

4/16/27/2

JANUARY TO

MAY 1944

ORIGINAL

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

24 HEAVY ANTI AIRCRAFT
BATTERY

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

ORIGINAL
25 FEB. 1944

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hvy A.A. Bty. R.A.A. Date and Time.—From 1 Jan 44 To 31 Jan 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Pt. Moresby	1 Jan 44		Normal Duties and Manning	
	6 Jan 44		Air Co-op with S/Lts.	
	9 Jan 44		4 X 4 truck Jeep. Army No 130184 stolen	
	10 Jan 44		Loss of Jeep reported to D.A.P.M. H.G. Force.	
			Loss reported to A.A. Group. Vehicle found later in day by Provost Personnel. Vehicle had been on fire	
	26 Jan 44		H.Q. & all sites inspected by Lt-Col. R.M. Kent.	
	29 Jan 44	2030	Red Warning	
		2115	Green and White Warning	
			During month 1 Offr and 10 O.Rs M/O on leave to Aust	
			Still a considerable number overdue.	
			Strength as at end of Jan II Offrs. 249 O.Rs. (18 Attached).	

MAR 17 1944

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)Unit 24. Aust. Hy. A.A. Bty., R.A.A. Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 44 To 29 Feb 44.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	2 Feb 44		Application made through O.C. G.O.R. for A/C Co-op for testing instrument specialists.	
	5 Feb 44	I333	Yellow warning	
	"	I345	Green and white warning. No information.	
	7. "		Lt-Col Norton (Admin Comd M.B.S.A.) inspected H 6 & G 6 G.L. operators at G 7 tested by F.C.I.	
	II "	I055	Red warning	
	"	II06	White warning. No information.	
	I2 "		Requests for CO-OP A/C unsuccessful.	
			Two (2) sets each No 5 Drums, Cams for use with 208 received. To be installed at H 6 and H 7	
	I4 "		Commenced installation of No 5 Cams and Drums.	
		I646	Air Raid Yellow	
		I657	Air Raid Green and White	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hy A.A. Battery Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 44 To 29 Feb 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	18 Feb 44	I004	Air Raid Yellow	
		I0I4	Air Raid Green and White	
		II00	Generator for providing power for the predictor at H IO installed.	
	19 Feb 44	I030	Lt-Col Shrimpton, A.p. accompanied by Major C.F.Wright inspected gunsites at H6 and H IO	
	21 Feb 44	I000	Major L.B.Reid marched out to attend L.H.Q. School of Arty. Capt. E.R.Sowter administering command in the absence of the O.C.	
		II30	Visit of Inspection to H 6 gunsite by Comd M.B.S.A. Brig. Tovell accompanied by Lt-Col A.P.Shrimpton and party.	
	22 Feb 44	I000	Major Bothan & Capt Williams of A.A. and Frt W/Shops visited H 7 with plans for building model magazines.	

L.

By Authority: L. F. JONESTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hy A.A. Bty

Date and Time.—From 1 Feb 44

To 29 Feb 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	22 Feb 44	I540	Predietor fitted with Fuze 208 cams and drums re-	
			turned from W/Shops to H 6; this site is now	
			operating with Fuze 208.	
	23 Feb 44	II45	Lt-Col A.P. Shrimpton visited H 7 and inspected	
			the site	
	24 Feb 44	II45	Revetments of Gun Pits commenced by Rty Const	
			Corps unit at H 10.	
	26 Feb 44	I200	Prediator H 7 fitted with cams and drums for use with	
			Fuze 208	
	29 Feb 44	0900	Orders received from Moresby Aust A.A. Group to stop	
			Work on the revetments at H 10	
			Strength as at the end of Feb 44.	
			II Offrs 274 Other Ranks 6 attached.	

L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

OK
Walter
Cap
27
OC 24 Aust. Hy. A.A. Bty.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

ORIGINAL

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

11 APR 1944

Unit 24 Aust Hy A.A.Bty, R.A.A. Date and Time.—From 1 Mar 1944 To 31 Mar 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Pt. Moresby	1 Mar 44	0900	Received information re Resiting of A.A.Layout Port Moresby. 471 Troop ready to be transferred — 23 Aust Hy A.A. Bty notified.	
		1000	MFs on H 7 adjusted for fuze 208.	
	3 Mar 44	0900	Work commenced on road building on H 6 & H 7 gunsites.	
	8 Mar 44	0900	Materials for new magazines arrived at H 7 - work commenced.	
		1000	Personnel of 471 Aust Hy A.A.Troop transferred to H 1 under 23 Aust Hy A.A.Bty. H10 gunsite out of action	
		1200	432 Aust Hy A.A.Troop moved into H10 under command 24 Aust Hy A.A.Bty. All stores and equipment of 471 Aust Hy A.A.Troop transferred to 432 Aust Hy A.A.Troop	
	11 Mar 44	1200	Road construction at H 7 completed. Leave Draft of 35 m/c to N.G.D.D.	
	12 Mar 44	1100		
	14 Mar 44	1400	Trial Homing of A/C tested in co-operation with G.O.R. Work on reserve ammunition magazines on H 6 & H 7 proceeding satisfactorily.	
	20 Mar 44	1500	Guns and platforms at H 10 lifted and placed ready for movement.	
	21 Mar 44	1400	Capt. Martin liaison officer from A.Q. N.G.F. visited the unit H.Q. & H 6 New store at H6 nearing completion.	
	23 Mar 44.	1400	H 10 ready for movement - MVTS notified.	
	24 Mar 44	1600	New magazines at H6 & H 7 completed, except for earth filled drums - these should be completed in a fortnight.	

M.H. Fowler Capt.
MOC 24 Aust. Hy. A.A. Bty.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 1118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hy A.A.Bty, R.A.A. Date and Time.—From I Mar 44 To 31 Mar 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby.	25 Mar 44	I400	H 6 visited by Brig Tovell & Lt-Col A.V.Shrimpton	
	27 Mar 44		Road construction continuing at both sites - hindered by adverse weather.	
	30 Mar 44	II00	H 7 gunsite inspected by Lt-Col A.V.Shrimpton accompanied by Major C.T.Wright.	
		I400	All Tps have now become self accounting & stores & equipment transferred to them.	
	31 Mar 44	0900	Nominal rolls & A.A.F. TSI's sent to Moresby Aust A.A. Group for movement of 432 Aust Hy A.A. Troop.	
			Movement of stores & equipment from H 10 to site near Hannabadu. under way.	
		I500	432 Aust Hy A.A. Troop embarked for Mainland.	
			GENERAL:- Reinforcements of personnel for the battery are urgently required. At the present fighting strength after permanent duties are taken out, not more than 12 men on each site are available for training or the very extensive works plans. Each gunsite is 46 men below strength all of whom should be available for training or works as the permanent duties remain at a constant figure regardless of the strength of the site.	
			Strength as at 31 Mar 44.	
			9 Offrs. 203 OR's. 212 Total.	

ER. Bowler Capt.
21 Mar 44 Aust Hy A.A. Bty

17 MAY 1944

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hvy A A Bty

Date and Time.—From 1 Apr 44

To 30.4.44.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby.	1 Apr 44	1000	Rear party of 432 Aust Hvy A A Troop consisting of 1 Offr. and 5 O/R's moved to Hannerbadon.	
			Equipment atill at H 10 gunsite being removed by 24 Bty.	
	3 Apr 44	1400	All equipment removed from H 10 gunsite. 1200 rounds of HE fuze 199 returned to 8 AAD from H 6 and H 7; 1200 rounds of HE fuze 208 taken to gunsites. School for No's 1 from H 6 and H 7 being held at H 7 by Lieutenant R Hillyer.	
	4 Apr 44	2130	Completed the change over of Amn. Fuze 199 for Fuze 208.	
	6 Apr 44	1630	Floors constructed in reserve magazines - all reserve amn. transferred to these magazines on both sites.	

W. H. Fowler Capt
24 Aust. Hvy. A.A. Bty.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hvy A A Bty

Date and Time.—From 1 Apr 44

To 30 Apr 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby.	7 Apr 44		Observed as additional rest day.	
		0830	Rear party of 432 Aust Hvy A A Troop and all equipment embarked on Ormiston at Main Wharf, Pt Moresby. Lieutenant D.J. Heritage M/O to posting with 2/5 Aust Hvy A A Bty.	
	11 Apr 44	0800	Both sites commenced a six-weeks course of TOET's including ,Owen SMG, Rifle,Hygiene,Gas,Bren.	
	13 Apr 44	1300	Visit of inspection to H 6 gunsite by Comd.MBSA. Brig. Veale accompanied by Lt.-Col. A.P.Shrimpton and party. Brig Veale expressed himself pleased with the bearing of the men and the efficiency of the gunsite.	
	19 Apr 44	16 00	Lieutenant R.Bentley M/I from Arty Reinforcements.	
	20 Apr 44	1000	Road construction and construction of blast walls	

E.H. Bowler Capt
1900 24 Apr. Hvy A.A. Bty.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C, 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hvy A A Bty

Date and Time.—From 1 Apr 44

 $T_{0.30.4.44}$

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	20 Apr 44	1000	around reserve magazines proceeding slowly owing to lack of men. Repainting the guns at H 7 almost completed.	
	22 Apr 44.	1135	Notification received of transfer of personnel of 437 Aust Hvy A A Troop to H 4 gunsite and 470 Aust Hvy A A Troop to H 7 gunsite. Movement to take place forthwith and 437 Aust Hvy A A Troop to prepare equipment at H 4 for movement to the Mainland.	
	23 Apr 44	1000	Personnel of 437 Aust Hvy A A Troop moved to H 4 and personnel of 470 Aust Hvy A A Troop. moved to H 7. Equipment taken over on each site. 470 Aust Hvy A A Troop taken under command.	
	26 Apr 44		471 Aust Hvy A A Troop to come under command of	

L.

By Authority: L. F. JOHNSON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

44 *Eh Dowder Capt*
26 Aug. 1914 Day:

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hvy A A Bty

Date and Time.—From 1. Apr. 44

To 30.4.44.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	26 Apr 44	1000	24 Aust Hvy A A Bty. C.O. Moresby Aust A A Group	
			notified new positions of H 2 and H 7 gunsites at	
			map. refs. (Standard Pt. Moresby 1" = 1 mile) H2	
			913376, H 7 898422. Gun positions selected by CO.	
			and approved by CO.	
	27 Apr 44	0830	Work of clearing H 2 commenced.	
		0900	H.Q. moved from location to 445427, the area	
			formerly occupied by 23 Aust Hvy A A Bty.	
		1500	Signals and A A Cp. notified of new location.	
	28 Apr 44	1000	Wiring of H7 area in Barona Dump commenced.	
	29 Apr 44	0830	Continued wiring and clearing of the areas for	
			H 2 and H 7.	
	30 Apr 44	1000	Regrouping of A A Units - MBSA memo G 1486	
			places 439, 470 and 471 Aust Hvy A A Tps. under	

OK. Bowler Cap
24 Aust Hvy A A Bty

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2116.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 Aust Hvy A A Bty. Date and Time.—From 1 Apr 44 To 30.4.44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Port Moresby	30 Apr 44	1000	command of 24 Aust Hvy A A Bty. Signals notified of proposed dates of impending moves of gunsites.	
			STRENGTH AS AT 30 APR 44.	
			<u>Offrs.</u> <u>O/R's.</u> <u>Total.</u>	
			12 314 326	
			<u>GENERAL.</u>	
			The re-grouping of A.A. units has resulted in an increase in the posted strengths of the Troops remaining. No red or Yellow warnings during the month.	

SH. Fowler
A/C 24 Aust Hvy A A Bty.

JUN 18 1944

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 AUST HVY A A BTY RAA

Date and Time.—From 1 May 44

To 31 May 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	2 May	1400	New Site at H2 ready for occupation - awaiting cranes for moving guns. Notified by A.A.GROUP	
			that G. will go out of operation at 1500 hours on May 4 1944.	
	4 May	1500	G1 out of action - personnel moved to G6 for calculation of "Upper Air Data"	
	5 May	0830	Commenced removal of guns from H2.	
	9 May	1600	Visit of Inspection to H6 by Brig. Cremor accompanied by Lt.-Colonel A.P. Shrimpton.	
	10 May	1200	Guns from H2 mounted at the new position.	
	12 May	1000	H2 gunsite moved to new position at 913376 Telephonic COMMUNICATION completed. Guns in action at Voice Control.	
	15 May	1000	H2 gunsit inaction with Predictor.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 24 AUST HVY A A. BTY RAA

Date and Time.—From 1 May 44

To 1.5.44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	19 May	0900	Commenced removal of guns from H7 to new site at 898422 . G2 inaction	
		0930	G7 out of action - ready for removal to new site.	
	20 May	1600	Telephonic communications to new H7 site established	
	22 May	1200	Guns mounted at H7	
		1500	Guns at H7 in action at Voice Control. Inspection of H2 by Lt,-Colonel A.P.Shrimpton.	
	24 May	0900	Guns at H7 in action at Predictor Control.	
	25 May	1400	Inspection of H7 by Lt,-Colonel A.P.Shrimpton/	
	26 May	1000	CoOords of H2, H7, and G7 found by survey.	
			H2 2690815.0 837828.0 155"	
			H7 2689517.0 842138.5 225"	
			G7 2689451.0 842104.0 225"	
	27 May	1200	O.C.Major L.B.Reid M/I from School and Leave	
	31 May		Damage caused to command posts etc, under construction at new H2 and H7 gunsites by rain and work considerably retarded. Strength as at 31 May 44. Offrs. 11 O/Rs 317	

TOTAL 388

By Authority: L. F. JONSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

O.C 24 Aust. Hy. A.A. Bty.

Major