5/3/1

SEPTEMBER 1942

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS
OPEN

CHIEF ENGINEER BRANCH
H.Q. FIRST ARMY

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118
(adapted)

Unit C.E. Branch. First Aust Army. *Date and Time.—From* 31 Aug *To* 6 Sept.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
TOOWOOMBA	31 Aug	0800 hrs	Lieut. WHITEHOUSE S.O.R.E.(Geology) left Army H.Q. to join Sigs party to recce in CAPE YORK, to obtain geological, road and water information of the area. Also to proceed to THURSDAY ISLAND to obtain geological information of the country.	
		1200 hrs	G.S.O.2 (Engrs) Lt-Col. T.H.B. FOOTT departed H.Q. by train for MELBOURNE to be attached to Staff of E in C, Maj)Gen STEELE.	
		1230 hrs	Maj. FLETCHER returned from TOORBUL PT.	
	1 Sept	0930 hrs	Chief Engineer Brig. MANN proceeded to BRISBANE by car to visit Adv.L.H.Q. and H.Q. Qld L of C Area.	
		1100 hrs	S.O.R.E.(Works) Maj. FLETCHER proceeded to BRISBANE by car and attended meeting at the Qld L of C Area on works matters.	
		2100 hrs	Maj. FLETCHER returned A.H.Q.	
	2 Sept	1200 hrs	Brig. MANN returned to H.Q. from BRISBANE.	
	4 Sept	0930 hrs	Maj. FLETCHER & Maj. MULHOLLAND proceeded to BRISBANE by car on duty.	
		0800 hrs	Capt. CHESTERMAN proceeded to BRISBANE by Ferry Car on Stores matters.	
		2000 hrs	Maj. HAWLEY S.O.R.E.(Coms) returned to H.Q. from SYDNEY.	
		1800 hrs	Maj. FLETCHER returned to H.Q. from BRISBANE.	

Govt. Printer, Brisbane

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUC-TIONS	IN	No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT	GR.	

W.D

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 5 AUST DIV

SHEET 1 OF 2 SHEETS

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2514	31	

FOR	CRE	O	FORWARDING	PER	PASSENGER
TRAIN	TO	TOWNSVILLE	LEAVING	BRISBANE	September
FIRST	5KW	DIESEL	POWERED	110	VOLT
GEN	SET	O	THIS	IN	LIEU
OF	220	VOLT	SET	WHICH	NOT
READY	O	ALSO	FORWARDING	110	VOLT
LAMPS	O	PLEASE	ARRANGE	COLLECTION	O

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

Signed

Signed

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT SHEET 2 OF 2 SHEETS

No. of Groups. GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number

WILL	REPLACE	WITH	PETROL	DRIVEN	SET
WHEN	AVAILABLE	⊙	ACK		

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS. EXCEPT WIRELESS

SIGNED P.R. Chesterman Capt

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN: 1715

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN W D	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 5 AUST DIV RPTD CRE FIRST AUST ARMY TPS

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CRE 2518	31	

FOR	CRE	O	PLEASE	ARRANGE	TRANSFER
OF	SURPLUS	CLINO	INDIAN	MK VI	FROM
11	AUST	FD	COY	TO	17
FD	COY	O	ACK		

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 2130

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 2200

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2472/35.

SUBJECT : CAMOUFLAGE EQUIPMENT.

H.Q.First Aust Army,
30 Aug 42,
C.E's Branch.

TO : D.A. & Q.M.G,
: G (SD)
COPY : War Diary (2)
File.

1. The present situation in regard to camflg equipment is most unsatisfactory.
Units are deficient in most items, and no stocks have been made available to Ordnance dumps in Queensland for the last three months ; a few nets have been supplied but no garnish.

2. Major deficiencies are in regard to garnish for nets, artillery frames and extensions and special split nets and shrimp nets.
It is thought also that some units are not aware of the scale of camflg equipment.

3. To rectify this position, it is recommended that an instruction be issued in Army Orders for units to submit returns of entitlements and holdings of camflg equipment to reach this HQ by a date to be decided by "Q".
The consolidated return then to be submitted to LHQ requesting urgent supply.

4. It could be pointed out to LHQ that the Dept. of the Interior, Q'land has not only been able to maintain supplies for its camflg works, but has been able to build up considerable reserves. While it is realised that camflg materials are everywhere in great demand, it is considered that camflg equipment of units who may at any time be called upon to fight the enemy should be of far higher priority than materials for camflg of installations which may never be subjected to enemy action.

5. A copy of schedule 1732 for Standard Camflg Eqpt is enclosed for your infm. With the adoption by some units of AIF W.E's, some of the sizes and number of nets may have been altered.
The main diffrences are that cars and light vans in the M.E. were issued with 30' X 30' nets and trucks 30 cwt and over were issued with two (2) 30'X 30' nets. 14 X 14' nets for cars as laid down in schedule 1732 are of little value.

6. G (O) are submitting request to you for provising of vehicle paint and another will be submitted for emulsion of tents. No stocks of either of these items have been held by Ordnance for the last three months. Small quantities only have been available for First Aust Army Tps.

JM Brig.,
C.E.First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS		No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	IN W.D.	GR.	
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LANDFORCES

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2507	31	

FOR	E	IN	C	O	PADDLES
FOR	ASSAULT	BOATS	O	NONE	ON
IAND	O	UNDERSTAND	LARGE	QUANTITY	HELD
BY	23	CORPS	FD	PK	O
LEASE	ARRANGE	FOR	EARLIEST	DELIVERY	OF
300	O	ACK			

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN: 0930

SIGNED

SIGNED: A.H. Chesterman Capt

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	W.D.	GR.	
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LANDFORCES RPTD LANDOPS FOR D/E INC.

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2508	31	

FOR	E	IN	C	O	OVR
SIG	CEA 2504	TO	CE	SECOND	AUST
ARMY	REQUESTS	DISPATCH	OF	WERRIS	CREEK
3R	EQPT	TO	ROCKHAMPTON	CONSIGNED	TO
114	US	ENGR	BN	VIDE	YOUR
E	IN	C	INSTN	EC3050	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1020

SIGNED

SIGNED R.K. Chesterman Capt.

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2502/68

SUBJECT : [illegible]

Hq First Aust Army

To: S in C LHQ

CE Branch

Copy to:
D/R in C LHQ
War Diary
File

11 SEP 1942

1. One of the most noticeable features of the equipment tables of a Divisional Engineers is the absence of any means of intercommunication other than Motor Cycles for Orderlies; no other arm is so badly equipped in this direction. The result of this is accentuated by the wide dispersal of Field Companies of the Division in the case of Mobile Operations, where the difficulties of getting orders and instructions to Units is very great indeed.

2. To overcome the difficulty it is recommended that every Field Company and Field Park Company should be provided with a wireless set capable of working with a set at Divisional Engineer Headquarters (where there should be a spare set for the use of detachments). The range required is probably 10 miles for normal speech, with 50 miles to 100 as the maximum over which it would ever be required to work, and which distance could be covered by telegraph if necessary. All sets within the Division could use the same frequency.

3. No increase in the strength of the Units in tpt or men is thought necessary, though possibly a slight alteration in Trade Grouping would have to be made.

4. A similar allotment should also be made to Engineers of Corps and Army Troops.

5. It is noted that in the new T.B.A. of U.S.A. Five provision is made for five (5) wireless sets.

Brig.,
CE First Aust ARMY.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

W.D.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

MILBASE MELBOURNE

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRSTAUSTARMY.	CEA 2529	1	

FROM	CE	CAN	YOU	ADVISE	WHEN
CAPT	R	HOLDER	N74562	WILL	REPORT
18	AUST	ED	COY	URGENTLY	WANTED.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CBA/0681/05

SUBJECT : PROMOTION LIEUT. STEELE NX 10697.

H.Q. First Aust Army.
C.R.E. Branch.
7 Sept 43.

To: S in C L.H.Q.

Copy to:
D/S in C. Adv. L.H.Q.
C.R.E. First Aust Army Tps.
War Diary
File

Lieut. Steele has been Adjt on C.R.E. H.Q. First Aust Army Tps since the 15 April 43, and A.38s for his promotion to Capt were submitted to A.H.Q. on 6 May 43. The papers were examined and passed on by A.H.Q. to L.H.Q. on 8 June 43.

Since that date the question of Lieut. Steele's posting has been raised by L.H.Q. whose records showed Lieut. Thomas, who has been posted to S.H.Q., as holding the position. This impression was corrected and several reminders have been sent since that date but nothing has been heard up to the present time.

It is now Sept. and the C.R.E. First Aust Army Tps complains that for Lieut. Steele to carry on so long with his work, bearing the rank of Lieut., has made his task unnecessarily difficult and that it reduced the efficiency of his command.

It would be appreciated if the matter could be enquired into.

Brig.,
C.R.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2536/05
W/C

SUBJECT : FIRST APPOINTMENT COMMISSIONED RANK N236268
W.O. II. HORNER A.W.

H.Q. First Aust Army.
C.Es. Branch.
1 Sept 42.

To: A.M.S.

Copy to:
G.3 Cam.
War Diary
File

Enclosed you will please find Form A.22 ref the above. It is requested that this be passed. The appointment is for a Cam Lieut on Army H.Q. The vacancy exists on this H.Q.

Regarding the question of reinforcement Officers who might be suitable to fill this appointment without passing through this new application. A Cam Officer calls for special qualifications, which W.O. Horner has and the matter has been brought to the notice of the E in C in our signal CEA/2451, as follows:-

"FOR E IN C FROM CE (.) NOMINATE W.O. HORNER AS CAMFLG OFFR THIS HQ (.) HORNER QUALIFIED AT SME (F & T) CAMFLG WING NOW INSTRUCTOR JUN TAC SCHOOL SOUTHPORT (.) APPLICATION MADE TRANSFER TO AIF (.) HAVE YOU ANY OBJECTION"

The following reply was received:-

"RE44107 30 Aug

FOR CE FROM E IN C (.) REF YOUR CEA/2451 (.) CONCUR NOMINATION WO HORNER"

In view of the above it is requested that the application be passed through without exhaustive enquiries having to be made as to whether there is already an officer available who could fill the posting.

[signature] Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

ARMY FORM C2128. (Pads of 100).

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups. GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

AHQ 2 IX.42 SIGNALS

CALL AND INSTRUC-TIONS IN

OUT

W D

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO CRE 5 AUST DIV.

FROM FIRST AUST ARMY.

Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
CEA/2543	2 SEP	RE.4747

TO	CRE.	FROM	CE	O.	EXPENDITURE
OF	£160	FOR	PURCHASE	OF	SIX
COLLAPSIBLE	HUTS	APPROVED	BY.	'Q'	FIRST
AUST.	ARMY.	O	CHARGE	THIS	AGAINST
JOB NO.	CEAW.82	O			

Wt. 32412/1098. 750M. 12/40. P.I. 51-8146.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

Signed

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

Signed

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

IMMEDIATE.

TIME OF ORIGIN 1100 hrs

T.H.I. 1175

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No

CALL AND INSTRUC-TIONS.	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

W D

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

N.S.W. L of C.

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRSTAUSTARMY	GEA2552	2	

FOR	CE	CAN	YOU	ADVISE	WHERE
MAJ	FARMER	EX	59	CORPS	FD
PK	15	TO	REPORT	WHEN	REPLACED
BY	MAJ	POOLE	(.)	CAN	YOU
CONTACT	MAJ	POOLE	2	AUST	BD
COY	ACCELERATE	MOVEMENT	TO	59	CORPS
FD	PK	AT	TRN	HQ	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN W D

OUT

No. of Groups GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

LANDFORCES

FROM			Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRSTAUSTARMY			CBA2551	2	
FOR	2	IN	C	can	you
advise	location	Maj	POOLE	(.)	Maj
POOLE	EXPECTED	AT	59	Fd	Pk
and	urgently	wanted			

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	War Diary	GR.	
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LANDFORCES

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2549	2	

FOR	E	IN	C	O	SIXTEEN.
THOUSAND	FEET	ONLY	DETONATING	FUZE	HELD
IN	FIRST	ARMY	AREA	O	UNDERSTAN
NINETY	THOUSAND	HELD	IN	NSW	O
COULD	ARRANGEMENTS	BE	MADE	TO	MOVE
STOCKS	NORTHWARDS	PLEASE			

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED D.R. Chesterton Capt.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN

1215.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

1

CBA/2555/20 SECRET

SUBJECT : TOWNSVILLE - CAMP FOR TRAINING AND TRUCK AND FACILITIES.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Bs. Branch.

To: C.R.E. 5 Aust Div.

2 SEP 1942

Copy to:
C.R.E. First Aust Army Tps.
D/E in C Adv L.H.Q.
C.E. Q'land L of C Area.
C.S.O. First Aust Army.
War Diary
File

1. I am forwarding herewith two copies of a letter from L.H.Q. to H.Q. Q'land L of C Area and four(4) copies of plans and specifications of the buildings concerned.

2. Instead of H.Q. Q'land L of C Area being responsible for the erection of the huts it has been agreed that the simpler and best method would be for you to carry out the work. It is suggested that the personnel be found from 17 A Fd Coy at CAIRNS but this is left for you to actually decide.

3. Any details regarding the despatch of huts and materials should be arranged direct by you with C.E. Q'land L of C Area.

4. Any details regarding the signal party, tpt reader [illegible] party, etc., will be arranged direct by you with the [illegible] Signal Officer, [illegible] [illegible] reach TOWNSVILLE (or CAIRNS) [illegible] and his signal [illegible] between the 15 and 20 Sept. The necessary tools etc., for the engr construction party will be arranged by you. Any material that fails to materialise ex South should be obtained from your dump or purchased locally.

5. Please acknowledge by signal.

T.M. Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

CMA/2565/21.0

SECRET

SUBJECT : [redacted]

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Ms. Branch.

3 [redacted] 42.

To: D/S in C Adv. L.H.Q.

Copy to:
C(O) First Aust Army.
G(SD) " " "
DA & QMG First Aust Army.
War Diary
File

I am forwarding a copy of a recent L.H.Q. instruction on the abovementioned subject. Major Parker U.S.A.L.O. with First Aust Army has already sent a memo on the subject to G.H.Q. S.W.P.A. As will be seen the U.S.A. takes control of port operation at THURSDAY ISLAND, HORN ISLAND, etc., and the view is taken that this includes all wharf installations incl. cranes, jetties, etc., and all water craft for lighterage, etc. Whether it should include water barges and Tugs for the supply of water from CAPE YORK to the Islands is a matter for decision. Up to date First Aust Army has taken in hand the provision of certain water craft and other port facilities and will explain the position in regard to these to you. Lt-Col. LANGFORD has just telephoned in regard to the same matter, and I suggested that he goes out to see you and tell you his views on the subject. We are trying to push the matter as much as we can, but under the terms of the attached L.H.Q. letter, the responsibility must now pass to the U.S.A. authorities. Could I suggest therefore that you take this matter up with them with a view of getting a complete hand-over as early as possible; we will hand over all our files on the subject to them.

[redacted] Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN WD

OUT

No. of Groups. GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP
AHQ 3 IX.42.
SIGNALS

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 5 AUST DIV

SHEET 1 OF 2 SHEETS

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA2567	3.	

FOR	CRE	O	IN	VIEW	OF
OP	INSTN	NUMBER	19	SIG	TONNAGE
OF	ENGR	STORES	REQD	FOR	RESERVE
AND	CURRENT	VSE	FOR	EACH	NEW
LOCATION	O	PRESUME	INITIAL	STOCKINGS	EX
SELLHEIM	O	ADVISE	LOCATION	OF	MAIN
DUMP	FOR	CAIRNS	ATHERTON	MAREEBA	⊙

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

Forms C2126/13. Wt. 36169/1798. 1,000M. pads. 12/39. B.& S. Ltd. 51-5537.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT W D		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LANDFORCES

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRSTAUSTARMY	CEA2582	3	

FOR	E	IN	C	NO	SIGN
YET	OF	KREFFT	OR	DENNIS	MOST
URGENTLY	WANTED	FROM	LAST	LIST	REINFORCEMEN
OFFICERS	CAN	YOU	ACCELERATE		
			—		

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED [illegible]

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

SECRET

GSA/2579/96
C/R

SUBJECT: ISSUE OF BR EQPT TO U.S. ENGRS

To: DASGS First Aust Army

H.Q. First Aust Army
13 SEP 1942
CE's Branch

Copy to: DDOS First Aust Army
B in C LHQ
D/S in C Adv LHQ.
War Diary
File.

1. Copy of letter from DSG to DDOS First Aust Army is attached which sets out the procedure and specification of Br Eqpt to be delivered to U.S. Engineers; this procedure however is affected through the following factors:-

2. The delivery of the equipment shown in para 1.
(a) from WHERIS CHECK to ROCKHAMPTON is being undertaken under LHQ Engr. Tech Instn No 21 of 27 Aug 42 which directed this equipment to be for a Corps Pk set and not for reissue to American Units.

(b) 9 sets FBE MK III and 4 sets SBG MK III are in the process of being delivered to DIRECTS from south and were intended for redistribution to units deficient including U.S. Engrs however owing to directions having been received from Adv LHQ that certain bridging is required immediately for operational needs, the whole or greater portion of the consignments will now be directed and will not be available.

3. Of the equipment held in charge at DIRECTS Br Pk releases have been made to Combined Tng Centre and First Aust Army Jnr Tactical School, the balance of equipment held is only sufficient to carry out bridging training in a limited way with FBE, the SBG which is also incomplete is the antidated MK II and is also deficient.

4. Summarising the position is:-

(1) that a Corps Br Pk set is to be established at ROCKHAMPTON but not available for issue to U.S. Forces for permanent equipment.

(2) Issue to U.S. Engrs cannot be made until further eqpt is made available from the south.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN War Diary	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 2 Aust Corps

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
Firstaustarmy	CEA2593	24	

TO	CE	FROM	CE	Maj	POOLE
NOW	ON	WAY	UP.	(.)	MAJ
FARMER	WILL	REPORT	MILBASE	SYDNEY	WHEN
RELIEVED	BY	MAJ	POOLE		

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1110

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CRA/3508/97

SUBJECT : ISSUE OF CONTROLLED STORES.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Es. Branch.

14 SEP 1942

To: C(SD)
C.E. 1 Aust Corps
C.E. 2 Aust Corps
C.R.E. 5 Aust Div
C.R.E. First Aust Army Tps

Copy to:
War Diary
File

C(SD) 396 of 27 May refers.

1. Priorities by formations are :-

5 Aust Div incl 17 Aust A Fd Coy.
2 Aust Corps.

2. Priorities by units NOT under cond of formations are :-

RAE 7 Aust Div.
2/35 Aust Fd Pk Coy.
2/55 Aust LAD.

RAE 1 Aust Corps Tps.
60 Aust C Fd Pk Coy.

RAE 2 Aust Corps Tps.
HQ
2/10 Aust Fd Coy.
19 Aust A Fd Coy.
60 Aust C Fd Pk Coy & 315 LAD.
2 Aust C Constg Tng Unit.

RAE First Aust Army Tps.
HQ
18 Aust Fd Coy.
21 Aust A Fd Coy.
58 Aust C Fd Pk Coy (317 LAD).
1/1 Aust Army Topo Svy Coy.
3 Aust Fd Svy Coy.
8 " " " "
1 " " " "
First Aust Army Constg Tng Unit.
2 Aust Fd Svy Depot.

Lt Col
for Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CRA/2599/99

SUBJECT : PROCUREMENT OF MINOR BOATS AND OUTBOARD MOTORS.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.R.E. Branch.

To: C.E. First Aust Army. 5 SEP 1942

Copy to:
S in C
D/E in C Adv H.Q.
D.D.O.S. Qld L of C Area.
C.E. 2 Aust Corps.
C.R.E. First Aust Army Tps.
D.D.A.&Q.
Maj. Colebatch.
War Diary
File

1. On Friday 4 Sept S.C.R.E.(Stores) visited Ordnance L of C BRISBANE, contacting Lt. Murphy on the above subject, and the following information was elicited:

(a) Approx 45 - 60 Outboard Motors of sizes from 5 HP - 16 and of various makes are available BRISBANE area for impressment.

(b) No boats which comply with the specifications demanded are available, only boats offering are too heavy, underpowered with unreliable engines of different makes, speeds are too slow, and to have hulls adapted to comply with requirements would take too long as well as being costly.

2. The following action was taken after consultation with Ord.:-

(a) Ord to impress up to 40 Outboard Motors, all to be of standard type Johnson 5 HP, to overcome the spares difficulty. Marine Products of BRISBANE are carrying good stocks of essential spares which will be acquired.

(b) Several boat builders were approached in regard to the possibility of having boats built locally which would satisfy the requirements. The specification was given as:-

Length 30', Beam 6" - 9", draft laden aft 2'3".
Height 15 - 20 cut.
Engine of 25 HP. (Ford Thornycroft C.4 with geared reduction) (it is understood that stocks are available in MELBOURNE).
Engine to be placed in a water tight compartment and brass fuel tank on floor.
Hull constructed of Kondwood (as used in R.A.A.F. rescue boats), with light flooring. Transom and stern decked, narrow combings on sides.
Steering by Tiller under transom decking with thwart seat aft.
Lifting eyes to be affixed to Keel.
Propeller protection to be afforded by false keel being carried out to carry steel rudder pintle.
Provision for emergency paddles with rowlocks.
Rubbing strakes on chine and rope fenders on gunwale.
Substantial towing bits to be affixed fore and aft with cleats on transom port and starboard.
Provision of semi-rotary bronze bilge pump of large dimensions.

A design on these lines is being prepared by Prior Bros., a local builder who is prepared to contract to deliver a boat every 8 weeks providing the engines can be made available. The design and quotes will be available by Wed Sept 9. It is suggested that as Major Colebatch will be visiting this H.Q. on that date, the matter can be finalised with him, and Ord be instructed to place orders for the immediate manufacture of 8 boats.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

(c) It is understood that 38 Div U.S. Engrs have an expert amongst their O.Rs. who was an employee of the Johnson Outboard Motor Coy in the Testing Dept., when, if his services could be secured to vet the impressed motors, would be invaluable, and endeavour is now being made to get Colonel Carew C/O of U.S. Engr Bn to permit this private to carry out this inspection in collaboration with Ord who are in accord.

Capt.,
D.O.F.S.(Stores) First Aust Army.

COPY
for WAR DIARY

32 U.S. Div Reptd D.D.O.S. Qland L of C

CEA2607. 5

FIRST AUST ARMY

FOR	114 U.S.	KNOR	BATTALION	FROM	C.E(.)
CONFIRMING	TELEPHONE	CONVERSATION	BETWEEN	YOUR	ADJUTANT
AND	CAPT CHESTERMAN(-)	WOULD	APPRECIATE	IF YOU	COULD
MAKE	AVAILABLE	YOUR	PRIVATE	WHO	HAS
EXPERIENCE	IN	JOHNSON	OUTBOARD	MOTORS	AND
OVERHAULED	ENGINE	AT	DINMORE	BE PARK	TO
INSPECT	OUTBOARD	MOTORS	BEING	ACQUIRED	BY
ORDNANCE	QUEENSLAND	L OF C	AREA(.)	PERIOD	REQUIRED
PROBABLY	1 WEEK (.)	PRIVATE	TO	REPORT	TO
LIEUTENANT	MURPHY	ORDNANCE	BRANCH	VICTORIA	BARRACKS
BRISBANE	FOR	DIRECTIONS	ON	WEDNESDAY	SEPT 9(.)
PLEASE	ADVISE	EARLIEST	XX	XXXXXXXXX	XXXX
TO	CHIEF	ENGINEER	FIRST	AUST	ARMY
IF	YOU	CAN	MAKE	THIS	MAN

AVAILABLE(.)

R R Chesterman
Capt

IMPORTANT

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2600/13 SECRET

SUBJECT : OPERATIONAL DEMOLITIONS 2 AUST CORPS.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Es. Branch.

16 SEP 1942

To: G(O)

Copy to:
War Diary
File

1. I am of the opinion that 2 Aust Corps Demolition Instruction No.1 dated 23 Aug 42 is very sound on the basis on which it was planned. As however the location of some Formations, etc., is in the process of being changed, the priorities of categories B, C and D will require to be revised in the case of the zone allotted to 3 Div.

2. The question of available engineer labour arises. If the demolition plan is given a high order of priority by the General Staff, then the following recommendations are made:-

(a) That an immediate commencement is made on the 'A' Priorities as soon as the detailed schedules are received and approved.

(b) That Fd Coys of 3 Div and 32 U.S. Div be given as their main task the execution of the plan, subject to training necessities such as bridging and taking part in field exercises. This will mean that the main task of Corps Engrs will be road construction.

(c) The responsibility of the A.3 group round IPSWICH could be taken over by the CRE First Aust Army Tps, thus lightening the burden on other Formations and giving a measure of training to Army Tps in preparation of demolitions.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2603/73

SUBJECT : MAINTENANCE OF FIRST AUST ARMY ESTABLISHMENTS.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Es. Branch.

16 SEP 1942

To: E in C L.H.Q.

Copy to:
D/E in C Adv L.H.Q.
War Diary
File

A doubt has arisen as to the responsibility for maintenance of establishments which come under the direct control of First Aust Army. The establishments concerned comprise First Aust Army Schools which are on a fairly large scale, medical establishments incl. hospitals still under control of First Aust Army, and such miscellaneous establishments as Field Punishment Centres, etc. Q'land L of C Area maintain that the responsibility of maintenance rests with First Aust Army. It is suggested that in principle it should be accepted that primary responsibility for all repairs and maintenance should rest with the L of C, but that where at all possible First Aust Army assists by carrying out repairs and maintenance to the limit of its resources. Means to give effect to the last sentence have already been put into effect by First Aust Army, which should reduce the calls on Q'land L of C to a minimum.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

Unit C.E. Branch, First Aust Army. *Date and Time.—From* 7 Sept 42 *To* 13 Sept 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
TOOWOOMBA	Sept 7		Lt-Col ROUTLEY called on C.E. en route to take up appointment as C.R.E. Thursday Island. Mr. Price, Liaison Officer from Q'ld Allied Works Council, called on C.E. for conference.	
	Sept 8		S.O.R.E.(W.E.&M.) Maj. Mulholland left with Lt-Col ROUTELY for Thursday Island. S.O.R.E.(Coms) Maj. Hawley departed on road recce to ROCKHAMPTON Area.	
	Sept 9	1400 hrs	C.E. Brig. Mann proceeded by car to Adv L.H.Q. to see D/E in C.	
	Sept 10	0930 hrs	S.O.R.E.(Wks) proceeded to BRISBANE by car to meet D.C.E. returning from L.H.Q.	
		1600 hrs	C.E. returned to L.H.Q. from BRISBANE in company with Maj. Parker U.S.A. L.O.	
	Sept 11		D.C.E. Col. McCausland returned from Rear L.H.Q. to hand over Works prior to taking up appointment in Rear L.H.Q.	
	Sept 12	2000 hrs	G.S.O.2 (Engr) Lt-Col FOOTT returned to H.Q. from visit to E in C at Rear L.H.Q.	

Govt. Printer, Brisbane

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN War Diary

OUT SHEET 1 OF 2 SHEETS

No. of Groups GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LANDFORCES RPTD D/E IN C LANDOPS

FROM FIRST AUST ARMY | Originator's Number CEA2624 | Date 7 | In Reply to Number

FOR	E	IN	C	O	UNDERSTAND
E4	FORD	THORNYCROFT	10/26	BHP	MARINE
ENGINES	WITH	REDUCTION	GEAR	AVAILABLE	EX
MELBOURNE	STOCKS	O	MOST	SUITABLE	UNIT
IF	DECISION	MADE	TO	HAVE	BOATS
CONSTRUCTED	O	CAN	ENQUIRIES	BE	MADE
WITH	VIEW	OF	SECURING	SUFFICIENT	ENGINES

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT SHEET 2 OF 2 SHEETS		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number

FOR DETAILS REQUIREMENTS IN TRANSIT O LETTER GIVING FULLER

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED J.R. Chester Capt

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN 1045

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN W.D.	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 5 AUST D.V

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2632	7	

FOR CRE O MOVEMENTS ARRANGING DISPOSN
TO YOU OF FOLLOWING EQPT WHICH
MAY BE REGARDED AS UNIT EQPT
PRO TEM AUTO PATROL ONE ROAD ploughs
TWO ROTARY SCOOP ONE ALLIS CHALMERS
CRAWLER TRACTOR ONE RIPPER ONE O
ACK

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED R Chester Capt

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1240

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2608/45

SUBJECT : ADAPTATION OF RAILWAY BRIDGES FOR ROAD TRAFFIC.
BRIDGES OVER BURDEKIN (MACROSSAN), HOUGHTON and
REID RIVERS ON RAILWAY TOWNSVILLE - CHARTERS TOWERS.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

To: D.D. Gen of Allied Works,
Department of Interior,
Commonwealth Offices,
BRISBANE.

C.Es. Branch.

7 SEP 1942

Copy to:
E in C L.H.Q.
D/E in C Adv L.H.Q.
"G"
L.O. First Aust Army.
c/- Allied Works Council.
1 Aust C.E. Works. Q. L of C.
War Diary
File

Dear Sir,

The Works Director, Department of Interior, Works Services Branch, BRISBANE, advised by letter of 14 May 42 to Lt-Col Garland Chief Engineer, Qld L of C Area, that funds had been approved and instructions received to proceed with the conversion of the above - mentioned three railway bridges to carry road traffic, together with the construction of road approaches thereto. It is desired that the work will proceed immediately and it is asked that you will arrange accordingly.

Kindly advise me of the earliest date that work can be commenced.

At the same time will you kindly submit particulars of the nature and extent of the work proposed, together with particulars of the requisition including estimated cost, to complete the records at this office.

Yours faithfully,

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2634/05

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Es. Branch.

To: G.O.C. in C. First Aust Army.

7 SEP 1942

Copy to:
War Diary
File

1. With reference to the attached telegram, a copy of which was sent by the A.M.S. to the C.E., it is respectfully desired to submit the following:-

(a) From my knowledge the matter was arranged without obtaining the views of First Aust Army to a proposal which greatly affects them.

(b) From recent trend of events, incl the taking away of certain hospitals from the control of First Aust Army, it was becoming clear that the D.C.E. (Works) Col. McCausland might be more valuable elsewhere. In view of his recent experience of Army works in C'land, it is thought that his services would have been more valuable in LANDOPS than L.H.Q., but this point is just raised in passing.

(c) The taking away of the S.O.R.E.(Works), Maj. Fletcher, and the S.O.R.E.(Water & E & M), Maj. Mulholland, however is a much more serious matter for First Aust Army. It is essential to have an experienced Officer such as Maj. Fletcher to initiate and supervise works for First Aust Army. The value of the Imprest A/c recently granted to the G.O.C. in C., will be very adversely affected by the lack of a S.O.R.E.(Works). The same applies to a S.O.R.E. Water E & M. As well as being of the utmost assistance in getting water supplies for First Aust Army establishments at TORRES ISLANDS, TAMWORTH, CHARTERS TOWERS, HUGHENDEN, TOORBUL PT, and many other places this officer is the First Aust Army's expert and adviser on all electrical and mechanical equipment used by Army Engineers - a very necessary appointment. It was intended to send this officer shortly to investigate and develop the water resources on the Inland Defence Rd DUARINGA - CHARTERS TOWERS.

2. In view of the above it is submitted that very strong opposition be given to the transfer of Majors Fletcher and Mulholland as proposed.

D.M. Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

COPY

FIRST AUST ARMY TOOWOOMBA

LANDFORCES MELBOURNE

ADM 45448 4

FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS MADE (.) STAFF FOR WORKS INCL MAJOR FLETCHER MAJ MULHOLLAND TO TRANSFER FROM FIRST AUST ARMY TO LHQ AND POSTED LANDOPS (.) COL ROGERSON CAPT JACOBS LHQ POSTED LANDOPS (.) PERSONNEL REPORT 11 SEPT (.) COL MCCAUSLAND TO TRANSFER LHQ (.) ALL RETAIN PRESENT RANK (.) LETTER FOLLOWS

Distributed by AMS on 5/9/42 to: C.E.
G(SD)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

H/C

CEA 2635 47

H.Q. First Aust Army
C.Es. Branch.

SUBJECT : RD TABULAM - COPMANHURST - GRAFTON. 7 SEP 1947

To: G(O) First Aust Army.

Copy to:
War Diary
Files

1. Ref No. 173873 of 4 Sept from H.Q. N.S.W. L of C Area.

2. With the recently completed rd GRAFTON - CASINO via DILKOON available as an alternative route to the Coastal Rd via BALLINA, it is not apparent why a further alternative route is required for North - South traffic.

3. It is not considered that the Rd TABULAM - COPMANHURST - GRAFTON would have military significance except as a further alternative route from North to South.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN WD	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

2 Aust Corps.

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
Firstaustarmy	CEA2643	7	

FOR CE REQUIRE YOU NOMINATE FROM
UNITS UNDER YOUR COMMAND 2 SERGEANTS
AND + 2 CORPORAL INSTRUCTORS SUITABLE FOR
INFANTRY AND WEAPON TNC (.) INSTRUCTORS
REQUIRED AT ETC URGENTLY (.) SIGNAL
NAMES OF NOMINEES DATE AVAILABLE TO
REPORT ETC AND ARRANGE MOVEMENT.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED Chas J. Call

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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Forms C2123/13. Wt. 36169/1798. 1,000M. pads. 12/39. B.& S. Ltd. 51-5537.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUC-TIONS		No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	IN W.D	GR.	
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

5 AUST DIV.

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRSTAUSTARMY	CEA2644	7	

)R	CRE	REQUIRE	YOU	NIMINATE	FROM
NITS	UNDER	YOUR	COMMAND	1	SERGEANT
ID	1	CORPORAL	INSTRUCTORS	SUITABLE	FOR
IFANTRY	AND	WEAPON	TRAINING	(.)	REQUIRED
BY	ETC	URGENTLY	(.)	SIGNAL	NAMES
:	NOMINEES	DATE	AVAILABLE	ETC	AND
ARRANGE	MOVEMENTS.				

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED Wolfe Capt.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2639/46

SUBJECT : MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Es. Branch.

8 SEP 1942

To: C.R.E. 5 Aust Div.

Copy to:
Mr. Price, Liaison Officer A.W.C.
War Diary
File

1. Mr. Price of the Qld Allied Works Council, who is also Liaison Officer between that body and First Aust Army, whilst on a recent visit to the TOWNSVILLE area noted fairly large amounts of mechanical equipment belonging to the A.W.C. lying about in locations stretching from TOWNSVILLE - CHARTERS TOWERS - HUGHENDEN. This equipment was in a damaged condition varying in degree from minor damages upwards, but apparently the A.W.C. organisation has no means of effecting these repairs.

2. It is requested that you get in touch with the local representative of the A.W.C. with a view of having this equipment collected and repaired as far as possible in your Fd Park; it may be possible to arrange for repairs which cannot be carried out by the Fd Park to be carried out in Ordnance Workshops. If the above were done, the A.W.C. would be willing, subject to requirements of demands on that body for works, to make available some of this repaired equipment for any special works required by the Army.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2636/47

SUBJECT : RD RIVERTREE - URBENVILLE.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Es. Branch.

To: "G" First Aust Army.

18 SEP 1942

Copy to:
War Diary
File

1. Ref att copy of E.C.5353 of 5 Sept and enclosure from James Morris to Minister for Defence. STRAT MAP. WARWICK.

2. The request is for the extension of a minor rd of access from near WILSONS DOWNFALL (on rd TENTERFIELD to WOODENBONG) to RIVERTREE to junction with rd TABULAM - TOOLOOM - URBENVILLE - WOODENBONG.

3. The following comments are submitted:-

(a) The rds WILSON'S DOWNFALL - RIVERTREE and TABULAM - URBENVILLE are of low standard and in addition to new construction on the proposed extension, considerable work would be necessary on the existing roads to bring them to a standard suitable for military use.

Both rds are of minor importance and are not gazetted main roads as James Morris's letter might imply.

(b) It is not apparent why through traffic should want to enter URBENVILLE.

Traffic is well served by:-

(i) Rd TENTERFIELD - LEGUME - WOODENBONG. (State Highway No.9).
(ii) Rd TABULAM - BONALBO - WOODENBONG (Main Rd No.361).

(c) The saving in through mileage by the proposed route would be small and would be offset by the lower standard of the road.

(d) The existing rd TENTERFIELD - WOODENBONG serves S.W. Q'land by good spur rds to STANTHORPE and WARWICK.

4. It is not considered that the suggested new rd has any merit from the military point of view.

Will you please indicate your views on the military significance of the road.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

E in C
L.H.Q.
Victoria Barracks.

E.C.3353

C.E.
First Aust Army.

RIVERTREE - URBENVILLE ROAD.

..... Attached is a copy of letter received by the Minister for the Army.

Please advise me regarding the military significance of the road.

Sgd. J.G. Wilson Lt-Col.
for Maj-Gen.,
Engineer in Chief.

5 Sep 42

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

COPY

RIVERTREE SOUTH
4 Aug 42.

To: The Minister for Defence,
Government House,
CANBERRA.

Dear Sir,

I have been informed that the military authorities have been making inquiries about a road from Rivertree across to Urbenville. Being a resident of Rivertree for many years, I can give you all the information you require. There is only about 5 miles of road to be constructed to connect from the Main Tenterfield Rivertree road to the main Tabulam road to Urbenville. This being already graded partly made for home traffic and only requires widening for Transport and Motor Vehicles. This road can be constructed without crossing the Clarence river so doing away with 2 crossings and can be done in a very short time and with very little expense. This road when connected would be a great asset to military transport travelling through to Brisbane as it is only 25 miles to Urbenville when as you have to travel 75 miles by the main highway to Urbenville so it would considerably shorten the road to Brisbane.

It would also be a great asset to the dairy farmers along the route whereas they have to take their cream and produce back over the Tenterfield road or on to the Tabulam Urbenville road for transport. The timber which is being hauled for the Match Factory have to go round by the Main Highway to Grafton all through 5 miles of dead end on the road. If anyone was sent up to look over the road I would be willing to take them and show them over the route.

Trusting you will give this some consideration.

I remain,
Your obedient servant,

(James Morris)
Rivertree South
via Willsons Downfalls.
N.S.W.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/3640/43 H/C

SUBJECT : ROAD WORKS IN N.S.W. RECOUPMENT OF EXPENDITURE INCURRED BY D.M.R. N.S.W.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

To: E in C L.H.Q. C.Es. Branch.

8 SEP 1942

Copy to:
D/E in C Adv L.H.Q.
C.E. N.S.W. L of C Area.
C.E. Second Aust Army.
War Diary
File

Whilst S.O.R.E.(Cons) First Aust Army was in SYDNEY conferring with D.M.R. N.S.W. in reference to the transfer of the large organization to Qld, the Commissioner for Main Rds, Mr. D. Craig, referred to accounts outstanding to his Dept for works carried out for the Army in N.S.W., and stated that the Dept would be assisted materially in financing the Queensland project, if recoupment could be made.

The works referred to are:-

(a) Construction of rd GRAFTON - CASINO via DILKOON.

(b) Strengthening of brs and provision of passing places on Rd GRAFTON - GLEN INNES.

(c) Road blocks throughout State of N.S.W.

(d) Anti-tank work between MULLET Ck. and MT. KEMBLA in WOLLONGONG N.S.W. district.

Particulars are:-

(a) G(O) 288 of 31 Jul 42 to L.H.Q. recommended that funds amounting to £69,500 be provided as soon as possible for this work. Expenditure to 10/8/42 has been £64,578 approx and no payment had been made to the Dept up to 3 Sept.

(b) While no recoupment had been received up to 3 Sept 42, it has been ascertained on return to H.Q. that a cheque for £18,750 (being the amount of advance claimed by the Dept) was in transit to the Dept.

(c) & (d) These works were put in hand by Eastern Command and were well advanced when Eastern Command was changed to 2 Aust Corps. 2 Aust Corps continued with the work, but this office has not any papers covering the financial side of the matter. Position is:-

(c) Road Blocks

Works requisitions received	£61,150
Estimates submitted by Dept on 2/7/42	£66,552
Expenditure to date	£59,400
Advances received	£29,065

(d) Anti-tank Works

Works requisitions received	£32,800
Estimates submitted by Dept	£31,000
Expenditure to date	£27,140
Advances received	£20,250

Could the Dept be assisted please by early reimbursement on account of items a,c,& d.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army

CEA/2645/47

SUBJECT : [illegible]

HQ First Aust Army

CE Branch

8 SEP 1942

To: D.D.G. of Allied Works,
Dept of Interior,
Commonwealth Offices,
BRISBANE.

Copy to:
E in C LEQ
D/E in C Adv LEQ (2)
G
1 Aust C E (Wks)
Liaison Offr First Aust Army,
C/- ABC, BRISBANE.
War Diary
File

Dear Sir,

It has been represented that completion of the abovementioned roadway is likely to be delayed owing to difficulty in obtaining bridge timber for structure between CLERMONT and CHARTERS TOWERS and that the delay could be minimised by reducing the width of structures to 12 feet.

If the position is as stated, First Aust Army will be agreeable to a width of 12 feet for structures not exceeding 100 feet in length, on the section CLERMONT to CHARTERS TOWERS. Consideration will be given to structures of greater length, if any, onthe receipt of particulars.

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

G(O)

Present proposal is to construct bridges 18 feet wide to accord with ultimate width of pavement. In the first instance the road will be constructed with formation width 28' and pavement width 12'. It is unlikely that time will permit widening to 18' prior to the wet season.

Do you concur in the despatch of this letter.

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

D/S

CRA/2649/61

MOST SECRET

9 Sept 42

To: Lt-Col BOUTLAY

Copy to:
Comdr TORRES Is Fortress
CS Q'land L of C Area
D/S in C Adv LHQ
War Diary
File

1. APPOINTMENT.

You will act as a normal CRE and as such will command all Australian Engineers in the command and will act as engineer advisor to the Commander of the Fortress, including advice in regard to the activities of U.S.A. Engrs.

2. ENGINEER ORGANIZATION

(a) You will form a small HQ from the Aust Engrs in the command sufficient only to carry out your functions.

(b) The general division of Engineers will be :-

(i) Fortress (under the senior Fortress Engineer Officer), incl the operation of searchlights, power stations, refrigerators and cool stores, water installations, etc.

(ii) Field defences and general works services under the senior Fd Engr Officer. This will also incl. camouflage.

3. FORTRESS ENGINEERS.

(a) Although the Field Defences organization may be used to wholly or partly construct Fortress installations or permanent installations such as buildings, emplacements, wells, etc., the Fortress Engineers will be responsible for the installation, maintenance and manning of all machinery.

(b) Although the Fortress Engrs come directly under the Comd as do all other tps in TORRES IS. of First Aust Army there must of necessity be close liaison technically and in regard to personnel with Fortress Engrs., Q'land L of C. This will be done through HQ First Aust Army.

4. FIELD DEFENCES

(a) Fixed C.D. and A.A. installations etc:- You will construct such all round field defences round fixed installations as will enable the men manning those installations plus any close protection inf dets. as allotted by the Comdr. to hold out even though they be surrounded. This will necessitate the provisioning of the installation with supplies of water, food, ammunition, tools, signalling apparatus, explosives, etc.

(b) Other field defences, incl beach defences with beach searchlights, as the Commander may desire to initiate.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

5. WORKS SERVICES

Works Services as are required to be carried out by the Commander and HQ First Aust Army will be carried out by -

(a) Allied Works Council under your supervision.
(b) Soldier labour under your supervision.
(c) Native labourers hired under the authority of the Commander under your supervision.

or a combination of all three.

6. PORT OPERATION

Under a recent LHQ, the responsibility of port operation of the whole island etc. area excl. CAIRNS and excl. H.Q., rests with the U.S.A. authority. This means that all boats and vessels required for port operation, construction of wharves and jetties incl. cranes, etc., is carried out and operated by the U.S.A. but naturally the Comdr advised by his C.E.H.Q. will make appropriate representations to First Aust Army about his own requirements in such matters; such representations will be passed on by First Aust Army to the U.S.A. authorities for implementation.

7. ENGR. STORES

(a) All demands for engineer stores (incl. camouflage stores) will be sent to First Aust Army. In regard to machinery, incl. spare parts, First Aust Army will arrange supply direct excepting in case of standard coast defence equipment in stores; in this latter case First Aust Army will pass on indents to Q'land L of C for supply.

(b) The SORS (Stores) First Aust Army will shortly forward instructions regarding returns of store dumps, demands for stores, etc.

8. DEMOLITION PLAN

The CRE will take immediate steps to institute and prepare a demolition plan under the instructions of the Commander; after approval by the Commander immediate steps will be taken to prepare the work. Every coast defence and A.A. gun will have close at hand means for its immediate demolition; other prepared demolitions will incl. oil storages, water supply facilities, water craft, wharves and jetties, cranes, power houses, refrigerators, supply depots, ordnance depots, etc. in fact a 'scorched earth' policy as well as other operational demolitions.

9. CORRES AND RETURNS

(a) The CRE TORRES IS. may correspond direct with the CE First Aust Army on technical matters.

(b) On all other matters corres. will be carried out through the Commander TORRES IS. FORTRESS.

(c) Besides returns etc. in connection with engr. stores the CRE will render the following reports etc. direct to the CE First Aust Army -

(a) Fortnightly works report

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

(b) Monthly Technical Efficiency Report.

(d) On arrival the CRE T.I. will forward a list of officers together with particulars in accordance with the pro-forma supplied to him.

(Sgd) J. Mann.
Brig.,
CE First Aust ARMY.

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN W.D	No. of Groups. GR.	Serial No. / OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LINE RECCE PARTY of SIGNALS Proceeding towards JACKY JACKY

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRSTAUSTARMY	CEA2656	9	

FOR	LIEUT	WHITEHOUSE	FROM	CE	SUBMIT/
REPORT	ON	POSSIBILITY	OF	TROOP	MOVEMENT
ALONG	THE	ROUTE	YOU	ARE	NOW
TRAVELLING	(.)	WATER	TRACK	FOOD	AND
CLIMATE	(.)	SIGNAL	EXPECTED	DATE	RETURN
TO	HQ				

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED [illegible]

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1000

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

Forms C2123/13. Wt. 36169/1798. 1,000M. pads. 12/39. B.& S. Ltd. 51-5537.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2658/47

SUBJECT : SUGGESTED RD RIVERTREE - URBENVILLE

HQ First Aust Army

To: E in C LHQ

CE Branch

19 SEP 1942

Copy to:
D/E in C Adv LHQ
War Diary
File

1. Refer your letter EC 3353 and strat. map WARWICK (2nd Edition). The suggested new road would connect RIVERTREE (538450) with rd. TABULAM - TOOLOOM - URBENVILLE - WOODENBONG near TOOLOOM (552452).

2. For reasons set out below I do not consider this road would have any particular value from the military point of view, and General Staff First Aust Army agrees with me.

(a) Traffic is at present well served by Rd. TENTERFIELD - LEGUME - WOODENBONG (State Highway No.9) which has good spur rds. to Stanthorpe and Warwick; and also by Rd. TABULAM - BONALBO - WOODENBONG (Main Rd. No.361).

(b) The suggested new road would save very little mileage for through traffic, and in addition to the new construction, the existing portions WILSONS DOWNFALL - RIVERTREE and TOOLOOM - URBENVILLE - WOODENBONG are of low standard and much work would be necessary to bring them to a condition suitable for military use.

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/ 2577/35.

Subject :→ CAMFLG TNG UNITS.

HQ First Aust Army.
10 Sep 42.
C.E. Branch.

To. G (SD)

Copy to . File
. War Diary.

1. The following CTUs have now been raised.

First Aust Army C.T.U.

2 Aust Corps "

3 Aust Div "

5 Aust Div "

2. Most of the offrs and sgts have attended camflg courses but only a small proportion of the ORs are properly trained.

3. It is considered that as the main function of CTUs is training, there should be uniformity of instruction and camflg practice throughout First Aust Army.

4. A 10 days course at the Jun Tac School Fd Engr and Camflg Wing will commence on 15 Sep.

5. It is suggested that all personnel of CTUs and camflg offrs of formations be sent to the Jun Tact School for a period of 10 days commencing 15 Sep.

6. It is proposed that the course includes lectures on camflg policy and organisation and function of CTUs by G.2. Camflg as well as instruction in camflg theory and practice.

7. It is also recommended that the camflg sgts of 32 Div and 41 Div attend the course.

Brig.
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2687/96

SUBJECT : BRIDGING EQPT FOR U.S.A.F.I.A. 32 and 41 DIVS.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

To: C.R.E. First Aust Army Tps.
Copy to:
E in C L.H.Q.
D/E in C Adv L.H.Q.
D.D.O.S. First Aust Army.
G(SD) " " "
"Q" " " "
C.E. 2 Aust Corps.
O/C Dinmore Br Pk.
U.S.A. L.O.
32 U.S. Div for 114 Engr Bn.
41 U.S. Div for 116 Engr Bn.
War Diary
File

C.Es. Branch.

11 SEP 1942

1. Latest information received advises that Bridging Eqpt for a Corps Br Pk Set is now in transit from WERRIS CREEK to ROCKHAMPTON consigned to 41 U.S. Div for 116 Engr Bn. This Eqpt comprises:-

Pontoon Mk.V Eqpt.	Approx 100%	- less Motor Boats and Outboard Motors.
Boats Assault.	100%	

To be consigned from DINMORE Br Pk same destination:-

Boats Recce.	16	=	100%
Kapok Assault Br	60 bays	=	66%

This will leave outstanding to be delivered when available:-

S.B.G. Mk.III	2 sets.	
F.B.E. Mk.III	2 sets.	
Kapok Assault Br	30 bays.	
MOTOR BOATS	4	TO BE MANUFACTURED.
OUTBOARD MOTORS	8	NOW BEING IMPRESSED.
STEELE BRIDGE	120 FEET.	

2. The Div Bridging Eqpt is being made available as follows:-

To 116 U.S. Engr Bn ROCKHAMPTON -

Boats Recce	32 reqd	32 to be forwarded by rail from DINMORE.
Boats Assault	48 "	48 to be forwarded by rail from DINMORE.
F.B.E. Mk.III	1 set reqd.	1 set now in transit to be forwarded on arrival at DINMORE.
S.B.G. Mk.III	2 sets reqd.	1 set due daily to be forwarded FROM DINMORE.

Leaving outstanding -

S.B.G. Mk.III	1 set to be forwarded when received, probably before end of month.
Outboard Motors	2 Now being impressed.

For 114 Engr Bn who will arrange to collect:-

Boats Recce	32 reqd	32 available for collection at DINMORE Br Pk.
Boats Assault	48 reqd	48 available for collection at DINMORE Br Pk.
F.B.E. Mk.III	1 set reqd	1 set will be made available on arrival at DINMORE. O/C Br Pk to notify 114 Engr Bn when to collect.
S.B.G. Mk.III	2 sets reqd	1 set available, arrangements to be made with O/C Br Pk DINMORE for collection.

Leaving outstanding -

S.B.G. Mk.III	1 set	114 Engr Bn will be advised when collection can be made.
Outboard Motors	2.	Now being impressed, available in NEAR future.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

... 3. S.10's for the release of the above eqpt are attached and arrangements are to be made for the consigning of the eqpt to [redacted], To prevent damage crating should be resorted to where necessary. Signal advice is required of despatch, giving truck numbers and contents to consignees, reptd to C.E. First Aust Army. In the case of the 14½ Engr Bn, C/S may be advised direct when and where eqpt can be handed over.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CRA/2702/97

SUBJECT : [illegible]

HQ First Aust Army

CE Branch

12 SEP 1942

To: G(SD)
CE 1 Aust Corps
CE 2 Aust Corps
CRE 5 Aust Div
CRE First Aust Army Tps

Copy to:
War Diary
File

G(SD) 296 of 27 May 42 refers.

1. Priorities by formations are :-

5 Aust Div incl 17 Aust A Fd Coy.
2 Aust Corps.

2. Priorities by units NOT under cond of formations are :-

RAE 7 Aust Div
2/29 Aust Fd Pk Coy
2/55 Aust LAD

RAE 1 Aust Corps Tps.
59 Aust C Fd Pk Coy.

RAE 2 Aust Corps Tps
HQ
2/16 Aust Fd Coy
19 Aust A Fd Coy
60 Aust C Fd Pk Coy & 325 LAD
2 Aust C Camflg Tng Unit

RAE First Aust Army Tps
HQ
18 Aust Fd Coy
21 Aust A Fd Coy
58 Aust C Fd Pk Coy (327 LAD)
2/1 Aust Army Topo Svy Coy
2 Aust Fd Svy Coy
3 " " " "
1 " " " "
First Aust Army Camflg Tng Unit
2 Aust Fd Svy Depot

Drig.,
CE First Aust Army.

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP



(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO MAJOR WALKER – U.S. ENGINEER OFFICE – TOWNSVILLE

FROM MAJOR PARKER – FIRST AUST ARMY HQ.

Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
CEA 2722	13	

REQUEST	YOU	PHONE	OR	WIRE	OUTLINE
OF	PLANS	AND	PROGRESS	OF	JETTY
CONSTRUCTION	AT	HORN	ISLAND		

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED D B Parker

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1300

T.H.I. 1350

T.O.R.

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SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

ARMY

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO TORRES STRAITS FORCE

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2725	13	

FOR CRE ⊙ UNDERSTAND CERTAIN ELECTRICAL GENERATING SETS UP TO 250 KVA AVAILABLE EX PUCKAPUNYAL ⊙ SEND STRONGLY WORDED DEMAND IF SUCH SETS OR OTHERS NEEDED FOR REPLACEMENTS OR NEW INSTALLATIONS ⊙ ACT SOON

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS. EXCEPT Wireless

SIGNED [signature]

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1705

T.H.I. 1815

T.O.R. A

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SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit HQ First Aust Army CE Branch

Date and Time.—From 14 Sep 42 To 20 Sep 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
TOOWOOMBA	14 Sep 42		Col. McCAUSLAND relinquished appointment as DCE First Aust Army, to take appointment on LHQ.	
	15 Sep 42	1030 hrs	SORE (Wks) Maj. FLETCHER went to BRISBANE to attend meeting of Works Committee at HQ Q'land L of C Area.	
	16 Sep 42		SORE (Per) Capt. WOLFE departed HQ to visit ESK - KILCOY - NAMBOUR areas to contact Fd Coys re officer personnel - Eqpt and War Establishments.	
	17 Sep 42	0930 hrs	Brig. MANN and GSO II(Engr) Lt-Col FOOTT departed by car to visit Junior Tactical School, SOUTHPORT, TOORBUL POINT and RAE units of 3 Aust Div.	
	18 Sep 42	1330 hrs	Capt. WOLFE returned to HQ from visiting Fd Coys in ESK area.	
		1800 hrs	Maj. HAWLEY returned from SYDNEY to HQ.	
	19 Sep 42	1430 hrs	Brig. MANN and Lt-Col FOOTT returned to HQ.	
			Matters of policy etc dealt with as per att correspondence.	

Govt. Printer, Brisbane

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

HQ First Aust Army
CE Branch
14 SEP 1942

CEA 2726 14

SUBJECT : REMOTE CONTROLLED SCREW DRIVER

To: E in C LHQ

Copy to: G(SD)
War Diary
File

1. Fwd under separate cover is a model of a remote controlled screw driver, invented by SORE Bomb Disposal, Capt. K.R.G. DOWNES.

2. It is designed to be clamped on the nose of an unexploded bomb and then screwed clockwise or otherwise, thus removing the keep screw which locks some fuses in position. The Bowden cable could be up to 100X long, which would allow the operator to work from a safe distance if behind cover.

3. Could the device be brought to the notice of the Inventions Board ?

4. Ack.

Brig.,
CE First Aust ARMY.

CEA/2711/44.3

SUBJECT : STRENGTHENING OF BRIDGES

HQ First Aust Army

CE Branch

14 SEP 1942

To: D/E in C Adv LHQ

Copy to:
War Diary
File

1. As instructed in letter No.00509, dated 2 Sep 42, we are forwarding you herewith two (2) copies of our standard form, setting out details of bridges which require attention for use by armoured formations.

2. We have not listed bridges of MRC "A" Class standard, which is equivalent of Army Classification 24, as bridges of this class in good condition will suffice for either the tank itself or the loaded transporter. Also, as it is intended all bridges below this rating are to be strengthened to Class 24, we have dispersed with columns (c), (e) and (f) of the sample form forwarded with your above letter. This allows space for additional information and the use of this form for recording progress of work as well as the initial reconnaissance.

3. The routes so far covered are :-

(a) WALLANGARRA - STANTHORPE - WARWICK - BRISBANE (via PILTON and HEIFER CK)

(b) MT. LINDSAY - BEAUDESERT - BRISBANE (NEW ENGLAND HIGHWAY)

4. Our Communications Officer, Maj. HAWLEY, is at present surveying the Coast Rd., Inland Defence Rd., and laterals from BRISBANE to ROCKHAMPTON, and similar details in regard to bridges on these routes will be forwarded you in due course.

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN	W D	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT			

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO FIX DEF 7.1 (FRT)

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CFA/2683/35	14	

For	Camflg	offr	from	G2 Camflg	(.)
advice	immediately	date	of	arrival	Dept
of	Interior	men	and	stores	(.)
have	air	photos	arrived	(.)	If
not	contact	air	force	and	arrange
flights	(.)	send	weekly	report	of
progress	as	from	19	Sep	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1100

T.H.I. 1155

T.O.R.

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SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2686/35

SUBJECT : PERSONNEL OF C.T.Us.

HQ First Aust Army
15 Sep 42.
C.Es Branch.

To . E in C.

Copy to : File
: War Diary.

C.T.Us have now been formed and expect in one or two instances all personnel have been found.

The offrs and sgts are as follows :-

Army C.T.U. acting	O.C.	W.O. HAMMOND	A.I.F.
	Sgt.	Sgt GLEESON	A.I.F.
2 Aust Corps C.T.U.	O.C.	Lieut BECK	A.I.F.
		Act/Sgt GREENE	A.I.F.
3 Aust Div C.T.U.	O.C.	Lieut WALKER	A.I.F.
		SGT GROUNDS	A.I.F.
5 Aust Div	O.C.	Lieut Mc BAIN	A.I.F.
		Sgt WIENEKE	A.I.F.

Brig.
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups. GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

ARMY AHQ 16 IX 42 SIGNALS

SHEET 1 OF 2 SHEETS

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO INVINCIBLE MOTORS 53 GEORGE ST SYDNEY

FROM FIRST AUST ARMY | Originator's Number CEA2771 | Date 16. | In Reply to Number

FROM	CE	O	PLEASE	FORWARD	EARLIEST
CATALOGUE	AND	SPECIFICATIONS	OF	MARINE	ENGINES
AVAILABLE	FOR	IMMEDIATE	OR	EARLY	DELIVERY
INCLUDE	MARINE	CONVERSION	UNITS	SUCH	AS
LYCOMING	VEE	TWELVE	WITH	GEARBOX	AND
REDUCTION	GEAR	O	SEND	DATA	TO
CHIEF	ENGINEER	FIRST	AUST	ARMY BY	AIRMAIL

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT SHEET 2 OF 2 SHEETS		ARMY AHQ 16.IX.42 SIGNALS

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
	CE17 2771		

O	FULL	LIST	OF	ALL	ENGINES
REQD.					

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED D R Chesterman Capt

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN 1145.

T.H.I. 1200

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

GS/2778/99

SUBJECT : WITHDRAWAL OF 8 TANKS FROM UNITS

HQ First Aust Army

To: Q First Aust Army

GS Branch

Copy to:
ADOS First Aust Army

Ref telephone conversation Lt-Col HASLAM - Lt-Col O'CALLAGHAN

(i) Deputy D in C Adv LHQ requires 4 x tanks to be withdrawn from units under command of formations for redistribution to 59 Corps Fd Wk Coy 1 Aust C Tps, and suggests the withdrawal be made from the following units.

10 Aust Fd Coy of 2 Aust C Tps	1
21 Aust Fd Coy of 9 Aust Div	1
21 Aust Fd Coy of First Aust Army Tps	1
53 Div Fd Pk Coy of 3 Aust Div	1

(ii) The tanks are urgently req and need to be forwarded to CE's office First Aust Army where 59 C Fd Pk Coy will arrange to take delivery.

(iii) May the necessary action be taken please.

Brig.,
GS First Aust Army.

CRA/2777/11

SUBJECT : INFN ON NEW GUINEA OPERATIONS FROM FORMER CRE N.G. FORCE

HQ First Aust Army

To: G(O)
G(I)
G(SD)

CE Branch

16 SEP 1942

Copy to:
D/E in C Adv LHQ
War Diary
File

The following infn was obtained from Lt-Col H.G. McKENZIE, CRE 5 Aust Div, former CRE N.G. Force on 15 Sep 42.

1. 2/4 and 24 Aust Fd Coys are operating in the HILLE BAY area. 24 has done some fighting in providing its own protection while laying mine fields.

2. 3 Coys of Americans are also in the area on aerodrome construction - D & E Coys 43 Engrs and E Coy 46 Engrs.

3. Aust Fd Coys are engaged mostly on brs and rds. Water supply situation is now in hand.

4. Weather conditions have been hard on roads. The Jap 18-ton tanks bogged. GT grenades slipped off the rain-wetted surfaces of the tanks, and even when bursting in contact with the frontal armour had no apparent effect.

5. 2000 AT mines (Mk 2) were available; their water-proofing is NOT effective.

6. 2 bulldozers, 2 graders, 2 scoops and 6 tippers were sent to HILLE BAY. The last item only is known to have been got ashore, but probably all has by this time.

7. RAE units need training on commando lines in

Tree climbing
Use of OWEN gun - preferred to TMG on account of lesser weight
Painting faces
Use of knife

Pack transport tng will also be needed eventually.

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	War Diary	GR.	
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 2 AUST CORPS

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2789	17	

FOR CE O CONFERENCE OF RAE
OFFRS WILL BE HELD HERE MONDAY
21 1100 HRS O FOLLOWING TO
ATTEND O CE AND ALL CRES
AND ALL FD COY ~~COMDRS~~ AND
FD PARK COY COMDRS O ACK
BY PHONE

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS. EXCEPT WHERE

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 0845

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

GEA/3790/93 SECRET

SUBJECT : ISSUE OF STORES TO BUAFIA

To: DFO Q'land L of C

Hq First Aust Army
GS Branch
17 SEP 1942

Copy to:
1 US Corps for 116 Engr Bn (41 Div)
DADOS Q'land L of C
USALO (S)
War Diary ✓
File

(i) In accordance with LHQ memo GS 9687 of 8 Jun 42, in connection with issue of stores to BUAFIA, please find attached copy of stocks list of engr stores taken over at BUARINGA dump by 46 Engr Bn of 41 US Div 1 US Corps.

(ii) Values of these items are not available at this Hq, but purchase prices can be obtained from DADOS Q'land L of C.

(iii) Freight rates to BUARINGA will need to be added also to adduce the values on site.

D R Chesterman Capt for
Brig.,
GS First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

STOCK SHEETS OF OPERATIONAL STORES HELD IN ENGINEER DUMPS APPENDIX

Return of stores held as at 7 Sep 42.

Serl. No.	STORES		ARMY DUMP	No.
1	~~Army Track~~		~~Bin yds~~	-
2	Bags Sand		Bales of 1000	18
3	Belts		Tons	762
3A	" ~~Gutter Galv.~~		~~Lbs.~~	
4	~~Camouflage Nets w/garnish~~		~~No.~~	
5	Cement		Tons	½
6	Cordage	1"	Fths	120
		2"	"	340
		3"	"	120
7	Corrugated Iron -			
	Corrugated Terne	12' x 2'6" x 24 g.		21 sheets
		12' x 2'9" x 24 g.		21 "
		11' x 2'9" x 24 g.		11 "
		9' x 2'6" x 24 g.		11 "
		8' x 2'6" x 24 g.		7 "
		9' x 2'6" x 18 g.		292 "
		9' x 2'6" x 24 g.		12 "
		7' x 2'6" x 26 g.		2 "
	Flat Terne	8' x 4'		20 "
		6' x 3'		3 "
	Corrugated black	6' x 2'6" x 24 g.		266 "
		6' x 2'6" x 26 g.		133 "
		9' x 2'6" x 24 g.		150 "
	Corrugated Galv.	6'		147 "
		8'		36 "
		10'		35 "
8	Dogs Assorted Spikes each			186
9	~~Drift Bolts 5/8" x 15"~~			
10	Hessian		Rolls	10
11	M.S. Bars 3/8-1/2 5/8		Tons	
	20% 30% 50%			Feet
	3/8"			4590
	1/2"			2030
	5/8"			120
	3/4"			60
12	Nails 2" 2½" 3" 4" 6"			
	10% 30% 30% 20% 10%			2688 lbs.
13	Pickets Steel Long			17540
14	" " Short			14620
15	" Wood Long 6"			54
16	" " Short 2"			75
17	Piping Water 6"			72 ft.
18	" " 4"			660
19	" " 3"			1584
20	" " 2"			860
21	" " 1"			2394
22	" " 3/4"			422
23	~~Pumps Lift and Force complete w/hose~~			
24	~~Pumps Motor Driven~~			
25	~~Pumps Spare Hose~~			
36	Cans Water 2 gall.			1760
37	Timber	sup.ft.		4312
38	Wire Barb	Tons		402
39	" Dannert	Coils		1588
40	" Fencing & Binding		Tons	
	" Plain Galv.	8 g.		4 coils
		10 g.		2 "
		16 g.		2 "
		18 g.		2 "
41	" Netting		Rolls	70
46	Axes Felling			60
47	Burrows Wheel		No.	8
49	Bars Crows		"	8

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Serial No.	STORES		ARMY DUMP No.
56	Forges Field		1
60b	Handles Axes Felling		15
f	" Pick		411
62	Hooks Scaping		8
66	Mauls w/handles		8
67	Picks "		2
69	Saws Crosscut		13
71	Shovels w/handles		1
72	Spades		1
84	Binder Twine or Spun Yarn	Lbs.	56
89	Linseed Oil Raw		12
90	" " Boiled		3
96	Standard Col R. Foliage Gr.	Galls	5

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

LIST OF STOCK NOT INCLUDED IN APPENDIX "A" HELD AT ENGINEER STORES DUMP DUARINGA AS AT 7 SEP 42.

Adaptors BC		EL	each	72
Axe Helves			"	15
Bars Windlassing			"	140
Back Nuts		4"	"	4
" "		6"	"	1
Bellmouths		Black Jap	"	115
Beams		1 H.S.	"	2
Bends Pipe Fittings		¾"	"	19
" " "		1"	"	136
" " "		1¼"	"	61
" " "	H.I.	1½"	"	25
" " "		2"	"	17
" " "		3"	"	6
" " "		4"	"	4
" Spring Fitting		4"	"	2
Blocks Rose Wood		3" round	"	73
" Base "		6" x 3"	"	75
Bulkhead Fittings			"	32
Bushes EL Assorted			"	903
Bushes Reducing		1" x ¾"	"	10
" "		1¼" x ¾"	"	16
Caps H.S. Galv		¾"	"	2
" " "		1"	"	4
Clips Wire Rope		5/8"	"	90
Clips Earth EL		5/8"	"	180
Clouts			lbs	21
Cocks Stop		½"	each	100
" Bib		½"	"	214
" Hose		½"	"	6
" Stop		1½"	"	8
" "		2"	"	2
Conduit Slip Joint		¾"	feet	1400
" " "		5/8"	"	2750
" " "		1"	"	750
Couplings assorted			each	70
Crosses		4"	"	2
Dollies			"	70
Elbows EL Assorted			"	656
Fire Extinguisher Buckets			"	1
Flanges		4"	"	1
Hose Rubber Armd Suction		2"	feet	40
" " Delivery		2½"	"	60
" " "		1"	"	120
" " "		1½"	"	60
" " "	4 ply	2½"	"	60
Nuts Gardiner Type			each	1
Insulators EL			"	264
Jacks lifting		No.247	"	2
" "		No.4	"	2
Junction Boxes		5/8	"	540
" "		¾"	"	180
" "		1"	"	84
Ladders extension		30'	"	1
Methylated spirits		4 gal tins	"	8
Nipples Galv. Hex		3"	"	3
Paint Assorted		1 gal tins	"	5
Padlocks assorted			"	22
Pickets scrow		2'	"	4000
" "		5'6"	"	2000
Poles Pine		8' x 2'	"	140
Putty White		10 lb tins	lbs	80
Plugs (Pipe Fittings)		1"	each	19
" " "		1¼"	"	16
" " "		2"	"	5
" " "		3"	"	1
Rivets		4½ x 5/8	"	30
"		3½ x 5/8	"	55

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Saddles EL Assorted Size		each	65
Screws Wood Assorted "		gross	5
Sheet Steel		6 x 3 x ¼ sheets	25
" "	6 x 3 x 5/8	sheets	1
" "	6 x 3 x ½	"	11
" "	8 x 4 x ½	"	11
Shower roses	¾"	each	41
Sockets Pipe Fittings	1¼ x ¾	"	7
" " "	1½ x 1	"	18
" " "	2 x 1¼	"	5
" " "	4x 2	"	1
" " "	6 x 4	"	1
Staples Wire of sizes		lbs	276
Steel Bars	3" x 3/8	feet	40
" "	2" x ¼	"	60
" "	4" x 5/8	"	20
" "	6 x ½	"	15
Tees Kl Assorted	¾"	each	80
Tees Galv (Pipe Fittings)	¾"	"	44
" " " "	1¼"	"	99
" "	4"	"	4
" "	6"	"	1
" Reducing	1" x ¾"	"	150
" "	1¼" x 1"	"	21
" "	1½" x 1¼"	"	16
" "	2" x 1½"	"	16
" "	4" x 2"	"	2
" "	6" x 4"	"	1
Tacks Iron	5/8"	lbs	56
Thimbles of sizes		each	130
Hand trucks		"	2
Wire Flexible Cable		yds	500
Cable EL	1/064	"	800
"	3/029	"	800
"	3/036	"	3800
"	7/029	"	2800
"	7/036	"	400
"	7/044	"	15000
"	7/064	"	60
Wire Rope 1½		Coils	2
Preparation room	A Class	each	1
Ablution Benches	"	"	4
Latrine complete	"	"	1
Latrine w/2 showers		"	1
200 Gal Tank		"	1
Meat safe			

Receiving officer Sgd. Elmo R Parish

Capt 116th Engr.

Date. 7 Sep 42.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS		No. of Groups.	Office Date Stamp
	IN WD	GR. 63	
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO CE 2 AUST CORPS CRE 5 AUST DIV RPTO E INC LHQ

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2823	18.	

FROM	CE	O	MONTHLY	CENSUS	OF
WARLIKE	STORES	O	E	IN	C.
LHQ	REQUIRES	COPY	OF	EACH	UNITS
E 5	SERIES	RETURNS	SCHEDULES	G	H
I	J	K	AND	MT	FORWARDED
MONTHLY	O	DISPATCH	DIRECT	TO	E
IN	C	O	ACK		

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN** by any means. EXCEPT WIRELESS

Signed D P Chesterman Capt

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent **IN CIPHER.**

Signed

Originator's instructions Degree of priority IMPORTANT

Time of origin 1530

T.H.I. 1550

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
IN WD	GR.	
OUT 73		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

D.R.O. WARWICK

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRSTA USTARMY	CEA2336	19	

FROM	CE	MOST	URGENT	YOU	GIVE
PRIORITY	FOR	30	REINFORCEMENTS	TO	2/25
FD	PK	COY	NOW	AT	DINMORE
DISREGARD	TRADE	GROUPING	SUPPLY	GOOD	ALL
ROUND	MEN	WILLING	SERVE	AIF	COY
MARKED	FOR	IMPORTANT	MOVE	MUST	BE
REINFORCED					

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups. GR.	Office Date Stamp
	OUT WD		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO LANDFORCES

FROM FIRSTAUSTARMY

	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
	CEA 2833	19	/ EC3664

FOR	E	IN	C	CAPT	CHESTERMAN
APPOINTED	ENGINEER	LIAISON	OFFICER	TO	LIAISE
WITH	ORD	DEPOTS	PERSONAL	NUMBER	TX2094

This message may be sent **AS WRITTEN** by any means.

Signed [signature]

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent **IN CIPHER.**

Signed

Originator's instructions
Degree of priority

Time of origin

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

Army Form C. 2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

ARMY AHQ 19 IX 42 SIGNALS

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

MILBASE SYDNEY

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA/2808/35	19	

for	Maj	YOUNG	from	Maj	CANN
(.)	Brig	BACHTOLD	anxious	to	obtain
tent	spraying	plant	(.)	Understood	Tent
Colouration	Unit	now	disdanded	(.)	can
you	release	four	(.)	U.S.	pattern
tents	now	being	issued	and	no
plant	is	available	for	work	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED W Cann Maj

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1655

T.H.I. 1720

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

GRS/2830/97

SUBJECT : [redacted]

HQ First Aust Army
19 SEP 1942
GS Branch

To: G(SD)
CR 1 Aust Corps
GR 2 Aust Corps
GRS 5 Aust Div
GRS First Aust Army Tps

Copy to:
WAT Diary
File

G(SD) 296 of 27 May 42 refers.

1. Priorities by formations are :-

5 Aust Div incl 17 Aust A Fd Coy.
2 Aust Corps

2. Priorities by units NOT under cond of formations are :-

RAE 7 Aust Div
2/29 Aust Fd Pk Coy
2/55 Aust LAD

RAE 1 Aust Corps Tps.
59 Aust C Fd Pk Coy.

RAE 2 Aust Corps Tps
HQ
2/16 Aust Fd Coy
19 Aust A Fd Coy
60 Aust C Fd Pk Coy & 315 LAD
2 Aust C Constg Tng Unit

RAE First Aust Army Tps
HQ
10 Aust Fd Coy
21 Aust A Fd Coy
58 Aust C Fd Pk Coy (317 LAD)
2/1 Aust Army Tops Svy Coy
2 Aust Fd Svy Coy
3 " " " "
1 " " " "
First Aust Army Constg Tng Unit
2 Aust Fd Svy Depot.

Brig.,
GS First Aust ARMY.

CEA/2843/46

SUBJECT : CARE OF MECH EQPT

HQ First Aust Army

CE Branch

20 SEP 1942

To: CE 2 Aust Corps

Copy to:
War Diary
File

(i) It was noted by CE First Aust Army when on visit to TOORBUL PT that tractors in use by RAE units of 2 Aust Corps were not being serviced or maintained.

(ii) Tech Instns. which have been circulated from this HQ have pointed out the necessity of constant maintenance to secure the maximum efficiency from these machines and lubrication of track and transmission mechanism is essential.

(iii) It should be pointed out to all concerned that the spare parts position for road making and any other eqpt which of necessity have to be imported from overseas, is very critical and every step must be taken to prevent everything but normal wear and depreciation. This can be only achieved by capable supervision and constant servic[illegible].

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit HQ First Aust Army CE Branch *Date and Time.—From* 21 Sep 42 *To* 27 Sep 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
TOOWOOMBA	21 Sep 42		(Per) SORE Capt. C.C. WOLFE relinquished appointment on Chief Engineer Staff.	
			Lieut. E. IVERS appointed SORE (Per).	
			Lieut. F.W. WHITEHOUSE appointed as IORE	
			Capt. CHESTERMAN SORE (Stores) promoted to Major.	
	22 Sep 42		Lt.-Col. FOOTT and Maj. CHESTERMAN visited WALLANGARRA re stores.	
			Maj. MULHOLLAND returned to HQ from THURSDAY ISLAND.	
	24 Sep 42		SORE (Per) Lt. IVERS proceeded on home leave.	
		0800 hrs	GSO2 (Cam) proceeded to BRISBANE for meeting of Camouflage officers.	
		1100 hrs	Conference held by Brig. MANN and attended by CE 2 Aust Corps and CREs and Fd Coys, Fd Pk Coy Comdr of 2 Aust Corps, also USA Engr offrs, for discussion of training reinforcements and general engineer problems. After conference members visited Engineer Stores Dump, BARLOW SIDING.	
		1400 hrs	Maj. HAWLEY SORE(Coms) left HQ for ROCKHAMPTON area on road and bridge recce.	
	25 Sep 42	0830 hrs	Maj. FLETCHER SORE(Wks) left HQ for BRISBANE to visit HQ Q'land L of C Area accompanied by Maj. MULHOLLAND SORE(W.E.&M.)	
			Matters of policy etc. dealt with as per att correspondence.	

Govt. Printer, Brisbane

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA 2857 05

H.Q. First Aust Army.
C.Es. Branch.
21 SEP 1942

SUBJECT : STAFF APPOINTMENTS. C.E. BRANCH.

To: A.M.S. (through G(SD))

Copy to:
War Diary
File

1. Following the appointment of TX 2094 Capt. D.R. CHESTERMAN as S.O.R.E.(Stores), it is recommended that the vacancy thereby caused in the position of I.O.R.E. be filled by the appointment thereto of QX 22008 Lieut. F.W. WHITEHOUSE.

2. Following the appointment of NX 35106 Capt. C.C. WOLFE to an L.H.Q. post, it is recommended that the vacancy in the position of S.O.R.E.(Pers) be filled by the appointment thereto of VX 36036 Lieut. E. IVERS.

Brig.,
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2874/05

SUBJECT : REPORTS ON OFFICERS, ETC. OF SME

HQ First Aust Army

To: E in C LHQ

CE Branch

21 SEP 1942

Copy to:
D/E in C Adv LHQ
War Diary
File

1. It is submitted for your consideration that some modification might be adopted in connection with what appears to be the present system in connection with reporting on and disposal of officers and NCOs from the SME.

2. What I take the general system to be is that all officers (and usually all NCOs) go to WAGGA on the conclusion of the School and there they are dealt with according to their individual reports from the SME and

(a) kept as Instructors at SME or at WAGGA
(b) kept at WAGGA for a term of further regimental and administrative training
(c) eventually posted to units, not necessarily the ones that they came from.

3. Where officers, etc., do not come from existing units, i.e. in the cases where they come from universities, etc., the above seems an admirable system, but where they do come from existing units, it is considered that this system cuts across a very well established and tried principle of command, i.e. that commanding officers of the officers and NCOs concerned should be consulted before final decisions regarding disposal are taken. There are two aspects to the case : Firstly, it is thought that whilst the SME is in a position to report on the technical efficiency of offrs or NCOs, commanding officers are in a much better position to form an opinion as to the qualities of leadership and general fitness of the offrs and NCOs for the appointments they are holding in their Coys and for future employment in their commands. The SME has a relatively very large number of students, all working at high pressure mainly on technical work and can have very little opportunity of assessing individuals properly except on technical matters which are covered by practical and written examinations whilst commanding officers have opportunities of judging their officers and NCOs based on long actual experience of them under varying service conditions; it must be taken as axiomatic that the great majority of commanding officers will not wish to keep inefficient officers and NCOs; even if a few do so, their next superior engr. commanders will usually make sure that they do not do so. The second aspect is that if the present system of posting officers and NCOs to the SME, to WAGGA, and to other units continues, it will defeat its own ends. It may be unfortunate and perhaps partly inexcusable, but it is true that if the above continues, commanding officers will only send second rate material whom they do not mind losing to the SME and to WAGGA.

4. In view of the above the following recommendations are made :-

(a) Most important : That the reports of the SME be of an informatory nature only and to be used as a guidance, but that all executive action regarding the posting, etc., of all officers and NCOs sent from First Aust Army, be done with the concurrance of CE First Aust Army acting in consultation with his engr. Formation Comdrs. It is only in this way that the very necessary co-operation

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

of engr. commanders in the field with training establishments can be assured in the interests of the Corps as a whole.

(b) That the CE First Aust Army be informed of the objects, organization, details of administration and training and methods of drafting officers, NCOs., and reinforcements to First Aust Army, of the CTD at WAGGA. At present we are in complete ignorance of the functioning etc. of this establishment. In this regard, could not the old system which operated in the M.E. be instituted (if not already done so) i.e. that Divs, etc., have their own training Coys; it is considered that this is the only method whereby interest and co-operation by commanding officers in the field can be assumed in regard to the CTD at WAGGA.

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups. GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

AHQ – 22 IX 42. SIGNALS

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN W.D

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO ~~TORRES STRAITS FORCE tpla~~ RAAF TOWNSVILLE

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA 2902	22	

FOR	CRE	and	Wing Cdr.	GRANT	⊙
VIDGENS	well	water	excellent	quality	⊙
NEW	BORE	SOMEWHAT	BRACKISH	WITH	SALT
WATER	CONTAMINATION	LIKELY	UNLESS	PUMPING	RESTRICTED
3000	repeat	3000	gallons	daily	⊙
WILL	experience	no	difficulty	developing	15000
repeat	15000	gallons	total	daily	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: Important

TIME OF ORIGIN: 2240

SIGNED: [illegible] (Maj)

T.H.I. 2245

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

Forms C2128/13. Wt. 36169/1798. 1,000M. pads. 12 /39. B.& S. Ltd. 51-5537.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2899/44

SUBJECT : REPLACEMENT OF COOCHIN CK BRIDGE

HQ First Aust Army
22 Sep 42.
CE Branch

To: D.D.G. of Allied Works Council,
Dept of Interior,
Commonwealth Offices,
BRISBANE.

Copy to:
E in C LHQ
D/E in C Adv LHQ (2)
G
CE 2 Aust Corps
1 Aust CE (Works)
Mr. L.J. Price,
Liaison Officer,
C/- Allied Works Cel.
War Diary
File

Dear Sir,

It is understood that the Order of Works provides for the completion of the BURPENGARY Ck Br and for the organisation to proce d then with the replacement of COOCHIN Ck Br. Under this arrangement, the new COOCHIN Ck Br will not be available for traffic for three months. It is considered inadvisable to leave the present COOCHIN Ck Br in its present condition for so long a period. It is asked that you will kindly arrange for a temporary support to be placed under the centre of the long span and for the erection of signs limiting the speed of vehicles to 4 m.p.h. whilst on the structure.

Yours faithfully,

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

ARMY SIGN AHQ—22.IX.49



(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO FIX DEF T. 1. (FRT)

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA/2570/05	22	

FOR	CRE	from	CE	(.)	ref
Comfty	of	water	tanks	(.)	HIRST
D of I	TOWNSVILLE	asked	to	expedite	despatch
men	and	material	(.)	advise	him
immediately	any	special	materials	required	and
any	other	relevant	infor	with	copy
this	HQ				

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED [signature]

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 2130

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 2130

T.O.R. [signature]

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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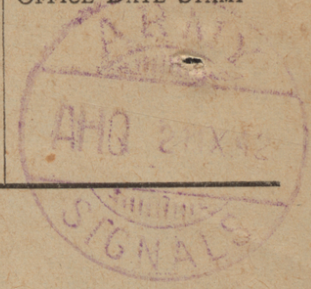
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN / OUT	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP



(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

COM WORKS TOWNSVILLE

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA/2867/35	21	

for Mr HIRST from Maj CANN (.)
ref job CEAW 81 Camflg Works at
THURSDAY Is (.) pl advise date
labour and materials despatched

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED Maj

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1500.

T.H.I.

T.O.R. 1509

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
		Dan Lucey									

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2686/35

SUBJECT : CAMFLG TNG UNITS.

HQ First Aust Army
22 Sep 42.
C.Es Branch.

To. G(SD).

Copy to : Jun Tac School for infn.
: File
: War Diary.

1. Ref CEA/2577/25 dated 10 Sep regarding course for CTU personnel at SOUTHPORT.

Maj CANN G2 Camflg visited the Jun Tac School on 15 Sep and discussed details with the O.C. Maj EVANS.

The following arrangments were later agreed upon and are submitted to you for your approval and necessary action :-

(a) The course is for the purpose of instructing CTU personnel in their duties and functions and also of obtaining uniformity in camflg tng throughout First Aust Army. Lectures on Camflg Policy organisation and functions of Camflg personnel to be given by G2 Camflg and instruction in theoretical camflg to be given by Lieut DODD the camflg instructor on the school staff.

(b) Period of course -- Tues 13 Oct - Tues 20 Oct students to report on 12 Oct.

(c) Number of Students. The course is for all personnel of First Aust Army. 2 Aust Corps, 3 Aust Div and 5 Aust Div C.T. Es, the camflg offrs HQ First Aust Army and HQ 2 Aust Corps and the camflg sgt from 32 and 41 Bn Div a total not exceeding 6 offrs and 6 sgts and 12 OR's.

(d) Accommodation for offrs can be arranged but OR's present a problem and tentage will need to be sent from this HQ.

(e) Syllabus . Syllabus to be arranged by G2 Camflg and Lieut DODD and submitted to G(SD) for approval.

2. Precis of Lectures and necessary photos and shorts for training purposes are now being prepared for issue to CTU's.

3. It is considered necessary that the offrs and sgts should receive some instruction in staff duties and it is suggested that an offr from G(SD) be detailed for this purpose.

4. Students should bring MTP 46 pts 1 2 4 6. There are no other special joining instructions.

6. In regard to transport both for training in veh camflg and for conveyance of students to and from tng exercises it is suggested that 2 Aust Corps CTU be instructed to take a 3 tonner and First Aust Army CTU be instructed to take a 1 tonner

Brig.
C.E. First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

ARMY FORM C.2128.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	WD	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT			

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 2 AUST CORPS

FROM FIRST AUST ARMY | Originator's Number CEA 2855 | Date 20 | In Reply to Number

FOR	CE	0	REF	TELEPHONE	TALK
LITTLE	FOOTT	NOON	TODAY	0	ENGR
TECH	INSTN	29	ALLOTS	6	WEEKS
AFTER	4	OCT	TO	2	CORPS
TPS	0	AS	APPARENTLY	FURTHER	US
COYS	NOT	AVAILABLE	SUGGEST	YOU	START
3	DIV	COYS	IMMEDIATELY	AND	DEFER

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED MR Foott NGC

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CIPHER.**

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY DRLS

TIME OF ORIGIN 2 C

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2085/47

SUBJECT : ROADS OF STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL IMPORTANCE. FORMATION WIDTH.

H.Q. First Aust Army.

C.Es. Branch.

22 SEP 1942

To: E in C L.H.Q.

Copy to:
D/E in C Adv L.H.Q.
1 Aust C.E. (Wks)
"G" First Aust Army.
War Diary
File

1. Ref 105937 of 12 Sep 42 from Quartermaster General to H.Q. Q'land L of C Area.

2. It has been noted from the abovementioned memo that strategic roads are to be, in general, 20' wide with a 12' gravel pavement.

3. It is submitted that a 20' formation width is inadequate for the following reasons:-

(i) Insufficient passing space after allowing for softening and scouring of the water tables by rain.

(ii) Width would not permit of future widening of the gravel pavement.

In this latter connection a greater width of formation would entail little additional work while the plant is on the job and would not materially delay completion of the roads.

To widen at a later date would mean bringing back plant and men, together with the extension and adjustment of drainage facilities.

4. It is submitted for your consideration that the standard width of formation should be 28 feet.

Brig.,
C.E. FIRST AUST ARMY.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CRA/2888/47

SUBJECT : FIRST AUST ARMY RD CONDS

HQ First Aust Army
24-9-42
CE Branch

To: G(O) First Aust Army
G(I) " " "
DA & QMG " " "

Copies to:
E in C LHQ
D/E in C Adv LHQ
Mr. L.J. Price,
Liaison Offr,
Allied Works Council.
War Diary ✓
File.

1. The following priority rds were inspected during a recent recce of bridges by the SORR (Coms) First Aust Army.

(a) IPSWICH - EIDSVOLD. PRIORITY A1
(b) EIDSVOLD - BANANA - RANNES. PRIORITY A1
(c) RANNES - WESTWOOD - DUARINGA " A1
(d) GAYNDAH - BIGGENDEN - CHILDERS - BUNDABERG. - A2
(e) GAYNDAH - MARYBOROUGH. - A2
(f) GYMPIE - GOOMERI. - A2
(g) RANNES - ST. MORGAN - ROCKHAMPTON. - A2

2. IPSWICH - EIDSVOLD : PRIORITY A1.

Construction is still proceeding at a very slow rate at BLACKBUTT Ra., near GILLA and at BOUBIJAN. The latter work should be completed within two or three weeks. The date for completion of the other two works is not yet in sight. Construction has not been commenced on the roadwork in the vicinity of BORAMBAH Ck, although the bridge is practically completed.

In the meantime traffic is using old roads and by tracks which are in poor condition.

3. EIDSVOLD - BANANA - RANNES : PRIORITY A1.

Construction is proceeding over the whole of this section with the exception of a length of 10 miles West of EIDSVOLD between JOHN'S Ck and REDBANK Ck. Camps are being established on this length but work has not been commenced. A very determined effort will be required to complete this section before the wet season. It should be possible to complete the remainder of the road on time.

4. RANNES - WESTWOOD - DUARINGA : PRIORITY A1

(a) RANNES - WOGAN

New brs. are under construction over the DON and DEN Rs. at RANNES and approx 2m. of formation and some gravelling to connect the brs. with the existing road has been completed. Approx. 8m. more of construction will be required to provide a serviceable road from RANNES to WOGAN.

(b) WOGAN - WESTWOOD

6m. of new construction is well advanced between GOGANGO Ck. and the WESTWOOD - DUARINGA Rd. The remainder of the road has been largely regraded. It should be possible to complete this section prior to wet season. Lengthy stoppages will occur if GOGANGO Ck. is not bridged, and inquiries are being made from HRC to ascertain if this is being done.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

(c) WESTWOOD - DUARINGA via GAINSFORD

Nearly 7 miles of road construction West of WESTWOOD is nearing completion. Clearing has been done from near BRUNGALBO to GAINSFORD. Formation and much gravelling has been completed between GAINSFORD and DUARINGA. Approx. 7 miles between BRUNGALBO and GOGANGO has not been touched.

It was learnt that instructions had been given to slow down progress on the RANNES - WESTWOOD - DUARINGA Rd and that surveyors had been sent to the district to examine the possibilities of the more direct route between RANNES and GAINSFORD.

It should be possible to complete the roadworks between RANNES and DUARINGA prior to the wet season if the past rate of progress is resumed.

5. [illegible] : PRIORITY A2 & [illegible] : PRIORITY A2.

No work is proceeding on these routes. Both roads are in a reasonably serviceable condition and could be brought to good condition very rapidly.

6. [illegible] (CHATSWORTH Rd) : PRIORITY A2.

Approx. 3m. of rd construction commenced prior to the allotment of priorities, has been carried on intermittently and could be completed if necessary, within three or four weeks. Remainder of road is mostly sound and could be brought to good condition fairly quickly.

7. RANNES-ST.MORGAN-[illegible] : PRIORITY A2.

The RANNES - MORGAN section of this rd is part also of the RANNES - WESTWOOD - DUARINGA Rd. The work required on the RANNES - MORGAN section is covered above. Otherwise the road is in good condition throughout.

8. DUARINGA - CHARTERS : PRIORITY A1

This road was not inspected but Messrs. McCredie and Jefferay Engineers DRR, N.S.W., were interviewed at DUARINGA. They expressed confidence in completing their section, DUARINGA - EMERALD, on time. Little progress has been made to date and it was gathered from enquiries that their work had been impeded by inability to complete arrangements etc. in time. Men forwarded to this work had been despatched elsewhere accordingly.

Infm. received indicates that the unavoidable difficulties of making satisfactorily arrangements in Q'ld for the receipt of plant and men from N.S.W. had caused congestion and delays at CLAPHAM Junct. and CLERMONT. N.S.W. men are constructing a railway loading platform at CLAPHAM Junct. to fill in time.

N.S.W. plant has been diverted to the Brisbane Dock Work to release plant urgently required over the water. Provided there are not further delays (probably unavoidable) and diversion of plant, the organisation sent from N.S.W. should be able to complete the section EMERALD - CHARTERS TOWERS on time.

From the above summary, it will be seen that as far as the road works excluding bridges, are concerned, it should be possible to complete the major work of the Inland Defence Rd from IPSWICH to CHARTERS TOWERS prior to the wet season. There is no margin of time to spare however and any slight slackening of effort will result in failure. Further intensification of effort is most advisable to guard against an early wet season or other interruption to the programme. The men generally appear to be rather unsettled and strikes

are possible. The N.S.W. men appear to be disgruntled as wages under A.W.C. award are lower in some cases, than they received under N.S.W. awards.

9. BRIDGES

The position in regard to br. works is not satisfactory and if not completed in time, there will be many interruptions to road traffic.

The position on the Inland Defence Rd is :-

	Partly Completed	Timber being delivered	Not Commenced	Remarks
IPSWICH - EIDSVOLD	4	1	-	3 nearing completion.
EIDSVOLD - DUARINGA	26	11	17	1 nearing completion
	30	12	17	

The number of structures required between DUARINGA and CHARTERS TOWERS is not known but it is considerable. Contrary to opinions expressed previously, DNR Engineers have located bridge timber between DUARINGA and EMERALD and are establishing three mills. A Q'ld Forestry Officer has located timber between CLERMONT and CHARTERS TOWERS.

During the recce it was noted that a contractor had commenced work on a new overbridge at NUKKU adjacent to the existing bridge. The present bridge is classified 24 and the sole purpose of the new structure is to improve alignment in conjunction with the reconstruction of the road. The new bridge is considered unnecessary at the present time.

It was ascertained also that Contractor Donaldson was to be moved from BORAHBAH Ck Br when completed in 2-3 weeks time, to further North. Timber is lying on the site at 4m. Creek, distance approx. 3m. from BORAHBAH Ck and commencement of 4m. Creek, ~~Br was to be delayed~~ for 2-3 months pending completion of a structure at 6m. creek.

These matters were brought to the notice of the NBC Chief Engineer, Mr. Crawford and it is understood that the contractor will be transferred immediately from the overbridge to an urgently required structure and that Contractor Donaldson will drive the piles and attach the girders to 4m. creek br prior to removing his plant from the district.

The unsatisfactory position in regard to bridge strengthening is referred to in separate memo under ref CSA/2073/44.3.

10. MAINTENANCE

Some maintenance has been carried out on the roads since my last inspection, good work having been done between GAYNDAH and EIDSVOLD and also on the Coastal Rd in Miriam Vale Shire. The general condition of the roads is not satisfactory however, IPSWICH - BSK - TOOGOOLAWAH Rd and the GYMPIE - CURRA section of the Coastal Rd being verybad. There is also a very bad section of about 4m. on the Coastal Rd. commencing about 20 miles South of ROCKHAMPTON. All three sections of road are used extensively by military traffic. BRC advise having made £6000 available for the IPSWICH - BSK Rd.

11. GENERAL

The remarks in connection with the operations of personnel, etc., under the AWC, are the result of a somewhat rapid survey by the SORE Communications but have been included as they certainly have a bearing on First Aust Army road requirements. It is realised that the AWC are making

every effort to overcome the difficulties, nevertheless it would seem necessary to strengthen up the supervisory staff on communications on the side of the ASC or the Army or both.

TM. Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

SUBJECT : STRENGTHENING OF RD BRS N.Q. - Position at 9.9.42.

HQ First Aust Army.

QE Branch.

To: G(O) (Without appendices)
G(I) " "
DA & QMG " "

25 SEP 1942

Copy to:
File
War Diary

1. Further to my QEA/2617/44.5 of 9 Sep 42, att are schedules (Appendices "A" & "B") setting out the position of Rd Br strengthening on the routes:-

Priority 1. ARCHERFIELD - MARYBOROUGH - BRISBANE.
" 3. IPSWICH - TOOWOOMBA - CHARTERS TOWERS.
" 5. MT LINDSAY - BEAUDESERT - BRISBANE.
" 6. RAILTON - ROCKHAMPTON (Via MT MORGAN).
" 7. GAYNDAH - MARYBOROUGH.
" 8. GAYNDAH - BUNDABERG.
" 10. BRISBANE - ROCKHAMPTON - TOWNSVILLE. (Section BRISBANE - ROCKHAMPTON only).

following a further recce on 8 - 18 Sep 42.

2. Recce has not yet been made of routes:-

Priority 2. TOOWOOMBA - ROMA - MITCHELL.
" 4. CHARTERS TOWERS - TOWNSVILLE.
" 9. COOLANGATTA - BRISBANE.
" 10. BANANA - GLADSTONE.
" 11. CHARLEVILLE - BLACKALL.

3. From Appendix "A" it will be seen that 159 structures require attention on the routes listed in para 1, the structures falling under the following categories:-

(a)	Strengthening in hand	8
(b)	Replacement structure in hand	8
(c)	Strengthening necessary, not yet commenced	45
(d)	Strengthening not yet commenced but structure detourable	78
	Total	139

While full details are not available, it is estimated that approx another 11 structures will require attention on the routes set out in para 2, making a grand total of 150 existing bridges to be attended to.

In addition it is estimated that at least 100 new structures will be required on the 18 routes, on sections under construction or to be constructed under the present programme of work.

4. Strengthening gangs were working in the following local Govt areas -

Rd IPSWICH - TOOWOOMBA in ROSS Shire - Priority 3.

Almost entirely by Army labour and the Shire Engineer stated more rapid progress could not be made unless army provided more labour. Progress has been very slow and much work yet remains. Position is considered very unsatisfactory.

On Rd MT LINDSAY - BEAUDESERT - BRISBANE in BEAUDESERT Shire - Priority 5.

Council gang at work and report from S.P.C. indicates work is proceeding at a satisfactory rate.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

[illegible] Rd BRISBANE - ROCKHAMPTON - Priority 12.

(a) In Maroochy Shire by Council gang. Work almost completed.
(b) In Widgee Shire by Council gang. Work now completed.
(c) In Kolan Shire at Gin Gin Ck Br.
(d) In Rockhampton City by Council gang at Gavial Ck Br.

5. Negotiations for strengthening of bridges has been going on since Dec 1941. Initial delays occurred whilst awaiting estimates, but First Aust Army letter CEA/557/44 of 21 May 42 instructed the D.D.G. of Allied Works to proceed with the work without further delay and to submit the estimates later.

To date approx 30 structures have been strengthened and 150 await attention. Discussion with Mr. Pitter, Consulting Engineer for several Shires, Mr. Brown, Consulting Engineers' Representative at Gayndah Shire and Mr. Channer, Shire Engineer at Widgee Shire, GEMPIE, indicates that much could be done by use of Councils' staffs, local labour and roadside timber.

6. Considerable time must elapse before 150 brs can be attended to. It should be noted from para 3, that 78 of the brs can be detoured. To provide routes for Class 24 traffic and Tank Transporters as quickly as possible, it is intended that temporary gravelled by-passes be constructed around these 78 structures and that their strengthening be deferred pending completion of work on the remaining 72 brs.

7. Copies of this report are being sent to the E in C LHQ and to the D/Ein C Adv LHQ requesting further direction.

[signature]
Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

To: E in C LHQ.

Copy to:
D/E in C Adv LHQ
1 Aust CE (Wks)

.... The att report is forwarded for favour of direction as to what further action should be taken. It is suggested that a Reqn with schedules be placed with the D.D.G. Allied Works Council Q'land for immediate execution. However it will be necessary to obtain a priority for the work. The question of finance is also one that is rather involved and indeterminate at the present juncture. It will also be noted that certain routes have yet to be recconnoitred.

[signature]
Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.1231

CEA/2930/97

SUBJECT : [illegible]

HQ First Aust Army
25.9.42
CE Branch

To: G(SD)
CE 1 Aust Corps
CE 2 Aust Corps
CRE 5 Aust Div
CRE First Aust Army Tps

Copy to:
Mar Diary
File

G(SD) 296 of 27 May 42 refers.

1. Priorities by formations are :-

5 Aust Div incl 17 Aust A Fd Coy.
2 Aust Corps

2. Priorities by units NOT under comd of formations are :-

RAE 7 Aust Div
2/25 Aust Fd Pk Coy
2/95 Aust LAD

RAE 1 Aust Corps Tps.
9D Aust C Fd Pk Coy

RAE 2 Aust Corps Tps
HQ
10 Aust Fd Coy
2/16 Aust Fd Coy
19 Aust A Fd Coy
60 Aust C Fd Pk Coy & 315 LAD
2 Aust C Constg Eng Unit

RAE First Aust Army Tps
HQ
18 Aust Fd Coy
21 Aust A Fd Coy
58 Aust C Fd Pk Coy (317 LAD)
2/1 Aust Army Topo Svy Coy
2 Aust Fd Svy Coy
3 " " " "
1 " " "
First Aust Army Constg Eng Unit
2 Aust Fd Svy Depot.

[signature] Lt Col
Brig.,
CE First Aust ARMY.

CEA/2919/35

SUBJECT : EQPT FOR CAN TNG UNITS

HQ First Aust Army
26 Sep 42
CE Branch

To: E/E in C Adv LHQ

Copy to:
E in C LHQ
File
War Diary

1. Herewith copy of letter from C.2. Comflg regarding delay in supply of eqpt for Can Tng Units.

2. I agree with his recommendations and it is requested that special authority be given to buy through L.P. the items incl in appns. A and B, total expenditure involved is £562.10.10.

May action also be taken to obtain 5 - 2 gun paint spray compressors and 20 stirrup pumps.

The above eqpt is for 4 CTU's authorised and 1 CTU for TORRES STRAITS FORCE, authority for which has been requested.

3. Photographic Materials.

(a) Photographic materials are sold at a standard Army rate throughout Australia and the materials required are on the shelves of KODAK's, ELLIMANS.

(b) It is proposed to use Kodaslide projectors in preference to epidiascopes as they are smaller and handier for work in the field and can be run off a car battery. A saving of £140 will thus be effected.

(c) It is further recommended that CTU's be equipped with 35 m.m. cameras with telescopic lenses as it is considered that :-

(i) photos taken with a cheaper camera will give poorer results which would be misleading and therefore dangerous.

(ii) comflg offrs will frequently have to take aerial photos themselves owing to difficulty in getting photos from RAAF.

(iii) a good camera will be useful on all engr HQ.

Brig.,
CE First Aust Army.

CEA/2949/35

SUBJECT : EQPT FOR CAM TNG UNITS

HQ First Aust Army
26 Sep 42
CE Branch

To: CE First Aust Army

Copy to:
War Diary
File

1. The WET for a Cam Tng Unit was handed to DADOS Army on 6 Aug who forwarded a copy to 3 AOD TOOWOOMBA. As much of the eqpt was not normally held in ordnance stores, e.g. photographic materials, camera, epidiascope etc, I obtained prices from KODAKS and submitted the list to Capt. ELLIS, Provisions Officer 3 AOD requesting that he ask LHQ for authority to buy through local purchase the above eqpt for 6 CTU's.

Capt. ELLIS despatched the necessary demands Nos. 241 and 242 also 216 and 217 with covering letters 3/AOD/542 and 3 AOD/543 dated 11 Aug.

LHQ replied that action was being taken to supply. On 6 Sep Capt. ELLIS then sent a signal asking when the eqpt could be expected. No reply has been received.

The above information was obtained from Capt. ELLIS this morning who also stated that the eqpt could be bought through ADOS of L of C Q'land, but he too would have to get premission from LHQ as they were INITIAL issues.

2. It would appear then that more unnecessary waste of time will occur if the matter is left in the hands of ORDNANCE. For example compressor unit indented for in May has not yet arrived.

3. The photographic materials are on the shelves in KODAK'S, BRISBANE. The price list is attached appx "A".

4. It is recommended that :-

(a) Photographic material — Sec J.4. and Drawing Instruments — Sec V.2.
The E in C be asked for authority to buy eqpt as per lists appx "A" and "B".

(b) Paint spray compressor and stirrup pumps. The E in C be asked to follow up action being taken by ORDNANCE to supply and if delivery is not expected in the near future, to buy through RE channels.
Note:- The above items are NOT available in Q'land.

5. In regard to the other items of eqpt, these can be obtained through RE stores or by Petty Cash. Cam Tng Units have been advised that they should have a Petty Cash Account.

6. It is hoped to get all the eqpt together for issue to the Cam Tng Units when they come to the school at SOUTHPORT in Oct.

Maj.,
G.2. Camfls First Aust Army.

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appx. A.

CAM TNG UNIT W.E.T. COSTING OF PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL.

Section. J.4.

Cat No.	Designation	Price	Per CTU	Total for 5 CTU's	Total Cost
JD.	Albums, 50 neg. 2½" x 4¼" Kodak.	8/- each	12	60	£ 24. 0 0
0520	Alum, powdered	2/6. 7 lbs	1	5	12 6
0055	Bottles, glass, with glass stopper, 80 ozs.	10/- each	4	20	10 0 o
	Brushes, sable dusting 1" wide.	10/- "	1	5	2 10 0
	Cameras, with accessories	£40 "	1	5	200 0 0
	Cases Cameras	£1 "	1	5	5 0 0
0530	Chromium intensifier, cartridges, boxes	9d "	1	5	4 9
0121	Clips. flim junr Kodak	10d "	24	120	5 0 0
0125	Clocks, darkroom & interval timmer	32/6 "	1	5	8 2 6
		35/- "	1	5	8 5 0
	Developer - D.K.20, 20sozsdKodak	8 jar	12	60	2 0 0
	D. 72, 80 ozs	1/7 tin	6	30	2 7 6
	Dishes, developing, enamel 8½" x 6½"	5/8 each	3	15	4 5 8n
	Epidiascope, comptete with screen. (a) substitute	£60.			
	Kodaslide projector complete with spare lamps and screen	£25.	1	5	125 0 0
	Fixer, anti-therm. 1lbs tins	1/1 tin	12	60	3 5 0
0200	Fabric, ruby, non-actinic yds	1/7½ yd	12	60	4 17 6
	Films, super XX 120 Kodak	10d roll	24	120	5 0 0
0230	Frames, printing, 4½" x 3½	2/- each	2	10	1 0 0
0245	Lamps, darkroom, oil Kodak	7/6 each	2	10	3 15 0
	Funnels, enamelled 6" diam	4/- each	1	5	1 0 0
0301	Measures, glass 1 pint	21/11 doz	2	10	18 4
0310	Meters, exposure photo electric	3/16/0	1	5	19 0 0
0320	Mortars, 6" diam with pestle	10/-	1	5	2 10 0
	Papers, Velox 6½" x 4½"	10/-	2	10	5 0 0
	Pins, push, with bakelite head Kodak	2/- doz	3	15	1 10 0
	Retouching sets- Bromide	2/3 each	1	5	11 3
	Negative	3/3 each	1	5	16 3
	Scaloids, ferricyanide, reducer Farmers	1/3	1	5	6 3
	Tanks, developing 2½" x 3½"	£1.10.0.	1	5	7 10 0
	Thermometors, metal sheathed Kodak	3/4 each	1	5	16 8
	Trimmers print, eastko, No.3. 10 in Kodak.	£2.13.4.	1	5	12 6 8
					£455 8 4

(a) or Projector for 35 mm. films.

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Tech Eqpt of a Cam Tng Unit

appx B.

Tech Eqpt of a Cam Tng Unit.

Section V.2.

Cat No.	Designation	Price	CTJ	Total for 5 CTJ's	Total Cost
V.C.					
0820	Curves, Drawing, architects. Mk II sets	£1.0.0.	1	5	£ 5 0 0
0862	Dividers, bow spring Mk III	10.0	1	5	2 10 0
0900	Glasses, magnifying hand 4"	1.0.0.	1	5	5 0 0
	Instruments, drawing R.E.				
1006	A. Mk II (a) sets	6.0. 0.	1	5	30 0 0
1182	Pens, ruling, fine	1. 0. 0.	1	5	5 0 0
	Plates, stencil. R.E. Draughtsmen				
1224	No. 2 (or)	2. 0. 0.	2	10	20 0 0
1220	No. 1				
1360	Protractors, circular, celluloid 9 in	10.0	1	5	2 10 0
	Scales, math 8"				
1654	1. A)		1	5	
1692	4. B)		1	5	
1700	5.)		1	5	
1710	6.) Set £3.0.0.		1	5	15 0 0
1760	8. A)		1	5	
1764	8.B)		1	5	
1772	8. D)		1	5	
1776	8. E)		1	5	
	Set Squares -- Adjustable. 10 -in Celluloid.	17/6 each	1	5	4 7 6
1930	6- in 45.	3/-	1	5	15 0
1934	60	3/6	1	5	17 6
1950	10- in 45	4/6	1	5	1 2 6
1954	60	5/-	1	5	1 15 0
2134	Straight edges, 48 - in Mk ii T -- Square	15/-	1	5	3 15 0
					£ 97 2 6

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Army Form C 2130
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MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN W.D

OUT

No. of Groups GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

4HQ SIGNALS 1.IX.42.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO TORRES STRAIT FORCE

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
FIRST AUST ARMY	CEA2960	27	CRETF 5

FOR CRE FOR INWHITEHOUSE O WOULD
PREFER YOU TO TRAVEL BEFORE 4
OCT IF OTHER PLANE AVAILABLE O
HAVE ASKED FOR YOU AS IORE
WHICH POSITION IS NOW VACANT O
WOULD LIKE YOU TO TAKE UP
DUTIES SOON

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS. EXCEPT WIRELESS

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1120

SIGNED DHB Foott Lt Col

SIGNED

T.H.I. 1124

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN.	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

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