

EXERCISE LANGSTOP.

The following provisional programme is forwarded for the information of all concerned in Exercise Langstop.

TRANSPORT SUPPORT DEMONSTRATION "LANGSTOP"  
TUESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER

(PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME)

*fly in with fuel tank from Liburdon*

PROGRAMME

LANGSTOP I - at Netheravon

*Netheravon 4/1 (Station duty officer)  
Upavon (Ops) 7*

A Battalion Group of 2nd Parachute Brigade dropped the previous evening has seized the airfield, but is hard pressed and has asked for re-inforcements.

- XX 10.30 hours 50 Dakotas of No. 46 Group drop a second Battalion Group. Troops rendezvous and move off.
- XX 10.40 hours 10 Halifaxes of No. 38 Group drop guns, jeeps, and gun teams. These are uncrated, rendezvous and move off.
- 11.09*  
XX 10.55 hours Landing of 12 Horsaes and 9 Hamilcars (towed respectively by Dakotas and Halifaxes). Unloading of gliders: the main load will be airfield construction equipment. Gliders towed to dispersal. Demonstration of methods of preparing an airfield surface.
- Lands 11.09*  
XX 11.25 hours Evacuation of important prisoners by glider snatch. X
- XX 11.30 hours Helicopters land carrying staff officers and orders.
- XX 11.35 hours Six Dakotas land heavy equipment of the attacked battalion.
- XX 11.40 hours Dakotas which took part in a previous drop begin to land a third Battalion Group.
- 12.00 hours Spectators start to leave for Brize Norton by road.
- 12.30 hours Senior Officer inspect Dakotas park and paraded crews.
- 13.00 hours Lunch. All Service spectators except those to whom lunch invitations have been issued are asked to bring their own food.



LANGSTOP II at Brize Norton.

- 14.40 - Arrival of V.I.P.'s by air and dispersal of their aircraft.
- 14.55 hours
- 15.00 hours ZERO HOUR. Short introductory broadcast commences and first York arrives. Commentary ceases as first 6 Yorks taxi into position.
- 15.10 hours -
- 15.25 hours (a) The 6 Yorks are unloaded and a running commentary on the process and on the loads is given.
- (b) York No. 7 arrives in position, simulating engine failure and tyre trouble. Dakota aircraft carrying power plant and spare wheel taxis into position and unloading and repair work commences.

15.25 -  
15.30 hours First 6 Yorks clear unloading area and Yorks Nos. 8 - 12 position.  
Break in broadcast.

15.30 -  
15.40 hours Yorks Nos. 8 - 12 are unloaded and commentary continues.

15.40 hours Yorks Nos. 8 - 12 clear area and Nos. 13 - 16 taxi into position.  
15.45 hours Break in broadcast.

15.45 -  
15.55 hours Yorks Nos. 13 - 16 are unloaded and commentary continues.

15.55 -  
16.00 hours Yorks Nos. 13 - 16 clear and Nos. 17 - 20 position. These 4  
aircraft remain in position for inspection by the spectators.  
No. 20 is fitted for casualty evacuation. The other 3 show  
heavy equipment lashed in position.

16.00 -  
16.30 hours. Broadcast ends with invitation to spectators to inspect loaded  
aircraft, staging post and unloaded equipment. Inspect new type  
aircraft on display.

16.30 hours Tea provided.

for Air Marshal  
Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief,  
TRANSPORT COMMAND, R.A.F.

NEWS CHRONICLE, Friday, September 8, 1947

# PARATROOPS WILL TRY OUT SECRET IDEAS

## 'Arnhem men in air-land test

NEWS CHRONICLE REPORTER

**S**ECOND of a series of combined operations which will eventually bring the Navy, Army and R.A.F. into the closest working partnership, using the latest developments in equipment, tactics and technique, will take place in southern England on September 22 and 23. It will be known as Operation Longstop.

The Navy and the R.A.F. have already carried out combined exercises. Now it is the turn of the R.A.F. and the Army. Large-scale manoeuvres involving all three Services

will be planned in detail when the results of this exercise have been examined by experts.

If the weather is suitable the exercise will open on the evening of September 22, when aircraft will drop about 700 men, with guns, jeeps and supplies, to capture the airfield at Netheravon, Wilts.

Next morning a parachute battalion with guns, supplies and equipment will land, supported by glider-borne reinforcements.

Sixty-two Dakota troop transports, 20 Halifaxes and 20 Yorks will carry the men and their fighting equipment.

### Still secret

It is hoped to drop the men from much lower altitudes than before—probably under 500ft.

The time during which they are exposed to enemy fire while in the air is being scaled down to a minimum.

Many of these new devices and methods of paratroop assault are still on the secret list.

Among the first paratroops to land will be many members of the famous "Red Devils" brigade, heroes of Arnhem and the Rhine.

The second phase at Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, on the afternoon of September 23, will include the landing, in York aircraft, of R.A.F. staffs to prepare the airfield for the reception of supplies and equipment arriving by air.

*Attach*