

~~RESTRICTED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

OPERATION "GRAPPLE" - THE BUILD UP PHASE
JOINT OPERATIONAL PLAN PART 1

APPENDIX "J"
10TH AUGUST, 1956

SECURITY

General

1. It is the responsibility of all who hold or handle classified matter to ensure that the appropriate safeguards are maintained at every stage. A guide to the security classification of information is being issued separately to all holders of this plan.

Screening of Personnel

2. Army and Royal Air Force All Army and Royal Air Force personnel (including N.A.A.F.I. and Meteorological Section) serving in the operational area from 1st February onwards are to be security cleared to the normal vetting standard. Certain key personnel are to be positively vetted in accordance with instructions issued by Headquarters Task Force "Grapple".

3. Royal Navy R.N. personnel serving ashore from 1st February onwards are to be normally cleared. Certain posts are annotated for positive clearance. Personnel in ships have not been cleared.

4. A.W.R.E. All A.W.R.E. personnel in the operational area will be positively cleared.

Dissemination of Information

5. In general, the normal security regulations apply, and, in particular, classified information is only to be disclosed to officers and men on a "need to know" basis. The latter principle applies at all times regardless of the status of the individual or classification of the item concerned.

6. It may sometimes be desirable, however, particularly for morale considerations, to give information to units of the Task Force from time to time in order to keep them "in the picture". Commanding Officers should use their discretion in this respect. The Operational Commander will, when necessary, inform them of particular items of interest that may be disclosed.

Security Instructions

7. There will be no censorship during the period of the operation. However, personnel are to be reminded that it is forbidden by the Official Secrets Act to make disclosures of classified information to unauthorised persons either verbally or by letter. Further guidance will be given on this subject at a later date.

8. All personnel should be on their guard against people who may attempt to obtain information from them particularly representatives of the Press. Such people may try to persuade them that there is now no secrecy attached to the operation.

9. The reply to interrogation should be that they are on Special Service of which no details other than those publicly announced may be given. The answer to Press questioning is "No comment".

10. Personnel leaving the operational area for U.K., Australia or America are to be informed of these instructions.

11. The discretion of all personnel taking part is relied upon to prevent security leakages, and any incidents that suggest unusual or ill disposed interest in the operation should be reported.

...../Breaches of Security

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JOINT OPERATIONAL PLAN PART 1

SECURITY (Continued)

Breaches of Security

12. Any known or suspected breaches of security are to be reported immediately to the appropriate Commanding Officer who is to inform the Operational Commander.

Special Security Instructions, A.S.I.S.

13. These will be issued at a later date.

Prohibited and Danger Areas

14. Certain areas in the region of Malden Island will be declared Danger Areas. Promulgation of these areas will be on a world wide basis and will give details of the areas concerned and dates on which restrictions come into force. Detailed instructions will be issued later.

Bounds - Christmas Island

15. The airfield area, from the immediate East of the main camp site to the North of the Southern tip of MANULU LAGOON, is out of bounds to all personnel not on duty there with effect from 1st January, 1957.

16. Certain A.W.R.E. installations and the J.O.C., once operating, will be out of bounds to all personnel not on duty therein. Entrance to these establishments will be through a Royal Air Force Police check point only on the production of special passes which will be issued to authorised personnel at Christmas Island.

Control of Movement - Christmas Island

17. Personnel from ships are to land and re-embark in the Port of London and are to pass through the movement check point there with effect from 1st January, 1957.

18. All incoming and outgoing aircraft passengers after 1st January, will report to a movement control check point on the airfield.

Photography

19. Cameras are only permitted if authorised by the Unit Command of the appropriate Service. Personnel are to be reminded that it is at all times forbidden to photograph or sketch any classified official matter. Private photography is restricted during this phase of the operation to domestic and recreational photography only.

20. Private photography in the area described in paragraph 15 above is forbidden with effect from 1st January, 1957.

21. All members of the Task Force are to be Warned that failure to comply with the foregoing instructions is regarded as a most serious offence, and may result in disciplinary action or proceedings under the Official Secrets Act.

Malden Island

22. See Joint Operational Plan Part 2.

Penryn Island

23. See Appendix "K".

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