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S E C R E T.  
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Instructions issued verbally to  
Lieut-Colonel G.B.GOODMAN, 6th Battalion  
Sherwood Foresters, and other Officers concerned.  
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1. Two Companies of the 6th Battalion Sherwood Foresters under command of Lieut-Colonel GOODMAN will attack and occupy the near lip of the Crater adjacent to the end of BIRKIN COMMUNICATION TRENCH tonight the 26th/27th March.
2. The exact hour for the attack will be fixed by the Officer above mentioned.
3. The following will co-operate in this attack and are placed under the command of Lieut-Colonel GOODMAN.
  - (i) 2 Guns, Z.46th Trench Mortar Battery.
  - (ii) 139/1 Light Trench Mortar Battery.
4. The Centre Group R.F.A. will co-operate in the attack by
  - (a) Firing intermittent Salvoes on the Crater, commencing at 6.30 p.m. until up to half an hour of the attack.
  - (b) Covering Fire in rear of the Crater as soon as the Infantry attack is launched.
  - (c) Creating a Barrage on points already arranged whenever called on.
5. Two Companies of the 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters will form a Reserve in the QUARRIES, ready to move at once any time after an hour which will be communicated to them.
6. Reports will be sent to the Battalion Headquarters RIGHT BATTALION in the QUARRIES where the Brigadier General Commanding 139th Infantry Brigade will be.

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Secret

## O R D E R S

by

L I E U T C O L &amp; G. D. G O O D M A N.

for

A T T A C K O N C R A T E R O P P O S I T E B I R K I N C. T.

25/3/1946

- ENEMY. 1. Are believed to be entrenched on far lip of crater which is linked with their first line by old C.T's
- OBJECTIVE. 2. Our object is to establish touch on the near lip of the crater so as to link up the disconnected portions of our front trench (DURAND).
- ATTACK. 3. "B" Coy. 6th S.F. will be organised in 3 platoons 1 platoon with 4 grenadiers on each flank will occupy the forward retrenchment near the crater. At 11 p.m. this party will advance as quietly as possible and occupy the near lip of the crater from trench to trench. This party will carry picks and shovels also wire netting rolled and fixed to stakes as already prepared. The latter they will once fix as securely as possible so as to obtain protection from hand grenades and then dig a deep and narrow trench in rear of the palisade. Each man will carry two grenades.
- Capt. J. Tolson  
6th S.F.
- FLANK. 4. The flanks will be protected by 2 parties
- (a) Right.
1. In COMMON C.T. in advance of DURAND.  
2 rifle grenadiers 6th S.F.  
4 grenadiers 6th S.F.  
1 Lewis gun 5th S.F.
2. In old C.T. running forward on right of COMMON.  
4 grenadiers 6th S.F.  
1 Lewis gun 5th S.F.
3. In trench running up to crater  
4 grenadiers 5th S.F.
4. In front line (DURAND) D 1 platoon "B" Coy. 6th S.F.
- (b) Left.
1. In and near forward sap left of crater  
2 rifle grenadiers 6th S.F.  
1 Lewis gun 5th S.F.
2. In front line (DURAND)  
6 grenadiers 6th S.F.  
1 platoon "B" Coy 6th Sp.F.
- Capt. Dick  
6th S.F.
- 2/Lt. Parker  
5th S.F.
- SUPPORT 5. "A" Coy. 6th S.F. in retrenchment between GRANGE and BIRKIN C.T's
- Capt  
E. E. Johnson  
RESERVE  
GRENADEERS 6. Battn. grenadiers 8th S.F. in P.75
- ARTILLERY. 7. The 3rd N.Mid.Boc. will fire at intervals during the evening.  
On an enemy counter attack they will establish a barrage on enemy's first line trenches.





- TRENCH MORTARS. 8. At 6 p.m. the Medium T.M. Batty and 139/1 T.M. Batty bombarded the crater.  
On a counter attack these batteries will place a barrage on enemy's front line trenches and head of C.T. opposite crater.
- RECONNAISSANCE. 9. At dusk the battn. Scouts 6th S.F. will reconnoitre flanks of crater and report on enemy's positions and communications.
- MOVE. 10. "A" Coy. 6th S.F. will move from QUARRY trench at 9 p.m. by GRANGE and file into retrenchment.  
Left flanking party will move from same place at 9.15 p.m. by GRANGE to front line (DURAND).  
Right flanking party will move from same place at 9.35 p.m. by GRANGE P.75 and BIRKIN.  
Attacking party will move from same place at 10 p.m. by GRANGE, P.75 and BIRKIN, filing into forward retrenchment.  
8th. Battn grenadiers will follow last party into P.75.  
O.C. 5th S.F. will please arrange for a free passage through P.75 so that his men in BIRKIN and beyond move forward with the right along front trench (DURAND)
- RATIONS. 11. A day's rations will be carried and a hot meal provided for 6th S.F. before moving.
- REPORT. 12. O.C.'s detachments will report arrival in positions and will render constant reports by runners.
- 7.30 p.m. 13. I shall be at telephone on left of BIRKIN C.T.

Cop No 1 to 5th Sherwood division  
- 2 - 139th Inf. Brigade  
- 3 - and 5 officers and 40 parties

G. D. Goodman D.L.C.

Comdys 6/Sherwood division