

4/3/2

JANUARY TO  
MARCH 1942  
&  
MAY 1942

ORIGINAL

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

"Y" TROOP  
18 FIELD BATTERY

DISTRICT RECORDS OFFICE  
7-4 M.D.  
REG. NO. DATE REC'D FILE NO.  
3 FEB 1942

# WAR DIARY OF INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit V Troop, 18th Field Battery Date and Time.—From 1 Jan '42 To 31 Jan '42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PARAP	6.1.42		N79070 Gnr. Atta- Singh S.W. ceases to be classified under Trade Group II (Cook) on terminating duty in kitchen, 26.12.41	Cas Ret 6.1.42
	15.1.42		VP6930 Gnr. Clifton H.S. appointed specialist, Trade Group II, as cook, from 26.12.41.	Cas Ret 15.1.42
	15.1.42		QP1471 Gnr. Merkley C.E. released from 18 Fd. Bty. on enlistment in 2/14 Fd. Rgt., A.I.F. Date of enlistment 6.12.41	Cas Ret 15.1.42 and Mob 3 dated 14.1.42
	15.1.42		VP3999 Bdr. Webb K.W.T. struck off strength 18 Fd. Bty. on transfer to 39 Employment and Defence Platoon 7 M.D.	Cas Ret 15.1.42
	15.1.42		SP4524 Gnr. Beasley C.H.F. marched in from living out on 13.12.41.	Cas Ret 15.1.42
	15.1.42		NP3176 T/Sgt. Gray E.J. marched in from living out on 31.12.41	Cas Ret 15.1.42
	16.1.42		NP9849 Lieut. Richardson P.C., Aust. Staff Corps, detached to H.Q. 7 M.D. for duty on 15.1.42. Dispositions of 18 Fd. Bty. are now complete except for some items of camouflage which cannot yet be finished owing to shortage of paint. Training has been resumed, together with constructional work to improve the camp area. The position with regard to certain stores is serious. No telephone batteries are available other than those now in the sets, and which are partly run down. Requisition was made on 8.12.41 (Reg No. 135/41) for dry cells and also cells for W/T 108 Sets, but none are yet available at Ordnance. Lack of these stores will have a serious effect on the efficient working of the Unit in action. Packings for the buffers and recuperators of 18 Pdra. Mk. II (U and L) Sections are also unobtainable at Ordnance. Requisition for these items was made on 13.8.41 (No. 94/41) and also on 2.12.41 (No. 135/41) but none are yet available. The guns are at present in firing order, but it is impossible to guarantee their remaining so in action, unless spare packings are available. One gun has not had its packings replaced for 12 months owing to lack of these items.	Cas Ret 16.1.42

Statistical Sec.

*W. J. J. J.* Capt.,  
O.C. V Troop, 18th Field Battery.

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118

(adaptd.)

*Received* 55/8/42

Unit 18 Field Battery

Date and Time.—From 1.2.42

To 28.2.42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PARAP	3.2.42		VP3982 Gnr. Fraser H.W. promoted to rank of Bdr. (Artificer) to date from 8.1.42. NP4970 Gnr. McQuinn L.A. ceases to draw	
	5.2.42		Specialist pay as driver M.T. as from 19.2.42. VP3999 Bdr. Webb K.W.T. ceases to be detached to H.Q., 7 M.D. Struck off strength 18 Fd. Bty. on transfer to 59 Employment and Defence Platoon as from this date. QPB471 Gnr. Merkeley G.W. discharged from 18 Fd. Bty. to 2/14 Fd. Rgt. A.I.F. (A.M.R.277(1) (KV+))	Cas. Ret. 3.2.42
	10.2.42		N79073 Gnr. Bergan O.R. appointed U/L/Bdr. as from 1.2.42. N79176 Gnr. Pascoe E.H. ceases to be classified under Specialist Trade Group II (sig.) as from 6.2.42. By a District Court Martial convened by Commandant 7 M.D., and held at Parap on 27 and 28 January, 42, the following sentences were awarded:— NP4961 Gnr. McQuinn K.W. Charges, (i) An act to the prejudice of good order and Military discipline A.A.49. (ii) Using threatening language to his superior officer A.A.8 (2). (iii) Offering violence to his superior officer A.A.8 (2). (iv) Striking his superior officer A.A.8(1). Sentenced to 100 days imprisonment without hard labour in His Majesty's gaol. NP4964 Gnr. Brown F.G.B. Charges:— (i) Striking his superior officer A.A.8(1). (ii) Absent without leave A.A.15(1). (iii) Using threatening language to his superior officer A.A.8(2). Sentence 60 days Detention. Sentences confirmed by Commandant 7 M.D. on 6.2.42. VP6929 L/Bdr. Phillips W.M. promoted to T/Bdr. as from this date.	Cas. Ret. 5.2.42
	13.2.42		By a District Court Martial held at Parap on 28.1.42 NP6316 Gnr. Clarke A. was found guilty of (i) Striking his superior officer A.A.8(2). (ii) Using insubordinate language to his superior officer A.A.8(2). Sentence 30 days detention. Confirmed by Commandant 7 M.D.	Cas. Ret. 10.2.42
	18.2.42		N79075 Gnr. Beckingham L.J. struck off strength 18 Fd. Bty. on transfer to 119 A.G.H. as from 13.2.42.	Cas. Ret. 13.2.42
				Cas. Ret. 18.2.42

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit 18 Field Battery

Date and Time.—From 1.2.42 To 28.2.42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PARAP.	19.2.42	1000-1230	An attack by enemy high-level and dive bombers escorted by fighters took place this day. About 100 planes took part. Local defences claimed 11 planes shot down. No casualties or damage occurred in this unit. Troops all occupied slit trenches. Our A.A.I.M.C. section engaged enemy low-flying planes and claim to have hit one machine with a burst of fire. This machine subsequently crashed near the Civil aerodrome.	
			NP4961 Gnr. McQuinn K.W. marched in from H.M. gaol on this date, having completed 23 days of his sentence and being released as pardoned.	
	22.2.42		NP6939 Gnr. Briggs R.W., now a member of 2/14 Fd. Rgt., A.I.F. apprehended as a deserter from 18 Fd. Bty. 14.2.42 and attached for rations to this unit pending instructions from 7 M.D.	Cas. Ret. 19.2.42 Cas. Ret. 22.2.42
			During this month training of signallers, gunners, and drivers has been carried out as circumstances allowed. For the last week of the month the unit has been employed in constructional whole	
			Extra ammunition has been drawn to the extent of 400 rounds per gun and all vehicles have been withdrawn to a waggon line area away from the <del>XXXX</del> camp site.	

*J.W. Inman Capt.*  
*O.C 187d. Bty*





# WAR DIARY ~~OF INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required)

9/6/42  
Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit ~~X~~ Troop 18th. Field Battery. Date and Time.—From 1 MAY 1942 To 31 MAY 1942.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PARAP	1 May '42		Troop. less 4 O.R.'s moved from Parap Camp to timbered area approx Map Ref 827163 2" to Mile Darwin. Personnel bivouaged in bush shelters and camouflaged tent flaps. Slit trenches for personnel and steering wheel depth vehicle emplacements were commenced.	
	-do-		NP9849 Lieut. Richardson P.C. Aust Staff Corps marched in from H?Q. L of C.	
Bivouac Area	2 May 42		Gun Subs moved out to Defensive positions in support of 19 Bn.	
	4 May '42		"D" Sub fired 5-rds open sight Demonstration shoot at weapon demonstration with 19 Bn. Targets where an old truck and 3 trees 12" diameter, range 200 yds. 5 direct hits were registered smashing truck and felling the three trees.	
	14 May '42		N 10909 Lieut R.R. Broad marched out to R.A.A. H.Q. N.T. Force N 10941 Lieut J.F. Roarke -----do-----	
	18 May 42		Gun Sub personnel, guns and vehicles marched back from their defensive positions to H.Q. Bivouac area on completion of Gun Pits etc. This move was made to facilitate training and admn. Training to be carried out when Gun and vehicle air raid shelters were completed - is to include bayonet fighting, unarmed combat night patrols and close combat fighting.	
	20 May 42		Troop moved out on 2 day exercise in Cemetery Plains and Footcliffs area.	
	21 May 42	1430 hrs	Orders received to return to Parap Camp from 19 Bn. <i>None completed by 1700 hrs.</i>	
	22 May 42		Strength Decrease N7904 5 Gns. Croft C. N79072 Aherne R. N 79070 Atta-Singh N79051 Chapman L. VP 7134 L/Bdr Mitchell C.R. <i>Transferred</i>	
	30 May 42		Troop engaged in clearing area of Parap Gun position Map spot 817108 DARWIN 2" to 1 Mile.	

*J.W. Murray* Capt  
OC Y To 18 Fd Bty RAA