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TOP SECRET

AUTH: CG, 96th Inf Div

INITIALS: s/AHL, G-2

Date: 5 March 1945.

Hq 728th Amph Trac Bn

IN THE FIELD, APO 235

10 March 1945.

Appendix 3 to Annex BAKER to FO 1 ABL.

STUDY OF THE 96TH DIVISION BEACHES

1. GENERAL.

WHITE and BROWN BEACHES, over which the 96th Division will operate, are composed of coral sand. The offshore fringing reef varies from three hundred fifty yards on the northern beaches to eight hundred yards on the southern beaches. Numerous coral heads appear through the reef. At low tide parts of the reef are above water. The tidal range at the time the landing is scheduled will be between five and six feet. Rocky points projecting into the sea separate many of the beaches and provide excellent positions for defilade fire along the shoreline.

Inland from the beaches the terrain is heavily cultivated, primarily in sugar cane. The SURABE-AMAJHI hill mass commands all the beaches and the terrain inland. In addition there are numerous small hills or pinnacles ranging from sixty to three hundred feet in height that give the enemy excellent positions from which to observe and fire on the beaches and on which to organize strong points to resist our advance.

Vehicular movement will be restricted by the many drainage ditches that in the main run perpendicular to the beaches. A narrow gauge railroad runs roughly parallel to the coast line. It passes through several cuts and over several fills which will impede the movement of vehicles inland from the beaches.

An obstacle to the movement of troops inland will be the numerous villages and settlements behind the beaches. Each group of two or three houses has a windbreak of trees around it. Most of the houses have a wall of stone or adobe around them. These will afford the enemy excellent cover and concealment. Stone burial vaults will also provide excellent cover for riflemen and gun positions.

2. BEACH WHITE 1.

a. REEF - the reef extends off of this beach for a distance of three hundred fifty yards. For a distance shoreward of one hundred twenty-five yards from the edge, the reef is rough. There are several passages in the coral heads that will afford access to the beach. At low tide the reef is partially dry.

b. BEACH - the beach is five hundred yards long, twelve to twenty yards wide. ~~CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO:~~  
in front of the beach, a fringe of trees runs across the top of the bluff.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
terminates the beach on the left flank. On the right flank a nose ten feet high extends into the beach from the beach line.

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c. **TERRAIN INLAND** - the area behind the beaches is completely cultivated. There are many drainage ditches and terraces. The railroad runs parallel to the beach approximately six hundred and fifty yards inland, and the coastal road at approximately nine hundred yards. Across the coastal road is a village, SAKUGAJA. On the left flank of the inland area, a gully with burial vaults on its southern bank runs inland to the railroad. On the right flank a string of hills from one hundred fifty to three hundred feet high extend inland. These hills completely dominate the inland areas of BEACH WHITE 1. The town of SUMBE also borders the right flank. An anti-tank ditch runs from a point three hundred yards east of the right end of the beach to a point eleven hundred yards to the east of the coast line.

d. **ROADS** - a road runs northeast from SUMBE diagonally across the area to the coastal road. Trails extend inland from both flanks.

### 3. BEACH WHITE 2.

a. **REEF** - the fringing reef off the beach is three hundred and fifty yards wide. It has coral projections. At low tide there are dry spots on the reef.

b. **BEACH** - the beach is one hundred and thirty yards long, and seven yards wide, and has a moderate slope.

The sea wall is ten feet high. The ground behind it is flush with the top. Seventy yards from the right end of the sea wall is a break or ramp eight to ten feet wide. There is an additional possible exit, around the right end of the wall.

Both ends of the beach are flanked by coral rocks projecting out into the sea.

c. **TERRAIN INLAND** - the village of SUMBE extends inland from the beach for a distance of three hundred yards. The string of hills previously mentioned in connection with BEACH WHITE 1 extend along the left flank of the inland area of this beach. A drainage ditch runs from the coastal road at a point opposite the middle of the beach to the right end of the beach. The railroad crosses this ditch on a fill one hundred yards long six hundred yards from the beach and enters a low cut that is two hundred yards long. The coastal road is nine hundred yards from the beach. Behind it, running south from the drainage ditch for four hundred yards, is an anti-tank ditch. Two hundred yards east of the coastal road and opposite the center of the beach is a one hundred foot hill that has approximately one hundred and seventy-five fox holes around its base. Further inland the ground is rolling and highly cultivated.

d. **ROADS** - two secondary roads run inland from SUMBE, one to the north-east and the other toward the southeast, crossing the road running inland from BEACH WHITE 3.

### 4. BEACH WHITE 3.

a. **REEF** - the fringing reef extends four hundred and twenty-five yards to seaward, appears to be rough, and apparently is partially dry at low tide.

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b. BEACH - the beach is two hundred and forty-five yards long, twelve to fourteen yards wide, and has a moderate slope.

The sea wall varies from four to five feet in height on the left two-thirds of the beach. On the right one-third, it rises to nine feet. Behind the sea wall the ground is flush with the top. There are several rows of trees immediately behind the sea wall.

On the left flank of the beach the coast makes a ninety degree turn to seaward for seventy yards before turning northward again. The right flank is a small point extending seaward thirty yards beyond the beach line.

c. TERRAIN INLAND - immediately inland is a small settlement. Houses are scattered throughout the area. Behind the beach the terrain gradually drops four to five feet and then gradually rises again to higher and drier ground. The terrain is completely cultivated. The area inland and the beaches are dominated by the string of hills running to the east from SUNBE and by the SUNBE-MAHI hill mass. Behind the right flank of the beach are three small pinnacles, three hundred, four hundred and six hundred yards inland. Extending inland from the left flank of the beach is a large drainage ditch.

d. ROADS - an eight foot road runs from the beach through the middle of the sea wall inland intersecting the coast road at FUENZAN.

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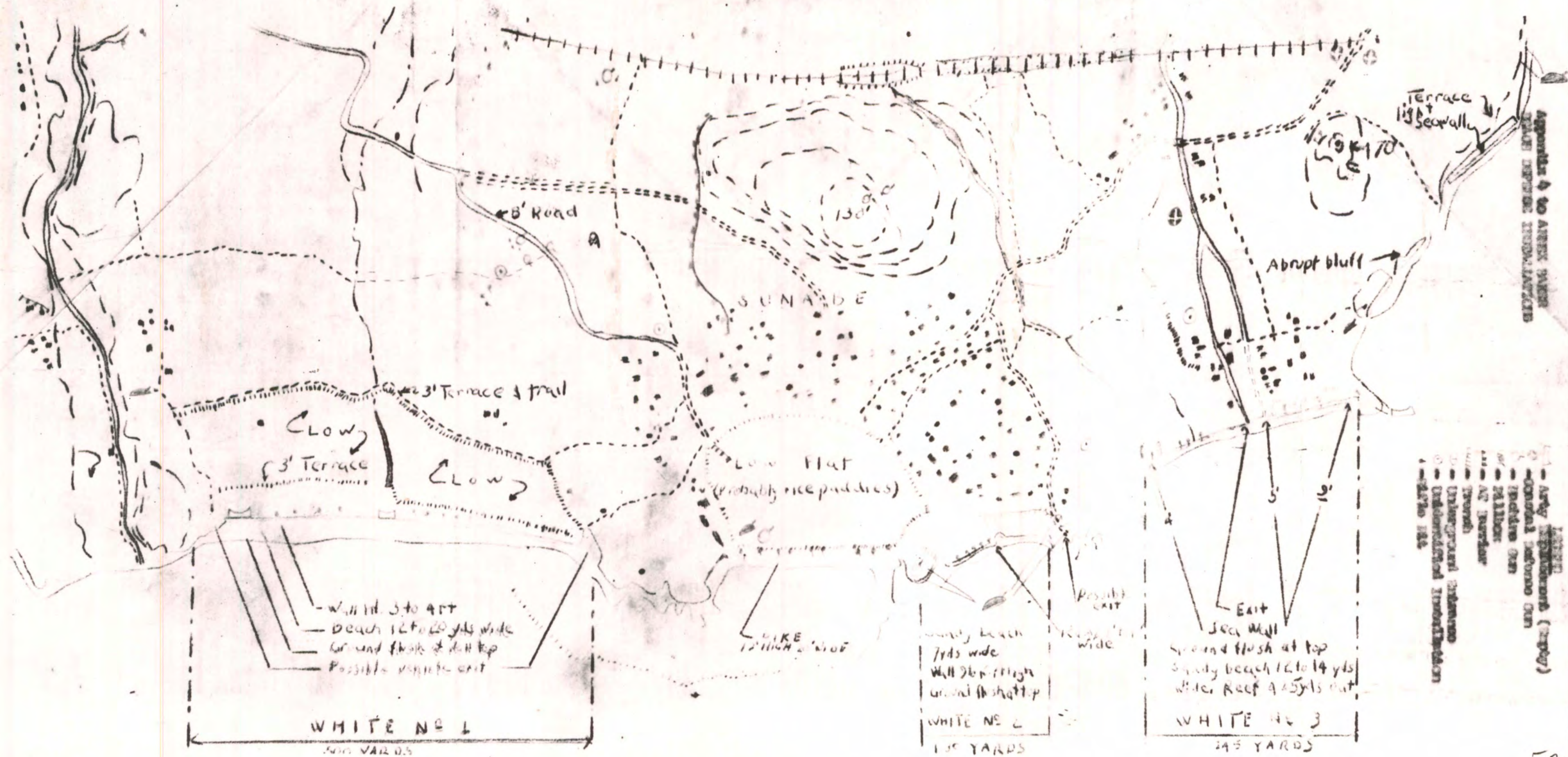
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PURPLE 1  
475 YDS L  
7-15 YDS W

PURPLE 2  
475 YDS L  
7-15 YDS W

ORANGE 1  
330 YDS L  
13-15 YDS W

ORANGE 2  
440 YDS L  
12-14 YDS W

WHITE 1  
500 YDS L  
12-20 YDS W

WHITE 2 170 YDS L 6-8 YDS W

WHITE 3  
270 YDS L 12-14 YDS W

BROWN 1 150 YDS L 10-15 YDS W

BROWN 2 130 YDS L 8-10 YDS W

BROWN 3 350 YDS L 20-30 YDS W

BROWN 4 440 YDS L 3-5 YDS W

XXIV CORPS  
HAGUSHI BEACHES  
PREPARED BY G-2 SECTION  
FROM PHOTOS 3 JAN 45  
RF 1:7500

OFFICIAL

NIST  
G-2

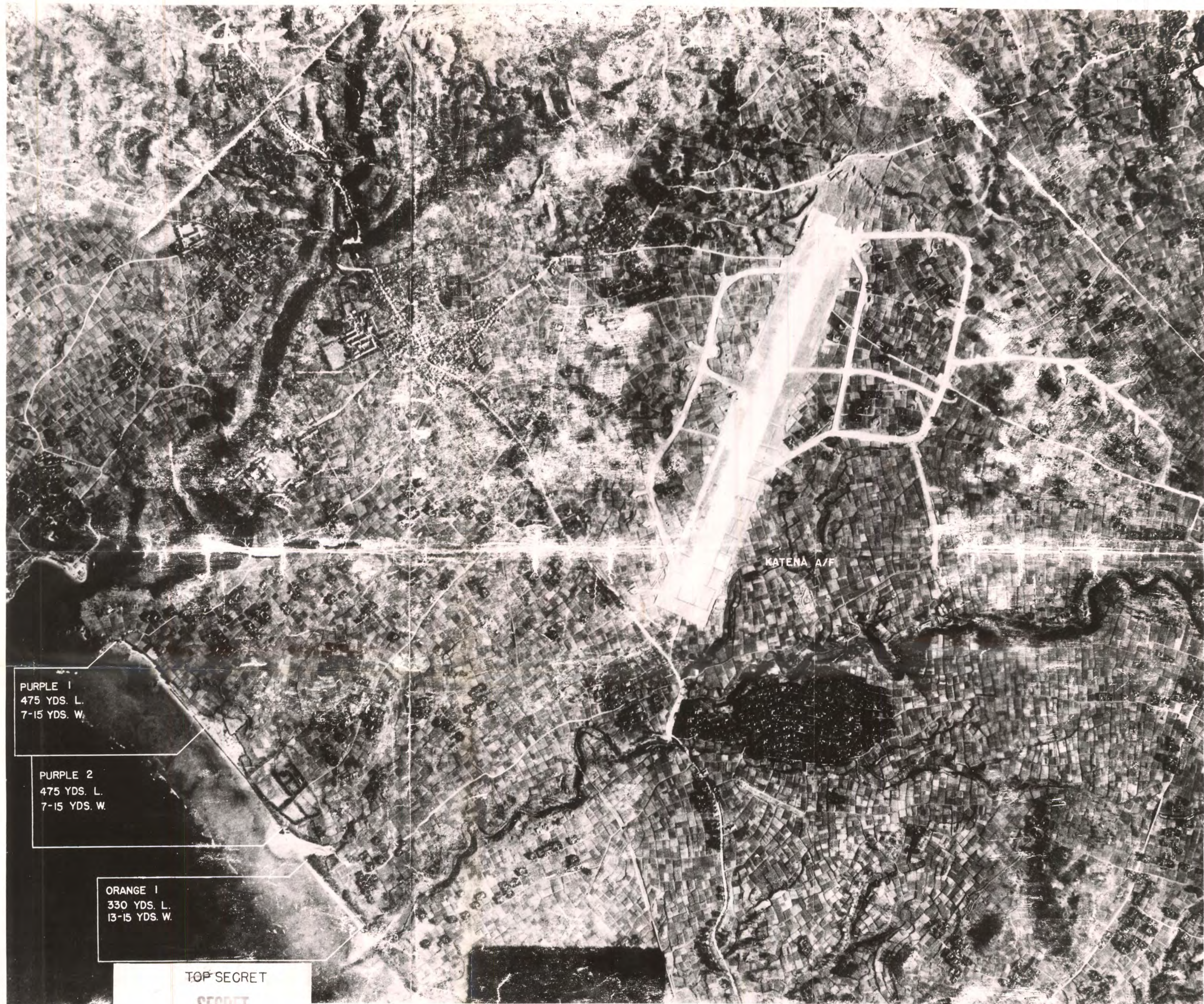
HODGE  
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TOP SECRET

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PURPLE 1  
475 YDS. L.  
7-15 YDS. W.

PURPLE 2  
475 YDS. L.  
7-15 YDS. W.

ORANGE 1  
330 YDS. L.  
13-15 YDS. W.

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