

4/20/10/3

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS
OPEN

JANUARY TO
APRIL 1944

ORIGINAL

"H" HEAVY BATTERY
R.A.A.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

ORIGINAL

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

17 APR 1944

Unit "H" Aust Heavy Bty R.A.A. A.L.F.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan '44 to 0900 hrs 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
False Cape CAIRNS	1944 Jan. 1.	0900	Camp and Hut Maintenance - washing out etc. all morning.	
			Visit by Capt. BAKER (A.E.M.E) and W.O. BILES to note work to be done on 155 mm guns, 18 pdrs, and Bofors. Visit by Lieut. ANDERSON to adjust D.P.F.	
		1300	Capt. BAKER and W.O. BILES departed.	
		1400	Sports afternoon for Troops.	
		1815	Lieut. ANDERSON departed.	
	2.	0900	Stand Down day for troops except Duty Personnel.	
		1100	2 i/c of A.W.C. C and 2 others inspected emplacements etc. and magazine.	
		1600	Visit by Mr FAIR (A.E.S.)	
		2000	Lecture by Mr. FAIR Subject:- "THE CHALLENGE OF FIRE"	
		0900-1700	Gunners' Kitchen being painted all day.	

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"H" Aust Heavy Bty R.A.A. A.I.F.

Unit _____

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan. '44 to 0900 hrs. 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	
False Cape, CAIRNS	Jan 3.	0900-1700	BOP cleaning floor and walls for covering and paint respectively		
			Guns:— General Maintenance on equipment. Work on Construction of Jetty (Sunny Beach)		
	4.	0900-1700	Clean up areas: Sgts' and Offrs' Messes, New Ablution Block		
			Gunners' Kitchen complete as regards painting.		
			1600	W.O. LAWLESS (23 Works Coy) with carpenter visited to fix refrigerator door.	
			0900	2 Flatties (18') to Johnson's Saw Mills to be repaired.	
	5.	0900	Tables for Gunners' Mess constructed and placed in position		
			Cricket Party left to play in CAIRNS		
	6.	0900	1400-1700	Organised Sport in Camp	
			0800	New Summer Time Table commenced today	
			0830	Preparing the Messes for occupation. Collection of cut fire-	
			1630	wood for Kitchens. Clean up Beach.	

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Unit "H" Anst Heavy Bty R.A.A. A.I.F.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan. '44 To 0900 hrs. 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
False Cape CAIRNS	1944			
	6.	1645	Visit by Capt. JOHNSON (Camouflage) to note work to be done.	
	7.	0830	CASL Section on Wharf Jetty (Sunny Beach)	
		1100	Lt/Comdr. PIXLEY and 2 other Lt/Comdrs visited PWSS and accommodation (Navy)	
		1700	RESERVE rations for 120 men/30 days arrived. 2 18 ft flatties returned repaired. Spare motor at Brown's Bay Water Pump installed and pumped for first time.	
	8.	0830-1130 0830-1630	B.O.P. and Guns: Battery Training Camp: Cleaning up old Kitchen and Mess ^{rs} and also new messes and Kitchen. Water position acute: Bush Fires: Break burnt around camp.	
	9.	-	Stand Down Day: Burning Fire Breaks all day. Approaching fire stopped 1000 yards from Camp Area. Camp Safe.	
	10.	-	Stand Down Day in lieu of 9th when all personnel were used in fire fighting.	
		1030	Visit by Col. COOKE and Lieut. MUDDLE of 17 L. of C. Sub Area. Returned 1500.	
		1600	Capt. JOHNSON (Camouflage) and 13 OR's marched in to camouflage Guns, Road and B.O.P.	
	11.	0830	Battery Training in Morning - B.O.P. painted inside - afternoon in camp. Camp fatigues - Camouflage work started. Visit by Mr. KIEPS. Good rain overnight which eased water situation.	
	12.	0830	New B.S.M. (WO CRISS) commenced duties - cleaning of drains and general fatigues - Camouflage work progressing.	
		2000	All tanks filled with water - water restrictions into force - one shower per man per day.	
	13.	0830	Commenced moving wood shed to Kitchen - shift completed 1500 hrs. Two Soyers moved to proposed Laundry Site - painting of new ablutions finished - camouflage progressing.	
		1500-1700	Organised Sport.	

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Unit "H" Aust Heavy Bty R.A.A. A.L.F.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan, '44 to 0900 hrs, 7 Apr, '44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	
	1944.				
False Cape GARRIS	Jan 14.	0830 - 1700	Pay Parade - new ablutions prepared for use - moving firewood - fatigues - camouflage work progressing.	general	
		0830-1100	Battery Drill: Guns and B.O.P.		
		0900	Capt. JOHNSON (Camouflage) marched out.		
	15.	2100-2200	Searchlight Training - Bayers' (Gun) Drill and Battery Drill.		
		0830-1700	Camp Maint. - washing out of huts etc. - all day - painting of B.O.P.		
		1100	Visit by M.O. who held Medical Parade - visit by Lieut. THOMPSON (40 DCRE) who inspected, re white ants, borers etc.		
	16.		Stand Down all day - troops washing their clothes etc.		
	17.	0830-1730		Guns: Started to build blast wall No 2 Gun, B.O.P. finishing up painting of interior. Camp: Collection of firewood: Soyer Stove platforms.	
			1000	Lieut. ANDERSON came to adjust D.P.F. Left in 1800 hrs Boat.	
	18.	0830-1730	2100-2200	Searchlight Practice and Battery Drill.	
				Started to move the reserve firewood (Blocká) under Gunners' Mess: Soyer Stove Block: GUNS: MAKING blast wall No 2. Gun. Rain Storm during afternoon: Light Rain only. Medium rain early morning.	
	19.			Medium Rain early morning.	
			0830 1600	Camp: Firewood shifting: Cover Soyer Stoves: Guns: Blast Walls. Visit by Lieut. BULL who gave lecture on Field Security at 2000 hrs. Water Transport personnel taken off "UNRELIABLE" and Battery personnel substituted.	
	20.	0830-1700	Camp: All block firewood under Gunners' Mess today. Collection of firewood from bush: Soyer Block at Officers' Kitchen started and completed today. Shed over Officers' Kitchen completed.		
	21.			Early morning it rained - 75 pts. Collection of firewood from bush - making stand for garbage tins.	
			1600	Visit by Capt. JOHNSON and Lieut. ALLISON (FAA) to inspect camouflage.	
			1600	Visit by Lieut. BARTLETT for discussion Sigs. Capt. JOHNSON, Lieut. ALLISON and BARTLETT left.	

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Unit: Aust Heavy Bty R.A.A. A.I.F.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Jan. 1944 0900 hrs 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
False Cape CAIRNS	1944			
	22.		Good Rain overnight. Collecting firewood - water position relieved. Dull day but no rain.	
	23.		Stand Down Day - washing clothes - airing huts and blankets etc.	
	24.	0830-1730	Collecting and cutting firewood - cleaned up area of C.O.C. Camp Tractors etc. 2 31 C/S 18 pdr. Practice amm arrived.	
	25.	0700-1200	Unloaded amm. and stored magazine. Removed Tractor Shed and explosives. Cement tent (CCC)	
		1400-1730	General Cleaning up of Camp.	
		0830-1730	Training at Guns and B.O.P. all day.	
	26.	0830-1730	DEWIS Team left for CAIRNS. Remainder general work morning. Organized Sport in afternoon.	
		1530	2 pdr Pieces, 8/Cross engine for Brown's Bay and one 1200 gal tank for guns arrived.	
		2100-2200	Searchlight Practice and Battery Drill.	
		0845 0830-1730	Major MANSFIELD to see Comdr. 17 L. of C. re Portland Roads Bty General Camp Maint. Firewood cut. 5 Kilowatt generator arrived on "MELALE" and put in approx. position.	
	28.		Good Storms overnight. Heavy Rain early morning.	
29.	0830-1730	Pay Parade and then Camp Maint and improvements.		
		Early Morning - little rain.		
	0830-1730	Cleared up old Woodheap rear of old Kitchen - erected targets and made them ready for Shoot - Practice Seawards		
	2100-2200	Searchlight Practice on single target towed by M.V. "MELALE" with Battery Drill using complete Gun and B.O.P Sections.		
30.	0900	Stand Down Day. Troops washing of clothes airing etc. C.O.C. Maj. MANSFIELD to town today and he met Capt. MCKENNA (Gill FAA CA) At 1745 hrs.		
	2100-2200	Practice with Lights and Target as for 29th.		

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'44

Unit "H" Aust Heavy Bty R.A.A. A.I.F.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Jan. To 0900 hrs. 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
False Cape CAIRNS	Feb. 1	0830-1130	General Work: preparation of ammunition for practice shoot.	
		1200	Col. COOKE and Maj. HENNING visited Battery for shoot.	
		1400	Practice shoot: 2 series each 20 rounds - fair only.	
		1600	Practice shoot: 2 series each 20 rounds - quite good.	
		2. 0915	Col. COOKE, Maj. HENNING, McKENNA left by Amenities Boat.	
		0930	Maintenance all equipment, then general stand down all day.	
		3. 0715	Visit by Col. YOUNG and Capt. GILCHRIST to see possibility of using searchlights for A.A. role.	
		1145	Col. YOUNG and Capt. GILCHRIST moved out.	
		1930	Lieut. ALLEN and mech. to CAIRNS to repair "EULALIE"	
		4. -	RAF brought our batteries over.	
		Good rain overnight and early morning. B.O.P.: Cleaning up area around: 2 piers cleaned and made ready for use. Maint. equipment.		
		General camp clearing up etc.		
5. 0830-1730	B.O.P.: Clearing up timber etc. General Maint. at Guns. General Camp and Train Maint. Very good rain overnight.			
6. -	Stand down all day.			
7. 0930	General Maint. all posts and Camp.			
1000	Mustering Parade. Maj. MANSFIELD discussed shoot and also re projected move of "H" Bty.			
1400 - 1730	Afternoon maint roads and drain at rear of 18 pdr. position.			
8. 0830-1730	Camp improvement and maint.			
0845	Maj. MANSFIELD moved out to CAIRNS			
9. 0845-1000	General fatigues.			
1100	Capt. GORE and Orderly arrived with Maj. MANSFIELD.			
1630	Medical Parade. All troops F.T. TAB and medically re-examined			
	Capt. JOHNSON and Lieut. KRUGER (SIGS) arrived and stayed night.			
	Picked up 4½ h.p. S/Cross for Brown's Bay water pump.			
10. 0830	General clothing equipment change and re-issue. Unloaded engine			
	Brown's Bay. General fatigues			

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Army Form C 118
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"H" Aust Heavy Bty R.A.A. A.L.F.

Unit

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Jan. '44 to 0900 hrs. 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
False Cape CAIRNS	21	0900-1700	General Camp Work: Cleaning up for change over of Batteries. (H & S)	
	22	0900 1200 1315 1430	General Camp work as for 21st. Visit by Capt. KIMLEY, Dentist Lieut (Works FAA) and WO LAWLESS and 5 OR's Dental Parade all personnel. Inspection by Lieut. and party (WO LAWLESS ca.) Maj. MANSFIELD marched out to new appointment at ROWNSVILLE, after handing over to Maj. GOUDGE, Capt. KIMLEY, Lieut. (Works FAA) and WO LAWLESS and party left, and Capt. ALLEN to CAIRNS followed. Capt. ALLEN appointed Adm/Comd "H" AUST. Hvy. Bty.	
	23	1820 0900-1700	Boat arrived and departed bringing Capt. ALLEN back. General Work Jetty huts, Kitchen and Maint. equip.	
	24	1800 0900-1730	LIEUTS ALCOCK and HARVEY to CAIRNS. General Camp Maintenance: Rifle Shoot Tables 1 & 11. All Battery Personnel (1030 Maj. MANSFIELD left by plane to ROWNSVILLE)	
	25	1715 0900-1730 1930	Lieuts. ALCOCK and HARVEY returned from CAIRNS. General Maint. camp and equipment. Continuation of Rifle Shoot. Report from AASE Brown's Bay re missing fisherman from Brown's Bay. Searched area seaward and asked through PWSS Merchant vessels to report and took out for 10 ft. floatie - nil report on result obtained.	
	26	0900-1730 1145 1155 1200 1218	Cont. of Rifle Shoot - general camp and equip. maint. Organized fishing for extra rations successful. AASE B. Bay confirmed re visit by police of missing fisherman. Police arrived here to obtain particulars of fisherman. Police departed. Brown's Bay reported that missing fisherman had landed at YORKY's KNOT.	
	27.	0900-1730	General Stand Down Day. Troops washing etc. preparatory to moving out.	
	28	0900-1730 1430	Repairs to Pig Run - timber cutting and general camp tidied. Camp 2nd time. Maj. GOUDGE to CAIRNS.	
	29.	0900-1730 1605	Refrig. engine replaced by Buzzacot from Brow's Bay. - general camp fatigues. Capt. LOUTIT and Mr. DAVIDSON (AWC) and S/Sgt. ROSE to inspect refrig. Capt. REMOLDS and 4 OR's with Maj. GOUDGE (S Hvy. Bty) arrived.	

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Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Jan '44 To 0900 hrs. 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date 1944	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
False Cape CAIRUS	Mar. 1.		Changing and handing over to "S" Aust. Hvy. Bty.	
		1730	Barges changed over personnel S and H Bty.	
REDLYNCH		1800	"H" Bty settled in at REDLYNCH Staging Camp.	
	2.		At REDLYNCH Staging Camp.	
	3.	1700	Left REDLYNCH for TOWNSVILLE	
TOWNSVILLE	4.	0700	Arrived SACH's CREEK TOWNSVILLE - settled down during day.	
	5.		Received 21 Reinforcements.	
	6.		Work days in camp - road repair - guns and equip. maint.	
	7.		Commencement of Field Training Syllabus. Introduction Field Organisation.	
	8.		Syllabus - Zero Line - work with director.	
	9.		Director - ATBY Board - Fire Discipline - Received orders to move out.	
	10.		Departed SACH's CREEK and arrived OOHONRA Staging Camp.	
	11.		Staging.	
	12.		Staging.	
	13.		Staging. Received reinforcements to complete Bty. Strength.	
AT SEA	14.		Embarked H.T. "TAROONA"	
AT SEA	15.		At Sea.	
MILNE BAY	16.		Arrived MILNE BAY and proceeded to Details Depot.	
	17.		Staging at Details Depot.	
KANA KOPA MILNE BAY	18.		Capt. ALLEN, Lieut. ALCOCK, HARVEY and 9 OR's departed Details Depot and arrived KANA KOPA to take over from "G" Aust. Hvy. Bty.	
	19.		Remainder of Battery staging at Details Depot, Take over from "G" Battery completed.	
	20.		Tour of Area: 13 "H" Bty. arrived - 43 "G" Bty. departed.	
	21.	1230	Took over manning of Battery with arrival of remainder of "H" Bty.	
	22.		Remainder of "G" Bty. departed.	
	23.		Cleaning up Sleeping Quarters and Camp Area.	
	24.		As for 23rd - erection of recreation hut commenced.	
			As for 23rd. Visit by DADES (Maj. RATCLIFFE) Major BEAGUS and Capt. BURLINGHAM.	

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Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Jan '44 To 0900 hrs. 7 Apr. '44

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
KAWA KOPA MILNE BAY	25		As for 22nd. Visit by O.C. AA & Fort. Sigs Unit.	
	26		"K" time adopted as from 0159 hrs to 0101 hrs. Stand Down for troops not on duty.	
	27		Cleaning up camp area, shells, magazines, outposts, equipment all huts, clearing scrub, latrines repaired and new latrines commenced. Draining and work to facilitate Anti-Malaria Measures.	
	28		As for 27 Mar.	
	29		" "	
	30		" "	
	31		" "	
			<p><i>msc.</i> Capt. Aqm/Comd. "H" AUSTR. HEAVY. BTRY. A.I.F.</p>	