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ComBatDiv 3		(1)	ROCKS, DD SO4
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ComBatDiv 4		(1)	GREGORY, DD 502
WEST VIRGINIA, BB	48	(1)	ComDesRon 48
ComBatDiv 5			STEPBEL, DD 644
TEXAS, BB 35		(1)	ComDesRon 50
ARKANSAS, BB 33		(1)	CLARENCE K. BRONS
NEW YORK, BB 34		(1)	COTTEN, DD 669
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ComCruDiv 4		(1)	HALL, DD 583
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ComCruDiv 5		(1)	ComDesRon 56
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PASADENA, CL 65		(1)	HYMAN, DD 732
ASTORIA, CL 90		(1)	ComDesRon 66
WILKES BARRE, CL	103	(1)	PUTNAH, DD 757
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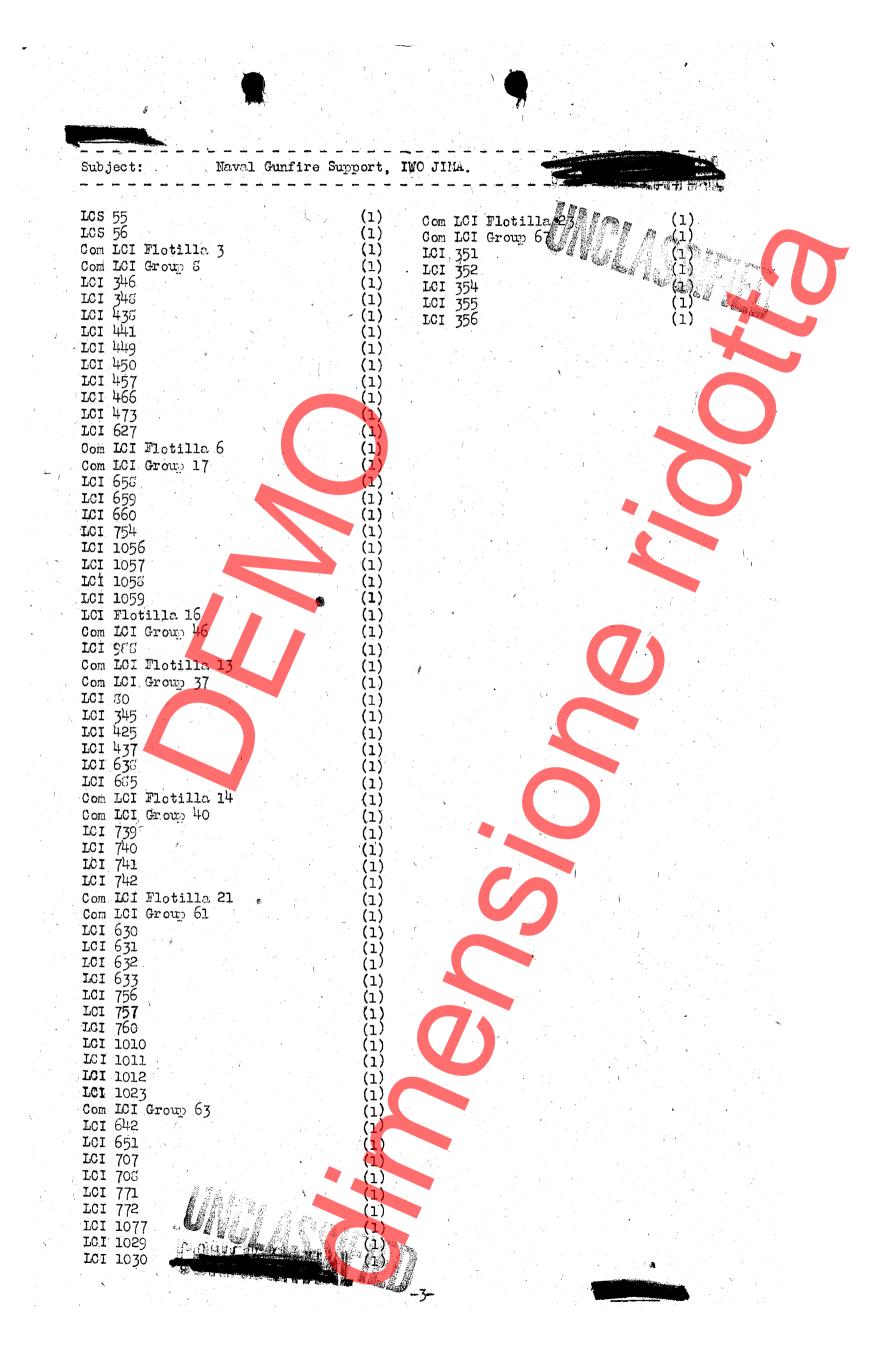
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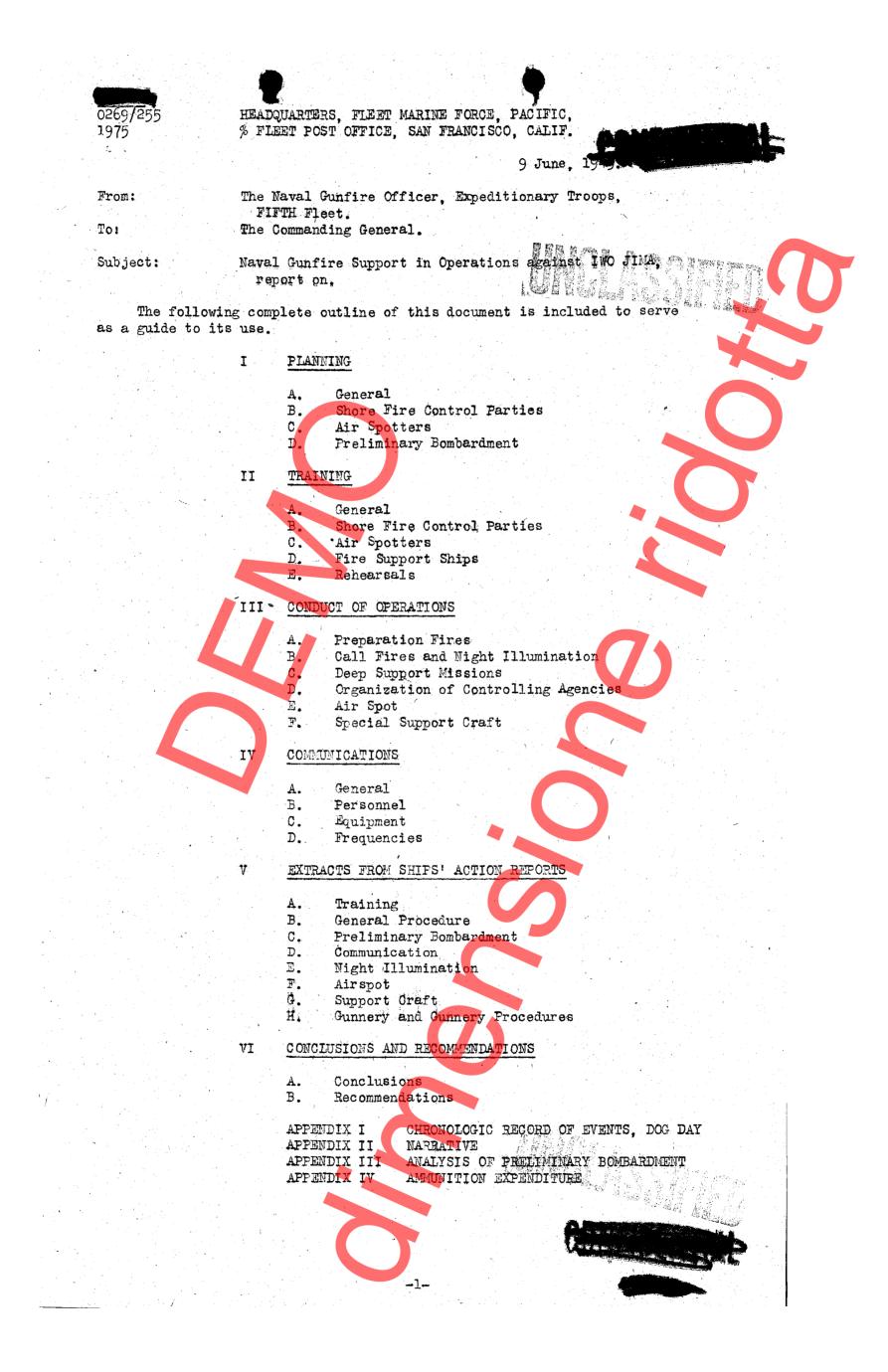
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GENERAL

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1. In planing Naval Gunfire support for the atback on the Atback of the Atback of the emphasis was laid on combining and applying the techniques developed in earlier bombardment of small atolls with those developed during the bombardment of the MARIANAS, where terrain features dictated many special measures in control of fire. Particular attention was given to improving air sidt facilities and to arranging that an experienced gannery staff be present during preliminary bombardments aboard an AGO to interpret and apply current carget intelligence to the targets upon which fire was to be delivered, Advantage was not taken, however, of one lesson learned in the MARIANAS; namely, that by allowing for a bombardment of considerable length prior to DOG Day, considerable reduction can be effected in casualties among landing troops.

2. The result of emphasis on air spot and target intelligence was a marked increase in the efficiency of the bombardment. Although the total length of the bombardment was not as great as requested by the Landing Force, the greater efficiency of each day's firing was such as to minimize the loss entailed in the reduction of time.

SHORE FIRE CONTROL PARTIES

1. lst and 3rd JASCOs remained attached to the 4th and 3rd Marine Divisions respectively; 5th JASCO was attached to 5th Marine Division.

2. Shore Fire Control Sections of these three JASCOs were expanded before the operation to include Regimental Naval Gunfire Liaison Officers, Assistant Division Naval Gunfire Officers, and their respective teams, in accordance with recently authorized increases in the Table of Organization. Experienced officers were supplied from Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, to fill these requirements.

3. As a result of experiences in the MARIANAS, two Naval Gunfire Liaison Officers and two Naval Gunfire Spotters were attached to each of the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions to act as on-the-spot replacements. No replacements were supplied to the 3rd Marine Division, but one Liaison Officer reported to that organization immediately prior to the operation on orders of the Bureau of Personnel and participated as an available replacement.

C. AIR SPOTTERS

1. Four Air Observers from 3rd, 4th, and 5th Marine Divisions were assigned to fire support ships to spot Naval Gunfire. Final assignments attached one such observer to each of ARKANSAS, TEXAS, NEW YORK, NEVADA, IDAHO, TENNESSEE, SALT LAKE CITY, PENSACOLA, CHESTER, TUSCALOOSA, SANTA FE, and BILOXI.

2. VOC 1, a fighter-spotter squadron, was also made available aboard WAKE ISLAND to supply air spot for designated fire support ships.

D. PRELIMINARY BOMBARDMENT

1. The initial plan for preliminary bombardment as set forth in the Concept provided for one Cruiser Division to bombard the objective beginning on DOG MINUS EIGHT Day, to be joined on DOG MINUS THREE Day by seven OBBs and six CAs or CLs. Based on a preliminary study of the number of targets at the objective, V Amphibious Corps recommended, on 24 October, that ten days of bombardment by a Cruiser Division plus three OBBs be arranged. The Commander, Amphibious Forces, U. S. PACIFIC Fleet, stated, in reply to this recommendation, that "limitations on the availability of ships, difficulties of ammunition replacement, and loss of surprise interpose serious obstacles to meeting your recommendation." He further stated that the objective would be bombarded by one Cruiser Division on 15 December, and at irregular intervals thereafter, and that three days of bombardment by the designated ships would provide for delivery of more major calibre fire than had been requested by V Amphibious Corps.

2. On & November, after a more careful study of the target area had been made, V Amphibious Corps submitted a recommendation for a total of nine days of preliminary bombardment. On 26 November, the Commander, Amphibious Fences, H. S. PACIFIC Fleet, replied to this recommendation with a study indicating the necessity of slightly more than three days of bombardment, and a statement that the troops would be provided with the best possible preliminary bombardment consistent with limitations of ammunition supplements.

3. On 24 November, V Amphibious Corps requester the subscreamed with day of preliminary bombardment be provided. This letter is to reach the favorable endorsement by the Commanding General, Expeditional, The provided this Fleet. The Commander, Amphibious Forces, U. S. PACIFIC Fleet, forwarded this request, requesting approval provided that there was no objection on the part of the Commander, FIFTH Fleet, based on the general strategic situation; and, further, provided that the fast carrier strike could be delivered on DOG MINUS THREE Day. This recommendation was disapproved by the Commander, FIFTH Fleet, for reasons indicated below.

a. That initial surface bombardment must be simultaneous with the initial carrier attack on the TOKYO Area, and that, if continuation of the carrier strikes beyond two days were neither desirable nor necessary, the enemy could then recover early enough to initiate threatening air attacks at the objectives by DOG Day.

b. That shore based air attack to be provided could be considered at least as effective as the recommended additional day of surface ship bombardment.

c. That there would be no opportunity for replacement of naval ammunition, and that there was therefore a limit to the amount of ammunition that could be made available for preliminary bombardment, allowing sufficient ammunition for DOG Day.

4. On 2 January, after a careful study of the preliminary bombardment plan which had been prepared, V Amphibious Corps stated that it believed the preliminary gunfire to be inadequate for destruction of targets immediately inland from, and flanking, the landing beaches; and recommended that either an increase in time be allotted for preliminary bombardment, or a greater concentration of effort be placed on, and adjacent to, the main landing beaches, with a corresponding reduction in the amount of fire placed on the other areas of the island. This recommendation was approved by the Commanding General, Expeditionary Troops, FIFTH Fleet. It was in turn forwarded by the Commander, Amphibious Forces, U. S. PACIFIC Fleet, recommending disapproval for the reasons previously set forth by the Commander, FIFTH Fleet. Further comment indicated that the concentration of fire in the vicinity of the main landing beach was not considered sound, since other areas would then receive too light a coverage of fire; and that, in any case, the Commander, Amphibious Group ONE, would have the necessary authority to make changes in the plan as necessary.

5. Further changes made necessary the substitution of NEW YORK, TEXAS, ARKANSAS, TENNESSEE, IDAHO, and NEVADA, plus WASHINGTON and NORTH CAROLINA on DOG MINUS ONE Day only, for ships originally allotted but later unavailable.

6. A special bombardment by INDIANA plus Cruiser Division FIVE was executed prior to DOG Day, with unknown results. The allotment of WASHINGTON and NORTH CAROLINA for bombardment on DOG MINUS ONE Day was cancelled.

II. TRAINING

GENERAL

A.

In training personnel, both ashore and afloat, for the assault on INO Jima, special emphasis was given to lessons learned during operations against the MARIANAS Group. Corrective communication training was given, based on detailed analysis of radio logs from those operations while improved control of starshell firing, closer command integration between the various echolons, and improved methods of distributing the locations of front line positions to all hands, were emphasized; as well as more extensive use of air spot. Radar Beacon Operators were added to Division and Regimental Naval Gunfire Teams ashore, and both ship and shore personnel were trained in their use. New changes in the firing mechanisms aboard rocket and mortar ships were described to all Shore Fire Control Personnel.

B. SHORE FIRE CONTROL PARTIES

1. Shore Fire Control Sections of the 1st and 3rd JASCOs both received intensive retraining at PEARL HARBOR in preparation for this operation. Exercises were conducted in new techniques, and classroom instruction was given to bring all hands up to date on the latest developments, including the results of reports and critiques on recent operations in this area. Naval Gunfire Liaison Officers were given additional gunnery training at the Pacific Fleet Gunnery School, as practicable. Shore Bombardment Exercises were conducted at KAHOOLAWE Island with available ships of the PACIFIC Fleet. All training activities were closely supervised by the Division Naval Gunfire Officers concerned.

2. The Shore Fire Control Section of the 5th JASCO, all new except for Assistant Division and Regimental Naval Gunfire Officers, received advanced training similar to that described in Paragraph 1 above, rather than retraining. Every effort was made to give this new organization as full advantage as possible of recent operations and to emphasize group activities considered especially valuable to a new organization.

7. The Shore Fire Control Section of each JASOO executed a final rehearsal at KAHOOLAWE Island for a twenty-four hour period in which a tactical situation ashore was assumed. This included overhead fire, starshell illumination, harassing fires, call fires, and the KING Hour preparations. The exercise proved an excellent finale to the training not only of the Shore Fire Control Parties but also of the firing ships participating, who gained a realistic picture of what twenty-four hours of continuous fire support duty involves.

C. AIR SPOTTERS

4.

1. Air Observers from the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Division received intensive training at PEARL HARBOR, including bombardment exercises at KAHOOLANE Island, in preparation for their assignments to fire support ships. Training of V Amphibious Corps Observers was planned, but the schedule could not be completed in the time available so that they were not assigned for the operation.

2. The fighter-observer squadron to be employed, VOC 1, was given intensive training, including Bombardment Exercises at KAHOOLAWE Island. Lectures were also given aboard USS WAKE ISLAND, and all current information was supplied to the unit.

3. / Replacement pilots for heavy ships of the fleet received training in communication procedure and shore bombardment while attached to SoSu 1 Replacement Pool. Others, attached to ships engaged in Communication and Shore Bombardment Exercises, received training through their participating in these exercises.

Underwater Demolition Teams were included, on request, in Shore

Bombardment Exercises at KAHOGIAWE Island. Representatives of the Naval Gunfire Section, Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, participated in the exercises. After this initial indoctrination, the teams were able to conduct their own practices without further supervision.

D. FIRE SUPPORT SHIPS

1. The training program operated in the past by the Commander, Cruisers and Destroyers, PACIFIC Fleet, in conjunction with Fleet Marine Force, Pacific was continued and expanded in the period leading up to the attack on 'IWO Jima. All but a very few of the ships employed at IWO Jima had qualified in the Shore Bombardment Course at KAHOOLAWE Island.

2. Communication Drills of several types, including Radar Beacon Drills, were conducted with ships made available by the Commander, Cruisers and Destroyers, PACIFIC Fleet. All ships qualified in communication procedure before executing actual bombardment practices.

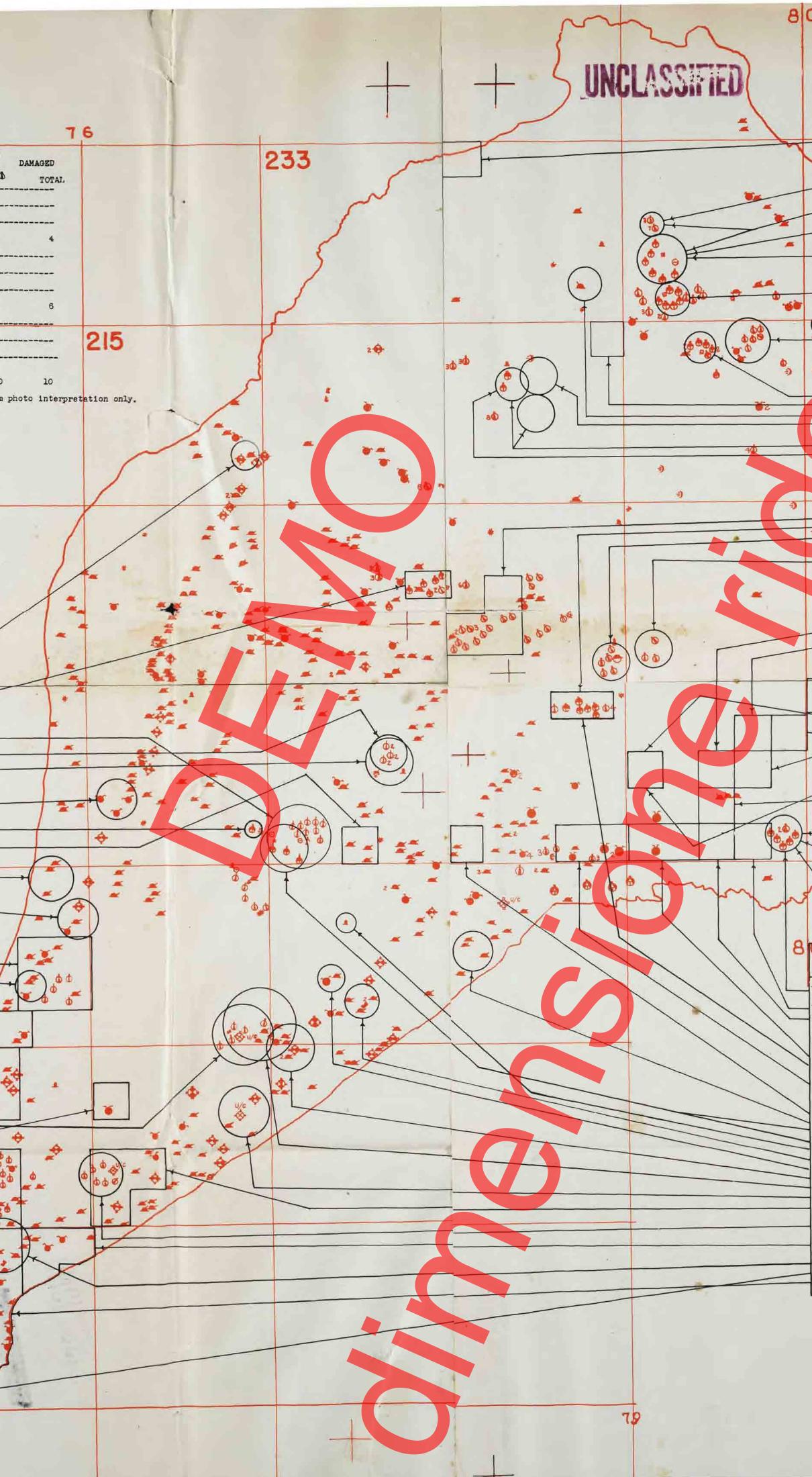
E. REHEARSALS

1. Final rehearsals for the Landing Force were held in the HAWAIIAN Area from 13 January, 1945, to 18 January, 1945, inclusive. Simulated bombardments by all available fire support units were conducted during the first three days. Actual bombardments were conducted on the following days, while Shore Fire Control Parties landed on KAHOOLAWE Island on the 17th to conduct call fires. reembarking on the 18th.

2. Since only a limited number of fire support ships had been present at the Landing Force rehearsal, the bulk of the group having been at ULITHI Atoll, further rehearsal exercises were held off the West Coast of TINIAM on 12 and 13 February, 1945, primarily for their benefit. Simulated fires were executed by fire support ships and communication nets were operated. Actual transmissions, however, were kept to a minimum in order to maintain the greatest possible degree of security.

3. In order to give all fire support ships complete details of all Plans and preferred techniques, especially those ships recently added to the fire support group as replacements, the Naval Gunfire Officer, Landing Force, gave ships' personnel special briefing at PEARL HARBOR, ULITHI, and SAIPAN.

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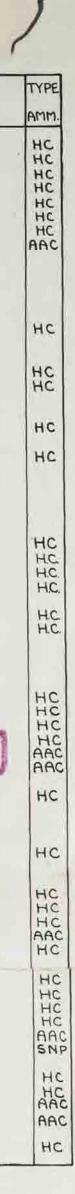


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	TENNESSEE TENNESSEE	80 18	5 14	8.5 9									COUN								f	HC DUAL PURPOSE GUN HC MEDIUM A.A. GUN
111	IDAHO TENNESSEE	15 48 9	55	10.5 11 11									TEN I RESU HITS	ILTS N	TOP	OBSE	RVED				f	ANTI TANK EMPLACEMENT OPEN ARTY. EMPLACEMENT AAC PILLBOX HC EARTH COVERED STRUCTURE

LININEGGEE	10	1.72		2.1				
DAHO ENNESSEE	15 48	Clicit	10.5 11					AAC
DAHO	9	14	H				HITS NOT OBSERVED	HC
DAHO DAHO DAHO ENNESSEE NEVADA NEVADA NEVADA NEVADA NEVADA NEVADA NEVADA NEVADA	14-030722520	444 54444444	11 9 5 12 9 5 5 5 2 1 5 5	2 🛋		2.	HITS NOT OBSERVED HITS NOT OBSERVED HITS NOT OBSERVED RESULTS NOT OBSERVED 4DIRECTHITS SEVERAL NEAR MISSES 4 NEAR MISSES NO HITS NO HITS NO HITS 2 HITS 2 NEAR MISSES RESULTS NOT OBSERVED	HC HC C P HC HC C P S HC HC C C C H HC C C C C C C C C C C C
NEVADA	16	5	10.5				AIR BURSTS	AAC
ENNESSEE	19	14	11.5				RESULTS NOT OBSERVED	HC
DAHO ENNESSEE ENNESSEE	28 9 33	14 14 14	14 9.5 11	*	1014	1¢1.4	HITS NOT OBSERVED - LARGE AMMO EXPLOSION RESULTS NOT OBSERVED RESULTS NOT OBSERVED	HC HC HC

ENCLOSURE (D) TO APPENDIX T

- EARTH COVERED STRUCTURE
- + RADAR
- ⊖ RANGEFINDER
- → SEARCHLIGHT
- COMMAND POST AMMUNITION DUMP

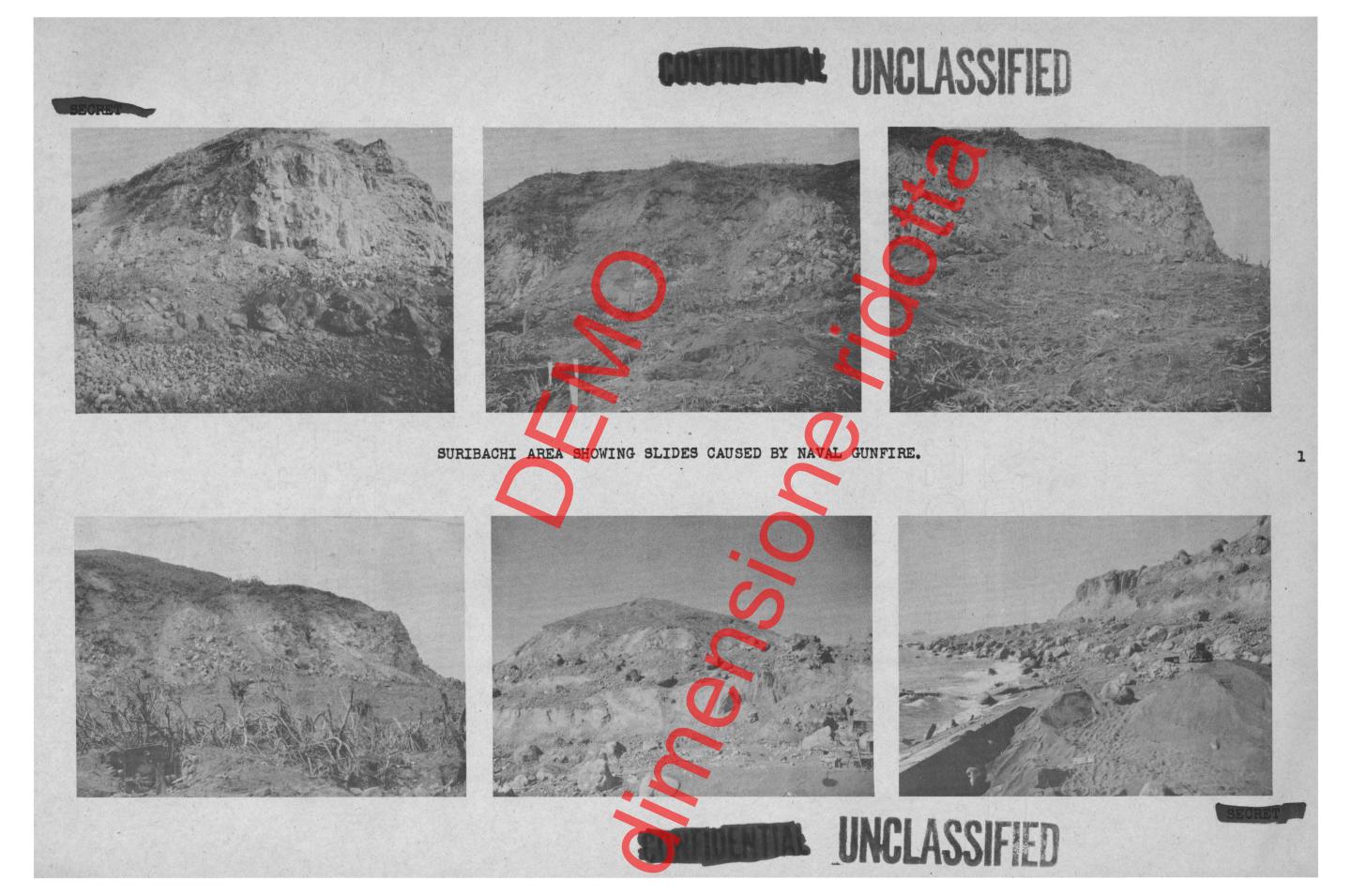


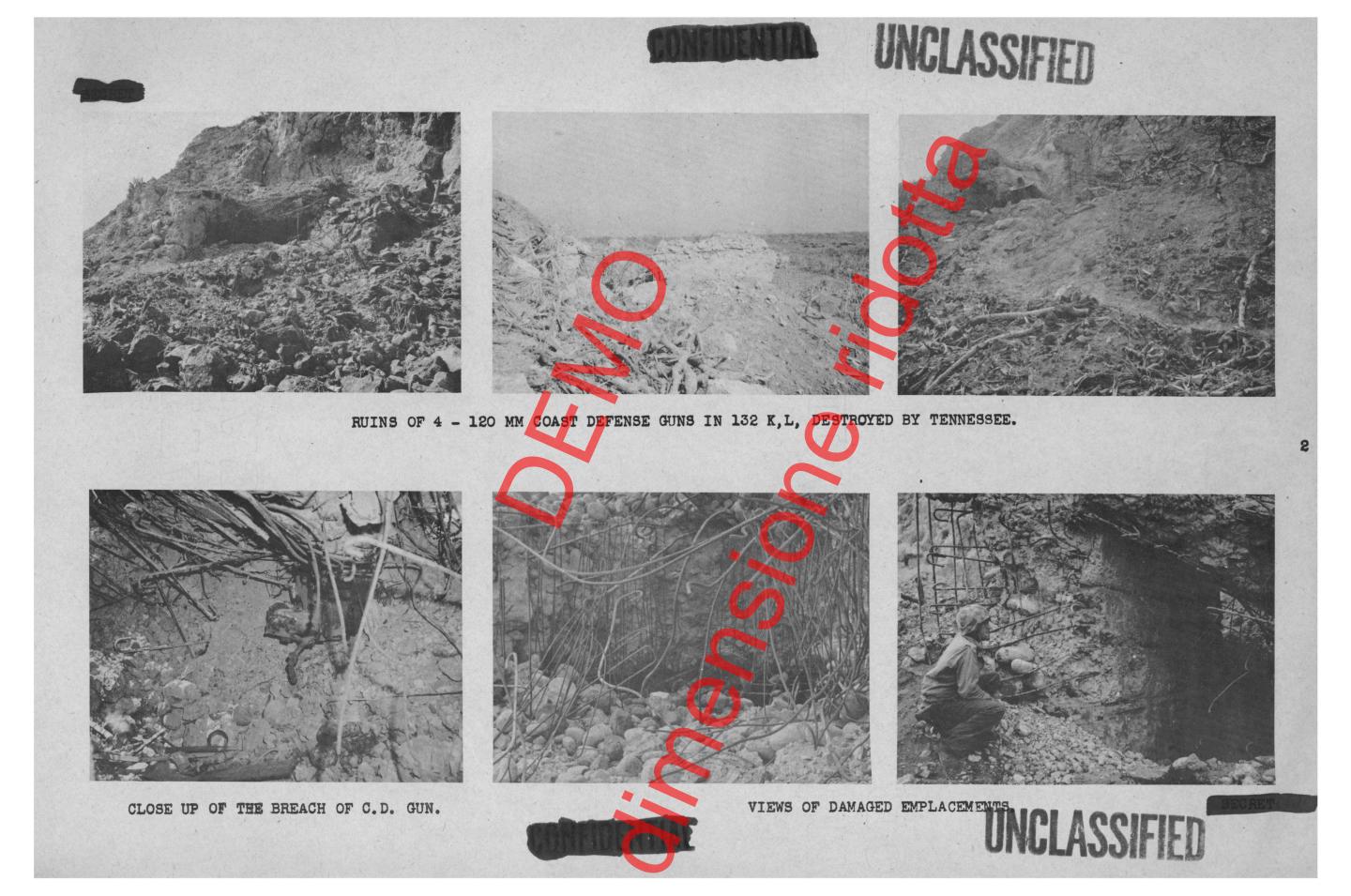
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I une fina PRELIMINARY BOMBARDMENT Photographic Study ENCLOSURE (J) TO APPENDIX III

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APFENDIX IV

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AMUNITION EXPENDITURE

I. GIEVERAL COMMENT

- A. There follows a compilation of ammunition expended by fire support ships at IWO Jima. In many cases the figures do not correspond with those given in Faragraph IV of ships' action reports because where possible, figures were taken from the statistical record of fires, which is believed to be more accurate. Some figures are estimates where action reports have not been received by this headquarters. Figures are compiled to show the types of ammunition, the number of rounds, and the total weight.
- B, The following symbols are used:

AF: Armor Tiercing Ammunition HC: High Capacity Ammunition

- C. 55.2 pounds is the weight figure used for all 5"/38 projectiles.
- II. EXPENDITURES

	Α.	SHELI	S				
•	•		SHIT	2	TYPE	NUMBER OF ROUNDS	WEIGHT (1bs)
		BB	33	ARKANSAS	12" HO 5"/51 3"/50	1,262 1,808 435	933,800 90,400 5,655
	4	BB	34	NEW YORK	14" HC 145 AF 5°/51 3"/50	1,018 19 712 425	1,297,950 25,500 35,600 5,564
		BB	35	TEXAS	14" HC 5"/51	923 879	1,176,525 43,950
		BE	36	NEVADA	14" HC 14" AF 5"/38	950 20 7,409	1,211,250 30,000 408,977
		BB	42	IDAHO	14" но 5"/ <i>3</i> 8	1,235 3,638	1,638,375 200,818
		BB	43	TENNESSEE	14" HC 5"/38	1,358 6,730	1, 731, ^{1,50} 371,496
		BB	43	WEST VIRGI	NIA 16" HC 15" AF 5"/38	463 46 5,376	879,700 103.040 296,755
VCLA.		BB	55	NCRTH GARC	енена 157 но 57/38	955 2,753	1,81 ⁴ ,500 151,966
YAA	JS	It i	56	WASHINGTON	16" HO 5"/38	790 2,440	1,501,000 134,688
		CA	eu	FENSACOLA	я" но 5"/25	2,658 1,368	691,050 73,872
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