

AWM2022.61.244

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
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[16/9]

Nos. 41-43-44 O.B.U.

RETURN & REPORT SHEETS

AWM 64

[16/9]

18A

FROM : Headquarters, Northern Command.
TO : No 41 OBU
DATE : 27 FEB 1945
REF : 29/1/2.

FORMS A50 - UNIT HISTORY SHEET

1. With the object of clarifying the position and removing all existing doubts as to the type of records required from units for the purposes of the Official History of the Royal Australian Air Force, comprehensive amendments have been made to the Air Force Order on the subject. A.F.O. 18/F/5, published on 27th November, 1944, supersedes the previous order, and is a consolidation of all previously existing instructions relating to Unit History Sheets.
2. It is apparent, however, that some misconception still exists in the minds of many of those responsible for the preparation of Forms A50. With a view to effecting an immediate and still further improvement in information supplied in Unit History Sheets, the attention of all units under the command of this Headquarters is directed to the new AFO 18/F/5 and its detailed requirements.
3. It cannot be too strongly impressed on all concerned that the scope and accuracy of the History of the Royal Australian Air Force will depend largely on the co-operation of all formations and units. Only their close conformity with the A.F.O. governing the submission of historical material will ensure that adequate representation is given the part played by the Service in all theatres of war.
4. Perusal of the Unit History Sheets for the month of January, 1945, has revealed many discrepancies and the attached appendix sets out the matters which have been either omitted or incorrectly shown on Forms A50 so far received. The forms are returned herewith for correction, and are to be resubmitted promptly on completion through Wings or Formations to this Headquarters.
5. Future Forms A50 are to be forwarded through Wing or Formation Headquarters, who will be responsible for checking and ensuring that the forms are correctly compiled before being forwarded to this Headquarters.
6. Particular attention is to be paid to the following points on compilation of Unit History Sheets.
 - (a) Forms A50 and relevant appendix must be in duplicate.
 - (b) All attached reports and documents are to be referred to on the Form A50 and shown as appendices. A column has been provided on the form for reference to such appendices.
 - (c) Applicable only to operational and transport squadrons. Relevant copies of Form A123, A124 and A150 as laid down in AFOs 18/F/6, 18/F/7, 18/F/7A and 18/F/8 are to be attached to the duplicate copy of Form A50.
 - (d) Form A50 are to be consecutively numbered with one number only for each form. A new series of numbers is not to be used at the commencement of a new year.
 - (e) Establishment and strength figures of personnel, aircraft, marine craft, and motor transport must be included where applicable.
7. In future Forms A50 are to be submitted to Wings or Formations to enable them to be received at this Headquarters not later than 6th of the following month.

H. W. Shirley
(H.W. SHIRLEY), Squadron Leader,
for Senior Administrative Staff Officer,
NORTHERN COMMAND.

12/AIR

ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS - FORMS A50 - JANUARY, 1945

NAME OF UNIT	ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS.
No.304 RADAR STATION	(i) duplicate of attached report required (ii) report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A" (iii) strength M/T to be shown.
No.338 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No.346 RADAR STATION	(i) remarks contained in covering memo to be included on A50 (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
A.D.H.Q. MADANG	(i) Appendix "A" reference to be made on A50
No. 42 O.B.U.	(i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be included, also Marine Craft
No. 41 O.B.U.	(i) Establishment of personnel to be included (ii) Strength and Establishment M/T to be included
No. 3 R.I.M.U.	(i) Appendix "A" to be referred to in A50 (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No.337 RADAR STATION	(i) Appendix "A" to be referred to in A50 (ii) Establishment M/T to be shown
No. 4 TAC/R SQUADRON	(i) attachments to be shown on A50 as Appendices (ii) Establishment and Strength personnel and M/T to be shown, also aircraft
No. 83 WING HQRS	(i) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No. 38 O.B.U.	(i) Printed Form A50 to be used (ii) Appendix "A" to be referred to on A50 (iii) Strength and Establishment M/T to be shown (iv) A50 to be consecutively numbered
No. 9 COMMUNICATION UNIT	(i) Strength and Establishment M/T and Aircraft to be shown
No. 16 A.O.P.FLIGHT	(i) Attachments to be shown as Appendices
No. 49 O.B.U.	(i) Establishment and Strength personnel, M/T and Marine Craft to be shown
No.348 RADAR STATION	(i) Appendix to be referred to on A50
No. 40 O.B.U.	(i) Printed Form A50 to be used (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No. 7 R.A.A.F. POSTAL UNIT	(i) Printed Form A50 to be used (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No. 6 SQUADRON	(i) Green copies of Form A123 should be attached to duplicate A50 (A.F.O. 18/2/7)
No.153 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown (ii) Appendix to be shown on A50
No.301 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength Personnel and M/T to be shown
No.350 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength Personnel and M/T to be shown
No. 8 COMMUNICATION UNIT	(i) Establishment and Strength Personnel, M/T, and Aircraft to be shown.

<u>NAME OF UNIT</u>	<u>ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS</u>
No.331 RADAR STATION	(1) Appendix to be shown on A50
No. 2 M.R.S.	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown
No. 71 WING	(1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown (ii) Appendix to be marked on A50
No. 8 SQUADRON	(1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown (ii) Appendices to be marked as shown on A50 (iii) Following Appendices referred to on A50 not attached :- D.R.O's - Form A98 (iv) Duplicate copy Tactical Appreciation required. (v) Green copy of A123 not forwarded
No.100 SQUADRON	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel, M/T and Aircraft to be shown (ii) Green copies of A123 to be attached (iii) Attachments to be shown as Appendices and marked on A50 (iv) Form A98 not submitted (v) Duplicate copy of Tactical Appreciation required
No. 4 CENTRAL RESERVE	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attached report to be shown as an Appendix and marked on A50
No.347 RADAR STATION	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Appendix "A" to be marked on A50
No.340 RADAR STATION	(1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown (ii) Attachments to be shown as Appendices and marked on A50
No.138 RADAR STATION	(1) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown (ii) Duplicate copy of Appendices required and Appendix to be marked on A50
No. 46 O.B.U.	(1) Establishments Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attached D.R.O's to be shown as Appendices and marked on A50
No.320 RADAR STATION	(1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown
No. 10 R.S.U.	(1) Strength and Establishment M/T to be shown
No. 20 M.C.S.	(1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attachment to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"
No. 26 A.S.P.	(1) Est Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"
No. 7 SQUADRON	(1) Strength and Establishment of Personnel, Aircraft and M/T to be shown (ii) C.O's report to be included as an Appendix (iii) Duplicate copy of Tactical Appreciation report required (iv) Duplicates of Appendices to A51 required

NAME OF UNIT

ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

No. 300 RADAR STATION

- (1) Strength and Establishment M/T to be shown

No. 315 RADAR STATION

- (1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown

No. 345 RADAR STATION

- (1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 332 RADAR STATION

- (i) Strength and Establishment, M/T to be shown
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 352 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown
-
- (ii) Appendix to be marked on A50

No. 334 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 40 SQUADRON

- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel, M/T and Aircraft to be shown
-
- (ii) Promotion of personnel (if any) to be shown
-
- (iii) Postings of Officers (" " " ")
-
- (iv) Visits of Staff Officers to be shown
-
- (v) Copies of Forms A124 and A150 to be attached to duplicate of A50 (AFO 19/T/7A & 18/T/8)
-
- (vi) Separate report covering general activities of Unit with particular reference to discipline, morale, welfare of personnel to be attached & marked Appendix "A" on A50.
-
- Any other matter which would be of interest from a historical record point of view.

No. 339 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 356 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength of M/T to be shown.
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.
-
- (iii) Duplicate copy of report required.

No. 303 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
-
- (ii) General report required covering activities of Unit and including discipline, morale and welfare to be attached as Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.

No. 330 RADAR STATION

- (i) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 333 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50

No. 37 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown.
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.

No. 8 MEDICAL REHABILITATION UNIT

- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
-
- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.

REPORTING TO THE BOARD

(4)

REPORT TO THE BOARD

NAME OF UNIT

ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

No. 74 WING

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown.
- (ii) Report covering A.O.R. activities at Jackson's Airfield for the month to be attached and marked Appendix "A".
- (iii) General report covering general activities with special reference to discipline, morale and welfare in the area to be attached and marked Appendix "B".

No. 45 O.B.U.

- (i) Establishment and Strength, personnel, M/T and Marine Craft to be shown.
- (ii) Reference to be made to accommodation supplied to Allied Services.
- (iii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.
- (iv) Reference to be made, in report, to activities at Jackson's Airfield and Marine Section.

No. 21 MEDICAL CLEARING STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown.

No. 15 AIRCRAFT REPAIR DEPT

- (i) Strength and Establishment of Unit M/T to be shown.
- (ii) Promotions of officers and airmen (if any) to be shown.
- (iii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.

No. 313 RADAR STATION

- (i) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
- (ii) General report required covering discipline, morale and welfare to be attached and marked Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.

No. 43 O.B.U.

- (i) Form A50 required in duplicate.
- (ii) Establishment and Strength of Personnel, M/T and Marine Craft as at the end of the month to be shown.
- (iii) A general report covering the Unit's activities with particular reference to discipline, morale and welfare to be attached and marked as Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.

No. 48 O.B.U.

- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
- (ii) General report required covering discipline, morale and welfare to be attached and marked Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.
- (iii) Query numbering of forms - October numbered 14, December numbered 15, January numbered 16 - What number was allotted to November return?

No. 10 COMMUNICATION UNIT

- (i) Attached report to be referred to on A50 and marked Appendix "A".
- (ii) Copies of A124 to be attached to duplicate of A50 (A.F.O. 18/7/7A).

No. 39 O.B.U.

- (i) Attached report to be referred to on A50 and marked Appendix "A".

No. 17 A.O.P.

- (i) Appendix "A" attached should be referred to on A50.

No. 5 SQUADRON

- (i) Establishment and Strength of Aircraft to be shown.
- (ii) Forms A50 to be numbered consecutively, each sheet bearing a separate number.
- (iii) Appendices to A51 should be referred to thereon.

NAME OF UNIT

(5)

ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

No. 84 WING HEADQUARTERS

- (i) Each sheet of A50 should bear a separate consecutive number. Forms for Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., and Jan., have been corrected and now bear the following numbers:
Setp. No. 1, Oct. No. 2, Nov. No. 3, Dec. 1st sheet No. 4, 2nd sheet No. 5, Jan. 1st sheet No. 6, 2nd sheet No. 7, 3rd sheet No. 8. The first sheet for Feb., should be number 9.

No. 113 M.F.C.U.

- (i) Commanding Officer's report to be shown as Appendix "A".
- (ii) Sheets to be numbered consecutively, the first sheet for Jan., should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the last sheet of Dec. The second sheet should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the first sheet of Jan. Serial numbers are not to be used. Each sheet numbered consecutively is sufficient.

No. 311 RADAR STATION

- (i) Sheets to be numbered consecutively, the first sheet for Jan should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the last sheet of Dec. The second sheet should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the first sheet of Jan. Serial numbers are not to be used. Each sheet numbered consecutively is sufficient.
- (ii) Separate report covering general activities particularly with reference to discipline, morale and welfare of personnel to be attached and marked on A50 as Appendix "A".

No. 349 RADAR STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
- (ii) Separate report covering general activities particularly with reference to discipline, morale and welfare of personnel to be attached and marked on A50 as Appendix "A".

No. 33 SQUADRON

- (i) Forms should be numbered consecutively, a new series is not to be commenced each year.
- (ii) Promotions, if any, of officers and airmen are to be shown.
- (iii) Establishment and Strength, Aircraft and M/T to be shown.
- (iv) Separate report on general activities of unit including discipline, morale, welfare of personnel to be attached and marked as Appendix "A" on A50.

No. 37 O.B.U.

- (i) Establishment and Strength of Personnel and M/T as at 31 Jan., to be shown.
- (ii) Attached reports and nominal roll to be marked Appendices "A" and "B" respectively and shown on A50 as such.

No. 12 R.S.U.

- (i) Attached report to be marked Appendix "A" and shown on A50 as such.

OPERATIONS SECTION

Precis of activities for Month of January 1945
for inclusion in Unit History Sheet.

ASRV's

at the beginning of the Month under review, H.M.A.S. Janama, and R.A.A.F. Rescue Launch 08-3, were based at GOODENOUGH.

On the 18th of the month H.M.A.S. Martindale arrived to relieve H.M.A.S. Janama which proceeded the following day to MILNE BAY for slipping.

Consistent with the Move of 6 Squadron to DOBODURA and acting under instructions from Northern Command, H.M.A.S. Martindale departed for OKO-BAY on 24th and R.A.A.F. Rescue Launch 08-3 on 27th January.

At date of report there are No ASRV's under the control of 41. OBU.

SIGNALS TRAFFIC

(* Not including
Aircraft Movement)

INWARD 370.
OUTWARD 21.

AIRCRAFT ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Locally Based { ARRIVALS 150.
DEPARTURES 165.

Visiting { ARRIVALS 26.
DEPARTURES 26.

OPERATIONS BY LOCALLY BASED AIRCRAFT

Number of Strikes	New Britain.	TOTAL	A/P participating.	TOTAL
"	" Supply Droppings New Britain.	4	"	12
"	" A/S Patrols & Reccees This Area.	6	"	15
"	" Searches for U/I Subs " "	NIL	"	NIL
"	" Weather Reccees for Strikes	NIL	"	NIL

Aircraft Movement Signals' figures are included
in the report submitted by R.C.O. 76 Flying Control.

R. Neidley, F.O.O.O.L.K.
OPERATIONS OFFICER. 1st Feb. 1945

Unit visited by Lt. Col. Rakey (S. 1.) Northern Command who selected central tower as new site for signals office. All signals equipment dismantled and shipped to Oro Bay per "Francis Kate". Two AT5 AR8 equipments and one AR7 installed in Tower (2nd floor) and Cypher office operating on 1st floor. Typex machine forwarded to Raboama under escort by W. Russell.

Three 48 ft and one 32 ft. masts carrying aereals and obstruction lights installed at Tower site. Honing beacon (m/f) installed in shed alongside Tower.

Monthly Group counts are as follows.

Signals Office

Messages	IN	OUT
Groups	.	.

Cypher Office

Messages	703 IN	638 OUT
Groups	59668 "	44270 .

No. 41 Operational Base Unit

Signals Section

Unit History Sheet, Dec., 1944.

During this month the unit has been visited by an Installation and Maintenance Party from No. 3 RINU. All Signals equipment is being serviced. New keying lines have been laid to the signals office from the transmitting station and a new power line is in the process of being laid to the D/F Station. The D/ F station has been off the air for overhaul and correction of large observed errors during this month. Clearing of the D/ F site has been improved and petrol dump, which has possibly contributed to the large errors in some quadrants, has been moved.

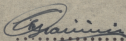
The Tower has complained that approaching A/C have not been able to hear them until about 25 miles from the strip. On investigation it was found that the transmitter was incorrectly tuned - obviously some inexperienced person had interfered with the controls. This has been rectified.

Considerable trouble has been experienced with telephones due to old cables breaking and shorting to earth during heavy rains. Owing to shortage of staff this cannot be rectified other than to make repairs as they become necessary.

Five time expired personnel have been sent down to take accrued leave.

Cypher Office has been moved to an adjoining room thus making for more congenial conditions in both the Signals and Cypher offices.

During the month 6,443 messages were recieved in the Signals office making a total of 272,567 groups. Cypher Office handled a total of 136,931 groups.


..... F/Lt.
Unit Signals Officer

UNIT HISTORY SHEETS

20A

FORM A.50 - Unit History Sheet is submitted monthly to Headquarters, NORTHEN COMMAND, and to R.A.A.F. Headquarters, and fuller information is required from Sections to enable the form to be compiled.

3. Fenceforth, commencing with the month of FEBRUARY, 1945, Section Commanders are to maintain a daily diary noting therein items and events of interest in the Units History viz:

- (a) Establishment and Strength of personnel at beginning and end of month. Changes of personnel.
- (b) Promotions of Airmen and Officers.
- (c) Any new buildings or renovations.
- (d) M/T, vehicles, establishment and strength.
- (e) Visits of Staff Officers to Section.
- (f) Visits to detachments of Officer in Charge of Section.
- (g) Any breakdowns or failures in the section equipment or routine.
- (h) Establishment and Strength and movements of Marine Craft.
- (i) Daily weather report with reference to any unusual feature.
- (j) Aircraft movements and accidents.
- (k) Transient personnel and units staging on the base.
- (l) Operations from the base.
- (m) Welfare report.
- (n) Education report.
- (c) Discipline report.
- (p) Sporting activities.

Such reports are to be submitted in triplicate on the 2nd day of each month to the Adjutant who is to consolidate them in the manner required by A.F.C. 18/F/5 and forward in duplicate, after signature by the Commanding Officer, to Headquarters NORTHEN COMMAND.

4. The scope and accuracy of the part played by our Service will depend largely on the co-operation of all Sections in these reports.

5. The matter is to be given immediate attention.

(A.F.E. WILSON)

Squadron Leader,

Commanding, No. 43 Operational Base Unit.

DISTRIBUTION:

ADJUTANT
ENGINEER
OFFICE
FOURTH
TRANSPORT

BARACKS
MARINE
MEDICAL
FLYING CONTROL
OPERATIONS

METEOROLOGICAL
WELFARE
EDUCATIONAL
RECORDS
WILE.

1/2 AIR

41-93

23A

UNIT HISTORY SHEET

S I G N A L S S E C T I O N

MAY 1945

Normal W/T watches have been continued throughout the month, but it is anticipated that the Air Sea Rescue, A.A.C.S Air to Ground and Recco. Watches will be placed upon a "As Required" basis, owing to the negligible amount of traffic passed on these circuits by this Unit.

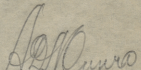
All W/T circuits are operating satisfactorily, although there is some room for more co-operation on the A.A.C.S. Network. A report has been furnished on this subject.

During the month S/Ldr. Roby, Norcom, visited the Unit and items of urgent need were brought before his notice. Among these was a request for a complete overhaul of the Unit Power Plant. A letter was forwarded to Norcom covering this matter in detail.

The Homing Beacon was made serviceable on 18 May and was placed in operation on that date.

Equipment generally, is being maintained to a standard consistent with the means available. A request has been made to Norcom for test equipment to align AR7 Receivers.

Traffic handled on all Point to Point Watches for the month amounted to 2079 messages IN, and 1849 messages OUT.


w/o
For Unit Signals Officer,
41 Operational Base Unit,
R.A.A.F., DOBODURA.

Unit History. June 48
Flying Control.

- 1st June. A9-527 bounced on landing, bucked port wing, crashed and burnt out. Total write off
- 2nd. Closed strip 1 1/2 hours rain
- 5th. Reported B25-034 for discipline (shooting up)
- 6th Closed 1/2 hour - fog
- 7th V47 burnt out, resistance repaired same day
- 8th ~~V47~~ burnt out again. off 2 hours
- 9th. Complaint. V47 bad modulation. Adjusted OK
- 11th P/O Lamton F.O. arrived.
- 13th H/F unsatisfactory Checked later OK
- 22nd B29-3445 first B29 on strip. To Sydney 23/6 in 8 1/2 hours.
- Traffic for Month 325 arrivals 328 departures. Peak day 26th 16 arr. 16 dep.

W. Lamton Ho.
F.C.O.

UNIT HISTORY SHEET - CYPHER SECTIONMONTH ENDING 30. 6. 45

The strength of the section at the beginning of the month was:- 1 officer, 1 sergeant, 4 corporals, and there were no changes in strength or promotions.

Typex machine was unserviceable 1 hour 10 minutes, owing to electrical and mechanical internal faults, and from time to time the machine was unusable owing to insufficient electrical power. No undue delays in message handling were caused.

Total messages handled were 1073, compared with 1070 for May.

acmmd F/O

C.-I.-C. Cypher Section.

27A

FROM : Signals Officer, 41 Operational Base Unit.

TO : Commanding Officer, 41 Operational Base Unit.

DATE : 4/7/45.

REF. :

UNIT HISTORY SHEET - SIGNALS

1. Herewith Report covering Signals Activities for the Month of June, 1945.

2. During the month all W/T watches were maintained and no alterations to existing circuits were made. Conditions on the A.A.C.S. circuit have not improved over the past four weeks. Traffic on all watches amounted to 2085 Messages IN and 2149 Messages OUT.

3. The Medium Frequency Homing Beacon Transmitter remains in an unserviceable condition. No components have been demanded to replace damaged sections, as a new unit has been issued to replace the damaged Transmitter Type T77. The new unit has not yet arrived. A Report was presented on this breakdown on 7th June, 1945.

4. New Keying Lines were installed by Army Signals, and are operating satisfactorily. Telephone and Power Lines on the Unit were tidied up and in many cases, lines were replaced. This work was carried out by a 3 RIMU Party, W/O Abele being in charge. Subsequent to a request made some time ago, all AK7 Receivers on this unit were checked up and realigned. This work was also carried out by 3 RIMU.

5. The Meadows 9 KVA P.E. Unit is unserviceable owing to a fault developing in the Magneto. New parts were demanded on 8th June and it is anticipated that this installation should be in operation again in the near future. A Ford 5KVA Unit is supplying essential services pending the arrival of replacements for the Meadows.

6. Three Telegraphists were posted out during the month while seven members of Signals Section are on leave.

7. Two Telegraphists and one Wireless Maintenance Mechanic have completed twelve months or more service in an operational area, and are hereunder noted:

142330	Lac Evans C.J.	TEL	13 Months
137219	Lac Fraser J.L.	TEL	13 Months
71399	Lac Jacobs H.R.	WMM	16 Months

8. The Signals Section is operating efficiently and serviceability of equipment is being maintained consistent with means and facilities available.

[Signature]
for SIGNALS OFFICER,
41 Operational B. U.
R.A.A.F., DOBODURA.

41 ORW
1/2/11R

FROM: Headquarters, Northern Command.

TO : All Units Northern Command.

DATE: 10th October, 1945.

REF : 29/1/12(8A)

PRODUCTION OF UNIT HISTORIES.

1. The following is the contents of a letter 180/1/178 dated 7th September, 1945 from Air Force Headquarters relative to the above subject:-

"The desirability of units, particularly operational squadrons, compiling their own histories covering their activities throughout the war period has long since been recognised by War History Section at R.A.F. Headquarters.

No financial assistance can be made available, but units are advised that every facility and encouragement will be given to persons writing such histories.

When costs were being examined to formulate a common plan for all units histories, it was found that a volume could be produced for approximately 10/- per copy. It is suggested that units bear this in mind when considering publication.

Considerable historical material is available at War History Section R.A.F. Headquarters, to assist any unit desirous of producing its own history, and those interested are invited to make use of the facilities at their disposal. In addition, all possible help will be provided by War History Section, within the limits of the Staff available."

Edna Macdonald
(E. J. MACDONALD), Wing Commander,
T/Senior Officer in Charge of Administration,
NORTHERN COMMAND.

Appendix to A. 50.

General

The month of April proved an exceptionally busy period for the unit as the move from Goodnaught had not been completed. Thus the unit was unable to function at full capacity. All sections however managed to operate sufficiently to maintain ~~their~~ ^{their own} carry out ~~their~~ ^{their own} operations. Fly control & servicing of aircraft using the ship.

Additional buildings had to be erected for Transport Section, Equipment, Showers, Latrines & Transient Personnel. Supplies of building materials being in short supply, brush timber & canvas tarpaulins had to be used.

Personnel are messing under U.S.A facilities which are not satisfactory due to the different methods of preparing & cooking of foods.

Discipline of the Unit was not so required standard early in the month. Unit has improved considerably - apparently this state was due to two detachments H3 & H1 CBV being on the base prior to the main party of H1 CBV taking over command.

Welfare satisfactory efforts ~~in~~ were made in welfare
 games, dances, sports were arranged, in addition
 30 Deaths Mobile Entertainment party gave four performances
 at various units in the close vicinity of the Base
 Personnel are well catered for with movies at ~~units~~
 nearly Allied & RAAC units.

Francis Kennel. —

Education Due to the unsettled state of the world in the past ~~three~~ months, it was not possible to devote a large effort in this sphere. However several correspondence courses have been provided for members.

~~Plus detailed reports~~
ER. P. Plus detailed reports
from various sections
& requirements as 1/2/1912
1874 20^a

~~Red Tail~~

~~Turkey~~

~~Handwritten signature~~

WAR DEPARTMENT SIGNAL CORPS, U. S. ARMY

NUMBER SHEET

(UNIT)								(ORGANIZATION)								(DATE)	
NO.	PREC	TG	TT	RAD	MSGR	FROM	TO	NO.	PREC	TG	TT	RAD	MSGR	FROM	TO		
1								51									
2								52									
3								53									
4								54									
5								55									
6								56									
7								57									
8								58									
9								59									
10								60									
11								61									
12								62									
13								63									
14								64									
15								65									
16								66									
17								67									
18								68									
19								69									
20								70									
21								71									
22								72									
23								73									
24								74									
25								75									
26								76									
27								77									
28								78									
29								79									
30								80									
31								81									
32								82									
33								83									
34								84									
35								85									
36								86									
37								87									
38								88									
39	*							89									
40								90									
41								91									
42								92									
43								93									
44								94									
45								95									
46								96									
47								97									
48								98									
49								99									
50								100									

/ Indicates number has been used.
 X Indicates message has been delivered.

SIGNALS SECTION

On 1st April 41 O.B.U. Signals took over from A.A.C.S. ~~all~~ circuits formerly maintained by them. These included the aircraft movement watch and A.A.C.S. air/ground watch. Instead of broadcasting the hourly weather observations they were sent by point-to-point channels. Though some delays were experienced at first the arrangement now seems satisfactory to the American Weather Station.

The M/F Homing Beacon is not yet in operation owing to shortage of valves for transmitter type T77 received to replace type AT15 This transmitter was issued to 3R.I.M.U. together with AT14 for serviceing

All circuits are working satisfactorily though at first some difficulty was experienced through lack of knowledge of American procedure and method of handling messages

Some trouble was experienced with lighting plants used to supply power to signal equipment, but since the plants were overhauled by a party from 3R.I.M.U. and a 5KVA replaced by a 25KVA the position is now satisfactory

W/O Munro arrived at the unit and has taken over duties ^{ONE} as signals officer. Two wireless Maintenance Mechanics also arrived and ¹ was posted away.

All routine inspections of equipment were carried out and messages handled on Point-to-point circuits totalled 3000 "IN" and 9500 "OUT"

Lt Col Buerle. visited unit on 15th to inspect installations after take over from AAC

14324
7/1/45
SSA

FROM: Headquarters, Northern Command.

TO: All Units, Northern Command.

DATE: 14th November, 1945.

REF: 29/1/2(75A)

UNIT HISTORY SHEET
FORM A.50

1. Over the past three months it is apparent that units are becoming increasingly careless in the rendition of Return Form A.50.

2. Much time is wasted at this Headquarters as a result of this carelessness, and delay in submission of such Returns to Air Force Headquarters is caused by the necessity of returning Forms A.50 to units concerned for correction. The following are the most frequent errors and omissions:-

- (i) Omission of strength and establishment of Personnel and Motor Transport.
- (ii) One copy only of Return submitted.
- (iii) Comments by Commanding Officer omitted as an Appendix.
- (iv) Appendices not listed on Form A.50.
- (v) Incorrect continuation numbers on Forms A.50.

3. Attention is directed to A.F.O. 18/F/5. Commanding Officers are to ensure that the instructions contained therein are strictly adhered to in future.

Yours faithfully,
14/11/45

(14/11/45)

A.D. Charlton

(A.D. CHARLTON), Group Captain,
Senior Officer in Charge of Administration,
NORTHERN COMMAND.

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43 ORW
7/1/45
534
13843

FROM: Headquarters, Northern Command.

TO : All Units Northern Command.

DATE: 10th October, 1945.

REF : 29/1/12(8A)

PRODUCTION OF UNIT HISTORIES.

1. The following is the contents of a letter 180/1/178 dated 7th September, 1945 from Air Force Headquarters relative to the above subject:-

"The desirability of units, particularly operational squadrons, compiling their own histories covering their activities throughout the war period has long since been recognised by War History Section at R.A.A.F. Headquarters.

No financial assistance can be made available, but units are advised that every facility and encouragement will be given to persons writing such histories.

When costs were being examined to formulate a common plan for all units histories, it was found that a volume could be produced for approximately 10/- per copy. It is suggested that units bear this in mind when considering publication.

Considerable historical material is available at War History Section R.A.A.F. Headquarters, to assist any unit desirous of producing its own history, and those interested are invited to make use of the facilities at their disposal. In addition, all possible help will be provided by War History Section, within the limits of the Staff available."

E. J. Macdonald

(E. J. MACDONALD), Wing Commander,
T/Senior Officer in Charge of Administration,
NORTHERN COMMAND.

FROM: Headquarters, Northern Command.

TO : All Units Northern Command.

DATE: 27th September, 1945.

REF : 29/1/12(6A)

COLLECTION OF RELICS AND USEFUL MATERIAL
FOR AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL.

1. Reference our 29/1/12(4A) dated 31st July, 1945, following the visit of the Officer in Charge of Relics, War History Section, R.A.A.F. Headquarters, to this Headquarters, additional information has been made available. As a result it is desired that the following action now be taken to ensure a complete coverage at all Units under this Command:-

- (i) An Officer to be appointed as Unit Officer in Charge Relics and his name to be promulgated in Daily Routine Orders.
- (ii) The Unit Officer in Charge Relics to be responsible for "War Marking" material suitable for the Museum.
- (iii) On completion of a thorough check up on what is available, a duplicate list is to be forwarded to this Headquarters, giving full description of material collected.
- (iv) On disbandment of Unit or withdrawal to the mainland, material to be suitably packed or crated and despatched to the nearest T.O. All packages are to be clearly addressed:-

WAR HISTORY SECTION
No. 1 S.D. TORRENT, VIC.

RELICS FOR AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL.
NOT TO BE OPENED.

- (v) Each package or crate is to contain a list of contents.

2. It is desired that the R.A.A.F. Section of the Australian War Memorial will be fully representative and worthy of the highest traditions of the Service. It will endeavour to depict conditions under which personnel lived and worked and employed their leisure hours. Only by the closest cooperation and enthusiasm of all concerned can this be accomplished, and it is strongly urged that every effort be made in order that an adequate collection may be forthcoming from this Headquarters.

W. B. L. Llan
(W. B. L. Llan), Group Captain,
Senior Officer in Charge of Administration,
NORTHERN COMMAND.

APPENDIX TO A 50.

Statistical Summary :-

Month	Daily average sick Parade (M.O.)	Daily Av. S.S.Q.	Total No. in area.
June	2.4	4.0	462
July	1.6	3.0	364
August	1.0	3.0	250
Taken over three months	1.7	3.3	-

Evacuations :

June -- 1 (to 8 M.R.U.)

July -- 2 (to 21 M.C.S.) & 1 (to 8 M.R.U.)
1 (to 2 M.R.S., for W.R.)

August - 1 (to 21 M.C.S.) & 2 (to 2 M.R.S.)

R.N. Evacuations -- Nil for August.

Urgent Cases

June -- one case treated by U.S. Navy.

July -- one case treated by U.S. Navy.

August - Nil.

Cases treated by Americans :

June -- 4

July -- 1

August - Nil.

APPENDIX "A"

COMMANDING OFFICER'S REPORT. (CONT'D)

- 2 -

WEATHER. (Cont'd) Average cloudiness for the month varied in amount from 8-10 tenths. Cloud bases have ranged between 400 and 4000 ft. Overcast bases below 2000 ft. necessitate the use of instruments by approaching aircraft in this area. Aircraft coming down the Bay and on to the eastern end of the strip are not in any danger providing the pilot is familiar with the strip surroundings, the correct compass course, and providing the beam is reliable. Otherwise flying in bad weather in this area is hazardous. Average visibility for month - 15 miles. Many days have been hazy. The temperature for the month has averaged 78.6 degrees Fahrenheit. The maximum temperature was 88.3 on the 15th. The minimum temperature was 64.4 on the 21st. Average wind - East 5/10 knots. Strongest gust - SE 20 kts. on 26th. No unusual features were recorded.

MEDICAL.

The general health of the members of the unit is very good. The daily average on sick parade to the Medical Officer has been 1.5 for the month. The daily average in sick quarters was 3.40. There was one case of Dengue and one of Malaria. One case was treated at the American Hospital. Most of the cases on sick parade were very minor, mostly nervous complaints associated with prolonged tropical service.

HYGIENE. There has been a considerable improvement in the sanitation of the camp this month, several new latrines being built, and old ones filled in, which had been in a bad state for some time. Most of the old undesirable buildings have been pulled down, and the camp area cleared of rubbish.

LIASION. Arrangements have been made with the U.S. Navy Sick Bay to treat cases of urgent sickness, as the 47th. Army Hospital moved out during the month. There were very few Royal Navy casualties through this area.

MISCELLANEOUS. Three (3) cases of illness were evacuated from No. 303 Radar during the month, with one serious case of Quartan Malaria from that unit.

(F. JOLLY.)

Squadron Leader,
Commanding, No. 43 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

APPENDIX "A"

COMMANDING OFFICER'S REPORT. (CONT'D)

- 2 -

WEATHER. (Cont'd) Average cloudiness for the month varied in amount from 8-10 tenths. Cloud bases have ranged between 400 and 4000 ft. Overcast bases below 2000 ft. necessitate the use of instruments by approaching aircraft in this area. Aircraft coming down the Bay and on to the eastern end of the strip are not in any danger providing the pilot is familiar with the strip surroundings, the correct compass course, and providing the beam is reliable. Otherwise flying in bad weather in this area is hazardous. Average visibility for month - 15 miles. Many days have been hazy. The temperature for the month has averaged 78.6 degrees Fahrenheit. The maximum temperature was 88.3 on the 15th. The minimum temperature was 64.4 on the 21st. Average wind - Best 5/10 knots. Strongest gust - SE 20 kts. on 26th. No unusual features were recorded.

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MISCELLANEOUS. Three (3) cases of illness were evacuated from No.303 Radar during the month, with one serious case of Quartan Malaria from that unit.

Boyle
(P. JOLLY)

Squadron Leader,
Commanding, No.45 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

4308V
48A

FROM: Headquarters, Northern Command.

TO : All Units in Northern Command.

DATE: 31 JUL 1945

REF : 29/1/12(4A)

COLLECTION OF RELICS AND MUSEUM MATERIAL
FOR AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL.

1. Advices have been received from R.A.A.F. Headquarters that it is desired that a complete and comprehensive collection of relics and museum material covering all aspects of R.A.A.F. activities shall be incorporated in the Australian Memorial at CANBERRA.

2. To enable this to be done it is necessary that all concerned should have an appreciation of the importance and value of what is required to enable them to co-operate fully with War History Section and its task of securing a worthy representation.

3. For general guidance - and the word "general" is used in its widest sense - some of the main types of material required are set out hereunder, and it is requested that every effort be made to ensure that this matter be given the attention its importance demands.

- (a) Road Signs (Official and "not so official")
- (b) 'Foreigners' (The scope here is enormous and needs no further comment)
- (c) Improvisations (Furniture, i.e. office and domestic, equipment, showers etc.)
- (d) Uniforms, Pennants, Small Arms etc. of prominent personalities which have been handed in as unserviceable.
- (e) Flags, Pennants, Signs ex buildings e.g. "1st T.A.F. Sq.", "OFFICERS' MESS", "HOSPITAL" etc.

4. This list is, in no sense complete and is only intended as a guide. Many other items will, doubtless, suggest themselves and only by the fullest co-operation and help from all personnel can a satisfactory effort be accomplished.

5. You are advised that the Officer in Charge Relics (F/Lt. A.L. DAVIES) will shortly visit this Headquarters, and you will be further acquainted with fuller details of the proposals, both as regards material to be collected and method of collection. Pending his arrival it is suggested that every effort be made to acquire material that can be recorded under the headings as shown in para. 3.

6. Full co-operation and help on the part of all personnel is required by this Headquarters.

B.W. Macdonald
(B.W. MACDONALD) Senior Officer in Charge, Northern Command.

FITZIL

MONTHLY SECTION REPORT FOR UNIT HISTORY SHEET

DATE	TIME	W.L.	R.H.	MAX.	MIN.	WEATHER	CLOUDS	AVERAGE WIND SURFACE WIND (1000 H) WIND	RAIN	DAY LIGHT	DATA	TIME	ANY UNUSUAL FEATURES
DATE	TIME	W.L.	R.H.	MAX.	MIN.	MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT	MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT						
16	83.4	77.4	75	10	71	LIGHT SHOWERS 1200-1800 (THERMINE FINE) - HAZY	LCATT. LOW & GOOD HALLS BROWN - C.	DRIZZLE E 4/10		11.2	11.24	44	
17	82.1	74.1	71	89	71	700 SE FOGG DRIZZLE 1000 - 1400 HAZY - HAZY 1500	LCATT. TO WELL BROWN LOW LCATT. B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 5		11.2	11.24	44	FOG TO E.
18	70.0	74.0	95	16	70	LIGHT RAIN 1200-1800 - AND TO HEAVY 1200-1800 - 1500-1800 LIGHT SHOWERS 1200-1800	LCATT. TO BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B.	DRIZZLE NE 5	021	11.51	11.4	45	
19	79.2	76.1	86	84	72	DRIZZLE 1500-1800 LIGHT SHOWERS 1350-1800 HAZY THROUGHOUT	LCATT. LOW & GOOD BROWN TO B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 10	021	11.51	11.4	45	
20	79.1	74.1	77	16	73	HAZY - FINE.	LCATT. TO BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 10		11.51	11.25	44	
21	80.1	76.5	86	16	73	LIGHT RAIN 0700-0700 HAZY	LCATT. LOW & GOOD BROWN TO B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 10		11.50	11.27	43	
22	79.8	77.0	86	89	73	LIGHTNING TO 1000-1300 LIGHT SHOWERS 1200-1800 (THERMINE FINE)	LCATT. TO BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 10	101	11.27	11.27	44	LIGHTNING TO 1000
23	83.1	77.2	75	70	72	DETACHED RAIN 1200-1800 HAZY - FINE THERMINE	LCATT. LOW & GOOD B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 10		11.42	11.27	44	
24	14.5	73.5	95	80	73	LIGHT TO MID. RAIN MAINLY THROUGHOUT	LCATT. TO BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B.	DRIZZLE E 5	131	11.46	11.27	45	
25	80.2	74.2	87	80	70	LIGHT RAIN 1200-1800 HAZY - 1200-1800 - 1500-1800	WELL BROWN LOW & GOOD BROWN TO B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 10	012	11.46	11.27	45	
26	74.3	77.0	91	84	72	LIGHT RAIN 0000-0600 HAZY - 1200-1800 - 1500-1800	BROWN TO B. & C. LCATT. TO BROWN B. & C.	DRIZZLE NE 5	095	11.43	11.30	42	
27	81.5	75.0	75	15	70	LIGHT SHOWERS 1200-1800	LCATT. TO WELL BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B. & C.	DRIZZLE NE 5	037	11.47	11.30	43	
28	79.0	77.0	91	82	72	LIGHT RAIN 1200-1800 HAZY - 1200-1800 - 1500-1800	LCATT. TO BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 5	009	11.47	11.30	43	
29	79.1	77.2	91	81	70	LIGHT RAIN 0000-0600 HAZY - 1200-1800 - 1500-1800	LCATT. TO BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 5	002	11.46	11.30	44	
30	80.0	77.0	86	16	72	MIDCLOUDS 1200-1800 - 1500-1800 HAZY - 1200-1800 - 1500-1800	LCATT. TO WELL BROWN LOW & GOOD LCATT. B. & C.	DRIZZLE E 10	007	11.45	11.30	45	

NOTES: RAINFALL SHOWN IS FOR 24 HOURS PRECEDING 0900 ON DAY REFERRED TO. TOTAL 915 MM.

APRIL

MONTHLY SECTION REPORT FOR UNIT HISTORY SHEET.

07205		WEATHER		CLOUD		AVERAGE MAX TEMP. LAST MONTH	AVERAGE MIN TEMP. LAST MONTH	ABN. DAY FALLING	BAR. DAY FALLING	WIND LAST NIGHT	WIND LAST NIGHT	WIND LAST NIGHT
DATE	RE	W.B.A.H.	MOY	MIN	MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT	MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT						
1	85-0	78.4	72	74	Fine During Day Showers 1700-1800 Thunder lightning 1800	Scattered low/high 3000 Traces of middle & high			12.05	11.15		
2	82.8	78.0	79	91	Fine Light rain 1800-1900	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high			005	11.05	11.15	42
3	80.1	76.2	82	87	Light showers 1100-1200 Occasional lightning 2000	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high			02.7	11.59	11.15	43
4	79.9	77.0	87	87	Light rain 0800-2400 Otherwise fine	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high			04.8	11.59	11.17	42
5	77.4	75.4	91	83	Light to moderate rain 0800-2300	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high			04.0	11.58	11.17	43
6	77.6	76.0	82	86	Light rain 0800-0900 Otherwise fine	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high			12.5	11.58	11.20	42
7	77.4	74.6	82	85	Light shower 1200 Shizzle 2100	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high			001	11.57	11.21	42
8	78.7	72.0	70	87	Fine throughout	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken to overcast high			001	11.57	11.21	42
9	80.7	72.5	67	88	Fine throughout	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken to overcast high				11.58	11.21	42
10	79.8	72.7	70	87	Fine except for slight dust haze	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high				11.56	11.22	42
11	81.2	74.1	70	87	Fine Dust haze	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle & high			004	11.56	11.22	42
12	79.2	71.4	66	89	Fine & Hazy	Scattered low/high 3000 Traces of middle & high				11.55	11.23	42
13	81.2	74.2	70	89	Fine - Slight Haze	Traces of low 3300 Broken to overcast high				11.55	11.23	42
14	77.1	72.1	73	92	Fine except for slight shower 1615	Scattered low/high 3000 Broken middle, clear high				11.53	11.23	44
15				90	Mainly Fine Light shower 1400	Traces of low at night during day scattered 3000 Broken middle & high			006	11.52	11.24	42

FROM :- HEADQUARTERS, NORTHERN COMMAND, R.A.A.F.,
To :- ALL UNITS, NORTHERN COMMAND, R.A.A.F.,
DATE :- 11 April, 1945,
REF. :- HQ/2/400 (301)

R.A.A.F. MEDICAL HISTORY.

1. A General editor for the Medical History of the war has been appointed to collect and write the history of the medical branches of the three Services. Each Service has been asked to appoint a collator, and prepare the history of the medical branch of that Service. As far as the R.A.A.F. is concerned, M.A.2. has been given this responsibility.
2. The normal method of collecting the material for the history of the R.A.A.F. is by means of the A.50 Unit History Sheet, the quality of the material which has been submitted in this form up to the present time has been very poor and is of little value to the Medical Historian. A.F.O. 15/F/5 has been recently amended to make Form A.50 of more value to the Historians.
3. The attention of all medical officers is directed to this recently amended A.F.O., and they are instructed to co-operate with their Commanding Officers in adding as an appendix to the A.50, any points which may be of value either for the General History of the R.A.A.F. or for the medical history. Unit medical officers to forward a copy of any such remarks added to the A.50 on matters of medical importance, direct to Director-General of Medical Services, M.A.2., and so facilitate compiling the medical history by avoiding the necessity of inspecting every A.50 of every Unit when searching for medical information.
4. Commanding Officers of Medical Receiving Stations and Medical Clearing Stations are reminded of the importance of the A.50 and appendices, and they are advised to attach one of these appendices to the copy of their monthly report to Principal Medical Officer and Director-General of Medical Services.
5. Commanding Officers of Medical Clearing Stations are reminded that the Director-General of Medical Services requires a monthly report, no matter how small, both for his own information and to assist in compiling the medical history. Reports are of greatest historical value when they are made at the time or shortly after a period of special activity.
6. Commanding Officers of Medical Receiving Stations, Medical Clearing Stations, and all Unit Medical Officers, are instructed to obtain as many photographs of their units as possible, and forward them with the A.50's.
7. The Director-General of Medical Services would appreciate any personal narrative by a medical officer. Any photographs of medical interest would also be appreciated. These narratives and photographs are to be forwarded direct to Director-General of Medical Services, M.A.2.
8. It is to be emphasised that the co-operation of all medical officers is required to make the R.A.A.F. Medical History a success.

A.D. Charlton
(A.D. CHARLTON) Group Captain,
Senior Administrative Staff Officer,
NORTHERN COMMAND, R.A.A.F.

LAUREN.

RECAPITULATION.

RECAPITULATION.

Air Sea Rescue.

1

2

Crash.

2

3

G.P. Large.

-

3

G.P. Medium.

1

-

Refuelling.

1

1

Dinghies Pulling.

5

5

Bomb Secu

1

-

Work Boats Large.

1

3

Work Boats Small.

2

2

Barges Powered.

-

5

Barges Dumb.

-

5

MONTHLY REPORT.

REF. REPORT.

APPENDIX "A"

" " "B"

(J.L. GALBRAITH)

Flight Lieutenant,

Commanding, No. 45 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

R.A.A.F. METEOROLOGICAL SECTION, 43 O.B.U., MILNE BAY.

MONTHLY REPORT FOR UNIT HISTORY SHEET.

MARCH, 1945.

I. PERSONNEL.

(a) As at 1.4.45:-

420675	F/O J.R. JOYCE	Met Officer, O.I.C.
39697	F/O A.J. WALKER	" "
67331	F/Sgt LAWRENCE, J.	" Assistant
57143	Sgt. LUMSDEN, H.T.	" "
423977	Sgt. DUNN, A.M.	" "
60265	Cpl. DAVIES, E.	" Charter
439077	L.A.C. ALLEN, T.E.	" "

(b) ARRIVED DURING MONTH.

420675 F/O J.R. JOYCE Met Officer From I RPP, wef 2/3/45

(c) DEPARTED DURING MONTH.

263985	F/Lt J.R. HARRISON	Met Officer	To 40 O.B.U. wef 8/3/45
418042	Sgt. ABBOTT, O.C.	" Assistant	To 33 Sqdn wef 12/2/45
88323	L.A.C. ADDISON, G.A.	" Charter	To 33 Sqdn wef 12/2/45
118907	L.A.C. SALTER, H.K.	" "	To 40 O.B.U. wef 21/3/45

(c) PROMOTIONS, RECLASSIFICATIONS.

NIL

2. SCHEDULE OF ORGANISATIONS SERVICED.

- (a) R.A.A.F.:- Zone Filter, Duty Pilot, Kiriwina.
- (b) R.A.F.:- Transient aircraft.
- (c) U.S.A.:- N.A.T.S., A.T.C., U.S.M.C., Transient aircraft.
- (d) NAVY:- Naval H.Q. Ladava.
- (e) ARMY:- Area Command, Small Ships.

3. ROUTE FORECASTS ISSUED.

(a) R.A.A.F.:-	93	
(b) R.A.F.:-	26	
(c) U.S.A.:-	87	
(d) R.A.N.:-	4	
(e) ARMY:-	20	
(f) CIVIL:-	2	
		Total 232

4. AREA FORECASTS ISSUED.

(a) DUTY PILOT:-	62	
(b) KIRIWINA:-	62	
(c) 2 F.O.:-	93	
		Total 217

GRAND TOTAL OF FORECASTS ISSUED FOR MONTH 449

.....F/O
(J.R. JOYCE),
O.I.C. Met Section,
43 O.B.U.

43.C.B.U. MARINE SECTION

STRENGTH & ESTABLISHMENT OF MARINE CRAFT AS AT 31st FEB 1945

	<u>ESTABLISHMENT</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>
AIR SEA RESCUE	1	2
LAUNCHES CRASH	1	3
" " G.P. LARGE	-	3
" " G.P. MEDIUM	1	2
" " REFUELLING	1	2
DINGHIES PULLING	5	4
SCOWS BOMB	1	-
WORK BOATS LARGE	1	4
" " " " SMALL	2	2
BARGES POWERED	-	2
" " DUMB	-	5
TOTAL	<u>12</u>	<u>29</u>

Unit History - February 1945

Education. The main feature of the month was the visit of Professor Braine of Melbourne University. His stay was under 24 hours but an audience of over 200 was assembled at 7.15 hours just to hear his address. Partly as a result of the ~~interest~~ ^{in the unit} interest around there were twelve new applications for correspondence courses during the month.

Four education evenings were held on the unit. The activities including two quizzes, two new talks and music appreciation, while educational films were shown at all gatherings.

The Education Officer attended and assisted in secular evenings at various neighbouring units.

An electric amplifier with pickup, loudspeakers and records loaned by Y.M.C.A. was used to broadcast music to the camp at suitable periods.

138/81K 349

UNIT HISTORY SHEETS

FORM A.50 - Unit History Sheet is submitted monthly to Headquarters, NORTHERN COMMAND, and to R.A.A.F. Head-Quarters, and fuller information is required from Sections to enable the form to be compiled.

2. Henceforth, commencing with the month of FEBRUARY, 1945, Section Commanders are to maintain a daily diary noting therein items and events of interest in the Units History viz:

- (a) Establishment and Strength of personnel at beginning and end of month. Changes of personnel.
- (b) Promotions of Airmen and Officers.
- (c) Any new buildings or renovations.
- (d) M/T, vehicles, establishment and strength.
- (e) Visits of Staff Officers to Section.
- (f) Visits to detachments of Officer in Charge of Section.
- (g) Any breakdowns or failures in the section equipment or routine.
- (h) Establishment and Strength and movements of Marine Craft.
- (i) Daily weather report with reference to any unusual feature.
- (j) Aircraft movements and accidents.
- (k) Transient personnel and units staging on the base.
- (l) Operations from the base.
- (m) Welfare report.
- (n) Education report.
- (o) Discipline report.
- (p) Sporting activities.

3. Such reports are to be submitted in triplicate on the 2nd day of each month to the Adjutant who is to consolidate them in the manner required by A.F.O. 18/F/5 and forward in duplicate, after signature by the Commanding Officer, to Headquarters NORTHERN COMMAND.

4. The scope and accuracy of the part played by our Service will depend largely on the co-operation of all Sections in these reports.

5. The matter is to be given immediate attention.

(A.F.E. WILSON)
Squadron Leader,
Commanding, No.43 Operational Base Unit.

DISTRIBUTION:

ADJUTANT
SIGNALS
DEFENCE
EQUIPMENT
TRANSPORT

BARRACKS
MARINE
MEDICAL
FLYING CONTROL
OPERATIONS

METEOROLOGICAL
WELFARE
EDUCATIONAL
DOBODURA
FILE.

FROM : Headquarters, Northern Command.
TO :
DATE :
REF : 29/1/2.

SECRET 38 ft

FORMS A50 - UNIT HISTORY SHEET

1. With the object of clarifying the position and removing all existing doubts as to the type of records required from units for the purposes of the Official History of the Royal Australian Air Force, comprehensive amendments have been made to the Air Force Order on the subject. A.F.O. 18/F/5, published on 27th November, 1944, supersedes the previous order, and is a consolidation of all previously existing instructions relating to Unit History Sheets.
2. It is apparent, however, that some misconception still exists in the minds of many of those responsible for the preparation of Forms A50. With a view to effecting an immediate and still further improvement in information supplied in Unit History Sheets, the attention of all units under the command of this Headquarters is directed to the new AFO 18/F/5 and its detailed requirements.
3. It cannot be too strongly impressed on all concerned that the scope and accuracy of the History of the Royal Australian Air Force will depend largely on the co-operation of all formations and units. Only their close conformity with the A.F.O. governing the submission of historical material will ensure that adequate representation is given the part played by the Service in all theatres of war.
4. Perusal of the Unit History Sheets for the month of January, 1945, has revealed many discrepancies and the attached appendix sets out the matters which have been either omitted or incorrectly shown on Forms A50 so far received. The forms are returned herewith for correction, and are to be resubmitted promptly on completion through Wings or Formations to this Headquarters.
5. Future Forms A50 are to be forwarded through Wing or Formation Headquarters, who will be responsible for checking and ensuring that the forms are correctly compiled before being forwarded to this Headquarters.
6. Particular attention is to be paid to the following points on compilation of Unit History Sheets.
 - (a) Forms A50 and relevant appendix must be in duplicate.
 - (b) All attached reports and documents are to be referred to on the Form A50 and shown as appendices. A column has been provided on the form for reference to such appendices.
 - (c) Applicable only to operational and transport squadrons. Relevant copies of Form A123, A124 and A180 as laid down in AFOs 18/F/6, 18/F/7, 18/F/7A and 18/F/8 are to be attached to the duplicate copy of Form A50.
 - (d) Form A50 are to be consecutively numbered with one number only for each form. A new series of numbers is not to be used at the commencement of a new year.
 - (d) Establishment and strength figures of personnel, aircraft, marine craft, and motor transport must be included where applicable.
7. In future Forms A50 are to be submitted to Wings or Formations to enable them to be received at this Headquarters not later than 6th of the following month.

(H.W. SMILEY), Squadron Leader,
for Senior Administrative Staff Officer,
NORTHERN COMMAND.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS - FORMS A50 - JANUARY, 1945

<u>NAME OF UNIT</u>	<u>ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS.</u>
No.304 RADAR STATION	(i) duplicate of attached report required (ii) report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A" (iii) strength M/T to be shown.
No.338 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No.346 RADAR STATION	(i) remarks contained in covering memo to be included on A50 (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
A.D.H.Q. MADANG	(i) Appendix "A" reference to be made on A50
No. 42 O.B.U.	(i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T be included, also Marine Craft
No. 41 O.B.U.	(i) Establishment of personnel to be included (ii) Strength and Establishment M/T to be included
No. 3 R.I.M.U.	(i) Appendix "A" to be referred to in A50 (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No.337 RADAR STATION	(i) Appendix "A" to be referred to in A50 (ii) Establishment M/T to be shown
No. 4 TAC/R SQUADRON	(i) attachments to be shown on A50 as Appendices (ii) Establishment and Strength personnel and M/T to be shown, also aircraft
No. 83 WING HQRS	(i) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No. 38 O.B.U.	(i) Printed Form A50 to be used (ii) Appendix "A" to be referred to on A50 (iii) Strength and Establishment M/T to be shown (iv) A50 to be consecutively numbered
No. 9 COMMUNICATION UNIT	(i) Strength and Establishment M/T and Aircraft to be shown
No. 16 A.O.P.FLIGHT	(i) Attachments to be shown as Appendices
No. 49 O.B.U.	(i) Establishment and Strength personnel, M/T and Marine Craft to be shown
No.348 RADAR STATION	(i) Appendix to be referred to on A50
No. 40 O.B.U.	(i) Printed Form A50 to be used (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No. 7 R.A.A.F. POSTAL UNIT	(i) Printed Form A50 to be used (ii) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown
No. 6 SQUADRON	(i) Green copies of Form A123 should be attached to duplicate A50 (A.F.O. 18/E/7)
No.153 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown (ii) Appendix to be shown on A50
No.301 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength Personnel and M/T to be shown
No.350 RADAR STATION	(i) Establishment and Strength Personnel and M/T to be shown
No. 8 COMMUNICATION UNIT	(i) Establishment and Strength Personnel, M/T, and Aircraft to be shown.

<u>NAME OF UNIT</u>	<u>ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS</u>
b.331 RADAR STATION	(1) Appendix to be shown on A50
b. 2 M.R.S.	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown
b. 71 WING	(1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown (ii) Appendix to be marked on A50
b. 8 SQUADRON	(1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown (ii) Appendices to be marked as shown on A50 (iii) Following Appendices referred to on A60 not attached :- D.R.O's - Form A98 (iv) Duplicate copy Tactical Appreciation required. (v) Green copy of A123 not forwarded
b.100 SQUADRON	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel, M/T and Aircraft to be shown (ii) Green copies of A123 to be attached (iii) Attachments to be shown as Appendices and marked on A50 (iv) Form A98 not submitted (v) Duplicate copy of Tactical Appreciation required
No. 4 CENTRAL RESERVE	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attached report to be shown as an Appendix and marked on A50
No.347 RADAR STATION	(1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Appendix "A" to be marked on A50
No.340 RADAR STATION	(1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown (ii) Attachments to be shown as Appendices and marked on A50
No.138 RADAR STATION	(1) Establishment and Strength M/T to be shown (ii) Duplicate copy of Appendices required and Appendix to be marked on A50
No. 46 O.B.U.	(1) Establishments Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attached D.R.O's to be shown as Appendices and marked on A50
No.320 RADAR STATION	(1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown
No. 10 R.S.U.	(1) Strength and Establishment M/T to be shown
No. 20 M.C.S.	(1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attachment to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"
No. 26 A.S.P.	(1) xxx Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"
No. 7 SQUADRON	(1) Strength and Establishment of Personnel, Aircraft and M/T to be shown (ii) C.O's report to be included as an Appendix (iii) Duplicate copy of Tactical Appreciation report required (iv) Duplicates of Appendices to A51 required

NAME OF UNITERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONSNo. 330 RADAR STATION

- (1) Strength and Establishment M/T to be shown

No. 315 RADAR STATION

- (1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown

No. 345 RADAR STATION

- (1) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown

- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 332 RADAR STATION

- (1) Strength and Establishment, M/T to be shown

- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 152 RADAR STATION

- (1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown

- (ii) Appendix to be marked on A50

No. 334 RADAR STATION

- (1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown

- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 40 SQUADRON

- (1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel, M/T and Aircraft to be shown

- (ii) Promotion of personnel (if any) to be shown

- (iii) Postings of Officers (" ") " " "

- (iv) Visits of Staff Officers to be shown

- (v) Copies of Forms A124 and A130 to be attached to duplicate of A50 (AFO 13/F/7A & 13/F/8)

- (vi) Separate report covering general activities of Unit with particular reference to discipline, morale, welfare of personnel to be attached & marked Appendix "A" on A50.

- Any other matter which would be of interest from a historical record point of view.

No. 339 RADAR STATION

- (1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.

- (ii) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 336 RADAR STATION

- (1) Establishment and Strength of M/T to be shown.

- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.

- (iii) Duplicate copy of report required.

No. 303 RADAR STATION

- (1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.

- (ii) General report required covering activities of Unit and including discipline, morale and welfare to be attached as Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.

No. 330 RADAR STATION

- (1) Attached report to be shown on A50 as Appendix "A"

No. 333 RADAR STATION

- (1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown

- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50

No. 37 RADAR STATION

- (1) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown.

- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.

No. 8 MEDICAL REHABILITATION UNIT

- (1) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.

- (ii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.

NAME OF UNITERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

No. 74 WING

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown.
- (ii) Report covering A.O.R. activities at Jackson's Airfield for the month to be attached and marked Appendix "A".
- (iii) General report covering general activities with special reference to discipline, morale and welfare in the area to be attached and marked Appendix "B".

No. 45 O.B.U.

- (i) Establishment and Strength, personnel, M/T and Marine Craft to be shown.
- (ii) Reference to be made to accommodation supplied to Allied Services.
- (iii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.
- (iv) Reference to be made, in report, to activities at Jackson's Airfield and Marine Section.

No. 21 MEDICAL CLEARING STATION

- (i) Establishment and Strength, M/T to be shown.

No. 15 AIRCRAFT REPAIR DEPT

- (i) Strength and Establishment of Unit M/T to be shown.
- (ii) Promotions of officers and airmen (if any) to be shown.
- (iii) Attached report to be shown as Appendix "A" on A50.

No. 513 RADAR SECTION

- (i) Strength and Establishment, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
- (ii) General report required covering discipline, morale and welfare to be attached and marked Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.

No. 43 O.B.U.

- (i) Form A50 required in duplicate.
- (ii) Establishment and Strength of Personnel, M/T and Marine Craft as at the end of the month to be shown.
- (iii) A general report covering the Unit's activities with particular reference to discipline, morale and welfare to be attached and marked as Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.

No. 48 O.B.U.

- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
- (ii) General report required covering discipline, morale and welfare to be attached and marked Appendix "A" and referred to on A50.
- (iii) Query numbering of forms - October numbered 14, December numbered 15, January numbered 16 - What number was allotted to November return?

No. 10 COMMUNICATION UNIT

- (i) Attached report to be referred to on A50 and marked Appendix "A".
- (ii) Copies of A124 to be attached to duplicate of A50 (A.F.O. 18/T/7A).

No. 39 O.B.U.

- (i) Attached report to be referred to on A50 and marked Appendix "A".

No. 17 A.O.P.

- (i) Appendix "A" attached should be referred to on A50.

No. 5 SQUADRON

- (i) Establishment and Strength of Aircraft to be shown.
- (ii) Forms A50 to be numbered consecutively, each sheet bearing a separate number.
- (iii) Appendices to A51 should be referred to thereon.

NAME OF UNIT

No. 34 WING HEADQUARTERS

No. 113 M.F.C.U.

No. 311 RADAR STATION

No. 349 RADAR STATION

No. 33 SQUADRON

No. 37 O.B.U.

No. 12 R.S.U.

(5)


ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS

- (1) Each sheet of A50 should bear a separate consecutive number. Forms for Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec., and Jan., have been corrected and now bear the following numbers: Sept. No. 1, Oct. No. 2, Nov. No. 3, Dec. 1st sheet No. 4, 2nd sheet No. 5, Jan. 1st sheet No. 6, 2nd sheet No. 7, 3rd sheet No. 8. The first sheet for Feb., should be number 9.
- (1) Commanding Officer's report to be shown as Appendix "A".
- (ii) Sheets to be numbered consecutively, the first sheet for Jan., should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the last sheet of Dec. The second sheet should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the first sheet of Jan. Serial numbers are not to be used. Each sheet numbered consecutively is sufficient.
- (i) Sheets to be numbered consecutively, the first sheet for Jan should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the last sheet of Dec. The second sheet should be numbered with the number following that allotted to the first sheet of Jan. Serial numbers are not to be used. Each sheet numbered consecutively is sufficient.
- (ii) Separate report covering general activities particularly with reference to discipline, morale and welfare of personnel to be attached and marked on A50 as Appendix "A".
- (i) Establishment and Strength, Personnel and M/T to be shown.
- (ii) Separate report covering general activities particularly with reference to discipline, morale and welfare of personnel to be attached and marked on A50 as Appendix "A".
- (i) Forms should be numbered consecutively, a new series is not to be commenced each year.
- (ii) Promotions, if any, of officers and airmen are to be shown.
- (iii) Establishment and Strength, Aircraft and M/T to be shown.
- (iv) Separate report on general activities of unit including discipline, morale, welfare of personnel to be attached and marked as Appendix "A" on A50.
- (i) Establishment and Strength of Personnel on M/T as at 31 Jan., to be shown.
- (ii) Attached reports and nominal roll to be marked Appendices "A" and "B" respectively and shown on A50 as such.
- (i) Attached report to be marked Appendix "A" and shown on A50 as such.

FROM : NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT, Group 742, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.
TO : NO. 72 WING HEADQUARTERS, Group 942, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.
DATE : 2nd., OCTOBER, 1944.
REF : 13/1/AIR.

- UNIT HISTORY SHEET FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER -
COMMENTS BY COMMANDING OFFICER, NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT

1. Owing to the continued exceptionally dry weather, it was found necessary to burn a considerable number of fire breaks throughout the Camp area.
2. The water position at present is acute necessitating the transport of water from Army wells.
3. A good portion of the camp has been centralised.
4. As a result of the visit by Engineering Officers, (Flight Lieutenant MCKENZIE, D.R.M. & F/O. McBRIDE N.E.A.) it is hoped that the Unit will be in a better position to carry out its maintenance of stationary engines and aerodrome equipment.
5. Sporting facilities on the Unit have been increased and ample provision has been made for all personnel to play their favourite sport. Morale still maintains a very high standard.
6. Letter of Commendation, attached, is the second of its kind received by this Unit and it is felt that such letters from high ranking Allied Officers do much to boost the morale.


(L. WADE),
Flying Officer,
for Commanding Officer,
NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

121 No 44 OBU 36A
FROM : Headquarters, North Eastern Area.

TO : All Units.

DATE : 29 AUG 1944

REF : 1/93/ED.

OFFICIAL HISTORY OF R.A.A.F. - COMPILATION HISTORY SHEETS.

1. Further to N.E.A. letter 1/375/ORG of 30 May 1944 and Postal 2802 21 Jun 1944, it is desired to draw attention to the following points.
2. Unit History Sheets received from many units are still unsatisfactory. Historical record sheets should be a summary of the life and work of the unit for the month, and this Headquarters fails to see how a unit can do justice to its month's activity in four or five sentences referring only to establishment and posting to and from their units. Fuller reports are required in future from such units.
3. It appears that some units are not writing up history sheets each day, and further, members compiling these sheets should remember that things which are commonplace and obvious to themselves, will not be known by the historian unless the unit informs him of such things as they occur.
4. Copies of articles by unit personnel may be attached as appendices, if they reflect any phase of unit life. Some units have attached copies of articles written for publication or for unit wall newspapers.
5. Squadrons should also give information as to the purpose and results of flights. Copies of the Intelligence Officer's Reports and copies of the Captain's Report should be attached wherever possible.
6. Commanding Officers' Reports should include remarks on unit policy, changes in policy and on its activities generally, as well as difficulties encountered etc. Where difficulties have been overcome these should be mentioned.
7. Units which have not submitted a Commanding Officer's Report with June and/or July 1944's are to submit Reports covering June and July forthwith as required by N.E.A. letter 1/275/ORG.
8. Many entries are too brief, as indicated by the following 3-0 examples:-
"Group Captain.....visited units". Details should be given i.e., who he was, (appointment) what he did, how long he stayed, results of visit, if any.
"Unit despatched section downstream to fell logs and float them up with high tide. Expedition was a partial failure." This would be a good heading as it arouses curiosity. The details are required. Some idea of the strength of section used is desired and what they were going to do with the logs. Why the expedition was a partial failure would help to make this of value.
9. Very few photographs have been received, and on those received no mention is made of the names of personnel and/or subject matter of the photograph. Names of personnel appearing and the location should be shown on the front or back of the photograph, or on a piece of paper securely attached to it. In every case the name of the unit forwarding photo must be shown on the photograph. Writing on the face of the photograph must be so placed that it does not deface the photograph.


10. Copies of Movement Orders affecting the whole unit or part of the unit should be forwarded, but not those affecting one or two personnel unless of some historical value. The authority for postings or attachments such as "13.2.3.0. H342" need not be entered on Historical Records.
11. Some units are including items of interest such as a brief report on the forced landing of an aircraft, reports on crashes etc. Give locations. One unit made quite a story of the action taken on receipt of a distress signal from an aircraft and resulting search.
12. Although weather reports are asked for, and in some cases, losses and delays reported, appear to be due to abnormal weather conditions, little or no mention is made on the weather conditions in reports received. However, a daily weather diary is not required.
13. Radar Stations generally are making very short reports and could amplify their reports by giving hours of operation etc., details of stoppages, the reasons for such, and any other items of interest. Reports are not to be technical in nature. Many Radar Stations are situated in remote and unusual localities and have to improvise in many ways. Details of the above would be of interest. Some Radar Stations have given reports on aircraft found and tracked etc. Such reports are of interest.
14. While details are required, we do not require them to be such that the Unit attended one of Bob Hope's pictures (the story of the picture was included) "a good time was had by all." This does not mean that mention of any such activities is to be omitted, but it does mean that this is to be interpreted in a commonsense fashion.
15. Daily Routine Orders and Personnel Occurrence Reports are not required as an appendix to the A.50 but any items of interest promulgated in D.R.C.'s may be attached to the A.50 as an appendix.
16. Units under the control of a Wing should forward their records through the Wing. Other units will forward their records direct to North Eastern Area Headquarters. Units on the mainland of Australia are to retain a copy of their Unit History Sheets and all units off the mainland or going off the mainland are required to send Unit Historical Records Books through this area to A.A.A.F. Headquarters for safekeeping (A.F.O.18/T/S.) Hence units on the mainland will forward one copy of their Historical Record Sheets and Appendices to the Wing and one copy to A.A.A.F. Headquarters as part of the Historical Records. Units on the mainland of Australia will forward two copies of History Sheets and Appendices, and no copies are to be retained on the unit.

W. H. Hamilton
(A.D. CLARKE)
Group Captain,
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OFFICER.

FROM : NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT, Group 742, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.
TO : NO. 72 WING HEADQUARTERS, Group 942, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.
DATE : 1st., SEPTEMBER, 1944.
REF : 13/1/AIR.

- UNIT HISTORY SHEET FOR MONTH OF AUGUST -
COMMENTS BY COMMANDING OFFICER, NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

1. Owing to the exceptionally dry weather being experienced the water shortage has become very acute, and grass fires are prevalent, but due to prompt action have been kept under control.
2. Personnel of this Unit have been employed dismantling 12 Squadron camp area and work completed has been satisfactory.
3. Three ships berthed during the month, discharging a considerable quantity of equipment and backloaded empty petrol drums.
4. The construction of the new A.A.C.S. building and D.A.T. is progressing satisfactorily and it is estimated by the end of September that the bulk of transient personnel will be housed, relieving 44 O.B.U. considerably.
5. Several high ranking Officers visited this area during the months and all reports received were satisfactory.
6. The construction of the Saw Mill is progressing in a satisfactory manner and estimated that this mill will be completed and operating within a fortnight.
7. Morale at this Unit is exceptionally high and personnel are afforded ample opportunity to partake in sports.
8. Squadron Leader C.O.R. FENNER departed on posting after having served 12 months in this locality and Flying Officer W.B. FARQUHARSON was appointed to Temporarily Command.
9. A record number of transient personnel were accommodated at this Unit during the month and considerable difficulty was experienced due to the lack of beds and blankets.


(W.L. WADE),
Flying Officer,
for T/Commanding Officer,
NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

24A

FROM : NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT, Group 742, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.

TO : NO. 72 WING HEADQUARTERS, Group 942, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.

DATE : 3rd., AUGUST, 1944.

REF : 13/1/AIR.

- UNIT HISTORY SHEET FOR MONTH OF JULY -
COMMENTS BY COMMANDING OFFICER, NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

1. Owing to the exceptionally dry weather being experienced in the area it has become necessary to clear all green herbage back from petrol dumps to a distance of twenty feet.

2. Usually this is not necessary as there is little or no fire risk in this area, the ground and herbage being saturated with incessant rain. - This work is progressing satisfactorily.

3. The Unit received a copy of the following congratulatory message from the Air Officer Commanding :-

" I have noted with pleasure that the services rendered and assistance given to the visiting aircraft and personnel of the 38th Bombardment Group (M) by Units under your control, were such as to earn the appreciation of the Officer Commanding the Group.

Please convey to all concerned, and especially the Commanding Officer, Officers and men of No. 44 Operational Base Unit my personal appreciation and congratulations on the very able manner in which they assisted the visiting Squadrons. Their work was undoubtedly of material value to the operations performed".

This message was promulgated to the Unit on the Commanding Officer's parade.

4. This Unit enjoys a high standard of morale but this month owing to the adoption of a beer issue this standard is even higher.

C.O.

(C.O. ROSS FENNER),
Squadron Leader,
Commanding, NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT.

SECRET.

NO. 72 WING HEADQUARTERS.

OPERATION ORDER NO 5 /1944.

Copy No. 7

25 JULY 1944.

Reference Map.

Australian Aeronautical
Sheet B-7.
Scale 1 : 1,000,000.

INFORMATION.

1. Army.

A suitable site for an A.L.G. has been located approx. 5 miles ~~from SOAN, FREDEK MEMPHIS Island.~~ Details of the site will be supplied separately to those concerned with execution of this order.

There have been no known instances of JAPANESE penetration east of the ~~ALANDRA RIVER~~ and at the present date it is believed there are no JAPANESE east of JAPANO.

2. OWN TROOPS.

In MAY 1944, an Army patrol carried out a reconnaissance of the eastern portion of ~~FREDEK MEMPHIS Island~~, including the SOAN locality. A survey of the A.L.G. was carried out by Field Engineers. The report is held by No. 72 Wing Intelligence Officer.

3. Landings were made at the SOAN A.L.G. by Officer Commanding No. 72 wing on

- (a) 24 JUN 1944 in a D.H. 84
- (b) 14 JUL 1944 in a Schuport.

Landings and take off were made without incident. The ground proved to be rough during taxiing and prolonged taxiing would damage the tail wheel and rear fuselage frames.

The landing surface comprises a sandy loam over gravel overgrown by tussocks of grass, the sand in the tussocks causing the uneven surface.

INTENTION.

4. To establish a strip suitable for staging purposes at SOAN A.L.G. Further intentions regarding development will be issued later.

EXECUTION.

5. Preparation of the site will be carried out by a detachment from No. 44 C.B.U. It is believed that burning and rolling will suffice to produce a satisfactory surface in the first instance. Destruction of grass roots is to be avoided if possible.

6. It is anticipated that a C47 aircraft will be made available on or after 27 JULY 1944 to transport the advanced party to the site. Initial functions of the party will be:
- (a) establishment of camp and facilities and W/T communication.
 - (b) To burn off the grass on the A.L.G.

It is anticipated that a second C47 will become available within three days after the first trip to lift transport, heavy gear and additional personnel as required. A third C47 may be made available if required - 72 Wing to be advised

8. Officer Commanding 72 Wing and Commanding Officer 44 O.B.U. will proceed to SOCOM with the advanced party and will indicate the works required by the detachment. Daily progress reports will be signalled to 72 Wing Hqrs (R) 44 O.B.U.

When a suitable surface is completed the O.C. detachment will investigate:-

- (a) Possible access from the sea.
- (b) Alternative sites to the east which may afford easier access from the sea.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

9. Commanding Officer 44 O.B.U. will be responsible for administration, supply and rationing of the detachment. Requests for air transport or supply dropping will be submitted to A.O.R. 72 Wing.
10. An A.M.F. A.C.O. with some local knowledge may be obtained from 20th Motor Regiment on application to the Commanding Officer. The Commanding Officer, 44 O.B.U. will ensure that mails, comforts etc. for this A.C.O. are delivered with those of R.A.M.F. personnel.
11. Medical, hygiene, sanitation, malarial control and water purification methods and standards are to be maintained as in 72 Wing units. A nursing orderly and impedimenta is to be taken with the advanced party. Evacuation of the sick or injured will be arranged by A.O.R. 72 Wing.
12. Native labour as required has been authorised by Headquarters North Eastern Area, and may be engaged at the discretion of the O.C. Detachment. Negotiations will be conducted through the COMROA at SOCOM. If necessary a member of the N.E.A. administration will be transported to the site to arrange native labour. Labour engaged will be paid for at local rates of remuneration or reward. Rates should not exceed those payable in the MARIKALU locality or as set out in 72 Wing memo. 901/5/Pl dated 25 JUNE, 1944. Estimated requirements to be drawn from the Zone Accountant Officer or through equipment and canteen channels. Minimum accounting as directed by the Zone Accountant Officer is to be maintained.

INTER COMMUNICATION.

13. Daily W/T schedules to be maintained with 44 O.B.U. signals as per Appendix "A". Communication and cypher equipment required are set out in Appendix "A".
14. Acknowledge.

(W.L. HELY)

Group Captain,

Officer Commanding, No. 72 Wing.

Distribution.

C.O. 44 O.B.U.	Copies Nos. 1-2
A.O.R. 72 Wing	3
72 Wing Signals officer	4
Zone Accountant Officer	5
Hqrs. A.M.F. (information)	6
Unit history sheet 44 OBU.	7
" " " 72 Wing	8

Issued at SOCOM
26 July 1944.

COMMUNICATION INSTRUCTIONS.

FREQUENCIES, times and call signs of stations on these frequencies are listed below:-

Recco frequencies in force are:-

		<u>Primary.</u>	<u>1st Spare.</u>	<u>2nd Spare.</u>
From 2300 Z to 0900 Z		7420	6490	7805
From 0900 Z to 2300 Z		4295	3760	3915

Call signs of stations:-

W/T.	Station.	W/T.	Station.
2YB	Darwin	GUS	Manus Is.
UL16	Garbutt	3UG	Cairns
CS4	Horn Is.	LEPS	Higginsfield.
Z19	Merauke	EF17	Gove
XX4	Millingimbi	Mq71	Milne Bay
BU11	33 Task Force	AR1	5th. Bomber Comm.
2SX	Hollandia		Nadzab.
2FQ	Momote	Q38	Wadke Is.
		TP6	BIAK

Homing Beacons.

Station.	Freq.	Ident.	Station.	Freq.	Ident.
# Amberley	350	AY	Batchelor	315	BR
Cairns	215	CS	# Cooktown	345	XH
Darwin	340	DN	# Dobodura	390	KG
# Garbutt	285	VD	# Benton	370	XI
Hughes	255	HS	# Horn Is.	395	HD
# Jondaryan	290	KR	# Iron Range	320	XO
Millingimbi	235	MX	# Merauke	275	MQ
Nadzab	220	XP	Milne Bay	290	XF
# Rockhampton	305	XA	Pt. Moresby	300	XD
Finschafen	315	XT	Hollandia	395	XW
# HITAPE	215	AT	HIGGINS	395	HF
# SAIDOR	205	XY			

Beacons marked thus # are continuous, others on request.

D/F System.

Zone 1.

2200 Z to 0700 Z.	4000	Kcs.
0700 Z to 1800 Z.	2525	Kcs.
1800 Z to 2200 Z.	2120	Kcs.

R/T.	W/T.	Station.	R/T.	W/T.	Station.
Nutty	ZY6	Archerfield	Slasher	FP29	Nowra
Scooper	C89	Evans Head	Wharfy	AZ93	Richmond N.S.W.
Night Line	3MV	Williamstown	Item	LVD	Bairnsdale.
Grzy	EB2	Canberra			

NET CALL SIGNS.

Bieter 1PD. Nowra, Canberra, Richmond.

ZONE 2.

0800 Z to 1700 Z.	3030	Kcs.
1700 Z to 2200 Z.	2525	Kcs.
2200 Z to 0800 Z.	2050	Kcs.
Z to Z.		Kcs.

R/T.	W/T.	Station.	R/T.	W/T.	Station.
Kitchen	LWB	Amberley	Billet	EK48	Charters Towers.
Marble	6CK	Cloncurry	Scornful	9US	Cooktown
Jealous	2WP	Darwin	Plucky	2GE	Groote Eylandt
Dandle	RA96	Karumba	Smoky	BS29	Pt. Moresby
Tophole	KB72	Rockhampton	Omen	4UX	Townsville.
Markall	Z17	Goodenough	Riches	V52	Kiriwina
Woodbut	9FI	Milne Bay	Datum	1K6	Salamaua
Stuffy	K66	Merauke	Scoupy	G24	Momote.

ZONE 2.

NET CALL SIGNS.

QML	Cloncurry, Charters Towers, Rockhampton.
2PS	Cooktown, Karumba, Townsville.
TL3	Milne Bay, Port Moresby, Salamaua, Monote.
EXI	Darwin, Groote Eylandt, Lerauke.

AERADIO STATIONS.

Call.	Station.	Trans./Day.	Rec./Day.	Times.
VZAS	Alice Springs	6565/325	6540/333	Restricted.
VZBC	Batchelor	6565	6540	6am. to 6pm.
VZBI	Birdum	6565/325	6540/333	Continuous
VZBN	Brisbane	6590/325	6540/333	"
VZCS	Cairns	6585/325	6540/333	Restricted
VZCW	Camoweeal	6565/325	6540/333	"
VZCB	Canberra	6575/325	6540/333	"
VZCV	Charleville	6565/325	6540/333	"
VZCY	Cloncurry	6565/325	6540/333	Continuous
VZCK	Cooktown	6585/325	6540/333	"
VZDW	Daly Waters	6565/325	6540/333	5am. to 9pm.
VZDN	Darwin	6565/325	6540/333	Continuous
VZGW	Goodenough	6580-6595/325	6540/333	"
VZHD	Horn Island	6585	6540	"
VZKA	Karumba	6585/325	6540/333	Restricted
VZKN	Katherine	6565/325	6540/333	Continuous
VZKM	Kempsey	6575/325	6540/333	"
VZKK	Kiriwina	6580 6596	6540	"
VZLR	Longreach	6565/325	6540/333	Restricted
VZML	Melbourne	6575/325	6540/333	Continuous
VZMR	Merauke	6585	6540	6am. to 6pm.
VZKF	Milne Bay	6595	6540	Continuous
VZPY	Pt. Moresby	6595/325	6540/333	"
VZRK	Rockhampton	6590/325	6540/333	"
EZSY	Sydney	6575/325	6540/333	"
VZTC	Tennant Creek	6565/325	6540/333	Restricted.
VZTV	Townsville	6585/325	6540/333	Continuous
VZMK	Lackay	6585/325	6540/333	Restricted
VZDO	Dobodura	6580	6540	"
VZGV	Gove	6585	6540	"
VZIK	IRON RANGE	6585/325	6540/333.	"

Authentication Word:

For — is — For — is —

Call Signs.

W/T. TM7 R/T Ratquik. Commercial.

DESTROY WHEN JOURNEY COMPLETED.

DATE:

Telling 5330 W/T V611-316 Radar
 Jrg 4140 2115-322 Radar
 KN99-313 Radar
 K085-342 Radar

A/S Party

Sheds 000/z Jrg 6920 Base W/T. Z19
 0600 z 6970 R/T Jowler
 1000 z 3005

3711

FROM : NO. 44 OPERATIONAL BASE UNIT, Group 742, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.
TO : NO. 72 WING HEADQUARTERS, Group 942, R.A.A.F. - PACIFIC.
DATE : 21st., JULY, 1944.
REF : 13/1/AIR.

UNIT HISTORY FOR MONTH OF JUNE.
COMMENTS BY COMMANDING OFFICER - 44 O.B.U.

1. Early in the month the 38th. Bomb Group USAAF, departed having operated from MERRAUKKE for approximately ten days ; just at their time of departure a vessel known as the KSC arrived with 10,000 drums of AVGAS and 520 tons of American type bombs.
2. The Unit was working to the very limit of its capacity firstly staging, transporting and refuelling the 38th. Bomber Group followed by the unloading and dispersing of AVGAS and Bombs.
3. The Officer Commanding, No. 72 Wing Headquarters attended the Commanding Officer's parade on JUNE, 26th. and commended the Commanding Officer, Officers and men on the grand job that was accomplished by the Unit in regard to the 38th. Bomber Group and the unloading and dispersal of fuel and Bombs.
4. On JUNE, 30th. the following letter was received from the Commanding Officer, 38th. Bombardment Group.

" Headquarters,
38th. Bombardment Group,
APO 713 Unit 1.

24 June 1944.

SUBJECT : Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, 44th. O.B.U., 72 WING.

It is my earnest desire to convey my sincere appreciation to you and the officers and enlisted men of your organisation for the complete cooperation and courtesy extended to us while we were operating from MERRAUKKE.

The officers and enlisted men of this organisation were acutely aware of the feeling of cooperation present among the members of your squadron. The individual effort made on your behalf by Squadron Leader FENNER was of great help. To encounter such a situation is of tremendous value in increasing morale and bettering the understanding of the common target for which we are aiming.

If there is ever an opportunity to return your courtesy, I want to feel assured that you will not hesitate to make your desires known to us.

(Sgd.) L. F. TANBERG
Colonel, Air Corps,
Commanding.

Loth
(C.O. ROSS FENNER).

FROM: Headquarters, No. 22 Base Wing.

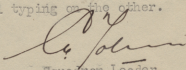
TO : Commanding Officer, No. 44 Operational Base Unit.

DATE:

REF.: 13/3/A1A

UNIT HISTORY SHEET - FORM A 50.

1. Your Form A50 for the month of JANUARY 1943 is returned herewith for amendments.
2. The first entry on Form A50 should be establishment and the strength of officers and airman as at the last day of the previous month. Establishment and strength figures may be shown by totals and not by rank.
3. The last entry on Form A50 is to show establishment and strength of officers and airman as at the end of the month for which the return is rendered. Alterations to establishment of personnel should be shown in the History Sheet with the date of its occurrence. It appears from your return that one Squadron Leader was deleted from establishment and one Flight Lieutenant was added, but this does not appear among the Summary of Events.
4. Establishment and strength of mechanical transport need not be shown at the end of the month. It is sufficient to show alterations in establishment and strength in the Summary of Events and the date of occurrence.
5. Airmen on posting to and from the Unit are not to be shown by name. It is sufficient to quote the numbers of airman arriving or departing on respective dates. Authority for posting action need not be shown.
6. Return is to be rendered in duplicate. Only one copy was received. Care is to be taken that original does not show a carbon copy on one side of the sheet and original typing on the other.


Squadron Leader,
for Wing Commander,
Commanding No. 22 Base Wing.

