

Consolidated report on interrogation of PW KP 814050, Czech civilian Robert PROKOP and on PW LD 157 Spanish Civilian Salvador RERPINA on defences of ALDERNEY

CONFIDENTIAL (P) S E C R E T  
I.P.T.  
P.I.D., F.O.  
F.O.  
SI A.Gp.  
Airborne Tps.  
S.A.S. Tps.  
A.A. Command.  
C.C.O.  
I.S. 2 D.  
M.I. 15.  
M.I.R.S.  
M.O.1(S.P.)  
M.O.2.  
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SMR  
PPD  
KP  
LF

G-2, S.H.A.E.F.  
P.W.D. S.H.A.E.F.  
E.D.S. S.H.A.E.F.  
E.O.U. S.H.A.E.F.  
G-5, S.H.A.E.F.  
C.A.S.  
C.C.M.S.  
G-2, ETOUSA.  
M.I.S. Washington  
B.A.S. Washington  
O-2, AFHQ.  
G.S.(I), GHQ, ME.

PREAMBLE:a) Czech civilian Robert PROKOP.

Born 26 Mar 23. By profession a waiter in PRAG. Arrested by the Gestapo on 24 Nov 39 and imprisoned at ORANIENBURG till 20 Sep 42. He then worked on air-raid damage clearance in DUESSELDORF till 28 Feb 43. On 3 Mar 43 he was sent to ALDERNEY with 948 other prisoners. He left ALDERNEY in Jun 44 and surrendered to the Allies in Belgium on 15 Sep 44. See also report No.: PWIS(H)/LDC/477.

b) Spanish civilian Salvador RERPINA.

Born 1907 at MADRID, a painter by profession, who fought in the Civil war. In 1939 he took refuge in France. There he was conscripted into 169 eme Compagnie de Travailleurs Etrangers. In 1941 he worked in the harbour of BORDEAUX. He escaped and lived in MARSEILLE. Later, he was rounded up by the police and sent by the Germans to ALDERNEY in Mar 42. In Dec 42 he went to hospital at ST MALO. He was finally picked up by U.S.A. troops.

## ALDERNEY

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Information dated Mar 42 - Jun 44.I. DEFENCES OF ALDERNEY:

Map G.S., G.S. 2558 ALDERNEY, 6":1 mile. See appendix "A".

1. FORT LES HOMMEAUX (NE point of island).  
1x10.5 cm (?) gun in concrete bunker 280 m cube.
2. Fort CHATEAU A L'ETOQUE: 2x10.5 cm (?) guns, each in concrete bunker 350 m cube.
3. ROSELLE Battery: 4 concrete bunkers of 350 cubic metres and one of 160 cubic metres, each containing one gun (10.5 cm ?). Straight above, on top of the cliff, are four 17.5 cm French guns.
4. On tip of harbour mole, one gun in position (calibre unknown).
5. Fort GROSNEZ: 1 gun in bunker 280 m cube.  
1 gun in bunker 1400 m cube.  
1 gun in bunker 350 m cube.
6. Fort DOYLE: 1 gun (10.5? cm) in bunker 350 m cube.
7. One gun at coastal rd at M.R. 714344  
One gun on coastal rd at M.R. 713341

Office air  
Gardes 8

56

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8. Fort CLONQUE: 2x10.5 cm (?) guns, each in a bunker of 350 cubic metres.
  9. 4x15 cm (?) guns in open emplacements with 6 personnel bunkers at 707332. Guns have 360° traverse.
  10. LONGY BAY: 1 gun in 350 cubic metres bunker at 749343.
  11. Batterie BLUECHER: 4x15 cm (?) guns in open emplacement at 735337.
- All the above gun posns are defended by three or four 2 cm AA/Atk guns.
12. Hill 289 at 709335: Gun emplacement being built in 1942. Type of guns and calibre unknown.
  13. Alongside rd at 742345: 1 A/Tk gun in position in 1942.
  14. Dummy Emplacements: 2 at 718326, 3 at 736332, immediately N of L'ETC DE LA QUOIRE.

A.A. Defences:

1. MANNEZ Quarry Hill 145: A large three-storeyed concrete bunker stands here, with 3x10.5 (?) cm guns on each floor and 8x8.8 cm AA guns around it.
2. Fort ESSEX: 8x8.8 cm AA guns.
3. Fort Platte SALINE: 8x8.8 cm AA guns.
4. Airfield at 717334: 8x8.8 cm guns on eastern edge of airfield.

II. TANKS:

The Germans had about 15 old French light tanks, which appeared to be armed with one gun of about 40 mm. These were distributed as follows:

- 4 or 5 at Rose Farm, W of ST ANNES
- 4 or 5 at garage at 722335
- 4 or 5 in sheds about 300 m E of cemetery, just S of road.

III. HQ OF ISLAND COMMANDANT:

At house in ST ANNES at 725332. The Island commandant, a Major, took up his private residence in Mar 44 with the Kapitaen z See cmdng Naval Arty personnel at a house at 738339, 150 m E of cemetery.

IV. BAKERY AND SLAUGHTER-HOUSE:

The bakery is situated in a small street in ST ANNES between the words "Maris" and "Hall". This was the original bakery, but it was enlarged by the Germans.

The slaughter-house is in a building in ST ANNES immediately N of word "Arsenal".

V. SEA WALLS:

1. LONGY BAY: A concrete wall, 120 cm thick and of the usual shape, with the concave side towards the sea, stretches from the gun emplacement at 749343 eastwards along the coast for about 600 m. From the end of the wall a line of tetroids stretches across the promontory as far as the track.
2. SALINE BAY: A sea-wall, 3 m high, was built in 1942 along the whole of this bay.
3. A similar wall was built in CORBLETS BAY in front of CORBLET'S POINT FORT.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS LOCATIONS:

1. Signals HQ: At carlesu hill 253 at 733337
2. O.P.: 200 m E of old telegraph tower at 716327
3. Ration, petrol and ammo dump in ST ANNES: An extensive system of tunnels has been dug into a hill at 72853405 on the northern outskirts of ST ANNES. See sketch, appendix "B", drawn by informant. There are four entrances and the tunnels are wide enough to admit lorries.

VII. MINES:

The island is extensively mined and practically all the open space, with the exception of a little cultivated ground nr Rose Farm and in the eastern part of the island nr LONGY Common, must be considered dangerous. PROKOP stated that he had frequently seen German Police dogs blown up, as the result of straying off the roads. In particular the following areas are heavily mined:

1. Between Fort ALBERT and BERRY'S Quarry.
2. The coast E of the harbour, between BRAYE and MOUNT HALE Battery.
3. The airfield, S of Rose Farm. This was not used as such by the Germans, but as a working camp. Unused parts were heavily mined with French 270 mm shells, dug into the ground on a slant and connected by wires to some place from which they could be exploded electrically. As a further anti-landing measure, poles were planted all over the airfield.

VIII. GENERAL SITUATION ON THE ISLAND IN JUN 44:

Two days before the capture of CHERBOURG a ship came from there to ALDERNEY and took the remaining 527 political prisoners off, via GUEINSEY and JERSEY to ST MALO, whence they were taken by train to Germany. PW PROKOP, however, escaped in Belgium.

The garrison which remained on the island consisted of 3000 Wehrmacht men and in addition to these, there were 60 local inhabitants, who were all living together in a large building nr the church, being fed by the Germans.

All the OT workers were removed between Feb and Jun 44.

Early in Jun the Island Commandant remarked to the Commandant of the political prisoner's camp that they had food for 6 mths and that they would hold out to the end. In addition to the rations stored in the dump there were about 300 head of cattle and 1000 sheep on the island.

London District Cage,  
7 Nov 44

*H K Kettler, Capt.*  
H. K. Kettler, Capt.  
P.W.I.S. (H)

Distribution:

M.I. 19	40
PW & R Sec, S.M.E.F	5
M.I.R.S.	1
G.S.I., Home Forces	1
H.Q., L.D.	1
K.P.	1
L.F.	1
File	2

M.I.19. (R.P.S.)  
c/o Room 327,  
Hotel Victoria, W.C.2.

**SECRET**

M.I.19. (R.P.S.)/Mis/1878.  
14th December, 1944.

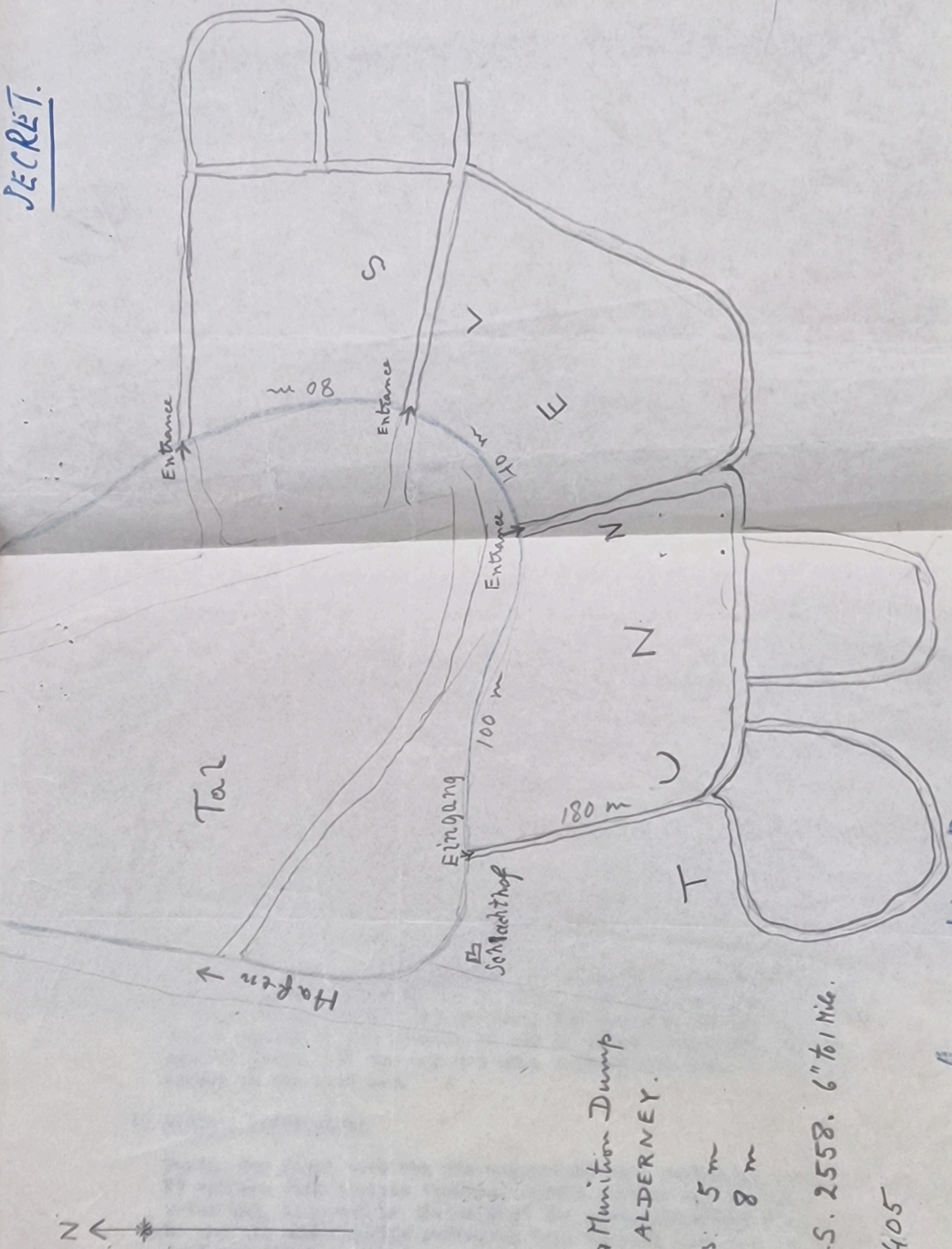
M.I.19.

Attached are sketches accompanying  
your report PWIS(H) LDC/479 returned to us  
by Southern Command.

R.C. 1944 REGISTERED	
DATE	INITIALS
16/12/44	KA

*Major, G.S.*

SECRET.



Ration, Patrol & Munition Dump  
in ST. ANNES, ALDERNEY.

Height of tunnels: 5 m  
width " " 8 m


Map. Ref: Q.S.G.S. 2558. 6" to 1 mile.  
72853405

Not to scale.

Apparatus B  
PHI (H) / L DEC/479

SECRET

Appendix A.  
PNIS(H)/LDC/479



MAP OF THE ISLAND  
OF  
ALDERNEY

Scale  $\frac{1}{6000}$  or Six Inches To One Mile.