

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

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SG/17 L.O. Sicily op Instructions  
Opened June 30, 1944 - Closed July 3, 1944

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SECRET

No. 389 1st Ind.  
ARMY SUB COMMISSION ACC (MMIA) L.O. SICILY APO 550 3 July 1944

TO: GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA) LEQUILE (LECCE)  
MMIA LO Catania, Sicily (Major Thrupp)

For your information.

*Lester R Albert*  
LESTER R ALBERT  
Lt Col Inf  
L O Sicily

Encl: 1.0pn. Ins. No.2

*Receipt acknowledged.*

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*100 7*

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**SECRET**

XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.  
"Operazioni-Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2285/01

Palermo, June 30, 1944.

Subject: Operational Instruction No 2.  
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.  
M.M.I.A. Detachment,  
Army Sub-Commission,  
o/o I.B.S. Palermo.

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Herewith, for your information, a copy of "Operational Instructions No 2", sent to-day to all units under our command.

by order,  
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

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XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.  
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

**SECRET**

Ref. No 2250/01

P.M. 126, June 30, 1944.

**OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTION  
No 2**

(Cancel Op. Instrn No 1, Ref. No 1501/01 dated May 13, not sent to Military Garrison H.Q.s. which must be destroyed by burning)

To "Sabauda" Div. H.Q. Enna.  
H.Q.s Military Garrisons of:  
Palermo, Messina, Catania, Syracuse, Ragusa, Enna, Caltanissetta, Acireale, Castelvetro, Piazza Armerina, Agrigento, Trapani.  
H.Q.s Military Districts of:  
Palermo, Messina, Catania, Syracuse, Ragusa, Enna, Caltanissetta, Agrigento, Trapani.  
and, for information,  
To 2nd i/c "Sabauda" Inf. Div. Palermo.  
H.Q. VIth Carabinieri Brigade, Palermo.  
H.Q. 12th Guardia Finanza Terr. Legion, "Dell'Etna", Messina.  
H.Q. 13th Guardia Finanza Terr. Legion, "Dei Mille", Palermo.  
Territorial H.Q., XIIth It. Army Corps, in Location.  
Artillery H.Q., XIIth It. Army Corps, "  
Engineers H.Q., XIIth It. Army Corps, "  
Enquiry Office, XIIth It. Army Corps, "  
"Personale" Office, XIIth It. Army Corps, "  
"Servizi" Office, XIIth It. Army Corps, "

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H.Q. 56 Area informs us that:

- 1 - The enemy action against the Island, thought most probable, could consist of Para-troops landing with instructions to sabotage ways of communications, installations, H.Q.s, Depots, etc..
- 2 - H.Q. 56 Area is responsible for the defense of Sicily. All the Anglo-American and Italian Troops in the Island help in the defence.
- 3 - The defence of the provinces of Enna and Caltanissetta is to be carried out by Italian Troops.
- 4 - Each unit is responsible for its own defence and must keep itself ready to react immediately against enemy action.

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I order that:

**A - Territorial Defence**

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In order to carry out what is mentioned in para. 3, the "Sabauda" Div. H.Q. will adhere to instruction No 1601/Op. dated May 27; 1944, increasing as soon as possible the number of patrols (mobile) so that they can enter into action without delay.

"Sabauda" Div. H.Q. must always keep in mind that:

- a) - The entering into action of the patrols must take place energetically and with daring; all action plans must be studied beforehand;
- b) - The means of transport must always be kept in working order and ready to move at very short notice;
- c) - Numerous exercises must be carried out.

**B - Defence of H.Q.s**

- a) - Must be completely mobile; following information given by a signalling post, a nucleus or unit, kept ready day and night for that purpose, must be ready to intervene with speed and decision against probable enemy action.

This does not mean that automatic arms, mortars, guns, should not be kept ready to aid the action of the mobile defence units;

- b) - Keeping this in mind, each H.Q. work out plans, according to the means it can count on and to the help that can be given by neighbouring units, and also issue instructions for its own defence;
- c) - Numerous exercises must be carried out.

**C - A.A. Defence**

Each Garrison H.Q. shall work out and keep up to date plans for A.A. defence, if necessary and convenient they are to be planned in cooperation with the local civil defence, should there be the possibility of enemy air action taking place in the Garrison area.

It should be remembered that:

- a) - All the military that are to be found in their unit locations when the air-raid alarm is sounded, by means of sirens or bells, must arm themselves and, in groups, must go to the places which have been fixed beforehand;
- b) - All unit locations must have on hand a fire-squad, commanded by an officer. This squad must be able to have at hand fire equipment, even circumstantial (extinguishers, sand, water, shovels, picks, etc.).
- c) - All motor vehicles must be decentralized to places that have been decided upon beforehand, but must always be readily available in case of need.

The necessity of sending vehicles to ammunition dumps, petrol dumps and other depots must be especially kept in mind;

- d) - During air-raid alarms the black-out at unit locations must be complete.

**D - Information of Enemy Action**

On enemy action taking place the Military Garrison H.Q.s shall immediately, even if in resume form, and at the same time advise the following H.Q.s on the action taking place and the measures being taken to counteract it:

- H.Q. 56 Area
- H.Q. Army Corps
- H.Q. "Sabauda" Inf. Div.

More detailed information be sent to the above mentioned H.Q.s both during and after the enemy action.

Acknowledge

A. Mariotti, G.O.C..

for certified copy  
A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

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