

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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SLINT/119/1

C. I. L. WEEKLY SUMMARY OF O. P. S.

Opened Aug. 5, 1944. Closed Aug. 27, 1944

Aug. 1944

SECRET

2 / Aug 44
Ref Ops 6

MJA 1A	G
FILE REF	
Date Recd	21/8/44

To:- MMIA (G Ops), Army Sub Comm, ACC

From:- LO (G), CIL

Weekly Summary of Ops CIL - 20 to 26 Aug 44

1. Course of Ops
20 Aug 44.

As shown in att trace, week began with tps deployed to begin op with objective Mt. PAGANUCCIO (9950). To secure lateral road, during the day GRANERO bn moved fwd to occupy high ground south of R CINISCO, between 0439 and MONTE AJATE 0138, and Cav Sqn 9 Assault Bn occupied PERGOLA.

21 Aug 44.

A task force composed of 9 Assault bn, GRADO Bn and 5 Pack arty bty, under comd CO 9 Assault Bn, moved at first light on FENIGLI (0042) which they found still occupied by enemy elts. These withdrew during arty preparation. Fighting patrols were then sent on under enemy HF to TORUGO 0014 and MOLLEONE 9743.

22 Aug 44

BAPILE Bn occupied CACLI 9040 without meeting enemy resistance. The task force moved fwd to high ground Mt. S LORENZO 9846, Mt SAVINA 9945, Mt MERTELLO 9744 and sent patrols towards ACQUALAGNA. In area 9549 patrol clash with enemy in str about one pl. 2 enemy killed, 7 PWs. During the day MC pl moved north through PERGOLA with objective POSSOMBONE.

23 Aug 44

Task force reached its objectives. One coy 9 Assault bn and 5 Pack Arty Bty took up posns on Mt PAGANUCCIO. Elts GRADO Bn entered ACQUALAGNA 9248, capturing 7 men of enemy patrol. MC Coy reached area Mt RAGGIO, just south of POSSOMBONE.

24 Aug 44

Consolidation in posns reached.

2279

25 Aug 44

At 0001 hrs CIL passed under comd 5 Corps for adm,

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25 Aug 44

At 0001 hrs CIL passed under comd 5 Corps for adm, under comd 4 Ind Div for ops. In late pm CIL patrols at ACQUALAGNA saw mov of tps on road to WEST and engaged. Enemy was known to be in area. Tps proved to belong to 4 Ind Div and they suffered cas. They took some 20 Italian hostages which were ordered to be returned the following day. Inquiry is being made into incident on both sides. The cause would appear to be excessive secrecy. No advice of tps moving into sector was given CIL. No arrangements were made for reliefs or for contacts at bn level as CIL comd was warned of change of comd at 0001 hrs

26 Aug 44 ; Normal patrol activity.

(2)

2. Relief of CIL tps

When 17 Aug 44 orders were given to send CIL tps to rest and refit, it was said that the five remaining bns, arty and services would be relieved and sent back as soon as they had reached one further objective - Mt PAGANUCCIO ACQUALAGNA. This was made known to tps.

On 25 Aug 44 orders were given that CIL would pass under cmd 4 Ind Div and would have a role of flank protection for an undefined period. This change of plan has the drawback that present force is not a balanced tactical entity but simply what was left behind for a minor task. It may also have dangerous consequences in the morale of tps.

This situation has been made known to cmd 5 Corps and Cmd 4 Ind Div.

3. Tactical employment

4 Ind Div has assigned to CIL the task of flank protection. The extent to which it can satisfactorily perform this task will be limited because :-

- (a) Without pack tpt (all pack tpt has been withdrawn) only GRANERO Bn can leave roads. Therefore it cannot hold in any str the high ground which in mountainous country dominates a flank.
- (b) Its arty has insufficient tpt and insufficient range condemns it to many moves. Therefore CIL cannot keep pace with a rapid adv and still have the protection of its own guns.
- (c) Tpt is not sufficient to make even one bn lorryborne. Therefore tps must move on foot.
- (d) For flank recce CIL has only one MC Coy and Cav Sqn of 9 Assault bn with its unarmoured cars. With these means it cannot attempt any depth of recce if contact is expected, as the means are too vulnerable. And as 4 Ind Div is advancing on an axis which cuts the flank of an enemy fan, leaving a considerable gap between us and 10 Corps (27 Lancers) it is probable that considerable pockets of resistance will be left on our flank by a rapid adv.
- (e) In conclusion CIL can afford flank protection during a set-piece attack as on the Gothic Line, but as constituted cannot hope to keep the pace and fulfil a tactical role during a rapid adv.

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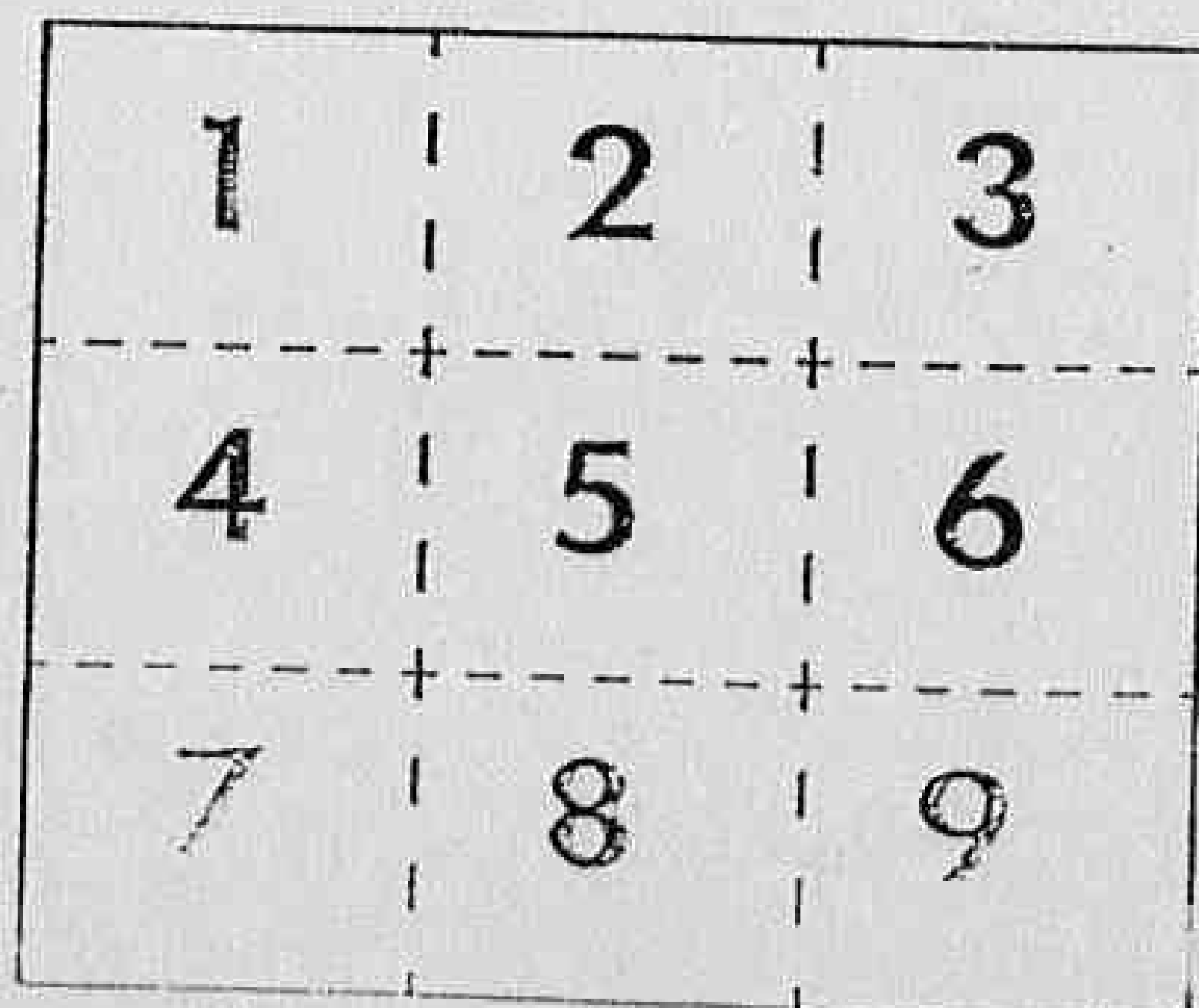
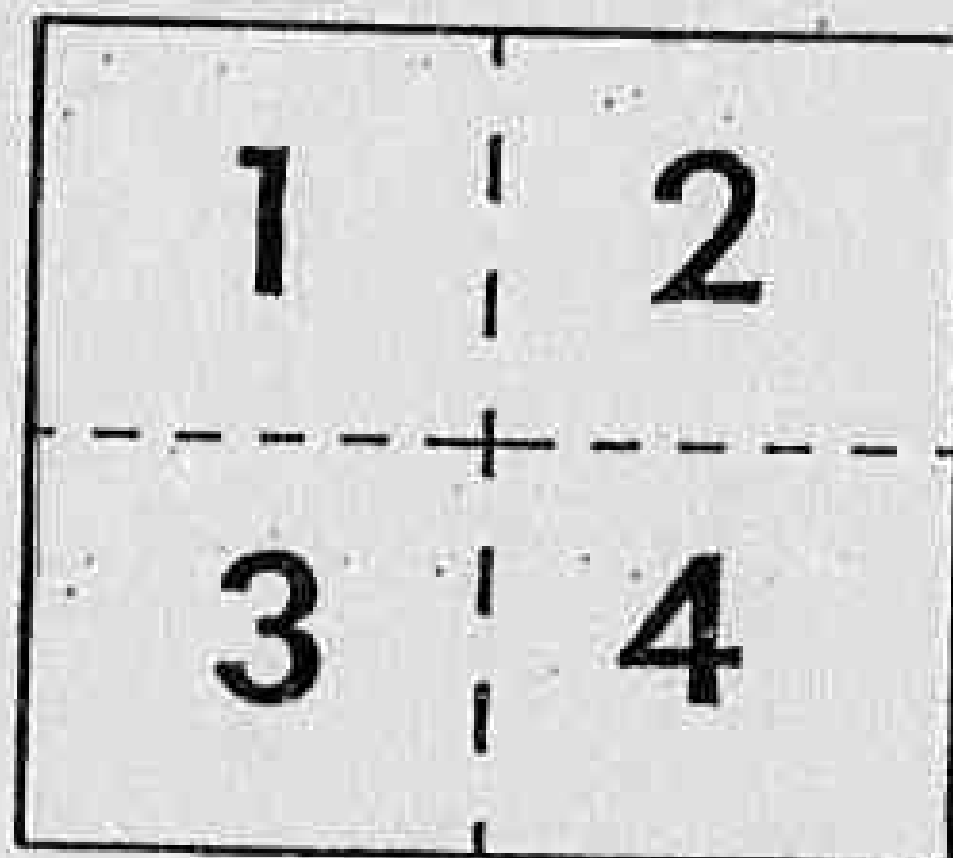
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*I hope the fighting forward 227th
of CIL will soon become not
of the line dtd 31 May*

MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



0010

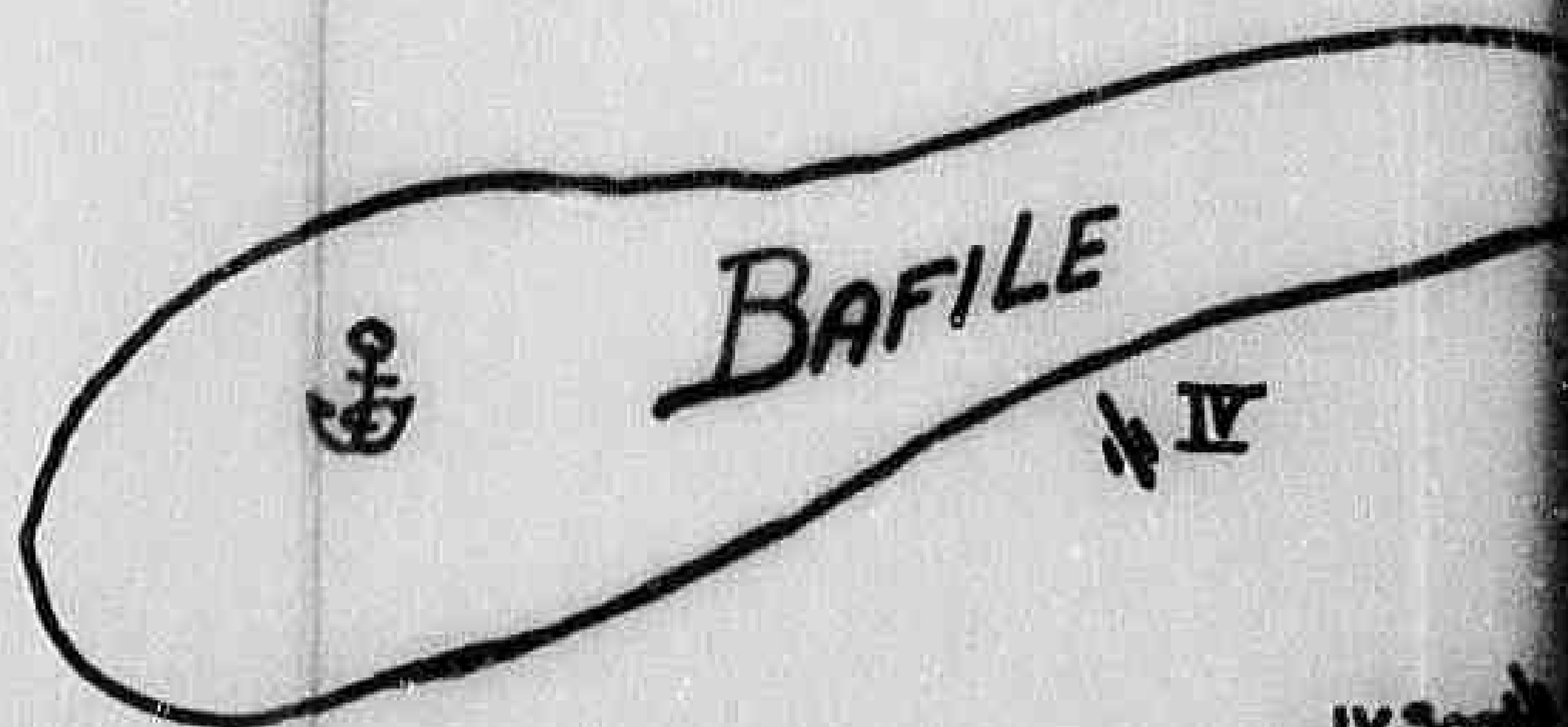
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CORPO ITALIANO DI LIBERAZIONE

Situazione al 20 Agosto 1944

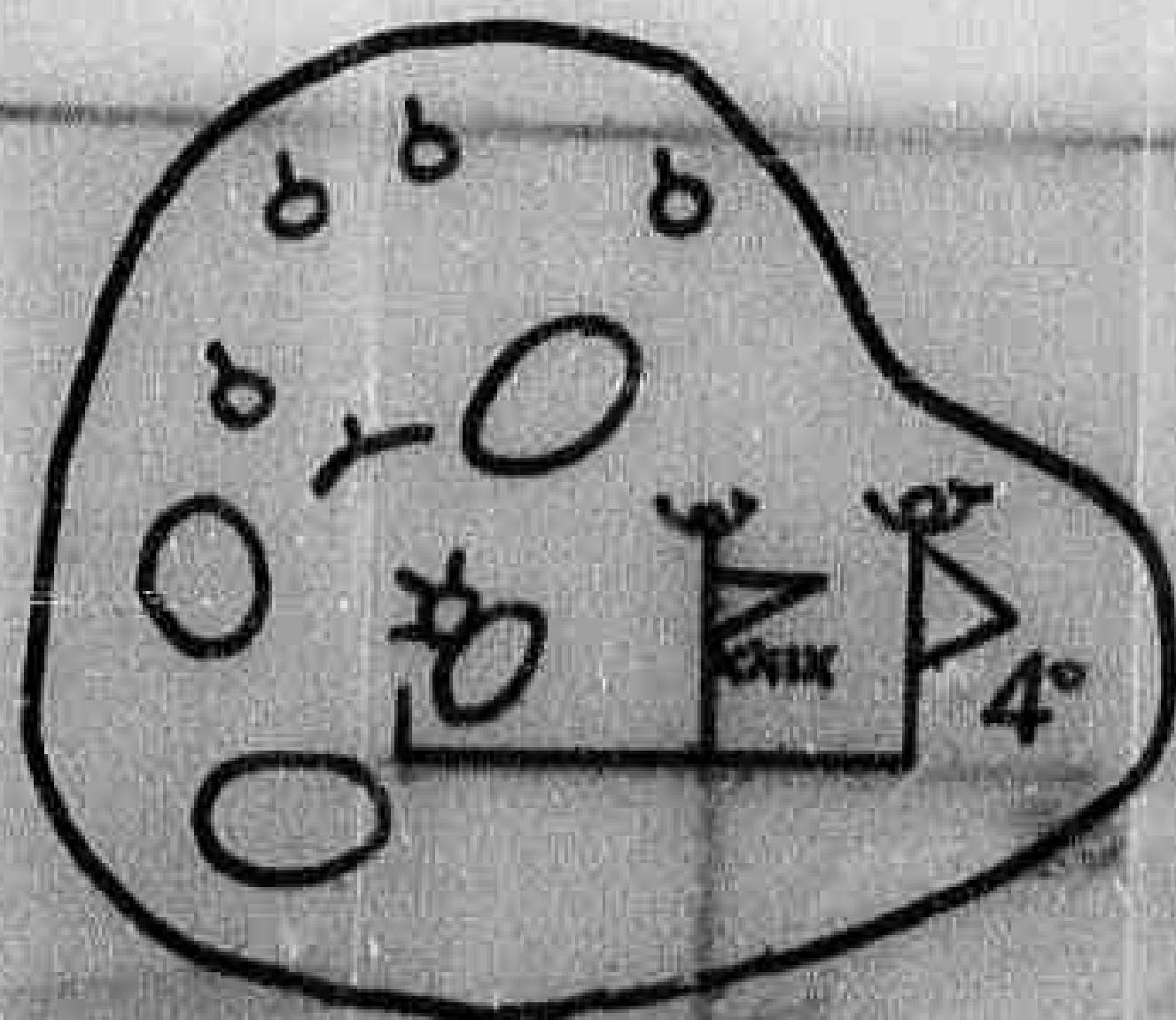
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Scala: 1:50'000



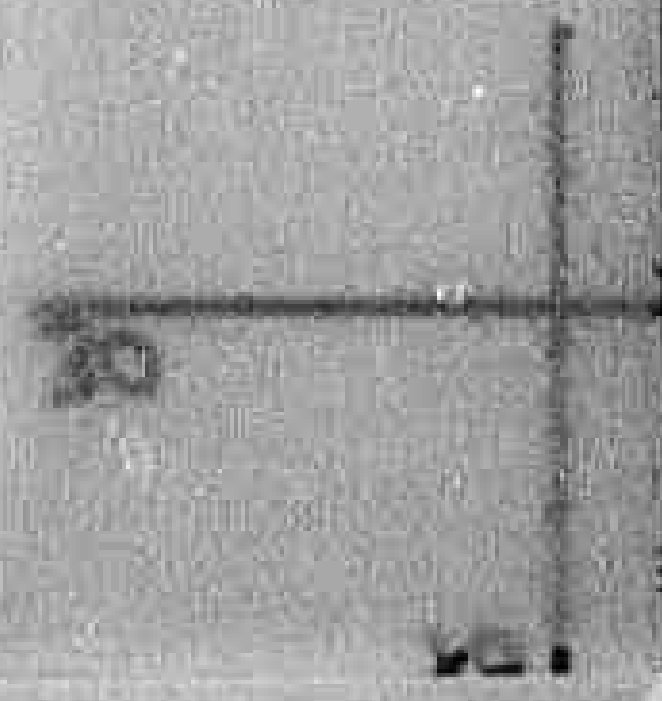
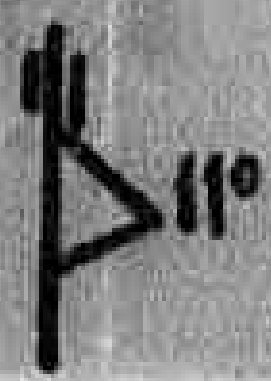
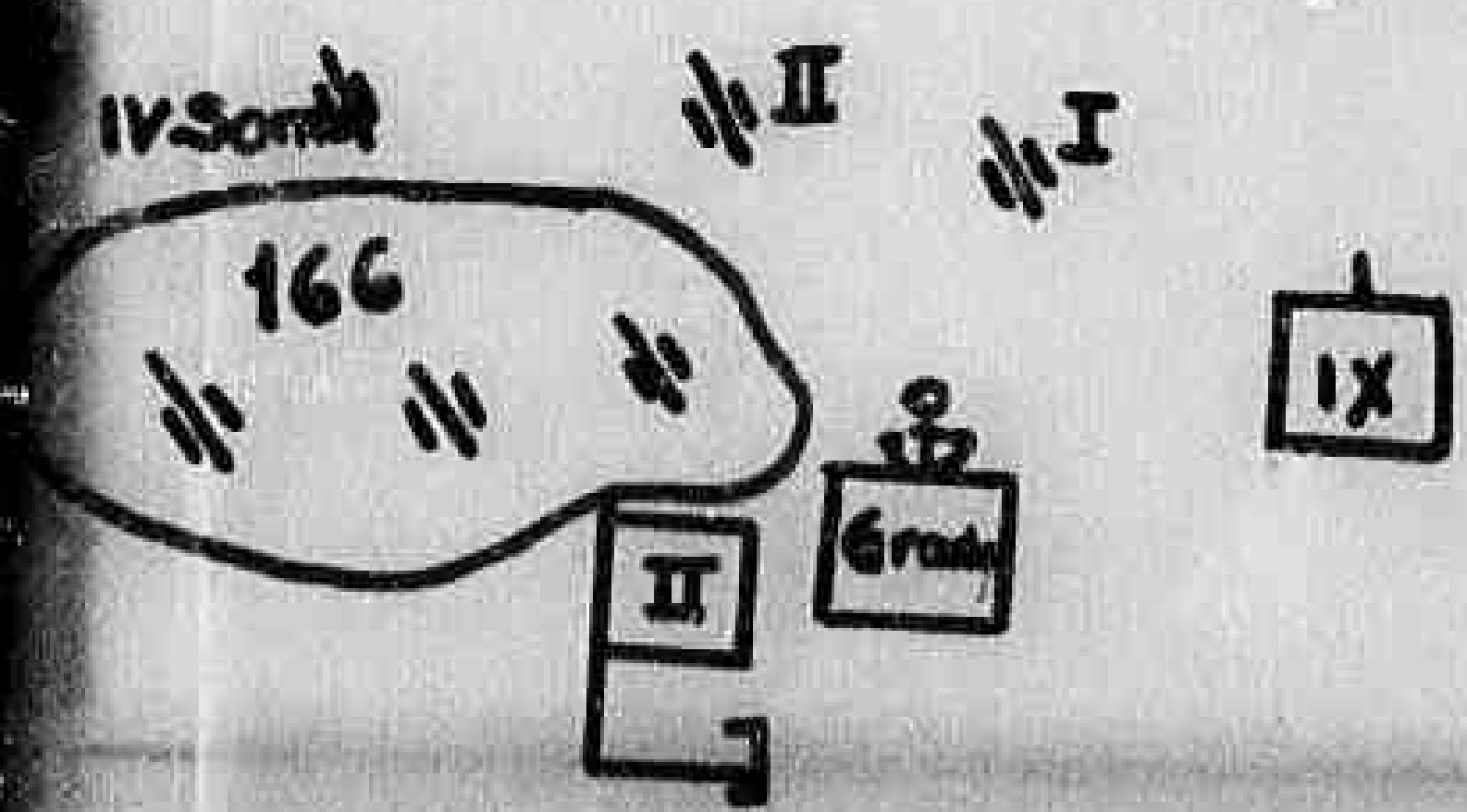
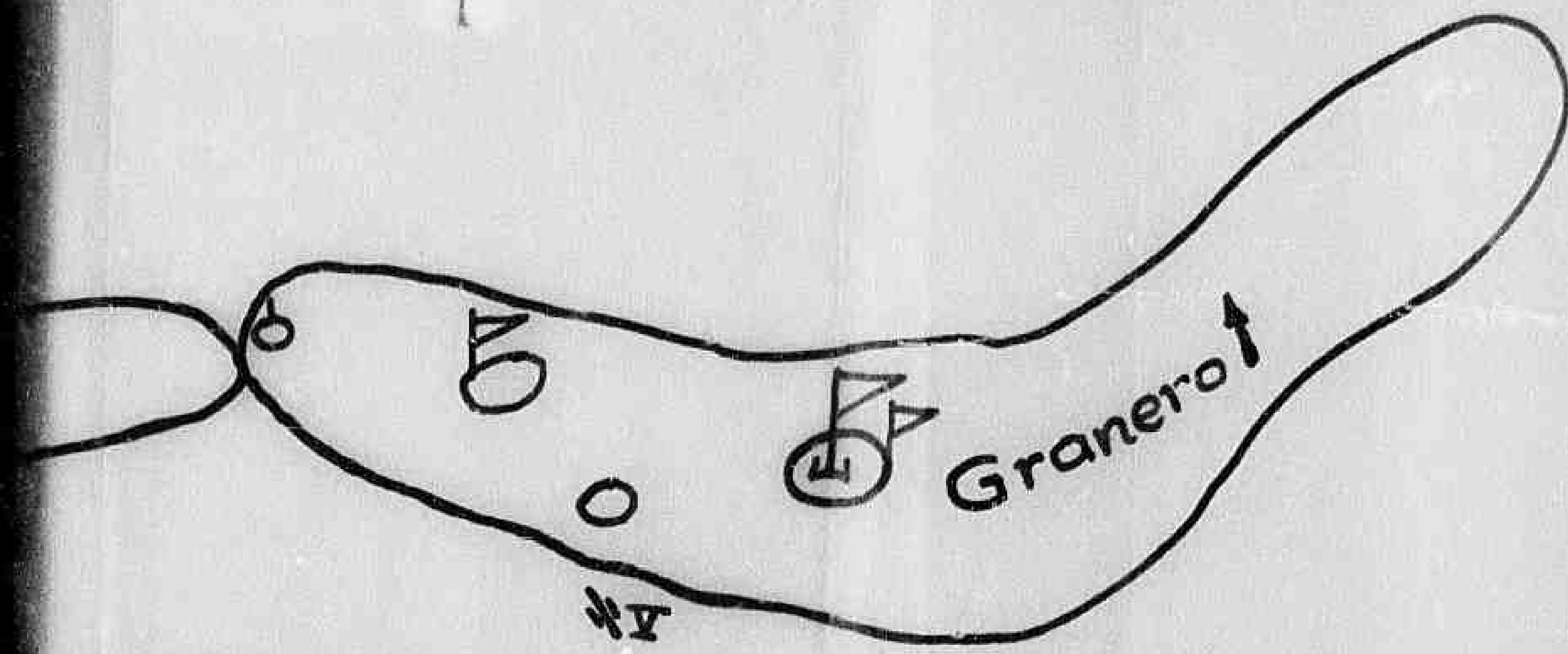
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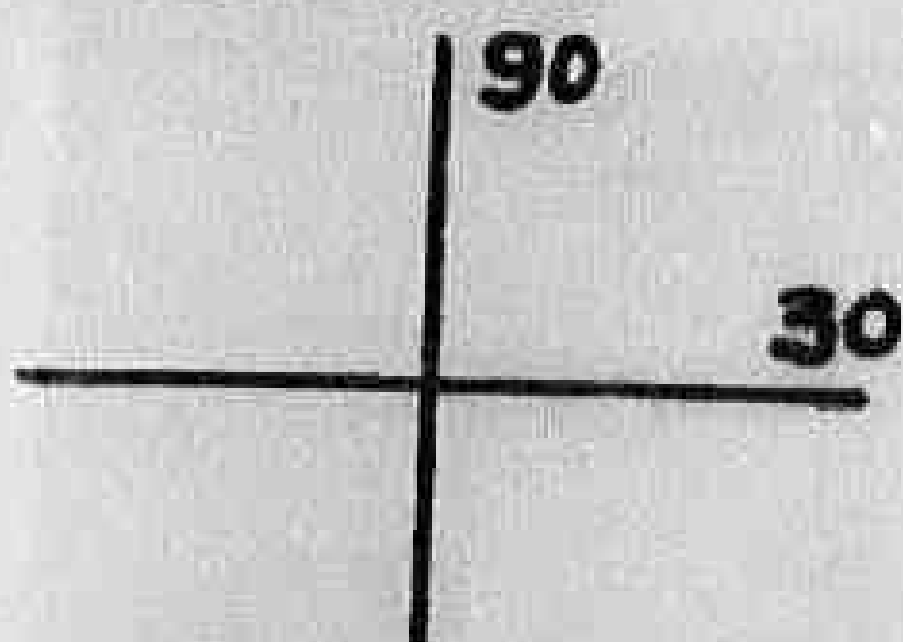
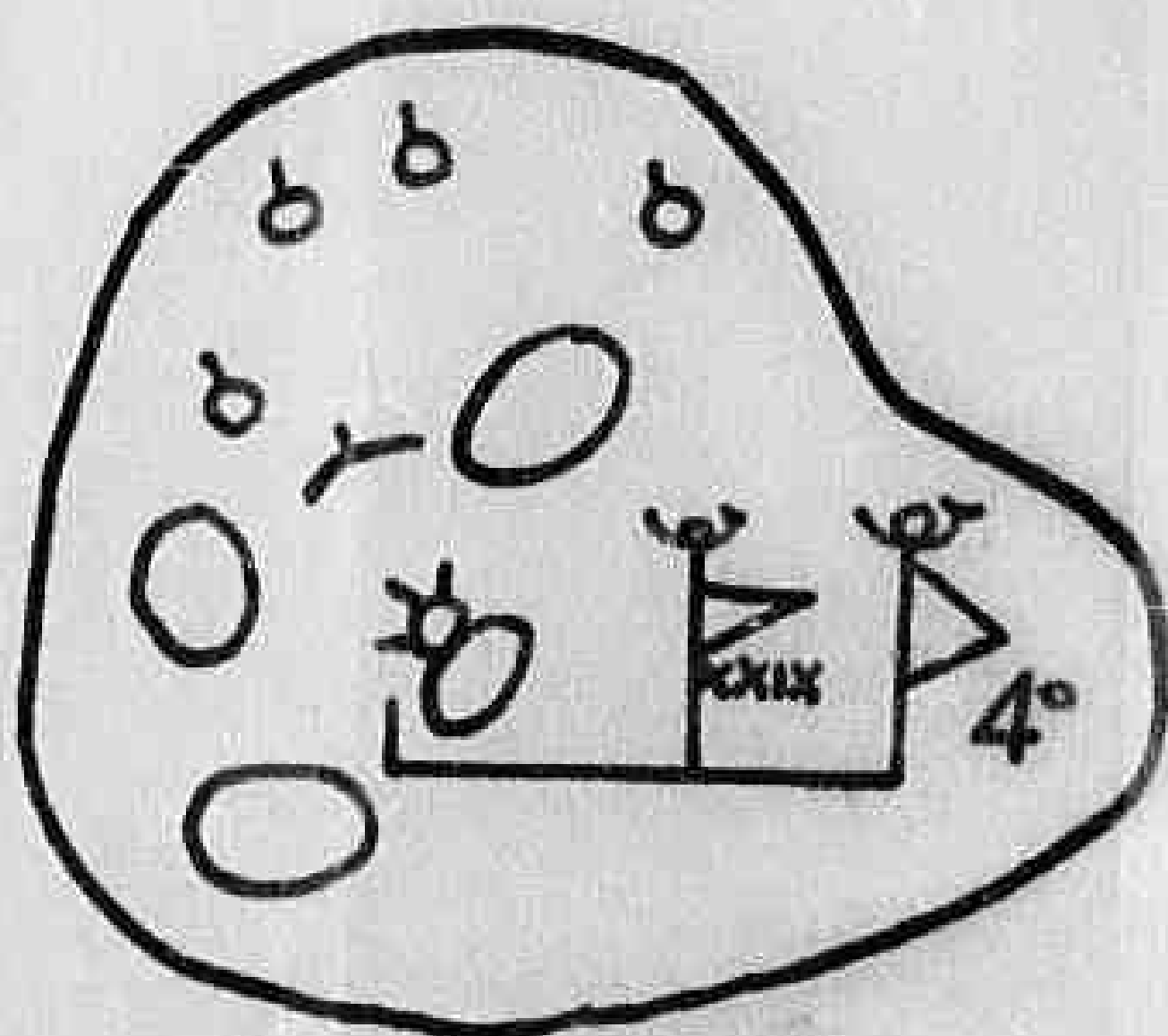
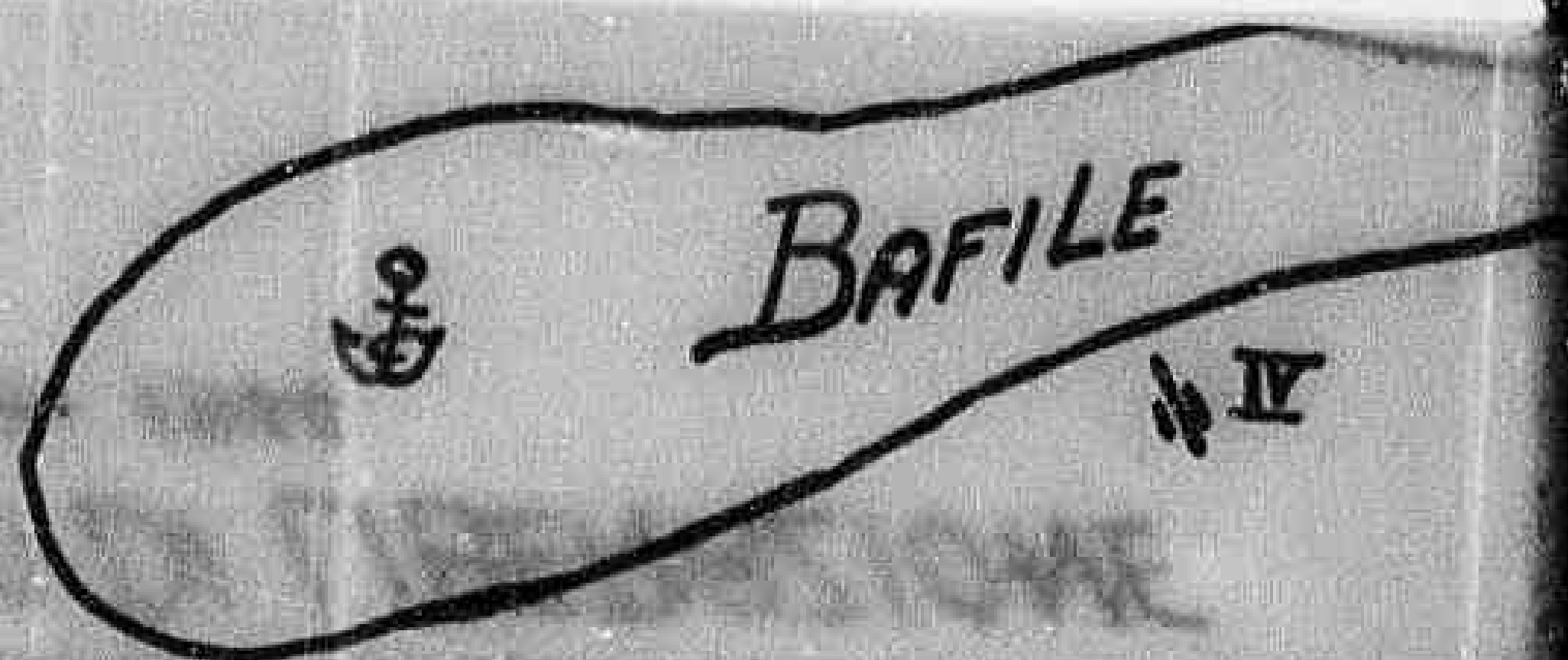
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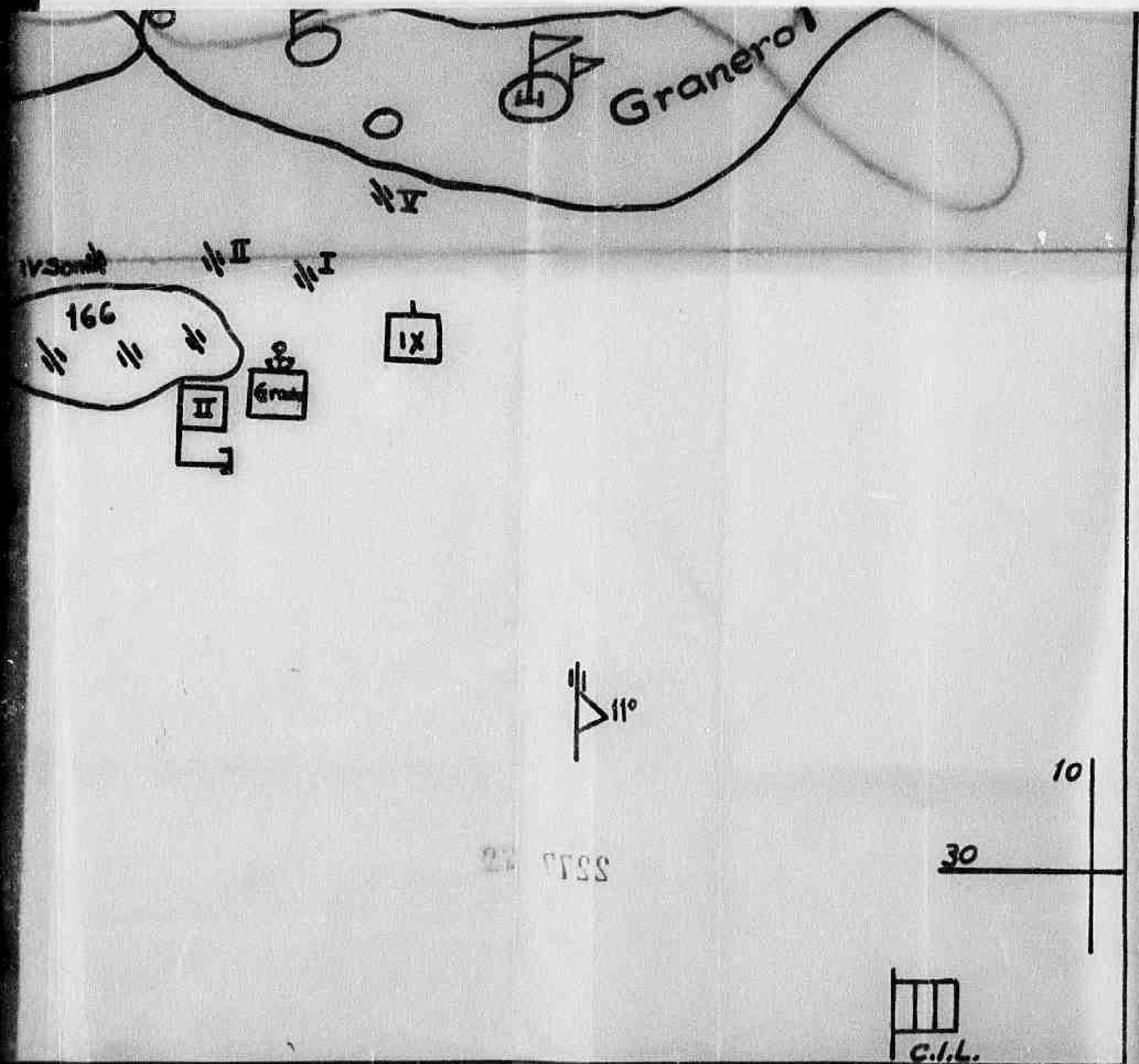
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0013

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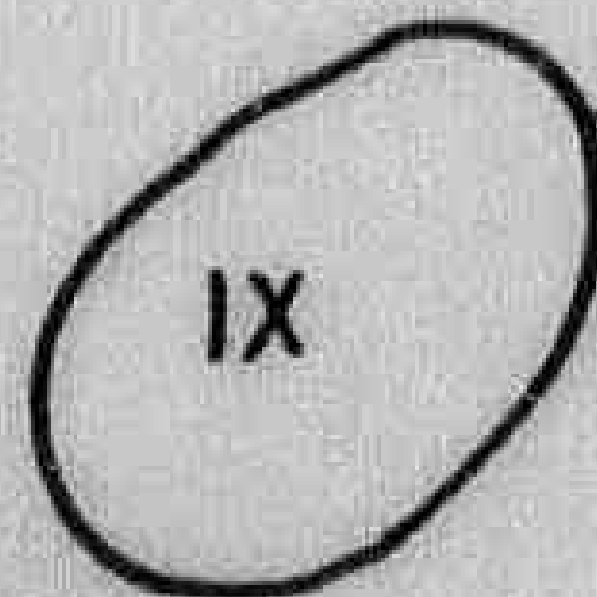
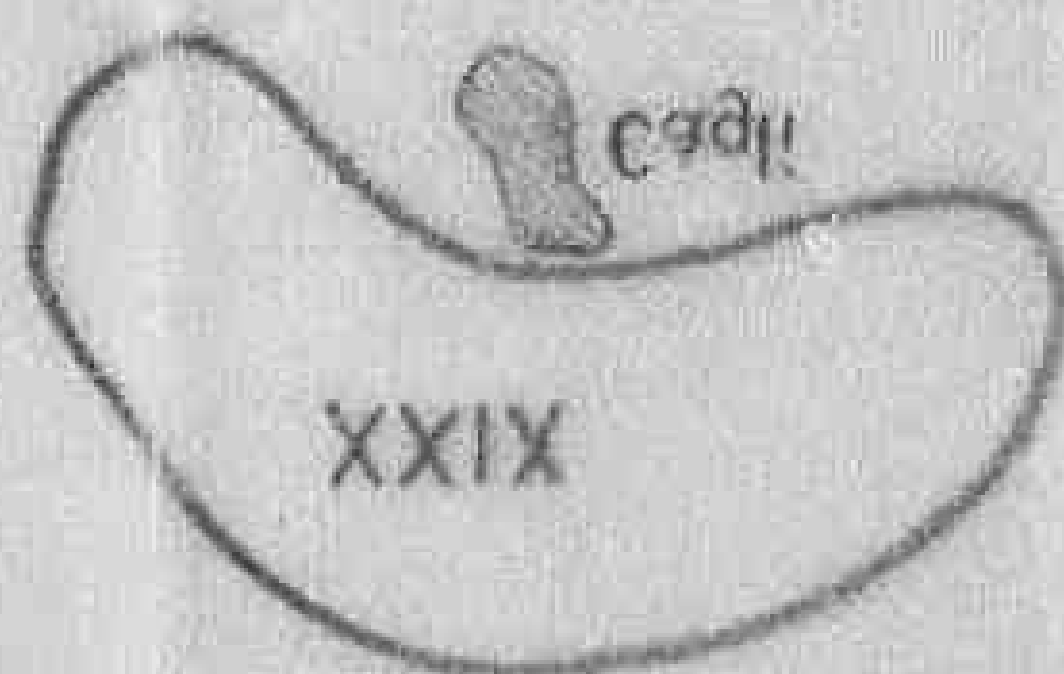


0014

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CORPO ITALIANO DI LIBERAZIONE

DISLOCAZIONE GRAFICA DEI REPARTI AL 26-8-1944



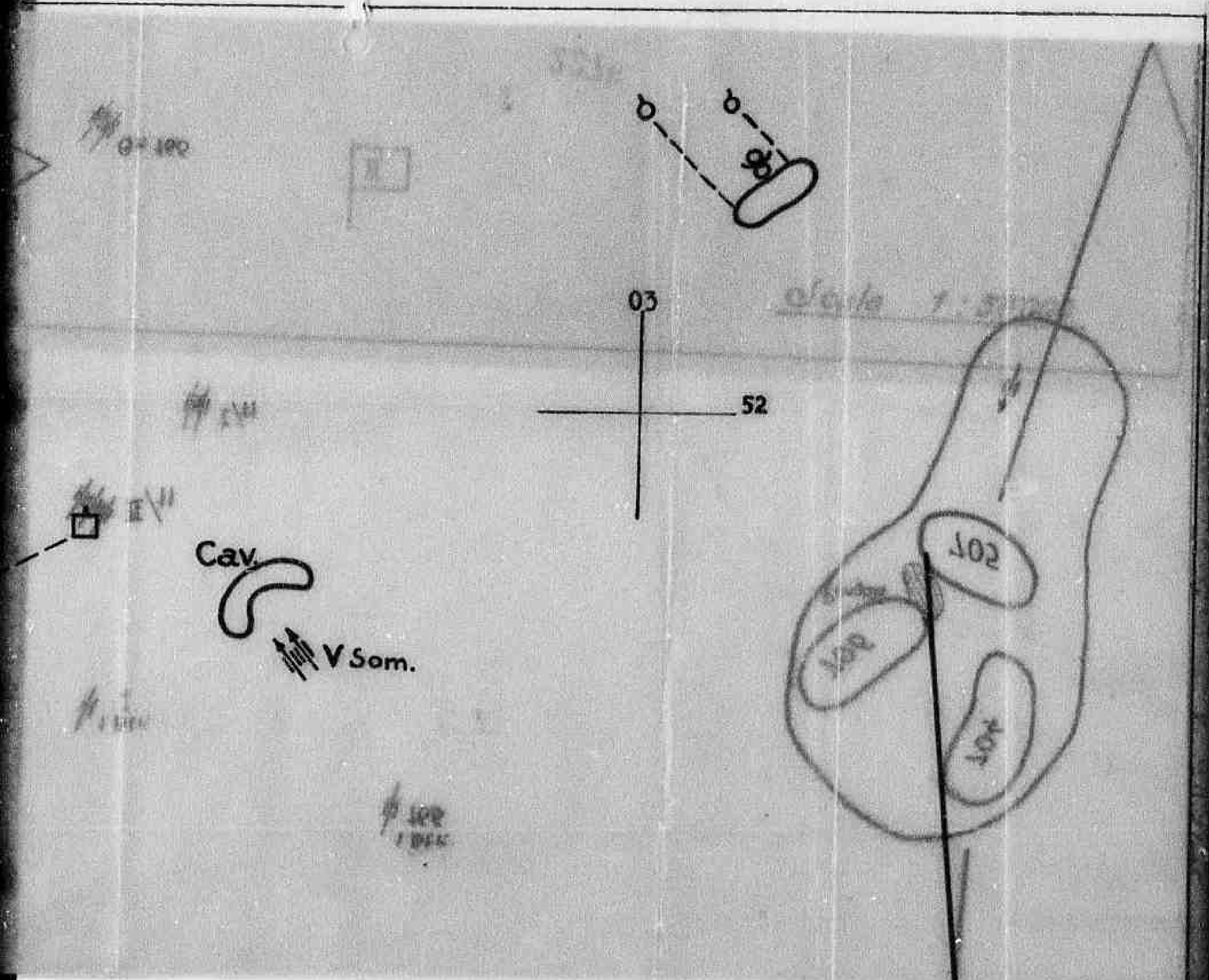
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Grado

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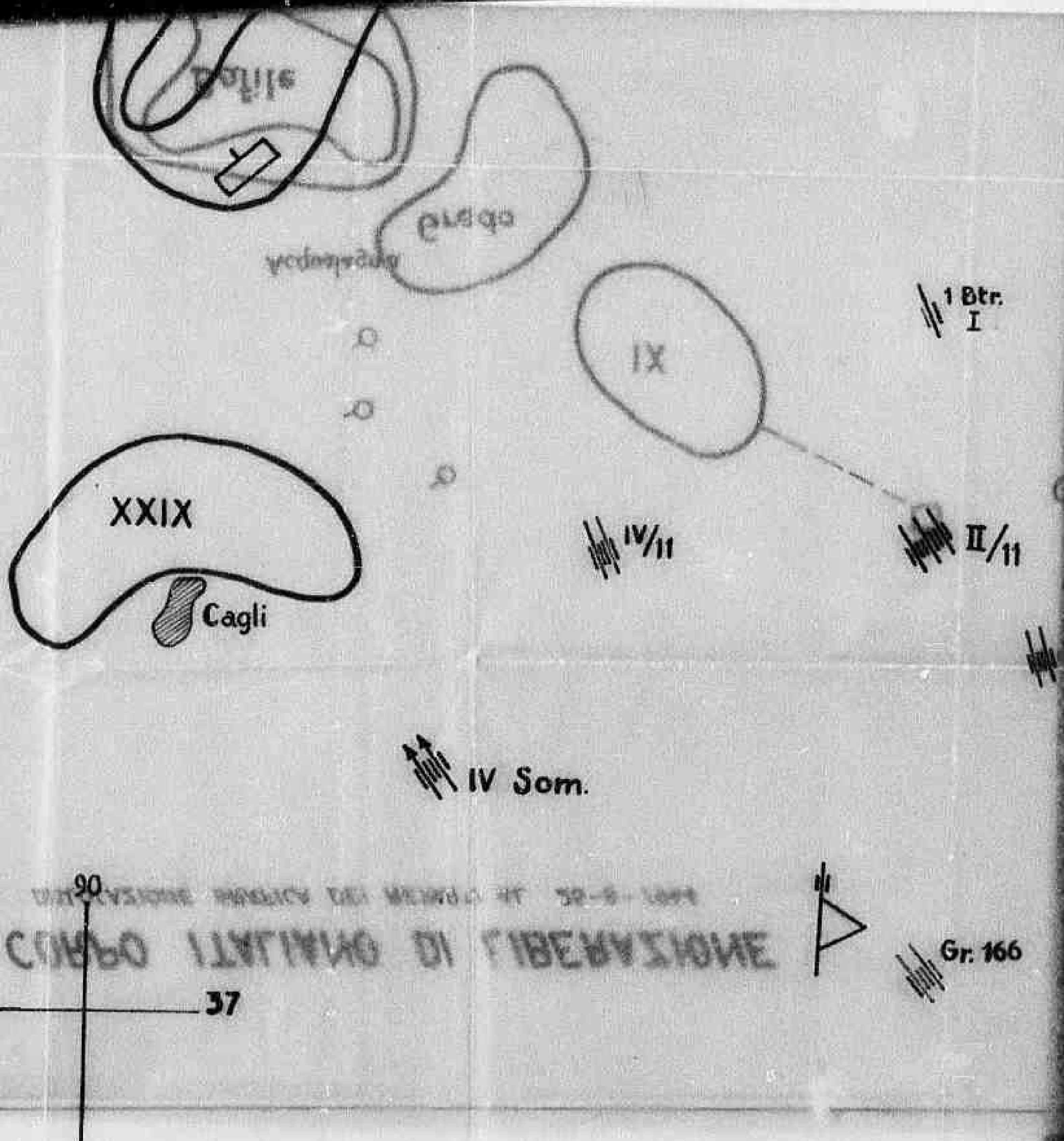
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0016

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1 Btr.
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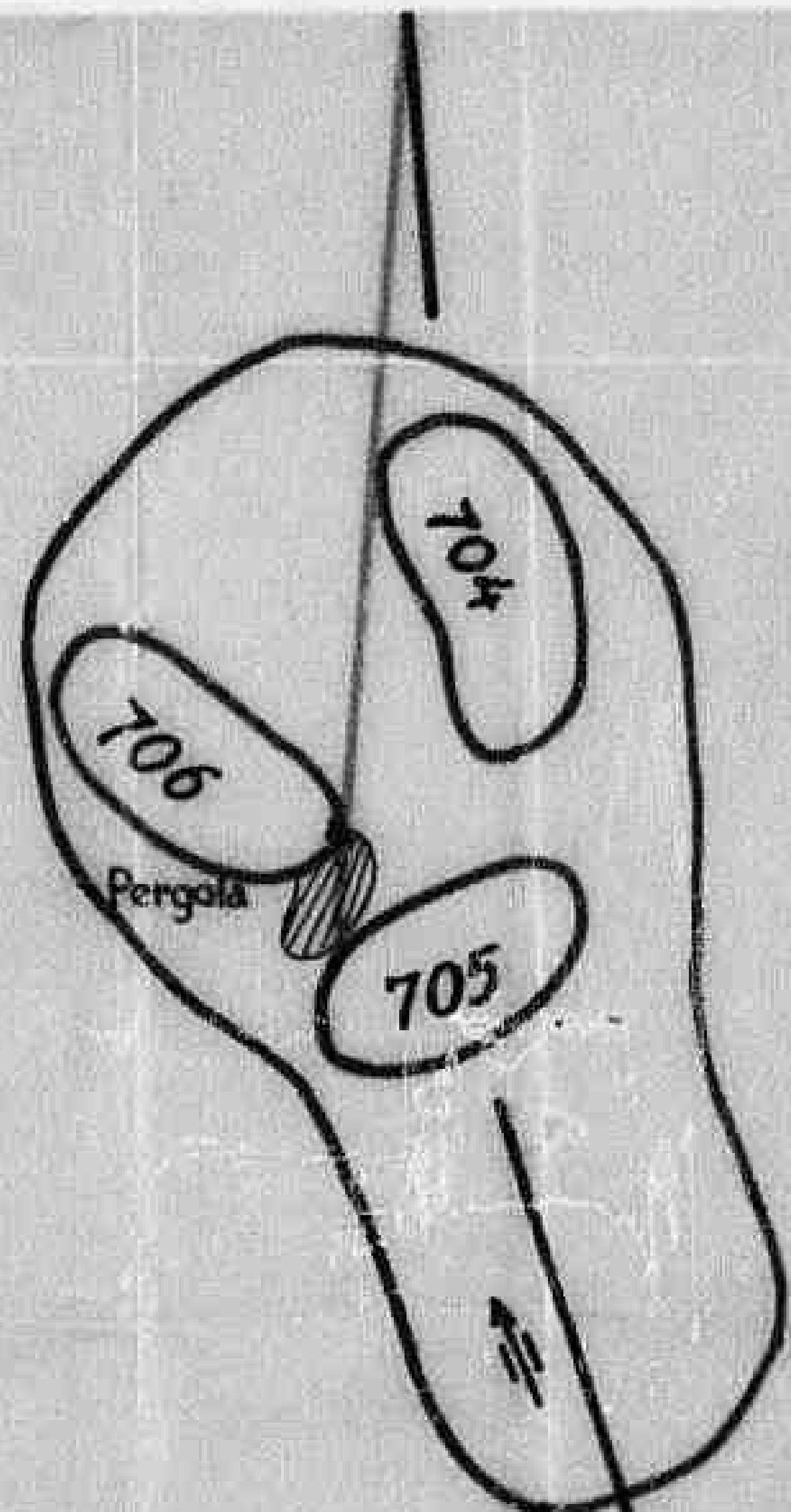
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I/11

Gr. 166

SSJN

II



Scala 1:50'000

19 AUG 44
Ref Opa 6

To:- MELA (G Ops), Army Sub Comm, AGC
and for info Main EIGHTH ARMY

From:- IO (G), CIL

MAILED
FILE REF
Date Recd 25/8/44

CIL - Weekly Summary of Ops - Aug 12 to 19
Maps - GSOS 1/100,000 IESI
GSOS 1/50,000 Sheet 116

1. Course of Ops - IESI Sector

- (a) The week began with consolidation on SOUTH bank of CRSAHO River, with 2 Bde in area CORINALDO (2351). 1 Bde area CASTELLONE (1747) and NEMBO on left flank area LORETEILLO (1342).
- (b) Enemy arty reaction was stronger than previously and they put in counterattacks
- (i) Night 11/12 AUG - LORETEILLO - one coy
- (ii) Night 12/13 AUG - GROUE DEL TERNINE and pt 411 (180476) - two fighting patrols about pl str.
- (c) Night 13/14 12 Pod lancers relieved 2 Bde. On following night 1 Bde was also relieved. NEMBO bde remained in its old location as a res for Cav Gp now holding sector and passed under comd this Cav Gp.

2. Reliefs and Mov

- (a) On 12 AUG 44 HQ CIL was informed that it would be relieved in its IESI sector and would move to SASSOPERRATO sector to relieve KIMBA Force there.
- (b) Reliefs began in new sector on 14 AUG 44. POLCOMES ordered that CIL should take comd of sector on 17 AUG 44 at 0500 hrs.
- (c) 2 Bde was posnd on right, along high ground SOUTH of CIMISCO River, area 0439-0039.
- 1 Bde was posnd in FRONTONE area NE of mtn feature, area 9537-9935.
- Considerable difficulty was experienced in moves, for which only the main road SASSOPERRATO to PERGOLA with its branch to CAGLI was available. A long and bad diversion had to be made from SASSOPERRATO to MONTEROSSO stn 044309.
- (d) 17 AUG 44 (pm) EIGHTH ARMY came to give orders that CIL would be withdrawn to rest and refit, but that HQ

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- (i) Night 11/12 Aug - LORETELLO - one coy (180476) - CROCE DEL PERLINE and pt all
- (ii) Night 12/13 Aug - two fighting patrols about pl str. following night 1 Bde was also relieved. NEMBO bde remained in its old location as a res for Cav Gp now holding sector and passed under comd this Cav Gp.

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- (d) 17 Aug 44 (pm) BGS RICHEN ARMY came to give orders that CIL would be withdrawn to rest and refit, but that HQ CIL, HQ 2 Bde, five bns and one arty regt plus one bty would remain for a further task (see intentions).
- (e) On 15 Aug 44 mov of tps to new conc area SOUTH of MACERATA began. This move should be completed for tps in SASSOFERRATO area by night 19/20 **2275**.

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(2)

3. Course of Ops - SASSOFERRATO Sector

- (a) Enemy activity in this sector since clash with Polish elts at ACQUAVIVA (9238) on night 14/15 Aug has been limited to arty fire area PRONTONE and SERRA S. ARCONDIO (0034) and two patrols to PERGOLA-CAGLI road.
- (b) CIL patrcis have probed area just NORTH of PERGOLA CAGLI road, where they found contact. Patrols to mtn feature EAST of Route 3 (area 9134-9137) found it clear of enemy. Patrols to WEST bdy S M di BURANO (8430) and PIAN DELLA SERRA (8232) no contact.

4. Intentions

To sieze hill feature PENIGLI (0042) MOLLONE (9743) to SMIRRA (9244). Enemy would thereby be forced out of his posns SE of CAGLI, that town could be occupied and tps would dominate access to ACQUALAGNA. Op to begin 20 Aug if arty can be brought up in time. Otherwise 21 Aug.

5. Disposns

On 19 Aug 44 as per att trace.

6. Infm enemy

From Polish sources and from patrol infm enemy is thought to have one bn area MONTEROIO (0746) - 71 PG Div -
 one bn on high ground NORTH of PERGOLA CAGLI road
 one bn NE of CAGLI, with one coy fwd of CAGLI.
 In ap one bty gun hows (10,5 cm). Tps in CIL sector of 5 Mtn Div - 85 Mtn Regt.

So far sector has been a quiet one in which enemy has withdrawn to conform with withdrawal on his flanks.

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0021

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(8232) no contact.

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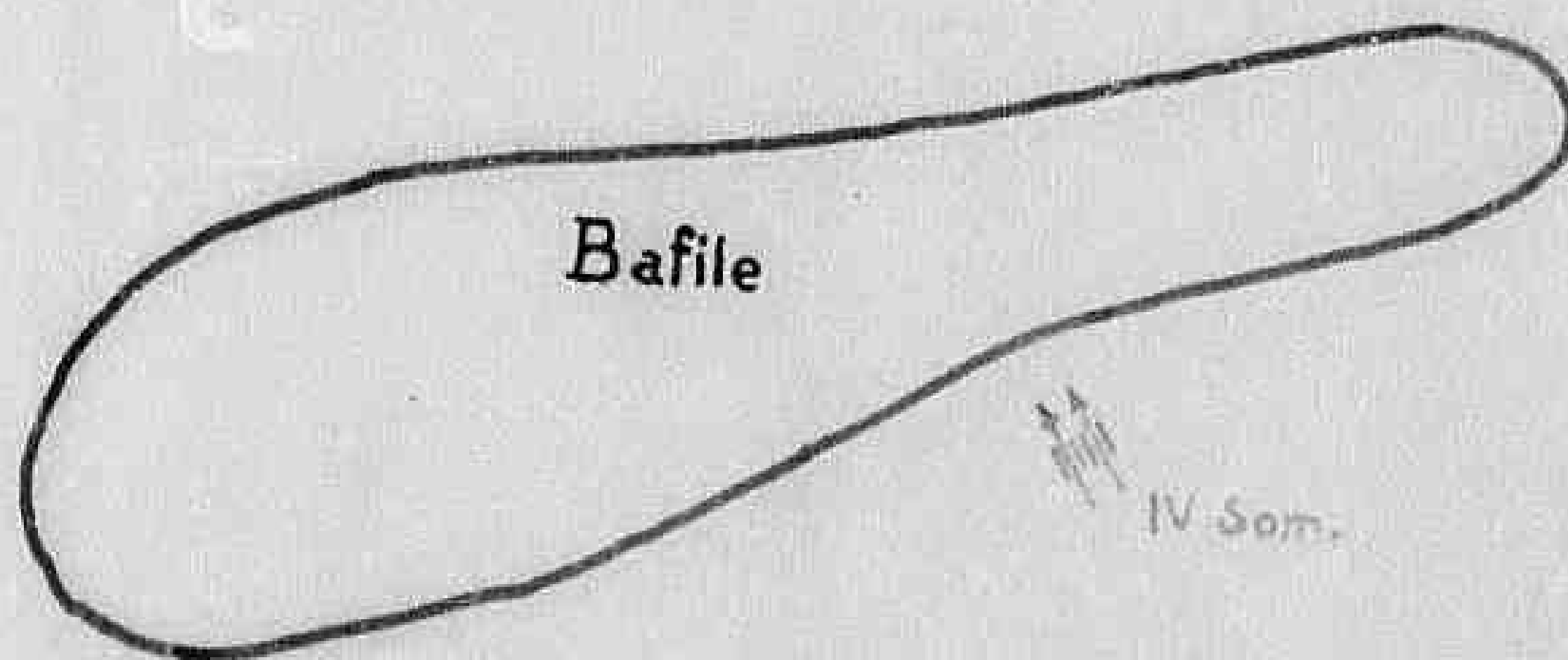
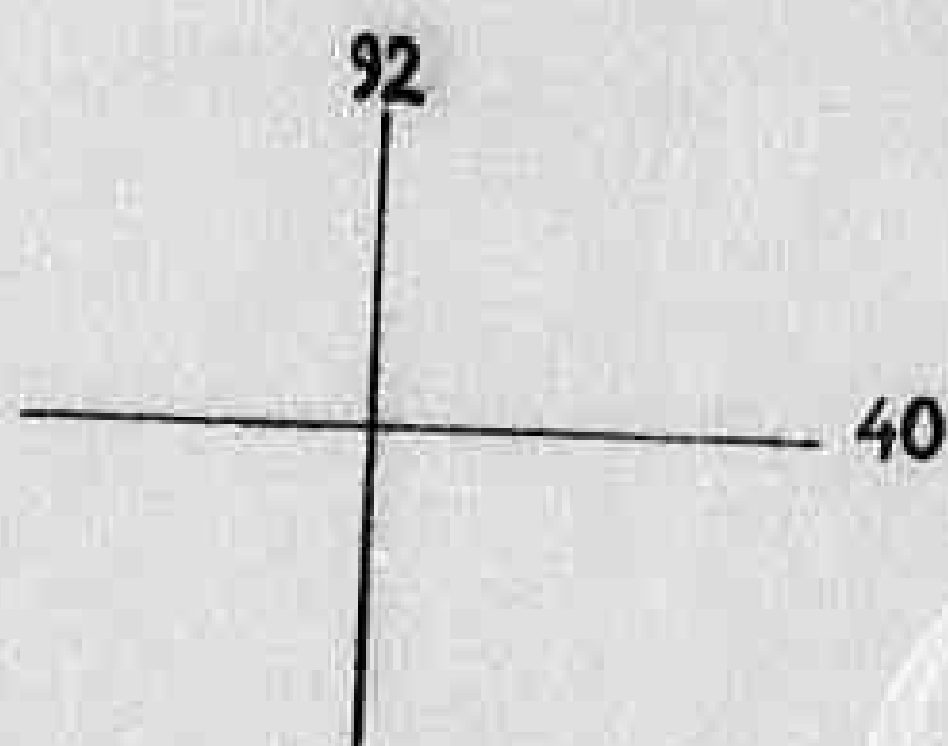
CORPO ITALIANO DI LIBERAZIONE

DISLOCAZIONE GRAFICA DEI REPARTI AL 19/8/44

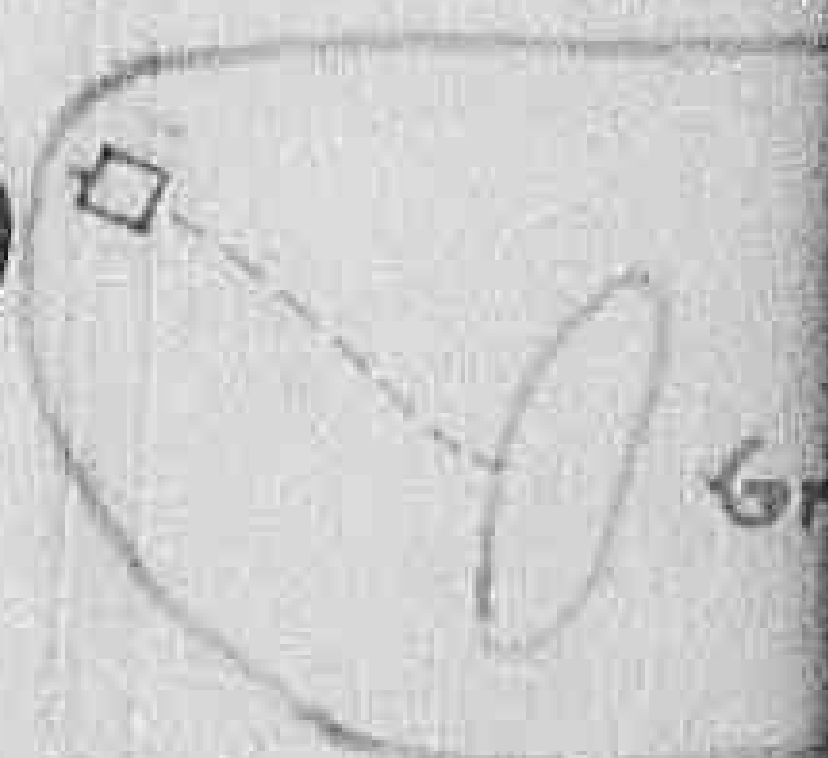


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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

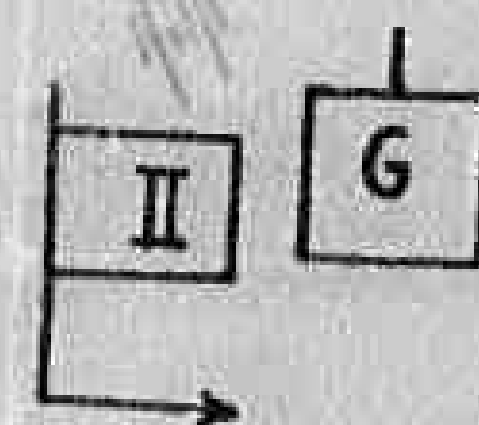


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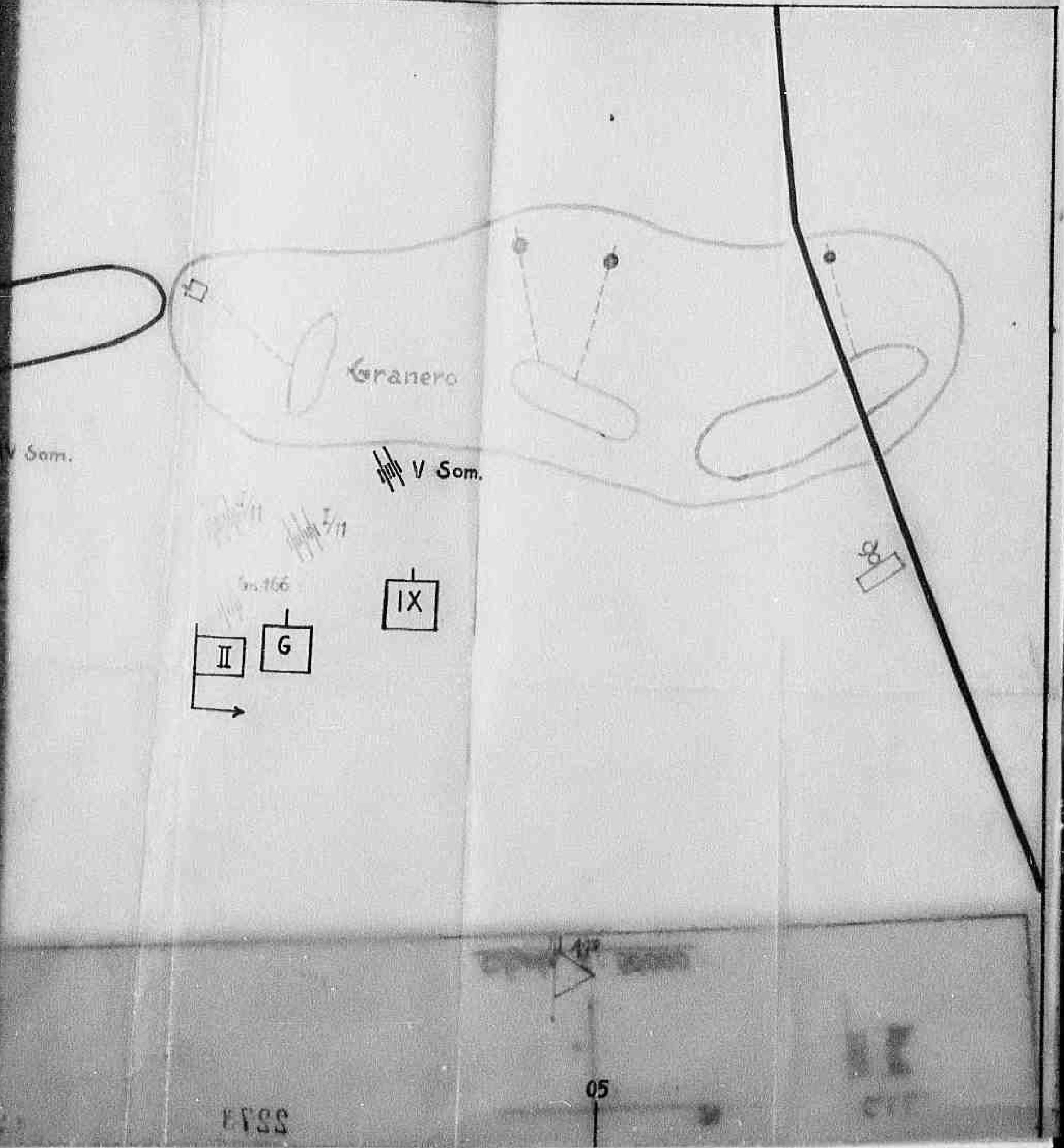
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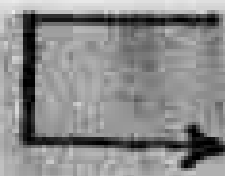
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0026

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05

29

C.I.L.



Scale 1 : 50'000

17 Aug 44
D/C Ref 0-7

To:- 26 BLU (G Ops), Polcorps
and for infm MMIA, G Ops, Army Sub Comm, AGC

From :- LO (G), CIL

MMIA	1.A.
FILE REF	
Date Recd	21/8/44

Subject :- Cil Ops Situation in New Sector

1. The mtn sector in which CIL assumes comd today presents a number of problems whose urgency and solution will depend on the general ops plan but which merit statement.

2. Terrain

The nature of the country is such that manoeuvre is possible on high ground off the roads, but sups and arty must move by road. Therefore 95% of ops problem becomes a problem of sups and mov.

3. Roads

There are three main axes in the sector.

- (a) Route 3 - Flaminia. Demolitions on this route are on such a scale as to make it useless for moves in stretch CANTIANO (8932) CAGLI (9040). It will probably prove impassible in the area of the FURLO Gorge (9650).
- (b) A practicable route NORTH is that from SASSOFERRATO (0727) via CATTOLAGLIE (0732) to PERGOLA (where it will probably cease to concern CIL).
- (c) The main div axis is SASSOFERRATO - MONTEROSSO Stn (044309) (now by a long deviation) - MORELLO X-rds (0335) - PRONTONE (0737) CAGLI. There will be RE workings on this road shortly, but it will not be a 2-way cl 40 in time for use by CIL.

4. Locn HQ.

NORTH of SASSOFERRATO there is no area suitable for est HQ CIL (Main and Rear) and for cone area MEMBO bde short of CAGLI. CAGLI cannot be occupied before 20 Aug as arty sp for op will not be available. Even if all tps could be moved fwd to general area PERGOLA - CAGLI road, problem of sup and maint would become acute. It is already difficult to bring up sups from POLCORPS area. Pack tpt coys will solve problem in fwd areas, but the problem of feeding an FMA along crowded route 76 with only one up road will be

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5. Engrs

RE will undertake main tasks of bridging and deviations on div axis but not in time for moves. CIL CRE has ~~2333~~ ²³³³ POLCORPS for an allotment of Bailey for immediate requirements where no other solution is possible.

(2)

6. Arty

(a) Counter-battery

CB tasks cannot be taken on by CIL arty with their limited range (max 15,000 yds). At present enemy appears to have only one bty 20,5s in area but as we approach GOTHIC LINE CB problem may become more urgent.

(b)

AA

No AA, neither LAA nor HAA is deployed in area, which might become a channel for enemy air recon.

(c)

A tk

CIL resources are 2 btys, 42 x 6-prs. There is no other A tk in area. As however armour is practically restricted to roads its appearance in the sector is not likely, at least SOUTH of the CANDIGLIANO River.

7.

Intercomm

At present there is a considerable time lag in the passage of all infm because it must be sent either by IO, by telephone or by DR. As a dependable means of comm CIL W/T and R/T need not be considered. Speech is the only sigs channel and wires are usually overloaded.

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2271

SECRET

13 AUG 44

To:- MMIA, Army Sub Comm, ACC
Main EIGHTH ARMY)
26 BLU, Main POLCORPS) for infm.

From:- LO (G) , CIL

MMIA	9
FILE REF	1
Case Recd	18 AUG 44

CIL SUMMARY OF OPS - WEEK 5-12 AUG 44
Map:- GSGS 1:100,000

1. Course of Ops

- (a) The week began with an enemy withdrawal from the NE-SW ridge between the MISA and the NEVOLA Rivers to a parallel ridge between the NEVOLA and CESANO Rivers. The probable object of this withdrawal was to move gun areas NORTH of the CESANO River.
- (b) On 5 AUG 44 CIL tps moved fwd to occupy ridge OSTRA VETERE (2346) BARBARA (2044), with NEMBO protecting flank in area SERRA DEI CONTI (2140), and a phase of active patrolling on both sides began.
- (c) On 9 AUG 44 3 and 5 Polish Divs attacked in their sector, objective being the ridge immediately SOUTH of the CESANO River, held by the enemy in str about 4 kms. CIL was ordered to sp by fire and by active patrols.
- (d) During night 9/10 AUG enemy withdrew as result of pressure NORTH of CESANO River, leaving however elts in CIL sector pt 271 (1949) to FARNETO which were mopped up by fighting patrols.
- (e) The week ended with CIL tps on SOUTH bank of River and actively patrolling across it.

2. Disposns

Att trace shows disposns as at beginning and at end of the week.

3. Intentions

- (a) In pursuit of orders received from POLCORPS on 12 AUG 44, a force consisting of three Armd C Regts will take over CIL sector, reliefs to begin 13 AUG 44.
- (b) CIL will move to a new sector at present held by KIEDA force, taking over cmd of sector by 0600 hrs, 17 AUG 44. Move to be completed by 20 AUG 44.
- (c) New boundaries will be :-

Right:- S 1130. 0710. 0650

0033

- ridge between the MISA and the NEVOLA Rivers to a parallel ridge between the NEVOLA and CESANO Rivers. The probable object of this withdrawal was to move gun areas NORTH of the CESANO River.
- (b) On 5 Aug 44 CIL tps moved fwd to occupy ridge OSTRA VETERE (2346) BARBARA (2044), with NEMBO protecting flank in area SERRA DEI CONTI (2140), and a phase of active patrolling on both sides began.
 - (c) On 9 Aug 44 3 and 5 Polish Divs attacked in their sector, objective being the ridge immediately SOUTH of the CESANO River, held by the enemy in str about 4 bns. CIL was ordered to sp by fire and by active patrols.
 - (d) During night 9/10 Aug enemy withdrew as result of pressure NORTH of CESANO River, leaving however elts in CIL sector pt 271 (1949) to PARNETO which were mopped up by fighting patrols.
 - (e) The week ended with CIL tps on SOUTH bank of River and actively patrolling across it.

2. Disposns

Att trace shows disposns as at beginning and at end of the week.

3. Intentions

- (a) In pursuit of orders received from POLCORPS on 12 Aug 44, a force consisting of three Armd C Regts will take over CIL sector, reliefs to begin 13 Aug 44.
- (b) CIL will move to a new sector at present held by KIEDA force, taking over cmd of sector by 0600 hrs, 17 Aug 44. Move to be completed by 20 Aug 44.
- (c) New boundaries will be :-
Right :- S 1130, 0740, 065440, 060500, 030520, 010560.
Left :- GUBBIO, Pt 917 of Mt PETAZZANO, pt 875 of Mt CERRONE, Colle d'ANUCCO (#936) all incl.

227

(2)

(d) Disposns in new sector will be approx :-

2 Bde - astride axis SASSOFERRATO - FERGOLA

1 Bde - astride axis SCHEGGIA POSCELUPPO - CANTIANO

MEMO - in res area road 0025-0418

4. Enemy activity during week 5-12 Aug
During the week there was normal reaction of arty, with considerable observed fire on FDLs. The enemy sent out strong patrols and to disengage put in counter attacks on the eve of withdrawal. There were no new identifications.

J. A. Philip

J A Philip, Capt.

0038

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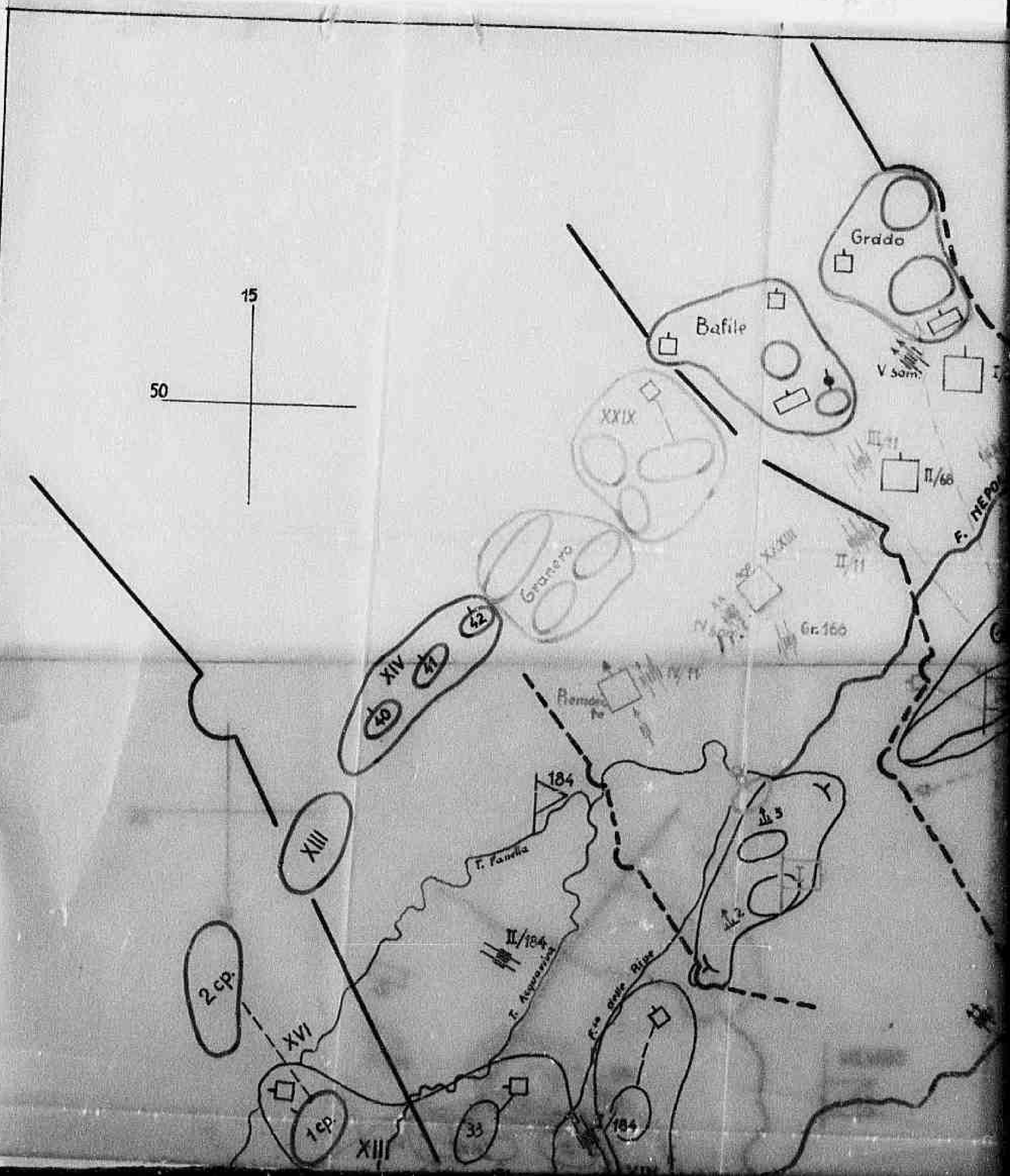
considerable observed fire on RDLs. The enemy sent out strong patrols and to disengage put in counter attacks on the eve of withdrawal. There were no new identifications.

J. A. Philip

J A Philip, Capt.

2269

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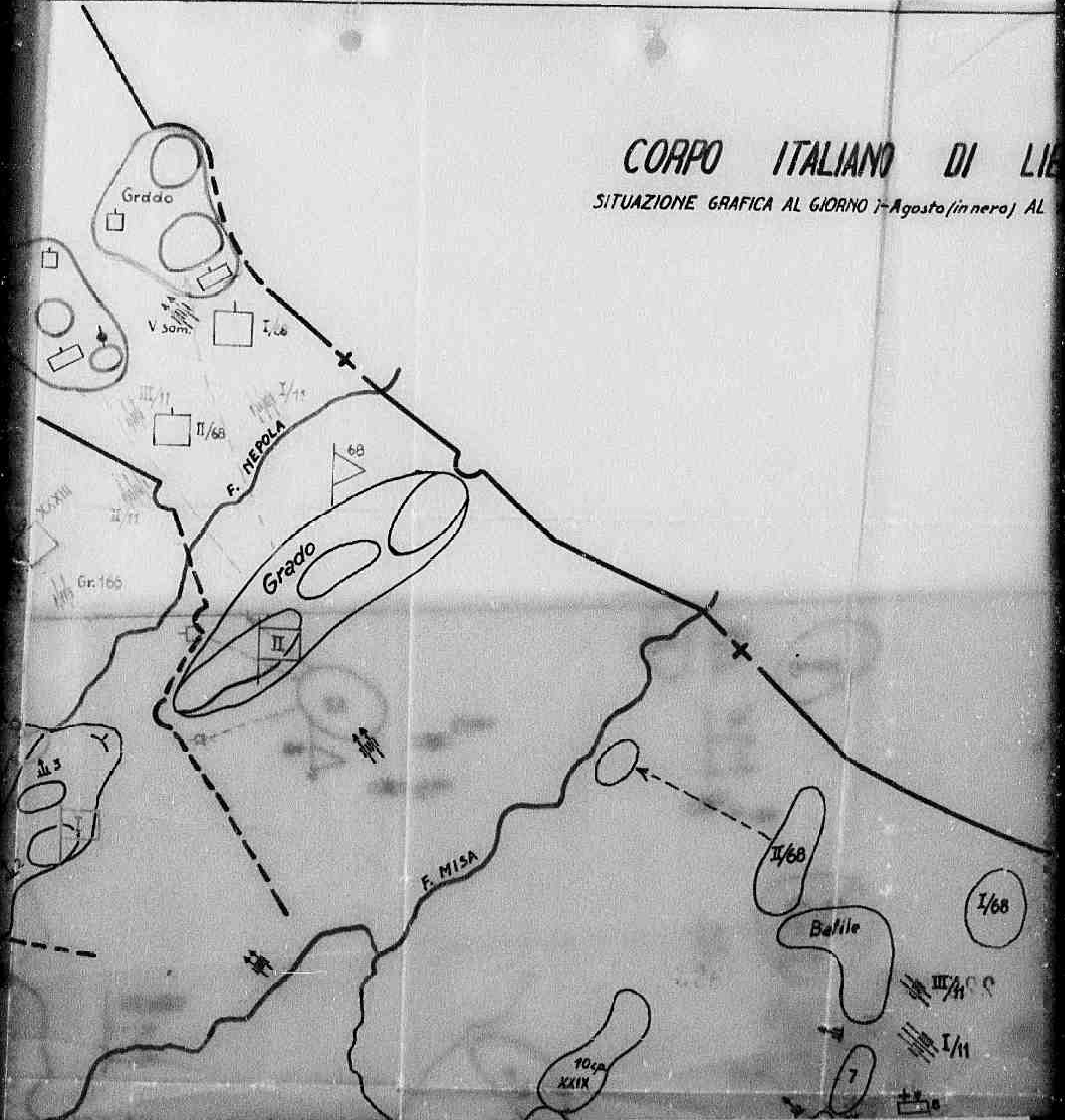


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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

CORPO ITALIANO DI LIB

SITUAZIONE GRAFICA AL GIORNO *i-Agosto* (in nero) AL



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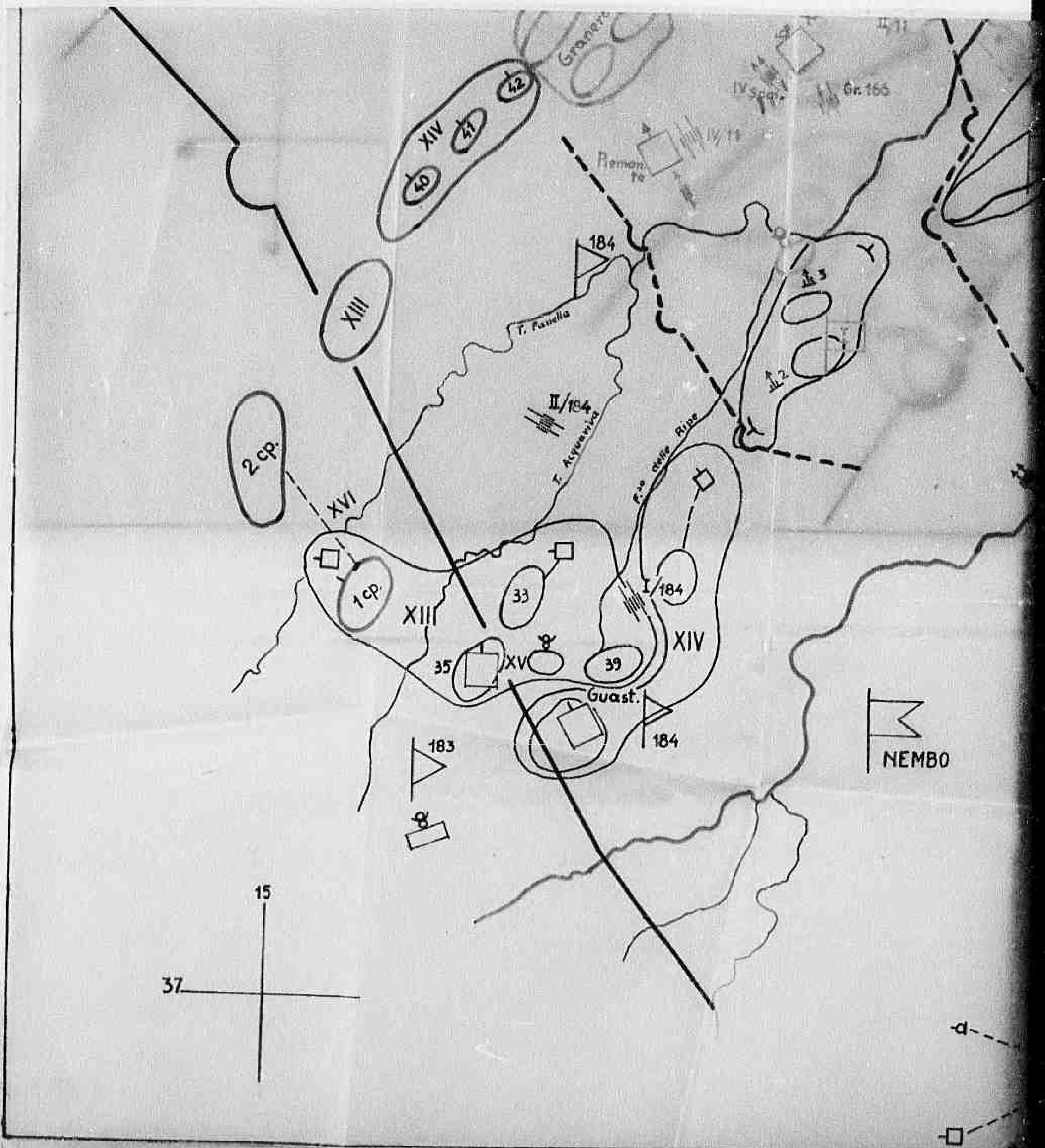
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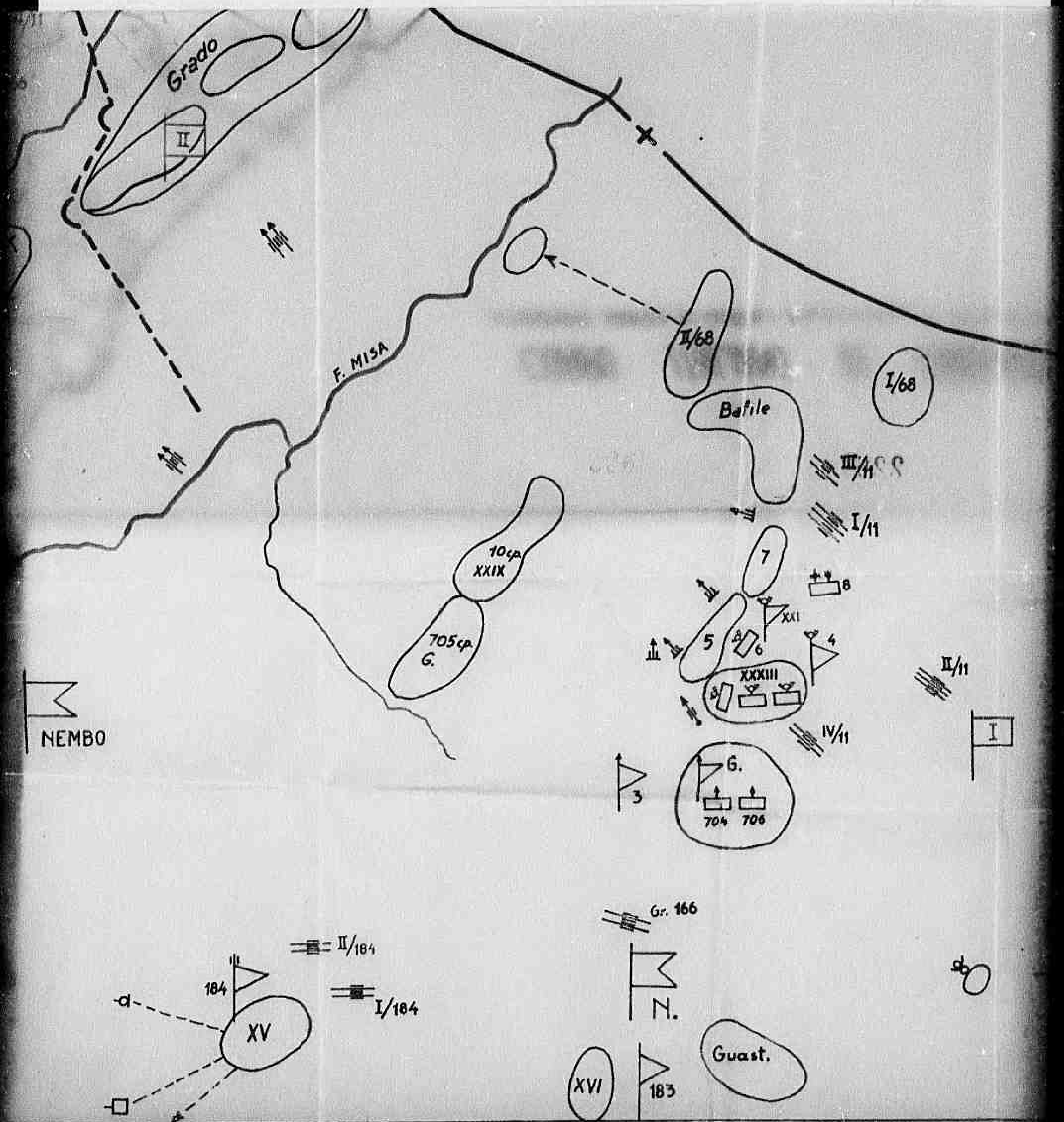
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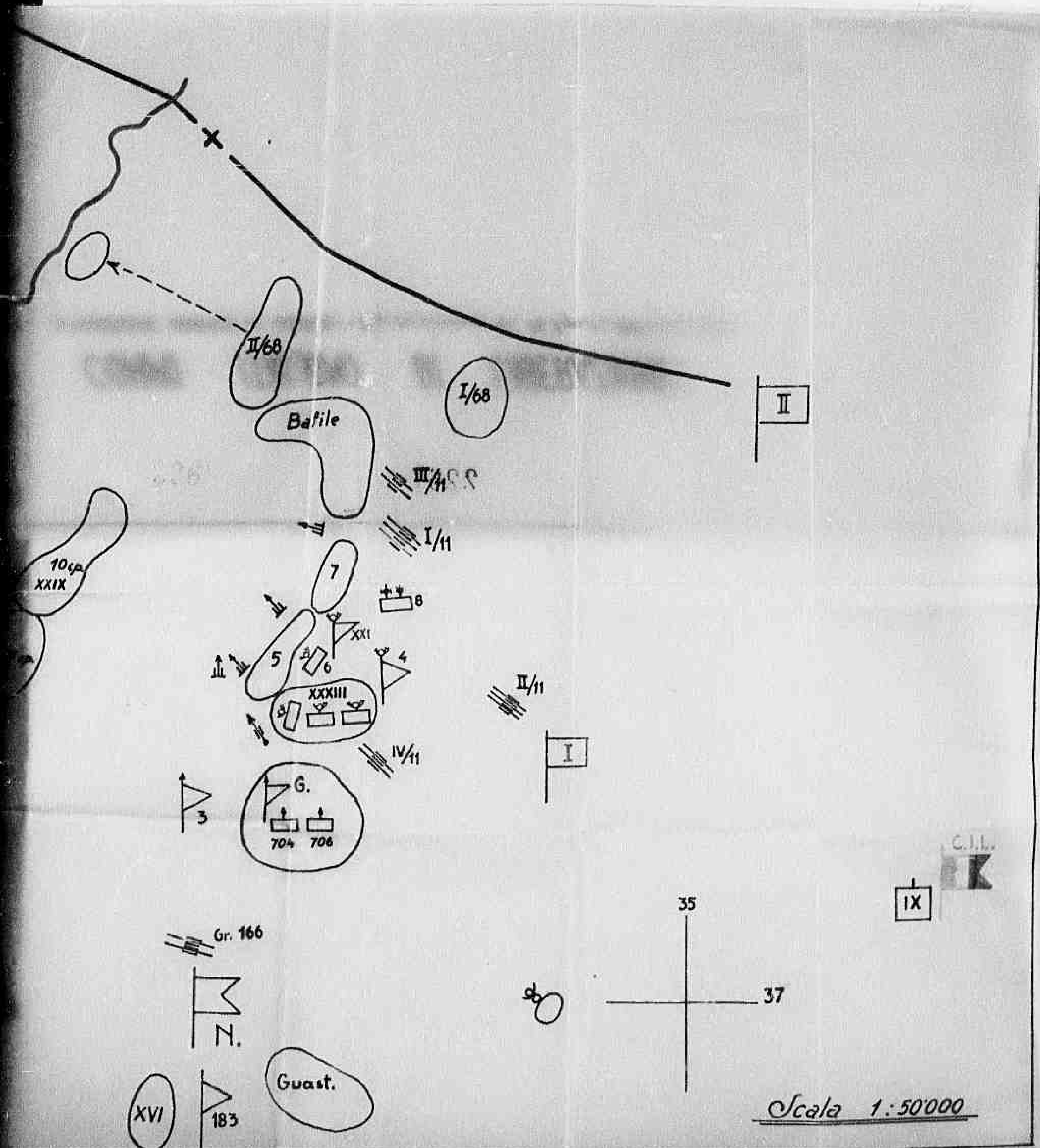
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HQ CIL
5 AUG 44

To: MMIA (G Ops), Army Sub Comm, ACC
and for infm EIGHTH ARMY (G Ops)

From:- LO, CIL

10	8	44
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Weekly Summary of Ops No 1

1. The week 30 July- 5 Aug began with a static phase characterised by patrol activity. This phase ended on 4 Aug 44, when the enemy withdrew from his posns on the SOUTH abnk of the MISA River and pursuit began.
2. Initial positions are shown in appendix, as well as direction of advance and psotions reached on 5 Aug 44.
3. Intentions are to push forward three bns to the OSTRA VETERE - BARBARA ridge, now occupied by three pls. This advance guard, preceded by vanguards of pl str, will then cross CESANO River (mov to begin probably 6 Aug 44) while the main body moves to OSTRA VETERE - BARBARA ridge.
4. 2 Bde
During the week 2 Bn 68 Regt held VACCARILE (2845) in about coy str. It repulsed four enemy counterattacks of str up to about 50 men. In the course of the week it suffered considerable losses especially from enemy arty fire. But the exposed posn was considered of sufficient importance to warrant holding it in some str.
5. 1 Bde
The bns of this bde remained in posn on the ridge SW from BELVEDERE, patrolling forward to the MISA river where there was a light enemy force. GRANERO bn began pursuit as soon as the enemy maintained his posns.
6. NEMBO Bde
13 Bn relieved MAIELLA Band in MONTECAROTTO (2437) on 29 July and CIL sector was widened to incl this place. NEMBO Bde then moved from res to left flank, and maintained active patrols to area SERRA DEI CONTI (2239) until enemy withdrew. SERRA DEI CONTI was not occupied as it was not of sufficient tactical importance to warrant losses which would have been incurred by subsequent arty.

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(2)

7. On this occasion, when the enemy he disengaged throughout at once, whereas previously he maintained his delaying action on his right flank somewhat longer than elsewhere.
8. During the week enemy arty was active, especially in area VACCARILE and MONTECAROTTO. Activity was maintained on the night 4-5 Aug. On the nights 3-4 and 4-5 Aug an enemy 17 cm gun fired on IESI (some thirty rounds, of which almost half were duds).

J. H. Phillips
Capt.

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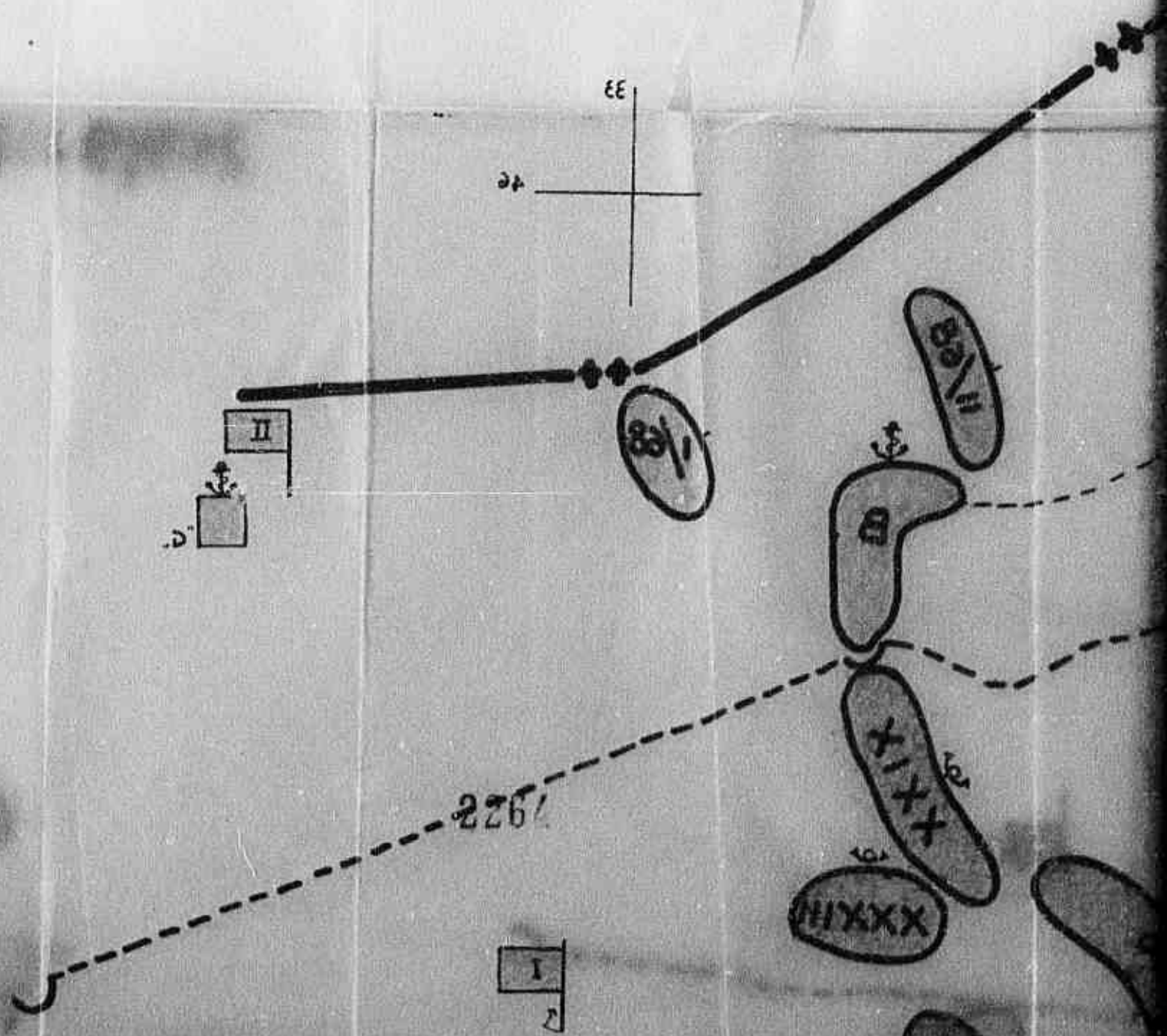
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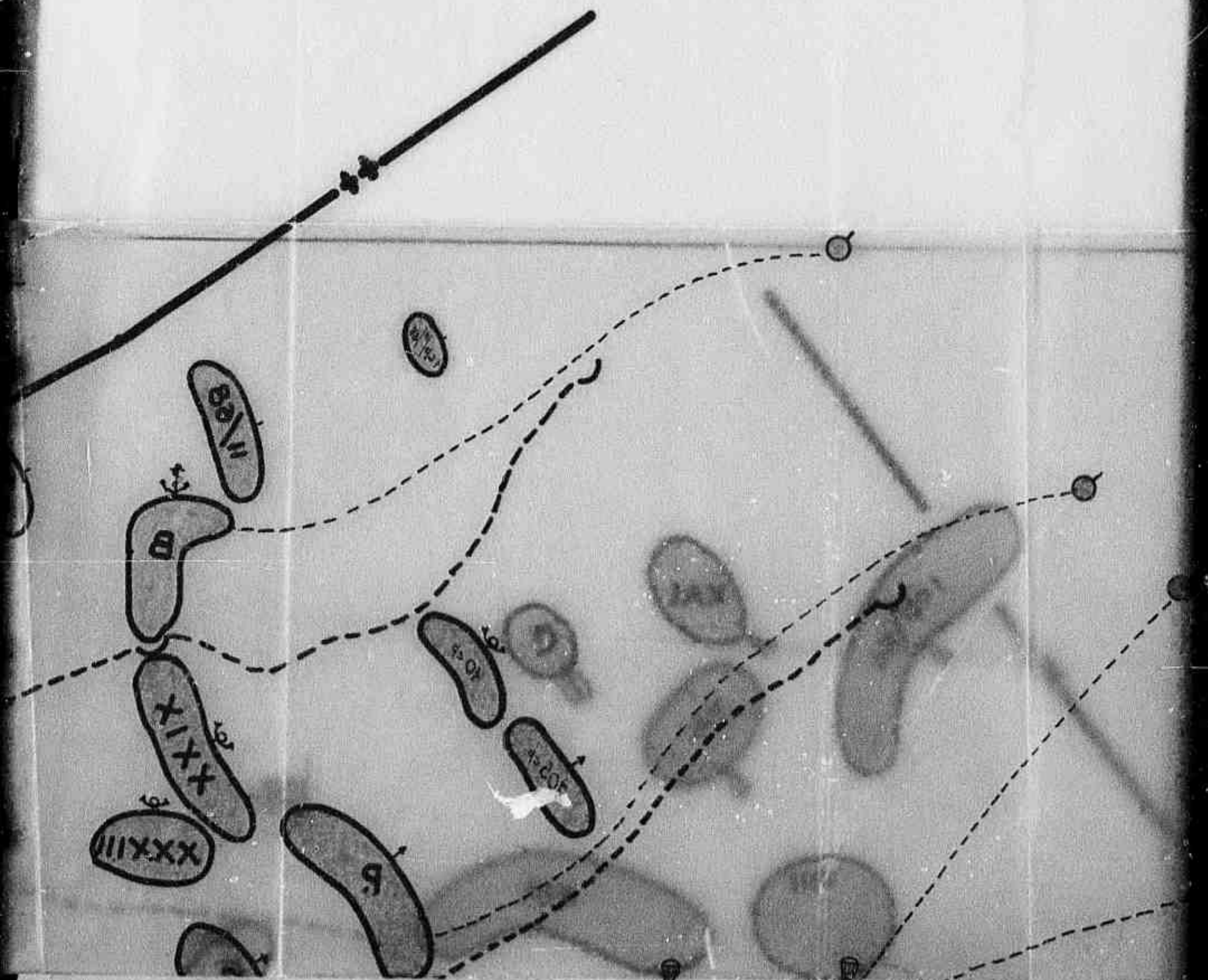
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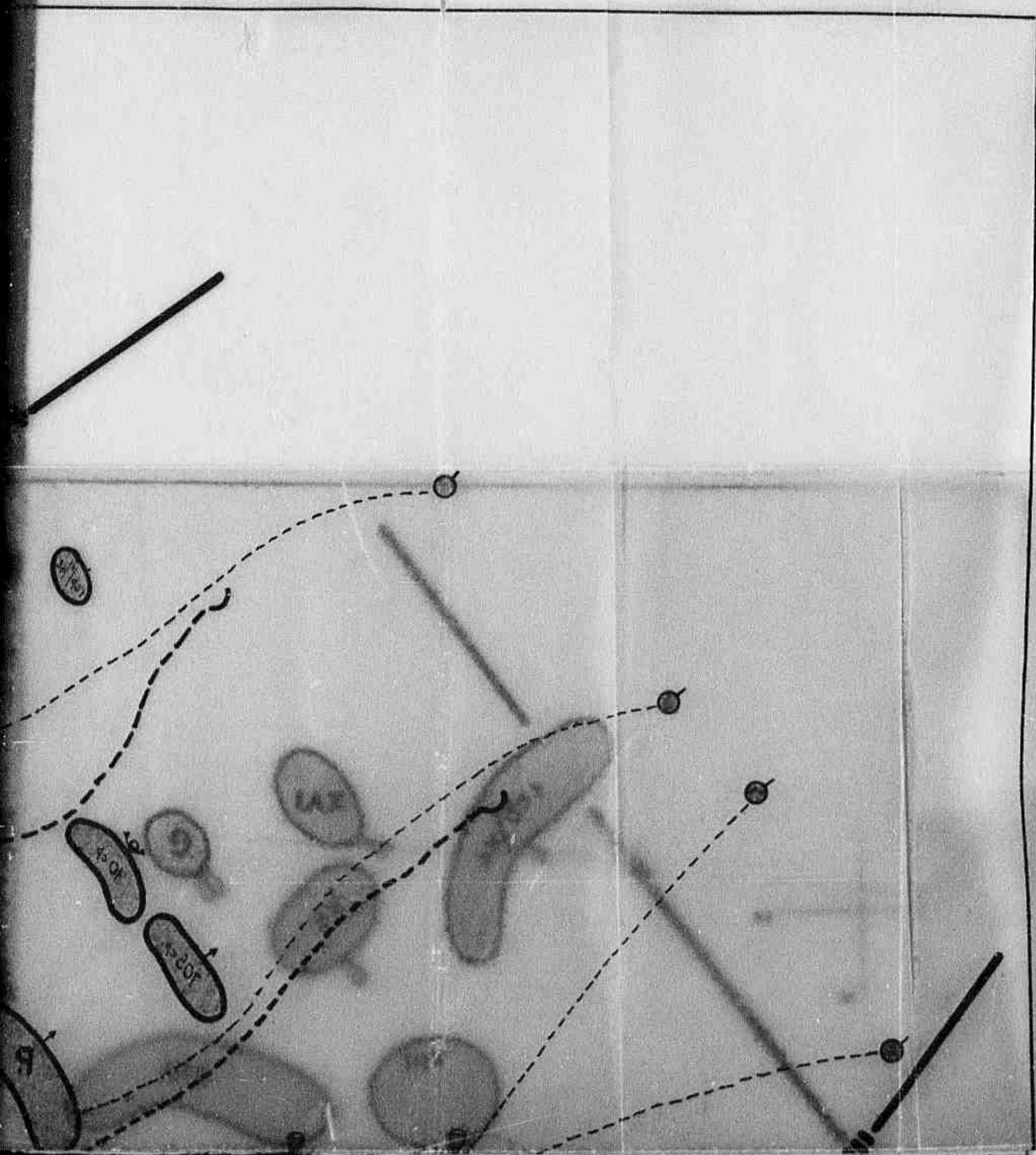
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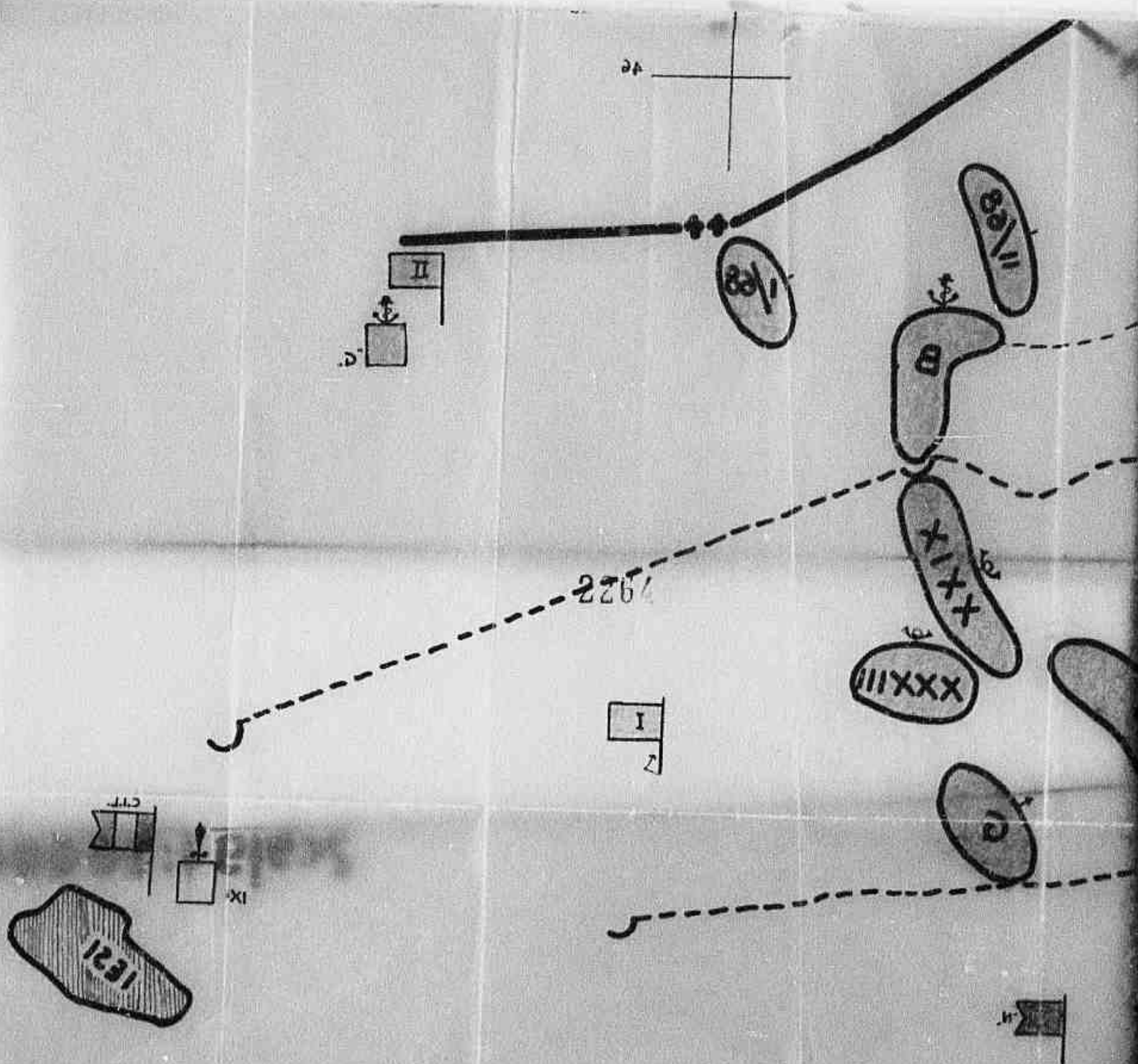
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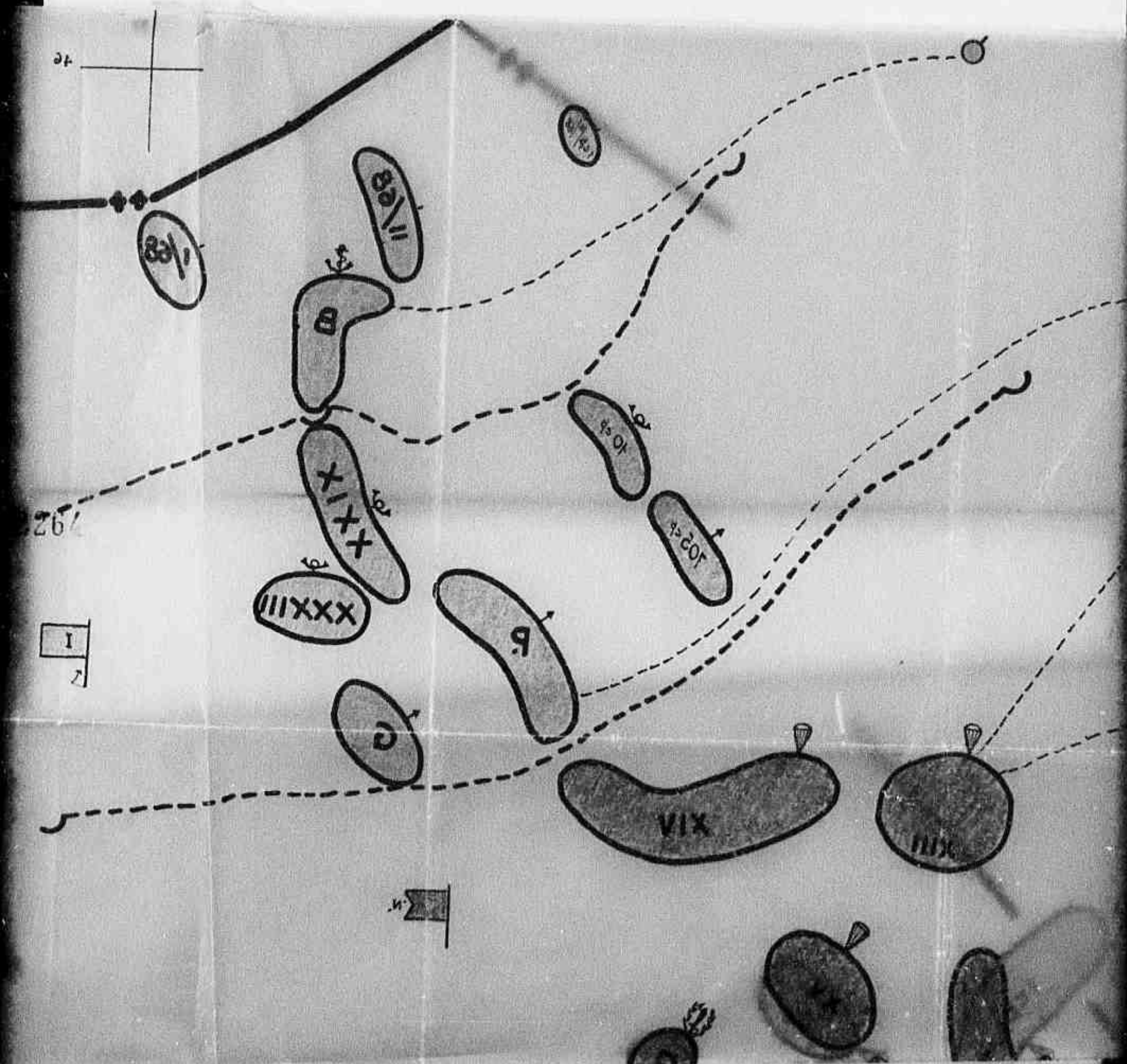
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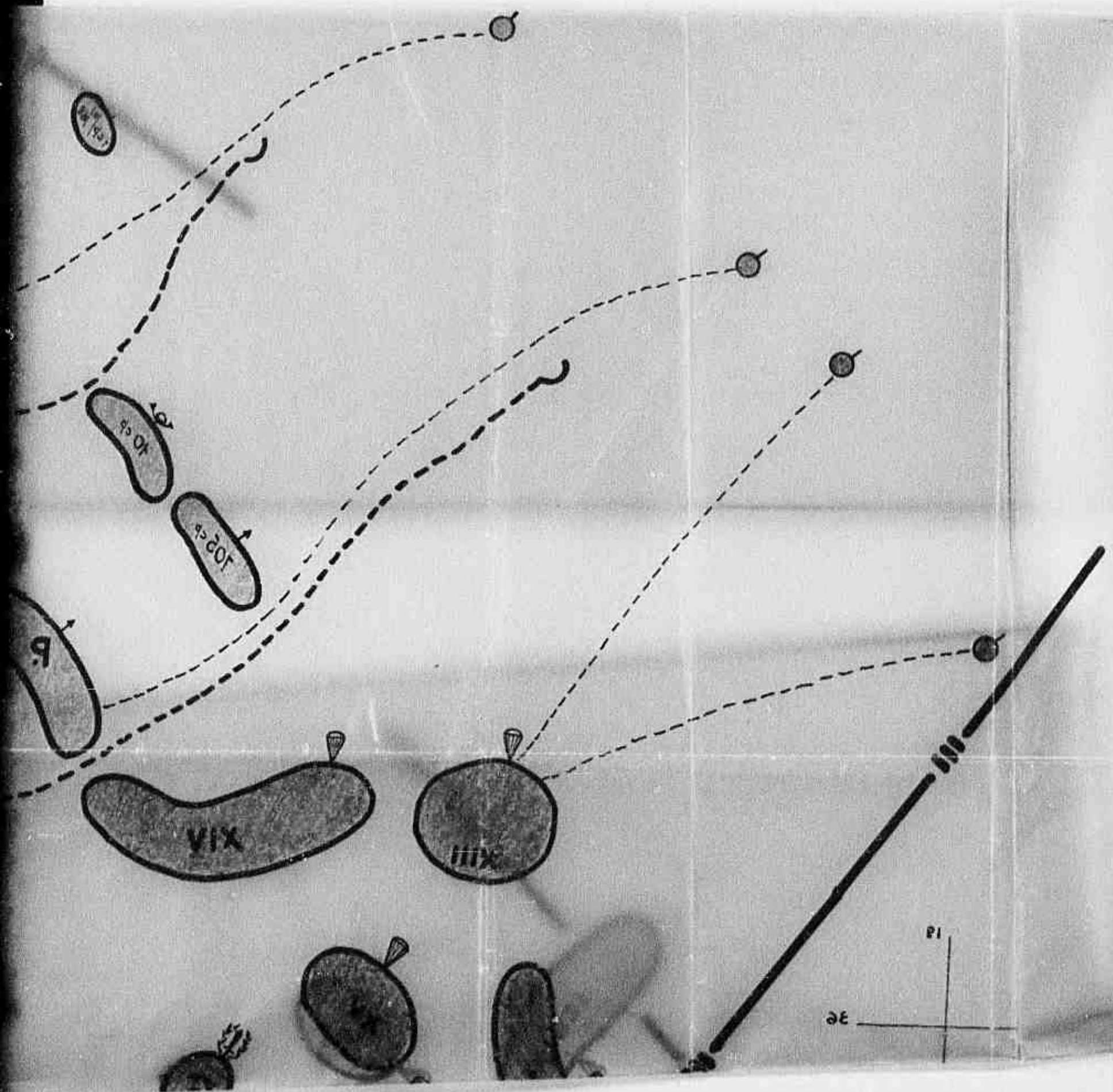


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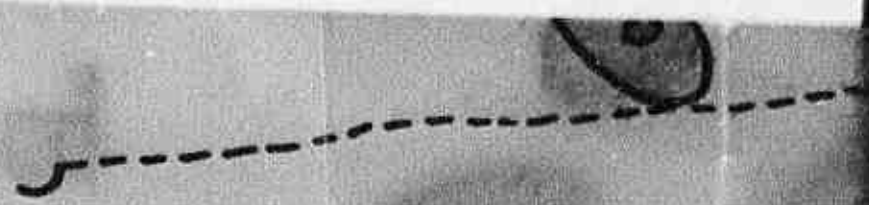
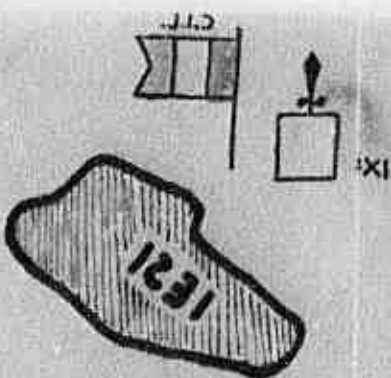


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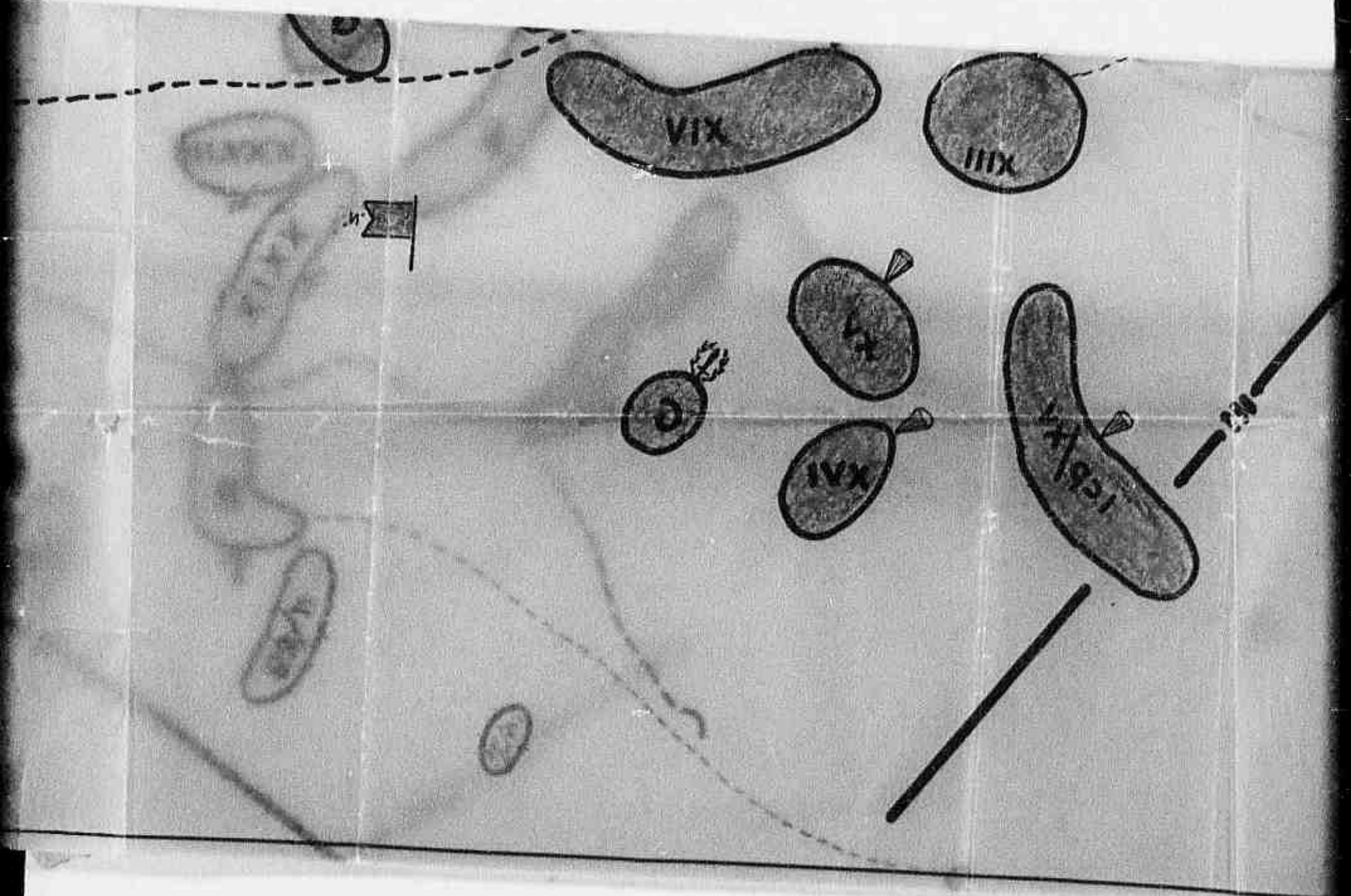
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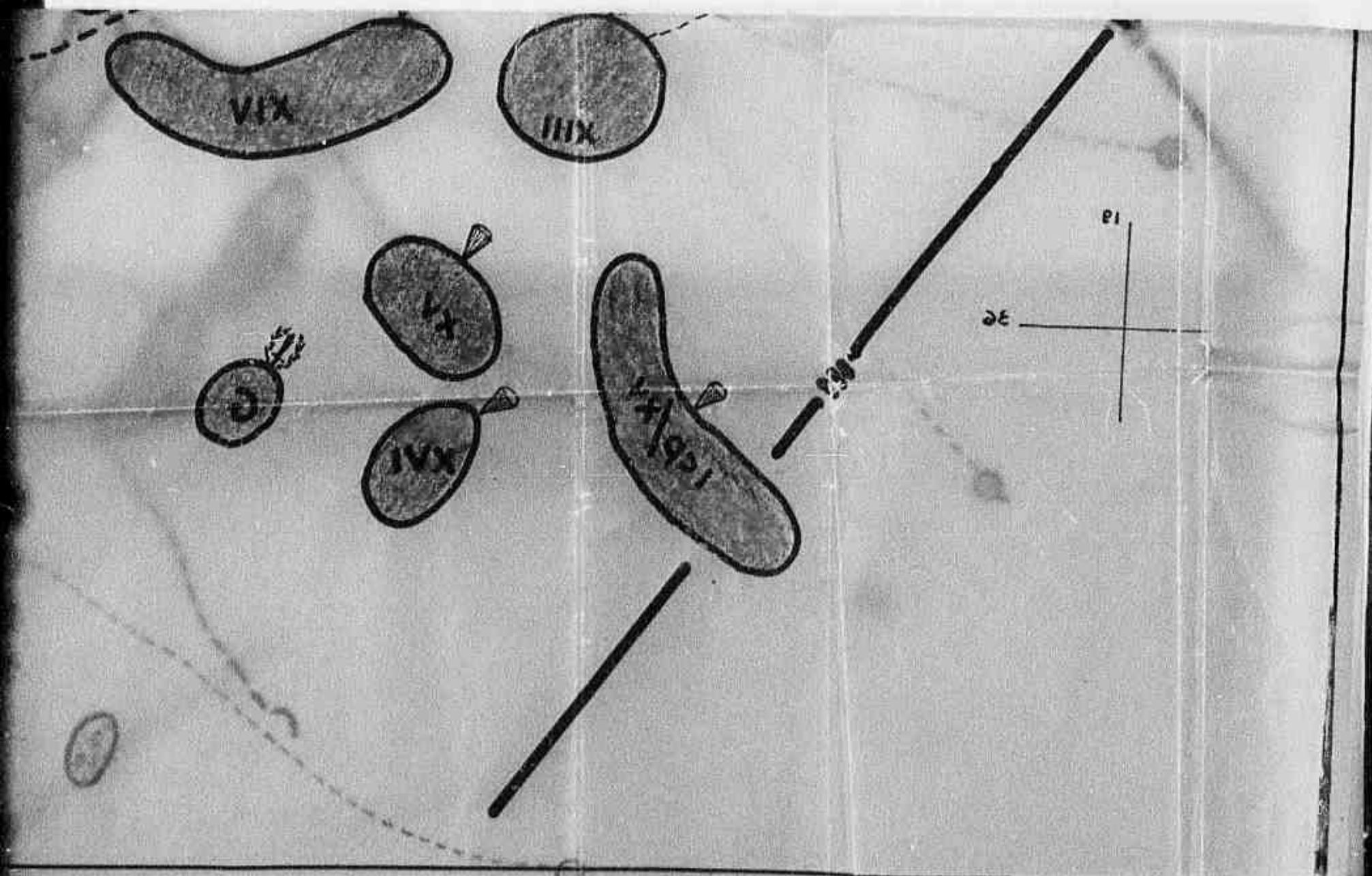
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