- RAP

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By RT, NARA, Date 4/17/94

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19
WAR DEPARTMENT
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INCOMING MESSAGE

From: Algiers
To: War

No. W-9013/21957 NAP 572 31 December 1943

Action AGWAR for combined Chiefs of Staff rptd USFPO for British Chiefs of Staff, 15th Army Group. Signed Eisenhower. Cite FBGCT.

Instant is my NAP 572. General Alexander has informed me that he considers it essential to retain 504th Parachute RCT of 82nd Airborne Division until completion of operation SHINGLES. I have pointed out to Alexander the ill effects of such action on OVERLORD and my reluctance again to approach you for another delay in the movement of resources allotted to that operation but he still insists that the use of this unit is of such importance to the success of SHINGLES that we should press for its retention. He points out that the British Airborne Brigade is now engaged in the line and will be difficult to replace. Further they have never yet taken part in any active operations as paratroops and are badly in need of training before they would be suitable.

Incontestably the retention of 504th Parachute RCT will improve the chance of success of SHINGLES. Moreover a successful SHINGLES should yield us the Rome line and might result in the destruction of important enemy forces. On the other hand you may consider that Rome has lost some of its importance since it appears that we can provide reasonable security for our Italian bases without it.

CM-IN-246 (1 Jan 44)

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NLR 101
By RT, NARA, Date 4/8/94
WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

INCOMING MESSAGE

From: Algiers
To: War

No. W-9013/21957 31 December 1943

Nevertheless in consideration of the circumstances detailed above I feel compelled to request authority to retain the 504th RCT until the completion of CHINDIK. If this authority is granted it is estimated that we should be able to release it in time to load on MTF 29 arriving UK on about 16 March. If, as I expect, this will be too late to permit of its readiness for OVERLORD, I suggest that you examine the feasibility of shipping a substitute airborne RCT from US for OVERLORD.

No Sig

ACTION: CCS (CAPT ROYAL, USN)

INFORMATION: OPP
GEN STRONG
GEN ARNOLD
C OF S
ADM KING

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Per Jcs 29-71

Date - DEC 22 1971

Signature - RHP

CM-IN-246 (1 Jan 44) 0330Z mcs

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