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UNITED STATES ASSAULT TRAINING CENTER ETOUSA

TRAINING MEMORANDUM :

1 Nov. 1943

NO. ASLT -- 8 (SIG) :

Corrected as of
1 December 1943

COMMUNICATIONS IN ASSAULT OPERATION

REVISED

NOTE: This publication supersedes Training Notes, Communications in Assault Operations for a Regimental Combat Team, U. S. Assault Training Center, 9 September 1943.

DIST:

- 100 - RCT, 2 per Co. or similar unit.
- 50 - CADRE, All Off. and Signal Personnel.

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COMMUNICATIONS IN ASSAULT OPERATION

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General

Communications in assault operations must be simple and extremely flexible. Parallel channels must exist between all echelons whenever possible and sufficient personnel and equipment must be available to insure continuity of communications despite losses and incorrect landings. Communications units must be kept married to their assault organizations so that contact can be maintained under all conditions within the unit and to higher and lower echelons.

During the approach by sea, visual means and boat messenger service are used, and very little Army traffic can be handled.

In the assault, radio will be the primary means, supplemented by visual and flags and to some extent by pyrotechnics.

On land, wire should be installed as rapidly as possible so that radios can be taken off the air.

and liaison must be set up between successive echelons

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~~R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D~~

U.S. ASSAULT TRAINING CENTER
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

COMMUNICATIONS

In Assault Operations

Schedule of Landings, Communications Personnel and Equipment

Time	Organization	Equipment	Net
H	Section Leaders, Infantry	Radio SCR-536	Company Command Net
H&10	Tank Liaison Officer	Radio SCR-509	Tank Fire Directing Net
H&10	Company Commanders	Radio SCR-536-(2)	Battalion Command Net,
H&10	Navy Beach Signal Team	Radio SCR-511, Radio SCR-300 or Radio SCR-609	(Company Command Net *)
H&10	Field Arty Fwd Obsv	Radio SCR-609	Boat Control Net
H&40	Shore Fire Control Party	Wire Equipment Radio SCR-284 Radio SCR-536 Wire Equipment	Artillery Firing Net
H&40	Inf Bn Comm Sec**	Radio SCR-284 Radio SCR-300 or Radio SCR-536 Radio SCR-609	Regtl Command Net
H&40	Field Arty Ln Party	Radio SCR-284 Wire Equipment Radio SCR-609 Wire Equipment	Bn Command Net On Channel "A", RCT Command On Channel "B", to Bn Attached Units. Shore Party-Inland Net Line from Beach to Bn (
H&40	Team, Sig Co (Special) ***	Radio SCR-284	Artillery Firing Net
		Radio SCR-284 Radio SCR-284 (Radio SCR-609 May be used in Addition to Parallel This Net and to have other Channel in RCT Net, Operates Afloat) Visual Equipment	Ship Shore Administr- ative Net Shore Party-Inland Net Shore Party Lateral Net
		Wire Equipment	Supplements Ship Shore and Lateral Communica- tion Install Swbd. tie into line from Bn Inland. Lay line from Swbd to SP Msg. Cen. 3 SP Radio Sets, SP Cmdr, Beach Signal Sta, 2 CP Adjacent Shore Party.

(Beachmaster, Shore Party Msg. Cen, Shore Party Commander are
Operating "Shore Party Local Net" with Radio Sets SCR-536)

* SCR-300 may be used.

** SCR-609 and "Hand Carry" wire team should go ashore with Bn CO.

*** Switchboard should go ashore with Bn Communications Platoon.

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Time	Organization	Equipment	Net
H&90	Regtl Comm Team****	Radio SCR-608	One Channel on RCT Cmd Net. One Channel on Net with Attached Units. One Channel on Ea Bn Net with attached Units. One Channel to Div Hq. One Channel in Shore Party Lateral Net.*****
		Radio SCR-284	Regtl Command Net.
		Radio SCR-284	Division Command Net.
		Radio SCR-284	Shore Party-Inland Net.
		Wire Equipment	Install Swbd, tie into line from Bn Inland. Lay wire to other two Battalions.
On Call	FA Battalion SP Comm Teams	Radio Sets	Install Normal Land Installations
		Wire Equipment	Install Normal Land Installations
On Call	Div FA Bn Comm Teams	Radio Sets	Install Normal Land Installations
		Wire Equipment	Install Normal Land Installations.

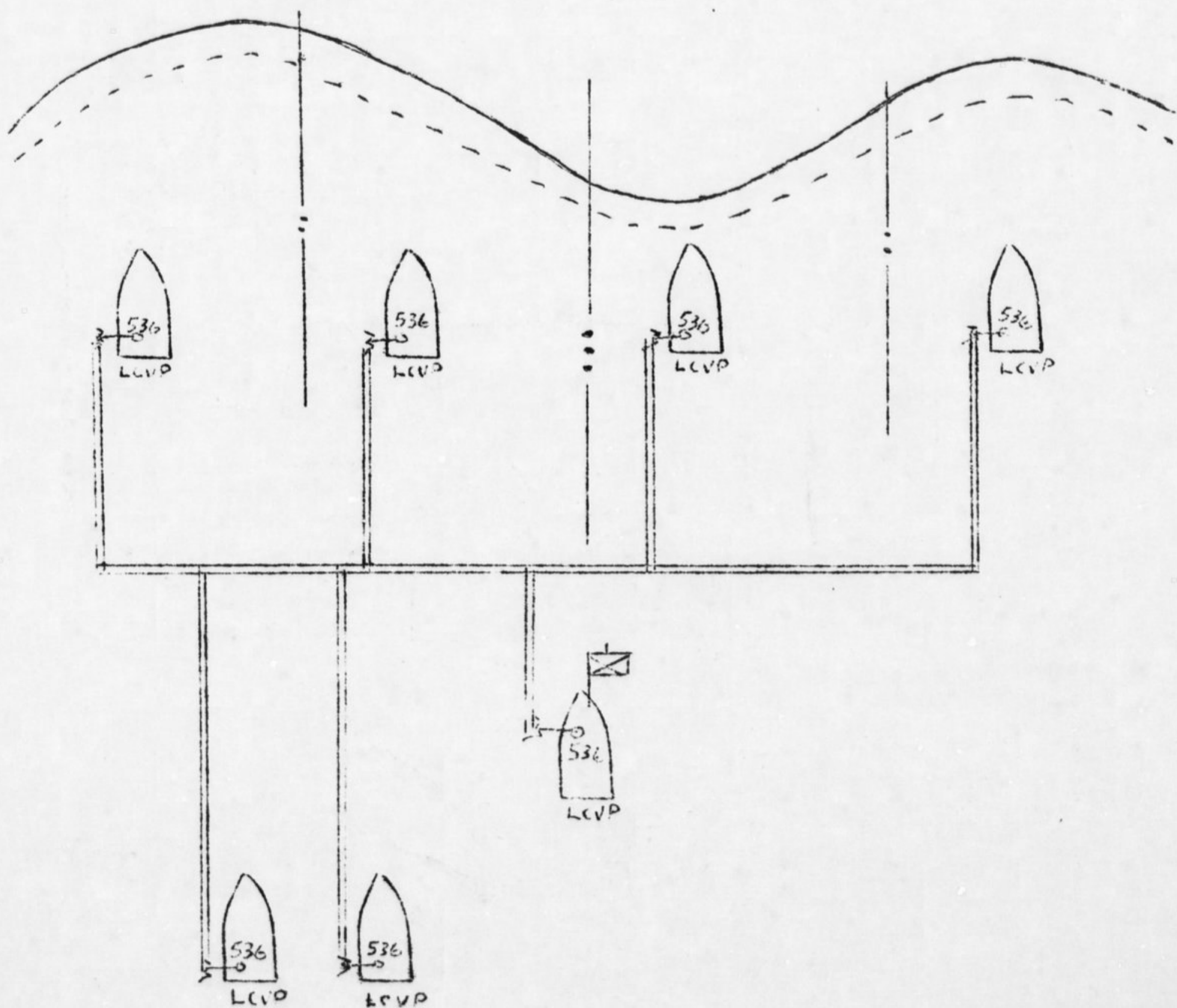
**** Liaison man should go ashore with each Bn Communications Platoon.

***** If operating.

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ASSAULT COMPANY NET



1. NET NORMALLY DOES NOT OPERATE UNTIL BEATS TOUCH DOWN, BUT MAY BE OPERATED ALCAT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.
2. DUE TO THE NUMBER OF SETS IN THIS NET IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT OPERATION BE KEPT TO A MINIMUM.

FIG # 1

PAGE #4

~~R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D~~

~~R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D~~

ASSAULT BATTALION COMMAND NET

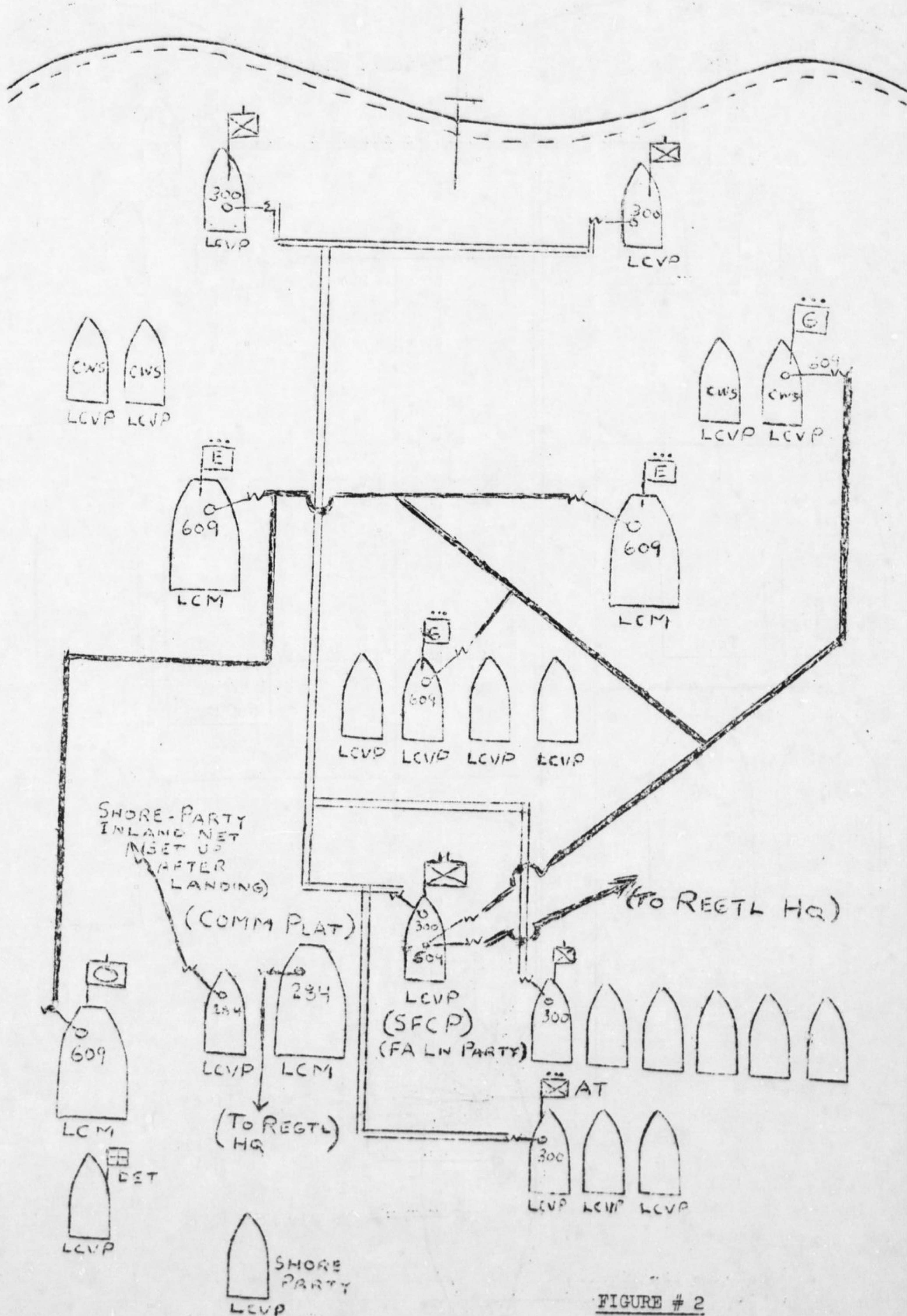
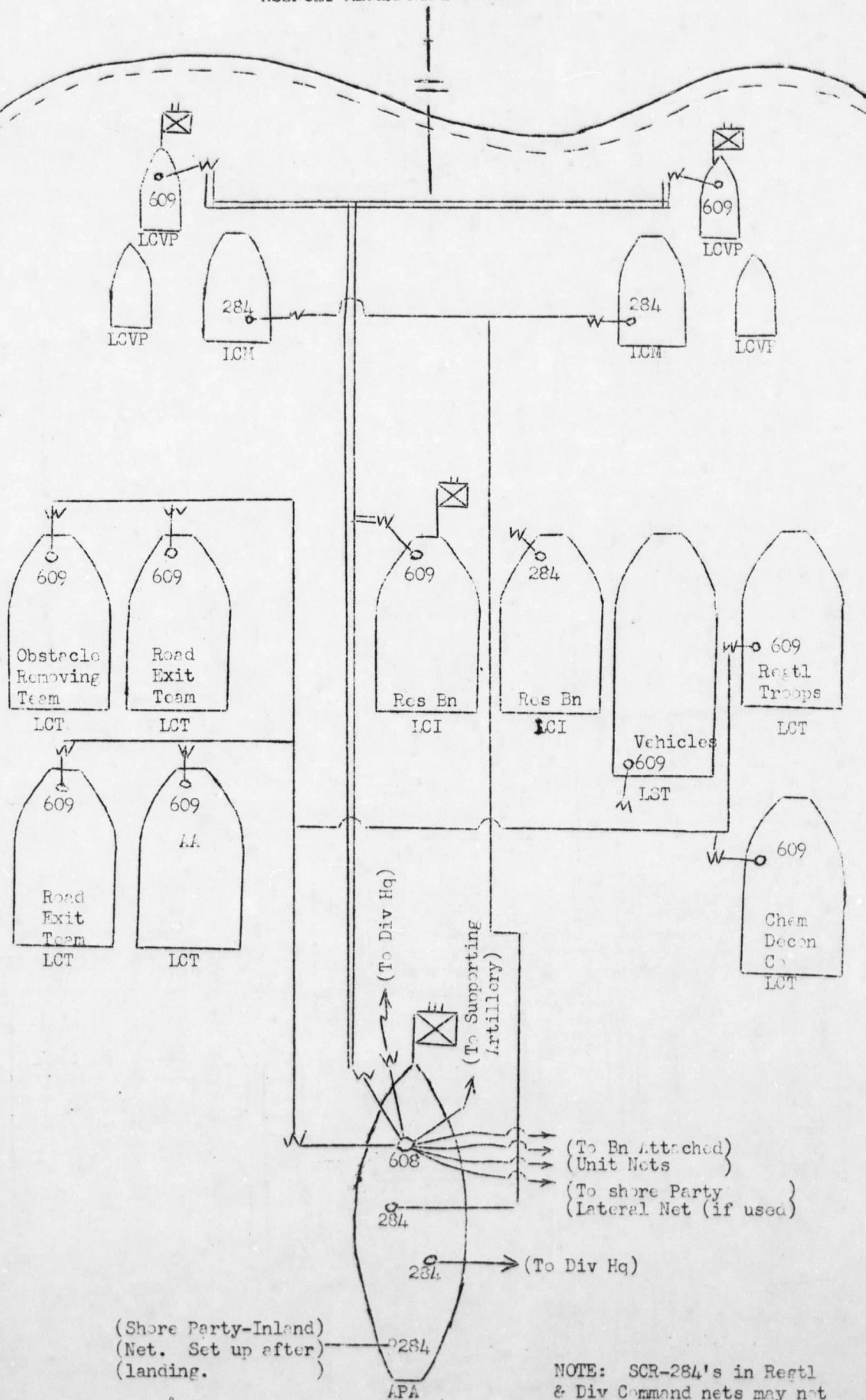


FIGURE # 2

NOTE: SCR-300 may be replaced by SCR-511 or SCR-536

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ASSAULT REGIMENTAL COMMAND NETS



NOTE: SCR-284's in Regtl
& Div Command nets may not
operate afloat.

FIGURE #3.

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CHANNELS OF AIR SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS
IN ASSAULT LANDINGS

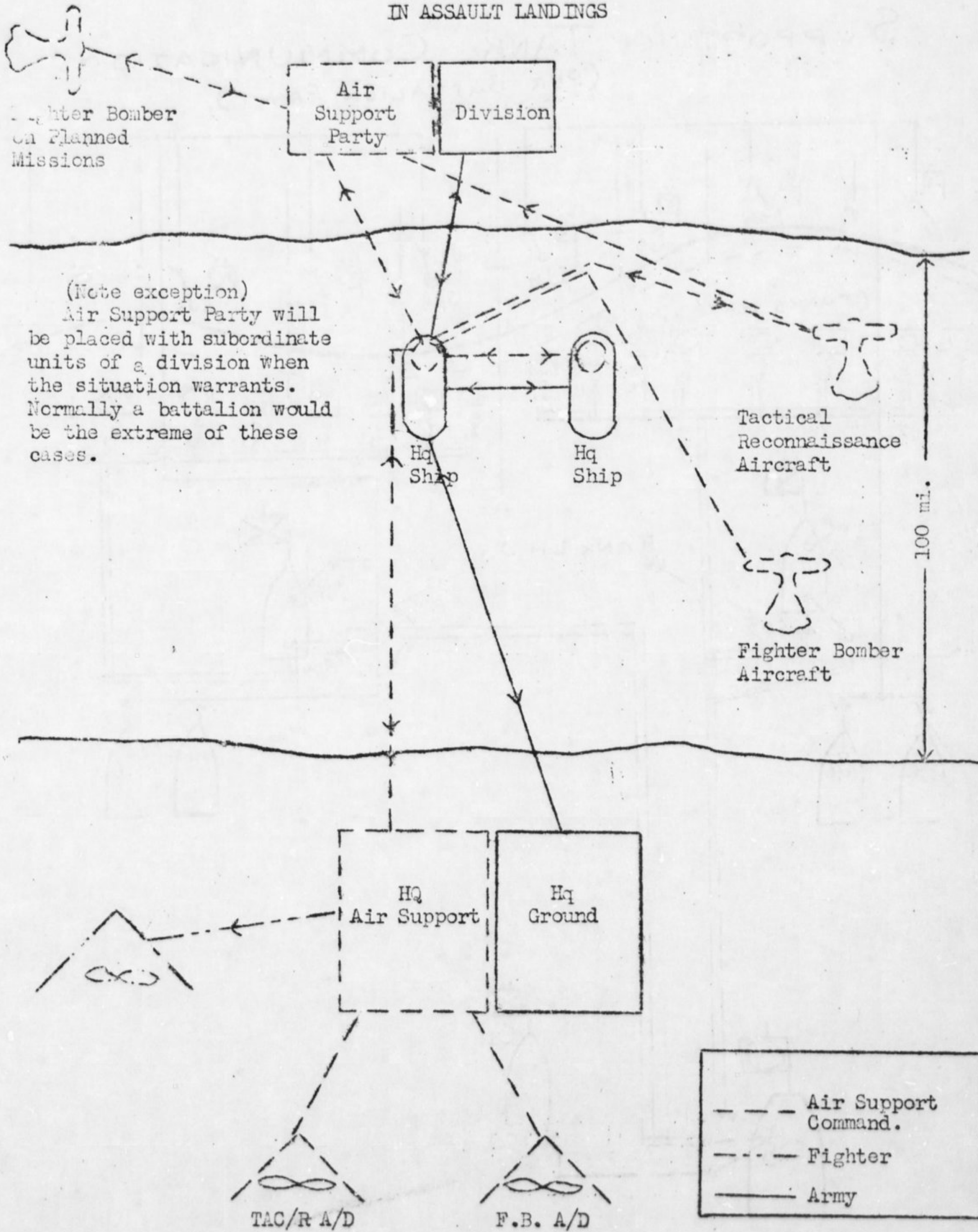


FIG 4

PAGE 7

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SUPPORTING TANK COMMUNICATIONS (PER BATTALION FRONT)

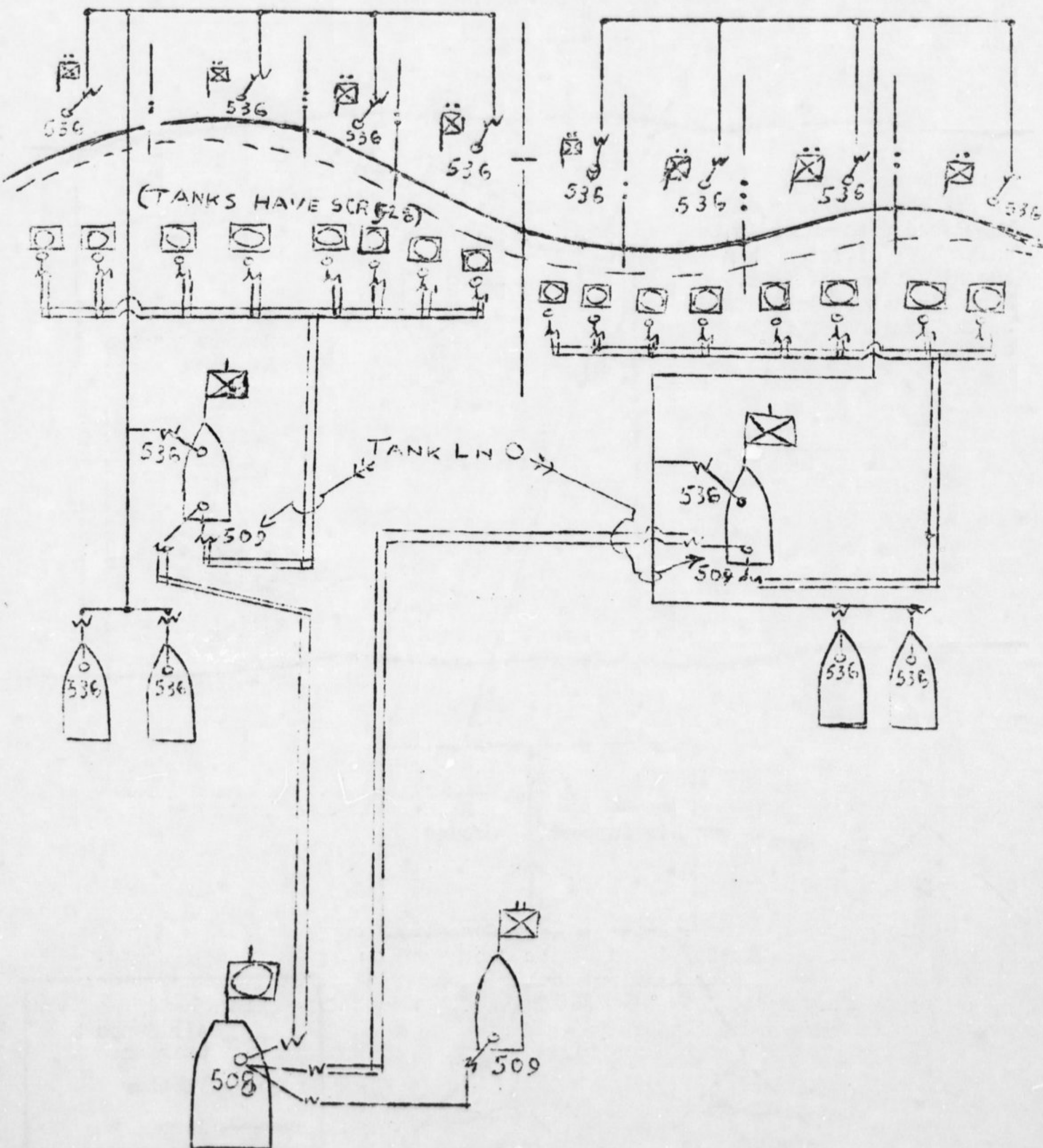


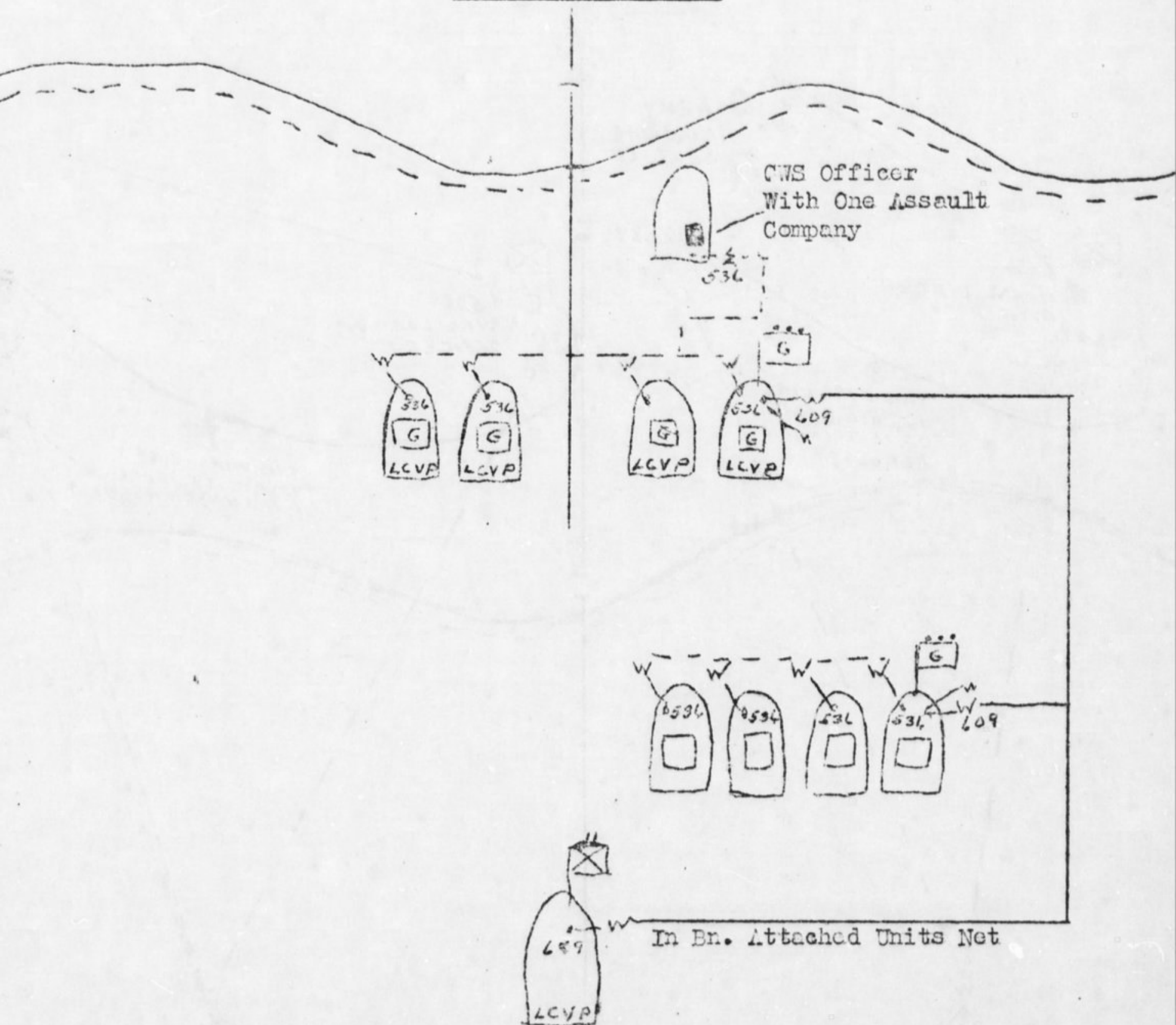
FIGURE #5

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SUPPORTING CHEMICAL WARFARE COMMUNICATIONS

SMOKE SUPPORT

PER BATTALION FRONT



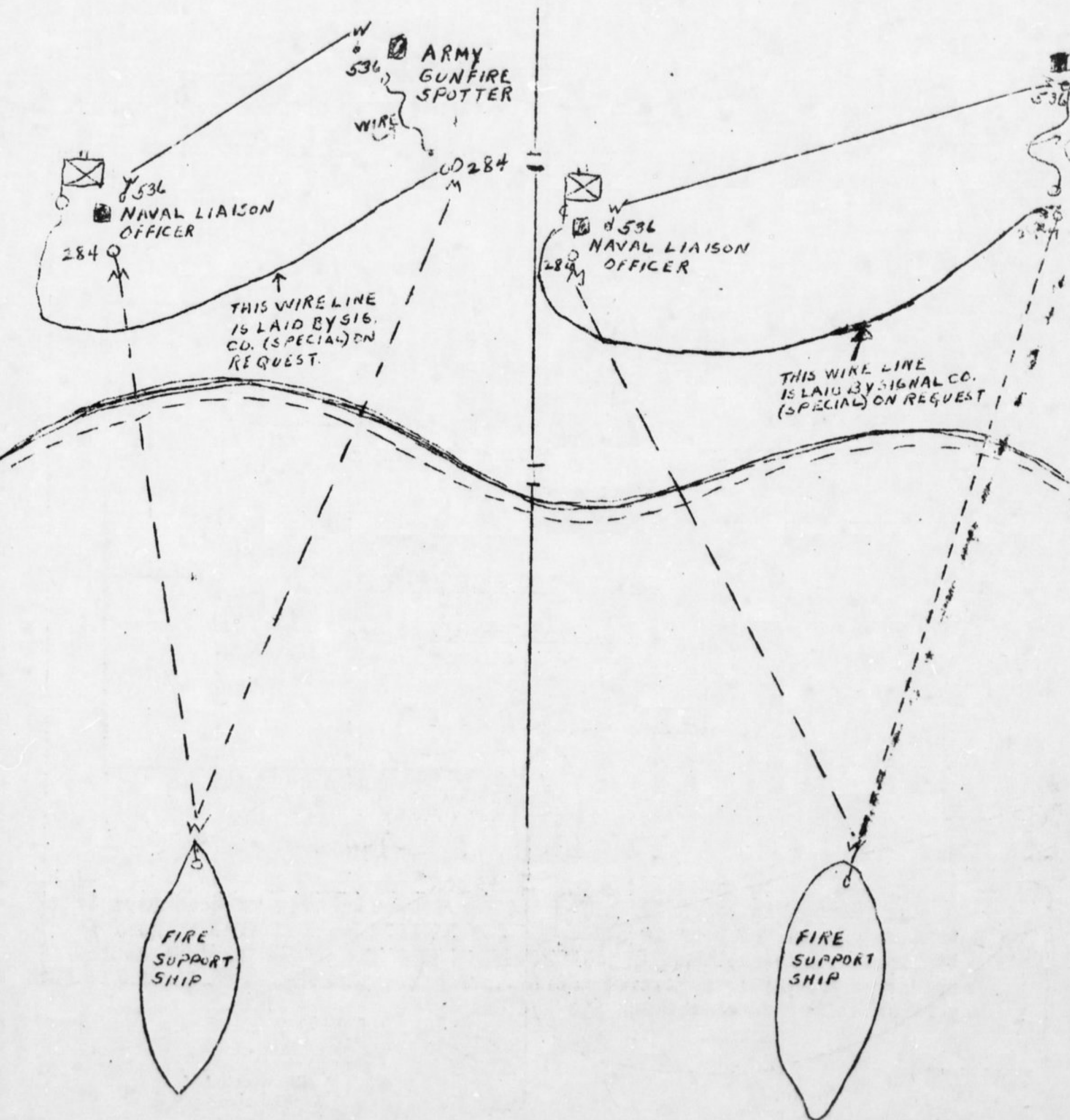
One Platoon is generally allocated for direct support of each Assault Battalion and one Platoon is allocated for general support of each Assault Battalion. Fires are usually pre-arranged and Radio Communications is for Emergency use. Radio Sets will not be used after Landing. SCR 300 Radio sets may be substituted for the SCR 536 Radios.

FIG. 6
PAGE 9

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SHORE FIRE CONTROL PARTY

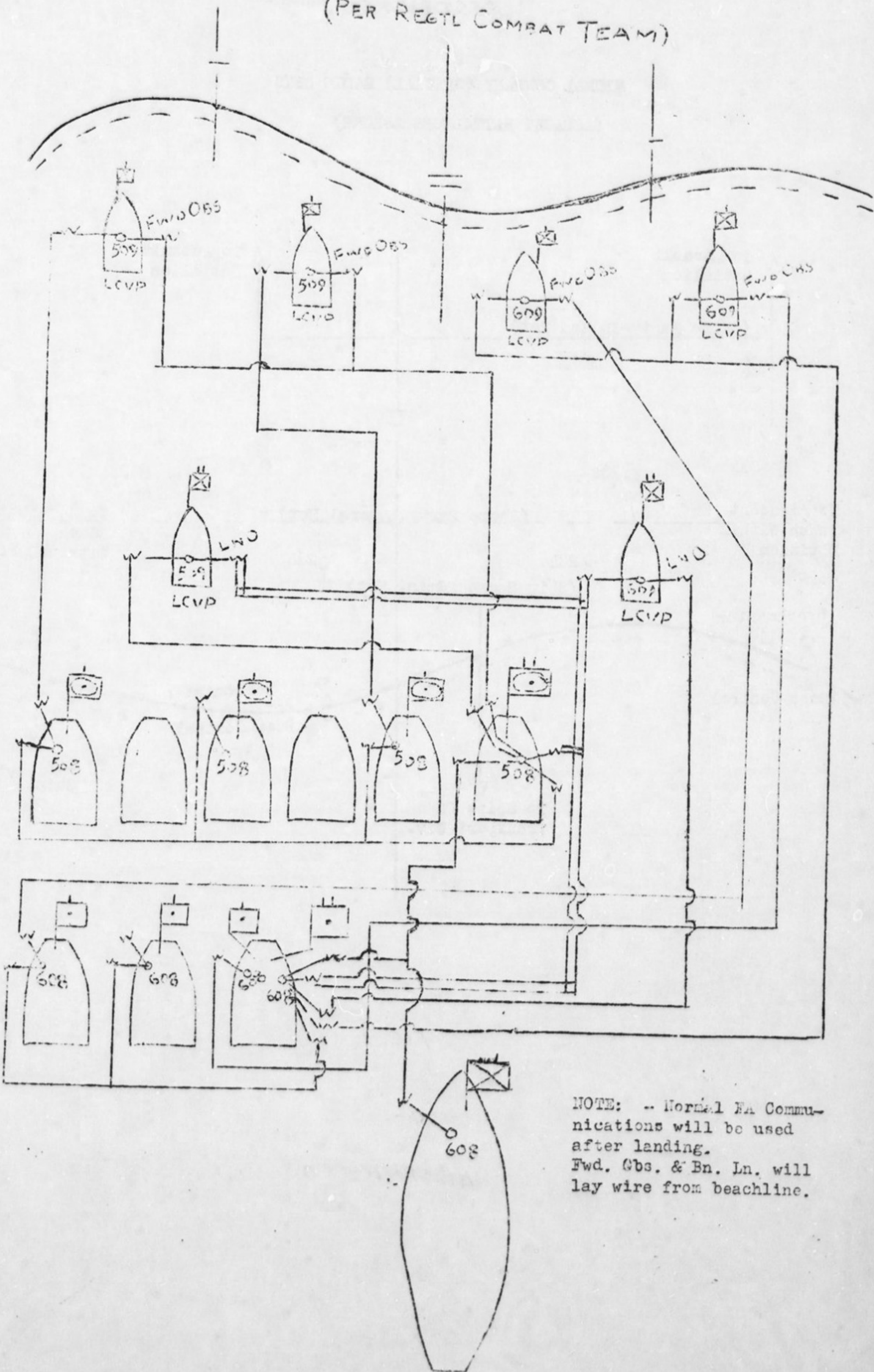
ONE PER BATTALION



NOTE: SCR 300 Radio Sets may be substituted for SCR 536 Radio Sets.

FIG. 7
10

SUPPORTING ARTILLERY NETS (PER REGTL COMBAT TEAM)



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SIGNAL COMPANY (SPECIAL) RADIO NETS
(ASSAULT BATTALIONS ASHORE)

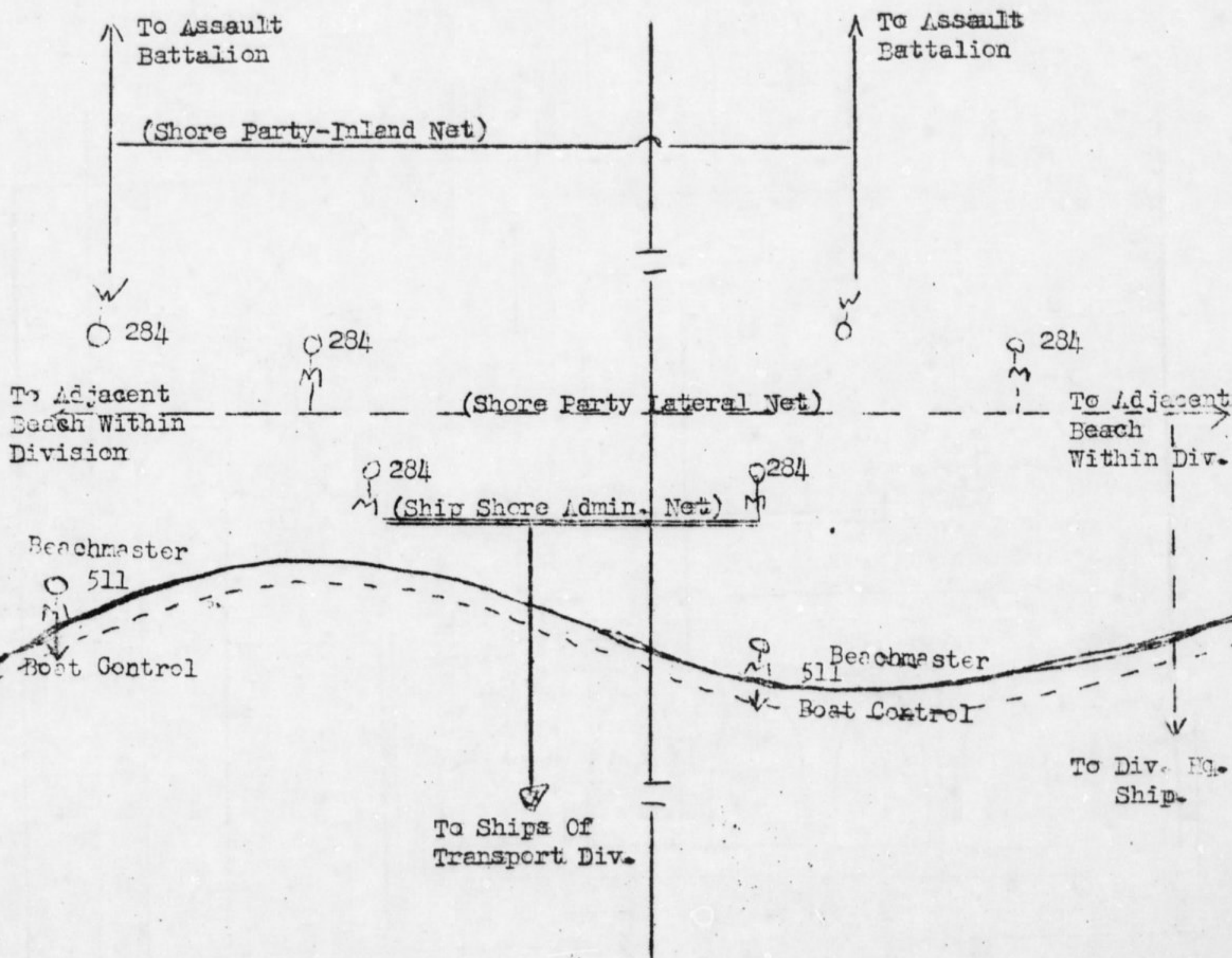


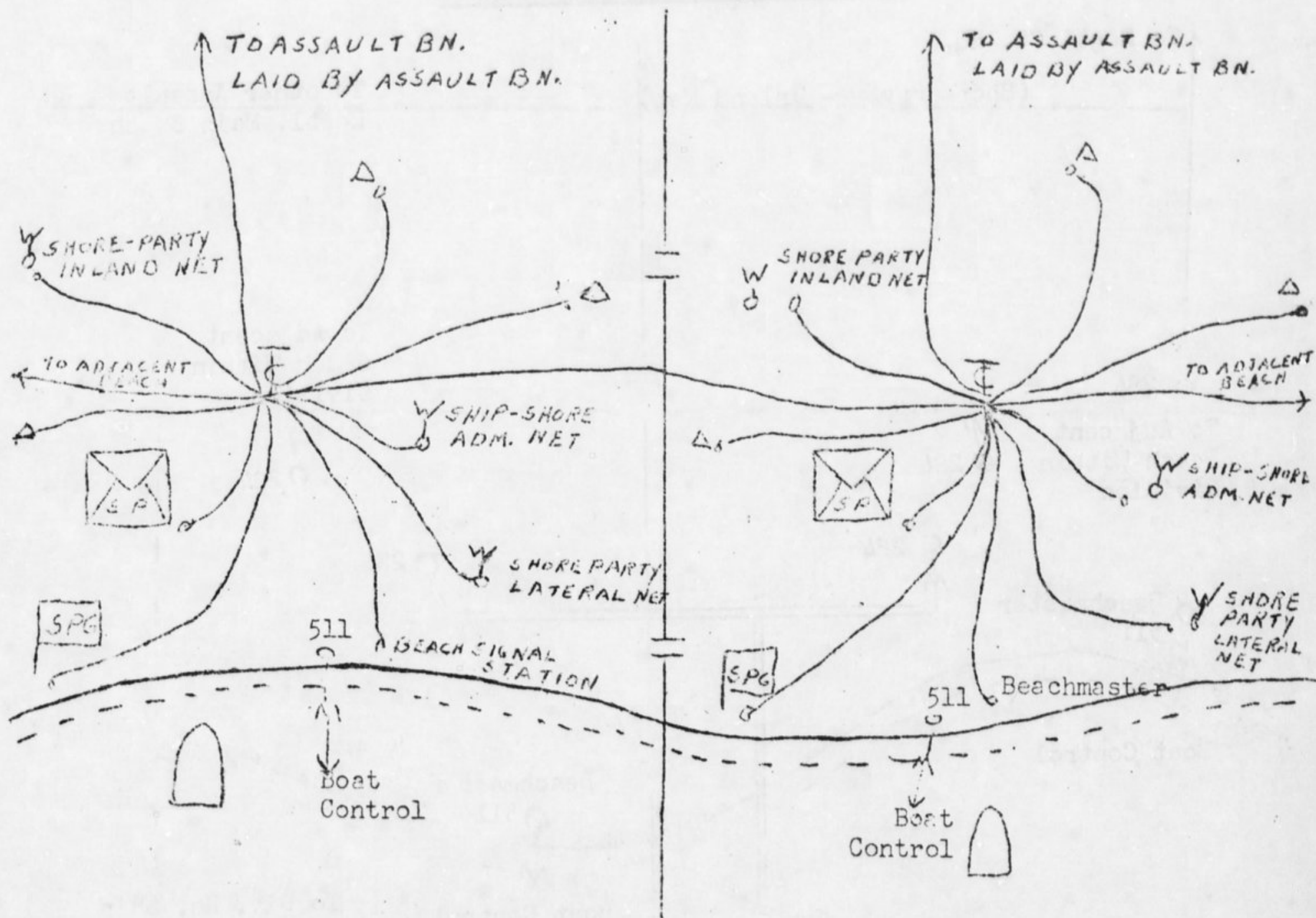
FIG. 9.

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SIGNAL COMPANY (SPECIAL) WIRE NETS

ASSAULT BATTALIONS ASHORE



△ - SECURITY OBSERVATION POSTS.

FIG. 10

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SIGNAL COMPANY (SPECIAL) RADIO NETS

REGTL. CT. HEADQUARTERS ASHORE

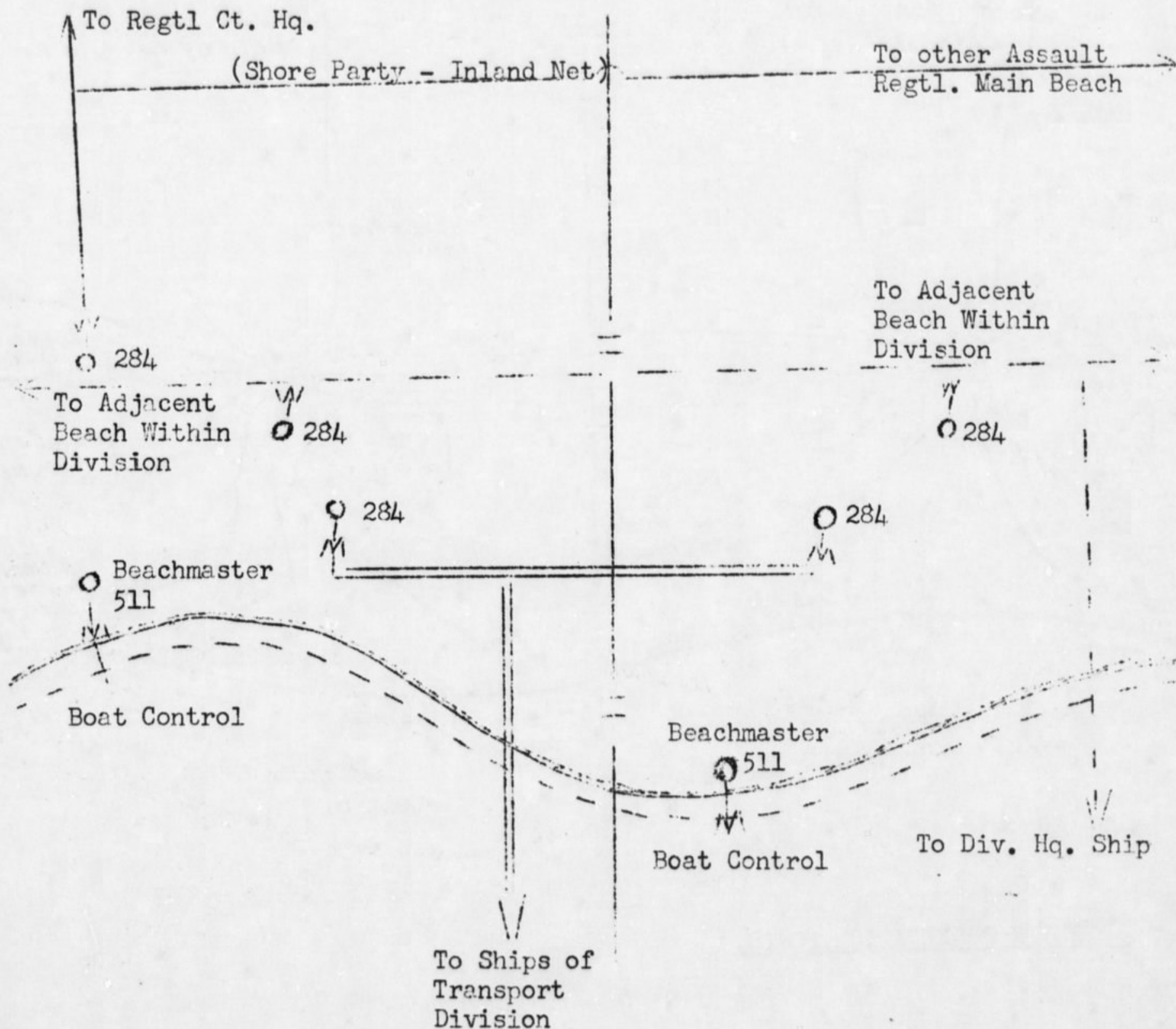


Fig. 11

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SIGNAL COMPANY (SPECIAL) WIRE NETS

REGTL. CT. HEADQUARTERS ASHORE

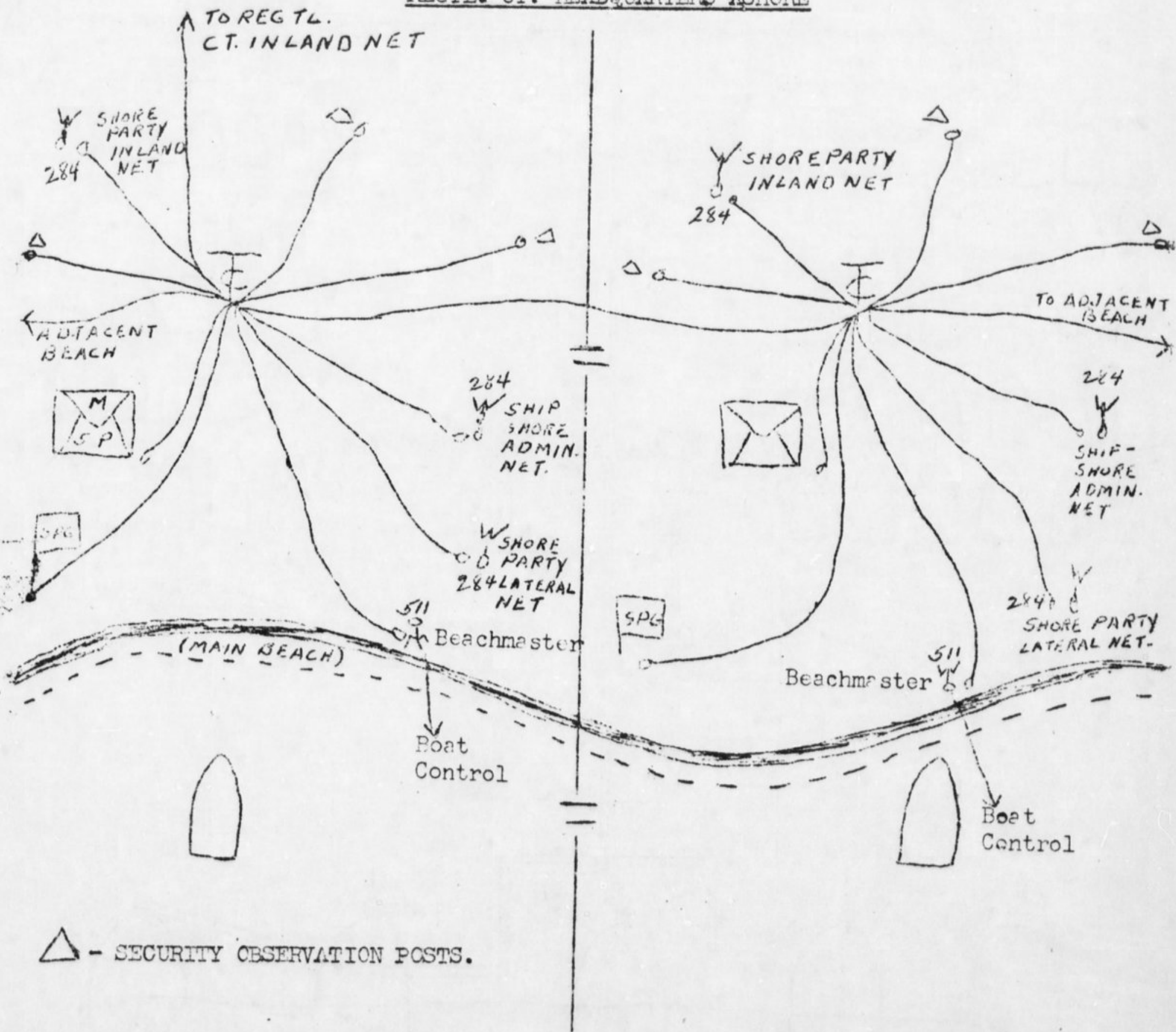


FIG. 12.
PAGE 15.

JOINT SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS
DURING THE APPROACH TO THE BEACHES

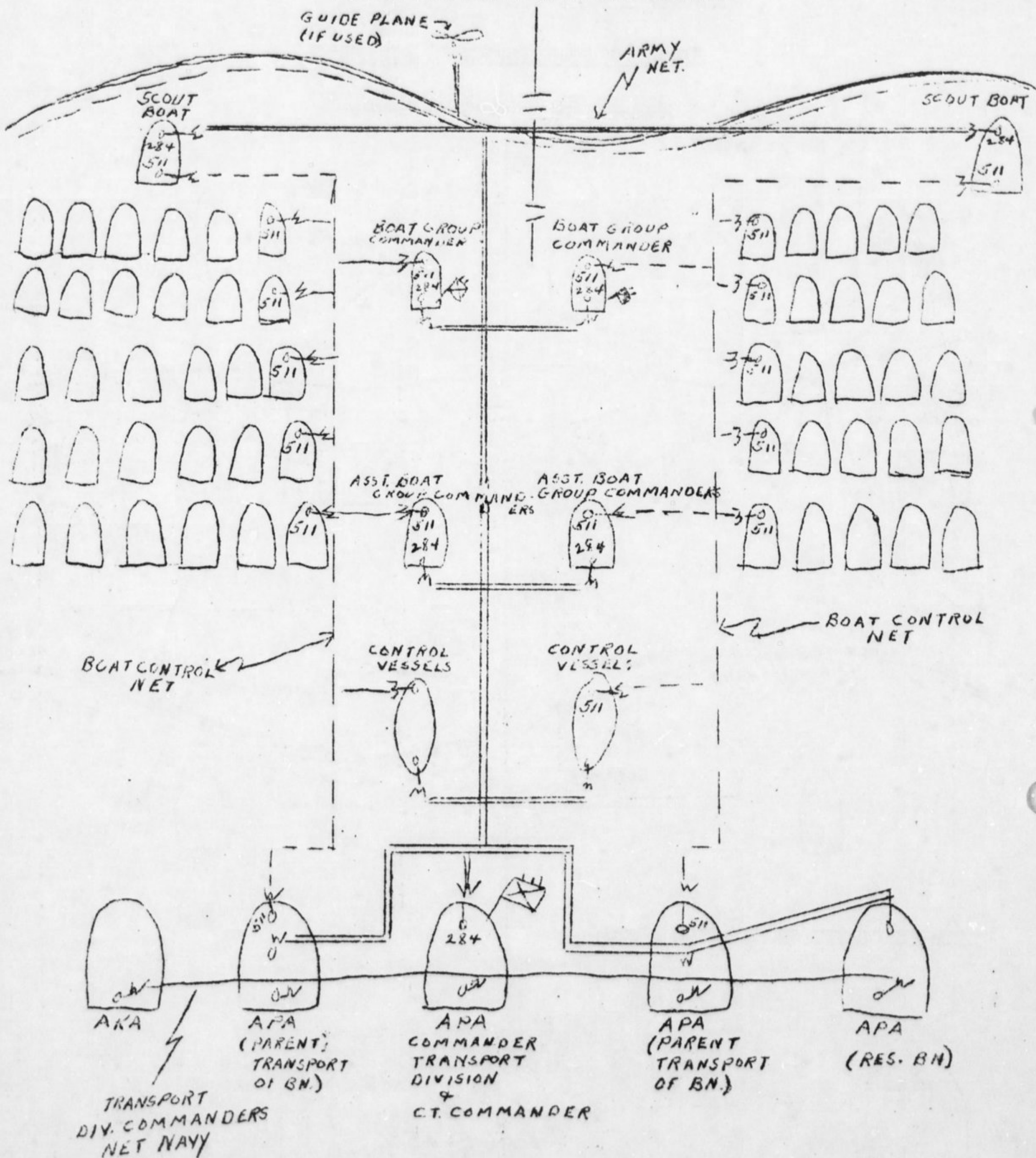
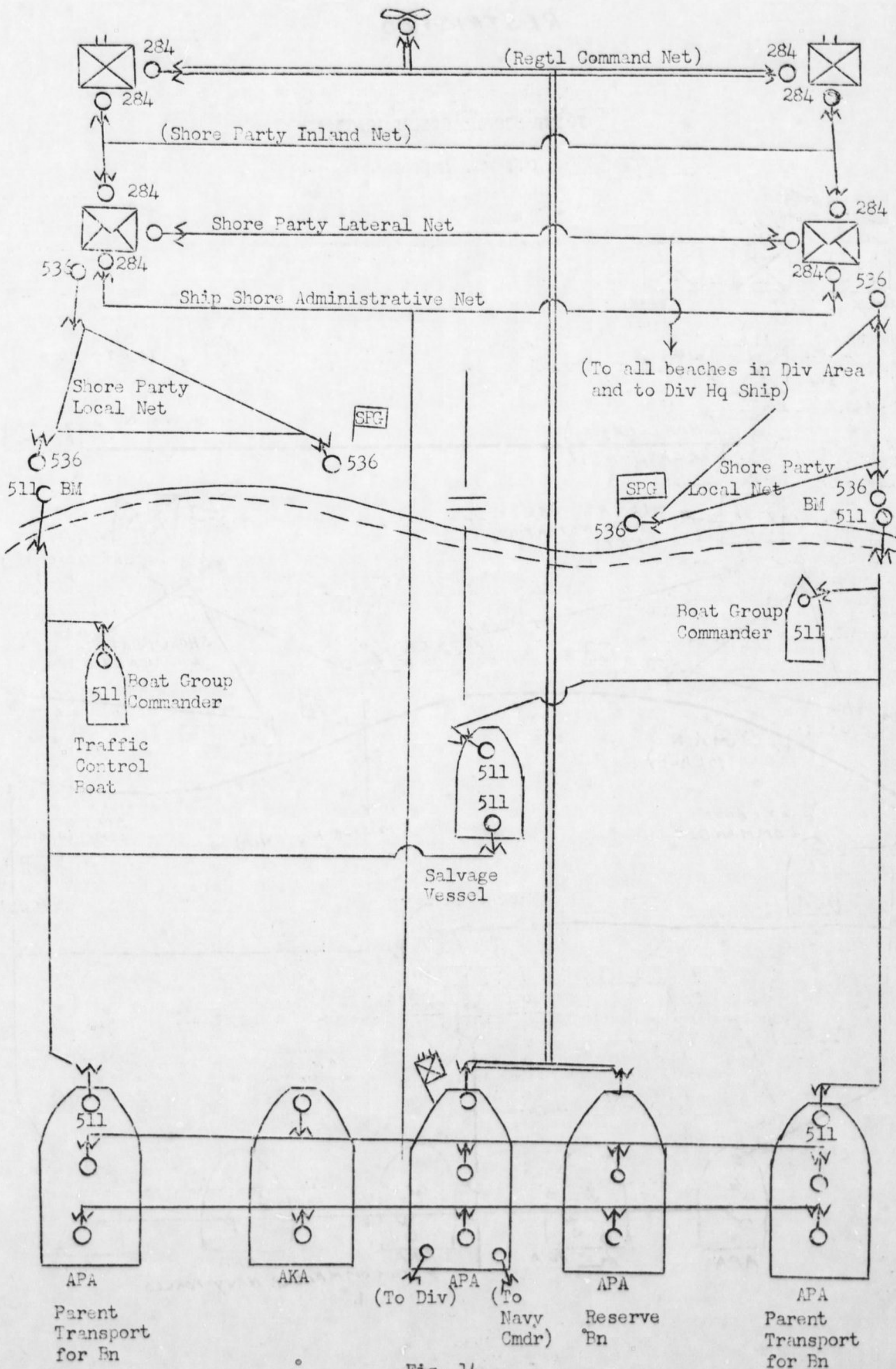


FIG. 13
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JOINT SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSAULT BATTALIONS LANDED



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JOINT SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS

CT. HQ. ASHORE

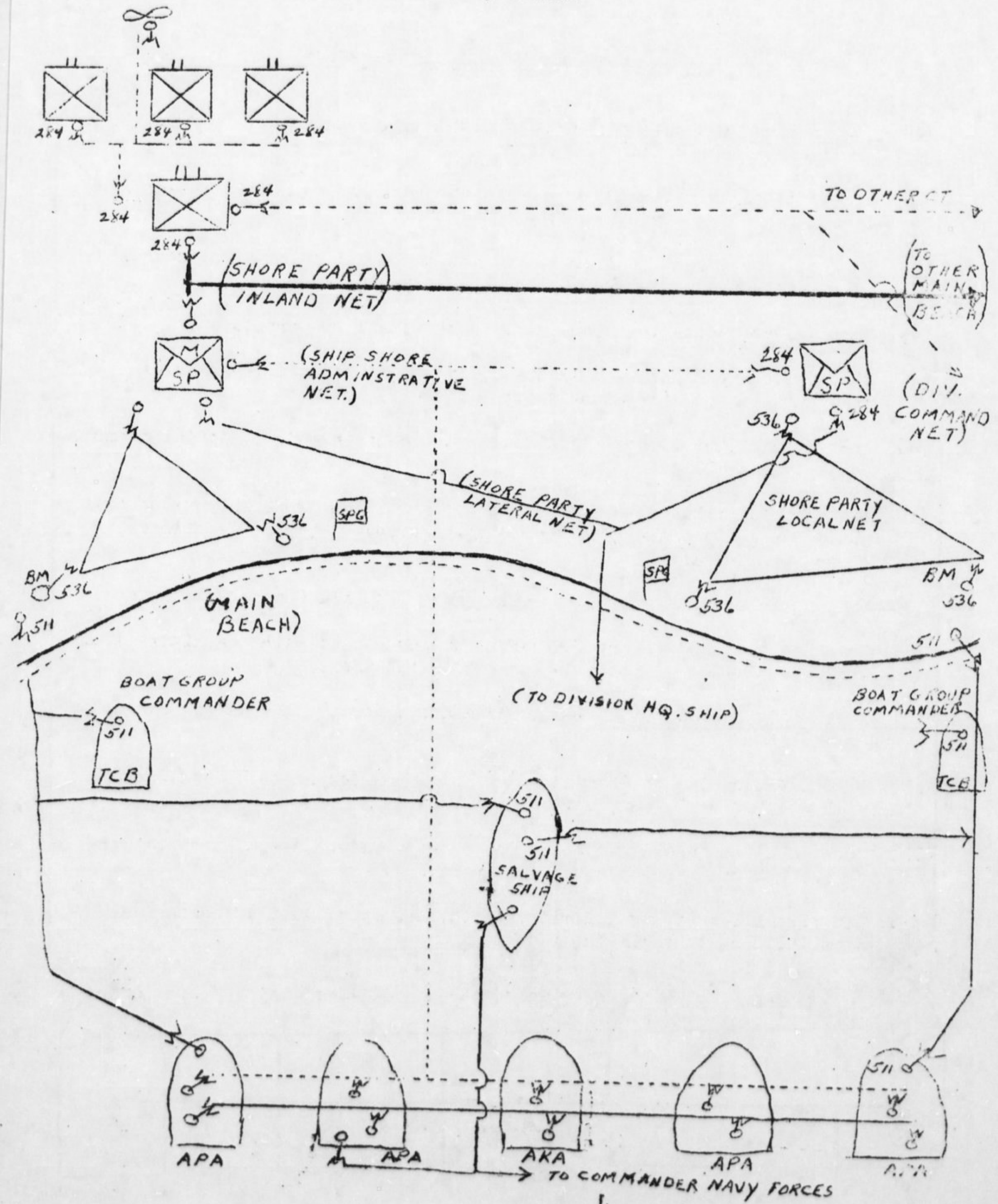


FIG. 15

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ASSAULT DIVISION

- (1) That several communications CPX's, using all communications facilities be engaged in prior to embarkation.
- (2) That all communications personnel understand the exact mission and functioning of their equipment.
- (3) That all radio equipment be tested and tuned by the using personnel immediately prior to embarkation, and locked on frequency.
- (4) That all communications equipment be thoroughly waterproofed.
- (5) That radio equipment used in the early stages of an assault be of the "push-button" (pre-tuned) type.
- (6) That Signal Operations Instructions must contain only essential items (not items of SOP).
- (7) That cryptographic material be held to a minimum preferably using only converter M-209 and a Prearranged message code. (Speed is primary; security secondary).
- (8) That administrative traffic be eliminated from all Command Channels.
- (9) That Commanding Officers be thoroughly acquainted with the limitations and capabilities of their communication equipment.
- (10) That radio procedure be standardized and indoctrined well in advance of operations.
- (11) That Infantry Cannon Companies and Anti-Tank Companies be equipped with SCR-500 or SCR-600 series (FM) radios.
- (12) That batteries and other spare parts be supplied in sealed containers in sufficient quantities for the operation.
- (13) That Shore Fire Control Parties be thoroughly trained in communications incident to their function.
- (14) That Liaison be set up between successive echelons in order to insure continuity of communications.

REFERENCES

1. Chapter VIII, FM 31-5
2. Changes to Chapter VIII, FM 31-5 suggested in "Conference on Landing Assaults".
3. Col. Cleaves' lecture: "Signal Communications for a Landing Assault", Volume #1 "Conference on Landing Assaults".
4. Signal Supply Instructions #46, "Waterproofing of Vehicular and Portable Radio Sets for Amphibious Operations".
5. FTP #211 "Ship to Shore Movements".
6. FTP #167 "Ship to Shore Movements".
7. Joint U. S. Amphibious Signal Book.
8. CCBP 01 "Combined Amphibious Communications Instructions".