

5/13/8/18

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

DECEMBER 1944

TO

APRIL

1945

ORIGINAL

2/8 FIELD COMPANY

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

WAR DIARY

For Month of January '45.

Dec?

- 1st. Truck raised to-day after 9 Pl mucked around in mud up to their eyes all day yesterday, raising derrick.
- 2nd. Pile frame sent from Fd Pk for Br.24 got into position and started driving to-day. This frame is a very poor job and doubts are expressed as to whether it will last.
- 3rd. Pile driver broke down to-day - monkey is too unsafe to raise in position. Endeavours were made to jet with air compressor, but results were unsatisfactory.
- 4th. To-day we started jetting with a Jupiter water pump and the rate the first pile went in, it looks as though it will be highly successful.
- 5th. Jetting continued satisfactorily to-day and a total of eight piles were sunk, to a depth of 14 to 15-ft by this method.
- 6th. It is reported that the Coy brewer's are entering into the "spirit" of things and competition is rife to obtain the most palatable and most potent of brews.
- 7th. ANGAU representatives to-day told us they had been searching for a native who in addition to being a murderer, is also a Jap Collaborator. As this same natives has been hanging around our HQ quite a lot lately, bringing us fruit and even a whole wild pig it has left quite a nasty taste in our mouths.
- 8th. Small permanent bridge built by 9 Platoon completed to-day and the size of girders used caused many gasps of amazement - partly at their size and partly at the fortitude of our sappers in placing them in position. At least it obviates the necessity of placing decking on.
- 9th. Anton, the native mentioned previously, turned up again to-day at our old HQ, where two sappers Bailey and Symons are living alone. As Bailey wasn't fully aware of the facts, he let Anton know ANGAU were after him, so Anton "shot through" like the proverbial Bondi tram. A fusillade of shots from rifles, pistols and even an Owen gun (that jammed) failed to score even one bull (but not according to the firers) and so Anton lives to run another day. As Bailey and Symons are quite alone at night, it is reported that they aren't feeling so well, and who can blame them.
- 10th. Construction has started on another permanent bridge by 9 Pl. and preliminary views of the temporary staging being constructed indicates that something in the nature of the Hawkesbury river bridge is to be attempted. 9 Pl. certainly do things in a big way.
- 11th. We haven't had a heavy shower of rain for three days and the road surface that was the pride of our hearts and never failed to please the CRE on his way back to HQ, is rapidly falling to pieces. Why haven't we a Manual of Rain Making in our library.?



-2-  
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

2/8 AUST FD COY RAE

WAR DIARY

- 15th. Almost had a bad day - five men were carried out to sea by a strong current, and three got into difficulties. Luckily all were saved, but one admitted to hospital. Congratulatory letter received by C.R.E. from G.O.C. on road to BABIANG.
- 16th. Company is sadly lacking in transport and stores, as very few have landed as yet. Consequently a few jeep trailers were warmly received to-day.  
Lt. PHILLIPS has written to explain that our transport is being shipped separately and with no one in charge.
- 17th. Most of the time is taken up now in precautions against some disease or other and to-day we carried on the good work by anti-miting our clothes, as usual.
- 18th. Notification received that tractors have landed at KITAPE, but on journey down one broke down with broken radiator. Still, where there is smoke there is fire, so we have hopes of all our transport arriving soon.
- 19th. All very worried over the malaria situation - despite all precautions we are still having cases and now the Coy has more cases than any other unit in 6 Div. C.R.E. and G.O.C. very angry.
- 20th. Troops are faring well on bananas, coconuts and native pumpkins. Not many natives around, as they cleared out while Jap was here and are only just returning.
- 21st. Lt. MCMENEMY called to RAE HQ over the number of malaria cases in his Platoon - the officers are considering sending in all their sizes of headgear to ensure a speedy delivery of bowler hats.
- 22nd. Lt. SMITH marched in from HQ to take over 9 Platoon. Lt. VENN returned from escorting Fd Pk stores.
- 23rd. The mail situation which has been very grim indeed, eased somewhat and there were a lot of happy faces to-day when a large mail was delivered. The happiest face belonged to our poor beleaguered postal Cpl (Boots) KRUGER.
- 24th. Xmas Eve found the Coy having a rest day and the long awaited resurrection from the tomb of the grog. Much rejoicing to-night, preceded by an excellent church service by Padre MATHVEN and attended by a large number.
- 25th. Xmas Hampers donated by A.C.F. were issued to-day and appreciated by all. Cooks put on special effort with iced cakes and as many small dainties etc. as they could. Celebrations last night included an item "Pistol Packin' Mama" complete with sound effects, it is reported. Rest day to-day and very much need by a few personnel.
- 26th. After brief Xmas respite, back on the job again, and back to our malaria worries again. We haven't had a case for a while now, so it looks as though Ann Nopheles is leaving us alone.
- 27th. Work commenced on yet another bridge - a permanent bridge alongside Br. 24.

2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

WAR DIARY

- 28th. Payday, and much worry caused by Cash Office shifting its location. We wonder why they do this on the only day in the fortnight that they work.
- 29th. Lt. SMITH reported to HQ to do some more designing. Just before marching out he conveniently dropped his truck and pile frame into the river, thus leaving it for someone else to recover.
- 30th. Remainder of rear party marched in to-day including Lt. PHILLIPS, who incidentally left the Coy first, in the advance party.
- 31st. New Years Eve, but no time or inclination for any celebrations here. The turkey promised to us for Xmas arrived to-day and was very well treated by the cooks - bless their hearts. It went down extra well, naturally.

*R. M. Wilson* Major,  
(R.M. WILSON)  
O.C. 2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

WAR DIARY

For month of Dec. '44

*Jan?*

- 1st. Another malaria case to-day - looks bad. DRINIUMOR River bridge completed to-day and traffic commenced using it, although a little work is still required on the approaches.  
Dimensions of bridge completed in 10 days are as follows - Total span 236' - No of spans 9  
Total No of piles 42  
No of girders - 4 R.S.Js.
- 2nd. Another temporary bridge completed, after three days, across DANDARIA River.
- 3rd. Two more hospital cases - suspected dengue fever. A Jap telephone has been found and our Sigs. boasts are fulfilled; we will soon have it working - a valuable addition to our equipment. Already we have been able to get one way traffic over it.
- 4th. Another case into hospital to-day - will they never stop. If they dont, there will be a few heads rolling the dust. Beer issue again to-day.
- 5th. In addition to making fruit and plant growth luxuriant, this tropical sun has a remarkable effect on upper lips - even our staid Sgt cook (Hoppy) Waye has succumbed to the lure of looking like a portion of N.G. jungle.
- 6th. Further moves for Platoons to-day, but 2/2 Aust Fd Coy. has now replaced us as the forward Fd Coy with 19 Bde.
- 7th. Two more malaria cases - this diary had better get a black edge around it. More dengue cases too.
- 8th. Work consists of widening and clearing the existing road and repairing a few temporary bridges. No mechanical plant yet, although some is promised in near future.
- 9th. Portion of swamp road had to be covered with ARC Mesh and much cursing at river mouth as our sappers guided transport across only available crossing.
- 10th. Commenced building chinaman to-day - Capt BROCKE has named it 'CRAWFORD'S CASUALTY' as it is so close to the sea that we think it will wash away during the first storm.
- 11th. Much interest caused by our bombers flying low over the camps on their way to drop a few eggs on Nippo.
- 12th. Work still continuing on roads, chinaman and cultivation of moustaches.
- 13th. More hospital cases - and confirmation in two earlier cases of malaria.  
Major WILSON is paraded to G.O.C. over the number of malaria cases and precautions against malaria were discussed. We can't do more than we are doing at present, and still work, so will just have to trust our luck.
- 14th. Two atebirin tablets are to be taken daily now - most of us are as yellow as canaries already.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

2/8 AUSTRALIAN COY RAB.

WAR DIARY

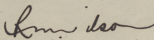
- 12th. We doubt if a well known identity who has been nominated for a bomb disposal school much against his will, and who has been sent out to demolish a bomb or two, will be back in time to go to the school. Will he be disappointed - it must be floods holding him up, no doubt.
- 13th. Work on the permanent bridge at 7 Fl. is drawing to a close and much disappointment is to be seen, at the sight of one pile that appears to be subsiding.
- 14th. Work is being commenced by 8 Fl. on yet another permanent bridge - the Fl. cannot keep pile frames up to us at the rate we are progressing.
- 15th. Large rain storm last night caused some damage to a couple of temporary bridges and work was required to jack up and repair a few crib piers.
- 16th. Work again proceeding and piles are being driven on three bridges now.
- 17th. Another big storm last night and one bridge completely destroyed. 7 Fl were engaged in putting up 64-ft S.B.G. in very early hours of morning.
- 18th. Calm weather again, but for how long we wonder. As change over of Bdes is due to take place soon, work is being pushed to ensure good communications along the L of C.
- 19th. Capt BROCKE has been declared a member of wood choppers Association - he is engaged on a timber recce and sets out complete with axe, saw, and magnifying glass.
- 20th. Permanent bridge built by 7 Fl opened to-day - approx 52 men hrs per lin.ft.
- 21st. Work commenced on permanent bridge across gap at present bridged by S.B.G. Change-over of Bdes completed successfully, but S.B.G. was danger spot.
- 22nd. Several personnel evacuated to hospital, unsuspected suffering from dysentery. However suspicion is directed at a certain 'jungle juice' rather than the water, as a possible cause.
- 23rd. The new Padre conducted services during his stay with the Coy over the last few days. Attendances were fair, but we are sure that the Padre must be convinced that 2/8 is hope less as far as salvation goes - the presence of our doctor, with his University education in language, contributed a great deal to create this impression.
- 24th. The river at BABIANG, which has long been a headache to us, was bridged to-day by a short span of S.B.G. at the worst spot. This should improve the situation a lot.
- 25th. The river at BABIANG is once again a headache, only now a bigger one ! Last night, the biggest flood yet came down washing the S.B.G. away. Most of it was salvaged. A few other bridges are down, but will not take long to repair.
- 26th. Work continues on our bridges and road that was washed out in a few places.



2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

WAR DIARY

- 27th. A beautiful day to-day, but it looks dark in the hills - a storm brewing, so no doubt the 2/8 will have a few more bridges to repair tomorrow.
- 28th. The storm that threatened yesterday, broke last night, and must be surely the father of all storms. A total of six bridges in our sector was completely destroyed, and several others so severely damaged as to require complete repair. the S.B.G. at BABIANG vanished, as the river came up about 15-ft. The Coy is isolated to-day, and even Platoons cannot be reached by transport. Why do these things always occur on Saturday night, to interfere with Sunday rest day.
- 29th. A survey of the Coy sector reveals a heartbreaking scene of devastation - the road in some places is completely destroyed, and where culverts once were situated, are now small rivers. We were fortunate in not losing any equipment, but 8 Pl was lucky - its compressor and jupiter pump were left a few inches above the water level.
- 30th. Stories are still coming in on highlights of the flood. A tent at 8 Pl. subsided into a gulf that formed when the water sought an outlet through the track made in the centre of the tent. The tent remained erect, but was about 6-ft below the ground. The natives say this is the worst storm in 100 years; lets hope they are right. They also say another is coming in four days time; lets hope they are wrong. "Kai-bombers" operated all day - the L of C is down and will not be open under ten days. Portions of bridges destroyed near ATAFB are washing up in our sector, so we may not have to cut new timber after all.
- 31st. Last day of a disastrous month, during which we saw three months hard work destroyed in one night. It is rumoured that this L of C will not be maintained and that a base is to be formed closer to operational area. One consoling feature of the debacle is that no damage occurred to any of our permanent bridges, except for washing away of two abutments and one pile that subsided slightly, which is a good reflection on the work done by our Coy.

  
(R.M. WILSON) Major,  
O.C. 2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

WAR DIARY

For Month of FEBRUARY 1945

- 1st. Lt. McMENEMY has completed his tour of penance and returned to his Pl. today and was welcomed with open arms by his boys. Don't mention malaria around these parts though !
- 2nd. Shift work is order of the day now, to complete our permanent bridges as quickly as possible. It is estimated that the road towards AITAFB will not open under 10 days so that gives us sufficient breathing space to complete the works already in hand, but it will be a rushed job.
- 3rd. A beer issue of two bottles again to-day, although much worry when beer truck was bogged at Br.21. A dozer did the trick and all agreed that this was the most important job any mechanical equipment could be called upon to do.
- 4th. A new instruction on taking atebrin was read at to-day's conference. It is designed to ensure that all personnel swallow the tablet, and to introduce a spot of humour into proceedings.
- 5th. The new drill was carried out to-day, with much laughter, thank goodness, as otherwise the officers would appear most ridiculous. Different methods are preferred, and Mr. PHILLIPS is reported to be feeding his troops now with a silver spoon. "Throwing the tablet" is proving to be a popular pastime and no doubt is likely to become a national sport in after years. Anyhow we will certainly be able to field a good dart throwing team..
- 6th. The most serious aspect of our recent flood has been the interruption to our mail service, but to-day our worthy postal orderly (Boots) Kruger made the long journey on foot and through streams to Div Hq to collect our mail. The efforts were not in vain and everyone was happier as he received his long awaited letters.
- 7th. Mobile cinema showed at YAKAMUL tonight - 8 Pl did a worthy job by rushing their bridge to enable it to get through, but who wouldnt as it is some time since we saw a show.
- 8th. Our entire sector was open to traffic to-day, the day specified by HAE, but the sector towards AITAFB is still not open, so no traffic was seen on the road. The Coy is having a well earned rest day as it has worked continuously since the floods.
- 9th. For some time past we have been receiving the Brisbane daily papers from the A.N.A. plane which drops them all along the coast on its way to HOLLANDIA and as they are usually only a day or two old they are much appreciated by all. When the plane is heard approaching all work ceases as everyone dashes out to wave and join in the mad rush that takes place as the papers are seen to flutter down. 8 Pl have installed a large sign on the beach which reads - "THANKS FOR PAPERS A.N.A." and it is very successful as they always 'click', the plane sometimes even circles their camp twice in acknowledgement.

- 10th The main concern at present is over the tobacco shortage, as each man received only 1-oz tobacco last week. Most of the boys are digging deeply into old reserves and quite a few journeyed to ALIAPA in the hope of picking some up. All they got for their trouble was to be stranded in ALIAPA, their truck being seized by 2/1 Fd Coy for some reason.
- 11th
- 12th Lt. McKENNEY commenced surveying the site of the 650-ft truss bridge that he is to build over the DANUKIWAD River. This should be some monument to 2/8 Fd Coy, if the war lasts long enough to allow us to finish it.
- 13th A big change occurred throughout RAS to-day and affected our Coy considerably. Capt BRADY has been posted 2IC of 2/14 Fd Coy. Capt CRAWFORD is posted 2IC of our Coy and Lt CASBULL is transferred to 2/22 Fd Fk Coy to take command of the M.S. Platoon. Lt SMITH took command of 7 Platoon and Lt DOWNING is posted to us, but is at present in hospital. Lt. WILSON ended his brief stay with us by being transferred to 2/2 Fd Coy.
- 14th More papers were dropped to-day, but most fell into the scrub, or bush and were lost. We are getting notes enclosed in the bundles now, in answer to the letters some of the boys wrote to show their appreciation of this fine gesture on the part of A.N.A. pilots.
- 15th 9 Fl moved to their new site near BAHIANQ to construct their mammoth bridge over the DANUKIWAD River. They also have one to construct over the METZ River as a sideline.
- 16th For weeks now, everyone at ALIAPA has promised us supplies - canteen, A.C.F., A.J.C., Ordnance, Fd Fk - all sorts of supplies. When they unloaded the ship in the harbour, until we doubted if any ship could carry the amount that this one presumably has. Anyway to-day must surely dispel some of our doubts, as we were confronted at breakfast by a large steak. We hardly knew what it was, but soon all that remained was a happy memory.
- 17th Keeping up the good work, we were given eggs for breakfast this morning. Rar reports many stomach disorders, due no doubt to the unfamiliar rich food - steak, eggs and tomatoes that we have had in the last couple of days.
- 18th Mobile cinema featured "Demi Paradise" to-night, but it wasn't up to usual standard. Still it is certainly a welcome break to the monotony of our nights, which are usually filled in by letter writing, or bridge tournaments.
- 19th Two large aerial bombs (unexploded) were discovered and demolished near 9 Platoons new camp. Personnel were still returning late at night after going "bush" when they learnt that the demolishing was to be carried out by 'Ernie' Sheers - most unfair and unwarranted.
- 20th A large number of parcels were received to-day and not before time, as most of us have been waiting since Nov '44 for our 'Xmas' gifts. Apparently they really are unloading that ship in the harbour.
- 21st The road is down again towards ALIAPA owing to sea action destroying the abutments of the WAIKIGGL River bridge, but in spite of this, a truck load of beer and tobacco was brought through, so we are having another beer issue, the first for a few weeks. And even more parcels arrived - our Postal Cpl has lost that hunted furtive look at last.
- 22nd A new canteen on HQ was commenced to-day, in preparation for a "new deal" in handling the Unit canteen. It is made out of A.C.F. and closely resembles a rabbit hutch.
- 23rd Another NCO has been sent to S.M.E. - 1/Cpl MCCANN. Although we are short of NCOs, it pays dividends to send our potential field corporals for this training.

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 24th | Regimental funds committee was reorganized to-day and new nominations called from platoons.   |
| 25th | Lt. DOWNING marched in from hospital to-day bringing the Coy strength in officers to nine.  |
| 26th | Lt. DOWNING marched out to-day, again to hospital. CRE brought the good news that the DANDRIWAD Bridge is to be discontinued and a Ford constructed instead. This is welcome as it would have been a colossal undertaking for the Coy, having so much other work as well. |
| 27th | We have loaned one sapper to operate a YMCA Booth, so are doing O.K. in this respect. A.C.F. issued tobacco, papers, PKs etc. to-day, and these gifts are very much appreciated by the troops.  |
| 28th | It is decided to replace Marsden Matting on Bridge 32 with hewn timber, as the mat tends to buckle under constant use.  |

*R. M. Wilson* Major,  
(R.M. WILSON)  
O.C. 2/8 AUST PD COY R.A.E.



**ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE**

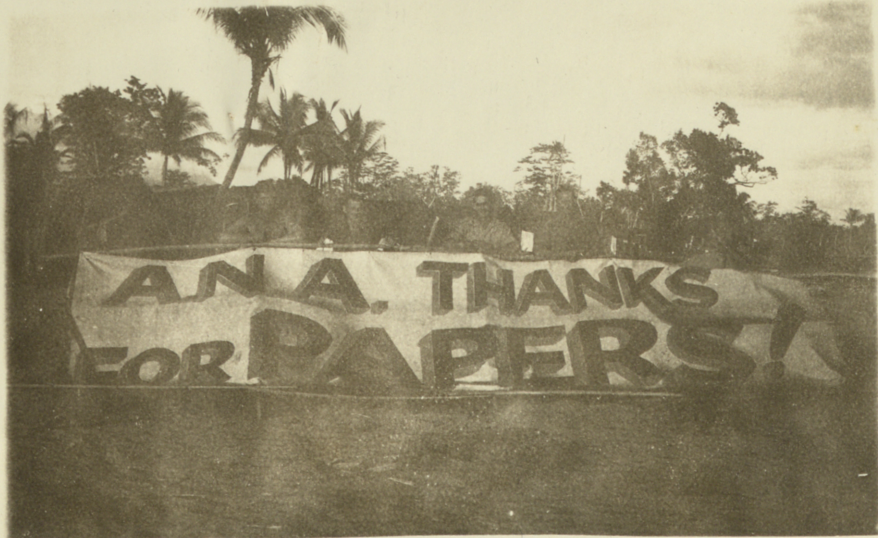
**COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA**

**If not delivered within 7 days, return to  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,**

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11/11/11  
11/11/11





# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W3008  
(Adapted) (Page 1)  
(Revised Jan., 1943)  
(Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 14/2/1945 28 Aust Fd Coy RAE (Unit)

W.E. 11/10/4 OFFRS. 7 O.R's. 233 + OFFRS. - O.R's. 11 ATT. BY W.E.

## PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
HE	W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
	Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.
					Lieut.-Colonels					
					Majors					
					Captains					
					Lieutenants					
					Quarter-masters					
					A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.					
					Civilians Counting as Offrs.					

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of Instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

\* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

\*\* Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

### OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
<u>144470.</u>	<u>Lt</u>	<u>SMITH J.S.</u>	<u>HR RAE</u> <u>6 Aust Div.</u>	<u>17.2.45</u>	<u>Transfer Auth HR RAE</u>

### OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
<u>1493216.</u>	<u>Lt</u>	<u>DOWNING G.M.</u>	<u>104 C.C.S.</u>	<u>22.2.45</u>	<u>Evacuated to 104 C.C.S.</u> <u>14.2.45.</u>

## PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO.....(Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. .... /...../194.....

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).



At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 24 / 2 / 1945 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

**PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.**

a.w. 10cm bks 10/43

Signature of Commander  
(R.M. WILSON) Major  
O.C. 2/8 Aust. Fd. Coy. R.A.E.

6,45 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 24/2/1945 2/B Aust Fd Coy RAE AIF (Unit)

WE 11/10/4 OFFRS. 7. O.R.'s 233 - OFFRS. - O.R.'s 11 ATT. BY WE.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.					DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
E	Reliefs Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reliefs Required.
					W.Os. Class I.					
1				1	W.Os. Class II.					
1	NR	1	-		Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgt.					
3	NR	1		2	Staff Sergeants					
5	NR	1		5	Sergeants	AACC	-		1	NR
1	NR	1		20	Corporals	AACB AACC SGT SGT	1 2			
1	4	10	12	203	Troopers, Privates, etc.					
					Civilians counting as O.R.	AACC MC	1			
3	4	14	12	231	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		10		1	

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).

\* \* Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forest, 10 N.E. Forest.

[illegible]

**Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.**

[illegible][illegible]

Unit

Army Form W.3009  
(Adapted) (Page 2)  
(Revised Jan., 1943)

Serial No.

# **PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday / / 194 .**

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Present Strength.	Reinforcements Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Present Strength.	Reinforcements Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Present Strength.	Reinforcements Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Present Strength.	Reinforcements Required.
Ammunition Exchangers				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitches			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.P.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Tanners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangefinders			
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Revolvers			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Builders				Sawyers			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographers, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engines								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevardes			
Butchers								Riggers				Stickers, Slat, Engines			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical			
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signalers				Tailors			
Dispensers				Assessors				Signwriters				Tentile Rollers			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identifi. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Stp. Comd's Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Capacitors				Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Mod.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drummers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gas)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fibre Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Railway				Headman				Bulchery							
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks							
Grinder, Precision				Hells Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Batches				Couch Trimmers							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors							
Mechanics, Radio				Linenmen				Cooks							
Mechanics, Typewriter				Linenman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals							
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Driver, H.T.							
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics							
Pharmacist				Mammals				Driver Typ. Plant							
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, L.C.							
Photowriter				Misers				Equipment Repairers							
Painter				Modellers				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Males							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 1, and 1 and 10 of Part A, respectively.			

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.

(b) Authorized trades or specialties not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.

(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.A. personnel are desired show details on back.

(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reinfs. Required."

(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander

DETAILS of HAND N.C.O.'s

N.C.O.		WE		PS.		Recruits Read	
N.O.D.	1		1				
C.O.N.S.	1		1				
A. Sgt.	3		2				
A. Sgt.	4		3				
Transport Sgt	1		1				
Fitter Sgt	1		1				
A Corporals	18		11				
Clerk Gpl	1		1				
Tech. Storeman Gpl	1		1				
Driver Operator Gpl	1		1				
	32		28				

Attached - WE

[illegible]

Amidon Day  
(R. M. Wilson)

Part D. Description of Other Banks Whose Return To \_\_\_\_\_ (Unit) is Particularly Requested. 1984



UNIT: 2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

WE- 11/10A/4.

DATE: 24 Feb 45.

TRADE	Rank	WE	Post Stgth	Sur- plus	Defic- iency	Reifts Reqd.
<u>TRADE GP 1.</u>						
Blacksmiths	Spr	7	8	1		
Bricklayers	Spr	3	4	1		
Carpenters & Jnrs	Spr	16	15		1	NR.
Draughtsman Eng	Spr	1	1			
Electrician	Spr	1	1			
Fitters, Eng	Spr	10	10			
Fitter Gen	Spr	1	2	1		
Operators Excavator	Spr	6	6			
Plumbers	Spr	4	5	1		
Surveyors	Spr	1	1			
<u>TRADE GP 2.</u>						
Carpenters	Spr	16	15		1	NR.
Driver Operator	Cpl	1	1			
Driver Operators	Spr	9	9			
Mechanics Eng	Spr	4	3		1	NR.
Miners	Spr	12	11		1	NR.
Painters	Spr	3	3			
Riggers	Spr	3	2		1	1
Signwriters	Spr	4	4			
<u>TRADE GP 3.</u>						
Clerk	Cpl	1	1			
Clerks	Spr	4	2		2	NR
Concretors	Spr	6	6			
Driver Mechanics	Spr	3	3			
Engine Hands 1/c	Spr	6	5		1	1
Tailor	Spr	1	1			
Tech Storeman	Cpl	1	1			
Tech Storeman	Spr	4	4			
Tinsmiths	Spr	3	1		2	2
<u>NON- SPECIALISTS.</u>						
C S M	WO 11	1	1			
C.Q.M.S.	S/Sgt	1	-		1	NR.
Pl S/Sgts	S/Sgt	3	2		1	NR.
Pl Sgts	Sgt	4	3		1	NR.
Transport Sgt	Sgt	1	1			
Fitter Sgt	Sgt	1	1			
Pl Corporals	Cpl	18	17		1	NR.
Batmen	Spr	7	7			
Drivers MT	Spr	35	35			
Hygiene Dutymen	Spr	1	1			
M/Cycle Orderlies	Spr	5	5			
Pioneers	Spr	24	32	8		
Water Dutymen	Spr	1	1			
<u>ATTACHED - WE.</u>						
A.A.C.C.	Sgt	1	-			NR.
A.A.C.C.	Cpl	1	1			
A.A.C.C.	Ptes	6	6			
A.A.M.C.	Cpl	1	1			
A.A.P.S.	Cpl	1	1			
A.A.O.C. (Cobbler)	Pte	1	1			
<u>TOTAL OTHER RANKS:</u>						
		244	241	12	34 15	4

( R.M.WILSON )

O.C 2/8 Aust. Fd Coy. R.A.E.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

2/8 AUST FD COY RAE.

WAR DIARY

For Month of March '45

- 1st. Lasseter almost had his last ride to-day. Spr GRIERSON (Lasseter) was carried out to sea on a strong current, and was brought to shore after a long struggle, by Major WILSON who was fortunately on the spot at the right time. Attempt to carry a line out in true BONDI fashion was successful, but unnecessary, as the swimmers had got out of difficulties in time.
- 2nd A jeep fitted with drive from rear wheel to grindstone is proving a useful innovation for maintenance of axes.
- 3rd Amenities in the way of pictures are rare, but to-night troops saw a concert at 2/1 Pd Amb. Opinions varied as usual, but at least it provided a break from the monotony of the nights in camp.
- 4th More cholera needles to-day. Another heavy rain, caused damage to a few abutments, but work commenced immediately on filling gaps with sandbags, and a bulldozer rendered much assistance.
- 5th Communication is still cut off with HQ RAE and any personnel who require to visit AITAPE for medical, dental or postal reasons have to rely on strong legs and good luck from BARDIA River onwards.
- 6th The river at BABIANG is also capricious and as the D.I.D. is the other side, we often go in danger of having swamped rations, or none at all. To-day the ration truck was forced to wait several hours before it could attempt the crossing.
- 7th Rain is still falling heavily and continually, and is seriously hampering work on gravelling and timber getting.
- 8th Bad weather is continuing and causing the Sigs a lot of trouble, as the line is 'dead' quite a lot of the time nowadays.
- 9th Heavy rain still, but work on several bridges is still going on. This continual rain has caused a few washaways on parts of the road, and a number of large box culverts have been necessary. The ARMCO pipe culvert has proved entirely useless with the quantity of water that has to be coped with.
- 10th Nothing of note occurred - an issue of Jason Strops out of canteen profits was made, to attempt to relieve the razor blade shortage.
- 13th Capt CRAWFORD marched out to acting command of 2/14 Fd Coy.
- 14th Move is ordered for to-day, to DOGRETO Bay, and thence by barge to WANCK Creek. However, further heavy rains in DOGRETO Bay area causing destruction of road between MATAPAU and the bay has caused a temporary postponement of the move, to our disappointment.
- 15th Tractors despatched to DANMAP River to be ready for the move, when it is "on" again. Platoons have completed initial packing of essential stores, on two trucks per platoon. Transport will be very limited, and accommodation stores necessarily reduced.
- 16th Move is definitely cancelled until further orders. Not likely to move for another week at least. Much regret, as we have been working in this one sector from beginning of December and we would welcome a change of scenery and jobs. Lt. DOWNING marched out to 15 Aust Fd Coy.
- 17th Clothing in the Coy is becoming a problem. We have had one issue only since Xmas, and heavy work is having the inevitable result on the clothes. If replacements are not made soon, our men in some cases will hardly be decent.

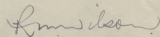
- 18th One particular sickness that has prevailed in the Coy, has been the incidence of boils. Many personnel are suffering from them and to-day, injections were given by the R.M.O. to try and overcome them.
- 19th A timber identification school has been started at HQ RAE, and several NCOs are attending. We have beaten the gun somewhat, as our Coy already has carried out quite a thorough investigation, and have our own timber "experts".
- 20th Very little work is being done, as all work was rushed to completion in preparation for the move. However finishing touches are being applied to a few spots of loose sand on the road, filling abutments etc.
- 21st. The East abutment of DRINIUMOR Bridge has washed away, and requires a complete new span. 8 Pl are doing the job and difficulty is anticipated in getting R.S.Js up from AITAPE as bridges at AKANAI and WAIMEGOL rivers are still down.
- 22nd. It is regretted that the Coy has very few wireless sets, and at present, only one is working. We have hopes that A.C.F. will come good eventually.
- 23rd Work is nearly completed on the new span of DRINIUMOR Bridge - fortunately the AKANAI Bridge was completed just in time to allow the semi-trailer to carry R.S.Js right through to the job. It was intended to attempt to winch them across the river, but it is just as well that it was unnecessary.
- 24th Movement order at last received to-day. Coy will stage at AITAPE, and although nothing is definite, it appears certain that the Coy is to move forward to BUT which has only been occupied by inf. a few days.
- 25th Advance parties from platoons, with adv Hq and 9 Pl occupied new camp site at AITAPE. This is the first time the Coy has been in a rear area since arriving on the Island in November and all are looking forward to a bit of "basewalloping", with attendant pleasures such as pictures, boxing etc. after a long period of continuous hard work.
- 26th Remainder of Coy arrived and settled in new camp site. Orders are received to move adv Hq and one platoon to-morrow. Movement is from AITAPE to BUT aerodrome by barge. Only limited transport is allowed, and all stores must be loaded on trucks. 9 Platoon is to move with O.C. and F.E. in adv Hq. Transport to be taken consists of one 6x6 GMC, two 4x4 tip trucks, two jeeps and one water trailer.
- 27th Embarked AITAPE in three LCMs at 1030-hrs. Only incident occurred when 6x6 brakes failed during loading and damaged superstructure of LCM, and a few tempers as well. Arrived BUT after very calm trip at 1700-hrs and proceeded immediately to new camp site on the old strip. It is noticed that the strip has not been used for many months, as kumai grass covers everything to a height of about 8-ft. Many wrecked planes are visible, mostly covered over with undergrowth, vines and other jungle growths.
- 28th Preliminary recon for a new strip to be constructed, 400-yds by 50-yds carried out. New strip will be sited alongside the old Jap strip, on what was the dispersal and approach area. Decision was reached after inspecting the old strip which appears low lying and very soggy. New location was made with a view to avoiding filling craters and hollows. An old steam roller has been found, and fitter Sgt considers it can be made serviceable, and is working hard at it.

29th

Capt TILLY marched out to 8 Fd Coy, after receiving news of his promotion. Lt SMITH acting ZIC at Rear Coy HQ. The Coy is once again deficient in officers. Rear Coy personnel are enjoying a great spell off work, swimming, pictures etc., even beer is issued, one bottle per man. Meanwhile at BUT, the mechanical equipment has arrived and commenced work clearing the new strip. We have attached <sup>3</sup> two dozers, one auto-patrol and of course our steam roller.

30th

Strip is taking shape very quickly. The soil appears to be well oiled, and consolidation occurs while dozers are working. The roller was towed behind a 6x6 but only fired occasionally. If not working tomorrow, it will be simply towed over the job.

 Major,  
(R.M. WILSON)  
O.C. 2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

WAR DIARY

For Month of April '45

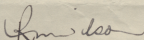
- 1st G.O.C. inspected the strip and expressed satisfaction. later an Air Force officer inspected it, and declared it the best "auster" air strip he has ever had prepared for them in the S.W.P.A. They anticipate bringing the first plane in on Apr 3. It is intended to use the strip for flying wounded out of BALIF and will be able to evacuate one casualty per hour.
- 2nd A warning was received of the possibility of an attack on the drome late to-night so we 'stood to', but no enemy were reported. Lt BOWER arrived from HQ RAE and met a burst of Owen gun fire from our 'alert' sentries. It called for a reprimand, as it was so obviously ridiculous.  
When we arrived at the strip, many bombs were found scattered loosely on the surface and also two approaches on the strip were mined with 50 Kg bombs buried nose up, with about 3" protruding. No fuzes or booby traps were found. Further bombs were discovered buried in the edges of some of the craters, and all were wired electrically and detonators incerted in a jelly substance in the tail. All were rendered harmless and bombs recovered.
- 3rd Work has ceased on the strip, except for rolling. Other jobs have started on improving alignment and surface of road to DAGUA.
- 4th Still no plane has arrived. Work now commenced on a Chinaman in BUT River for the anticipated demand for gravel required on the road.
- 5th The first land was successfully made to-day by an Auster plane - this is the first time a plane has landed at BUT for many months - probably more than a year. Remainder of Coy embarked AITAPE at 1400-hrs and stood out in the harbour until 2200-hrs, when convoy was formed and moved to BUT.
- 6th Remainder of Coy arrived 0800-hrs and moved to new camp site, on strip. 8 Pl moved direct to camp one mile East of BUT River. Small rear party of remaining transport and M.T. personnel left brigaded under 2/2 Fd Coy admin. Coy now is complete, with reduced scale of transport and equipment. Personnel are using one-man-tents, and a blackout is imposed, so conditions are a bit boring after dark.
- 7th Day of settling-in, for 7 and 8 Platoons. New road is gradually being improved.
- 8th An issue of two bottles of beer was brought by the incoming party, for the personnel who moved up in the first wave. It disappeared very smartly of course, and all traces were removed by morning. Rations are better than ever - the "kai" bombers have been over every day dropping frozen meat, and we even had fresh potatoes to-day.
- 9th Culverts are required at many points on the new road, as heavy rains last night have demonstrated only too well. With the extra platoons, this can now be proceeded with, and to-day, work was commenced on three culverts.

- 10th      Our tractors have now had "Hyster" logging winches fitted, and are proving useful in obtaining timber required on the culverts. Ascorbic tablets are now being issued to all members daily, to prevent skin diseases. A pleasant interlude was provided by Salvation Army to-night, when a musical programme and coffee was provided by them. As the blackout prevents pictures, card games etc. it was a very welcome entertainment indeed.
  
- 11th      Another evacuation to hospital with suspected malaria. This is our first case for many weeks, so it would appear that atebirin is not having 100 % effect, as conditions have not altered, nor precautions relaxed. Many theories are advanced, which the medical profession would no doubt be pleased to receive, even if not the remarks directed at the medical profession.
  
- 12th      Beaufort bombers flew over to-day and sprayed the area with D.D.T. to kill mosquitoes. There are not many mosquitoes in this area however, compared with our last camp.
  
- 13th      A new innovation, and accomplishment was introduced to-day. A crew had to man a F.B.E. boat and practice rowing in surf to bring ashore Senator FRASER and the C.G.S. from the boat that brought them from AITAPE. All went well and the party landed safely. It is reported that some enlightening information was given to the politician by some of our sappers.
  
- 14th      Two bridges have been commenced - one over the HELIKAMOK River by 8 Pl and a 140-ft span over AU Creek by 7 Pl. Blackout has been lifted, so boredom at night is reduced, and very welcome too.
  
- 15th      Many boongs passed camp to-day, on way to KAWK Mission, from recently occupied territory. They are in very poor condition and some are terribly thin.
  
- 16th      Pictures were shown to-night for first time on BUT. Show was good, but as it was called "Two Thousand Women" it couldn't be anything else.
  
- 17th      Stores are arriving daily by L.C.T. and as they are usually unloaded at 2000-hrs, it means a working party engaged all night. However, as we are receiving a larger quantity of stores than we have seen before, no one minds very much, (except of course, the working party).
  
- 18th      The chinaman in BUT River has now been abandoned after providing quite a large quantity of gravel, in favour of the mechanical shovel. Most mechanical equipment has been taken away from us now and has moved up to DAGUA. Consequently the gravelled road is a bit rough and clearing is reduced.
  
- 19th      Road to DAGUA is now only required to be improved to an extent that it will take traffic comfortably - it is unnecessary to widen to 20-ft and gravel all the way. Reason is so that more work can be done forward.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

-3-

- 20th Another picture show to-night, and it looks as though we will be getting spoiled. We are fast developing into base "wallopers" as the CCS opened here to-day.
- 21st Lt. HENNING left per Auster for a destination inland, requiring a three-day walk from BALIF, to supervise the construction of a Douglas strip, with native labour.
- 22nd The usual base jobs have started - roofing D.I.D., installing refrigerator at DI.D., painting numerous signs. We are wishing for another move especially as every platoon is still after some booty. To date we have acquired two Morris blocks, two lighting sets that have not functioned yet, and of course numerous carburettors, generators, valves and rifles.
- 23rd The 'kai' bombers often mistake our Auster strip for their dropping strip and to-day delivered the fresh meat right at our front door, dropping several bundles right in the camp and knocking over the O.Cs tent with one.
- 24th A jetty is to be constructed at BUT - soundings were made, and a start on timber getting was commenced to-day. It will be 120-ft long and will give a 12-ft draught, with a T head.
- 25th A floating foot-bridge is being constructed on a river between BUT and DAGUA, to enable wounded to be evacuated from 17 Bde who are still fighting inland.
- 26th As a move forward has been promised by CRE in near future, work on the jetty has been speeded up, and from to-day two shifts will work on it.
- 27th O.C. held a conference of officers and gave warning orders to move. It is intended to move the Coy up right behind the forward infantry.
- 28th After completing the first two piers of the jetty, with girders placed and the pile frame cantilevered, orders were received late to-night to abandon work on it.
- 29th 8 Platoon commenced to move forward, to take up a position near the timber area at CHOLIM, in order to lay in a stock of piles and capsills for future anticipated requirements. This is necessary, as recce reports show that timber in the sector we will operate in soon, is very scarce.
- 30th Work consists mainly of gravelling road to DAGUA and preparations commenced on forming road "Sister Street".

  
(R.M. WILSON) Major,  
O.C. 2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.

# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.5008  
(Adapted) (Page 1)  
(Revised Jan., 1943)

(Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 7/4/1945 (Unit)

W.E. 11/19/4 OFFRS. 7 O.R's 235 + OFFRS. - O.R's 11 ATT. BY W.E.

## PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.								
1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10			
W.A.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm to Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.				
				Lieut.-Colonels									
				Majors									
				Captains									
				Lieutenants									
				Quarter-masters									
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.									
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.									
1			1										
2 N.R.													
4		1	5										
7 N.R.	2	1	6										
DETAIL				A.I.P.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
A.				6									6
E (1)													
E (2)													

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for completion of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

\* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

\*\* Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 30 U.K. Forces; 10 R.E. Forces.

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

### OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

### OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

## PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. /194

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).



At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 7/4/94. 5 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

**PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.**

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander  
2/8 AUST. Fd. Coy R.A.E.

7 APR 1945

TRADE	Rank	W.E.	Post Stgth	Defic.	Surplus	Reinfcts Req'd
<u>TRADE GROUP 1</u>						
Blacksmiths	Spr	7	8		1	
Bricklayers	Spr	3	4		1	
Carpenters & Jmrs	Spr	16	14	2		NR
Draughtsman Eng	Spr	1	1			
Electrician	Spr	1	1			
Fitters Engine	Spr	10	7	3		NR
Fitters Gen.	Spr	1	2		1	
Operator Excavator	Spr	6	6			
Plumbers	Spr	4	5		1	
Surveyors	Spr	1	1			
<u>TRADE GROUP 2</u>						
Carpenters	Spr	16	16			
Driver Operator	Cpl	1	1			
Driver Operator	Spr	9	10		1	
Mechanic Engine	Spr	4	4			
Miners	Spr	12	10	2		NR
Painters	Spr	3	3			
Riggers	Spr	3	2	1		NR
Signwriters	Spr	4	4			
<u>TRADE GROUP 3</u>						
Clerk	Cpl	1	1			
Clerk	Spr	4	4			
Concretors	Spr	6	5	1		NR
Driver Mechanics	Spr	3	2	1		NR
Engine Hand 1/C	Spr	6	5	1		NR
Tailors	Spr	1	1			
Tech Storeman	Cpl	1	1			
Tech Storeman	Spr	4	4			
Tinsmiths	Spr	3	1	2		2
<u>NON SPECIALISTS</u>						
C.S.M.	WO.11	1	1			
C.Q.M.S.	S/Sgt	1	1			
Pl S/Sgts	S/Sgt	3	3			
Pl Sgts	Sgt	4	4			
Fitter Sgt	Sgt	1	1			
Transport Sgt	Sgt	1	1			
Pl Corporals	Cpl	18	18			
Batmen	Spr	7	8		1	
Drivers M.T.	Spr	35	35			
Hygiene Dutyman	Spr	1	1			
M/Cycle Orderly	Spr	5	5			
Pioneers	Spr	24	33		9	
Water dutyman	Spr	1	1			
<hr/>						
TOTAL OTHER RANKS		233	235	13	15	2
<u>ATTACHED PERSONNEL</u>						
A.A.C.C.	Sgt	1	-	1		NR
A.A.C.C.	Cpl	1	1			
A.A.E.C.	Pte	6	6			
A.A.M.C.	Cpl	1	1			
A.A.F.S.	Cpl	1	1			
A.A.O.C. (Cobbler)	Pte	1	1			
<hr/>						
TOTAL ALL RANKS		244	245	14	15	2

*R.M. Wilson* Major,  
(R.M. WILSON)  
O.C. 2/8 AUST FD COY R.A.E.



# **PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday / / 194 .**

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reinforce- ment.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reinforce- ment.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reinforce- ment.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reinforce- ment.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer				Surveyors, E.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Filter				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Filter (M.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Filter (A.F.V.)				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangekeepers			
Armament Artificer				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Radio								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Armament Artificer								Photographers, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Signals								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Artificer, Artillery								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Artificer, Engine								Radiographers				Stevarders			
Blacksmiths								Riggers				Stokers, Stat. Engine			
Bricklayers								Sawyers				Storeroom, Technical			
Computer								Signallers				Tailors			
Cook, Hospital								Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Coppersmiths								Telescope Identifi- cations				Tinsmiths			
Dipers								Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen								Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)								Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)								Wireman							
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)								Woodturners							
Draughtsmen (Typographical)															
Electricians															
Electricians (M.V.)															
Electricians (Signals)															
Fitters															
Fitters (Cycle)															
Fitters (Electrical)															
Fitters (Gun)															
Fitters (Instrument)															
Fitters (M.V.)															
Fitters, Railway Signal															
Fitters, Signals															
Grinder, Precision															
Mechanics, Instrument															
Mechanics, Instrument (Signal)															
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)															
Mechanics, Radio															
Mechanics, Typewriter															
Mechanics, Wireless															
Millwrights															
Operators, Excavator															
Pattern Maker															
Pharmacist															
Photographer, Wet Plate															
Photewriter															
Plumber															
Saw Doctors															
Surveyors															
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. Respectively.	*	*	

NOTE.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.

(b) Authorized trades or specialties not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.

(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.

(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.B. in col. "Reinforce, Required."

(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "Use Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander



# FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

## DETAIL OF W AND N.C.O.'s

N.C.O.	W.E.	P.S.	Reitfr. Regd.
WOTT	1	1	
C.O.M.S	1	1	
SGTS	3	3	
Pl. SGT	4	4	
Tpt. SGT	1	1	
FITTER SGT	1	1	
H. Cpl	10	10	
Clerk Cpl	1	1	
Tech Storeman Cpl	1	1	
Dist. Exp. Cpl.	1	1	
	32	32	

## ATTACHED AS W.E.

AACC SGT.	1	-	N.E.
AACC Cpl	1	1	
AAMC Cpl	1	1	
AAPSE Cpl	1	1	
	36	35	

Amended by  
2/8 Aurr. En. Coy. R.A.E.