4/2/7/21

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NOVEMBER TO
DECEMBER 1942

ORIGINAL

2/7 FIELD REGIMENT

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

WAR DIARY NOVEMBER 1942

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively, Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

(Erase heading not required.)

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Field	1		Strong wind and dust limited visibility over the front most of the day.The regimental area was again bombed and 1 OR was slightly wounded otherwise there was no damage done. The regt supported an attack by 2 NZ Div which was successful and an advance of 4,000 metres was made.The object of the attack was to form a bridge head through the remaining enemy minefields to enable the exploitation of the 10th Armd Corps.	
	2		The regt harassed enemy preparations for counter attacks on the NZ front.Everyone is very pleased with the success of the attack and the exploits of our lt armd forces well behind the enemy lines.During the day several parties of PWs passed through the regtl area. At the request of the CBO the regt carried out 8 bombards on H.Bs. Today we have realised what air superiority means.The whole area has been crowded with vehs but the RAF have prevented enemy bombing attacks from being successful. During the night the regt fired 1200 rds harassing fire on the enemy's rear areas.This programme was carried out by the whole Corps and harassed the enemy considerably.	
	3		A quiet day.The regt supported inf patrols with fire and smoke but very little movement was seen as the enemy is withdrawing his forces.The gunners were not called upon to fire during the night.	
	4		Another quiet day as our armour engages the enemy and hastens his withdrawal.We were able to listen in to some of the tank battles by intercepting wireless messages.The LOB personnel changed over during the afternoon.Maj Rogers relieved Maj Johnston as LO at 20 Aust Inf Bde. During the night the regt fired 1200 rds harassing fire in retaliation for a direct hit by the enemy on 2/43 BN HQs.	
	5		At 0800 hrs,14 Bty was placed under command 151 Inf Bde in a pursuit role to clear the enemy as far as Daba.At 0930 this order was cancelled amd the regt was placed in support 151 Bde and orders were given to contact the bde immediately.CO left to meet bde cdr.The regt moved to Daba at 1230 hrs.It had been expected that the enemy would resist our advance but the town was reported clear by midday and the RAF immediately moved to re-establish the aerodrome.The amount of traffic and fear of mines on the sides of the road rather hindered the movement and deployment of the regiment,but by last light the guns were in a definite position just west of Daba.The night was fairly quiet except for a few bombs which were dropped near the town. During this battle the regt has fired 65,594 rds of HE.The total amn expenditure since 10 Jul 42 is HE 154,310;Smk 3249;AP 288;Normal 145,798;Super 12,196.	
	6		The advance has moved so far west that we have been left far behind.The bde has received orders to remain at Daba and we spent the day wondering what our role would be.The CO visited 14 and 57 Btys during the morning.Most of the day was spent examining enemy dumps left in the town.	

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000.

J.C.C.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY NOVEMBER 1942

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Field	6		At 1500 hours orders were received to rejoin 9 Aust Div at Alamein.Everyone was rather disappointed at not being allowed to follow the enemy.Traffic was very heavy on the Main Rd and a continuous stream of veh was moving west at close interval all day.It was very cheering to see the amount of heavy equipment the Eighth Army possesses.The regt spent the night in a bivouac in the area of Sidi Abt El Raliman.There was a fairly heavy rain storm during the night and nearly everyone got wet.	
	7		Orders were received to return to our old position on the coast for a period of rest and maintenance.Everyone was in the area by 1200 hours and the rest of the day was spent in settling in and drying out.	
	8		C.O.visited HQRAA and learnt of the movement west of part of the Div.He had to toss with C.O. 2/8 Aust Fd Regt to determine which regt would move with the advance party.The toss was lost and although we were at first disappointed,we realise that the posponment of our movement will enable us to do some good maintenance and re-organisation.	
	9		The usual church parades were held in the morning.The CRA called to see the C.O.Equipment is now being reissued to us and we have had much of our war wastage replaced.	
	10		Capt Butcher R.A.(GHQ) and Capt Johnson,14 Aust Dental Unit are attached temporarily to the unit.	
	11		C.O.visited 26 Aust Inf Bde.Maj J.C.Irwin who is G.II on Div HQ visited the C.O.Parties from the regt visited the battlefields during the day.The movement of the Div is now cancelled and it has been decided to send a small token force to Tobruk instead.The regts allotment is 1 Offr and 1 sub-section and Lieut Byfield and a sub-section from F.Tp have been selected.	
	12		Calibration of the guns was commenced.This is necessary because of the very high number of rounds fired during the battle.C.O.visited 26 Aust Inf Bde.Capt Forwood left with Capt Butcher to see some of the country to the west.	
	13		Calibration continued.	
	14		The special force to visit Tobruk has been cancelled.	
	15		Work has been commenced on the graves in the El Alamein cemetery of members of the regt. It is hoped to suitably mark all the graves of members of the regt before we leave the area.	
	17		C.O.visited 20 Inf Bde.Information was received the morning that leave is to re-commence but this was later cancelled.	
	18		C.O.attended a conference at HQRAA on Trg.Btys commenced route marching.C.O.held B.C's conference.The following are points from the conference.A timetable has been laid down.The G.O.C.and CRA will visit the regt during the week and attention must be paid to drill for a ceromonial parade.Leave has been postponed for about a week.The weekly vehicle will commence it's trip to Alex.Permission has been given for organised parties to visit the battlefield.	

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000.

166.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

WAR DIARY NOVEMBER 1942

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~.

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Field	19		C.O.held a conference in our sea-side mess.Adjt,Lieuts Newland,Padman,Mackie,Mitchell and Lutz attended.The conference was called to discuss times and methods of producing fire having once received the traces and task tables from HQRAA.The discussion lasted 3¼ hrs and was most interesting.The C.O.is to sub-mit the times to the CRA who will in turn consolidate the times given by other regts before fwding to M.G.R.A.The outcome will eventually go to the Sch of Arty,Lark Hill,England and should help to disprove the theoretical times laid down for Corps and Div.Concentrations.	
		1330	Lieut Mellor marched out to C.B.Course Sch of Arty,Almaza.	
		1400	C.O.and Maj.Huggett went out to the battle field which is now some 3 weeks old and deserted. The C.O.photographed the graves of Gnrs Butterick and Edwards on Pt.29.	
	20		The C.O.attended a conference at HQRAA with reference to yesterday's discussion on times and fire plans.The times set by this regt were taken by the CRA in nearly every case as standard.A move of the 9 Aust Div to Palestine in the very near future is likely,although no definite dates have yet been ordered.A syllabus has been prepared for trg.The Sig Offr, Lieut McNeil will be C.I.of a Div.Sig.Course held in our lines.Besides his section is also running one for other members of the btys.The LAD are running 2 courses,one for Carriers and one for advanced M.T.All these courses will commence on 23 Nov. R.F.B.Fitzhardinge's Captaincy came through today and is Tp Comd 'D' Tp. Graves are still been finished off in the cemetery for photographing.The men in the unit who are responsible for the care,laying out and building of the graves have done an excellent job and have not spared themselves at all in making an everlasting memory of their fallen comrades.	
	21		A terrible day-one of the worst dust storms encountered since the regt has been at El Alamein. The regt is still living in desert shelters and dugouts,for the reason that a tent scalage is not yet available and dugouts already prepared.Sub-Units have all been able to establish at least an OffR's Mess and them men are,as usual making themselves comfortable.In the near future we hope to be back in a standard camp with decent living,eating and washing facilities for all ranks.	
	22		Church parades were held as usual-Capt O'Halloran taking the R.C.Parade and Capt Lawrence the C.of E. During the morning Maj Day of 57 Bty with 2 men went out to the battle field and located the grave of Capt Fielding.The body was disinterred and Capt Lawrence held a burial service at El Alamein at 1600 hrs.CO allowed Offrs and ORs who had worked and lived with Capt Fielding for so long to attend. Students for Div Sig.Course marched into the school area.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY NOVEMBER 1942

or

XXXX

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WAR DIARY

or

~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Field	29		Mr Lawrence held a church parade at 1030 hrs.It is a lovely day,little wind,warm sun and the sound of the waves of the Mediterranean lapping on the shore.This area now is well in the back areas-the war has moved some 400 miles west and left us in peace,how different to a month ago when we were in the middle of the greatest battle yet fought in the Western Desert.	
	30		One tp 57 Bty moved out for mobile trg.	

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000.

166

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

War Diary

Co's Report. Nov

LESSON FROM RECENT FIGHTING

WAR DIARY -NOVEMBER 194[illegible]
2/7 Aust Fd Regt

APPENDIX "A"

C.Os Report
RMOs do
QMS do

1. VALUE OF CONCENTRATED USE OF ARTY.

Arty used as it was in the recent opera[illegible] out the least shadow of doubt the great va[illegible] of arty.

Where the nature of the defences allow[illegible] up, it is considered that nothing can with[illegible] with such concentrated Arty fire.

2. BARRAGES.

Owing to the limited area that can be covered by a barrage it is considered that it will only be fully effective where the defences to be attacked are of a width well within the covering power of the available arty.

3. CONCENTRATIONS.

Where information is available regarding the defences to be attacked, as it was in the recent ops, timed concentrations supply the complete answer to the arty fire plan. A survey of certain areas where concentrations had been put down showed the devastating effect of the concentrations and to my mind is the answer.

4. AIR PHOTOS. NEED FOR, PRODUCTION AND DELIVERY.

Air photos are undoubtedly of value in the production of a sound fire plan.

Present facilities within the Regt however do not allow of the fullest use being made of them.

5. D.F. FIRE BY FD AND MED ARTY.

The plan adopted during the recent ops of a series of tasks covering the front and flanks of captured ground proved most effective.

The infantry however are very prone to call for large concentrations where the observed fire from a troop or bty would have been equally effective.

To give cover against immediate counter attack, before communications have been fully established I feel that the system adopted saved the day on several occassions.

6. F.O.O's. THEIR COMMUNICATIONS WIRELESS AND LINE.

In the recent O.P's it was found that we had better results from wireless than ever before. This can be attributed to various reasons.

(a) That a frequency band that we had been used to working on had been found unsatisfactory and that band was discarded.
(b) During the week before the battle intensive training and maintenance was carried out.
(c) That the enemy who usually blocked a lot of our transmissions had other worries on his mind and we did not suffer the usual interference.
(d) The distance between OPO's and guns was generally within the range of the sets.
(e) Higher power sets than the 101 set are again recommended.

LINE

Generally speaking line was through to OP's in good time and maintained under the most adverse conditions, although there were many times when the line was broken due to enemy action and the passage of our own tracked vehicles. These vehicles have no consideration for cables at all and it is not unusual for one tank or track vehicle to destroy miles of cable.

Line sigs, in fact all sigs deserve the highest praise for their work.

S.O.S. SIGNALS.

In operation over a wide front, where the arty supporting any particular Bde is away to a flank, as it often was, S.O.S. signals are of very doubtful value.

In every case we endeavoured to arrange to have the call for fire put through by line or W.T. and I have no knowledge of any break down of the system.

SUPPLIES OF AMN.

The whole system of Amn supply left nothing to be desired.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

War Diary

Co's Report. November 1942.

LESSON FROM RECENT FIGHTING

1. VALUE OF CONCENTRATED USE OF ARTY.

Arty used as it was in the recent operations illustrated without the least shadow of doubt the great value of concentrated use of arty.

Where the nature of the defences allow guns to be brought well up, it is considered that nothing can withstand an attack launched with such concentrated Arty fire.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

8. CAMOUFLAGE

The camouflage of gun pits etc up to the time of opening fire and after firing is of value.

During firing camouflage has no value at all, as it was proved that the bomber can locate guns either by night or day from the flash.

9. MOVE FORWARD OF ARTY.

The Regt in order to get additional range moved forward by batterys on the second day of the operation, until the final day it was able to give adequate cover to the Bde we were supporting, as well as being able to take part in the fire plan for the N.Z. Div attack.

It would have been advisable to move the Regt again had the enemy not vacated the area as he did.

There were after the third day many Regts further west than 2/7 Aust Fd Regt, but they were in support of other units than 20 Aust Inf Bde and were generally firing on other fronts.

10. The value of the Survey Party on the establishment of the Regt has been proved again.

The scale of equipment is inadequate in many cases.

11. COUNTER BATTERY. ITS EFFECT. FLASH SPOTTING. AIR PHOTOS.

The counter battery plot commenced at Z-20 was in my opinion of immense value and lessened the number of guns able to carry out D.F. when the attack was launched. Against this is of course is the tempory loss of the value of surprise.

If sufficient additional arty is available for C.B. a plot commencing at Zero is advised. Several times during the battle as the result of flash and sound bearings supplied by the Regt other H.Bs were located and bombards carried out.

The flash spotting towers and air photos proved their worth on many occasions.

12. ARMD O.P's

The Armd O.P. again proved to be the most effective vehicle for the use of the O.P.O or F.O.O. in the attack.

Once the position becomes more static the jeep has been found a very useful vehicle for the use of O.P.O and F.O.O's.

13. The possibility of stopping an arty programme and reopening it.

Providing communications are as good as we were able to establish in the last battle, I consider that within a Div the arty programme could be called off in approx 12 to 15 mins and called on again in slightly less time.

When there are more than one Div arty concerned it is open to doubt whether a programme can be called off or not.

T.C. Eastick ..... Lt-Col.
C.O. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

War Diary

2/7 Aust Fd Regt.
10 Dec 42.

R.M.O.'s REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1942.

UNIT STRENGTH AND REINFORCEMENTS.

The strength of the Unit at 30 Nov 42 was 43 Officers and 781 ORs.

6 Officers and 104 ORs who joined the Unit during the month were in good health.

CAMP SITE, FACILITIES AND SANITATION.

During the first few days of the month the Unit continued in the battle conditions prevailing at the end of October.

Following this period the Unit was on the move for a further few days and then remained stationary in an area previously occupied by us. Here, latrine and cookhouse facilities were available and all possible measures were taken to promote sanitary conditions, especially to counteract the fly menace. Rations remained good.

GENERAL FITNESS.

This remained satisfactory throughout the month. The strain of battle conditions continued during the first few days, but for most of the period all ranks had excellent opportunity for recovery.

BATTLE CASUALTIES.

There were four Battle Casualties during the month (all ORs), none of which was fatal.

PREVALENT MEDICAL COMPLAINTS.

Infective hepatitis was still troublesome in the first half of the month but faded out later; there were eleven cases. Enteritis remained troublesome.

VDNYD.

Nil.

MALARIA AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No cases of malaria were notified. One case of clinical diphtheria was reported. Infective hepatitis is mentioned above.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

The Unit was served by 2/11 Aust Fd Amb throughout the month except for a few days on mobile role when we were connected with 149 British Fd Ambulance.

GENERAL.

At long last, infective hepatitis is fading out. It has been a great source of loss of manpower. Although the Unit continued to be subjected to enemy action for a few days early in the month, our casualties were slight. The main interest of the month was the period of relaxation following battle.

E. W. Sibree

.....Capt.
(E.W.Sibree)
RMO. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

QUARTERMASTER'S REVIEW OF 'Q' MATTERS

PERIOD I - 30 NOV.1942

On cessation of hostilities at Alamein, the regt was put on an area for salvaging purposes and during that period (from 12th to 30th Nov) 13 vehicles, british were taken off minefields etc and placed on the road, and the following is an estimate of salvaged articles :-

Amn Cases 25 pdr	2,367	
Petrol Containers	5,588	
Jerrycans	310	
Water Tins 2 gall	371	
Amn, includes foreign		
25 prdr)		
6 ")		
2 ")	6,631	rds
40 mm)		
20 mm)		
Mortor Bombs Foreign	397	
Rifle Grenades Foreign	50	
S.A.A.Various	17,000	rds
Rifles British	22	
" Foreign	432	
M.G.German	11	
" Italian	20	
Machine Pistols (German)	8	
Signalling Equipment		
Phones	12	
Wire	15	miles
Switch Boards		
Technical Stores, Foreign		
Directors	3	
Dial Sights		
A/S Instruments		
Clothing various	3	ton load.
Equipment Web	3	ton load
Engineer Stores		
Picks	10	
Pickets	779	
Iron Galv	121	sheets
Sandbags	15,000	
Brass	3	ton
Blankets	339	
Field Guns Foreign	2	
Gas Equipment includes :-		
Respirators	70	
Capes	120	
Gloves prs	30	
Timber	1½	tons
Tyres	22	
Wheels M.T.	12	
Truck Canopies	8	
Motor Cycles Foreign	7	
Fiat Car	1	
Tents-Foreign	6	
Camouflage Nets	31	
General Salvage includes :- loose cartridgex cases, various types, british and foreign, ropes, enemy equipment & clothing, iron, steel, oil drums, bottles, sand tracks etc.	5	ton 9 cwt

H.E.Lovebard .....Capt.
Q.M. 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 1).

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/7 AUST FIELD REGT. (Unit.) For Week Ending 7 NOV 42

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

War Establishment.	1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels	1	NIL	NIL
	Majors...	4	NIL	NIL
	Captains	9	NIL	1
	Lieutenants	24	1	NIL
	2nd Lieutenants			
	Quartermasters	1	NIL	NIL
	District Officers			
	TOTALS	39	1	1

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	WALLACE EG	AIF	3. 11. 42	FROM AIF(ME) STAGING CAMP.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
LIEUT	FITZHARDINGE RFB		
"	BERTRAM JH		
"	HAWKES B		

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 2.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2 M. or S.	3 Substantive Rank.	4 Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	5 Name and Initials.	6 Corps.	7 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	8 Date Joined Unit.	9 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1	CO	LT COL		EASTICK TC	AIF	YES		
2	2IC	MAJOR (T/LT/C)		JOHNSTON RL		"		
3		MAJOR		ROGERS TE		"		
	BCS7	MAJOR		DAY FD		"		
4	BC14	MAJOR		HUDSETT BR		"		
	BTYCAPT57	CAPT		MACFARLANE IB		"		
5		CAPT		DEER ESC		"		
	QM	CAPT		LUCEBRAND LCG		"		
6	BTYCAPT13	CAPT		SCHRADER CL		"		
7		CAPT		COLE WLE		"		
		CAPT		KUNGLE RH		"		
8	TPCOMD	CAPT		JONES AG		"		
9	ADJT	CAPT		FORWOOD AW		"		
		CAPT		CLELAND PE		"		
10		CAPT		PITTLETON EW		"		
	TPCOMD	LIEUT		RODRIGUEZ TA		"		
11	CPO 13	LIEUT		NEWLAND HNS		"		
	CPO 14	LIEUT		PADMAN WD		"		
12	GPOB	LIEUT		MITCHELL AD		"		
		LIEUT		CLARK AA		"		
13	GPOF	LIEUT		BYFIELD IW		"		
	ACAV	LIEUT		LITTLEJOHN JA		"		
14	WLO13	LIEUT		FAULKNER RM		"		
		LIEUT		ADAMS EH		"		
15		LIEUT		WILCOCK JR		"		
16	GPOD	LIEUT		MENZIES RW		"		
	RSO	LIEUT		LUTZ KT		"		
17	CPOS7	LIEUT		MACKIE DM		"		
18	TLB	LIEUT		WISCHUSEN EJ		"		
19		LIEUT		BISHOP SD		"		
20	TLD	LIEUT		WAUCHOP SG		"		
21		LIEUT		WYNNE AA		"		
22	GPOE	LIEUT		RILEY LR		"		
23		LIEUT		WALLACE EG		"		
24	OO	LIEUT		MELLOR TC		"		
25	ACAS7	LIEUT		BRENNEN EG		"		
26		LIEUT		GOSSE RC		"		
27		LIEUT		GIBSON S		"		
28		LIEUT		SHORE MG		"		
29								
30								
31								
32								
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN		SIBREE EW	AAMC	31. 10. 41	RMO
CAPTAIN		RIDLEY GT	3 A OW	3. 8. 42	OME
LIEUT		MCNEILL DC	SIGS 9 DIV	21. 9. 42	OC E SEC
CHAPLAIN IV		O'HALLORAN EW	AACH. D.	6. 7. 41	PADRE

2/7 AUST FD. REGT.
(Unit.)

8 NOV 42
(Date of Despatch.)

J.C. Eastick LT COL.
(Signature of Commander.)

9 AUST DIV
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/7th AUST FD REGT (Unit). 7th NOV 1942 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (*i.e.* deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	NIL	NIL
W.Os. Class II.	7	NIL	3
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants BQMS	3	NIL	NIL
Serjeants	37	3	NIL
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals BDRS	82	NIL	2
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	543	NIL	15
TOTALS	673	* 3	* 20

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
14 ORs	63 AUST LAD		
34 ORs	ESEC 9 DIV SIGS		
4 ORs	2/8 AUST FD. AMB.		
1 OR	FINANCE SECTION		
1 OR	9 DIV POSTAL		
1 OR	HQ RAA		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (*e.g.* present whereabouts if known).

2/7 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																		20	20	
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers									3	3										
General duty personnel																				
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).									3	3								20	20	

2/7 AUST FIELD REGT.
Unit.

Date of Despatch 8 NOV 1942

T.G. Eastick LT. COL.
Signature of Commander.

9 AUST DIV
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3009
(Page 1.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

2/4 AUST FD REGT (Unit). 15 Nov 1942 (Date)

(To be furnished by all Units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps , Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os Class I.	1	NIL	NIL
W.Os Class II.	10	NIL	NIL
W.Os Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Sergeants OR Colour-Sergeants.			
Staff Sergeants. BQMS	3	NIL	NIL
Sergeants.	25	1	NIL
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals. BQMS	84	NIL	NIL
Troopers, Privates, GNRS Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	553	NIL	6
TOTALS.	685	* 1	* 6

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
4 ORs	63 AUST LAD		
34 ORs	E SEC 9 DIV SIGS		
4 ORs	2/8 AUST FD AMB		
1 OR	FINANCE SECTION		
1 OR	9 DIV POSTAL		
1 OR	HQ RAA 9 AUST DIV		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularity requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks. (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

2/4 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2.)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, Etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									
	W.Os. Class I.	W. Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W. Os. Class I	W. Os. Class II.	W Os Class III	S.Q.M.S., C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Sergeants	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	T O T A L.	REMARKS
Bricklayers																				
Butchers.																				
Carpenters and Joiners..																				
Clerks...																				
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders ...																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)..																				
" " (Wheeled) .																				
Driver-Mechanics ...																				
Driver-Operators. ...																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers ...																				
Farriers..																				
Fitters...																				
Machine Gunners ...																				
Masons..																				
Motor Mechanics ...																				
Pioneer, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ...																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters.																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers &Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers ...																				
Sanitary & Water Duties.																				
Signallers																		6	6	
Storemen technical ...																				
Tailors.																				
Wheelers									1	1										
General duty personnel .																				
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 & 4 of Part A)									1	1								6	6	

2/4 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Date of Despatch 15 Nov 42

T C Eastick Lt-Col
Signature of Commander.

9 AUST DIV
Bde., Divn, Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 1).

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/7 AUST FIELD REGT (Unit.) For Week Ending 15 NOV 42

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

War Establishment.	1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels	1	NIL	NIL
	Majors...	3	NIL	NIL
	Captains	9	NIL	1
	Lieutenants	24	1	NIL
	2nd Lieutenants			
	Quartermasters	1	NIL	NIL
	District Officers			
	TOTALS	39	1	1

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
CAPT	JONES AG	AIF	14 NOV 42	FROM X LIST
LIEUT	FITZHARDINGE R.F.B.	"	13 NOV 42	" "

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
CAPT	JONES AG	AIF	6 NOV 42	TO HOSP
LIEUT	WISCHUSEN E.T.	"	13 NOV 42	"

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
LIEUT	BERTRAM T.H.		
"	HAWKES D		

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 2.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2 M. or S.	3 Substantive Rank.	4 Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	5 Name and Initials.	6 Corps.	7 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	8 Date Joined Unit.	9 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1	CO	LT COL		EASTICK TC	AIF	YES		
2	2i/c	MAJOR		JOHNSTON RJ		"		
3	BC	MAJOR		ROGERS AL		"		
4	BC	MAJOR		DAY FD		"		
5	BC	MAJOR		WIGGETT GR		"		
6	BC	CAPT/A/MAJ		MACFARLANE TR		"		
7	BC	CAPT/A/MAJ		REID ETC		"		
8	QM	CAPT		LOVERAND HG		"		
9	STT OFF	CAPT/A/MAJ		SCHRADER CE		"		
10	TPC	E CAPT		COLE WJ		"		
11	TPC	E CAPT		RUNGIE RH		"		
12	TPC	E CAPT		JONES AG		"		
13	ADJT	CAPT		FORWOOD AW		"		
14	TPC	B CAPT		ENGLAND LE		"		
15	TPC	F CAPT		PHILLIPSON EG		"		
16	TPC	D LIEUT		FITZHARDINGE RFB		"		
17	Comp Comd	LIEUT		GRIGGS EG		"		
18	TPC	B LIEUT		WILLIAMS WRG		"		
19	TPC	H LIEUT		PARMAN WD		"		
20	TPC	H LIEUT		TYRRELL EB		"		
21	TPC	H LIEUT		WEBB WA		"		
22	TPC	E LIEUT		BYFIELD EW		"		
23	HQ	A LIEUT		FITZGIBBON TA		"		
24	HQ	A LIEUT		EAGLE KAER EM		"		
25	TPC	C LIEUT		ADAMS PH		"		
26	TPC	C LIEUT		WILCOCK TR		"		
27	TPC	D LIEUT		MCALPIES RNT		"		
28	TPC	LIEUT		LITZ KT		"		
29	TPC	E LIEUT		MACKIE DM		"		
30	TPC	A LIEUT		BISHOP CD		"		
31	TPC	B LIEUT		HAWKINS LG		"		
32	HQ	H LIEUT		WYNNE RA		"		
33	HQ	F LIEUT		RILEY LB		"		
34	TPC	LIEUT		WALLACE EG		"		
35	TPC	LIEUT		MELLOR TC		"		
36	TPC	F LIEUT		RENNICK EG		"		
37	TPC	LIEUT		GOSSE RC		"		
38	TPC	LIEUT		GIBSON S		"		
39	TPC	LIEUT		MOORE CMG		"		

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN		SIBREE EW	AAMC	21.10.42	RMO
CAPTAIN		RIDLEY G.T.	3 AGH	3.8.42	DME
LIEUT		MCNEILL D.C.	SIGS 9 DIV	30.7.42	LC 3 SIG
CHAPLAIN 4TH		O'HALLORAN E.V.	AACD	6.7.42	PADRE

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.)

15 NOV 42 (Date of Despatch.)

TC Eastick LT-COL (Signature of Commander.)

9 AUST DIV (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit). 21 NOV 19 42 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (*i.e.* deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	NIL	NIL
W.Os. Class II.	10	NIL	NIL
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	RQMS 3	NIL	NIL
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	34	NIL	NIL
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	BQRS 84	NIL	NIL
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	GNRS 553	NIL	5
TOTALS	685	* NIL	* 5

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
13 ORS	63 AUST LAD		
35 ORS	E SEC SIGS		
4 ORS	218 AUST FDMA		
1 OR	FINANCE SECTION		
1 OR	9 DIV POSTAL		
1 OR	HQ RAA 9 AUST DIV		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (*e.g.* present whereabouts if known).
VX 7138	L/BDR	CRACKNELL H	A.T.	A.T.R.
QX 12424	GNR	WARD W.R.	"	6 AGH
SX 10492	BDR	WILSON C.N.	"	A.T.R.
SX 6992	"	BROCK R.C.	"	4 ACD
SX 11473	L/BDR	MORSELL N.R.	"	"
SX 9579	GNR	HALL T.R.	"	6 AGH
SX 9963	"	FEVERHEERDT A.W.	"	6 AGH
SX 4453	SGT	TYSON T.B.	"	4 ACD
NX 11430	GNR	GALLOWAY R.	"	7 AGH

2/7 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.										REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																		5	5	
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel																				
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																		5	5	

2/7 AUST FD REGT
Unit.

Date of Despatch 21 NOV 42

J.C. Eastick Lt-Col
Signature of Commander.

9 AUST DIV
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 1).

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.) For Week Ending 21 NOV 42

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

War Establishment.	1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels	1	NIL	NIL
	Majors...	4	NIL	NIL
	Captains	10	NIL	NIL
	Lieutenants	22	NIL	1
	2nd Lieutenants			
	Quartermasters	1	NIL	NIL
	District Officers			
	TOTALS	38	1	1

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
~~LIEUT~~	~~GIBSON S.B.~~	~~AIF~~	~~20.11.42~~	~~To Hosp & List~~

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	GIBSON S.B.	AIF	20.11.42	To Hosp & List
LIEUT	MELLOR J.C.		19.11.42	ATTENDING ME SCHOOL OF ARTY

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
LIEUT	BERTRAM J.H.		
"	HAWKES B		

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 2.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2 M. or S.	3 Substantive Rank.	4 Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	5 Name and Initials.	6 Corps.	7 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	8 Date Joined Unit.	9 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1	LO	LT COL		EASTICK T.C	AIF	YES		
2	MC	MAJOR		JOHNSTON R.L		"		
3	BC	13 MAJOR		ROGERS A.L		"		
4	MC	57 MAJOR		DAY J.D		"		
5	MC	42 MAJOR		HUGGETT G.R.		"		
6	BC	CAPTAIN CAPT		MACFARLANE T.R.		"		
7	BC	CHM 57 CAPT		DEER E.T.C		"		
8	MC	CAPT		LOVEBAND H.G.		"		
9	MC	57 CAPT	13 CAPT	SULKADER C.L.		"		
10	MC	C CAPT		COLE W.J.L		"		
11	MC	E CAPT		RUNGIE R.H.		"		
12	MC	B CAPT		JONES A.C.		"		
13	MC	CAPT		FORWOOD A.W.		"		
14	MC	A CAPT		CLELAND P.E		"		
15	MC	F CAPT		PHILLIPSON E.C.		"		
16	MC	2 CAPT		FITZHARDINGE R.F.B		"		
17	LO	57 LIEUT		RODRIGUEZ J.A		"		
18	LO	13 LIEUT		NEWLAND H.R.S.		"		
19	LO	42 LIEUT		RADMAN W.D		"		
20	LO	42 LIEUT		MACHELL J.S.		"		
21	LO	13 LIEUT		KER M.A		"		
22	LO	F LIEUT		BYFIELD F.W		"		
23	LO	18 LIEUT		FITZGIBBON J.A		"		
24	LO	13 LIEUT		FAULKNER R.M.		"		
25	LO	C LIEUT		ADAMS R.H.		"		
26	LO	C LIEUT		WILCOCK J.R.		"		
27	LO	D LIEUT		MENZIES R.W.J		"		
28	SO	LIEUT		LUTZ K.T.		"		
29	LO	E LIEUT		MACKIE J.M.		"		
30	LO	A LIEUT		BISHOP J.D.		"		
31	LO	D LIEUT		WAUCHOP J.G.		"		
32	LO	42 LIEUT		WYNNE A.A.		"		
33	LO	57 LIEUT		RILEY L.B.		"		
34	LO	A LIEUT		WALLACE E.C.		"		
35	QO	LIEUT		MELLOR J.C.		NO		M.E. SCHOOL OF ARTY
36	ACPO	57 LIEUT		BRENNEN E.G		YES		
37	LO	E LIEUT		GOSSE R.C				
38	LO	F LIEUT		SHORE M.G.				

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN		SIBREE E.W.	AAMC	31.10.41	RMO
CAPTAIN		RIDLEY G.T	3 AGN	3.8.42	OME
LIEUT		MCNEILL D.C	SIGS 9 DIV	21.9.42	O.C.E SEC
CHAPLAIN IV		O'HALLORAN E.W	AACHD	6.7.41	PADRE

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.)

21 NOV 42 (Date of Despatch.)

T.C. Eastick LT. COL (Signature of Commander.)

9 AUST DIV. (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/7 Aust 3d Regt (Unit). 28 Nov 19 42 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (*i.e.* deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	NIL	NIL
W.Os. Class II.	10	NIL	NIL
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants BQMS	3	NIL	NIL
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	34	NIL	NIL
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals BDRS	84	NIL	NIL
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	553	NIL	5
TOTALS	685	* NIL	* 5

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
14 ORs	63 Aust LAD		
34 ORs	E Sec Sigs		
4 ORs	2/8 Aust Fd Amb		
1 OR	Finance Section		
1 OR	9 Div Postal		
1 OR	HQRAA 9 Aust Div		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (*e.g.* present whereabouts if known).

2/7 Aust 3d Regt Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.										REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																		5	5	
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel																				
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																		5	5	

2/7 Aust 3d Regt
Unit.

Date of Despatch 29 Nov 1942

T. E. Eastick Lt Col
Signature of Commander.

9 Aust. Div.
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

*TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 1).

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/7 AUST FIELD REGT (Unit.) For Week Ending 28/11/42

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

War Establishment.	1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels	1	NIL	NIL
	Majors...	4	NIL	NIL
	Captains	10	NIL	NIL
	Lieutenants	35	NIL	2
	2nd Lieutenants			
	Quartermasters	1	NIL	NIL
	District Officers			
	TOTALS	41	NIL	2

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	BERTRAM JH	AIF	24/11/42	FROM AIF (ME) STAGING CAMP
LIEUT	EVERETT KW		25/11/42	DO.
LIEUT	HAWKES B		25/11/42	DO.
CAPT	HALL WGR	3 AOW	26/11/42	FROM HQ 9 AUST DIV.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
CAPT	RIDLEY GT	3 AOW	25/11/42	HQ AIF (ME)

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 2.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2 M. or S.	3 Substantive Rank.	4 Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	5 Name and Initials.	6 Corps.	7 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	8 Date Joined Unit.	9 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1	CO	LT COL		EASTICK JC	AIF	YES		
2	2IC	MAJOR		JOHNSTON RL	"	"		
3	BC	13 MAJOR		ROGERS AL		"		
4	QC	4 MAJOR		DAY JD		"		
5	SC	4 MAJOR		HUGGETT GR		"		
6	BCapt	14 CAPT		MACFARLANE TK		"		
7	BCapt	57 CAPT		DEER EJC		"		
8	BA	CAPT		LOVETT TJD ECHRADER EJL		"		
9	TC	C CAPT		COL-E WTL RUNGLE RH		"		
10	TC	B CAPT		JONES AG		"		
11	TC	A CAPT		FORWOOD MW CLEMENTS PE		"		
12	TC	D CAPT		WILLIAMSON EL LUTHER JOINGE REB		"		
13	CRO	LIEUT		EVERETT KW FREDERICKS E		"		
14	QM	LIEUT		NEWLAND HRS		"		
15	SCO	4 LIEUT		MADMAN WD		"		
16	AOW	3 LIEUT		MILLIGAN EB MER MA		"		
17	CPO	E LIEUT		LOVELL [illegible] FITZGIBBON FA		"		
18	VLO	13 LIEUT		FAULKNER RM		"		
19	TL	C LIEUT		ADAMS RH WILCOCK JR		"		
20	AOP	3 LIEUT		MENZIES KMT [illegible] KT		"		
21	QMG	E LIEUT		MACKIE DM		"		
22		LIEUT		BERTRAM JH		"		
23	AMA	LIEUT		BISHOP SD		"		
24	TL	D LIEUT		WAUCHOP SG		"		
25	VLO	14 LIEUT		WYANE AA		"		
26	VLO	57 LIEUT		RILEY LB		"		
27	TL	A LIEUT		WALLACE EG		"		
28	DD	LIEUT		MELLOR JC		NO		ME SCH OF ARTY
29	CRO	57 LIEUT		BRENNEN EG		YES		
30		LIEUT		HAWKES B		"		
31	TL	E LIEUT		GOSSE RC		"		
32	TL	F LIEUT		SHORE MC		"		
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN		SIBREE EW	A A M C	31/10/41	R M O
CAPTAIN		~~RIDLEY~~ HALL WGR	3 AOW	26/11/42	O M E
LIEUT		MCNEILL DC	SIGS 9 DIV	21/9/42	O C E SEC
CHAPLAIN TV		O'HALLORAN EW	AACH D	6/7/41	PADRE

2/7 AUST FD REGT. (Unit.)

29 NOV 42 (Date of Despatch.)

JC Eastick Lt Col (Signature of Commander.)

9 AUST DIV. (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPENDIX "B" TO WAR DIARY
2/7 AUST FD REGT -NOVEMBER 4

A.M.R.&.O.1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 AUST FD REGT

130-135.

10 Nov.42

130. ARMS-RETENTION OF NON-SERVICE TYPES

1. All members of A.I.F.are forbidden to have any arms,weapons or ammunition other than W.D.Service types unless they are in possession of a certificate signed by the C.O.of the unit, authorizing the retention of such weapons.
2. C.Os.are authorized to sign such certificates only when-
   (i) exigencies of the service require that the member should be armed with a weapon not of service type.
   (ii) the weapon is personal property obtained from a legitimate source,or
   (iii) is unserviceable and its only value is as a souvenir.
3. In the case of sub-para (ii),these arms are to be held only in addition to,and not in lieu of,W.D.issue.
4. All ranks will hand in all arms and weapons for which a certificate is not granted.Units will be responsible for returning these to nearest Ordnance Depot
5. This Order will be repeated in all unit orders and read on parade twice monthly.
6. The certificate will be in the following form :-

No. Rank. Name. Unit.
Is authorized to be in possession of
(full description of weapon { Private property / A souvenir / A weapon

(A.I.F.Order 1046 of 30 Mar.42)

131. EXPLOSIVES IN KITS

Numerous instances have occurred of explosives of various types having been discovered in kits deposited in the A.I.F.Kit Stores for safekeeping.
On no account will ammunition of any kind,whether enemy orotherwise,be deposited in A.I.F.Kit Stores.
This order will be repeated in all unit Orders,and re-promulgated,wherever practicable, prior to the depositing of kits in A.I.F.Kit Stores
(A.I.F.Order 298 of 11 April 41.)

132. LOOT AND TRAFFIC IN ARMS.

It is has definitely established that members of H.M. Forces have been selling captured arms and ammunition. From this,it is clear that the existing orders on this subject are not being obeyed.All ranks are reminded that it is forbidden to retain in their possession any public enemy property found on the battlefield.Anyone who disposes of captured arms to other persons is directly assisting the enemy,since such arms find their way to those who work for the enemy.Such action is an offence punishable by a sentence of two years imprisonment.
Any captured war material in the possession of army personnel will be surrendered immediately.
This order will be repeated in Formation and Unit Orders and brought to the notice of all ranks.
(A.I.F.Order 516 of 26 Jul.41

133. TROPHIES OF WAR AND OTHER CAPTURED MATERIAL

1 (a) Captured material which may be claimed by units as trophies of war will ne notified through H.Q.,A.I.F.,to G.H.Q.,M.E.,with particulars of the circumstances of capture, when a decision will be given on the claim.

.....(b) If the material

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(b) If the material claimed cannot be retained by the unit it will be clearly marked with the unit's name and evacuated through Salvage channels to be taken charge of by the Deputy Controller of Salvage in accordance with Field Service Regulations, Vol.I, 1930, Sec 137 Para 5.

2. (a) Captured material required for further use will not, as a general rule, be regarded as trophies of war. Amongst this material are the following items :-

Revolvers and Pistols	Signalling Instruments & parts.
Rifles	
Ammunition	Surveying & Drawing Instruments.
Rangefinders	Gun Parts, Tools, Spares, Magazines etc.
Dial Sights and Parts	M.T. Spares and Tools.
Telescopes	Typewriters, Duplicators, etc.
Binoculars	Military Literature, including Maps and Manuals.
Optical Stores	Private Cars and other Vehicles.
Technical Equipment.	Medical Equipment.
Cine and other Cameras	Money in Italian Currency.
Wireless Sets	Other items which are clearly of value.

(b) It is known, however, that large quantities of the items listed are in the possession of units and individual officers and other ranks. Formations will accordingly take all possible steps to recover such items. These will include the publication by units and establishments (including hospitals, services, depots, workshops etc) of orders to the effect that -

(i) All items will be handed over immediately to the Salvage Organisation or to Ordnance Depots.

(ii) The retention of any such articles will involve disciplinary action.

(c) Formations and heads of establishments etc., will, therefore, ensure that disciplinary action is taken in all such cases.

3. Lists of items handed over in accordance with para.2 (b) (i) will be forwarded to H.Q. A.I.F. through Formation HQs.

4. It is notified that loot includes any property or money in the possession or under the control of any officer or soldier which has not been obtained by issue, by free gift on the part of the lawful owner, or by lawful purchase for fair value. So-called souvenirs of battle are included in the term. The possession of loot by any member of the A.I.F. is forbidden.

5. Any officer of the A.I.F. detected in the possession of loot will be tried by Court Martial. Other Ranks will be dealt with as may be considered fit by superior authority not below the rank of Colonel.

(A.I.F. Order 286 of 7 Mar.41.)

134. CAMERAS

Sub-Units will collect and register all cameras that have been salvaged, withdrawn from Kit Store, or otherwise obtained by personnel since 12 Sep.42.

Cameras and registers to reach RHQ not later than 1800 hrs 12 Nov.42.

135. DRESS

The attention of all ranks is drawn to R.O.118 of 5 Oct.42, which is republished for information :-

"All ranks will be properly dressed when their duty takes them out of their immediate area or when attending lectures, church parades, demonstrations etc.

Hats KF or Tin, shirts, shorts, stockings long and boots will be worn. Officers may wear caps. Puggarees will be worn with Hats KF.

A.W. Fowood .....Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 AUST FD REGT

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published) 136-138
A.M.R.&.O.1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt

14 Nov.42

136. CAPTURED EQUIPMENT.
(a) For the present, captured enemy and recaptured British MT may be retained by units, to meet existing deficiences in WE.
(b) Units will forward a state of all enemy pattern MT and equipment in possession, to reach RHQ by 1400 hrs 18 Nov.42. Equipment will be described as fully as possible.
(Extract 9 Aust Div.R.O.599 of 13 Nov.42)

137. JERRICANS AND 2 GALL CONTAINERS
(a) Petrol jerricans may be retained by units for use as petrol containers.
(b) Jerricans marked either "VASSER" or with a white cross are required by Eighth Army and will be returned to salvage.
(c) Jerricans will NOT be used as water containers.
(Extract 9 Aust Div.R.O.601 of 13 Nov.42)

138. CLEANING OF AREAS
(a) When units have cleared all useful salvage from the areas alloted ; rubbish and other material which is not worth salvaging will be burnt or buried.
(b) Documents or maps found during salvage operations will be given to formation or unit Intelligence offrs.
(c) Areas in the vicinity of derelict vehicles will be left clean and tidy.
(9 Aust Div.Order 602 of 13 Nov.42).

.....Lieut.
A/Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment.

NOTICES

SPECIAL MESSAGE. Army Comd wishes all troops to know that the PRIME MINISTER ordered church bells to be rung throughout BRITIAN on 15 Nov.in celebration of our victory.

ACF DISTRIBUTION The undermentioned items were received from Australian Comforts Fund for distribution the dates shown.

17 Oct.	1 oz tobacco	3 Christmas Cards	per man.
	1 pkt Cig.Papers	3 envelopes	
	1 handkerchief		
7 Nov.	1 oz tobacco		per man
	1 pkt cig papers		
	2 razor blades		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O.1587

139-147

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1
BY
Lt-Col.T.C.EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt

18 Nov 42

139. VEH LIGHTS

Units will make a check and ensure that all vehs have at least the tail lamp and left side parking lamp is working order.
(9 Aust Div R.O.603 of 15 Nov 42.)

140. WATER RATION

As a result of heavy consumption in rear areas, 10 Corps is now reduced to a ration of half a gall per man per day. The ration of ONE gall per man will be strictly observed by all units of 9 Aust Div.

Commencing 16 Nov a water control party will be posted at WP and will supervise drawing of water. Units will provide drs of water vehs with an authority to draw water at ONE gall per man for the ration strength of the unit. Authority will be signed by an offr. Water will NOT be issued unless an authority is produced. WP south of ALAMEIN sta will NOT be used.
(9 Aust Div R.O. 607 of 15 Nov 42.)

141. GERMAN ELECTRIC BOMB FUSES.

Personnel finding serviceable German electric bomb fuses will return them to Div Salvage dump. Salvage unit will send them to RE depot QUBO EL ALAB. (9 Aust.Div R.O. of 15 Nov 42.)

142. PUNISHMENTS BY COURTS MARTIAL.

The following sentences, passed recently by Courts Martial held in the Division are published for information:

A private soldier convicted of two charges of desertion and one of escaping from close arrest was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for three years.

A private soldier convicted of desertion was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for two years.

Two private soldiers convicted of desertion were each sentenced to one years imprisonment.

A private soldier convicted of striking his superior officer was sentenced to 18 months detention.

A WOII convicted of AWL from a Con Depot was fined £5 and reduced to Corporal.

Two private soldiers AWL for two days were sentenced to one years detention and one years hard labour concurrently.

A private soldier convicted of desertion was sentenced to one years imprisonment with hard labour. (9Aust Div R.O. 611 of 15 Nov 42)

A warrant officer, convicted of absenting himself without leave in the Field (A.A.15(1), was sentenced to be reduced to the rank of Corporal and to be fined the sum of five pounds.

A corporal, convicted of conspiring with other soldiers to steal private property (AA41), two charges of stealing public property (AA.18(4)), and two charges of improperly using an Army vehicle to improperly carry away public property (AA.40), was sentenced to be reduced to the ranks, to undergo detention for 13 months, and to be put under stoppages of, pay to make good the sum of £A32/6/10.

A private soldier, convicted of absenting himself without leave in the Field for 5 days (AA.15(1)), was sentenced to suffer field punishment for 90 days and to forfeit all ordinary pay for 90 days.
(A.I.F.Order 1331 of 7 Nov 42.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

16 Nov 42.

143. SPECIAL CHRISTMAS AIRGRAPH SERVICE.

1. Arrangements have been made for a special Christmas Airgraph Service between the Middle East and Australia. This is a special service and must not be regarded as indicating that a regular Aigraph service is operating.
2. Each member of the AIF(ME) is permitted to send one Airgraph to Australia free of charge.
3. Airgraphs should be written in dark ink. The address should be block-lettered.
4. The airgraph forms, when completed, must be handed in to the Bty Office or Postal Orderly, they will not be accepted from individual members at Field Post Offices..
5. After censorship Units will forward the Airgraphs, per Postal Orderly, to their respective Field Post Offices.
6. Airgraph forms must be kept flat. Folded or otherwise creased forms do not photograph well.
7. Airgraphs will be accepted daily by Postal Orderly up to 1200 hrs 27 Nov 42.
8. It must be clearly understood that each soldier is entitled to lodge ONE Airgraph ONLY under this Special Christmas Airgraph Scheme. There is no provision for the despatch of additional Airgraphs, postage prepaid or otherwise.
9. Forms estimated to be sufficient for the issue of one to each soldier will be distributed as soon as they become available. (Extracts from 9 Aust Div R.O. 608 of 15 Nov 42.)

144. SPECIAL CHRISTMAS E.F.M. CABLEGRAM TEXTS.

Standard E.F.M.Texts will be withdrawn for the period 7 Dec 42 to 27 Dec 42 and the following Special Texts A.B.C.D.E & F substituted.

A. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. All well.
B. Love and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. All well.
C. Love and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all at home. All well.
D. Love and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from all at home all well.
E. Love and best wishes for a Happy New Year all well.
F. Every good wish for the New Year.

The sender of the Cablegram will choose ONE ONLY of the above texts. Regulations applying to Standard Texts E.F.M's will apply to Christmas E.F.M's.

145. DUPLICATE PAYBOOKS.

Please furnish a schedule of all duplicate paybooks held in Bty's and issued PRIOR to 31 Aug 42. Schedule to give details of soldiers name, army number, number of paybook, and most important, the date of commencement of the credit earnings in the Duplicate Paybook. This information is required for transmission to Australia so that Conversion figures may be made available in Middle East. Every effort is being made to speed up Conversions and the above information should be forwarded as soon as possible.

146. PERSONNEL MARCHING IN TO UNIT.

Routine Order 120 of 10 Oct 42 is hereby cancelled.

ALL personnel marching into Unit, except leave, will report to RHQ and remain there pending posting to Sub-Units.

147. AUDIT BOARD.

The following will be members of the Unit Audit Board as from this date:- Capt. DEERE E.J.C., Lieut WILCOCK J.R., Lieut WALLACE G.

A.H. Lorwood. Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published) 148/149
A.M.R.O.1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1
BY
Lt-Col. T.C. BARTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt

19 Nov 42

148. REGIMENTAL TIME TABLE

The following time table will take effect as and from 19 Nov 42.

REVEILLE	0700	hrs
BREAKFAST	0745	"
1st PARADE	0830	"
LUNCH	1230	"
PARADE	1330	"
EVENING MEAL	1700	"

149. MAIN ROAD ALAMEIN - DABA

The MAIN road between ALAMEIN and DABA is now open to all vehicles.

A.W. Lawson ....Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be published)
(A.M.R.&.O.1587)

150/153.

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt-Col. T.C. EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

21 Nov 42

150. DISCIPLINE

The undermentioned sentences by Courts-Martial are published for information :-

(a) A private soldier convicted of four charges of obtaining money by false pretences;(AA41),four charges of uttering his paybook;(AA41), and being improperly in possession of two paybooks; (AA.40). was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for two years.

(b) A private soldier convicted of striking his superior officer in the execution of his office; (AA.8(1)), and using threatening language to his superior officer;(AA.8(2)), was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.

(c) A private soldier convicted of improperly making away with by selling a pair of military boots, public property; (AA.40), was sentenced to undergo detention for ninety days.

(d) A private soldier convicted of two charges of passing valueless cheques;(AA 40), and of absenting himself without leave while under open arrest; (AA.15(1)), was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.

(AIF Order 1343 of 14 Nov 42.

151. INDISCRIMINATE FIRING

As a result of indiscriminate firing in corps area, some troops have been wounded. NO shooting except under control of an Officer, WO or NCO will in future take place.

152. DAMAGE TO LANDING GROUNDS.

Damage has been caused to landing grounds by vehicles crossing them. All troops will keep clear of landing grounds whether occupied or unoccupied.

153. TRAINING AREAS.

1. The following area is reserved for the training of Infantry Bdes:-
South of railway between 8675 and 862 Easting Grids and north of 305 Northing Grid.
2. RAA 9 Aust Div may use the area west of the Bde Training Area as far as the 840 Easting Grid and South to the 300 Northing grid.
3. It is probable that these areas contain some enemy mines and before exercises are carried out detailed recces of the ground to be used should be made.

NOTICES.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS IN AUSTRALIA.

Advice has been received that mails posted in Middle East between 12 Sep 42 and 5 Oct 42 were received in Melbourne by 4 Nov 42.

FOUND

One greatcoat in LAD area containing wallet in pocket.
Enquire R.H.Q. Orderly Room.

CHURCH SERVICES SUNDAY 22 NOV 42.

R.C.MASS at 14 Bty old Command Post at 0900 hrs.
C.E.PARADE in RHQ area at 1030 hrs.

[signature] Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be published)
(A.M.R.&O. 1587)

154/155.

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt. Col. T. C. EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

24 Nov 42.

154. DRESS.
Commencing 0830 hrs parade 25 Nov 42 the following dress will be worn.
Trousers, long (KD Spl.)
Shirts
Issue Pullovers
Boots
Hats K.F.
This dress may be departed from each Monday.

155. FIRING OF LIGHTS.
The indiscriminate firing of light signals will ceaase.

.....Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd. Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

..to be [illegible]ed)
A.M.R.& O. 1587

156/161

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1
BY
Lt.Col. T.C.EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

30 Nov 42.

156. ARTILLERY EQUIPMENTS, ASSOCIATED STORES.

1. Associated gun stores are part of an Arty.Equipment. Except as mentioned in para, 2 below, they will always accompany the Equipment when it is being handed in to Base Ord. Dep., transferred from one Unit to another, or returned un serviceable.
2. An exception may be made when a Unit is returning Arty.Equipments for exchange; in such cases associated stores will only be retained if direct orders to that effect are included in the instructions for the exchange of Equipments.
3. Failure to comply with the procedure set out above results in Units holding associated stores surplus to their requirements to the detriment of other Units, and may delay the re-issue of repaired or new Equipment owing to lack of associated stores.
(A.I.F. Order 1345 of 21 Nov 42.)

157. SHOOTING OF CARRIER PIGEONS

1. Many cases are occuring of carrier pigeons being shot at, and not only have valuable birds been killed or injured, but the training of others seriously upset. This has resulted in the non-delivery or delay of important messages, and it must be realized that messages carried by pigeons are often of an S.O.S. nature, the prompt delivery of which may lead to the saving of men's lives.
2. All personnel are, therefor, forbidden to shoot at pigeons of any sort, and in addition, will report immediately any cases they encounter of pigeon shooting, whether by service personnel or civilians.
(A.I.F. Order 1347 of 21 Nov 42.)

158. NOMENCLATURE OF AUSTRALIAN FORCES

1. To ensure standard usage and interpretation, the following definitions are promulgated:-
The expression "Australian Military Forces" means the whole of the military forces of the Commonwealth of Australia. It therefor includes the Australian Imperial Force.
The expression "Citizen Military Forces" means the military forces of the Commonwealth of Australia, other than the Australian Imperial Force and the Permanent Military Forces. It includes the Volunteer Defence Corps.
2. The following abbreviations are authorised:-
A.M.F. for Australian Military Forces
A.I.F. for Australian Imperial Force
P.M.F. for Permanent Military Forces
C.M.F. for Citizen Military Forces
It is to be particularly noted that "C.M.F." is not an abbreviation for "Commonwealth Military Forces". Use of the expression "Commonwealth Military Forces" will be avoided.
(A.I.F. Order 1349 of 21 Nov 42.

159. SECURITY

No mention may be made in correspondence of move to or presence of this Regiment in PALESTINE.

160. E.F.M. CABLES

The standard E.F.M. texts now in use will be accepted by Unit Postal Orderly up to 1200 HRS ON 4th DEC. As arrangements cannot be made for despatch of cables on 5th and 6th Dec. From 7th Dec until 27th Dec, Special Xmas E.F.M. Cables ONLY can be sent. After the latter date Standard E.F.M. Texts will come into use again.

161. PARCELS

As no facilities exist for despatch, no parcels will be accepted by Postal Orderly during period 1200 hrs 1 Dec to 1200 hrs 8 Dec 42

[illegible] Capt
Adjt 2/1 Aust Fd Reg T.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPENDIX "D" TO WAR DIARY
NOVEMBER 1942
2/7 Aust Fd Regt

2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT

POSTING OF OFFICERS - AS FROM 1800 HRS 9 NOV. 42

R.H.Q.

C.O.	Lieut Col	T.C.EASTICK
2 i/c	Major	R.L.JOHNSTON
Adjt	Capt	A.W.FORWOOD
Q.M.	Capt	H.G.LOVEBAND
T.O.	Lieut	J.C.MELLOR
R.S.O.	Lieut	K.T.LUTZ
O.M.E.	Capt	G.T.RIDLEY
Sig Offr	Lieut	D.C.McNEILL
Chaplain	Capt	E.W.O'HALLORAN
R.M.O.	Capt	E.W.SIBREE

13 FD BTY

B.C.	Major	A.L.ROGERS
Sty Capt.	Capt	C.L.SCHRADER
C.P.O.	Lieut	H.R.S.NEWLAND
A.C.P.O.	Lieut	J.A.FITZGIBBON
W.L.O.	Lieut	R.M.FAULKNER

14 FD BTY

Major	G.R.HUGGETT
Capt	T.K.MACFARLANE
Lieut	W.D.PARMAN
Lieut	F.B.MITCHELL
Lieut	A.A.WYNNE

57 FD BTY

Major	J.P.DAY
Capt	E.J.C.DEER
Lieut	T.A.RODRIGUEZ
Lieut	E.G.BRENNAN
Lieut	L.B.RILEY

	'A' TP	'B' TP	'C' TP	'D' TP	'E' TP	'F' TP
Tp Comd	Capt P.F.CLELAND	Capt A.G.JONES	Capt W.J.L.COLE	R.F.B.FITZHARDINGE	Capt R.H.RUNGIE	Capt E.C.PHILLIPSON
G.P.O.	Lieut S.E.BISHOP	Lieut M.A.KER	LieutR.H.ADAMS	Lieut R.W.J.MENZIES	Lieut D.M.MACKIE	Lieut F.W.BYFIELD
Tp Ldr	Lieut E.G.WALLACE	Lieut E.J.WISCHUSEN	Lieut J.R.WILCOCK	Lieut S.G.WAUCHOP	Lieut R.C.GOSSE	Lieut M.C.SHORE

Attached Lieut S.GIBSON.

T.C.Eastick Lt.Col.
C.O. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPENDIX "E" TO WAR DIARY
2/7 AUST FD REGT
NOVEMBER 1942

MOST SECRET

Copy No...9...

30 Oct 42

NEW ZEALAND ARTILLERY OPERATION ORDER NO 43

Ref Map : 1/25,000 OVERPRINT, 18 Oct 42, Sheets 1 and 3

INFORMATION

1. (a) Enemy As per SITREPS

(b) Own Tps

(i) NZ Div, with under comd 151 and 152 Bdes and 23 Armd Bde, is to capture and hold an area 86303008 - 86753008 - 86752971 - 86302971.

(ii) Attack will be carried out on a two Bde front by 152 and 151 Bdes in two phases.

(iii) There will be a pause of 30 mins between Phase I and Phase II.

(iv) Inf Start Line ... 86853008 - 86852971
NORTH Boundary ... Grid Line 301
SOUTH Boundary " " 297
Pause Line Grid " 865

(v) Axis of advance ... 270°

(vi) Rate of advance ... 100 yds in 2½ mins.

INTENTION

2. NZ Div Arty with the support of the under-mentioned Corps Arty will support the attack.

1 Armd Div ... Three Regts
10 Armd Div ... Four Regts
51 Highland Div ... Two Regts
9 Aust Div ... One Regt
Three Med Regts

METHOD

3. (a) Zones of Fire

5 NZ Regt	NORTH Limit ..	EAST & WEST Grid Line	302
	SOUTH " ..	EAST & WEST " "	299
6 NZ Regt	NORTH " ..	EAST & WEST Grid Line	299
	SOUTH " ..	EAST & WEST " "	296

4 NZ Regt superimposed over 5 and 6 Regts.

64 Med Regt RA superimposed over 5 and 6 Regts.

(b) Tasks

(i) As per Traces A, B, C, E, and Appx D attached. Support for the attack is by a creeping barrage in depth, together with timed concentrations in the barrage lane and on the flanks.

(ii) CB 64 and 69 Med Regts are allotted to CCMA for CB and may withdraw from the programme on orders of CCMA.

/.....(iii)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(b) Tasks (continued)

(iii) DF Tasks DF Tasks are as shown in Trace E. These will be answered by all Regts within range at call by CRA, NZ Div, or CCRA, 30 Corps.

Rates for DF - 2 MINS RAPID
PAUSE 2 MINS
2 MINS NORMAL To be repeated at call.

(iv) Forward Moves

OPs OPOs 5 Fd Regt to 151 Bde front.
OPOs 6 Fd Regt to 152 Bde front.
OPOs 4 Fd Regt with 9 Armd Bde.
One OPO from 64 Med Regt RA in support of each Bde front.
51 Highland Div will deploy OPs on NORTH and SOUTH flank of Div boundary.

Gun Gps 4 Fd Regt to be prepared to join 9 Armd Bde at conclusion of bombardment.
Remaining Regts - verbal instructions later.

(c) LOs

5 and 6 Regts will each provide one LO respectively with 151 and 152 Inf Bdes.

(d) A Tk Allotment

31 NZ A Tk Bty under comd 9 Armd Bde.
32 NZ A Tk Bty, less one tp, under comd 5 NZ Inf Bde.
33 NZ A Tk Bty under comd 6 NZ Inf Bde.
34 NZ A Tk Bty, plus one tp, under comd 151 Inf Bde.

(e) AA. Tasks in Prder of Priority

(i) Directional Markers, Div and Inter Bde Boundaries - 1 r.p.g. from Z to Z plus 125.

(ii) Forward gaps in minefields.

(iii) Gun Areas.

(iv) HQ Areas.

(f) Time to be ready - 2300 hrs 31 Oct.

(g) Zero hour will be the time at which Arty opens bombardment and will be notified later.

ADMINISTRATION

4. Amn 400 r.p.g. dumped. 1st Lim Echelon full.

Water)
Rations) - Issued later.
Petrol)
Medical)

INTERCOMMUNICATION

5. (i) Synchronization - BBC time will be used.
(ii) Locations - Later.

Brigadier,
CRA NZ Div

DISTRIBUTION - NZA OPERATION ORDER NO 43

	ORDER	TRACE 'A'	TRACE 'B'	TRACE 'C'	APPX 'D'	TRACE 'E'
NZ DIV G	No 1	No 1	No 1	No 1	No 1	No 1
NZA	2				2 - 3	
4 Regt	3					
5 Regt	4					
6 Regt	5					
7 A Tk	6					
14 Lt AA	7					
9 AUST DIV						
RAA	8				4	
2/7 RAA	9				5- 44	
51 HIGHLAND DIV	10				15	
RA	11				16	
Fd Regt	12				17 - 26	
Fd Regt	13				27 - 36	
1 ARMD DIV						
RA	14				37	
2 Regt RHA	15				38 - 47	
Regt	16					
Regt	17					
10 ARMD DIV						
RA	18				48	
Regt	19				49 - 58	
Regt	20					
Regt	21					
Regt	22					
7 MED REGT	23					
64 MED REGT	24					
69 MED REGT	25					
CCMA	26				59	
CBC	27				60	
CCRA 10 CORPS	28				61 - 70	
CCRA 30 CORPS	29				71 - 72	
WAR DIARY	30 & 31				73 - 74	
					75	
FILE	32					

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APPENDIX "D"

CONCENTRATION TABLE

Serial	Time From	Time To	Unit		Concentration	Co-ordinates	Amn	Rate	Remarks
1	Zero	Zero plus 10	2/7 Fd Regt RAA	One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp	A B C D E F.	86610 30095 86615 30088 86585 30080 86689 30100 86670 30046 86630 30093	HE	SLOW	Search 100[x] Sweep 10'
2	Zero	Zero plus 10	2 RHA	One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp		86626 29995 86610 29987 86636 29962 86689 29955 86675 29919 86653 29893	HE	SLOW	Ditto
3	Zero	Zero plus 10	One Regt 10 Armd Div Arty	One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp		86683 29880 86657 29864 86660 29846 86646 29846 86668 29820 86686 29834	HE	SLOW	Ditto
4	Zero	Zero plus 10	126 Fd Regt RA	One Bty One Bty One Bty		86482 29800 86480 29852 86450 29954	HE	SLOW	Ditto
5	Zero	Zero plus 10	127 Fd Regt RA		Concentration from 86666 29820 to 86666 29750		HE	SLOW	Ditto

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Serial	Time From	Time To	Unit		Concentration	Co-ordinates	Amn	Rate	Remarks
6	Z plus 10	Z plus 20	2/7 Fd Regt RAA	One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp	A B C D E F	86543 29686 86557 29677 86568 29664 86546 29658 86577 29650 86550 29642	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	First rd SMOKE. Remainder HE
7	Z plus 10	Z plus 20	2 RHA	One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Bty		86534 29636 86565 29631 86540 29630 86534 29614 (86550 29620 to (86550 29588	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	Ditto
8	Z plus 10	Z plus 20	One Regt 10 Armd Div Arty		AS FOR SERIAL 6		HE & SMOKE	SLOW	Ditto
9	Z plus 10	Z plus 20	126 Fd Regt RA (less one tp)		AS FOR SERIAL 7 (less Concentration No 2)		HE & SMOKE	SLOW	Ditto
10	Z plus 10	Z plus 20	127 Fd Regt RA	One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Bty		86543 29686 86557 29677 86568 29664 86577 29650 86546 29658	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	Ditto
11	Z plus 10	Z plus 20	One Tp 126 Fd Regt RA	One Gun One Gun One Gun One Gun		86700 29700 86700 29666 86700 29633 86700 29600	SMOKE	One rd every two minutes	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Serial	Time From	Time To	Unit		Concentration	Co-ordinates	Amn	Rate	Remarks
12	Z plus 20	Z plus ~~54~~ 74	127 Fd Regt RA		Barrage from 86700 29700 to 86700 29630 lifting 100 yds in 2½ mins to 8650 EASTING grid. Bearing 270°		HE	SLOW	
13	Z plus 20	Z plus ~~54~~ 74	126 Fd Regt RA		Barrage from 86700 29640 to 86700 29580 lifting 100 yds in 2½ mins to 8650 EASTING grid. Bearing 270°.		HE	SLOW	
14	Z plus 20	Z plus ~~54~~ 74	One Regt. 10 Armd Div Arty		Barrage from 86670 29700 to 86670 29580 lifting 100 yds in 2½ mins to 8647 EASTING grid. Bearing 270°		HE	SLOW	
15	Z plus 20	Z plus 30	2/7 Fd Regt RAA		13 Right. 14 Left. 57 Superimposed.	86430 30270	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	Search 100[X] Sweep 10' One gun per tp SMOKE
16	Z plus 20	Z plus 30	2 RHA			86508 30119	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	Ditto
17	Z plus 30	Z plus 35	2/7 Fd Regt RAA	One Bty One Bty One Bty	13 14 57.	86586 30080 86550 30020 86530 30040	HE	SLOW	Search 100[X] Sweep 10'
18	Z plus 30	Z plus 40	2 RHA	One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp One Tp		86380 30040 86382 30027 86391 30019 86392 30000 86391 30070 86341 30021	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	One gun per tp SMOKE Search 100[X] Sweep 10'

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Serial	Time From	Time To	Unit	Concentration	Co-ordinates	Amm	Rate	Remarks
19	Z plus 55	Z plus 45	2/7 Fd One Tp Rest RAA One Tp (less one One Tp bty) One Tp	A B C D.	8650 29940 86512 29992 86620 30268 86585 30080	HE	SLOW	Search 100X Sweep 10'
20	Z plus 35	Z plus 45	One Bty 2/7 Fd Rest RAA	57.	86508 30118	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	one gun per tp SMOKE
21	Z plus 40	Z plus 45	2 RHA One Tp One Tp One Bty One Bty		86482 29800 86462 29784 86472 29774 86482 29752	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	One gun per tp SMOKE
22	Z plus 45	Z plus 65	2/7 Fd 13 Right. Rest RAA 14 Left. (57 Superimposed 100' ahead. 4 mins on Closing Line).	Barrage. Opening line 86618 30330 to 86643 30308. Axis of advance 245°. Ten 100X lifts lifting every two mins.		HE & SMOKE	NORMAL	One gun per tp SMOKE.
23	Z plus 45	Z plus 55	2 RHA		86264 29650	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	One gun per tp SMOKE Search 100X Sweep 10'
24	Z plus 55	Z plus 65	2 RHA	AS FOR SERIAL 18				
25	Z plus 65	Z plus 85	2/7 Fd Rest RAA As for Serial 22.	Barrage. Opening line 86230 30335 to 86275 30330. Axis of advance 180°. Ten 100X lifts lifting every two mins.		HE & SMOKE	NORMAL	One gun per tp SMOKE
26	Z plus 65	Z plus 75	2 RHA One bty (less one One Bty bty)		86370 30310 86360 30288	HE & SMOKE	SLOW	One gun per tp SMOKE Search 100X Sweep 10'
27	Z plus 65	Z plus 75	One bty 2 RHA		86320 30105	HE	SLOW	Search 100X Sweep 10'

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Serial	Time From	Time To	Unit	Concentration	Co-ordinates	Amn	Rate	Remarks
28	Z plus 75	Z plus 85	2 RHA One Bty One Bty One Bty		86446 29954 86390 29900 86325 29825	HE HE HE	SLOW VERY SLOW VERY SLOW	Sweep 10' Search 100^{X} sweep 10' Search 100^{X} sweep 10'
29	Z plus 75	Z plus 105	126 Fd Regt RA	Covering fire from 86440 29700 to 86430 29620		HE	VERY SLOW	
30	Z plus 75	Z plus 105	127 Fd Regt RA	Covering fire from 86470 29600 to 86530 29550		HE	VERY SLOW	
31	Z plus 75	Z plus 105	One Regt 10 Armd Div Arty		86300 29586	HE & SMOKE	VERY SLOW	Search 200^{X} by 100s. Sweep 20'
32	Z plus 85	Z plus 105	2/7 Fd Regt RAA	REPEAT SERIAL 22				
33	Z plus 85	Z plus 95	2 RHA	Concentration from 86458 30340 to 86482 30288		HE	VERY SLOW	Sweep 10'
34	Z plus 95	Z plus 105	2 RHA		86300 29588	HE	VERY SLOW	Search 100^{X} sweep 10'
35	Z plus 105	Z plus 115	2/7 Fd Regt RAA 13 14 57.	Centre of area 86510 30200 - radius 400^{X}		HE	SLOW	✓
36	Z plus 105	Z plus 125	2 RHA	Centre of area 86330 30025 - radius 300^{X}		HE	SLOW	
37	Z plus 105	Z plus 125	126 Fd Regt RA	Centre of area 86300 29750 - radius 400^{X}		HE	SLOW	
38	Z plus 105	Z plus 125	127 Fd Regt RA	Centre of area Pt 38 86320 29530 radius 400^{X}		HE	SLOW	

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Serial	Time From	Time To	Unit	Concentration	Co-ordinates	Amn	Rate	Remarks
39	Z plus 105	Z plus 145	One Regt 10 Armd Div Arty	SNIPE		HE	VERY SLOW	
40	Z plus 115	Z plus 125	2/7 Fd Regt RAA 13 Right. 14 Left. 57 Superimposed.	Centre of area 86380 30200 - radius 300^{X}		HE	SLOW	
41	Z plus 125	Z plus 145	2/7 Fd Regt RAA	REPEAT SERIAL 28		HE	SLOW	
42	Z plus 125	Z plus 145	2 RHA One Bty One Bty One Bty		86300 29900 86163 29756 86192 29600	HE	SLOW	Sweep 20'
43	Z plus 125	Z plus 145	126 Fd One Bty Regt One Bty RA One Bty		86350 29600 86350 29550 86350 29550	HE	SLOW	Sweep 20'
44	Z plus 125	Z plus 165	127 Fd One Bty Regt One Bty RA One Bty		86250 29660 86300 29590 86260 29530	HE	SLOW	Sweep 20'
45	Z plus 145	Z plus 165	2/7 One Bty Fd One Bty Regt One Bty RAA	13 14 57.	86370 30300 86370 30310 86360 30288	HE	SLOW	Search 100^{X} Sweep 20'
46	Z plus. 145	Z plus 165	2 RHA Two Btys One Bty		86260 29650 86282 29632	HE	NORMAL	Search 100^{X} Sweep 40'
47	Z plus 145	Z plus 165	One Bty 126 Fd Regt RA		86306 29602	HE	NORMAL	Search 100^{X} Sweep 40'
48	Z plus 145	Z plus 165	126 Fd Regt RA less one bty		86196 29600	HE	SLOW	Search 100^{X} Sweep 40'
49	Z plus 145	Z plus 165	One Regt 10 Armd Div Arty	AS FOR SERIALS 47 and 48		HE	AS FOR SERIALS 47 and 48	

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D.F. TASKS - 9 Aust. Div.

1 : 25,000

To take effect
from 2400 hrs.
1 Nov 42

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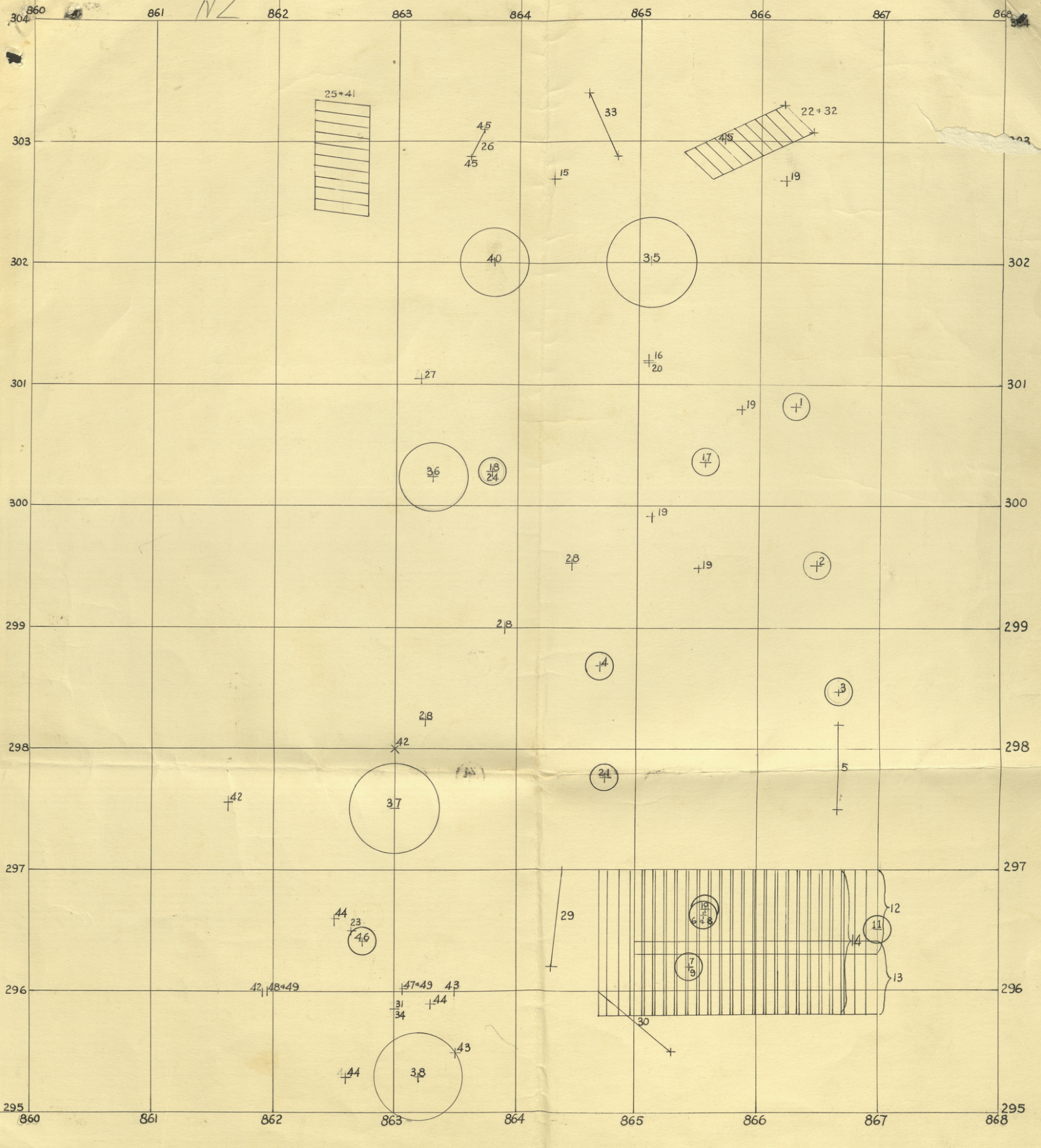
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APPENDIX "F" (ii)

SECRET

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
11 Nov 42

9 Aust Div

LESSONS FROM RECENT FIGHTING

Ref 9 Aust Div G899/60/18 dated 8 Nov.42.

1. The following pts are considered to be the outstanding lessons learnt or again emphasised during the recent ops:

   a. The value of the battle drill practiced during trg.

   b. The system of pl "packs", carrier-borne and organised as a 1st flight of A Ech tpt proved its value.

   c. The necessity for complete reorgn before first light and the withdrawal of all thinned-skinned vehs.

   d. The value of the Hawkins mine as an effective and quickly laid A Tk barrier.

   e. The necessity for a system of quick survey so that key pts can be plotted by bns at the earliest opportunity, preferably before first light.

   f. With carefully timed moves and a number of units using one or two routes it is essential that more adequate lighting arrangements be employed.

   g. Arty is most effective when barrages and concentrations are fired from behind the attacking tps. From other angles the distance our tps are held back is too great.

   h. The question of organising the subsidiary barrages with the bn weapons is a pt which should be investigated.

2. The att report embodies detailed comments on further lessons learnt from recent fighting.

(D.A. Whitehead) Brig
Comd 26 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

INF IN ATTACK

1. Assembly of assaulting coys
Exact timing in the approach march was most important. In this regard, the lying up of fwd assaulting bns was essential to prevent congestion and delay in the start of the attack. Considerable care in comflg was taken, and no difficulty was experienced in maintaining the bn in the fwd areas prior to the attack.
The marking of routes cannot be too carefully planned, nor can anything be left undone to show the turnoff of each route from a common lateral. This was not adequately done. To assist those responsible for traffic control, the front and rear veh of each block or unit must be marked with a distinctive sign.

2. a. Organisation of forming up on start line
The formation adopted on the start line was the battle formation decided upon for the particular op and was well practiced before hand. It is essential that all units be trained in formations likely to be adopted for an attack.

b. Method of marking start line by night
The six inch white tape makes excellent marking for the start line itself, and lights should be used to indicate the pts at which the tps turnoff the line of adv. The actual location on the start line of subunits can be done equally effectively by guides, by pieces of tape, or by lights, provided always that the tps are made familiar with the method to be employed.

3. Keeping direction and map reading.
value of immediate survey.
Value of Bofors, vertical searchlights etc
Keeping direction must be primarily the responsibility of the Bn Int sec and of coy comds. For this all available oil compasses, pacers, and time keepers must be employed. During the recent ops all of these means were triplicated and found adequate. Other subunit comds must also maintain a constant check. The essential pt, however, is that the start must be made from a survey pt or line.
Map reading in the best of conditions is extremely difficult in the desert. Every aid possible must therefore be made available to enable the attacking tps to determine exactly where they are located. The arrangements made in the initial attack, namely a small survey party att to the bde, fell down owing to the searchlights being to far to the rear and invisible in the strong moonlight. Had the searchlight been visible, however, it is doubtful whether this method would have given the location of pts in the bn areas.
The following methods were adopted by this bde, and, with practice and and more detailed planning, should prove successful:

i. Searchlights were located from a reasonable distance from the front and at places that would give intersecting rays at approx 90 degrees in the bn areas. The map spots of these posns were given to the bns before the attack.

ii. By using flash spotters, verey lights was sent up at fixed times, and coord of certain fixed pts were thus obtained. This method was employed successfully on nights 23/24 and 25/26 Oct to fix the posns of fwd bns and on night 30/31 Oct to obtain a pt from which the traverse was made to fix the start line.

During these ops, the actual work of the Bofors gun teams was excellent, but the value of the gun as a subsidiary aid is definitely questionable. Although possibly of value it is deceptive to anybody not directly beneath its line of fire. Trials during exercises would enable the value of the Bofors to be assessed much more fully than was possible during recent fighting.
It is considered that the primary method of keeping direction must be within the coy itself.

4. Inf formations
Owing to the depth of the objective in each attack, it was found necessary to pass the rear coys through the fwd coys. The pause of 15 mins laid down for this op appeared generally adequate and meant that the rear coys moved some 500 to 600 yds behind the leading coys.

5. a. Due to the thinness of the enemy on the ground, no serious mopping up problems were encountered in the initial attack by this bde. In the attack 30/31 Oct, both 2/24 and 2/48 bns had to fight their way on to the start lines, though 2/32 bn had already attacked through this area. It appears that this fighting or mopping up was done on the flank of the area covered by the 2/32 bn.

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Where penetration is made on a narrow front additional tps should be made available to mop up on the flanks. In the op concerned sufficient forces were not available to perform this extra task.

b. Dealing with enemy posts that hol up the attack
Usually these were dealt with either immediately by the leading inf, or by detaching one of the res pls of fwd coys, plus 2" mortar det, to subdue the post concerned. If necessary, three inch mortars were later employed.

6. Booby traps
Booby traps in the correct sense of the term were not encountered. Anti-personnel mines, both of B 4 and S type were found in the enemy minefds and wire. B 4 mines were more commonly used, but were often rusty and usually had been badly maintained. These mines were fastened to short pickets, were clearly visible in the moonlight, and the engrs parties detailed for this work were able to deal with the mines satisfactorily. S type mines were easily detected by the presence of two short pickets, one on each side, to take the trip wire. These were located close to the enemy wire. There is nothing to indicate that anti-personnel mines in any way delayed our advance.

7. Dug-in enemy tks
Only one enemy dug-in tk was encountered this was a M 13 to the NW of pt 29. The crew offered no resistance and ran away at high speed.

8. Dealing with wire
The enemy does not appear to have considered the use of wire as seriously as ourselves. In most cases the wire was thin, appeared to have been given little care and maintenance and was not tactically sited. A few lengths of double apron were covered only by frontal fire. Bangalore torpedoes dealt effectively with any wire encountered.

9. Use of carriers with grapnel
Not used in 26 Aust Inf Bde area. It is considered that the enemy practice of siting his wire behind his minefds gave little opportunity of employing grapnels effectively.

10. Moving behind barrages
Where barrages or lifts of concentrations are fired from behind advancing tps it was found possible to get within 250 yds of our fire, the intervening gap being covered in about 3 mins. When fired from the flank or against the advancing inf, this distance is increased to 500 yds, which gives the enemy sufficient time to bring his weapons into operation.

11. a. Move fwd of tks
By placing the control of the initial fwd move under the bn with whom the tks are working, satisfactory results were obtained. It is also essential to ensure that the forming up area for tks be free of all other tpt.

b. Move fwd of tpt
For the purpose of these ops, each bn A ech tpt was divided into two flights. The actual composition of each flight varied with the nature of the op undertaken. The Ist flight was based on the max employment of carriers each loaded with the standard pl or coy packet. The weapons of sp arms were either carried or towed by special carrier hooks att to the carrier itself (it is essential that these hooks be strong enough for any tasks they are likely to be called upon to perform, e.g. towing of A Tk guns of all types). The second flight consisted of the remaining A Ech vehs.
In general, the move fwd of these flights was made on receipt of orders from the Bn comds. The move was dependent on the clearing of tracks through the minefds. This arrangement worked in practice and will form the basis of bn drill.
The marking of routes still leaves much to be desired, and whereever possible routes should be recced by night by an offr after marking. Pro personnel are essential for the control of any large movement especially where the routes available are limited. Pro require special trg in this work and the same personnel should be available for trg with the same formation at all times.

12. Comms
It is imperative that the maximun number of alternative means of comn be provided under all circumstances. The No. 18 setcan carry out its f functions within the limits of the set itself provided operators are fully trained. Casualties among operators were high and it is most important that a res of TRAINED operators be provided from a source outside the bn.

13. Success sigs
Two new rocket-type sigs proved satisfactory.

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14. Tk co-operation

a. By night

The tks co-operating with this bde did not appear to have reached sufficiently high standard of trg in regard to maintenance of direction to enable them to undertake night ops. Tks moving with inf at night must do so with covers up and drs lids open. Their main value at night is the moral effect to the attackers. Their gunnery is poor and inaccurate, and any attempts at manoeuvre usually cause confusion among the inf and disaster to the tks. There appears to be nothing they can achieve which cannot be better performed by inf acting alone.

b. By day

By taking hull down posns on the flank the tks were able to augment the depleted inf a tk defence, and while they maintained hull down posns they did useful work. The difficulty experienced of moving to alternative posns caused them to suffer hy casualties from 88 mm gun fire.

15. Value of MG fire in sp.

There is not direct evidence to enable the value of MG fire in sp of an inf attack to be accurately assessed. It is considered, however, that the flanking fire on night 23/24 Oct helped to reduce enemy fire in this area.

INF IN REORGZ AND DEFENCE

1. Siting inf MG and A Tk posts

The experience of this bde has been that after a night attack the enemy withdraws only sufficient distance to allow him to maintain to fire over our area of reorgzn. Under these conditions, sp weapons have to be put on the ground during darkness and can only be disposed on an average density over the whole front. Experience is necessary therefore in being able to obtain reasonable fields of fire by siting weapons in darkness. The final reorgzn and coord under these circumstances can only be carried out on the following night. It is essential to see that there are no inf in areas where they are not protected by a Tk fire. It is considered essentail that A Tk guns are sited further fwd. A sounder defence can be obtained by placing 6 prs fwd and siting 2 prs in depth.

2. Combination of A Tk guns and MGs

Considered useful only for certain periods. The presence of some inf is necessary both for patrolling and for the immediate protection of the area against infiltration.

3. Def fire

The system of def fire whereby a series of regtl concentrations was legislated for across the front, named, and fired on call, was speedy and gave the maximun protection. These concentrations were used as the basis for def fire, inf calling for any particular concentrations plus or minus during daylight. The most effective def fire however is that directed by the arty FOO. It appeared that during a number of counter-attacks def fire turned the enemy's adv before it was fully developed. The attack was stopped but not borken up. It is worth careful consideration as to whether def fire chuld not be more effectively employed on the enemy's sp weapons, leaving our own A Tk and small arms fire to deal with the attack itself.

4. SOS sigs

Not used. Not used on the bde front during these ops. Alternative means of comn were used calling for def fire.

5. Enemy tk and inf counter-attacks

In general the enemy counter-attacks appeared to have been made on limited fronts and seldom exceeded a bn in strength. When our opposition was made obvious there seemed a marked reluctance on the part of the enemy to press home the attack.

6. Concealment of defences

This has not yet become automatic among the tps and considerable more trg and an emphasis by offrs is required before this can become a fact in addition, in most cases ~~xxxxxthxxgxxxxx~~ defences could not be said to be absolutely tk proof, even where the ground permitted.

7. Patrolling and raids.

No special lessons were learnt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ENGRS

1. Organisation of minefd clearing parties including res for unchartered fds.
The initial attack was made on an estimate of three minefds, and the engrs were well organised to deal with these. In actual fact seven minefds has to be cleared. The number of tasks which the engrs were called upon to carry out meant a loack of res which could not be avoided. This slowed the passage of vehs considerably.
2. Creation of gaps and organisation for marking and lighting
Generally, the gap maxking and marking and also the lighting was good. In the latter stages of the op, however, the supply of lights was inadequate. This possibly was the cause of some of our tanks becoming damaged on our own minefds.
3. Destruction of enemy tks and guns
Although a limited number of prepared charges were carried, these were no used and the guns and the M 13 tk captured were left intact and later salvaged.
4. Route clearance, improvement, marking, broadening and lighting
The axis of adv of 2/24 bn was supposed to have been cleared prior to night 28/24 Oct. In actual fact a fd of Teller mines was discovered some 800 yds west of the start line. Owing to the numerous tasks allotted to the engrs there was little opportunity to broaden gaps during ops. Lighting generally was inadequate due to limited supplies of lights.
5. Use of scorpions
Scorpions were not employed in the op. They failed to arrive in their task area in sufficient time and, beyond removing some 400 yds of vital comms played no part in the action.

ARTY

1. Value of concentrated use of arty
Undoubted.
2. Barrages and concentrations
Once ops have become fluid the use of overprint maps and air photographs not taken on the same day are apt to be misleading. It is considered that, unless accurate and detailed infm can be obtained of the enemy dispositions, barrages are more satisfactory than concentrations.
3. Air photographs
The production and delivery needs to be speeded up considerably. Once the enemy fixed defences have been penetrated, photographs more than eight hours old, lose the greater part of their value.
4. FOOs
Whatever the circumstances may be in regard to his carrier it is essential that the FOO moves fwd during the night with the bn comd, the carrier following. Where FOOs attempt to move up at daylight they generally fail to make contact with the bns they are supposed to sp. If necessary other arrangements must be made to have the FOOs wireless set manhandled fwd.

ATK ARTY

See REORGZN and note the employment of carriers for the towing of 6 prs as described in ATTACK.

MISCELLANEOUS

1 Arty programmes
When a definite arty programme has been arranged, this programme should be carried out and not cancelled unless in extreme urgency (e.g., attack by 2/24 bn on THOMPSONS POST).
2. Repetition of arty concentrations
Bn comds are able to call for a repetition of a particular concentration by using the pre-arrange codeword. This system was found extremely valuable.
3. Bde O Gps
When time before an op is limited, Bde O Gps should be enlarged to include bn battle 2 i/cs in order to reduce time spent by the bn comd in the subsequent issue of his orders.
4. LOB Personnel
LOB personnel, particularly offrs, should be carried surplus to WE. The weakening of bns by the LOB personnel and by a high proportion of offr casualties has meant that bns have been largely "officered" by NCOs in battle.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

5. Rate of adv.
Once contact has been gained, the rate of adv cannot exceed 100 yds in 3 mins. When fighting is hy this rate may even be slower, or pauses may be introduced to enable arty concentrations to be continued on enemy fixed defences.

6. PWs
The Handling of Pws at night constitutes a grave problem. Fwd PW collecting posts must be established at all times and must be easily located by tps escorting back PWs.

7. Inter bn liaison
The establishment and maintenance of contact of flank units must constitute a definite bn rule.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPENDIX "F"

2/7 AUST. FIELD. REGT.
CORRESPONDENCE
42 | 136 | 8

SECRET
HQ, 20 AUST INF BDE.
11 Nov. 42.

9 Aust Div.

LESSONS FROM RECENT FIGHTING

Ref 9 Aust Div G899/60/18 of 8 Nov 42, the following report sets out briefly the chief lessons of the recent fighting in which this Bde took part.

1. Assembly of Assaulting Colns:
(a) Lying-up by assaulting tps in confined slit-trenches during day before attack should be avoided if at all possible-bad for morale and medically undesirable since t men are excited and need to move about. This need for moveme if men are to give of their best later makes static lying-up of whole units hard to enforce.

(b) Secrecy-apparently possible to assemble large force of MT and tks close behind FDLs before zero without arousing enemy suspicions. Vehs must move slowly.
Normal activity should continue up to zero-arty harassing fire etc.

(c) Sp arms can move long distances (10/15 miles) in short time in moonlight along good route and make last-min concentration within two hrs fater last light.

2. Organisation on Start-line:
(a) drill as practised by this Bde entirely satisfactory.

(b) Bde Centre Pt-must be definite, and recognisable, and if possible previously surveyed in.

(c) Guides- scale of 4 per coy is minimum.

(d) Lighting -double-light on unit axis at centre of FUP and different coloured lights for centre of coy FUPs or torches flashing coy letter in morse, are desirable.

(e) Marking-by night, tape is satisfactory-FUP for both fwd and rear coys should be taped, square to axis of adv.

(f) FUP and Start-line should be identical at night.

3. Keeping Direction:
(a) Coys must keep direction for themselves. Bn IO party to keep direction along unit centre-line and mark axis of adv with lights.

(b) Two compasses in each case essential.

(c) Stars and landmarks not always visible because of dust and smoke, and trg essential in marching on compass alone.

(d) Direction must be minutely checked about every 250yds.

(e) Three men required to check pacing and distance.

4. Map Reading
(a) Identification of natural features difficult but resection to give location was always found possible in latest ops. Units worked chiefly by dead reckoning from FUP-a known distance on a fixed bearing.

(b) Immediate survey would be useful, but survey party would normally have to be in armd C or carrier.

/2/

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(c) Beacons bearing map refs invaluable and should be erected as soon as practicable after attack.

(d) BOFORS of doubtful utility-not required by fwd inf who rely on compass, and moving guns fwd with large and noisy tractors to vicinity FUP before zero is a danger to surprise and secrecy. Most undesirable in small attack as revealing direction of attack and objective; an extra check on direction in case of large-scale assault but disadvantages generally outweigh advantages.

(e) Vertical Sls as employed in latest ops entirely useless for fwd units-too far in rear and too close together. Should be far enough fwd to be on the map actually in use and far enough apart to give adeuuate angle for resection.

5. Inf Formations:
(a) In night attacks, "square" formation desirable for coys unless unit frontage too great.

(b) Pls deployed normally with inf secs in file until opposition is encountered; gives better control, lessons dangers from boobytraps, prevents loss of inf weapons through unobserved casualties, easier to overcome wire obstacles. Danger from observed enemy MG or mortar fire not great at night. After assault on enemy posts, secs return to file to continue adv.

NOTE: Some units prefer to go through enemy wire and defences in extended order in bright moonlight to avoid risk of observed enemy fire on secs.

6. Mopping-up
(a) Normally task of res pl in each coy.

(b) If fwd pl strikes hy opposition from enemy, must stay and deal with it and res pl must move fwd immediately and become fwd pl.

(c) Escorts for PW often drain on manpower. Central unit collecting pt on axis of adv essential, staffed by RPs and any available spare personnel. Bde should assist by sending parties fwd along unit axes to take over PW at earliest possible stage. Div should be responsible for PW escorts in rear of Bde cages. LOB personnel might be used.

(d) Dismounted carrier personnel, and later, carriers themselves, invaluable for general mopping-up of unit battlefield and fwd of final objective.

(e) Units should always exploit about 1000 yds fwd of final objective with specially-detailed res elements :-

(I) To take advantage of initial confusion and dismay, to take additional PW and capture eqpt.

(II) To eliminate enemy posts close to new FDLs which will cause much trouble after dawn.

(III) To cover digging-in and reorganisation by fwd coys.

Exploiting dets should withdraw to rear before first light and themselves dig in.

7. Enemy Posts that hold up Attack:
(a) Fwd pls being fired on by enemy posts must keep straight on and tackle them.

(b) General practice in night patrolling of "going to ground" when fired on and sending people fwd to

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

investigate is bad trg for general attack and must be carefully eliminated in prior trg and rehearsal.

(c) Enemy posns on flank should be dealt with by res pl.

(d) 2-in mortar carried but not used. Considered useful quick sp waepon. Possibility of man-handling inf Vickers guns fwd with few belts of amm being investigated. Brens normally adequate at night.

8. Boobytraps

(a) Sprs dealt with boobytraps during adv. Inf had some casualties from boobytraps during mopping-up of nearby enemy posts after capture of final objectives. More trg for inf in recognising and dealing with boobytraps is desirable on lines of mine-laying and mine-lifting trg recently carried out.

(b) Enemy used boobytraps :-

(I) to prevent interference with his minefds(usually but not invariably along fwd edge).

(II) att to dammert to cause casualties to assaulting troops.

(III) in and around posns which he has voluntarily abandoned.

(c) Boobytraps might, with advantage, be used by us in damaged enemy tks to discourage common enemy practice of using them as OPs or MG posts.

9. Dug-in Enemy Tks

(a) Harassing MG and tk gun fire on our FDLs from dug-in enemy tks and tks hulldown just out of range of our ATk guns one of the most effective and troublesome enemy counter-measures. Difficult to deal with, requiring disproportionate sacrifice of own tks, or large expenditure of arty amm to eliminate them.

(b) Enemy tks obviously dislike our med arty.

(c) Mortar smoke might have been used to make the enemy tanks uneasy and to cover real or potential approach by tk-hunting det.

10. Dealing with Wire

(a) In general enemy wire not a difficulty if resolutely tackled.

(b) single dammert no obstacle at all.

(c) Bangalore torpedoes are completely effective.

(d) Arty concentrations on known posns in many cases cut the wire.

11. Use of Carriers with Grapnel

No experience by this Bde. Not practicable where minefds are encountered as MT cannot keep up with advancing inf.

12. Moving behind Barrages

(a) No difficulty found by our units. Inf keep very close behind and regulate own rate of adv by that of arty lifts, i.e. do not in practice adv at any prescribed uniform rate.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(b) The rate of adv is an average for guidance; it need not be the same throughout all stages. It was found advantageous to prescribe 75 yds in 1 min for earlier stages e.g. up to the enemy's wire and thereafter 100 yds in 3 mins.

Experience showed that the adv could even in later stages have been faster than 100 yds in 3 mins. The possibility of so varying the rate of adv depends mainly on the infm available about the enemy.

13. Move fwd of Tks and Tpt

System adopted by this Bde worked well in each attack. Main pts :-

(a) TCP essential 500 yds on our side of enemy minefd to regulate traffic.

(b) Unit 'A' Ech tpt must be organised in coy gps. This applies also to sp arms which must be allotted a prearranged coy area in which to take up posn, and move with the appropriate tpt gp.

(c) Passing tks along axis first, increases danger of unit tpt bogging in soft sand, but may be operationally necessary.

(d) MT must NOT be allowed fwd until route is clear right up to destination, otherwise they have to halt and thereby block the track.

(e) Tks are nervous, slow and uncertain in going through gaps unless guided. Apparently still very "mine-happy".

14. Comms

(a) Bde HQ always in touch with units by some means, and Bn HQ with coys.

(b) L/T always failed under hy enemy shelling, but considered worthwhile laying, because usually L/T comms were possible at night, and much infm and AQ traffic was made possible.

(c) 101 sets to Bde worked excellently. Necessity for one res 101 set with each Bn HQ fully demonstrated.

(d) 18 sets in general satisfactory but not sufficiently robust.

Many valve breakages due to concussion. Require to be withdrawn for servicing after a few days and spare replacements sets should be made available at Bde or Unit HQ to allow this to be done.

(e) Scale of issue of 18 sets should be 12 per bn.

15. Success Sigs:

(a) Distinctive sig rockets most effective.

(b) Code-words over W/T is best method of reporting success.

16. Tk Co-operation by Day and Night:

(a) Only possible after intensive prior trg and close personal liaison between comds, down to pl and tp comds.

(b) After trg, a tk regt can "marry" with an inf bn on FUP in about 15 mins.

(c) Use of tanks at night has great effect on enemy morale, but strictly limited where minefds known to exist within fixed defences.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

17. Value of MG fire in Sp:
Flanking fire by MMGs arranged twice during attacks. Results not known, but any additional accurate fire on known enemy posns during inf adv considered useful.

18. Siting Inf, MG and ATk Posts:
Re-organisation difficult after night attacks, Results but in desert, if final objective carefully chosen, can be done to pre-arranged plan, with attention to following pts +

(a) All tps to be below ground by daylight.

(b) considerable "thinning out" necessary. Night assault formations too compact for immediate digging-in on the spot. Re-organisation should be arranged to increase unit's depth.

(c) Sp arms should be allotted pre-arranged coy areas in which to take up posn but should not necessarily be incl in an inf locality, if adequately covered by inf weapons.

(d) concealment easier if weapons not grouped together in strongpts.

19. Combination of ATk guns and MGs
(a) Strongpts of this kind used by this Bde pushed fwd of coy localities to keep contact with, and maintain pressure upon, enemy when he was tending to withdraw.

(b) Considered useful for linking up unit localities where gaps between them exist, or for flank protection, to prevent infiltration by tks or inf.

(c) Not considered a good general principle-danger of having all weapons knocked out together.

20. DF Fire:
(a) Bn comds had difficulty, with many moves, in arranging immediate SOS tasks. Pre-arranged arty DF tasks fwd of final objective should be available meanwhile. Pre-determination of SOS tasks and even their rapid selection after objectives taken is difficult owing to difficulty of determining exact location of coys on the map.

(b) Arty comms from OPO to bty NOT always satisfactory.

(c) OPO must be in close touch with Bn comd during night, to enable SOS fire to be called down quickly.

(d) Arty Regt should notify Bde HQ when out of touch with any OPO. Units often uncertain whether OPO in contact with guns and put unnecessary calls for arty sp through Bde HQ.

21. SOS Sigs
Worked satisfactorily, but not necessary if OPOs in close touch with unit comds.

22. Enemy Tk and Inf Counter-attacks
(a) Enemy counter-attacks lacked the "ROMMEL" touch. 25 counter-attacks on Bde front but never in sufficient strength to effect penetration of our FDLs. Tks (Italian) used as assault force only once and then nearly all knocked out by our ATk guns.

(b) Tks otherwise invariably used only to give

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

covering fire to inf counter-attacks which lacked purpose, direction and force. Many broken up at inception by arty fire and prompt and efficient air sp.

(c) HAWKINS minefds fwd of coy localities, inf 2-prs and ATk Regt 6-prs are well able to deal with hy enemy tk counter-attack at first light.

23. Concealment of Defences:
(a) Do not occupy former enemy diggings. Movement gives away location and very easy for enemy arty to produce harassing fire.

(b) All personnel and weapons below ground by daylight.

24. Patrolling and Raids:
(a) Patrolling essential immediately after attack to mop-up enemy posts fwd of final objective, to keep touch with enemy and give warning of counter-attack.

(b) Aggressive patrolling essential when enemy shows signs of withdrawing, to maintain pressure and give warning of thinning-out.

(c) Fighting patrols in period before offensive began had the following results :-

(I) enemy forced to adopt effective counter-measures. Pts where penetration made strongly wired and boobytrapped. Therefore desirable NOT to raid too often in enemy defence where attack is comtemplated.

(II) powerfully-armed, alert dets placed fwd of enemy wire as counter-patrols.

(III) task of inf and engrs recce parties made very difficult.

(IV) after fixed defences est and made continuous very little motal or material damage inflicted on enemy by fighting patrols. Large scale raids with full sp from arty and other arms necessary to inflict any considerable damage & casualties.

25. HAWKINS GRENADES
(a) Proved most effective. At least 1000 per fwd bn should be made available as re-organisation stores to be carried in unit 'A' ech tpt.

(b) Re-organisation should provide for simultaneous laying of Hawkins minefds fwd of FDLs and digging-in-half available men initially allotted to each task.

26. Information
(a) Infm from air photos and overprint maps most reliable and useful. Permitted detailed planning.

(b) Reports by inf recce patrols also found to be accurate.

27. Preliminary Trg
(a) The value of preliminary trg cannot be too highly stressed, and of actual rehearsal as far as possible, over similar ground, with full eqpt and with the actual sp arms who are to co-operate in the attack. All agree that the first assault was "just like our exercises" and combined the best pts of previous trg thus ensuring success.

(b) Vital to tell each man what his task is and explain how it fits the larger plan, with aid of sandtables, diagrams, and maps.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

28. Time Factor
Completely adequate time was given to make full and detailed plans and for exhaustive discussion and rehearsal of the first phase. This contributed largely to the smoothness of the initial op, later attacks could be mounted at short notice, the drill in each case being similar.

29. Enemy 88mm Guns
These weapons dominated the battlefd to an extent out of all proportion to their numbers. By day 88mm airburst was main cause of casualties among our inf and chief obstacle to progress by the armour. Suggest 88mm guns should be a priority target for CB fire.

30. Arty Sp:
In general, arty sp prompt and impressively effective. Two main criticisms :-
(a) Arty OPOs at times out of touch with btys, sometimes at important moments.

(b) In later stages some guns seemed to be too far in rear to engage good targets only 3000 yds from our FDLs, and were for some days firing supercharge continuously.

31. Echs and Tpt.
(a) Practicable to bring up hot meals every night to fwd tps as far as 18 miles. This enabled 'B' ech vehs to be kept by day far from our FDLs.

(b) Essential to ensure ATk portees and other surplus 'A' ech tpt clear of fwd bn areas before daylight.

32. Air Sp:
(a) System of calling for air sp worked excellently. Calls were answered promptly (20 mins was shortest time) and bombing most accurate and effective.

(b) More generous sup of coloured smoke to fwd units to enable them to indicate their posn is suggested.

(c) Night ground sign in form of letter made by burning sand and pet is quite practicable and appeared to be easily recognisable.

33. Signals
(a) Line:
Buried and overhead cable impracticable fwd of Bde. Cable on ground difficult to maintain but worth effort. Alternatives and laterals desirable. Great difficulty in maintenance fwd of Bn. Line practicable only at night in many cases.

(b) Sig Exchange:
Excess "locals" increase difficulty of operating. Suggested Bde standard :-

(i) Comd.
(ii) Comd Post.
(iii) SC and Ord Room.
(iv) "I" Office.
(v) Message Operator.

Suggested Bn standard:-

(i) Comd.
(ii) Adjt.
(iii) RAP.
(iv) Message Operator.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Number of lines necessary to Bde:
To Bns- 2 each if possible plus laterals.
Div- 2.
Flanking Bde- 1 each
Sp arty- 1 each

To Bn-
Bde 2.
Coys- 1 each
Flanking Bns 1 each
Amy direct sp arms 1 each

(d) W/T:
Only reliable and constant means in battle.

Coy to Bn- No.18 sets; ideal but difficult to maintain and insufficient numbers.

Bn to Bde- No.101 sets; suitable over short ranges (up to 6 miles). Links must be duplicated.

(e) Liaison with Ops:
Infm always available through other channels when ops too busy.

(f) Pigeons
Useful alternative means-NOT so far required.

.....Brig.
Comd. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

COPY OF

REPORT ON OPS 23 OCT/ 6 NOV 42.

Ref Maps:

EL ALAMEIN	1:50,000.
GHAZAL	1:50,000.
EL HIQEIF	1:50,000.
SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN	1:50,000.

2/7 AUST. FIELD. REGT.
CORRESPONDENCE
42 | 136 | 8

PART- I.

I N T R O D U C T O R Y.

PART- II.

N A R R A T I V E.

PART- III.

A P P E N D I C E S.

Appx 1. 20 Aust Inf Bde OO.No.23.
" 2. 20 Aust Inf Bde OO.No.24.
" 3. 20 Aust Inf Bde OO.No.25.
" 4. 20 Aust Inf Bde OO.No.26.
" 5. 20 Aust Inf Bde OO.No.27.
" 6. Traces of Disposns as at 0800 hrs daily.
" 7. Reports of patrols to THOMPSONS POST.
" 8. RAF sp.
" 9. Statement of Casualties.
" 10. Adm arrangements during Ops.
" 11. Comms.
" 12. Unit Reports on Ops.
" 13. I.Os Report on Ops.
" 14. Lessons from Ops.
" 15. Orders of the Day -etc.
" 16. Maps referred to during Ops.

/2.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

PART 1.

INTRODUCTORY.

1. This report deals with -
   (a) the course of events of the ops of 20 Aust Inf Bde during the ops of 9 Aust Div from 23 Oct to 6 Nov 42.
   (b) certain other matters which are the subject of appendices.
2. The traces show disposns as at 0800 hrs daily. Where no trace appears for a particular unit on any day its disposns were unaltered.
3. The report mentions the actions of other brigades and formations only when necessary to explain actions of 20 Aust Inf Bde.
4. Among the appendices are reports received from the Bns of the Bde.
5. Movements and locations of units and sub-units, and in some cases of smaller dets, are dealt with in the narrative and illustrated in the att traces. The names and actions of individuals are not mentioned. In general, no detailed ref is made to the actions and disposns of supporting ATk guns and MMGs which, particularly in the later phases, were frequently changed to meet changes in the situation. The report being narrative only, conclusions, inferences and lessons are in general not mentioned.
6. Further detailed information concerning the ops is contained in bde and unit war diaries and certain correspondence concerning lessons from the ops already fwded.
7. The conduct and the courage of the tps throughout the ops was most commendable, there being very many cases of gallantry and outstanding devotion to duty.

/3.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

P A R T- II.

NARRATIVE OF OPS 23 OCT/ 6 NOV 42.

23 OCT.

1. The plan for the initial attack to break through the enemy FDLs is covered by GO.No.23 Appx 1.
2. Unit "A" Ech tpt and sp arms of 2/15 and 2/17 Bns and the 2/13 Bn Gp moved from fwd staging areas according to plan without incident and all tpt was cleared of MAIN RD by 2100 hrs.
3. At 2136 hrs the Bde I.O. reported by L/T from the Bde Centre that 2/17 and 2/15 Bns were moving on to the FUP and at 2200 hrs both Bns crossed the SL.
4. Bde HQ was in touch with all three Bns by R/T and reports continued to come in that everything was proceeding according to plan.
5. Some enemy CP fire was encountered before reaching the enemy wire but casualties were few,
6. Enemy minefds were first reported at 2235 hrs, by 2305 hrs the first gap had been opened by sprs on 2/17 Bn front. 2/17 Bn continued to strike minefds and before the first objective was reached sprs were working on four separate fds. 2/15 Bn encountered two fds. The main fd was booby-trapped with ITALIAN B4 AP mines.
7. At 0010 hrs both 2/15 and 2/17 Bns had reached the first objective with only slight pppositions. Within two hrs of fwd coys reaching their posns gaps were open in the minefd and supporting arms and "A" Ech vehs were on their way fwd.
8. PW taken in this Phase were mostly ITALIAN and, as it was suspected, the GERMAN tps were placed in the second and stronger line.
9. L/T comms with 2/15 Bn was opened at 0035 hrs and with 2/17 Bn at 0110 hrs.

24 OCT.

10. At 0109 hrs 2/13 Bn were on their FUP and crossed the SL at the scheduled time but without 40 RTR who were held up

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

by minefds in the area captured by 2/17 Bn.

11. 2/13 Bn continued their adv encountering only minor resistance for the first 1700 yds, small pockets of enemy withdrawing in front of the arty concentrations.
40 RTR were still, at 0200 hrs, held up by an elaborate minemarsh in the area now occupied by 2/17 Bn. It however started to move at 0247 hrs with two Scorpions.

12. At 0309 hrs 2/13 Bn struck the second enemy main def line and encountered hy opposition reporting all to be GERMAN. Fwd coys of this Bn reached their objective, that is the intermediate objective of the Bn, and at 0318 hrs rearward coys commenced to pass through. The tks were still held up on the minefd which proved to be over 1500 yds in depth. The coys soon encountered strong opposition from enemy posts and some hard fighting took place. Several enemy posts were successfully taken and some progress made and prisoners taken. But later hy casualties among offrs and NCOs resulted in considerable disorganisation when it was found impossible to get further fwd. One fwd coy fell back upon the coy in rear; the other was pinned down by fire.
At 0515 hrs 40 RTR commenced to get through the minefd and some progress was made by the inf.

13. The situation however remained confused on the left and with the approaching dawn 2/13 Bn dug in some distance short of their final objective.

14. Reports from 40 RTR stated that they were on final objective but it was found that they were about 1000 yards short.

15. At 0651 hrs 40 RTR, who were holding a ridge in the 2/13 Bn FDLs, were forced to fall back slowly by hy shelling and fire from hull-down tks.

16. During the morning the 2/13 Bn proceeded to reorganise, the other two Bns having already done so. Owing to casualties the 2/13 Bn reorganised into three coys, the FDL being approx on the line of the 868 easting grid.

/5.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

17. There were large concentrations of tks and MT in the fwd areas, mainly 2 Armd and 40 RTR. Their presence drew a lot of fire; and shelling and MG fire was experienced by 2/13 Bn throughout the day.

18. 2/17 was warned to have two coys ready at call to come under comd 2/13 Bn if required to fill the gap between 2/13 Bn and 2/48 Bn (on the right of the Bde) which had reached its final objective.

19. No difficulty was found in bringing "A" Ech and sp arms tpt fwd to Bns or its subsequent return to rear areas.

20. During the afternoon CO 2/13 Bn (Lt-Col R.W.TURNER) was mortally wounded and Maj.G.E.COLVIN, 2 i/c of the bn, was called fwd to comd.

21. Throughout the day enemy tks and lorried inf continued to move on the Bde front resulting in some short exchanges of fire with our tks mainly at 0830 and 1730 hrs. No counter-attack developed.

22. After dark patrols reported little opposition up to the final objective and 2/13 Bn silently, without arty sp, moved fwd to the original final objective the 867 easting grid. This posn was reached at 0315 hrs 25 Oct. Only slight opposition was met but some prisoners were taken.

23. To assist 2/13 Bn and to reduce the frontage it would be required to hold on reaching its objective, 2/17 Bn was also ordered to adv to the line of the 867 easting. It successfully did so. The bde thus had the two bns fwd and one in res.

25 OCT.

24. 2/15 Bn, now in Bde res, moved slightly north taking in part of the original 2/17 Bn area.

25. By daylight the three Bns were dug-in in their new posns and contact made with flanking units.

26. The arrival shortly before dawn of a motor bn (RBs) with many soft-skinned vehs which placed themselves in the area of 2/13 Bn attracted the interest and fire of the enemy and was probably the cause of a number of counter-attacks on this part

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

of our FDLs during the day.

27. At 0710 hrs 12 tks and 50 tp-carrying vehs were reported on 2/13 Bn front but accurate arty fire and action by 40 RTR broke up attack which shortly after developed again from the SW and involved 2 Armd Bde.

28. At 1045 hrs a large enemy force was reported moving south. At 1248 hrs the enemy laid a smoke screen to cover his forming up. The attack developed at 1400 hrs across the entire Bde front and incl 40 tks (mainly ITALIAN M13s with some GERMAN M3). These reached our FDLs but were either knocked out by fire from all arms or forced to withdrew. 17 tks were destroyed by ATk guns with the fwd tps during this counter-attack.

29. A second enemy tk and inf counter-attack developed at 1600 hrs by three gps each containing 10 tks and 10 tp carriers. This attack was similarly dealt with by ATk and MG fire.

30. Some enemy tracked vehs carrying tps again approached our FDLs in the moonlight but were again driven off, 2/13 Bn knocking out two of the vehs and capturing one with its crew.

31. During the day our hy armour was still unable to move owing to the enemy ATk screen. The Situation round ABERDEEN and KIHNEY features-(square 866295) remained obscure. The posn of 2 Armd Bde was always obscure and the map refs for their locations seemed obviously incorrect.

32. At 1145 hrs the Bde was ordered by Div to take over the posn occupied by 2/48 Bn. For this op (see Appx 2-00.No.24) the already extended 2/17 Bn was reinforced by one coy 2/15 Bn and one tp ATk guns (6-prs). The move was completed by 2300 hrs, 2/17 Bn moving its HQ to the old HQ 2/48 Bn. Hy shelling and bombing was experienced delaying the take over and destroying a number of vehs. The reason for the move was that 26 Bde was attacking northwards to secure Pt 29 and other objectives, this being the commencement of the northerly phase of the ops of 9 Aust Div, attacks up to this pt having been in a westerly direction.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

33. During the night 2/13 Bn, its losses in offrs having been replaced by some offrs who had beem LOB, reorganised again into its normal four coys. The bndy between 2/17 and 2/13 Bns was moved further to the north, 2/13 Bn taking over the left coy area of 2/17 Bn. This reduced somewhat 2/17 Bns extensive front.

34. Brig W.J.V. WINDEYER returned to the Bde at 1700 hrs, having been absent sick, but did not immediately resume comd.

35. Before dawn 26 OCT HAWKINS minefds were laid round all fwd coys posns.

36. At 0435 hrs another enemy tk and inf attack developed on 2/13 Bn left flank and was dealt with by arty and MG fire.

37. Large scale tk and lorried inf movement tow rd 2/13 Bn was reported at 0755 and air sp called for.

38. The threatened attack was dispersed by accurate arty and mortar fire and bombing by RAF at 0935 hrs.

39. Tk and tp-carrying vehs were effectively bombed by RAF throughout the day. Our FDLs appeared to be well indicated by coloured smoke.

40. Both fwd Bns were harassed during the hours of daylight by hull-down tks, 88mm air-burst, and snipers who were particularly active.

41. At 1305 hrs 40 RTR reverted to comd 9 Aust Div.

42. At 1500 hrs tks appeared to be advancing against 2/17 Bn front but were stopped by arty fire. The remaining hrs of daylight were fairly quiet.

43. At 1530 hrs HQ area was bombed, two trucks RE stores were destroyed and four casualties sustained.

44. At 2350 hrs orders were received from Div that 20 Aust Inf Bde was to be relieved by 152 BDE (HD) and 26 Aust Inf Bde by 20 Aust Inf Bde on night 27/28 Oct. 26 Aust Inf Bde at this stage had two bns only (2/24 and 2/48). The third bn (2/23) was Div res. 2/48 Bn, after its posns had been taken over by 2/17 Bn on the night 25/26, had successfully attacked and was holding the Pt 29 feature (86823007); 24 Bn had on the same night captured and was holding posns in area east of Pt. 29.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

45. As there was a salient in 2/17 Bn front one coy (C coy) moved fwd at 2200 hrs to take up a posn in the vicinity of Pt 27 (86702987).

27 OCT.

46. At 0300 hrs enemy tk movement was heard fwd of our FDLs and by 0410 hrs a strong enemy attack developed eastward along 2975 northing grid. The attack, incl at least 15 tks, 9 Armd tp carriers followed by inf, was broken up by hy arty fire supported by mortars and SA fire.

47. At 0325 hrs 2/17 Bn reported C Coy has successfully reached its new posn and was digging in.

48. At 0520 hrs 40 RTR sent fwd some tks to meet the threat.

49. The attack, which was directed mainly against 2/13 Bn and the left of 2/17 Bn, was over by 0600 hrs and parties of enemy were seen attempting to dig in. These were harassed by Bn mortars and SA fire and by 0730 hrs they were reported to be withdrawing. The attack cost the enemy 2-M13 tks on our new minefd and many casualties to inf. At one stage enemy inf reached to within 100 yds of 2/13 Bn posns.

50. A conglomeration of soft-skinned vehs belonging to 7 Mot Bde was still concentrated in the area of 2/13 Bn resulting in enemy harassing fire by 88mm.

51. At 0900 hrs Brig Windeyer and BM attended a conference at Div HQ dealing with intended attacks towards the north and the relief of 20 and 26 Bdes on the night 27/28 Oct.

52. The posn on the left remained obscure but it was reported that 7 Mot Bde was in possession of the KIDNEY feature.

53. At 1317 hrs 84 ATK Bty passed from under comd this Bde.

54. During the afternoon Brig WINDEYER resumed comd of the Bde, Brig WRIGLEY returning to duty in PALESTINE.

55. At 1440 hrs distant enemy movement was observed on 2/17 Bn front which continued until 1640 hrs when a strong tk and inf counter-attack was mounted against 2/17 Bn. This attack which reached within 400 yds of our FDLs, was dealt with by hy arty fire and by MMGs, mortars and SA. By 1800 hrs the posn was satisfactory and the remnants of the enemy withdrew.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

56. At 1900 hrs a concentration of 10 tks and lorried inf forming up behind a smoke screen in front of 2/13 Bn was broken up by hy arty fire.

57. The double relief of 20 Bde by 152 Bde (HD) and 26 Bde by 20 Bde took place successfully in accordance with OO.No.25 (Appx 3) but not according to timetable.

The relief of 2/17 and 2/15 Bns proceeded satisfactorily but 5 CAMERON bn moved up to relieve 2/13 Bn by a different route from that planned and were thus considerably delayed.

58. Tp-carrying tpt was hastily obtained from 26 Bde and used to take the 5 CAMERONS to 2/13 Bn and to move 2/13 Bn to 2/24 Bn area as it was essential.that the relief be completed before first light.

59. On being relieved by 2 SEAFORTHS 2/15 Bn moved north to a posn in square 870298,871298 to be in readiness for the attack planned for the following night. It reached its posn at 2245 hrs.

At this stage the coy of 2/15 Bn, which had been under comd 2/17 Bn, rejoined its unit.

28 OCT.

60. At 0450 hrs 2/17 Bns relief of 2/48 Bn was complete.

61. At 0605 hrs the 2/13 Bn relief of 2/24 Bn was complete.

62. At 0700 hrs Bde Comd and BM attended a conference at Div when final instructions were given for the op to.take place on the night 28/29 Oct. The plan involved an attack to the north by two bns (2/13 and 2/15) of the Bde which would secure the flanks for a further northward movement by 26 Bde.

2/23 Bn, which had been in Div res having reverted to comd 26 Bde, was to be employed for the first stage of the 26 Bde op, attacking with sp tks between the 2/13 and 2/15 Bns when they had gained their objectives. 2/17 Bn was to hold its posn on the Trig 29 feature.

63. A conference of Bn comds was called for 0930 hrs at HQ 2/15 Bn. COs 2/13 and 2/15 Bns attended but CO 2/17 reported

/10

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

by W/T that his posns on Pt 29 were being attacked and was instructed to remain with his unit. At the conference verbal orders were issued for the op. These were confirmed in writing by CO.No 26 (Appx 4) which explains the plan.

64. At 1025 hrs the enemy formed up for a fresh attack on Pt 29 and the enemy parties, which had been lying-up since the previous night, attempted to infiltrate. Lorried inf and tks were also used.

65. Enemy inf managed to get through the arty concentrations reaching within 150 yds of the arty OP on the Trig Pt. Hy arty concentrations on tks and tp carriers and MG and mortar fire on adv inf had repulsed the attack by 1230 hrs.

66. Throughout this attack there was a hy enemy arty concentration on Pt 29 which continued throughout the day. Casualies suffered were however relatively lt and caused mainly by 88mm air-bursts.

67. Hy casualties were inflicted upon the enemy during the entire day by arty, mortar, SA fire and by RAF bombing which was most accurate.

68. At 1740 hrs Tac HQ 20 Bde opened at new location (86992986) in accordance with OO.No 26 (Appx 4).

69. The forming up for the attack proved difficult for both the bns engaged owing to enemy shell fire. Casualties in 2/13 Bn at this stage incl a direct hit on a mortar carrier which killed the whole crew. In 2/15 Bn they incl the CO (Lt-Col K. MANGO) who was mortally wounded and his adjutant. Maj STRANG OC HQ Coy, then took over the comd of 2/15 Bn at 2330 hrs as it was moving fwd.

70, The attack by both bns proceeded entirely according to plan. 2/15 Bn reached the first coy objectives at 2316 hrs and its final objective at 2352 hrs without encountering any minefds, its casualties were very lt and it proceeded to dig-in without serious difficulty.

71. 2/13 Bn struck the edge of an extensive minefd which was heavily boobytrapped 1500 yds from its SL but the first coy objective was taken at 2316 hrs.

/11.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

72. By 0005 hrs 2/13 Bn had reached its final objective and gaps in minefds had been cleared as far as Bn HQ at 87033009.

73. The minefds incl 'S' mines, Tellermines and a large number of boobytraps which caused the majority of casualties during the actual attack.

74. Having gained its objective 2/13 Bn, in accordance with orders, proceeded to mop up enemy posts on its flanks. Here more difficulty was experienced and heavier casualties were sustained from enemy MG posts which continued to resist, but were gradually overcome and the battalion, although its fwd elements were often pinned down by day by shell fire, was well est in the posns captured, with Bn HQ and one coy in the area known as the FIG ORCHARD.

75. In the meantime the attack by 2/23 Bn and sp tks did not proceed according to plan, considerable resistance was encountered, and the Bn dug-in in rear of 2/15 Bn and on the left of 2/13 Bn.

76. At 0052 hrs the 2/17 Bn were ordered to extend their FDLs to the 302 northing grid to close the gap between their northward posn and the posn gained by 2/15 Bn. One coy, (C Coy) 2/17 Bn, with 2-2prs, 2-3in mortar and 1-MMG, moved in accordance with this order, made contact with 2/15 Bn and dug-in.

77. Hawkins minefds were laid round all fwd coy posns.

78. During the night Tac HQ of Bde was continually harassed by 88mm and 105mm arty fire.

79. Enemy movement on 2/17 Bn front was engaged by arty fire at 0420 hrs and a threatened counter-attack frustrated.

80. Two enemy ATk guns and tractors were destroyed by 2/15 Bn at first lt.

81. At 0832 hrs 5 enemy tks were hull-down on a ridge 700 yds to the west of 2/15 Bn and were engaged by arty and 6-pr ATk guns. Two were destroyed by ATk guns. Gps of enemy, who appeared to be wandering about rather aimlessly, were shot

/12.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

up by SA fire by 2/15 Bn. The Bn had dug-in well and was lying low and secure in its new posn. The enemy was obviously uncertain of our disposns.

82. At 0900 hrs CO 2/13 Bn was wounded and the Adjt killed. Capt GILLAN assumes comd until Maj KELLY was called fwd during the afternoon to take comd. The area of the FIG ORCHARD was intermittently shelled throughout the day.

83. At about 0800 hrs five MK III tks approached 2/15 Bn posn fromthe west. These were engaged by 6-pr guns and one tk knocked out at long range. Later in the morning tks and tp-carrying vehs again appeared to.the west of the bn posn and were engaged by our arty. The enemy appeared to be making recces of our 2/15 Bn posns which were subjected to much fire ffom tks and 88mm guns.

84. At,1300 hrs the enemy seemed to make a rather more determined effort, some tks and inf approaching and engaged the NW of 2/15 bn posn under cover of a smoke screen. They were fired on by our arty and ATk guns. The enemy withdrew by 1445 hrs leaving one tk burning. Our losses were 4-6pr and 2-2pr ATk guns.

85. At 1100 hrs Bde was notified that 2/23 bn had been placed under comd temporarily and was to remain in its present location pending a further attack by 26 Bde to complete the projected ops to the north.

86. At 1400 hrs Comd and I.O. attended a conference at Div when instns were given for the intended further ops by 26 Bde. These were to take place on the night 30/31 Oct and involved an attack through 2/15 Bn posn. To facilitate these ops and render the 2/15 posn less vulnerable, 2/23 Bn was on the night 29/30 to go fwd so as to strengthen the line; link the north east portion of 2/15 Bn posn with 2/13 Bn; and to face its posn towards the MAIN RD and ry.

87. Orders for this move were given to 2/23 Bn during the afternoon and at last light 2/23 Bn began to move its coys fwd. By 2045 hrs 2/23 Bn had adv the FDLs 1000 yds and made contact with 2/15 Bn.

/13.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

88. Following two enemy recces at 1507 and 1610 hrs a further considerable counter-attack by inf sp by tks developed at 1700 hrs towards the junc between 2/15 and 2/17 Bns. During the attack, which was continuous until darkness fell, the enemy made several determined attempts to pierce our FDLs but was finally repulsed with hy losses by arty and MG fire at 1830 hrs. At last light the enemy were seen to dig in at varying distances from 400 yds up tp 1500 yds from our FDLs.

89. Interrogation of PW at this stage of the ops showed a definite weakening of enemy morale and that our arty concentrations were having a devastating effect both on inf and tk personnel.

90. At this stage of the ops conflicting reports began to come from a variety of sources as to whether the area known as THOMPSONS POST (in squares 871301, 871302, 872301, 872302) was still occupied by the enemy-and 2/13 Bn was on several occasions ordered to send patrols to ascertain this. A report on the patrols sent appears as Appx. 7.

91. The main reasons for the many conflicting reports concern-this matter appear to be.-

(a) THOMPSONS POST, although clearly marked on the map as surrounded by a well defined minefd, was not easily definable on the ground. It was not one post but a considerable defended area nearly 1000 yds square with many diggings, and its limits were not readily discoverable in darkness and under fire.

(b) The "Post" was closely overlooked by the high ground known as RING CONTOUR 25 (87353025) which was continually in enemy occupation. MG fire from this general area was often reported as coming from THOMPSONS POST.

(c) It was the enemy's practice to abandon some of his diggings at times, especially during hy bombardment, and to re-occupy them later.

30 OCT.

92. During darkness, and commencing at 0030 hrs, the enemy mounted

/14

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

four further counter-attacks from the west against FDLs of 2/15 Bn and the right coy of 2/17 Bn. All attacks were broken up by arty, SA and most of all by mortar fire. By 0720 hrs the enemy seemed to have withdrawn in nearly all parts of the Bde front to a distance of 1500 yds.

93. During the morning 2/23 Bn further adv its FDLs and by 1240 hrs its posns were firm.

94. There was a sandstorm during most of the day, visibility was limited and the period was quiet. Advantage was taken of the sandstorm to enable comd to visit some of the FDLs in daylight; and during the afternoon the GOC visited 2/15. 2/17 and 2/23 Bns.
Under cover of the sandstorm some carrier patrols operated fwd of our FDLs to draw the enemy's fire and determine his disposns.

95. Apart from desultory enemy shelling the day was quiet and small enemy posts were engaged by MG and mortar fire with success.

96. At 2035 hrs a recce patrol from 2/13 Bn reported THOMPSONS POST as being probably unoccupied, or occupied only by a small force. The post was not entered as our arty harassing fire was due to be directed on it. There was no reply from within the area of the post to fire by this patrol, no movement was seen.

97. At 2201 hrs the Bde was ordered to have a fighting patrol standing by to enter THOMPSONS POST if required. 2/13 Bn were warned for the task and the raid was ordered at 2247 hrs. This patrol returned at 0241 hrs and reported THOMPSONS POST unoccupied.

98. In the meantime the attack of the 26 Bde appeared to be progressing satisfactorily by 2/15 Bn was subjected to hy enemy arty fire, probably directed at the line of adv of 2/32 Bn which was under comd 26 Bde at this stage.

31 OCT.

99. At 0645 hrs "A" Ech tpt of 26 Bde commenced to withdraw from the vicinity of the ry BLOCKHOUSE and were subjected to hy

/15

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

arty and MG fire. Tk sp had been called for and one sqn 40 RTR was guided by one of the Bde LOs in a Jeep to Trig 29 and thence to 2/15 Bn area. It was subjected to intense arty fire. The Sqn Leaders tk was knocked out in the vicinity of 2/15 Bn HQ. Most of the rest of the tks made a circuit of the 2/15 Bn and rallied in the area of 2/23 Bn. Some however from another sqn reached the area near the BLOCKHOUSE by a different route and were in contact with the enemy.

100. By 1000 hrs enemy arty fire, which had been hy on all Bns, quietened and 2/13 Bn were ordered to move to 2/23 Bn area to become the Bde res. This op was assisted by our arty smoking the RING CONTOUR 25 area from 1100/1300 hrs.

101. The move was completed by 1300 hrs and portion of COMPFORCE est a strongpost in the area formerly occupied by 2/13 Bn.

102. It was anticipated that when 2/13 Bn had taken over the posns of 2/23 Bn the latter unit would be required to leave the area, as it was to pass from comd of the Bde, and come again into Div res. On instns from Div 2/23 Bn was put on notice to move. Pending the order to move the two Bns occupied the same area, being superimposed on the same frontage. This arrangement, which was not entirely satisfactory, lasted for much longer than was expected because as events developed the anticipated move of 2/23 Bn from the area did not take place until some days later.

103. 2/17 Bn continued throughout the day to exact hy casualties on the enemy on its front by mortar and SAfire and many enemy MG posts were cleaned up.

104. The excellent and continued bombing by the RAF caused jubilation in the front line and hy casualties amongst enemy MT concentrations.

105. Meantime the ops of 26 Bde had relieved, to some extent, the enemy pressure on this Bde. 2/32 Bn was est to the north east of 2/15 Bn. There was however a considerable gap between the two units. Contact was made by patrols from 2/15 Bn at

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

night and the MMG and ATk fire plan in 2/15 Bn area was adjusted to cover this gap.

106. The main fighting was now centred round the area of the ry and MAIN RD to the north of the Bde sector. 40 RTR and 26 Bde were involved and each suffered considerable casualties.

107. To meet what appeared to be a threat from the north, and because of some rather exaggerated reports earlier received of the situation there, some alterations in disposns of ATk guns were made following changes in the allotment of sp ATk guns to the Bde.

108. At 1905 hrs 11 Aust ATk Bty were ordered to take up a posn covering the gaps in minefds leading in from the north, enemy MK IV tks being located on the northern side of MAIN RD.

109. A Bty 73 ATk Regt came under comd this Bde and were disposed in depth, covering tracks leading in from the north past the area of THOMPSONS POST, and with two tps in res.

110. During the night 31 Oct/ 1 Nov 24 Bde relieved 26 Bde in the posns which, as the result of its ops, it was occupying north of 2/15 Bn and astride and north of the MAIN RD and ry. 2/24 and 2/48 Bns (26 Bde) had suffered heavily. They were relieved by 2/28 and 2/43 Bns (24 Bde) respectively. 2/32 Bn remained having reverted to comd 24 Bde.

111. At 1925 hrs one pl A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn was placed in northern area 2/15 Bn with the role of covering the MAIN RD and ry in front on 26 Bde posns during its relief of 24 Bde, other roles being counter-penetration from the north east and assisting in covering the gap between 2/15 Bn and 2/32 Bn.

1 NOV.

112. The night was quiet and was used to advantage for a good rest.

113. At 0210 Sqn Comd from 40 RTR arrived and asked for instns, stating that he had 11 runners remaining, having been in battle with enemy tks near the rd and ry, (87033009). As

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

40 RTR was not under comd this bde he was ordered to rally in 1000 yds north of the Bde HQ where he could cover routes leading in from the north and await instns from his comd.

114. At first lt it was seen that the enemy had withdrawn slightly along the whole front and that enemy dug-in tks had gone.

115. At 0837 hrs a STUKA parade was intercepted by our fighters and and forced to jettison bombs in their own lines; at least one JU87 shot down in flames. It was later ascertained that 5 were destroyed, 3 probable, 3 damaged for no loss.

116. Many documents and marked maps were captured by salvaging parties from the Bns incl one showing complete minefds in the SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN area and all defended localities back to TRIPOLI. These were forwarded by SDR to Div HQ.

117. Maj C.H. Grace, who had been LOB? was called fwd to take over comd of 2/15 Bn from Maj E.D.STRANGE who had been comd since the CO was wounded on the night 28/29 Oct.

118. Div reported intercepted messages stated that a GERMAN counter-attack could be expected about 1200 hrs. At 1222 hrs 40 RTR left the area to come under comd 24 Bde.

119. At 1240 hrs 2/23 Bn passed from under comd this Bde and came into Div res remaining however in its existing situation.

120. Most enemy activity during the day was confined to the 24 Bde area where the promised counter-attack was made by the enemy but effectively dealt with.

121. An attack was to be made by 151 Bde(HD) and 28 NZ Inf Bn (MAORIS) on the left of the Bde front and through the FDLs of 2/17 Bn during the night 1/2 Nov.

122. To assist this op arrangements were made to provide MMG flanking fire from 2/15 Bn area on the right of the MAORI attack-and to provide certain guides and other assistance requested by them.

123. During the day NZ Div arty moved into the Bde area.

/18

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

124. As the hy barrage planned to sp the MAORI Bn would have commenced inside our FDLs necessitating moving our tps back from their diggings and keeping them exposed as the attack began Comd requested Div that its first lifts should not be fired. This was agreed to and arranged.

2 NOV.

125. Zero for the attack was 0105 hrs. The MAORI Bn passed through our FDLs on time, MMG flanking fire was provided as arranged. NZ wounded were evacuated through this Bde.

126. All line comn was cut by our tks moving fwd behind the attack. While it was usual at all times for some lines to be out from shell fire or traffic, notwithstanding heroic work by linesmen, this was the first occasion when all lines, incl the line to Div and all laterals, were cut.

127. The great majority of PW from this attack were passed through the Bde cage, the first batch arriving at 0315 hrs.

128. The attack to the west appeared to go according to plan although one ENGLISH unit became considerably disorganized. Daylight revealed tks and MT nose-to-tail moving westwards along the DIAMOND and BOOMERANG tracks. Hy dust-clouds were raised, the concentration of vehs on all tracks was very great but there was no great enemy air activity, few traffic jams and the stream of vehs moved steadily through.

129. At 0827 hrs 30 enemy tks adv toward the right flank of the 2/15 Bn and took up posns out of range of our 6-pr ATK guns with the exception of one tk which was hit. These tks moved off SW at 0950 hrs to counter-attack along the 866 easting.

130. Owing to the conglomeration of tpt of all arms and all types now in the vicinity of Bde HQ it was decided to move to a new location on the following day.

131. At 1430 hrs Bde HQ was bombed, one casualty resulting.

132. Prisoners continued to arrive steadily at the Bde cage by various routes and methods.

/19.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

133. At 1816 hrs the Bde was ordered to place a night sign in the form of the letter 'V' in the 2/17 Bn area. This sign to be illuminated from 2200 to 0600 hrs. This was done.

134. The remainder of the night was quiet.

3 NOV.

135. At first lt carrier and foot patrols from 2/15 and 2/17 Bns est that the enemy line of FDLs were now roughly along the 3055 northing grid line facing mainly south. These new posns were harassed by our arty throughout the day. Carrier patrols operated well fwd of our FDLs to draw the enemy fire and keep his movements under observation.

136. At 1500 hrs 2/15 Bn was ordered to readjust its FDLs to secure the high ground approx 1000 yds ahead of its present posn, thus keeping contact with the enemy and to link with MAORI Bn fwd posns on the left. 2/15 Bn did this by swinging its two southern coys fwd to a posn where they could keep the enemy under observation and MG fire.

137. 2/13 Bn was ordered to be prepared to move through 2/15 Bn to secure high ground further west. This move of 2/13 Bn was not in fact ordered. But both the fwd Bns were ordered to patrol with carriers at dawn.

138. At 1530 hrs Bde HQ opened at new location at 86883005.

139. PW statements suggested a general withdrawal was imminent, 2/15 Bn was ordered to keep up agressive patrolling and harassing fire throughout the night and all bns to send out carrier patrols at dawn.

140. During the day the 2/13 and 2/23 Bns, which had remained more or less superimposed on the same frontage in anticipation of 2/23 Bn moving at any time, were given separate areas of responsibility, 2/23 being placed on the right and 2/13 re-organizing the posns on the left of the line formerly held by them jointly.

/20.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

4 NOV.

141. Patrols reported that the enemy were still occupying the line of FDL about the 3055 northing grid and men moving round in numbers. These posns were harassed by our arty and MGs throughout the day.

142. Carrier patrols from 2/15 and 2/17 Bns were ordered to keep touch with any enemy movement. At 1220 hrs they reported the enemy line extended as far west as the SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN track and then turned SW. No enemy tks were seen and no ATk guns opened up on the patrols.

143. Desultory enemy arty fire continued throughout the day, the 2/13 Bn HQ sustaining a direct hit. Casualties - 1 killed 4 wounded.

144. At 1155 hrs the Bde was ordered to take over part of the 24 Bde area from ry line (excl) to the 2/15 Bn FDLs. This area was held by 2/32, 2/28 Bns and 2/3 Pnr Bn, 24 Bde having readjusted its earlier disposns so that 2/3 Pnr Bn (under comd 24 Bde) was filling the gap previously existing between 2/15 and 2/32 Bns.

145. At 1157 hrs a warning order was issued to 2/13 Bn to recce new posn immediately, selecting the most advantageous ground without necessarily occupying the old 24 Bde posns. 2/17 Bn was to move to the 2/13 area and to come into Bde res. Both moves were to be carried out during the night 4/5 Nov.

146. As during the night 3/4, the MAORI Bn had moved from its former posns, there was a considerable gap between 2/17 Bn and the next unit on its left. It was therefore decided not to proceed with the move of the 2/17 Bn until the posn was clarified and the Bn remained in its posn.

147. Throughout the day bearings on gun flashes from 88mm guns situated on the RAHMAN track were passed through to RAA but much of our arty was out of range and unable to deal with them. These 88mm guns were those which had fired on us during the previous day but were engaging the hy armour which had moved through.

/21.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

148. The policy laid down by Bde for the night 4/5 Nov was harassing MG fire on all known enemy localities (front MGs to be pushed fwd of our FDLs) until 2400 hrs; fighting patrols up till 0600 hrs then carrier patrols from 2/15 and 2/17 Bns. It was ordered that the enemy be given no rest and that constant contact be maintained.

149. The move of 2/13 Bn to the right flank was completed without incident by 2400 hrs.

5 NOV.

150. Enemy SA fire continued till about midnight but foot patrols sent out by 2/15 Bn at 0030 hrs returned at 0452 hrs, and reported no contact with the enemy. Carrier patrols from 2/15 Bn moved at first lt to 863307 towards the SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN track.

151. At 0800 hrs 2/15 carrier patrol reported 120 PW (GERMAN) with more in sight and a further sec of carriers was ordered fwd. Total PW of this patrol numbered 1 offr and 149 ORs.

152. A mob coy of 2/15 Bn, with sp arms which had been ordered to be in readiness, was ordered fwd at 0815 hrs to take over the high ground in vicinity of SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN (86523078). It met no opposition and took possession and placed a gd on a quantity of stores in dumps there.

153. Mopping-up parties were organised but no further signs of the enemy were seen.

154. Units were ordered to arrange for organised salvage and the Bns warned that an early move to the coastal area might be expected.

155. The only additional PW taken by this Bde were reported by 2/15 Bn at 1730 hrs - 5 GERMAN LUFTWAFFE and 3 ITALIAN-WOLVES of TUSCANY.

156. The Bde was warned at 2350 hrs that the area about to be occupied by them, north of MAIN RD and east of SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN was heavily mined and that no move would take place until further orders.

6 NOV.

157. Reports on crashed aircraft in the Bde area and posns of

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

salvage dumps were notified to Div HQ and the rec of 5-25 pr guns and amn recaptured expedited.

158. After recce by Bde and Bn reps the Bde moved to its present posn to rest and refit in accordance with OO. No. 27 (Appx 5).

.....

J.6.E.

H.Q. R.A.A. 9 AUST. DIV.

APPENDIX "G" TO WAR DIARY
OF 2/7 AUST FD REGIMENT
NOVEMBER 1943

Ref. A51/1/1948
10 Nov 42

Ref 475

LIST 'C'

Hereunder is a copy of a letter received from Comd 30 Corps by Comd 9 Aust Div:

" Now that we have a pause in the fighting I would like to write a line to congratulate you on the magnificent fighting which your Division has carried out.

I would be very grateful if you would explain to the men the immense part they have played in the battle. It is perhaps difficult for them quite to realise the magnitude of their achievement as the main break-out of our armour was accomplished on another part of our front; thus could notbe seen by them. But I am quite certain that this break-out was only made possible by the homeric fighting over your Divisional sector.

When it was no longer possible for the crumbling process to go on in the South you will remember that the Army Commander decided to continue with his crumbling policy in the North. This led to five days bitter fighting on your front. During this time your Division attacked four times and were counter-attacked incessantly by enemy infantry and tanks.

The main mass of heavy and medium artillery was concentrated on your Divisional front. It was obvious that the enemy meant to resist any advance along the coastal route, and as we now know, they concentrated the whole of the Panzer Corps against you in the Northern area.

Your fighting gave the opportunity for the conception of the final break-through in the centre, but this could never have been carried out if your front had been broken. The final break could not have been made unless the Army Comd was certain of the valiant resistance that would be put up by your Division. If the Germans could have broken your Division, the whole gun support of the attack would have been disorganised and its success vitally prejudiced.

It has been for me a very proud occasion to have an Australian Division serving in the Corps and I am very happy that this is to continue in the subsequent advance."

Please ensure that this is promulgated to all ranks.

[signature] Major
for Col
AA & QMG 9 Aust Div

War Diary

copies sent
13, 14, 54, B Ech
LAD.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPENDIX "H" TO WAR DIARY
OF 2/7 AUST FD REGT -NOVEMBER 1943

2/7 AUST FD REGIMENT.

16 Nov. 42.

REGIMENTAL TRUST FUND

1. Hereunder are Receipts and Expenditure of Regimental Trust accounts from 1st August 1942-31st October 1942.

2. RECEIPTS

Amount for Sale of Cards		75	5	4
Canteen Profits	April	167	16	11
		7	17	3
	May	172	3	7
	June	164	19	0
	July	2	19	9
		129	10	8
Donation		44	18	4
		£765	10	10

3. EXPENDITURE

Extra Messing	361	0	0
Stationery	12	2	10
Sundries including Butchers Steels, Screw-drivers, Repto Trumpet	7	17	5
Barbers Scissors 14 prs	14	7	5
Wireless Sets 3	128	6	8
Gen & World Press Review	13	17	4
Advance to Canteen	102	13	4
Cost re reduction of price in Tobacco 9 pt-7pt	7	18	8
Books	181	17	3
Batteries	3	18	0
Christmas Cards	116	15	8
	£950	14	7

4. AMOUNT OF CASH AVAILABLE 31 October 1942.

Canteen Advance	356	19	1
Petty Cash	25	0	0
Postal Orderly	5	0	0
Credit in Trust	399	7	11
	£786	7	0

5 Canteen profits for Aug, Sep, Oct, are as yet not to hand.

A.W. Lawrence ..... Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

Dist.
13 Bty (6 copies) Adjt.
14 Bty do File.
57 Bty do War Diary
R.H.Q.
Sigs
L.A.D.
R.A.P.
C.O.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

War Diary Nov 42

APPENDIX "I" TO WAR DIARY OF
2/7 AUST FD REGT -NOVEMBER 1942

EIGHTH ARMY

Personal Message from the Army Commander

TO BE READ OUT TO ALL TROOPS.

1. When we began the Battle of Egypt on 23 October I said that together we would hit the Germans and Italians for six right out of North Africa.

   We have made a very good start and to-day, 12 Nov., there are no German and Italian soldiers on Egyptian territory except prisoners.

   In three weeks we have completely smashed the German and Italian Army, and pushed the fleeing remnants out of Egypt, having advanced ourselves nearly 300 miles up to and beyond the frontier.

2. The following enemy formations have ceased to exist as effective fighting formations :

   Panzer Army.— 15 Panzer Div.
   21 Panzer Div.
   90 Light Div.
   164 Light Div.

   20 Italian Corps.—Ariete Armd. Div.
   Littorio Armd. Div.
   Trieste Div.

   10 Italian Corps.—Brescia Div.
   Pavia Div.
   Folgore Div.

   21 Italian Corps.—Trento Div.
   Bologna Div.

   The prisoners captured number 30,000, including nine Generals.

   The amount of tanks, artillery, anti-tank guns, transport, aircraft, etc., destroyed or captured is so great that the enemy is completely crippled.

3. This is a very fine performance and I want, first, to thank you all for the way you responded to my call and rallied to the task. I feel that our great victory was brought about by the good fighting qualities of the soldiers of the Empire rather than by anything I may have been able to do myself.

4. Secondly, I know you will all realise how greatly we were helped in our task by the R.A.F. We could not have done it without their splendid help and co-operation. I have thanked the R.A.F. warmly on your behalf.

5. Our task is not finished yet; the Germans are out of Egypt but there are still some left in North Africa. There is some good hunting to be had further to the West, in Libya; and our leading troops are now in Libya ready to begin. **And this time, having reached Bengasi and beyond, we shall not come back.**

6. On with the task, and good hunting to you all. As in all pursuits some have to remain behind to start with; but we shall all be in it before the finish.

B. L. MONTGOMERY,
General,

12-11-42

G.O.C.-in-C., Eighth Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

A stock-take of war diaries commenced in 1956 revealed that an ORIGINAL diary covering the above period was missing. This diary, previously registered as a DUPLICATE, has therefore been re-registered as an ORIGINAL.

An entry to this effect has been made in the War Diary Register.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Copy No.....
Army Form C. 2118.

16. JULY 1943

WAR DIARY DECEMBER 1942

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively, Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Field	1		Preparation in progress for move of regt to Palestine. All vehicles to be divided into two categories to form fast and slow convoys. All units of the div arty will move together.	
	5		Fast convoy left coastal posn at EL ALAMEIN at 0600 hrs with Maj Rogers as Regtl Commander. The first night was spent at WADI NATRUN.	
	6		At 0600 hrs the heavy convoy consisting mainly of gun line of all Div Arty left S.P.A., Maj Huggett O.C. Regtl Group. Rain fell heavily during early stages of journey. All bedding was wet from the previous night but an early arrival at WADI NATRUN enabled blankets etc to be dried sufficiently for night 6/7.	
			Fast convoy arrived at Canal and halted for the night.	
			Carrier party under Lieut Padman left Alamein the same day by road for AMIRIYA thence by train for Palestine	
	7		Heavy convoy en route for Suez Canal Staging Area. Vehicles were guided through Cairo in blocks of 30 by CMP.	
			Fast convoy reached BIR ASLUJ.	
	8		At approx 1100 hrs the new camp area at EL BUREIJ was reached by the fast moving vehicles. Those comprising the heavy convoy reached BIR ASLUJ.	
			Throughout the journey Capt Timms of the Salvation Army had provided hot coffee and biscuits at each destination; in addition a Mobile Canteen service was provided.	
	9		The Gun line arrived at EL BUREIJ at approx 1100 hrs and remainder of day spent in unloading etc. The whole of the Div Arty is camped in the one area with tents as living quarters and hutments for adm buildings and messes.	
			Lieut W.P. Monfries marched in from ATB and appointed A/OO.	
	10		In preparation for forthcoming 9 Div Ceremonial Parade, Offrs and Sgts are to undergo training in footdrill under Lieut Mitchell and RSM respectively.	
	11		C.O. left for Comds Course at Almaza.	
	12		General meeting of Officers' Mess. Several suggestions were adopted for improvement of mess generally.	
	13		Regtl Ceremonial Parade. Regt inspected by Officer Adm Comd, Maj Johnston. Main object was to ascertain the number of shortages in articles of clothing.	
	14		Lieut J.C. Mellor returned from CB course at Almaza and later marched out to HQRAA to whom he is seconded for duty as I.O. RAA.	
			WO. II Wathen-Dunn and Beech and Sgts McEwin and Bickford returned from OCTU. To everyone's regret they must retain their present rank until vacancies occur and commissions confirmed by GOC.	
		1800	Lecture by Maj Johnson to Offrs and WO's explaining details of Divisional Parade to be held in one week's time.	

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Copy No....
Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY DECEMBER 1942

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Field	15		Regtl rehearsal for ceremonial parade.	
	16		Meeting of Sports Committee resulted in proposal to organise within the regt a competition in which all sub-units will take part.	
			B.C's conference to discuss Ceremonial Parade.	
	17	0900	RAA units took part in rehearsal for parade. 9 Div Cav were also present on the right of the line. After the parade Acting Div Comd (Brig Ramsay) inspected 2/7 Fd Regt and in an address complimented the regt on its splendid performance throughout the 5 months spent in the desert. Although uncertain of future movements he stressed the need for tps to put every effort into training in order to fit themselves for every type of warfare-particularly mountainous jungle and combined ops. The regt then marched past. Brig Ramsay taking the salute.	
	18		General refitting with new clothing.	
	19		Regtl rehearsal for ceremonial parade.	
	20		Final RAA rehearsal. Issue of new colour patches.	
	21		C.O. returned from course.	
	22		9 Aust Div Ceremonial Parade at Gaza Airport. The event was a stirring one, all units of 9 Aust Div participating while reinforcements from Training Units, Nurses and VAD's lined the route of march.	
			A striking feature was the salute to fallen comrades.	
			The C-in-C Gen Sir Harry Alexander reviewed all units. In a most complimentary address the C-in-C praised the magnificent deeds accomplished by the Division throughout their stay in the desert. They had played a major part in bringing victory to the Eighth Army. Never before in his opinion had the AIF fought with greater distinction.	
			The General assured all ranks that he would follow their future with interest, and successes with admiration. Concluding he said " There is one thought I shall cherish above all others- under my comd fought the 9th Australian Division".	
			Headed by 9 Div Cav and followed by 2/7 Aust Fd Regt and other RAA units the whole division marched past in line.	
			Maj Johnston was Acting C.O. and Maj Huggett acting 2 i/c. All arrangements went without hitch.	
	23		Officers held cocktail party in Mess. Every member invited one guest and an enjoyable evening was spent.	
	24		Preparations for Xmas festivities.	
			B.Cs conference in morning. C.O. attended conference at RAA during the afternoon	

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Copy No.....

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY DECEMBER 1942

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively, Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices
Field	25		Xmas Day. Offrs, WOs and Sgts acted as waiters. Although the men enjoyed sumptuous meals spirits were dampened to some extent by the shortage of beer. A more liberal supply could have been reasonably expected from higher authorities. Instead, many men resorted to spirits, much to their ultimate regret.	
	26		5 Carriers arrived from Egypt. The remaining 4 carriers with Lieut Padman are still at Amiriya awaiting available transport.	
			C.O. held conference of B. Cs. Maj Johnston left for Naval Bombardment Course at Kabret (Canal)	
	28		Vaccination and Innoculation parade held. All ranks have to be similarly treated.	
	29		RSO (Lieut Lutz) visited range at Bir Asluj to recce area for forthcoming shoot.	
	30		Survey Party spending two days on survey work at Bir Asluj.	
			Maj Halliday (6 AGH) inspected ears of members of gun crews.	
			Lieut Wynne temporarilly to RHQ as acting Adjt during absence of Capt Forwood who will attend combined ops course.	
	31		Jubilation among officers and ors at announcement of immediate award of MC to Lieut Rodriguez and M.M. to Gnr Ward S.A. , both of 57 Bty.	

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Appx "A" to War Diary

2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt.

R.O.s December 1942.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Appx "A" to War Diary

2/7 Aus Fd Regt.

R.O. December 1942.

IN THE INTERESTS OF NATIONAL ECONOMY WILL YOU WRITE ON BOTH SIDES?

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1
BY
Lt.Col. T.C.EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

9 Dec 42.

163. NAKED LIGHTS.
(a) Naked lights will not be permitted in tents.
(b) Illumination will only be permitted in tents when such light is unable to penetrate through the canvas.

164. AIR RAID AND AIR RAID PRACTICES.
Personnel on leave are reminded that it is their duty to co-operate with local A.R.P. Authorities and to set an example to the general public.

165. TOOTH BRUSHES
(a) Personal dental hygiene can be much improved by the care of teeth, and it is considered that good teeth have a profound influence on general health.
(b) Tooth brushes may be drawn from Unit "Q".

166. CIVILIAN LABOUR
In all cases of complaints against civilian labour in AIF camps - such as thieving, or any other camp breaches, the matter will be reported immediately to the Adjt, who will deal with the case through correct channels.

167. RAILWAY CROSSINGS
(a) The railway runs through from CAIRO to BEYROUTH. Trains are running day and night.
(b) Personnel are warned that few crossings are guarded.
(c) All drivers are warned to take the greatest care when approaching ry. crossings so that collisions between M.T. and trains do not occur.

168. SPEED LIMITS
1. The speed limit in this camp is 15 m.p.h. Drivers will ensure that they do NOT exceed this speed.
2. (a) Speed limits in accordance with road traffic regulations for AIF (ME) will be practised and drivers will NOT travel at excessive speeds on open roads nor through toewns.
(b) The main causes of road accidents are :
(i) Bad driving and carelessness.
(ii) Lack of consideration for the other fellow.
(iii) Excessive speeds.
(iv) Night driving; glaring or no lights at all.

169. OFFICERS DRIVING VEHICLES.
Officers may drive Australian MILITARY motor vehicles only under the following exceptional circumstances :
(a) When the driver is incapacitated.
(b) In an emergency.
(c) To afford relief to the driver on long journeys.

170. FREE POSTAGE. CIVIL ADDRESSES. PALESTINE.
(a) The P.M.G.PALESTINE has approved the free postage on articles up to two ounces.
(b) All such articles should be endorsed at the top left hand corner of the outside cover "On Active Service".

171. HYGIENE
(a) Fouling of ground by Urinating will not be tolerated, any breaches will be met with strong disciplinary action.
(b) Personnel will urinate only in the receptacles provided in various parts of the camp area.

172. SALVAGE
Good salvage helps to win wars, it also assists in keeping the place clean. Sub-Unit Hygiene Parties will provide receptacles for salvage (1 paper and 1 tins) in their area. The same procedure will be adopted by R.H.Q. A Regtl Dump will be established and no salvage will be dumped without reference to R.Q.Store.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS (Continued)

173. FAT AND BONE

Fat and bone are a valuable commodity in augmenting your Regimental Funds. Waste of this nature will be deposited in the place provided.

174. P.O.L. ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE

Details of all petrol, oil and lubricant issued to vehicles will be entered on vehicle Work Tickets (G3518).

175. WORK TICKETS

No vehicle will move from Unit lines unless the driver is in possion of a duly signed and authorised Work Ticket stating full details of journey being undertaken.

176. RESTRICTION OF HOURS FOR SALE OF FOODSTUFFS

1. Consequent on the publication of Defence (Food Control) (Restriction of Selling Hours) Order 1942, no foodstuff will be sold to or consumed by members of H.M. Forces in any hotel, boarding house, pension, hostel, hospice, restaurant, cafe, bar, buffet, club, cantee or similar establishment where food is prepared for sale or sold for human consumption, except within the following hours:-

5.00 am	to	9.30 am
12.00 noon	to	3.00 pm
6.30 pm	to	10.30 pm

2. However, food and/or non-alcoholic drinks may be consumed during the following hours :-

9.30 am	to	12.00 noon
3.00 pm	to	6.30 pm

provided that the total charge subject to any regulation of prices under any law does not exceed 100 mils (exclusive of 10% service charge) for any one customer in any one of these periods.

3. This order does NOT apply to any establishment maintained for the exclusive use of members of H.M. Forces.

NOTE "Foodstuff" includes every article or animal used for food, any article used for drink, and any article which ordinarily enters into the composition of human food, and also includes flavouring matters and condiments, and any crops growing or reaped, but does not include water that has not been aerated.

177. BOUNDARIES

Personnel will NOT proceed beyond the limits of the camp without a leave pass duly signed and dated.

178. C.R.S.

When patients are evacuated to C.R.S. the following articles of clothing will be taken :-

Helmets Steel, Respirator, Messing Gear, and articles of personal toilet.

179. WATER

Washing under running taps is prohibited. The greatest economy is to be observed in the use of water. Drinking water from other than approved sources is forbidden.

180. GAMBLING

All forms of gambling are forbidden. Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

181. FOUL LANGUAGE

All personnel are reminded that WOMEN are engaged in many military occupations in PALESTINE and in consequence are found in all sorts of weird and strange places. They may even be in or driving the car next to you on the roads. All ranks will give consideration to their speech and the use of foul language is forbidden.

182. HAWKERS

Fruit sellers and hawkers are NOT permitted generally to enter camps for the selling of goods or wares. Action will be taken against both offending parties, viz., soldiers and hawkers.

183. SEA MINES

Personnel finding sea mines washed up on beaches are warned not to attempt to secure or explode the mines, but will immediately inform the nearest Officer or HQ. Open danger of sea mines is 1000 yds. If possible a picquet should be left in the area.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS (Continued)

184. MAIL

The mail closes daily at 0830 hrs. at Unit Post Office.

185. DRESS

As from the publication of this order the following dress wil be worn. Strict attention will be given to dress and cleanliness of clothing.

(a) WORKING AND TRG DRESS

Hats - Turned up.
Pullovers khaki woollen.
Trousers K.D. Special.
Boots and Anklets Web.

(b) WALKING OUT DRESS

Uniform S.D.
Hat - turned up.
Boots and Anklets Web.

Officers :- Uniform S.D. (Officers' Pattern)

(c) Caps S.D. Officers are for use of Officers and WO's only.

(d) DR's when on driving duty may wear Caps SD Drivers, but will wear Hats Khaki Fur at all other times.

186. BLACKOUTS

1. Under existing conditions, blackout regulations in GAZA Military Area have been somewhat relaxed.

2. Nevertheless, the need for a complete blackout may arise at any time. Therefore unit PAD Officers will prepare plans and material so that a complete blackout may be instituted whenever ordered.

3. No direct lights will be shown in camp or trg areas e.g. open doors or windows.

4. Headlights of vehs may be used on rds and tracks provided that effective screening has been carried out

187. ARMOURY

All arms and SAA will be handed into Regimental Armoury immediately under sub unit supervision.

The Armoury is out of bounds except to authorised personnel.

188. PARADE STATES

Bty's will submit Parade States to RHQ NOT later than 0800 hrs daily.

189. LOWFLYING FIGHTER AND BOMBER PRACTICE

R.A.F. are conducting low flying Fighter and Bomber practice from 14 - 17 Dec incl.

190. A.A.C.S CANTEEN HOURS.

1130 - 1215
1545 - 1615
1700 - 2100

191. VEHICLE LOG BOOKS AB 412

Vehicle log books will be kept up to date at all times.

192. PYROTECHNICS, EXPLOSIVES, SMALL ARMS

The indiscriminate firing of pyrolechnics, Explosives and small arms will cease immediately.

Offenders will be severely dealt with.

193. REGIMENTAL TIME TABLE

Reveille	0600	(0700 Sundays only)
Sick Parade	0615	(0715 " ")
Parade P.T.	0610 - 0630	
Breakfast	0700	(0800 " ")
Parade	0800 - 1130	
Lunch	1200	
Parade	1300 - 1600	
Retreat	1630	
Mens Mess	1630	
Sgts Mess	1700	
Officers Mess	1730	
First Post	2130	
Second Post	2200	
Lights Out	2215	

Except as ordered - No Parades on Sundays.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS (Continued)

194. SHOWER PARADES

1. The following times will be observed by all ranks for the use of the above.

Personnel	Time	Shower
Officers	1630 - 1800 Daily	Officers Showers & Sgts. North & South
WO's and Sgts.	ditto	OR's Showers North & South.
OR's.	As per Roster	All showers North & South.

ROSTER

14 & 57 Fd Bty's	RHQ & 13 Fd Bty
0900 - 1130 hrs.	1330 - 1600 hrs.
Dec. 9-14-19-24-29	Dec. 11-16-21-26-31
Jan. 3-8-13-18-23	Jan. 5-10-15-20-25

162. RO No. 162 is omitted and cancelled.

.....Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES.

CINEMA PERFORMANCES

1. There will be TWO sessions at the "Open Air Cinema"
2. First session will commence at 1700 hrs, the second at 1915 hrs.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE REST ROOM. JERUSALEM.

(a) A Rest Room situated behind Cinema Rex in JERUSALEM is available for the use of all members of H.M. Forces daily in the afternoon.
(b) Services are held in the Rest Room on Sundays at 1030 hrs, and on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 1600 hrs.

REPAIRS OF PRIVATELY-OWNED FOOTWEAR.

(a) A service has been provided by AIF(ME) No. 1 Officers Shop whereby privately owned footwear may be repaired at reasonable cost.
(b) Footwear may be left at the shop and will normally be available within 48 hrs.
(c) Prices are as follows :-

	Aust	LP
Half sole and heel	7/9	.310
Sole only	5/6	.220
Heel Only	2/4	.095

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1
BY
Lt.Col. T.C.EASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

10 Dec 42.

195. FIELD CENSORSHIP - WRITER'S ADDRESS

1. Attention is directed to the ME Field Censorship Regulations 1942, Part 1, para 5 which peovides that all letters of all ranks must bear at the head the full official address of the writer.

2. An example of correct address is :-

Army No., Rank, Name
Sqn., Bty., Coy., etc.
Unit
AIF. MIDDLE EAST.

Other cases are shown in the above paragraph of the Regulation.

196. FD. CENSORSHIP - ACCOUNTS OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

1. Accounts in letters of personal experiences in battle are not permitted unless specifically authorised by AIF.(ME) Order.

2. Recital of personal experiences in all operations up to 23 Oct. 42 (the commencement of the present offensive) is hereby authorised.

3. Green envelopes (AFW3078) will NOT be used for this purpose.

4. Officers will handle such correspondence with due regard to security, criticisms and alarmists statements.

(AIF Order 1373 of 5 Dec 42.)

197. E.F.M. CABLES = SPECIAL FREE GREETINGS

Approval has been given for the provision of ONE EFM Cable to every member of the AIF with the exception of Officers. This concession is available until 31 Dec 42, and cost of same is being charged to Amenities Services.

It is advisable that these Cables be lodged with Postal Orderly as soon as possible so as to ensure delivery before Xmas and New Year.

198. BANTAMS. (JEEPS)

(a) Bantams will NOT be used after units have arrived in PALESTINE camps, except as set out hereunder:

i. When necessary for trg exercises or recces.

ii. On the authority of COs in emergency, i.e. when NO other light veh or car can be made available and the journey cannot be delayed.

(b) Bantams will be carefully maintained until required again for ops. (9 Aust Div Order 627 of 6 Dec 42)

199. BOUNDS

All Arab villages, private houses, and contractors' buildings, yards and tents and pumping plants are "Out of Bounds" to all troops.

Except when proceeding in formed bodies, or in vehicles in convoy, all ranks will, when outside Camp bounds, be in possession of leave or duty pass. (Camp Standing Orders No.1 of 8 Dec 42.)

200. BUSES - HITCH HIKING

The practice of hailing passing vehicles for the purpose of obtaining a ride is dangerous and interferes with Military duties. It will cease forthwith.

Drivers of Military vehicles will NOT stop or offer pedestrians a ride except on the order of an officer.

OR's or civilians will NOT be carried as passengers in ARMY vehicles without proper authority.

Riding in civilian buses or trucks unless hired for organised parties is forbidden.

(Camp Standing Orders No.6 of 8 Dec 42.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS (Continued)

201. CLOTHING OR OTHER ARTICLES - DISPOSAL TO CIVILIANS.

The sale or disposal by any means to Arabs or other persons of any item of clothing, equipment, stores, rations or personal property is forbidden. (Camp Standing Order No.15 of 8 Dec 42.)

202. OFFICERS' LECTURES

All available Officers will attend lectures each Mon, Tues and Fri. at 1800 hrs in Officers' Mess.
Duration one hour.
Lectures will not be held between 23 and 27 Dec 42. incl.

203. CABLEGRAM & TELEGRAM CHARGES.

Rates for cables and telegrams lodged in PALESTINE are as follows:

Cablegrams lodged in Palestine.

	To AUSTRALIA	TO UNITED KINGDOM
Full Rate	62 mils per word	62 mils per word
Deferred (LC)	31 " " "	31 " " "
Daily Letter Telegram (DLT)	525 mils for 25 words 21 mils each additional word.	
Night Letter Telegram (NLT)		475 mils for 25 words 19 mils each additional word.
E.F.M.	125 mils per message	125 mils per message.

Telegrams lodged in Palestine

To Palestine.	50 mils for 10 words.	10 mils each additional two words.
To Egypt.	60 mils for 10 words.	10 mils each additional word.
To Syria.	15 mils per word.	

(9 Aust Div Order 617 of 5 Dec 42.)

M.K. Howard Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

Ref R.O. 194.

Make and Mend will work in conjunction with Sub-Unit times for Shower Parades.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

A.M.R.&.O. 1587

704

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.ELSTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT

11 DEC.42

704. SLEEPING TENTS,MESSTENTS,HUTS and RECREATION HUTS.

Sleeping Tents,Mess Tents,Huts and Recreation Huts will be out of bounds between the hours of 0800-1130 and 1300-1600. The exceptions will be those personnel who have previously obtained the permission of their superior officer, such officer not to be below the rank of Sgt.

.....Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES

ARRIVAL OF MAILS IN AUSTRALIA

Adice has been received that mails posted in M.E. between 17 Oct 42 and 31 Oct 42 were received in Melbourne by 27 Nov.42

C.E.CHURCH SERVICES

Commencing on Sunday 13 Dec.42 a regular Church Service will be held each week in the Recreation Hut next to the Officer's Mess. Service will commence at 1045 hrs.

Holy Communion will be held each Thursday in the above hut. Service will commence at 1100 hrs. First service on Thursday 17 Dec.42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published) A.C.F.H.Q.1567

205/210

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1
BY
Lt.Col. T.C.EASTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT

12 DEC 42.

205. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY	13 FD BATTERY		
ORDERLY OFFICER	LIEUT	WALLACE	13 DEC 42
NEXT FOR DUTY	"	NEWLAND	14 DEC 42
ORDERLY SGT.	SGT	MAYO G.M.E.	13 DEC 42
NEXT FOR DUTY	"	MINSON C.S.	14 DEC 42
ORDERLY BDR.	BDR	DUNN R.K.	13 DEC 42
NEXT FOR DUTY	BDR	SEEBOHM L.A.G.	14 DEC 42
GUARD COMDR.	LIEUT	BISHOP	13 DEC 42
NEXT FOR DUTY	"	FAULKNER	14 DEC 42
GUARD SGT.	SGT	DEAN R.W.A.	13 DEC 42
NEXT FOR DUTY	L/SGT	GOSSE J.E.	14 DEC 42
GUARD BDR.	LDR	COCKINGTON	13 DEC 42
NEXT FOR DUTY	BDR	MARCHANT	14 DEC 42
GUARD BDR.	BDR	WORTHLEY	13 DEC 42
NEXT FOR DUTY	BDR	GOODHART	14 DEC 42

206. AUTHORISED PHOTOGRAPHERS

The list of photographers authorised for military patronage is an extensive one, but includes only photographers in main centres such as GAZA, TEL AVIV, JERUSALEM etc.

Authorised photographers display a sign indicating they are authorised to handle military business and tps should ensure that they lodge their films only in such establishments.

Photographs taken by official unit photographers will continue to be sent to KODAK CAIRO.
(9 Aust Div I 813/70/4).

207. PRESENCE IN PALESTINE

After 21 Dec 42 personnel may mention in letters their presence in PALESTINE. No specific mention of complete units will be made.

208. BOUNDS

The following Hotels and Cafes have been placed Out of Bounds:-

Cafe Huberman - Sir Herbert Samuel's Quay, Tel Aviv.
Hotel Litvak - 13 Yona Hanavi, Tel Aviv.
Hotel Segal - 26 Sirkin St., Tel Aviv.
(AIF Order 982 of 9 Dec 42.)

209. WORK TICKETS

1. Attention in drawn to Road Transport Regulations, AIF(ME), which provide that all drivers will ensure that they are in possession of an authorised Work Ticket.

2. In addition to usual particulars which require to be filled in on the Work Ticket, the number of personnel authorised to ride on the vehicle will be clearly shown - Column 4 on A.A.F.G2 and Column 2 on G.3518.

3. Accuracy is essential to avoid delay at Check Posts and subsequ nt action. (AIF Order 983 of 9 Dec 42).

210. MT VEHICLES - ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

1. A number of accidents have been caused by individuals pouring neat petrol in the air intake of carburettors of MT vehicle engines. This practice is definitely detrimental to the life of the engine.

2. The danger, however, lies in the risk of a backfire causing the petrol to ignite and almost invariably leading to injuries to personnel.

3. Under no circumstances whatever will petrol be injected by hand direct into carburettor intakes. (AIF Order 984 of 9 Dec)

A.W.Harwood Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICE

Church Parades 13 Dec 42.
R.C.MASS 0845 hrs. Recreation Hut next Officers Mess.
Dress as for Ceremonial Parade.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O.1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.EASTICK

COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGIMENT

13 DEC.42

211. DUTIES

Duty Battery	13 FD BTY	
Orderly Officer	Lieut NEWLAND	14 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut KER	15 Dec.42
Orderly Sgt	Sgt MINSON C.S.	14 Dec.42
Next for Duty	L/Sgt YOUNG P.J.	15 Dec.42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr SEEBOHM L.A.G.	14 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Bdr ROBERTS T.A.	15 Dec.42
Guard Comdr	Lieut FAULKNER	14 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut NEWLAND	15 Dec.42
Guard Sgt	L/Sgt GOSSE J.E.	14 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Sgt GODDARD L.R.	15 Dec.42
Guard Bdr	Bdr MARCHANT W.R.	14 Dec.42
	Bdr GOODHART D.W.	14 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Bdr DABINET A.G.	15 Dec.42
	Bdr HUNTER S.R.	15 Dec.42

212 REGIMENTAL TIME TABLE

Amendment to Routine Order 193.:-

Breakfast OFFICERS MESS 0715 hrs.

.....Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Not to be published
A.M.R & O 1587

213 - 215

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

By

LT. COL. T.C. EASTICK E.D.

COMMANDING 2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT

14 Dec 1942

213. DUTIES

Duty Battery	13 Fd Bty			
Orderly Officer	Lieut	KER		15.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	BISHOP		16.12.42
Orderly Sgt	L/Sgt	YOUNG	P.J.	15.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	FOSTER	G.H.	16.12.42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr	ROBERTS	T.A.	15.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr	BROWN	A.R.	16.12.42
Guard Comd	Lieut	NEWLAND		15.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	HAWKES		16.12.42
Guard Sgt	Sgt	GODDARD	L.R.	15.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	STATTON	H.H.	16.12.42
Guard Bdr	Bdr	DABINET	A.G.	15.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr	ALCORN	J.G.	16.12.42
Guard Bdr	Bdr	HUNTER	S.R.	15.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr	McARTHUR	C.S.	16.12.42

214. SECURITY - CIVILIAN PASSES

All civilians entering or leaving this Camp will be challenged and must produce their passes. ONLY those civilians who can produce passes endorsed for this Camp will be allowed to pass. Passes for other Camps are NOT passes for this Camp unless they are marked "ALL CAMPS RAFAH ROAD or ALL AIF CAMPS"

If any doubt exists as to the bona-fides of the civilian, or the pass, he will be escorted to the Guard Commander for investigation. (CMOs No.5 13 Dec 42)

215. LATRINE - HQ RAA 9 DIV

The 3 - seated latrine situated near RAA 9 Div is out of bounds to all ranks.

A.L. Norwood Capt.

Adjt., 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Not to be Published.
A.M.R. & O 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

By

LT COL T.C. EASTICK E.D.

COMMANDING 2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT

15 Dec 42

216. DUTIES

Duty Battery	13 Fd Bty		
Orderly Officer	Lieut BISHOP		16.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut FAULKNER		17.12.42
Orderly Sgt	Sgt FOSTER	G.H.	16.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt PARROTT	W.R.	17.12.42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr BROWN	A.R.	16.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr DALY	J.B.	17.12.42
Guard Comd	Lieut HAWKES		16.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut WALLACE		17.12.42
Guard Sgt	Sgt STATTON	H.H.	16.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt MINSON	C.S.	17.12.42
Guard Bdr	Bdr ALCORN	J.G.	16.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr LEAHY	B.D.	17.12.42
Guard Bdr	Bdr McARTHUR	C.S.	16.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr DOCKING	L.	17.12.42

217. SALVAGE - EMPTY TOBACCO TINS AND BOTTLES

All empty tobacco tins and bottles of "ENO's Fruit Salts Type" will be salvaged and delivered to RHQ Salvage Dump. The above are urgently required for medical purposes.

218. COMFORTS FUND - XMAS ISSUE

December issue to all ranks will consist of Xmas Hamper. These will be distributed as close to Xmas Day as possible, but circumstances may compel a delay of a few days. Further instructions will be given when the issue is available.

M M Forwood Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt

NOTICE

LOST : A Valise, belonging to SX 10309 Lt Col T.H. SCOTT. Was lost between GAZA and KHASSA on 9 Dec 42.
Finder please contact HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R&O. 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
LT.COL. T.C.EASTICK E.D.
Commanding 2/7 AUST FD REGIMENT

16 Dec.42

219. DUTIES

Duty Battery	13 Fd Bty.	
Orderly Officer	Lieut FAULKNER	17.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut HAWKES	18.12.42
Orderly Sgt.	Sgt. PARROTT W.R.	17.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. DEAN R.W.	18.12.42
Orderly Bdr.	Bdr. COCKINGTON F.J.	17.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr. ROBERTS T.A.	18.12.42
Guard Comd.	Lieut WALLACE	17.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut KER	18.12.42
Guard Sgt.	Sgt. MINSON C.S.	17.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. MAYO G.M.	18.12.42
Guard Bdrs.	As Ordered.	

220. DISCIPLINE

The undermentioned sentences by courts-martial are published for information:-

(a) A gunner, convicted of absenting himself in the field for one day (AA15(1)), and striking his superior officer (AA.8(2) was sentenced to be imprisoned without hard labour for eighteen months.

(b) Two gunners, convicted of common assault (AA.41), attempted robbery with violence (AA.41), and two offences of robbery with aggravation (AA.41), were each sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for three years.

(c) A private soldier, convicted of two offences of deserting His Majesty's service in the field (AA.12(1)(a)) and escaping from close arrest (AA.22), was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for three years.

(A.I.F. Order 1388 of 12 Dec.42.

221. WASTAGE OF 2 GALLON CONTAINERS.

All 2-gallon containers carried in the racks of W.D. vehicles containing either petrol or water will be made "tight". Reed matting or other improvised packing may be used as dunnage. On no account will rubber be cut from unserviceable inner tubes for this purpose.
(AIF Order 1393 Para 3. of 12 Dec 42.

222. PAROLE.

1. No officer is justified in giving his parole when taken prisoner of war, and will therefore accept internment as such until he effects his escape or is released or exchanged.

2. An officer interned by a neutral power will also refuse parole and will not thereafter give parole unless directed to do so by instructions issued to him by the Commander-in-Chief.

3. A warrant officer, NCO. or other rank cannot give his parole except through a commissioned officer who will not grant such parole unless so directed by instructions issued by the Commander-in-Chief.

4. (a) The foregoing does not apply to an undertaking not to escape (however described) properly given by officers for temporary release from confinement, for a few hours on odd occasions for specific purposes, or when given by other ranks and the terms are approved by the senior officer, warrant officer or NCO present in the camp.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS (Continued).

PAROLE (Continued)

(b) Examples of specific purposes for which undertakings may be given are exercise, recreation and medical treatment.
(c) Any undertaking given will clearly be limited to the period of temporary release.
(d) Parole will not be given in connection with employment.
(e) All ranks will observe the terms of any undertaking with the greatest strictness during the period for which it is given.
(AIF(ME) Circular No.A'/42.

223. TENTAGE.

All tent valises,pegs,mallets at present lying in sub-unit lines must be returned to their respective BQ Stores immediately. Officers Sgts and RHQ to Regtl. Store.

224. LATRINE R.A.A.- 9 AUST DIV.

Attention is directed to R.O.No.215.
This Latrine,No.158 is out of bounds to all ranks of this Unit.

225. USE OF MT. Ref R.O. 209 and 175.

All vehicles proceeding out of 9 Aust Div area must in addition to work ticket carry passes (in duplicate)
Passes will be obtained from this HQ prior to departure.

226. AMMUNITION RETURNS.

Sub units will submit returns to reach this HQ not later than 1800 hrs 20 of each month, in accordance with the following:-
1. A return of amn expended during the previous month ended 2359 hrs on the 20th. Amn expended on ops and on practice will be shown separately.
2. A return of amn held at 2359 hrs on the 20th of each month.
3. An explanation of any increase or decrease in the quantity held, not accounted for by sub para 1. above is required.
4. NIL returns are required.

227. NEXT OF KIN

The attention of all ranks is drawn to the importance of notifying immediately any changes of, or change of address of next of Kin.
In the event of any soldier becoming a casualty,correct addresses are essential to ensure speedy transmission of advices to next of Kin.

228. CANTEEN HOURS.

Canteen hours now are:-
1145 - 1245
1630 - 2100

W. P. Morgan Sergt
.....for.Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE.

The PRIME MINISTER of AUSTRALIA, the Rt.Hon.John CURTIN has cabled the GOC AIF (ME) as follows:
PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has sent me the following personal message which I should like you to promulgate to the Officers and men of the 9th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION:
I wish to extend my heartiest congratulations to you and to the officers and men of the 9th DIVISION on the heroic part it has played in the recent victory in the MIDDLE EAST.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

By

LT COL T.C. EASTICK E.D.

COMMANDING 2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT

17 Dec 42

229. DUTIES

Duty Battery	13 Fd Bty			
Orderly Officer	Lieut	HAWKES		18.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	WALLACE		19.12.42
Orderly Sgt	Sgt	DEAN	R.W.	18.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	LAWSON	K.F.	19.12.42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr	ROBERTS	T.A.	18.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr	MARCHANT	W.R.	19.12.42
Guard Comd	Lieut	KER		18.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	BISHOP		19.12.42
Guard Sgt	Sgt	MAYO	G.M.	18.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	RINGWOOD	R.A.	19.12.42

230. JERRICANS

Some jerricans are still in possession of Sub Units. OsC will take immediate steps to satisfy themselves that their sub units either have no jerricans or, if any are found to be held, that they are returned to the QM.

231. CANTEEN - XMAS DAY

The AACS Canteen will be closed on Xmas day between 1100 and 1600 hrs.

232 VACCINATIONS

All sub units will render returns to RHQ by 1200 hrs 19 Dec 42 showing no of all ranks, including leave and detached personnel who HAVE been vaccinated since 1 Jan 42.

233 OFFICERS BAGGAGE

All officers proceeding to CAIRO by passenger train and carrying more luggage than 1 large suitcase will apply to RTO on arrival at stn for Army Form RT 2..

234 SALVAGE

Sub Unit salvage arrangements will be overhauled and sub Units will ensure that Salvage Offrs and NCOs are appointed and that they function energertically.

A Regt Salvage Dump is situated at the rear of 13 Bty Office. When sub units are returning salvage they are to report to RHQ Store before depositing same..

44 gall drums for use as containers are NOT available, but 'C' grade 4 gall tins may be obtained on application from QM.

The following is a list of material wanted as salvage and likely to be found in camps and tng areas :

Waste paper of all sorts.
Cardboards. This included cigarette packets and cartons of all descriptions.
Silver paper. Metal foil.
Scrap metals of all sorts (ferrous and non-ferrous)
Petrol tins and oil drums (non-returnable)
Scrap of all sorts e.g. rags twine, bottles and jars. This does not include items on charge to supply depots and accounted for on unit container statements e.g. sacks of fruit juice bottles, which will be returned to QM.
Used meat wrappers. Packing cases and boxes. Hessian (Sacks)
Rags. Cotton clothing linen. Mosquito netting. Rope cordage.
Sump oil. Bottles (particularly with screw tops). Cigarette tins.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

SALVAGE (Contd)

Food tins should not for the present be treated as salvage, as there is insufficient solder to make recovery worthwhile, and there are no blast furnaces in the Middle East.

A.A. Forwood Capt.
Adjt., 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICE

CAMERAS Any personnel possessing any information re Cameras in Kit Store after 29 Dec 42 are requested to report to RHQ

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
LT.COL. T.C.EASTICK E.D.
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment.

18 Dec 42

335. DUTIES

Duty Battery	13 Fd Bty	
Next for Duty	14 Fd Bty	
Orderly Officer	Lieut WALLACE	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut MITCHELL	20.12.42
Orderly Sgt.	Sgt. LAWSON K.F.	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. SWAN A.A.	20.12.42
Orderly Bdr.	Bdr. MARCHANT W.R.	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr. ROBSON W.	20.12.42
Guard Comd.	Lieut BISHOP	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut ADAMS	20.12.42
Guard Sgt.	Sgt. RINGWOOD R.A.	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. PORTER C.H.	20.12.42

336. GAZA HOUSE

Gaza House will be out of bounds to all ranks between 0930 hrs and 1630 hrs 22 Dec.42.

337. LAUNDRY

As the Camp Laundry closes down on future ...
All ranks will have their clothing ... by 1200 hrs MONDAY 21 Dec. 42.

338. MOTOR VEHICLES - SCREENING OF LIGHTS

Ref RO 186.

(a) ...

2/7 Aust Fd Regt.
18 Dec 42.

AMENDMENT ROUTINE ORDER PART I
NO 238 18 DEC 42

Add new Sub para :-

(e) Before commencing screening of lights, Sub Units will contact OME for detailed instructions.

(Signed) A.W. RINGWOOD Capt
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

2/7 Aust Fd Regt.
18 Dec 42.

If necessary ... cover any light being directed upwards.

(c) TAIL LIGHTS

1. Tail lights will be masked in the same way as side lights.
2. In addition the ommission of white light from the tail light will be entirely prevented by masking with insulating tape.

(d) STOP LIGHTS

Stop lights will be screened to a hole 1/8 in. in diameter by means of a metal plate.
Metal plates referred to above will be fitted outside the lamp glasses in order to facilitate checking in daylight.
Vehicles recently imported from the United Kingdom or America conform in all respects to the above, with the exception of the fact that the near side headlamp is entirely masked.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
LT.COL. T.C.HASTICK E.D.
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment.

18 Dec 42

335. DUTIES

Duty Battery	13 Fd Bty	
Next for Duty	14 Fd Bty	
Orderly Officer	Lieut WALLACE	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut MITCHELL	20.12.42
Orderly Sgt.	Sgt. LAWSON K.F.	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. SWAN A.A.	20.12.42
Orderly Bdr.	Bdr. MARCHANT W.R.	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr. ROBSON W.	20.12.42
Guard Comd.	Lieut BISHOP	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut ADAMS	20.12.42
Guard Sgt.	Sgt. RINGWOOD R.A.	19.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. PORTER C.H.	20.12.42

336. GAZA HOUSE

Gaza House will be out of bounds to all ranks between 0930 hrs and 1630 hrs 22 Dec.42.

LAUNDRY

As the Camp Laundry is to open in the near future - All ranks will have their clothing clearly marked by 1200 hrs MONDAY 21 Dec. 42.

MT VEHICLES - SCREENING OF LIGHTS.

Ref RO 186.

(a) Headlamps

Both headlamps of vehicles and the headlamp of M.Cs will be fitted with a metal mask in front or in lieu of the lamp glass. The mask consists of a metal disc with corrugated glass prism and hood, similar to those fitted to off-side headlamp of vehicles recently received from United Kingdom and U.S.A.

(b) SIDE LIGHTS

1. Side lights with circular glasses in a vertical plane will be screened to a hole $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in diameter by metal plates in front or in lieu of the lamp glass.
2. Other side lights, e.g. of streamline pattern, will be shrouded by metal covers with an apperture equivalent to that in the vertical pattern.

If necessary the covers will include a peak to prevent any light being directed upwards.

(c) TAIL LIGHTS

1. Tail lights will be masked in the same way as side lights.
2. In addition the ommission of white light from the tail light will be entirely prevented by masking with insulating tape.

(d) STOP LIGHTS

Stop lights will be screened to a hole $\frac{1}{8}$ in. in diameter by means of a metal plate.

Metal plates referred to above will be fitted outside the lamp glasses in order to facilitate checking in daylight. Vehicles recently imported from the United Kingdom or America conform in all respects to the above, with the exception of the fact that the near side headlamp is entirely masked.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

239. PERSONNEL MARCHING INTO UNIT.

Ref RO 146.

All personnel marching into Unit, except leave will report to RHQ and remain there pending posting to Sub-Units. In the case of Leave, senior member will report return of party to RHQ. Personnel will then report to their respective Bty Offices.

240. TENTS

All tents other than Officers and Sgts. will be ready for inspection by 0800 hrs each day. Ends and sides will be rolled unless otherwise ordered.

.....Lt.Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Rgt.

NOTICES

No C. of E. Service will be held on Sunday 20 Dec.42.

There will be a Confirmation Ceremony for Catholics some time in January, 1943. Those who are not already confirmed are requested to submit their names to R.H.Q. by 1700 hrs on Saturday 20 Dec.42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

BY

LT. COL. T.C. EASTICK E.D.

COMMANDING 2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT.

19 Dec 42

241. DUTIES.

Duty Battery	14 Fd Bty.	
Orderly Officer	Lieut MITCHELL	20 Dec 42
Next for Duty	Lieut WAUCHOP	21 Dec 42
Orderly Sgt	Sgt SWAN A.A.	20 Dec 42
Next for Duty	Sgt LOFTUS H.A.	21 Dec 42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr ROBSON W.	20 Dec 42
Next for Duty	Bdr DUNSTAN J.P.N.	21 Dec 42
Guard Comdr	Lieut ADAMS	20 Dec 42
Next for Duty	Lieut MENZIES	21 Dec 42
Guard Sgt	Sgt PORTER C.H.	20 Dec 42
Next for Duty	Sgt POOLE H.A.	21 Dec 42

242. UNIT COLOUR PATCHES.

Colour patches will be worn on hats, jackets SD and greatcoats.

(a) with felt hats, on the right hand side of the hat centrally disposed with the bottom of the colour patch in coincidence with the bottom of the puggaree.

(b) with jackets SD and greatcoats centrally disposed on sleeve-head, one inch below shoulder seam presenting exactly the same appearance on both arms when viewed from the front.

A.W. FORWOOD ....Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

No. M.A. & Q 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I 243 -

By

LT COL T.C. EASTICK E.D.

COMMANDING 2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT A.I.F.

20 Dec 42

243, DUTIES

Duty Battery	14 Fd Bty			
Orderly Officer	Lieut	WAUCHOP		21.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	WYNNE		22.12.42
Orderly Sgt	Sgt	LOFTUS	H.A.	21.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	KENNEDY	P.	22.12.42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr	DUNSTAN	J.P.N.	21.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr	KENNEDY	R.	22.12.42
Guard Comd	Lieut	MENZIES		21.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	WALCOCK		22.12.42
Guard Sgt	Sgt	POOLE	H.A.	21.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	THOMAS	A.	22.12.42

A.W. FORWOOD Capt.
Adjt., 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICE :

LOST : Northern Showers - Watch, Brown face, Leather Wrist Band, approx 1700 hrs 19 Dec 42.

Finder please return to RHQ.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

244/245.

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
LT.COL. T.C.EASTICK E.D.
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment.

21 Dec 42

244. DUTIES

Duty Battery	14 Fd Bty.	
Orderly Officer	Lieut WYNNE	22.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut MENZIES	23.12.42
Orderly Sgt.	Sgt. KENNEDY P.	22.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. GWYNNE-E.H.	23.12.42
Orderly Bdr.	Bdr. KENNEDY R.	22.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr. CARR J.A.	23.12.42
Guard Comd.	Lieut WILCOCK	22.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut MITCHELL	23.12.42
Guard Sgt.	Sgt. THOMAS A.	22.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. RULE W.A.	23.12.42

245. CANTEENS - XMAS DAY

On Xmas day all canteens in this camp will be open from 1000 hrs. to 1100 hrs. and from 1630 hrs. to 2100 hrs.

Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Not to be Published)
AMR & O 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I 246 - 247

By

LT COL T.C. EASTICK E.D.

COMMANDING 2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT

22 DEC 42

246. DUTIES

Duty Battery	14 Fd Bty			
Orderly Officer	Lieut	MENZIES		23.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	WILCOCK		24.12.42
Orderly Sgt	Sgt	GWYNNE	G.H.	23.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	BRENNAND	H.F.	24.12.42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr	CARR	J.A.	23.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr	RICHARDS	H.	24.12.42
Guard Comd	Lieut	MITCHELL		23.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	WYNNE		24.12.42
Guard Sgt	Sgt	RULE	W.A.	23.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	FORD	F.J.	24.12.42

247 SHOWERS

In future Officers will use both Officers Showers and those now marked "WOS AND SGTS".
"WOS AND SGTS" will use ORs Showers.

A.W. FORWOOD Capt

Adjt., 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES :

C of E Holy Communion Service will be held in Recreation Room at 1000 hrs on XMAS DAY.

"SOLDIERING ON"

Closing date for free copy of above has been extended to 31 Dec 42. All forms or applications for refunds, must be dodged either with Pay Sgt or Bty Office prior to that date.

LOST : ONOTO FOUNTAIN PEN - in or near Canteen Premises.
Brown, lever filling, with double gold band.
Finder please return to RHQ.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

-116-

Not to be Published)
AMR & O 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I 246 - 247

By

LT COL T.C. EASTICK E.D.

COMMANDING 2/7 AUSTRALIAN FIELD REGIMENT

22 DEC 42

246. DUTIES

Duty Battery	14 Fd Bty			
Orderly Officer	Lieut	MENZIES		23.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	WILCOCK		24.12.42
Orderly Sgt	Sgt	GWYNNE	G.H.	23.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	BRENNAND	H.F.	24.12.42
Orderly Bdr	Bdr	CARR	J.A.	23.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr	RICHARDS	H.	24.12.42
Guard Comd	Lieut	MITCHELL		23.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	WYNNE		24.12.42
Guard Sgt	Sgt	RULE	W.A.	23.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt	FORD	F.J.	24.12.42

247 SHOWERS

In future Officers will use both Officers Showers and those now marked "WOS AND SGTS".
"WOS AND SGTS" will use ORs Showers.

A.W. FORWOOD Capt

Adjt., 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES :

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Brown, lever filling, with double gold band.
Finder please return to RHQ.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
AMR & O 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
LT-COL T.C. EASTICK E.D.
Commanding 2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt.

23 Dec 42.

248. DUTIES.

DUTY BATTERY 14 FD BTY.

Orderly Officer	Lieut WILCOCK	24.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut ADAMS	25.12.42
Orderly Sgt.	Sgt BRENNAND H.F.	24.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt ALEXANDER T.A.	25.12.42
Orderly Bdr.	Bdr RICHARDS H.	24.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr TAYLOR B.	25.12.42
Guard Comd.	Lieut WYNNE	24.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut MENZIES	25.12.42
Guard Sgt.	Sgt FORD E.J.	24.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt BICKLEY L.G.	25.12.42

249. MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS

Hospital facilities are available for specialist consultations and treatment where required. The opportunity for investigation should be taken by all ranks who have suffered from minor chronic troubles during the past few months of activity when non urgent matters were frequently deferred. These complaints include such conditions as poor eyesight, nose and throat troubles, piles, varicose veins etc but do NOT refer to trivial conditions which do not interfere with health or efficiency.

Men wishing to report on such matters will do so to the RMO at the RAP at 0800 hrs.

250. FIRST AID KITS.

All kits will be returned to sub-unit "Q" stores by 1700 hrs 24 Dec 42. Sub-unit "Q's" will then pass them to RAP for inspection. RAP personnel will give receipt for same.

251. GAZA HOUSE LEAVE.

The proportion of WOs and NCOs in the allotment of 25 is unlimited and at the discretion of Sub-unit Comds.

.....A.W. Somwood.....Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICE

R.C. SERVICES.

Midnight Mass will be celebrated at 2400 hrs on Thursday 24 Dec 42 in 13 Bty. Mess Hut.
Confessions at 2300 hrs in same hut.
Xmas Day. Mass at 1000 hrs in Cinema.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&O.1587

251-258

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.BASTICK
Commanding 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment

24 Dec.42

252. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY	14 FD BTY	
Regtl Orderly Officer	Lieut ADAMS	25 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut WYNNE	26 Dec.42
Regtl Orderly Sgt	Sgt ALEXANDER T.A.	25 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Sgt THOMAS	26 Dec.42
Regtl Orderly Bdr	Bdr TAYLOR S	25 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Bdr BANKS H.J.	26 Dec.42
Regtl Guard Comdr	Lieut MENZIES	25 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut WILCOCK	26 Dec.42
Regtl Guard Sgt	Sgt BICKLEY L.G.	25 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Sgt SWAN A.A.	26 Dec.42

253. BOUNDS

1. 106 Works Coy.R.E.,(Aerodrome Yard) and Sinai Road Transport Dump situated in the vicinity of Gaza Railway Station are "Out of Bounds" to all A.I.F.personnel.
2. A.I.F.Personnel will not draw stores of any kind either on issue or loan from these dumps without the written authority of this H.Q.
3. The following Hotels and Cafes have been placed "In Bounds"

HOTEL SEGAL -26 Sirkin St,TEL AVIV
HINGA BAR -40 Geula St, TEL AVIV
CAFE HUBERMAN -Sir Herbert Samuel Quay,TEL AVIV.

(AIF (ME) Base Area R.O.997 of 22 Dec 42)

254. INTOXICATING LIQUOR

Soldiers will not be in possession of intoxicating liquor, in bottles or other containers,outside of premises where the sale and consumption of such liquor is authorised, except with the authority of an officer of the Australian Imperial Forces.
(AIF (ME) Base Area R.O.998 of 22 Dec.42)

255. E.F.M.CHRISTMAS CABLES

Cables using Special Greetings Texts will be accepted at F.P.Os up to 25 Dec 42 inclusive,for lodgment at Cable Offices by 26 Dec.42.

Messages using Standard Texts will be accepted at F.P.Os from 26 Dec.42 onwards.
(A.I.F.Order 1399 of 19 Dec.42)

256. COURTS OF INQUIRY-SUMMARIES OF EVIDENCE

(a) Numerous cases of incorrect procedure and other discrepancies are occurring in proceedings of Courts of Inquiry and Summaries of Evidence.This is due either to want of careful checking or lack of reference to AMR & O or MML,and results in considerable time being wasted due to the necessity of returning proceedings for correction or alteration.
(b) Formations and units will ensure that proceedings are complete in all respects before submitting them to a higher authority (9 Aust Div.Order 671 of 22 Dec.42)

257. USE OF MT.

Attention is directed to R.Os 175 and 209.
(a) Vehicles have been presenting at the vehicle check post at DIMRA work tickets which have not shown the number of personnel authorised to travel on the vehicle.Failure to observe R.O.209 in this respect may result in vehicles being returned to unit.
(b) Vehicles proceeding outside 9 Aust Div area have been arriving at the traffic check post without a duty pass.These vehicles will NOT be allowed to pass the check post.They will be ordered to return to unit.Duty passes will be signed only by Staff Officers or Field Officers (9 Aust Div R.O.672 of 22/12

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

.....Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment.

NOTICES

The C.O. extends to one and all best wishes for Christmas and a Victorous New Year.

The A/Comd and Staff HQ 9 Aust Div extend best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all officers and men of the Division.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE
The Prime Minister of Australia, the Rt.Hon.John Curtin, has cabled th G.O.C.A.I.F.(M.E) as follows :-

" President Roosevelt has sent me the following personal message which I should like you to promulgate to the officers and men of the 9th Australian Division :-

I wish to extend my heartiest congratulations to you and to the officers and men of the 9th Division on the heroic part it has played in the recent victory in the Middle East."

ARRIVAL OF MAILS IN AUSTRALIA
Advice has been received that mails posted in M.E. between 1 Nov. 42 and 15 Nov. 42 were received in Melbourne by 10 Dec. 42

The football (private) borrowed from 'B' Tp will be returned to 13 Bty.

LIBRARY
A book entitled "Singapore and After" is missing. The person in possession of it will return it immediately to R.H.Q.

CHURCH SERVICE
A Protestant Service will be held in the Y.M.C.A. Hut in 2/8 Aust Fd Regt's lines at 0930 hours on 25 Dec. 42.

ADDENDUM TO ROUTINE ORDERS
258 TIME TABLE: CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

Reveille	0700
Breakfast	0800
Dinner	1230
Tea	1630

There will be no parades on these two days. There will be no inter-camp leave but personnel are at liberty to visit other units in EL BUREIJ CAMP.

CORRIGENDA
R.O. 245 dated 21 Dec. 42 is cancelled and the following order substituated.
259. CANTEEN HOURS: XMAS DAY
The can teen in these lines will be open on the following hours on Xmas Day.

1000-1100 hrs
1800-1900 hrs

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

766

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O.1587

260-262

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.EASTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT

26 Dec.42

260. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY	14 Fd Bty	26 Dec.42
	57 Fd Bty	27 Dec.42
Regtl Orderly Officer	Lieut WYNNE	26 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut SHORE	27 Dec.42
Regtl Orderly Sgt	Sgt THOMAS	26 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Sgt KELSEY J.L.	27 Dec.42
Regtl Orderly Bdr	Bdr BANKS H.J.	26 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Bdr PHILPS J.B.	27 Dec.42
Regtl Guard Comdr	Lieut WILCOCK	26 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut BERTRAM	27 Dec.42
Regtl Guard Sgt	Sgt SWAN A.A.	26 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Sgt JACKAMAN	27 Dec.42

261. TENTS
Amendment R.O.240
Delete "Ends and sides will be rolled unless otherwise ordered"
Substitute "Ends will be rolled unless otherwise ordered"

262. SUNDAY PARADES
Full sub-unit Parades will be held at 0900 hrs each Sunday. Sub-Unit Comds will inspect parade before dismissal. Parades will be completed prior to Church Parades.
Dress S.D., Hats, Gaiters, Belts, Boots.

A.W.Lemmood ...Capt.
Adjt. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES

SPECIAL ORDER BY Lieutenant-General Sir LESLIE MORSHEAD, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., E.D.
General Officer Commanding Australian Imperial Force in the Middle East.

I wish heartily to congratulate all ranks on yesterday's parade. From beginning to end there was the fullest evidence of preparation, keeness and effort by every unit and every single individual, and of efficient and careful staff work. The arms drill and marching were excellent and I have never seen troops steadier and with higher bearing on parade. You all did credit to yourselves. Also the bands are to be highly commended on their performance.

Altogether it was a parade which we shall often recall and we shall always remember that salute to our Fallen Comrades.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS

FROM The Hon. F.M. Forde, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Army.

TO Lieutenant-General Sir Leslie Morshead, G.O.C., AIF (ME)

" On behalf of the Government and people of Australia I extend to you and to every member of the AIF under your command the heartiest Christmas and New Year Greetings and best wishes for your future success and wellbeing. It is also my priviledge to send the cheers of comrades who were with you earlier in the year and who have had a special adventure in thrashing the Japanese. We have watched with profound pride and admiration the achievements of the AIF Middle East during recent months which have won the unstinted praise of all the Allied Nations.
Not only have you all played a vital part in the great victory which has lately been won in North Africa, but you have also added fresh distinction to the glorious name of the AIF.
Our hearts are with you all and the Australian Nation which has unshakeable confidence in you will support you at all times to the limit of its strength.
Kindly convey this message to the officers and men under your command."

FROM Lieutenant-General R.G.W.H. Stone,
General Officer Commanding, The British Troops in Egypt.

"The G.O.C. and all ranks B.T.E. send their best wishes to the G.O.C. and all ranks AIF for Christmas and the New Year."

CABLES FROM AUSTRALIA.

FROM COMFORTS FUND ADELAIDE.

108 Pounds cabled you through Army Good Luck Best wishes for the coming Season.

TO C.O. 2/7 AUST FD REGT.

President Members South Australian Branch Returned Soldiers League convey Christmas Greetings to you and members Unit. We are proud your record. Sincere wish early cessation hostilities and safe return

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

263-265

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.EASTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT.

27 Dec 42.

263. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY	57 Fd Bty	
Regtl Orderly Officer	Lieut SHORE	27 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut RILEY	28 Dec.42
Regtl Orderly Sgt	Sgt. KELSEY J.L.	27 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. CLEAK J.A.	28 Dec.42
Regtl Orderly Bdr.	Bdr. PHILPS J.B.	27 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Bdr. WYLY A.R.	28 Dec.42
Regtl Guard Comd	Lieut BERTRAM	27 Dec.42
Next for Duty	Lieut GOSSE	28 Dec.42
Regtl Guard Sgt	Sgt. JACKAMAN	27 Dec.42
Next for Duty	L/Sgt. LECHER B.G.	28 Dec.42

264. ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE - SPECIAL ENTRY 1943.

1. Applications are invited to fill three vacancies at a special 12 months course to be conducted at the Royal Military College, Duntroon, commencing 27 Mar. 43.

2. Candidates for selection must be serving members of AIF not below the rank of corporal.

3. To be eligible to attend the Special Entry Course a candidate must :-

(a) Pass the prescribed medical examination.
(b) Be unmarried.
(c) Be a British subject.
(d) Be over the age of 20 years and under the age of 23 years on 27 Mar.43.
(e) Have attained the following minimum educational qualifications:-
A leaving (or equivalent) certificate, including at least one mathematical subject and physics at a public University examination.
(f) Be recommended by a Selection Board.
(g) Be approved by the Minister for the Army.

4. On conclusion of the course, successful candidates will be recorded as having graduated at the Royal Military College and will be appointed Lieutenants in the Australian Staff Corps with nominal salary commencing at £297 per annum (Standard Rate) with normal increments and promotion prescribed.

For the period of the war, however, rates of pay will be as prescribed in W.F.R.

5. Whilst at the Royal Military College, selected candidates will receive outfit allowance of £30and a maintenance allowance at the rate of £262 per annum, from which deductions will be made to cover the cost of uniform and clothing, books, instruments, messing, washing and other approved expenses.

Pocket money at the rate approved by the Commandant may also be drawn from this allowance.

6. Candidates holding commissions will be required to resign them from the date of joining the Royal Military College.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

264. (Continued).

7. Sun-Units will notify RHQ by 1500 hrs 28 Dec 42 number of candidates for whom application forms are required.

8. All applications, in duplicate giving full particulars will be forwarded to reach RHQ NOT later than 1300 hrs. 30 Dec 42.

265. BEER.

Beer will be issued from Canteen on 31 Dec 42 instead of 30 Dec 42.

.....Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

266-267

WD

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.BASTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT.

28 Dec 42.

266. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY	57 Fd Bty	
Regtl Orderly Officer	Lieut RILEY	28.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut SHORE	29.12.42
Regtl Orderly Sgt.	Sgt. CLEAK J.A.	28.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. CHRISTIE J.A.	29.12.42
Regtl Orderly Bdr.	Bdr. WYLY A.R.	28.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr. BROCK R.S.	29.12.42
Regtl Guard Comd	Lieut GOSSE	28.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut BYFIELD	29.12.42
Regtl Guard Sgt.	Sgt. LECHER B.G.	28.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. BATEMAN M.G.	29.12.42

267. LIBRARY BOOKS.

ALL Library Books will be returned to Sub-Unit offices by 1600 hrs 29 Dec 42.

Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES

SITUATIONS VACANT.
MESS ORDERLIES

Required two permanent Mess Orderlies for Officers Mess. Applications to Honorary Secretary Lieut LUTZ by 1200 hrs 1 Jan 42.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year have been received from the following:-

2/8 Aust Fd Regt.
2/12 Aust Fd Regt.
HQ. 20 Aust Inf Bde.
9 Aust Div Cav Regt.
4 Aust Lt A.A.Regt.
HQ.R.A.E. 9 Aust Div.
2/7 Aust Fd Coy. R.A.E.
HQ. 26 Aust Inf Bde.
2/13 Aust Inf Bn.
2/11 Aust Fd Amb.
2/23 Aust Inf Bn.
2/3 Aust C.C.S.
1 Aust Conv. Depot.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.
2/32 Aust Inf Bn.
2/43 Aust Inf Bn.
2/48 Aust Inf Bn.
2/28 Aust Inf Bn.
2/2 Aust M.G.Bn.
2/8 Aust Fd Amb.
2/3 Aust Fd Amb.
2/3 Aust Fd Coy.
2/24 Aust Inf Bn.
7 Aust Gen Hos.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

268 - 272

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.EASTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT.

29 Dec 42.

268. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY 57 Fd Bty

Regtl Orderly Officer	Lieut	SHORE	29.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	GOSSE	30.12.42
Regtl Orderly Sgt.	Sgt.	CHRISTIE J.A.	29.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt.	JEFFRIES F.C.	30.12.42
Regtl Orderly Bdr.	Bdr.	BROCK R.S.	29.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr.	THOMAS	30.12.42
Regtl Guard Comd.	Lieut	BYFIELD	29.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	RILEY	30.12.42
Regtl Guard Sgt.	Sgt.	BATEMAN M.G.	29.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt.	IRVIN	30.12.42

269. DISCIPLINE – LOOTING

"During the past month of the successful advances of the 8th Army the habit of "scrounging" assumed dangerous proportions and in many cases definite "looting", for which the penalty is two years imprisonment, has taken place.

While the organised collection of enemy weapons, ammunition and military stores and their subsequent issue and use by our own forces is legitimate, the collection of such articles by individuals for their personal use is a serious military offence.

There are indications that weapons and equipment taken from the enemy are being freely offered for sale. Apart from the fact that these articles are urgently required for the equipment of our own and allied forces, their sale ensures that they reach persons who may use them against us when the occasion offers.

Certain Officers and other ranks have boasted of their success as looters, thus bringing discredit on the army and rendering themselves liable on their own statement to two years imprisonment.

Much admirable work on salvage of equipment is being sabotaged by wanton scrounging of the dumps and destruction of valuable equipment to obtain soumenirs or parts of articles concerned.

Orders have been issued from time to time in the above connection. These orders are being ignored. The prevalence of these offences and the lack of discipline they display calls for the maximum penalties being inflicted in all cases brought to trial. AIF Admin Instr. No.A13/42.

270. GENERATORS SMOKE.

Generators smoke all types will never be functioned within buildings, in which conditions, dangerous concentrations may be set up.

271. QUASTINA CAMP

Quastina Camp is Out of Bounds to personnel of 9 Aust Div. 9 Aust Div. Order No.674 of 27 Dec 42.

272. CITRUS ORCHARDS – OUT OF BOUNDS.

All citrus orchards are placed Out of Bounds. The citrus crop in PALESTINE this season is a particularly small one and at the same time there is a heavy demand for fruit. 9 Aust Div Order 675 of 27 Dec 42.

A.W.Norwood Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published)
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

273-275

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col. T.C. EASTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT

30 Dec 42.

273. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY 57 Fd Bty

Regtl Orderly Officer	Lieut	GOSSE	30.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	BERTRAM	31.12.42
Regtl Orderly Sgt.	Sgt.	JEFFRIES F.C.	30.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt.	LECHER B.G.	31.12.42
Regtl Orderly Bdr.	Bdr.	THOMAS	30.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr.	PERRAS F.E.	31.12.42
Regtl Guard Comd.	Lieut	RILEY	30.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut	BRENNEN	31.12.42
Regtl Guard Sgt.	Sgt.	IRVIN	30.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt.	TYSON J.B.	31.12.42

274. CAMP DUTIES

To Mount 1630 hrs 2 Jan 42.

Field Officer	Capt.	DEER	2.1.43
Next for Duty	Capt.	COLE	3.1.43
Camp Orderly Sgt.	Sgt.	CLEAK J.A.	2.1.43
Next for Duty	Sgt.	MAYO G.M.	3.1.43
Cinema Picquet	13 Bty		2.1.43
Next for Duty	13 Bty		3.1.43
Camp HQ Guard	14 Bty		2.1.43
Next for Duty	14 Bty		3.1.43
C.R.S. Guard	57 Bty		2.1.43
Next for Duty	57 Bty		3.1.43

Details of Duties may be inspected at R.H.Q.

275. FREE CABLES

It has been decided to make an initial grant of one free cable to every member of this Regt. The cost will be supplied from Regtl. Funds.

Sub-Units will be allotted the following dates for lodging of cables with Postal Orderly:-

RHQ Mon. 4 Jan 43. 13 Bty Tues. 5 Jan 43.
14 Bty Wed 6 Jan 43. 57 Bty Thurs 7 Jan 43.

Cable forms will be supplied to Bty's completed under Bty arrangements and handed in to Postal Orderly as a whole on the days mentioned.

A.W. Lowood. Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

NOTICES

FOUND in leave tpt on return to lines from HAIFA 14 Dec.
1 Greatcoat marked QX16?05 A.M.Scott.
1 Greatcoat no markings
1 Haversack marked QX8161 A.Langford.
1 Haversack no markings.

FOUND Against KHASSA Cinema after return of leave convoy from TEL AVIV 19 Dec. Rifle No.A25060.

FOUND Pipe in Camp Area, Apply RHQ.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

(Not to be Published) 276 - 281
A.M.R.&.O. 1587

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I
BY
Lt.Col.T.C.EASTICK
COMMANDING 2/7 AUST FD REGT.

31 Dec 42.

276. DUTIES

DUTY BATTERY	57 Fd Bty	
Regtl Orderly Officer	Lieut BERTRAM	31.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut RILEY	1. 1.43
Regtl Orderly Sgt.	Sgt. LECHER B.G.	31.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. CHRISTIE J.A.	1. 1.43
Regtl Orderly Bdr.	Bdr. PETRAS F.E.	31.12.42
Next for Duty	Bdr. RUTH A.F.	1. 1.43
Regtl Guard Comd.	Lieut BRENNEN	31.12.42
Next for Duty	Lieut SHORE	1. 1.43
Regtl Guard Sgt.	Sgt. TYSON J.B.	31.12.42
Next for Duty	Sgt. WELLS A.E.W.	1. 1.43

277. CAMP DUTIES

To Mount 1630 hrs 2 Jan 42.

Field Officer	Capt.	DEER	2. 1.43
Next for Duty	Capt.	COLE	3. 1.43
Camp Orderly Sgt.	Sgt.	CLEAK J.A.	2. 1.43
Next for Duty	Sgt.	MAYO G.M.	3. 1.43
Cinema Picquet	13 Bty		2. 1.43
Next for Duty	13 Bty		3. 1.43
Camp HQ Guard	14 Bty		2. 1.43
Next for Duty	14 Bty		3. 1.43
C.R.S.Guard	57 Bty		2. 1.43
Next for Duty	57 Bty		3. 1.43

Detail of Duties may be inspected at RHQ.

278. BOUNDS - HOTELS AND CAFES

The undermentioned establishments have been placed "Out of Bounds" to all ranks,
New World Bar - JAFFA
Soldier's Shop - 21 Ben Yehuda St, TEL AVIV.

279. OUT OF BOUNDS - OBSERVANCE OF.

1. It is notified that there is a serious outbreak of plague in certain areas of TEL AVIV.
2. "Out of Bounds" notices are displayed around all areas affected and all troops will be warned specifically that such notices will be obeyed.
3. Disciplinary action will be taken against all personnel found "Out of Bounds". A.I.F.(ME) BASE AREA ORDER 1013 of 29 Dec 42.

280. GUARDING OF STORES IN BACK OF VEHICLES.

1. Many cases have occured where stores etc have been stolen from the back of vehicles when stationary or proceeding along roads.
2. When stores are being carried in the back of vehicles they will at all times be guarded by a sentry located with the stores etc in the back of the vehicle.
A.I.F.(ME) BASE AREA ORDER 1015 of 29 Dec 42.

281. VACCINATIONS AND INOCULATIONS.

There will be a parade for vaccination and inoculations in 13/14 Bty MESS Hut at 1330 hrs on 5 Jan 43 for all personnel who did not attend the previous parade on 28 Dec 42.

Sub-Units are required to notify RHQ by 1200 hrs 4 Jan 43 of the total numbers of all ranks who will attend on 5 Jan 43.

.....Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Appx "B"

QUARTERMASTER'S REVIEW OF 'Q' MATTERS

PERIOD 1 to 31 DEC 42

During the early part of the month the regt was in the process of travelling from Egypt and shaking down to its new camp, El Bureij in Palestine.

The work of the fostering party from the A.T.R.Nuseirat was appreciated. Nearly all tents were erected prior to the regt moving in. The shortage of certain accommodation stores such as, tables forms D.T., brooms and tent pins has caused a lot of inconvenience to the regt.

With the exception of a few sizes the regt is well fitted out with winter clothing and were well turned out for the 9 Aust Div Ceremonial Parade held on the 22nd.

All issues of War equipment was stopped during the month.

The regt again had a good Xmas dinner, AACS, ACF and the Regtl funds all contributing towards this, and I am sure all ranks appreciated their efforts.

H.H.Loveband .....Capt.
Q.M. 2/7 Aust Fd Regiment.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Appx "C" to War Diary December 1942.

3/7 Aust Fd. Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

IN THE INTERESTS OF NATIONAL ECONOMY WILL YOU WRITE ON BOTH SIDES?

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

WP.

SECRET.

Copy No. 8

2 Dec., 42.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO CONVOY "A" MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 1.

Para. 20 (a) amend to read:-

One amb. veh. will be allotted to S.M.O., 2/8 Aust. Fd. Hogt., and one amb. veh. will travel with Coy., 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb.

Capt., R.A.A.,

Adjutant.

Distribution:-
As per Movement Order No. 1.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

SECRET.

Copy No. 9

1 Dec., 42.

CONVOY "K" MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 1.

Ref. Maps :- 1:500,000 EGYPT Series
CAIRO and SINAI NORTH Sheets.

INFORMATION.

1. 9 Aust. Div. is moving to Camps in PALESTINE by Convoys.

2. Convoy "K" will be composed as under:-

Convoy Comd. - Lt. Col. W.N. TINSLEY

H.Q., R.A.A., 9 Aust. Div.
2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt.
E Sec. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.
63 Aust. L.A.D.
2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt.
F Sec. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.
64 Aust. L.A.D.
2/12 Aust. Fd. Regt.
G Sec. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.
61 Aust. L.A.D.
Det. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.
One Coy. 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb. (less one Sec.)
Det. 9 Aust. Div. Pro. Coy.

INTENTION.

3. Convoy "K" will move to Camp Areas in PALESTINE.

METHOD.

4. ASSEMBLY AREAS. Present locations.

5. PRELIMINARY MOVES. Orders for move to S.P. as per Table att. Appx. "A".

6. ROUTE.
7. S.P's.
8. HALTS. As per Appx. "B" att.
9. SPEED AND DENSITY.
10. TIMINGS.

11. STAGING PTS.

Night 5/6 Dec. - WADI NATRUN
" 6/7 " - EAST BANK SUEZ CANAL
" 7/8 " - BIR ASLUJ

ADM.

12. P.O.L.

(a) ALL vehs. will carry 50 miles res. except in (c) below.

(b) Replenishment:-

5 Dec., 42 - WADI NATRUN
6 " " - COWLEY
6 " " - EAST BANK OF CANAL
7 " " - ASLUJ

(c) On leaving EAST BANK of CANAL all vehs. will carry sufficient pet. in tanks and reserve for 180 miles.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ADM. (cont'd).

13. SUPS.

(a) Unconsumed portion of day's ration plus 3 days' M.E. Hard Scale will be carried by all units.

(b) 2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt. and 2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. will each detail one empty 3-ton veh. which will report to Convoy Comd. at 0530 hrs. 6 Dec., 42. These vehs. i/c N.C.O. detailed by 2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. will move ahead of Convoy to WEST Bank of Suez Canal and draw 2 days' res. ration M.E. Scale for all personnel of Convoy "K". These rations will be carried in bulk and if NOT used will be returned to A.A.S.C. under orders 9 Aust. Div. on arrival in PALESTINE. These vehs. will rejoin Convoy at Staging Pt., EAST Bank Suez Canal.

14. WATER. Replenish at Staging Areas.

15. ADVANCE PARTIES.

Advance Parties as under will be prepared to move fwd. under Comd. Snr. Officer present to recce Staging and Meal Areas as necessary:-

One M.C., H.Q., R.A.A., 9 Aust. Div.
One veh. per Fd. Regt.
One M.C. per Bty.
One Bantam, Det. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.
One Bantam, (allotted by Det. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.) for Coy., 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb.

16. DISCIPLINE.

(a) 9 Aust. Div. Movement Order No. 10 states "NO beer will be consumed on journey or carried to destination."

(b) ALL offrs. W.O's. and N.C.O's. (incl. Pro.) who may move along the Coln., are responsible for discipline in the Convoy, and will check and if necessary, report any unseemly behaviour, or incorrect dress.

17. CLEANLINESS OF AREAS.

ALL Staging and Meal Areas will be left Clean.

18. DRESS.

Where possible trousers K.D., shirts and pullovers will be worn for the journey. It is accepted that complete uniformity may NOT be possible, but all ranks will be presentable.

19. REC.

(a) One L.A.D. will travel at rear of Convoy each day:-

5 and 8 Dec., 42 - 63 Aust. L.A.D.
6 " " - 64 Aust. L.A.D.
7 " " - 61 Aust. L.A.D.

(b) ALL L.A.D's. will be responsible for recovery throughout whole coln. except for vehs. of Fd. Regts. other than that to which they are att.

20. MEDICAL.

(a) One Amb. Veh. will be allotted from 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb. to each R.M.O. in the Convoy.

(b) Up to time of departure from EL ALAMEIN, all casualties will be evacuated to M.D.S., 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb. in its present location.

(c) Disposal of sick on route:-

5 Dec., 42 - C.C.S., BURG EL ARAB or 64 British Gen. Hosp., ALEX.
6 " " - 15 Scottish Gen. Hosp., CAIRO. TELL EL KEBIR.
7 " " - 58 British Gen. Hosp., MOASCAR.
8 " " - L.A.C. from BIR ASLUJ to 6 A.G.H.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

ADM. (cont'd).

21. PRO.

Att. Sec. 9 Aust. Div. Pro. Coy. will be used for patrol duties as directed from time to time by Convoy Comd.

22. CONVOY DISCIPLINE.

As per extracts from Standing Orders for Road Convoys - issued as Annexure to C.O's. Serial No. 121, which are att. as Appx. "C" to this order.

23. LIGHTS.

No restriction in use of lights on vehs. with blacked-out lights.

INTERCOMN.

24. W/T.

(a) 109 W/T Sets will be allotted and operate as under. Sets will be accompanied by veh. and operators:-

F Sec. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div. - One set with Convoy Comd.
15 Fd. Bty., 2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. - One set with O.C., 2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. Group.
58 Fd. Bty., 2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. - One set with O.C., L.A.D., at rear of Coln.
2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt. - One set with O.C., 2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt. Group.
- One set with O.C., 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb. Group.
2/12 Aust. Fd. Regt. - One set with O.C., 2/12 Aust. Fd. Regt. Group.
Det. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div. - One set with O.C. Det.

(b) Frequencies and Call Signs as per Appx. "D" att.

(c) W/T comn. will be under control O.C., F Sec. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.

25. R/T CODES.

2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. R/T Code will be used. Codes will be distributed one per set by F Sec. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div. Key word settings as per Appx. "D".

26. SYNCHRONISATION. B.E .C. Time.

27. Code Word for move is "DEANERY."

Ack.

Capt., R.A.A.,
Adjutant.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPX. "A" TO CONVOY "K" MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 1. 1 Dec, 42.

MOVE TO DIV. S.P., 5 DEC., 42.

1. UNIT S.P's. S.P. "A" - Div. S.P. Rd. Junc. 8873 2942 - SPRINGBOK Rd.
S.P. "B" - Rd. and Track Junc. 8805 2974 - CISTERN (S.P. "B" - S.P. "A" 4.6 miles).
S.P. "C" - Rd. and Track Junc. 8748 3018 (Distance S.P. "C" - S.P. "A" 9.7 miles).

SERIAL NO.	UNIT	NO. OF VEHS.	T.P.P. (MINS)	TIME PAST S.P. "C".		TIME PAST S.P. "B".		TIME PAST S.P. "A"		M.I.H.	V.T.M.	ROUTE TO S.P.
				HEAD	TAIL	HEAD	TAIL	HEAD	TAIL			
1	H.Q., R.A.A., 9 Aust. Div.	7	1	-	-	-	-	0600	0601	17	20	Tracks to Main Rd at S.P. "A".
2	Let. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.	10	2	-	-	-	-	0601	0603	17	20	Tracks to Main Rd at S.P. "A".
3	2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt. E Sec Sigs, 9 Aust Div	106	19	-	-	0547	0606	0603	0622	17	20	Present area - Track Junc. 8815 2990 - S.P. "B", thence MAIN Rd.
4	2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. F Sec Sigs, 9 Aust Div 64 Aust LAD One Sec Pro Coy.	94	17	0548	0605	0606	0623	0622	0639	17	20	Track from present area - MAIN Rd. at S.P. "C" thence MAIN Rd.
5	2/12 Aust. Fd. Regt. G Sec Sigs, 9 Aust Div 61 Aust LAD	97	17	-	-	0623	0640	0639	0656	17	20	Tracks from present area via COAST Rd to Track Junc 8815 2990 - S.P. "B" thence MAIN Rd.
6	"A" Coy., 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb. (less one sec.)	7	1	-	-	-	-	0656	0657	17	20	Present Area via MAIN Rd. to S.P. "A".
7	63 Aust. L.A.D.	6	1	-	-	0641	0642	0657	0658	17	20	As for Serial 3.
8	TOTAL	327	58	-	-	-	-	0600	0658	17	20	-----

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPX. "B" TO CONVOY "K" MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 1. 1 Dec., 42.

1. ROUTE - MAIN Rd./EL ALAMEIN - AMIRIYA -WADI NATRUN - CAIRO - ISMAILIA - BIR ASLUJ - GAZA - Camp Areas.

2. M.I.H. - 17 M.I.H. will be maintained throughout.

3. S.P. FOR CONVOY - Rd. Junc. 8873 2942 (SPRINGBOK Rd.)

4. NAVIGATOR - Capt. W.C. STEVENS, H.Q., R.A.A., 9 Aust. Div.

SERIAL NO.	RD. STAGE	DIS-TANCE	DATE	TIME DEP. HRS.		TIME ARR. HRS.		HALTS		MPH TO MAINT-AIN MIH	DENSITY VTM	REMARKS
				HEAD	TAIL	HEAD	TAIL	FROM	TO			
1	EL ALAMEIN to WADI NATRUN	119	5 Dec.	0600	0700	1300	1400	1. 0740 2. (a) 0850 3. 1140	0800 0940 1200	20	20	(a) Breakfast
2	WADI NATRUN to COWLEY	48	6 Dec.	0600	0700	0830	0930	-	-	20	20	Breakfast before depart WADI NATRUN. Halt at COWLEY to re-fuel only. Vehs. will close to 80 V.T.M. when halting (vide para 3)
3	COWLEY to EAST BANK SUEZ CANAL	100	6 Dec.	0900	1000	1600	1700	1. 1040 2. (a) 1150 3. 1440	1100 1240 1500	20(b)	80 VTM until clear of CAIRO thence open to 20 VTM.	(a) Lunch. (b) Navigator will reduce to 17 MPH through CAIRO; when clear of CAIRO increase to 22 MPH, at same time density will be gradually reduced by increasing interval between vehs from head of coln.
4	EAST BANK SUEZ CANAL to ASLUJ	165	7 Dec.	0600	0700	1620	1720	1. (a) 0830 2. (b) 1200	0930 1300	20	20	(a) Breakfast (b) Lunch.
5	ASLUJ to GAZA Area	42	8 Dec.	0600	0700	0905	1005	(a) 0740	0830	24	20	(a) Breakfast.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPX. "G" TO CONVOY "K" MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 1. 1 Dec., 42.

... SI. /ORDERS FOR ROAD CONVOYS. /STANDING

1. GROUP COMDS.

(a) He will inform drivers of their destination and such other informati as will enable them to proceed onwards should any vehs. break down and become detached from the convoy.

(b) He will be responsible for proper marshalling at assembly areas, and starting points for vehs. in his group.

(c) He will ensure punctual starting.

(d) He will be responsible for proper road discipline of his group at all times, and pay special attention to their control in congested areas.

2. SPEED.

(a) Convoys will travel at M.I.H. ordered.

(b) The following table gives speed limits for types of vehs. travelling in Convoy on Main Rds.; speeds being laid down for travelling under most favourable road and weather conditions:-

TYPE OF VEH.	IN CONVOY ON MAIN RDS.	TRAVELLING INDEPENDENTLY.		
		OPEN RDS.	TOWNS OR VILLAGES	SUBURBAN AREAS
Staff Cars Ambulances 8-cwt. Trucks 8-cwt. Bantams	M.P.H. 45	M.P.H. 45	M.P.H. 20	M.P.H. 30
12-cwt. Trucks 15-cwt. Trucks 1-ton Vans	20	35	20	20
All lorries over 1-ton up to and incl. 10-tons Tractors Arty	17	30	15	20

(c) Mixed Convoys will NOT exceed M.I.H. of the slowest vehs.

(c) The speeds will never be exceeded except under the express orders of an offr. in extreme cases of emergency.

3. DENSITY.

(a) Convoys will travel at V.T.M. ordered.

(b) Through congested areas ordered density can be increased to prevent vehs. becoming split in hy. traffic.

4. HALTS.

(a) During halts vehs. will:-

(i) NOT close up.
(ii) Draw 20 yds. clear of the road where possible; if not, they will pull in as close to the side of the road as safety permits.

(b) Sentries will be posted throughout the length of the convoy to ensure that other traffic is enabled to pass while the convoy is halted.

3. ACCIDENTS AND BREAKDOWNS.

(a) Convoy will NOT be delayed if individual vehs. suffer accident or mechanical breakdown.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

STANDING ORDERS FOR ROAD CONVOYS (cont'd).

3. (b) All offrs., N.C.O's. and Drs. will ensure that broken-down vehs. do NOT interfere with the passage of oncoming traffic.

(c) The "PASS" plate on individual vehs. which break down will be displayed and a sentry posted to wave on following vehs. and ensure that the passage of the remainder of the convoy is uninterrupted.

4. CONVOY PATROLS.

(a) Available N.C's. will be used to patrol the coln. Some offrs. will be used for this purpose.

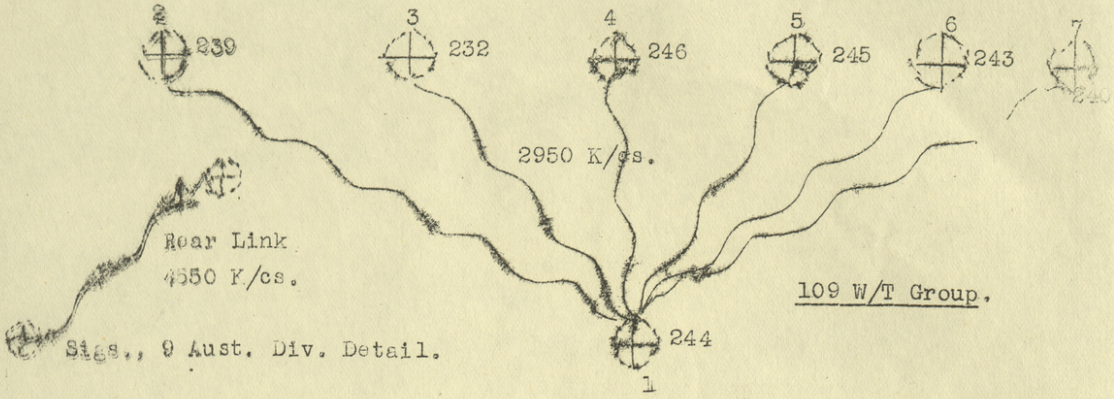
(b) The patrol will assist in maintaining road discipline, and ensure that the orders of the Convoy Comd. are carried out.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APPX. "D" TO CONVOY "K" MOVEMENT ORDER NO. 1.

SECRET.
1 Dec., 42.

CONVOY "K" W/T GROUP.



W/T SET DIRECTORY.

1. Convoy Comd.
2. 2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. Group Comd.
3. 2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt. Group Comd.
4. 2/12 Aust. Fd. Regt. Group Comd.
5. 2/11 Aust. Fd. Ambulance.
6. Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.
7. C.C., L.A.D. (in rear).

CALL SIGNS.

DATE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dec 5	KEG	CSH	NCN	BEJ	DAU	UML	RWT
" 6	XOP	ZQY	MXO	UPL	BMD	TBM	ZSF
" 7	HMJ	UHK	RRZ	YMN	AZK	XXY	ZTO
" 8	OTJ	AWR	GCX	YQY	ALY	GLQ	VNU

1. Sets to net 2200 hrs. 4 Dec., 42, using Call Signs for 5 Dec., 42.

2. Call Signs change daily at 0300 hrs.

3. Vocabulary keywords change daily at 0300 hrs., settings as under:-

Dec. 5 - Regt.
" 6 - South
" 7 - Under Comd. of
" 8 - Z Group

DISTRIBUTION:-

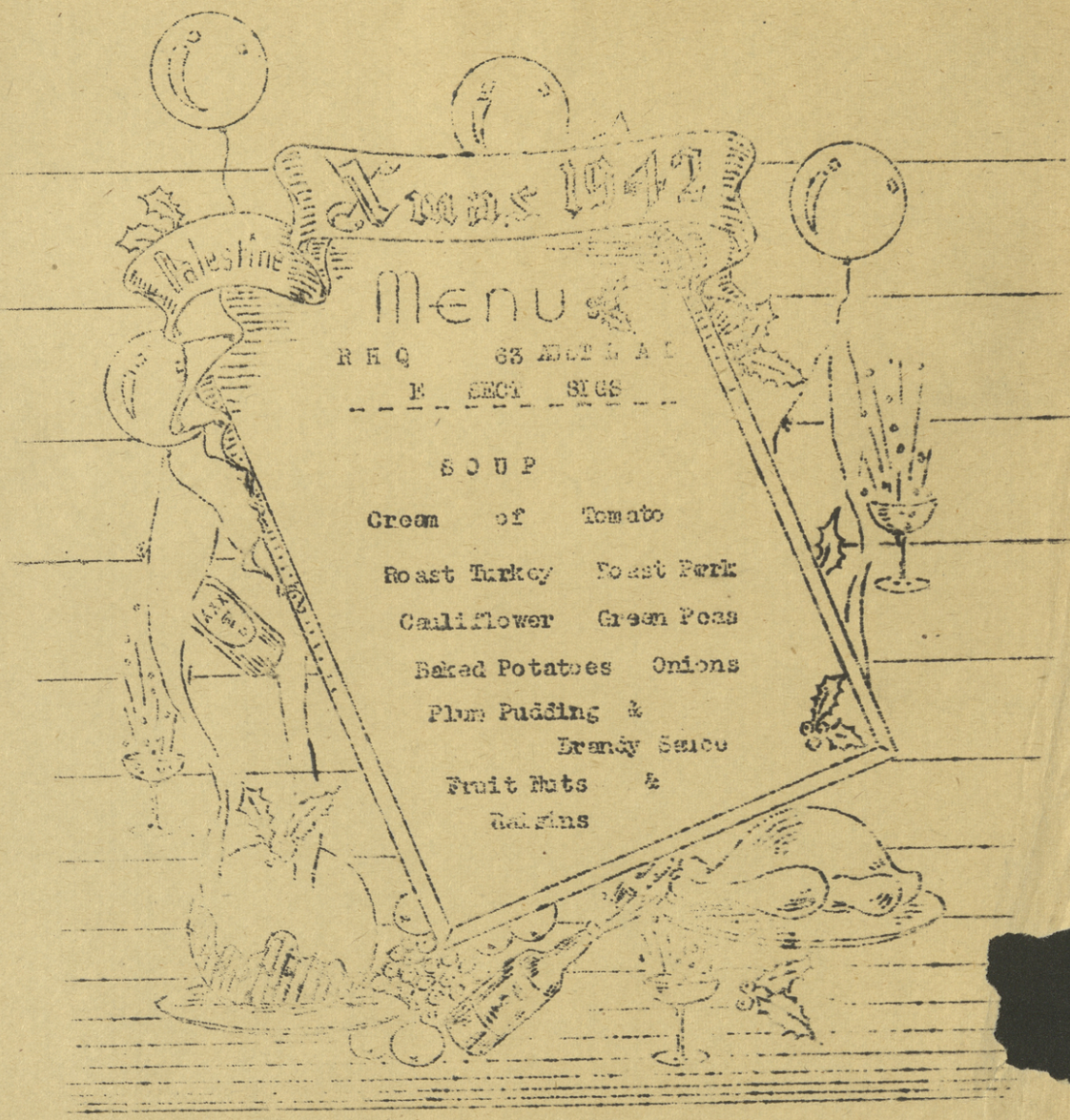
H.Q., R.A.A., 9 Aust. Div.	1-2
2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt. plus Sigs. and L.A.D.	3-9
2/8 Aust. Fd. Regt. plus Sigs. and L.A.D.	10-16
2/12 Aust. Fd. Regt. plus Sigs. and L.A.D.	17-23
Sigs., 9 Aust. Div.	24
"A" Coy., 2/11 Aust. Fd. Amb.	25
R.A.A. Sec., 9 Aust. Div. Pro. Coy.	26
Convoy Comd.	27
Navigator (Capt. W.C. STEVENS)	28
File	29
War Diary	30-31

SUB DISTRIBUTION

13 FD BTY
14 FD BTY
57 FD BTY
COLM COMD.
LAD
WAR DIARY (2)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Appx "D" to War Diary
December 1942.
2/7 Aust. Fd Regt



To be read in conjunction with :-

MOVEMENT ORDER

CANBERRA

RATIONS

Unexpired portion of days ration for 5 Dec 42 plus rations for 6 Dec 42 will be carried.

6 days ME hard rations will be issued by RQMS for rail journey.

WATER

Scale - 1 gallon per man.

.....Capt.
Adjt 2/1 Aust Fd Regt.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

2/7 AUST FD REGIMENT 1 Dec 42.

MOVEMENT ORDER

CARRIERS

appx "E" to War Diary December 1942.

1. INTENTION

Carriers will move to PALESTINE by road and rail.

2. METHOD

a. Will move to AMIRIYA area in accordance with movement table Appx "A" att. Guide will meet convoy at Disposal Pt.

b. All on R.A.A. strength are to come under comd Lieut PAIMAN from 1600 hrs 5 Dec 42 until completion of move.

c. Lieut PAIMAN will report to Capt S.C.W.BURSTON on arrival at AMIRIYA for further orders.

d. They will be entrained at AMIRIYA as flats become available.

e. Lieut W.D.PAIMAN will recce a dispersal area vicinity blockhouse 880589875 for all R.A.A. carriers and personnel to bivouac night 5/6 Dec 42.

f. They will RV at 1600 hrs 5 Dec at Blockhouse 880589875. Drivers will report to Lieut PAIMAN.

3. AMM
SUPS

a. To be drawn daily from No.10 D.I.D. by Unit det in tpt provided by HQ 9 Aust Div.

b. Lieut PAIMAN will obtain 1 Book AF.55 from RQMS and a ration certificate from Adjt before departure. Rations will be drawn at AIF Scale, but some items which personnel are unable to handle will be withdrawn.

4. POL

Only sufficient for journey to AMIRIYA will be taken. Pet tanks will not be filled at AMIRIYA unless ordered.

5. MEDICAL

One M.O. 2/8 Fd Amb will be available during stay at AMIRIYA.

6. PAY

Pay will be made available at MUSTAPHA Barracks.

7. Bivouac Shelters will be taken.

8. STRENGTH

2/8 Aust Fd Regt. 2/12 Fd Regt.
1 Officer 28 OR's 27 OR's

Distribution
18, 14, 57 Fd Bty's
Lieut PAIMAN
War Diary (2)
File.

A.A. Lowood Capt.
Adjt 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

Ack.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

Appx "F" to War Diary

2/4 Aust Fd Regt

December 1943.

IN THE INTERESTS OF NATIONAL ECONOMY WILL YOU WRITE ON BOTH SIDES?

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

. TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 1).

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.) For Week Ending 9 DEC 42

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

War Establishment.	1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Lieut.-Colonels	1	NIL	NIL
	Majors...	4	NIL	NIL
	Captains	10	NIL	NIL
	Lieutenants	25	NIL	2
	2nd Lieutenants			
	Quartermasters	1	NIL	NIL
	District Officers			
	TOTALS	41	NIL	2

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (*e.g.*, Major-General, Brigadier, etc.).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (*e.g.*, present whereabouts, if known).

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 2.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2 M. or S.	3 Substantive Rank.	4 Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	5 Name and Initials.	6 Corps.	7 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	8 Date Joined Unit.	9 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1	C.O	LT. COL		EASTICK T.C.	AIF	YES		
2	2 I/C	MAJOR		JOHNSTON R.L		"		
3	B.C	1 MAJOR		ROGERS A.L		"		
4	B.C	2 MAJOR		DAY J.D		"		
5	B.C	3 MAJOR		HUGGETT G.R		"		
6	B CAPT	1 CAPT		MACFARLANE T.K.		"		
7	B CAPT	2 CAPT		DEER E.J.C		"		
8	HQ	CAPT		LOVEBAND H.G.		"		
9	B LAFT	3 CAPT		SCHRADER C.L		"		
10	TPC	C CAPT		COLE W.J.L		"		
11	TPC	E CAPT		RUNGIE R.H		"		
12	TPC	B CAPT		JONES A.G.		"		
13	FOTT	CAPT		FORWOOD A.W.		"		
14	TPC	A CAPT		CLELAND P.F		"		
15	TPC	F CAPT		PHILLIPSON E.C		"		
16	TPC	D CAPT		FITZHARDINGE R.F.B		"		
17	CPO	1 LIEUT		RODRIGUEZ J.A		"		
18	CPO	2 LIEUT		WHITEHEAD H.E		"		
19	CPO	3 LIEUT		HADDAN W.D		"		
20	ACPO	1/2 LIEUT		MITCHELL F.B		"		
21	CPO	4 LIEUT		KER M.A		"		
22	ACPO	1/3 LIEUT		FITZGIBBON J.A.		"		
23	WLO	3 LIEUT		FAULKNER R.M		"		
24	CPO	C LIEUT		ADAMS R.J		"		
25	TPL	C LIEUT		WILCOCK J.R		"		
26	CPO	D LIEUT		MENZIES R.W.J		"		
27	W.O	LIEUT		LOTH K.T		"		
28	CPO	E LIEUT		[illegible] J.M		"		
29	ACPO	1/E LIEUT		BERTRAM F.H		"		
30	CPO	A LIEUT		BISHOP S.G		"		
31	TPL	D LIEUT		WAUCHOP S.C		"		
32	WLO	1/2 LIEUT		[illegible] A.P		"		
33	WLO	1/3 LIEUT		RILEY L.B		"		
34	TPL	A LIEUT		WALLACE E.G		"		
35	OO	LIEUT		MELDRUM J.C		NO		ME SCH OF ARTY
36	ACPO	1/3 LIEUT		BRENNAN E.G		YES		
37		LIEUT		HARKES F		"		
38	TPL	E LIEUT		GOSSE R.C		"		
39	TPL	F LIEUT		SHORE N.C.		"		

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN		SIBREE E.W.	AAMC	31/10/41	R.M.O
CAPTAIN		HALL N.G.R	3 AOW	26/11/42	O.C.E
LIEUT		MCNEILL D.C	5 IGS 9 DIV	24/8/42	OC E SEC
CHAPLAIN IV		D'HALLORAN E.V	AACHD	16/7/41	PADRE

2/7 AUST FD REGT
(Unit.)

10 DEC 42
(Date of Despatch.)

J.C. Eastick LT. COL
(Signature of Commander.)

9 AUST DIV
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit). 9 DEC 1942 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (*i.e.* deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	NIL	NIL
W.Os. Class II.	9	NIL	1
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants BQMS	3	NIL	NIL
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	34	NIL	NIL
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals BORS	83	NIL	1
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	553	NIL	5
TOTALS	683	* NIL	* 7

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
13 ORS	63 AUST LAD		
35 ORS	E SEC SIGS		
4 ORS	2/8 AUST FD AMB		
1 OR	FINANCE SECTION		
1 OR	9 DIV POSTAL		
1 OR	HQ RAA 9 AUST DIV		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (*e.g.* present whereabouts if known).

2/7 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																		7	7	
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel																				
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																		7	7	

2/7 AUST FD REGT
Unit.

Date of Despatch 10 DEC 42

H Eastick Lt-Col
Signature of Commander.

9 AUST DIV
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

ARMY FORM W. 3008. (Page 1)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
Lieut.-Colonels	1	NIL	NIL
Majors	4	NIL	NIL
Captains	10	NIL	NIL
Lieutenants	25	NIL	2
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1	NIL	NIL
District Officers			
Totals	41	NIL	2

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	MONERIES W.P.	AIF	9.12.42	FROM ARMY TNG BDE

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	EVERETT K.W.	AIF	9.12.42	SECONDED ARMY TNG BDE
LT-COL	EASTICK T.C.	"	12.12.42	ATTENDING CRAS COURSE

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)

ARMY FORM W. 3008. (Page 2).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1 Substantive Rank.	2 Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	3 Name and Initials.	4 Corps.	5 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	6 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
CO LT COL		EASTICK T.C.	AIF	NO	ATTENDING CRAS COURSE
2IC MAJOR		JOHNSTON R.L.		YES	
B.C. B MAJ		ROGERS A.L.		"	
B.C. S7 MAJ		DAY J.D.		"	
B.C. H.Q. MAJ		HUGGETT G.R.		"	
B. CADET H. CAPT		MACFARLANE J.A.		"	
B. CADET S7 CAPT		DEER E.J.C.		"	
G.M. CAPT		LOVEBAND H.G.		"	
B. CADET B CAPT		SCHRADER C.L.		"	
IPC C CAPT		COLE W.T.L.		"	
IPC E CAPT		RUNGIE R.H.		"	
IPC B CAPT		JONES A.G.		"	
ADJT CADET		FORWOOD A.W.		"	
IPC A CAPT		CLELAND D.F.		"	
IPC E CAPT		PHILLIPSON E.C.		"	
[illegible]		FITZHARDINGE R.E.B.		"	
C/O S7 LIEUT		RODRIGUEZ J.A.		"	
C/O B LIEUT		HENLAND H.R.S.		"	
C/O H LIEUT		BADMAN W.D.		7/10	SPECIAL DUTY
A.C.P.O. H LIEUT		MITCHELL E.B.		YES	
C/O S LIEUT		[illegible] M.A.		"	
C/O E LIEUT		BUFIELD F.W.		"	
LIEUT		MONERIES W.P.		"	
A.C.P.O. B LIEUT		ETTINGTON J.A.		"	
[illegible]		FAULKNER R.D.		"	
C/O E LIEUT		ADAMS R.H.		"	
IPC C LIEUT		WILCOCK J.R.		"	
[illegible]		[illegible] R.W.T.		"	
R.S.O. LIEUT		[illegible] K.T.		"	
C/O B LIEUT		MARKS D.M.		"	
LIEUT		BERTRAM J.H.		"	
C/O A LIEUT		BISHOP S.D.		"	
[illegible] LIEUT		[illegible] S.G.		"	
W.O. 14 LIEUT		WYNNE A.A.		"	
W.O. 3 LIEUT		[illegible] L.B.		"	
W.O. 3 LIEUT		WALLACE E.A.		"	
QO LIEUT		MELLOR T.C.		NO	ME SCH OF ARTY
A.C.P.O. 5 LIEUT		BRENNEN E.G.		YES	
IPC E LIEUT		HAWKES B.		"	
IPC E LIEUT		[illegible] R.C.		"	
IPC E LIEUT		SHORE M.C.		"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CAPTAIN		ST BREE E.W.	AAMC	31/8/41	RMO
CAPTAIN		HALL W.G.R.	3 AGW	24/11/42	DME
LIEUT		MCNEILL D.C.	SIGS 9 DIV	31/8/41	OC E SEC
CHAPLAIN 4TH		D'HALLORAN E.W.	AACHD	6/2/41	PADRE

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.)

13 DEC 42 (Date of Despatch.)

R.L. Johnston Maj for Lt Col (Signature of Commander.) A.O.C.

9 AUST DIV (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit). 13 DEC 1942 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (*i.e.* deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1	NIL	NIL
W.Os. Class II.	9	NIL	1
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants BQMS	3	NIL	NIL
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants	35	1	NIL
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals BDRS	85	1	NIL
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc. GNRS	553	NIL	5
TOTALS	686	* 2	* 6

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
13 ORS	63 AUST LAD		
34 ORS	E SEC SIGS		
4 ORS	2/8 AUST FD AMB		
1 OR	FINANCE SECTION		
1 OR	9 DIV POSTAL		
1 OR	HQRAA 9 AUST DIV		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (*e.g.* present whereabouts if known).

2/7 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties																				
Signallers																		6	6	
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel																				
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																		6	6	

2/7 AUST FD REGT
Unit.

Date of Despatch 13 DEC 42

R J Johnston maj for Lt Col
Signature of Commander A.O.D

9 AUST DIV
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

ARMY FORM W. 3008.
(Page 1)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels	1	NIL	NIL
Majors	3	NIL	1
Captains	10	NIL	NIL
Lieutenants	24	NIL	3
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1	NIL	NIL
District Officers			
Totals	39	NIL	4

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
LIEUT	MELLOR J.C.	AIF	14.12.42	FROM ME SCH OF ARTY

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
MAJOR	ROGERS A.L.	AIF	14.12.42	TO C.R.S.
LIEUT	MELLOR J.C.	"	14.12.41	SECONDED HQ RAA 9 DIV.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)

ARMY F[illegible]
(Pa[illegible]

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
CO LT-COL		EASTICK T.C.	AIF	NO	ATTENDING CRAS COURSE
2 I/C MAJOR		JOHNSTON R.L.		YES	
BC ST MAJOR		DAY J.D.		"	
BC 14 MAJOR		HUGGETT G.R.		"	
B CAPT 14 CAPT		MACFARLANE T.K.		"	
B CAPT ST CAPT		DEER E.J.C.		"	
QM CAPT		LOVEBAND H.G.		"	
B CAPT B CAPT		SCHRADER C.L.		"	
TPC C CAPT		COLE W.J.L.		"	
TPC E CAPT		RUNGIE R.H.		"	
TPC B CAPT		JONES A.G.		"	
ADJT CAPT		FORWOOD A.W.		"	
TPC A CAPT		CLELAND P.F.		"	
TPC F CAPT		PHILLIPSON E.C.		"	
TPC D CAPT		FITZHARDINGE R.E.B.		"	
CPO A LIEUT		RODRIGUEZ J.A.		"	
CPO B LIEUT		NEWLAND H.R.S.		"	
CPO C LIEUT		PADMAN W.D.		NO	SPECIAL DUTY
ACPO 14 LIEUT		MITCHELL F.B.		YES	
GPO B LIEUT		KER M.A.		"	
GPO F LIEUT		BYFIELD E.W.		"	
OO LIEUT		MONFRIES W.P.		"	
ACPO B LIEUT		FITZGIBBON J.A.		"	
WLO B LIEUT		FAULKNER R.M.		"	
GPO C LIEUT		ADAMS R.H.		"	
TPL C LIEUT		WILCOCK J.R.		"	
GPO D LIEUT		MENZIES R.W.J.		"	
RSO LIEUT		LUTZ K.T.		"	
GPO E LIEUT		MACKIE D.M.		"	
LIEUT		BERTRAM J.H.		"	
GPO A LIEUT		BISHOP S.D.		"	
TPL D LIEUT		WAUCHOP S.G.		"	
WLO 14 LIEUT		WYNNE A.A.		"	
WLO ST LIEUT		RILEY L.B.		"	
TPL A LIEUT		WALLACE E.G.		"	
ACPO ST LIEUT		BRENNEN E.G.		YES	
LIEUT		HAWKES B.		"	
TPL E LIEUT		GOSSE R.C.		"	
TPL F LIEUT		SHORE M.C.		"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit.)

20 DEC 42 (Date of Despatch.)

K L Johnston Maj/Lt-Col (Signature of Commander.)

9 AUST DIV (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3009
(Page 1.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

2/7 AUST FD REGT (Unit). 20 DEC 1942 (Date)

(To be furnished by all Units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments),
W.Os Class I.	1	NIL	NIL
W.Os Class II.	8	NIL	2
W.Os Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Sergeants OR Colour-Sergeants.			
Staff Sergeants. BQMS	3	NIL	NIL
Sergeants.	34	NIL	NIL
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals. BOMS	84	NIL	NIL
Troopers, Privates, GRRS Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	556	NIL	2
TOTALS.	686	* NIL	* 4

*-These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
14 ORs	63 AUST LAD.		
34 ORs	E SEC SIGS		
4 ORs	7/8 AUST FD AMB		
1 OR	FINANCE SECT		
1 OR	9 DIV POSTAL		
1 OR	HQ RAA		
1 OR	YMCA		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularity requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks. (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

2/7 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Army Form W 3009
(page 2.)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W 3009

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS. TRADESMEN, Etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT										REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS
	W.Os. Class I.	W. Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W. Os. Class I	W. Os. Class II.	W Os Class III	S.Q.M.S., C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Sergeants	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	
Bricklayers																				
Butchers.																				
Carpenters and Joiners..																				
Clerks...																				
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders ...																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)..																				
" " (Wheeled) .																				
Driver-Mechanics ...																				
Driver-Operators. ...																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers ...																				
Farriers..																				
Fitters...																				
Machine Gunners ...																				
Masons..																				
Motor Mechanics ...																				
Pioneer, Infantry (other than tradesmen) ...																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters.																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers & Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers ...																				
Sanitary & Water Duties.																				
Signallers																		4	4	
Storemen technical ...																				
Tailors.																				
Wheelers																				
General duty personnel .																				
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 & 4 of Part A)																		4	4	

2/7 AUST FD REGT Unit.

Date of Despatch 20 DEC 42

R.L. Stevenson Maj Lieut-Col
Signature of Commander.

9 AUST DIV
Bde, Divn, Area, etc, with which unit is serving.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

MOST SECRET

2/7 AUST FD REGIMENT - MOVEMENT TABLE FOR ROAD MOVE OF TRACKED VEHS TO ENTRAINING STA

APPX "A"

Ref map :- 1:500,000 EGYPT Series, CAIRO Sheet
1:50,000 EL ALAMEIN Sheet.

1. ROUTE — Main rd EL ALAMEIN - AMIRIYA (tracked vehs will not travel on bitumen)
2. CP — Rd June 88732942 ("SPRINGBOK" RD)
3. HALTS — 0940-1000, 1200-1245
4. SPREAD & DENSITY — 10 m.i.h., 10 v.t.m.
5. TIMINGS

Unit	No of Carriers	TPP mins	Date of Move	Disp. Pt	Timings Pass CP Head Tail	Pass Dis Pt. Head Tail
2/7 Aust Fd Regt. 2/8 Aust Fd Regt. 2/12 Aust Fd Regt.	27	8	6 Dec	498825	0715 0723	1415 1423

C.O'S REPORT DECEMBER 1942

Appx "G" to War Diary 2/7 Aust. Fd. Regt.

During the month the regt said good bye to Alamein, the scene of much hard fighting and we regret to say the loss due to enemy action of several officers and men of the regt.

The regt had entered into the spirit of collection of salvage very heartily, and good returns were made to the various salvage depots.

Various members of the regt attended to graves of our departed comrades and when we finally left Egypt all graves were well cared for and were all photographed for record purposes. Two photos of each grave were sent to the next of kin and various letters thanking the regt have been received.

On 2 Dec a most impressive memorial service was conducted at the Alamein cemetery by Padre Lawrence of 2/3 A/T Regt.
It was attended by practically every member of the regt and will long be remembered by all who attended

For the journey to Palestine the regt was split and with other RAA regts into fast and slow columns, and left Alamein on 5 & 6 Dec respectively.

The carriers went seperately under Lieut Padman and were a long time enroute and finally arrived after the Xmas festivities.

C.O. moved independently of the regt and called at 7 AGH and saw all members of the regt there, and also called at the Chatby cemetery and photographed the graves of members of the regt buried there.

The regt camp area was at El Burej, it was on high ground and was a pleasant site.

Building was in progress and the two mess huts were ready for use on Xmas day.

A fair amount of sport was played whilst there and xxgood sub-unit teams were training.

Early in the month the C.O. moved to Almaza to attend the first ME C's.R.A. course in company with Lieut Col Goodwin 2/12 Fd Regt. The course was a most comprehensive and instructive one and was conducted by Brig Hornby who had been C.C.R.A. 13 Corps.

Several rehearsals for a ceremonial parade were held and on 22 Dec 42 a most impressive parade was held on the Gaza Air Port.
General Alexander inspected the parade, he was accompanied by Lieut Gen Morshead G.O.C., AIF and 9 Aust Div.
Gen Alexander gave a most impressive address and the division then marched past.

Xmas Day was celebrated in fine style and all ranks entered into the spirit of the occasion and a good time was had by all.

On 26 Dec 42 C.O. attended a conference when details of our movement from the ME were promulgated by Brig Ramsay A/GOC 9 Aust Div.

The 2 i/c Maj R.L.Johnston attended a Naval Bombardment course at Kabret Egypt.

C.O., Maj Huggett, Adjt, and Lieut Newland attended a special short course at the C.T.C. Egypt.

on New Year's Eve advise was received of the award of the MC to Lieut (TIM) Rodriguez and MM to Gnr Ward S.A., both of 57 Fd Bty

J.C. Eastick. Lt-col
Comd. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2019.366.423

APP X.....to War Diary
2/7 Aust Fd Regt
4 Jan 43

R.M.O'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1942

UNIT STRENGTH AND REINFORCEMENTS

The strength of the unit at 31 December was 38 Officers and 682 ORs. Officers and ORs who joined the Unit during the month were in good health.

CAMP SITE, FACILITIES AND SANITATION

During the first few days of the month, the Unit was in convoy to Palestine where a new camp site was available with newly made latrines, showers, mess huts etc. Contracts for civilian labour were used for removal of refuse and emptying urinal buckets. Food was good and water supply satisfactory.

GENERAL FITNESS

This remained satisfactory during the month. A small number of minor chronic complaints were sent for consultation and Out Patients attention to 6 A G H.

PREVALENT MEDICAL COMPLAINTS

The earlier frequent complaints of enteritis and infective hepatitis decreased considerably. URTI became prevalent and minor injuries from football.

V D N Y D

Two cases were evacuated.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Five cases of infective hepatitis, two cases of mumps and one case of scabies were evacuated.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND HOSPITAL FACILITIES

During the movement of the first few days of the month evacuation was arranged through a section of 2/11 Aust Fd Amb. In camp evacuation was to CRS and 6 AGH. Medical supplies were obtained from 2/11 Aust Fd Amb and were satisfactory.

GENERAL

The main feature of the month was the return to the facilities of a standing camp with good facilities. The opportunity was taken to deal with some minor chronic complaints which were outstanding from the desert. The RAP was centralised which is a more convenient method in camp than the dispersion of Orderlies which is required in the field.

E W Sibree
.....Capt.
(E.W.Sibree) R.M.O.

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