SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXCESSIONARY FORCE
Office of AG of 3, C-3

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

PRESENT

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

I. WEATHER FORECAST

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

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

II. BOMBING ON D DAY AND SUBSEQUENT DAYS

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

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

III. WARNING THE FRENCH

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

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: Sandelings, Gen. Halsey, 7/5/72
By: ARK, NLE Date: 11/5/73
The AG of S, G-3, was directed to arrange with the IW Division for the provision of appropriate leaflets to be dropped by the Air Forces within the lodgement and cover areas on D day and subsequent days.

IV. NEXT SCAEF MEETING

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

DISTRIBUTION

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