8/1/5

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
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APRIL TO
JULY 1942

ORIGINAL

VICTORIAN COVERING FORCE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

22 MAY 1942

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

Page 1.

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 6-4-42 *To*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Vic. Covering Force, Batman Ave. MELBOURNE.	6-4-42		Unit formed. Designation Victoria L of C Force.	
			Commanded by Major-General F.P.Derham,D.S.O.,V.D. who marched	
			in on that date. H.Q. Artillery Depot,Batman Avenue,Melbourne.	
			Brigadier V.H.Gatliff D.S.O.,V.D. marched in from H.Q. R.A.A.	
			Appointment Acting C.R.A.	
" "	13-4-42		Major. W.L.Tresidder marched in from M.P.force.	
			Appointment Act.G1	
" "	21-4-42		Lieut. A.W.Schwennesen marched in from R. of O.	
			Appointment A.D.C. to Major-General Derham.	
			Maj.-Gen. Derham, accompanied by Lieut-Gen.Sir Ivan McKay,	
			inspected 48th Bn. training at GHERANG also inspected new	
			6" gun positions at POINT LONSDALE.	
" "	2-5-42		Lieut. R.G.Turner marched in from H.Q. Melb. L of C Sub Area	
			Appointment Act. D.A.A.G.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* *To*

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Vic.Covering Force (cont) Batman Avenue MELBOURNE.	2-5-42		Major-General Derham inspected accommodation at FLINDERS for V.D.C. personnel to be called up F.T.D. as guard on 18pr.gun at FLINDERS.	
"	6-5-42		Designation of unit altered to VICTORIA COVERING FORCE	See Vic L of C Area R.O.No.42 6/5/42
"	8-5-42		Lieut J.C.Currie,M.C. marched in from H.Q., Q.N.C.F. Major W.C.C.Ruddock marched in from 6th Motor Training Regt. DRYSDALE. Appointment Act. D.A.Q.M.G.	
"	12-5-42		Major-General Derham, accompanied by Colonel Baldwin of U.S.A. Army visited Queenscliff-Nepean defences. Colonel Baldwin remarked on the lack of A.A. defences for the fortress areas and mentioned the advisability of installing torpedo tubes fired from QUEENSCLIFF or NEPEAN.	
"	20-5-42		Major-General Derham accompanied G.O.C. L of C Area, Major-General Plant, round Q.N.C.F. and FLINDERS defence areas.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 21/5/42 *To* 25/5/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Vic.Covering Force. Batman Avenue MELBOURNE.	21-5-42		Major-General Derham and Brig. Gatliff attended proofing of 6" guns in new positions at POINT LONSDALE. Proofing satisfactory. Proofing of 4.7 guns at CROWS NEST also carried out satisfactorily. Weather showery and cold.	
"	22-5-42		Weather. Dull, Cold.	
			64th Bty R.A.E. received orders to move North.	
			Unit Strength, Officers 7 O.R. 16 ,Total 23.	
"	23-5-42		Weather. Fine, Cold.	
			Unit Strength , Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23.	
"	24-5-42		Weather , Dull, Cold.	
			Unit Strength, Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23.	
"	25-5-42		Weather, Dull, Showery.	
			Unit Strength, Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23	
			Col. McCormack O.C. Lof C Melb Sub Area inspected office accomodation	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42 — Unit Victoria Covering Force — Date and Time.—From 25/5/42 To 31/5/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			(continued)	
H.Q. Victoria Cov Force Batman Ave Melbourne.	25-5-42		with view of taking over half of building.	
			G.O.C. called on Major General Vasey with reference to Operation order	
			No.1. being forwarded to this H.Q.	
"	26-5-42		Weather wet	
			Unit strength Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23.	
			Col. McConkey interviewed G.O.C. with reference to fixed A.A. positions.	
			It was decided that all fixed A.A. positions must be dug in unless	
			engineers reported the site too wet or too rocky. Plan of A.A. Gun pits	
			received from A.H.Q.	
"	27-5-42		Weather, Wet, Cold.	
			Unit Strength Officers 7. O.R. 16. Total 23.	
			G.O.C. and L.O visited H.Q. Lof C with reference to Opp Order No.1.	
"	28/5/42		Weather dull , cold.	
	to		Unit Strength 7 Officers, ~~35~~ 15 O.R's	
	31/5/42		No changes in situations or positions.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

3rd District Records
54 5 263.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 6-4-42 *To* 2-5-42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Vic. Covering Force, Batman Ave. MELBOURNE.	6-4-42		Unit formed. Designation Victoria L of C Force.	
			Commanded by Major-General F.P.Derham,D.S.O.,V.D. who marched	
			in on that date. H.Q. Artillery Depot,Batman Avenue,Melbourne.	
			Brigadier V.H.Gatliff D.S.O.,V.D. marched in from H.Q. R.A.A.	
			Appointment Acting C.R.A.	
" "	13-4-42		Major. W.L.Tresidder marched in from M.P.force.	
			Appointment Act.G1	
" "	21-4-42		Lieut. A.W.Schwennesen marched in from R. of O.	
			Appointment A.D.C. to Major-General Derham.	
			Maj.-Gen. Derham, accompanied by Lieut-Gen.Sir Ivan McKay,	
			inspected 48th Bn. training at GHERANG also inspected new	
			6" gun positions at POINT LONSDALE.	
" "	2-5-42		Lieut. R.G.Turner marched in from H.Q. Melb. L of C Sub Area	
			Appointment Act. D.A.A.G.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118 (adapted,)

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 2-5-42 *To* 20-5-42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Vic.Covering Force (cont) Batman Avenue MELBOURNE.	2-5-42		Major-General Derham inspected accommodation at FLINDERS for V.D.C. personnel to be called up F.T.D. as guard on 18pr.gun at FLINDERS.	
"	6-5-42		Designation of unit altered to VICTORIA COVERING FORCE	See Vic L of C Area R.O.No.42 6/5/42
"	8-5-42		Lieut J.C.Currie,M.C. marched in from H.Q., Q.N.C.F.	
			Major W.C.C.Ruddock marched in from 6th Motor Training Regt. DRYSDALE. Appointment Act. D.A.Q.M.G.	
"	12-5-42		Major-General Derham, accompanied by Colonel Baldwin of U.S.A. Army visited Queenscliff-Nepean defences. Colonel Baldwin remarked on the lack of A.A. defences for the fortress areas and mentioned the advisability of installing torpedo tubes fired from QUEENSCLIFF or NEPEAN.	
"	20-5-42		Major-General Derham accompanied G.O.C. L of C Area, Major-General Plant, round Q.N.C.F. and FLINDERS defence areas.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY Page. 3

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 21/5/42 *To* 25/5/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Vic.Covering Force. Batman Avenue MELBOURNE.	21-5-42		Major-General Derham and Brig. Gatliff attended proofing of 6" guns in new positions at POINT LONSDALE. Proofing satisfactory. Proofing of 4.7 guns at CROWS NEST also carried out satisfactorily. Weather showery and cold.	
"	22-5-42		Weather. Dull, Cold.	
			64th Bty R.A.E. received orders to move North.	
			Unit Strength, Officers 7 O.R. 16 ,Total 23.	
"	23-5-42		Weather. Fine, Cold.	
			Unit Strength , Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23.	
"	24-5-42		Weather , Dull, Cold.	
			Unit Strength, Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23.	
"	25-5-42		Weather, Dull, Showery.	
			~~Unit Strength, Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23~~	
			~~Col. McCormack O.C. Lof C Melb Sub Area inspected office accomodation~~	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 25/5/42 *To* 27-5-42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			(continued)	
H.Q. Victoria Cov Force Batman Ave Melbourne.	25-5-42		with view of taking over half of building.	
			G.O.C. called on Major General Vasey with reference to Operation order	
			No.1. being forwarded to this H.Q.	
"	26-5-42		Weather wet	
			Unit strength Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23.	
			Col. McConkey interviewed G.O.C. with reference to fixed A.A. positions.	
			It was decided that all fixed A.A. positions must be dug in unless	
			engineers reported the site too wet or too rocky. Plan of A.A. Gun pits	
			received from A.H.Q.	
"	27-5-42		Weather, Wet, Cold.	
			Unit Strength Officers 7. O.R. 16. Total 23.	
			G.O.C. and L.O visited H.Q. Lof C with reference to Opp Order No.1.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force Date and Time.—From 25/5/42 Page 4. To 31/5/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information (Continued)	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Victoria Cov ~~Force Batman Ave.~~ Melbourne.	25/5/42		with view of taking over half of building.	
			G.O.C. called on Major General Vaset with reference to Operation order,	
			No.1 being forwarded to this H.Q.	
"	26/5/42		Weather wet.	
			Unit strength Officers 7, O.R. 16, Total 23.	
			Col.McConkey interviewed G.O.C. with reference fixed A.A. positions.	
			It was decided that all fixed A.A. positions must be dug in unless	
			engineers reported the site too wet or too rocky. Plan of A.A. Gun pits	
			received from A.H.Q.	
"	27/5/42		Weather, Wet, Cold.	
			Unit Strength Officers 7 O.R. 16, Total 23.	
			G.O.C. and L.O. visitied H.Q. Lof C with reference to Op order No.1.	
"	28/5/42		Weather dull , cold.	
	to		Unit Strength 7 Officers, ~~15~~ 15 O.R's	
	31/5/42		No changes in situations or positions.	

J.A. Cobb. Lieut. for Maj-Gen. C.O. Vic Covering Force

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3008
(Page 1)
(Adapted)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Victoria Cooring Force (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
Major Generals *	1		
Brigadiers *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	2		
Captains			
Lieutenants	4		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	9		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

a.w. 3m bks 3/42

Army Form W.3008
(Page 2)
(Adapted)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1 Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	2 Personal Number.	3 Name and Initials.	4 Corps.	5 Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	6 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major General	VX11500 2	Durham C.P.	Vic Cooring		
Brigadier	VX10953	Barry T.H.	V.C.F.		
Lieut Col	T253306	Parkin C.G.	V.C.F.		
Major	VX50119	Brennan J.J.	V.C.F.		
Major	VX27570	Anderson A.E.	V.C.F.		
Lieut	VX47711	Schuerman A.H.	V.C.F.		
Lieut	VX45702	Turner R.E.	V.C.F.		
Lieut	VX46148	Currie C.G.	V.C.F.		
Lieut	VX36886	Cobb D.A.	V.C.F.		

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.

Victoria Cooring Force (Unit.)

A.H. Schuerman Lieut (Signature of Commander.)

6/6/42 (Date of Despatch.)

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)
(Adapted)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

Victoria Covering Force (Unit) 3/6/ 19 42 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	2		
W.Os. Class II.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	1		
Corporals	2		
Troopers, Privates, &c.	9		
TOTALS	15	*	*

No Establishment Yet Issued as Yet

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.

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

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

a.w. 3m bks 12/41

Victoria Covering Force Unit.

Army Form W. 3009
(Adapted) (Aug. 41)
(page 2)

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)								

No Establishment Yet Issued as Yet

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

Victoria Covering Force (Acting Lieut-Colonel)
Unit. *Signature of Commander.*

Date of Despatch 5/6/42 *Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.*

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

915-C

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

3rd District Records 54 7 11

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

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H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 1/6/42 *To* 3/6/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Vic Covering Force Batman Ave. MELBOURNE.	1/6/42		Weather Dry Cold.	
			Strength 7 Off 16 O'Rs	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM D.S.O. V.D. decided on 6⁰ pdr Gun	
			Positions in QUEENSCLIFF, NEPEAN & FLINDERS Aread.	
"	2/6/42		Wether Fine.	
			Strength 8 Offrs 16 O'Rs	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM D.S.O. V.D accompanied by Col. BALDWIN American	
			Military Attache visited A.A. Defences of MELBOURNE incl COODE IS.,	
			WILLIAMSTOWN, BRAYBROOK, and SEARCHLIGHT STA at VIC DOCKS, and	
			concluded with a visit to GUN OPERATIONS ROOM at PRESTON.	
			Lieut-Col. G.C. PETERS D.F.C. marched in, appointment A.A. & Q.M.G.	
"	3/6/42		Weather Frosty and Fine.	
"	2		Strength 9 Offrs 16 O'Rs (16)	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM D.S.O. V.D. inspected BOFORS A.A. Training at	

P.T.O.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 3/6/42 *To* 6/6/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	Cont.			
H.Q. Vic Covering	3/6/42		WERRIBEE by 112 Light A.A. Bty.	
Force Batman Ave MELBOURNE.			Lieut D.A. COBB marched in appointment I.O.	
"	4/6/42		Weather Fine .	
			Strength 9 Offrs 16 O'Rs	
			Lieut .C. CURRIE (L.O.) attended Local Defence Committee Conf at	
			QUEENSCLIFF. Maps of defences (occupied or not), demolitions etc.	
			are being prepared.	
	5/6/42		Weather Fine.	
			Strength 9 Offrs 15 O'rs.	
			Intelligence report submitted to L.of C. H.Q. attached.	See Int Report No.1.
"	6/6/42		Weather Fine	
			Strength 9 Offrs 16 O'Rs	
			Maj-Gen F.P. BERHAM D.S.O. V.D and members of Staff visited YALLOURN	
			to witness A.A. Bty practice. Shoot was entirely successful, Gunners being accurate indeed.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Victoria Covering Force H.Q *Date and Time.—From* 7/6/42 *To* 10/6/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Vic Covering Force	7/6/42		Weather Fine.	
Batman Ave MELBOURNE			Strength 9 Offrs 15 O'rs	
"	8/6/42		Weather Frosty Fine.	
			Strength 9 Offrs 15 O'Rs	
			C.D.H. Operational role was taken over by this H.Q. as from 1800 hrs	
			8/6/42. Flight Lieut LEGGETT visited H.Q. 1945 hrs to explain	
			Functioning in new role.	
"	9/6/42		Weather Wet Cold.	
			Strength 9 Offrs 16 O'Rs Lieut. M. LORD marched in and attached for duty on C.D.H.	
"	10/6/42		Weather Dull Cold	
			Strength 9 Offrs 19 O'Rs	
		1415	Major General F.P. DERHAM D.S.O. V.D. Brig V.H. GATLIFF D.S.O. V.D.	
			and I.O's visited and inspected working system of D.24 Russell St.	
			Close Liason established	P.T.O.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit H.Q. Victoria Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 10/6/42 *To* 14/6/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	Cont.			
Vic Covering Force	10/6/42	1030	Combined Planning Committee under Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM D.S.O. V.D	
Batman Ave MELBOURNE.			comprising of members of Army - Navy & Air Force met at Batman Ave.	
"	11/6/42		Weather Dull Cold.	
			Strength 9 Offrs 19 O'Rs .	
			Senior Constable HUTCHINSON & ARNOTT from D.24 visited C.D.H. at	
			this H.Q. to get the working picture of both sides.	
"	12/6/42		Weather Wet Cold.	
			Strength 9 Offrs 19 O'Rs .	
			Maj-Gen PLANT inspected C.D.H.	
"	13/6/42		Weather Wet Cold.	
			Strength 9 Offrs 19 O'Rs .	
			INT REPORT - No.2.	attached
"	14/6/42		Weather Dull Cold.	
			Strength 9 Offrs 19 O'R's.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Vic Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 15/6/42 *To* 18/6/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Batman Ave.	15/6/42		Weather - Dull, Cold	
Melbourne.			Strength, 10 Offrs. 19 O.R's.	
	16/6/42		Weather - Frosty, Fine.	
			Strength, 10 Offrs, 22 O.R's.	
			Members of C.D.H. visited G.O.R. room PRESTON.	
	17/6/42		Weather - Frosty, Fine.	
			Strength, 11 Offrs, 22 O'R's.	
			Maj- Gen F.P. DERHAM, D.S.O. V.D. visited searchlight	
			positions at WERRIBEE. Lt.Col . G. PETERS D.F.C. and	
			Lieut J.C. CURRIE, M.C. carried out general recce of NEPEAN Area.	
			Lieut C. EDWARDS marched in attached for duty at C.D.H.	
	18/6/42		Weather - Frosty, Fine.	
			Strength, 11 Offrs, 27 O.R's.	
			Maj-Gen F.P.DERHAM D.S.O., V.D. visited Armd. Regt.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 21.18
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Vic Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 19/6/42 *To* 22/6/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Batman Ave			display at FISHERMAN'S BEND. Lt.Col. MANDER JONES, G.i.I. 2	
Melbourne.			& AUST ARMY visited G.I. on liason between the two H.Q.rs.,	
			and Major REID, G.2. AIR 2 AUST ARMY contacted C.D.H. for	
			liason.	
"	19/6/42		Weather - Dull, cold, then wet.	
			Strength, 10 Offrs, 28 O'R's.	
			C.D.H. Staff contacted HERBARIUM for liason.	
	20/6/42		Weather - Wet, Cold.	
			Strength, 10 Offrs, 27 O'R's.	
	21/6/42		Weather - Dull, Fine, Cold, (Changeable).	
			Strength, 10 Offrs, 27 O'R's.	
	22/6/42		Weather - Dull, Cold.	
			Strength, 10 Offrs, 27 O'Rs.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Vic Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 23/6/42 *To* 25/ 6/ 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Batman Ave	23/6/42		Weather - Heavy Fog , Cold.	
			Strength , 10 Offrs, 27 O.R's.	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM visited Q.N.C.F. New motor	
			vessel RAY has replaced MARS on run from	
			QUEENSCLIFF TO SORRENTO. Brig. V.H. GATLIFF, D.S.O., V.D. visited	
			A.A. practice at WERRIBEE.	
	24/6/42		Weather - Fog, Cold.	
			Strength, 10 Offrs, 27 O.R's .	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM D.S.O., V.D. visited WERRIBEE	
			for A.A. Shoot but this was postponed owing to weather.	
	25/6/42		Weather - Fog, Fine.	
			Strength- 10 Offrs, 27 O.R's.	
			Maj- Gen PLANT and Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM D.S.O., V.D.	
			visited light A.A. Regt. at WERRIBEE.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Vic Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 26/6/42 *To* 29/6/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. Batman Ave	26/6/42		Weather - Cold, Light rain.	
			Strength - 10 Offrs, 27 O.R's.	
		1100	Col- BOYLE, Vic L of C and Lieut D.A. COBB, I.O. Vic Cov Force	
			attended conference at 2 AUST ARMY H.Q., MOUNT MARTHA	
			regarding forthcoming exercise of 162 U.S. Combat Team	
			and 3 MOTOR Bde.	
" "	27/6/42		Weather - Dull, Cold.	
			Strength - 10 Offrs, 27 O'R's.	
" "	28/6/42		Weather - Dull, Cold.	
			Strength - 10 Offrs, 28 O.R's.	
" "	29/6/42		Weather, Dull, Cold.	
			Strength - 10 Offrs, 28 O.R.'s.	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM D.S.O., V.D. attanded reece	
			of D/S at WERRIBEE for 3rd. Motor Bde. T.E.W.T.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit Vic Covering Force *Date and Time.—From* 30/6/42 *To* 30/6/42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HQ Batman Ave	30/6/42		Weather - Fine , Cold.	
			Strength, 10 Offrs, 28 O.R.'s.	
			Maj- Gen. F.P. DERHAM D.S.O., V.D. attended final Recce	
			for T.E.W.T. at DANDENONG.	

Major General
Commanding
Victoria Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

S E C R E T.

H.Q. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE .

Report No. 3.

on infoemation received up to 1200 hrs 26/6/42.

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

1. A Coy 9th Bn V.D.C. carried out Test Mob. by PLN's
Time taken up to 2½ hrs maximum.
The Mob. Test was generally good but personnel lacked imagination and ingenuity.

B. TOPOGRAPHY

2. Bridges in WARRAGUL Area are in trafficable order.

COOLART RD. - bad between points Map-Ref. WESTERN PORT 183776 to 183795 and 184729 to 183797.

HUNTS RD. - Very Bad. Section 204747 to 184747 is unmade and at 183747 road is impassable.

TURNERS RD. - Section between 148766 and 152799 at present is passable only to light traffic.

FLAT AREAS from MORDIALLOC to CARRUM and at DROMANA are water-logged and are unsuitable for landing of aircraft.
Areas at BONNY VALE are inundated through rains and considerably help own defences.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

3. Heavy fogs are affecting visability for both Q.N.C.F. and A.A. Def.

D. MILITARY SECURITY

4. Reported that R.J. GREINKE , a naturalised GERMAN, of HASTINGS has been under Surveillance of HASTINGS V.D.C. personnel.
Has now left district, beleived to have gone to QUEENSLAND. Nothing of detriment to report.
Consorts of hotelkeepers at SOMERVILLE and HASTINGS, both naturalised GERMANS.
Hotels frequented by naval personnel from BASE . GRADED B.1.

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE.

5. Re enlistment personnel in A.I.F.
The following was overheard in latrines, 4 AUST A.A. Bty.:-

"I'm not going to join the b------- A.I.F. and be separated from my cobbers, I will go anywhere to fight with the unit, but I wont join the A.I.F. and be separated from my friends".

COMMENT

The above seems to be the general feeling of the majority of the personnel of 4 AUST A.A. Bty. They are prepared to go anywhere as a unit, A.I.F. or otherwise, but there is a strong feeling against signifying their intentions of becoming A.I.F. with the possibility of being drafted away to other units. As a unit they are confident and their morale is high.

6. Morale at Q.N.C.F. is generally good except for R.A.A. A separate report is being forwarded regarding this matter.

P.T.O.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

7. V.D.C. morale good.

8. Public morale :- The following are reports sent in by V.D.C.

FOSTER.

Good, but rumour spreading still rampant.

KONGWAK.

Residents are very perturbed at refusal of ENEMY aliens to sign the necessary documents at recent call up.

MORNINGTON PENINSULAR

Feeling is still high in the MORDIALLOC , CHELSEA and FRANKSTON districts in connection with the calling up of AUSTRALIAN tradesmen and /or thier motor trucks, while ITALIANS are apparently not being interfered with.

PART II - EXTERNAL

N I L to R E P O R T .

D. Cobbhient
for Major,
G.1. Victoria Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

Wal Dan

VIC. COVERING FORCE, H.Q.: INTELLIGENCE REPORT No.2

On infm. received up to 1000 hrs. 12 JUNE 42.

SECRET.

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

1. Reference our INT. Report No.1 para.4 - Planes still continue to fly over Prohibited Areas. At approximately 1030 Hrs. K/10 two unidentified aircraft flew over Prohibited Flying Area at QUEENSCLIFF. They were engaged by 28 A.A. Battery and 3 rounds fired. Later identification proved them to be AVRO-ANSONS. So far no plane has been brought down.

B. TOPOGRAPHY

2. Reference INT. Report No.1, para 1 (a): Q.N.C.F. report:-

SORRENTO 1" 678800-599820 - SHELL GRIT RD. has deteriorated further and strongly suggest the road be repaired.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

3. Conditions prevailing at present make observation by A.A. Defences very difficult.

D. MILITARY SECURITY.

4. NIL.

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE.

5. NIL.

W L Grindler Major.
G1 Vic. Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

SECRET

To: VIC L OF C INT.

From: H.Q. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No. 1

From 3 MAY 42 to 4 JUNE 42.

Part 1. - INTERNAL

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

(1) Topographical

(a) SHELL GRIT Rd.(ref. Sorrento 1" 678800 to 599820) is "corrugating" rapidly and has become dangerous for M/C traffic-particularly at night - 10/5/42.

(b) Works; Work on A/Tank ditch at COLES BEACH proceeding satisfactorily - 10/5/42.
Movement of guns (QNCF) completed 17 May 42.
Dummy guns have been installed in previously occupied positions - 17 May 42.
Proofing of new gun platforms - satisfactory- 21 May 42.
A.A. Practices carried out with 3.7" A.A.Guns at Queenscliff 2 Jun 42 also at WERRIBEE SOUTH with 40mm (Bofors) 3 Jun 42.
3.7" A.A.Guns practice is to be carried out 6-7 Jun 42 at YALLOURN.
Proofing of A.A.Fumes at Q.N.C.F. during week ending 23 May 42
Camouflaging of A.A.Bty.sites proceeding.

(2) Internal Political Conditions Nil.

(3) Public Morale

Recent submarine attacks on SYDNEY HARBOUR and ALLIED shipping has made the people of AUSTRALIA realise that we are at WAR, and that "it can happen here".

(4) Movement of Aircraft

ALLIED Aircraft still fly over the PROHIBITED Areas;- the following being typical examples;-

At approx.1646 hrs. 28 May 42 an unidentified aircraft,later proved to be an American type 0.47 was engaged at QUEENSCLIFF, by 28 A.A.Bty. and three rounds were fired.

At 1106 hrs. on 28 May 42, a plane Dc2(USA) No.1376 flew over the V.P. at YALLOURN at a height of 1900 feet. In this case the plane was not engaged, solely because a co-op. aircraft was expected over at this time.

As A.A.Bty's. are at battle stations and are there for a definite purpose, there will certainly be cases of Allied planes being shot down by our own Btys. if this ignoring of orders by aircraft continues.

B. INTERNAL SECURITY

All units of this formation have been instructed in the importance of keeping troops fully aware of the necessity for security in action as well as the spoken and written word.

(5) ENEMY AGENTS

A report was received by Q.N.C.F. 24/5/42 and sent to A.H.Q. re a suspicious foreigner at FRANKSTON tohought to be one of the escapees.

(6) SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES Nil

SABOTAGE Nil

-/2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

INTELLIGENCE REPORT No.1

FROM 3 MAY 42 to 4 JUNE 42.

B. INTERNAL SECURITY(cont.)

(8) DISCLOSURE OF OPERATIONS; 3 films confiscated from civilians by 9 Res.Gr.Bn. believed to contain photographs of defensive positions, were forwarded to G.S.O.(M I) 3 Jun 42.

(9) INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: Nil.

PART II - EXTERNAL

(10) Insufficient INTELLIGENCE information is received re enemy movements if any around SOUTHERN WATERS.

(11) ACK.

W.D. Speridge Major.
G1 Victoria Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3008
(Page 1)
(Adapted)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Victoria Covering Force
(Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
Maj General *	1		
Brigadiers *	NIL		
Lieut.-Colonels	1	No Establishment Yet	
Majors	2		
Captains	NIL	Issued with Yet	
Lieutenants	2		
2nd Lieutenants	NIL		
Quartermasters	NIL		
Totals	6		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	NIL			

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	NIL			

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

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

a.w. 3m bks 3/42

Army Form W.3008
(Page 2)
(Adapted)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1 Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	2 Personal Number.	3 Name and Initials.	4 Corps.	5 Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	6 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Maj Genl	VX15002	Anthony H.	Aust Staff	Yes	
Lieut Col	VX2250	Galvin T. E.	"	Yes	
Major	VX2019	Ingamells W. H.	"	Yes	
Major	VX7570	Middlebrook A.	"	Yes	
Lieut	VX42911	Scharenguivel C.	"	Yes	
Lieut	VX36086	Cobb D. W.	"	Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Brigadier	VX12823	Gallagher T. H.	Aust Staff	6.4.42	CRA Victoria Force
Lieut	VX47902	Gordon R. G.	15th R.	6.4.42	A.D.C.
Lieut	VX5117	Lord A. H.	Ordnance	9.4.42	T.O.
Lieut	VX20115	Edwards E.	Aust Staff	6.4.42	T.O.

Victoria Covering Force
(Unit.)

A/Lieut-Colonel
(Signature of Commander.)

4.4.42
(Date of Despatch.)

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)
(Adapted)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

Victoria Covering Force (Unit) 4.7. 19 42 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	2	No Establishment Issued as yet	
W.Os. Class II.	NIL		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	NIL		
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	2		
Corporals	3		
Troopers, Privates, &c.	19		
TOTALS	27	*	*

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
V280206	2 Lof 6		
Sgt McDonald	Postal Units		
S.R.	Albany Part		

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

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

a.w. 3m bks 12/41

Victoria Covering Force Unit.

Army Form W. 3009
(Adapted) (Aug. 41)
(page 2)

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)								

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

Victoria Covering Force. Lt Col
Unit. *Signature of Commander.*

Date of Despatch 4 7 42 *Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.*

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

3rd District Records
54 | 8 | 62

324

H. 100M 2/42

Unit VIC COVERING FORCE Date and Time.—From 1/7/42 To 2/7/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. BATMAN AVE	1 July		WEATHER - FINE - COLD.	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 O R's	
			Vic Covering Force Operation Instn No.1. to V.D.C. was	
			issued.	See Copy attached
			Location Statement showing disposition of Q.M.C.F. and A.A. Def	See Copy attached
			were submitted 28 JUN '42	
"	2 July		WEATHER - FINE - WINDY	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 O R's.	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM , D.S.O. V.D., Brig V.H. GATLIFF, D.S.O. and	
			Maj W.L. TRESIDDER visited A.A. Positions at LAVERTON	
			Fighter Sector took over part of C.D.H. role as from 1st JULY '42	
			Lieut A.M. LORD (C.D.H.) liaised with Fighter Sector.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit VIC COVERING FORCE

Date and Time.—From 3/7/42 To 7/7/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. BATMAN AVE	3 July '42		WEATHER - WET - (Heavy Rain)	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 O R's.	
			Routine Orders Part I. issued	See copies attached.
"	4 July		WEATHER - WET - COLD	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 O R's.	
"	5 July		WEATHER - DULL - COLD.	
			STRENGTH 10 Offrs - 28 O R's.	
"	6 July		WEATHER - DULL - COLD.	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 O R's.	
			D/S and Students of 2 MOTOR DIV - and 41 U.S. DIV had this	
			H.Q. for the carrying of T.E.W.T. Amendment to O Instn No. 1.	
			issued.	Copy attached.
"	7 July		WEATHER - DULL - COLD.	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 O R's.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit VIC COVERING FORCE. *Date and Time.—From* 8/7/42 *To* 12/7/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. BATMAN AVE.	8 July		WEATHER - DULL - COLD.	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 0 R's	
"	9 July		WEATHER - FINE .	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 28 0 R's	
			Col. KINNEMONTH - S.W. Grp COMD V.D.C. and G.I. VIC COV FORCE	
			had final tie up for V.D.C. tasks etc in S.W. Sector.	
"	10 July		WEATHER - DULL - COLD.	
			STRENGTH - 10 Offrs - 29 0 R's	
			Routine Orders for week ending 10 July '42 issued.	See copies attached.
"	11 July		WEATHER - FINE - LATER LIGHT RAIN.	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 30 0 R's	
"	12 July		WEATHER - FINE - COLD	
			STRENGTH - 10 OFFRS - 30 0 R's.	
			C.D.H. reports 'plane crashed at Arthurs Seat.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit VIC COVERING FORCE. *Date and Time.—From* 13 JULY 42 *To* 15 JULY 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
H.Q. BATMAN AVE.	13 July		Weather - DULL - COLD	
			STRENGTH - 10 Offrs - 30 OR's	
			Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM, D.S.O., V.D. and Brig V.H. GATLIFF, D.S.O.	
			inspected camouflage at A.A. Gun sites - BRAYBROOK - ESSENDON -	
			and COODE IS.	
"	14 July		WEATHER - DULL - COLD	
			STRENGTH - 10 Offrs - 30 O R's	
			Maj-Gen PLANT D.S.O., O.B.E. and Maj-Gen F.P. DERHAM, D.S.O. V.D.	
			visited NEPEAN area and 2 AUST ARMY H.Q. MOUNT MARTHA .	
"	15 July		WEATHER - DULL - COLD	
			STRENGTH - 10 Offrs - 30 O R 's	
			Lt. Col. B.C. PETERS, D.F.C. and Maj. W.L. TRESIDDER inspected Q.N.C.F. &	
			3 GRN BN (C.D.)	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit VICTORIA COVERING FORCE *Date and Time.—From* 15 July 42 *To* 17 July 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HQ, Batman Ave	15 Jul 42		(cont) Maj-Gen. J.Barnes U.S.Army inspected for information	
			working principles of Victoria Covering Force.	
" "	16 Jul 42		Weather dull - cold - heavy frost.	
			Strength: 10 Offrs. 30 O.R.s	
			Operation Instrn. No.2 A.A.Defences regarding 40 mm BOFORS	
			A.A.guns at VIC. DOCKS was issued. Arrangements made to	
			shift A.A.S.L. clusters from WEST side of river to EAST side.	
" "	17 Jul 42		Weather: fog early - fine- cold.	
			Strength 10 Offrs, 31 O.R.s	
			Weekly Int.Report forwarded to Vic L of C Area H.Q.	copy attached
			Attached hereto is copy of W3008 and W3009 now required	see copies "
			weekly	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE~~ SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit VICTORIA COVERING FORCE HQ *Date and Time.—From* 18 July 42 *To* 22 July 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HQ Batman Avenue	18 Jul 42		Weather - fine - cold	
			Strength: 10 Offrs. 30 O.R.s	a
" "	19 Jul 42		Weather - fine - cold	
			Strength: 10 Offrs. 30 O.R.s	b
" "	20 Jul 42		Weather - fine - cold	
			Strength: 10 Offrs. 31 O.R.s	
" "	21 Jul 42		Weather- Light rain - cold.	c
			Strength: 10 Offrs. 31 O.R.s	
			Victoria Covering Force Admn.Instr.No.1 for the closing of	see copies attached
			Q.N.C.F. was issued	d
" "	22 Jul 42		Weather - fine - cold	
			Strength: 10 Offrs. 31 O.R.s	
			Combined Planning Committee met and discussed operations etc.	e
			affecting the three Services.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit HQ VICTORIA COVERING FORCE *Date and Time.—From* 23 Jul 42 *To* 26 Jul 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HQ Batman Avenue	23 Jul 42		Weather - dull -cold- light rain during night	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 31 O.R.s	
" "	24 Jul 42		Weather - fine - cold	
			Strength 10, Offrs, 31 O.R.s	
			Part I Weekly Routine Orders for Vic.Covering Force	see copies attached
			Serials 27-34 were issued	
" "	25 Jul 42		Weather - dull -cold	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 31 O.R.s	
			Weekly Returns W3008 and W3009 forwarded	see copy attached
			No.8 Vic.Covering Force Weekly Int.Report compiled	" " "
	26 Jul 42		Weather-fine-cold	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 31 O.R.s	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE~~ SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit HQ VICTORIA COVERING FORCE *Date and Time.—From* 27 Jul 42 *To* 29 Jul 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HQ Batman Ave	27 Jul 42		Weather - fine - cold	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 31 O.R.s	
			Additional infm. received too late for inclusion in WEEKLY	copy attached
			INT. Report was forwarded to Vic L of C .	
			Vic.Covering Force O. Instrn.No.3(A.A.Defs) on deployment	copy attached
			of 112 Lt.A.A.Regt was issued.	
	28 Jul 42		Weather-heavy fog early - fine.	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 31 O.R.s	
			Casualty return for Brig.G.H.KNOX on allotment of VXM number was forwarded.	copy attached
		1200	H.Q. Q.N.C.F. closed down and came under direct command Vic. Covering Force.	
	29 Jul 42		Weather-dull-cold.	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 31 O.R.s	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit HQ VICTORIA COVERING FORCE *Date and Time.—From* 30 Jul 42 *To* 31 Jul 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HQ Batman Ave	30 Jul 42		Weather - fog - cold- later fine.	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 33 O.R.s	
			Work taken over from Q.N.C.F. proceeding smoothly	
	31 Jul 42		Weather-heavy fog-cold then fine.	
			Strength: 10 Offrs, 33 O.R.s	
			Weekly R.O.s issued also W3008 and W3009 prepared.	copies attached
			Preparations commenced for change of command and change of	
			duties within Staff.	
			Weekly Intelligence Report forwarded to Vic L of C Area H.Q.	Copy attached

[signature] BRIGADIER
Victoria Covering Force

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

AMF. 5 x 35 Attached 4 x 1.

Army Form W.3008
(Page 1.)
(Adapted.)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Final No 5.

Victoria Covering Force (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
MAJ. GENERAL *	1		
BRIGADIER *	NIL	Sqn Ldr Hutchinson Yes.	
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	2	Issued.	
Captains	3		
Lieutenants	3		
2nd Lieutenants	NIL		
Quartermasters	NIL		
Totals	8		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Capt.	Baum E	Unit HQ RNCF.	28.7.42	Comp't RNCF vide Ltr 6 Baum 5915
Lieut	Williams J.A.	HQ RNCF.	28.7.42	" "

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

a.w. 2m bks 3/41

Army Form W.3008
(Page 2.)
(Adapted.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1 Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	2 Personal Number.	3 Name and Initials.	4 Corps.	5 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	6 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Maj Gen	VIIS 102	Denham E.P.	G.O.C	Yes	
Lieut Col	T253556	Collins E.G.	Maj RMC	Yes	
Major	VS7719	Lewin A.L.	G.1	Yes	
Major	VP 7590	Riddock A.R.E.	DAAG	Yes	
Capt	V41402	Baum E.	C.S.O.2	Yes	
Lieut	VIIT911	Schumann A.W.	A.D.C	Yes	
Lieut	V36076	Cobb L.A.	G III	Yes	
Lieut	VIIT30	Williams J.A.	L.O.	Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Brigadier	V51955	Galliff W.H.	HQ 7 Aust	6 Mar 42	CRA
Lieut	VIIS 902	Linton R.J.	15th Fd Bty	6.5.42	DAAG
Lieut	VS0117	Lord A.M.	HQ RNCF	9.6.42	I.O.
Lieut	VS5155	Edwards C.	2/4 Aust Inf Bn	16.6.42	I.O.

Victoria Covering Force. (Unit.)

1. 8. 42 (Date of Despatch.)

R A Cobb Lieut (Signature of Commander.)

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3008
(Page 1)
(Adapted)

11 M.F. 6x30. Attached 4x1.

Serial No 1.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Victoria Covering Force (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
Maj. General *	1	No Establishment yet.	
Brigadiers *	Nil		
Lieut.-Colonels	1.		
Majors	2.	Issued as yet.	
Captains	Nil		
Lieutenants	2.		
2nd Lieutenants	Nil		
Quartermasters	Nil		
Totals	6.		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.
		Nil.		

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Unit or Corps.	Date.	Cause.
		Nil.		

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

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

a.w. 3m bks 3/42

Army Form W.3008
(Page 2)
(Adapted)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1 Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	2 Personal Number.	3 Name and Initials.	4 Corps.	5 Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No).	6 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Maj Gen	V115202	Latham J.P.	Establishment G.O.C	Yes	
Lieut Col	T253506	Debis E.G.	A.A.&Q.M.G.	Yes	
Major	V59719	Frenedah Z.K.	G.1.	Yes	
Major	VP7570	Ruddock A.R.G.	D.A.A.&Q.M.G	Yes	
Lieut	V149711	Schuermann F.W.	A.D.C	Yes	
Lieut	V36086	Cobb D.A.	G.III	Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit or Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Brigadier	V51953	Griffith V.H.	H.Q. Div. Arty.	1.4.42	C.R.A. Vic. Cov. Force
Lieut	V145902	Turner R.G.	5th Bn	6.5.42	D.A.A.G.
Lieut	V50917	Lord A.M.	7th Lancers	9.6.42	I.O.
Lieut	V55155	Edwards C.	2/3rd Wairarapa	14.6	I.O.

Victoria Covering Force. (Unit.)

18. 9. 42 (Date of Despatch.)

(Signature of Commander.)

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3008
(Page 1.)
(Adapted.)

A.M.F 6x30. Attached 4x1.

Serial No. 3.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Victoria Covering Force (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
Maj. General *	1	No Establishments Issued as yet.	
Brigadiers *	Nil		
Lieut.-Colonels	1		
Majors	2		
Captains	Nil		
Lieutenants	2		
2nd Lieutenants	Nil		
Quartermasters	Nil		
Totals	6		

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	Nil			

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
	Nil			

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

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

a.w. 2m bks 3/41

Army Form W.3008
(Page 2.)
(Adapted.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1 Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	2 Personal Number.	3 Name and Initials.	4 ~~Corps.~~ Appointment	5 Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	6 If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Maj Gen	V115002	Durham F.P.	G.O.C.	Yes	
Lieut. Col.	T253506	Peters L.C.	AAIQMG	Yes	
Major	V59719	Tresidder W.L.	G.I.	Yes	
Major	VP.7570	Ruddock W.C.G.	DAQMG	Yes	
Lieut	V147711	Schwennesen A.W.	A.D.C.	Yes	
Lieut	V36086	Cobb D.A.	G.III.	Yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit or Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Brigadier	V51953	Gatliff V.H.	HQ Tg Depot	6-4-42	CRA Vic Cov Force
Lieut	V145702	Turner R.G.	15 Tg Bn	6-5-42	DAAG " "
Lieut	V50817	Lord A.M.	HQ NCF	9-6-42	I.O. " "
Lieut	V55155	Edwards C.	2 Tg Bn Victoria	19-6-42	I.O. " "

Victoria Covering Force (Unit.)

AW Schwennesen Lt (Signature of Commander.)

25.7.42 (Date of Despatch.)

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)
(Adapted)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

Serial No. 6

Victoria Covering Force (Unit) 1 8 19 42 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	2		
W.Os. Class II.	NIL		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	NIL		
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	3		
Corporals	4		
Troopers, Privates, &c.	25		
TOTALS	35	*	*

No Establishments Issued as yet.

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
V280205. Cpl McDonald SR	Postal Unit		

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

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

a.w. 3m bks 5/41

Victoria Covering Force Unit.

Army Form W. 3009
(page 2)

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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.								REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.								REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.		
Bricklayers																	
Butchers																	
Carpenters and Joiners																	
Clerks																	
Despatch Riders																	
Draughtsmen (topo)																	
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																	
Electricians																	
Farriers																	
Fitters																	
Masons																	
Painters and Decorators																	
Plumbers and Gasfitters																	
Saddlers and Harness Makers																	
Signallers																	
Storemen technical																	
Vickers Machine Gunners																	
Cooks																	
General duty personnel																	
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)																	

No Establishments Issued as yet.

Victoria Covering Force
Unit.

Date of Despatch 1.8.42

D.A. Cobb Lieut
Signature of Commander.

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

a.w. 3m bks 5/41

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)
(Adapted)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

Serial No. 4. Victoria Covering Force (Unit) 25. 7. 1942 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	2		
W.Os. Class II.	Nil.	No Establishment Issued as Yet	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	Nil		
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	2		
Corporals	4		
Troopers, Privates, &c.	21		
TOTALS	30	*	*

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
V 280205. Cpl McDonald S.R.	Postal Unit.		

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

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

Nil

a.w. 3m bks 5/41

Victoria Covering Force Unit.

Army Form W.3009
(page 2)

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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT. W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED. W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	REMARKS.
Bricklayers																
Butchers																
Carpenters and Joiners																
Clerks																
Despatch Riders																
Draughtsmen (topo)																
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																
Electricians																
Farriers																
Fitters																
Masons																
Painters and Decorators																
Plumbers and Gasfitters																
Saddlers and Harness Makers																
Signallers																
Storemen technical																
Vickers Machine Gunners																
Cooks																
General duty personnel																
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)																

No Establishment Issued as Yet.

Victoria Covering Force
Unit.

Date of Despatch 25. 7. 42

A McInerney Lt
Signature of Commander.

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

a.w. 3m bks 5/41

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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

Army Form W.3009
(page 1)
(Adapted)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

Serial No 2. Victoria Covering Force (Unit) 18.7.- 19 42 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	2.		
W.Os. Class II.	NIL.	No Establishment Issued as Yet	
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants	NIL.		
Staff Serjeants	1		
Serjeants	2		
Corporals	3		
Troopers, Privates, &c.	22		
TOTALS		*	*

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
V2P0205 Gnr Lovell S.R.	2 L of C Postal Unit Albert Park.		

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

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

a.w. 3m bks 12/41

Victoria Covering Force. Unit.

Army Form W. 3009
(Adapted) (Aug. 41)
(page 2)

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

Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)	Detail of Specialists, Tradesmen, etc.	Surplus (a)	Reinfts. Required (a)
Ammunition Examiners			Fire Control Operators			Panel Beaters		
Armament Artificers			Fitters			Pattern Makers		
Armourers			Fitters and Turners			Pharmacists		
Artificers, Artillery			Fitters, Cycle			Photographers, dry plate		
Axemen			Fitters, Drivers			Photographers, wet plate		
Bakers			Fitter's Mates			Photo-Writers		
Battery Surveyors			Fitters, M.V.			Plate Layers		
Battery Comdrs. Asst.			Fitters, Railway Signal			Plumbers		
Blacksmiths			Fitters, Signal			Predictor Numbers		
Boilermakers			Grinders			Printers		
Bricklayers			Gun Layers			Radiator Mechanics		
Butchers			G.P.O. Assistants			Radiographers		
Camouflage Modeller			Gun Operators			Range Takers		
Carpenter and Joiner			Hammermen			Riggers		
Clerks			Height Takers			Rivetters		
Clerks, Engineering			Helio Operators			Saddlers		
Clerks, Supply			Instrument Mechanics			Saddle Tree Makers		
Clerks, Technical			Instrument Mechanics, Surgical			Saw Doctors		
Coachmakers			Instrument Operators			Sawyers		
Computers			Intelligence Duties			Shoemakers		
Concretors			Joiners			Signallers		
Cooks			Leather Stitchers			Signwriters		
Cooks, Hospital			Linesmen			Stokers, Stationary Engine		
Coppersmiths			Linesmen, Signals			Storemen, Technical		
Dental Clerk Orderlies			Lithographers			Surveyors		
Despatch Riders			Machinists			Surveyors, Engineering		
Dispensers			Masons			Tailors		
Draughtsmen			Masseurs			Telescope Identification Numbers		
Draughtsmen, Architectural			Mechanics, Dental			Textile Refitters		
Draughtsmen, Mechanical			Mechanics, M.T.			Tinsmiths		
Draughtsmen, Signal			Mechanics, Typewriter			Toolmakers		
Draughtsmen, Topographical			Mechanics, Wireless			Turners		
Driver Mechanics			Millwrights			Vulcanizers		
Driver Operators			Miners			Wagon Erectors		
Drivers, Transportation Plant			Moulders			Watchmakers		
Electrical Fitters			Nursing Orderlies			Watermen		
Electricians			Nursing Orderlies (Mental)			Welders		
Electricians, Eng. Units			Nurses, Trained			Well Borers		
Electricians, Signal			Observation Post Assistants			Wheelers		
Engine Artificers			Operating Room Assistants			Whitesmiths		
Engine Hands I/C			Operators, Signal			Wiremen		
Equipment Repairers			Opticians			Woodturners		
Farriers			Painters					
Totals (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)								

Notes—(a) If rank other than Private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised Trades or Specialists not included in list above will be added as required in spaces provided.

Victoria Covering Force. Mechanician. Lieut
Unit. *Signature of Commander.*

Date of Despatch 15.7.42 *Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.*

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

WAR DIARY

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

SECRET

Copy No. 16

30 Jun 42.

H.Q.
Batman Avenue,
MELBOURNE.

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE O.INSTN. No.1 (V.D.C.).

REF. MAPS — 1" to 1 mile of SOUTHERN VICTORIA (as applicable)
¼" to 1 mile of " " " "
SHIRE MAP OF VICTORIA.

OBJECT

1. To protect VICTORIA against enemy action.

INFORMATION

2. VICTORIA has been divided into a number of areas. For the purpose of this instn. VICTORIA is divided into two main areas

(a) VICTORIA COVERING FORCE AREA.

(b) The REMAINDER of the STATE.

3. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE AREA comprises the three coloured areas shown on the attached map(appendix "A" to this instn). Colours indicate:-

(a) Q.N.C.F. area - GREEN
(b) S.W.Grp.VDC area- RED
(c) S.E.Grp.VDC area- BLUE

4. COMPOSITION OF VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

COMD. - Major-General F.P.DERHAM,D.S.O., V.D.
(G.O.C. Vic.Covering Force).
STAFF - H.Q. VIC.COVERING FORCE Staff.
TROOPS - Q.N.C.F.
A.A.Defences
V.D.C. - SW and SE GROUPS and ancillary tps.

METHOD

5. Main roles of V.D.C. will be
(a) Deny the enemy firm landings on the SOUTH VICTORIAN COAST - the following areas in particular:-

MORNINGTON PENINSULA
WESTERNPORT
CORNER INLET AREA
BELLARINE PENINSULA and BEACHES SOUTH of GEELONG.
WARATAH BAY
NINETY MILE BEACH
WOODSIDE to SEASPRAY.

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5. (contd)

(b) In the event of a landing - destroy and delay the enemy at every opportunity.
(c) In the event of enemy penetration - deny approaches to vital areas.
(d) Protect vital points.
(e) Deny the enemy vital ground.
(f) Delay the enemy by both offensive action and demolitions.
(g) Maintain mobile reserves for offensive action and counter attack.
(h) Prepare and man obstacles.
(i) Provide operational intelligence within their areas.
(j) Man C.W.P.S.

6 V.D.C. will operate in SECTORS as laid down for SW and SE GROUPS, V.D.C.

7. Comd., composition and PARTICULAR ROLES of SW and SE GROUPS VDC in continuation of MAIN ROLES laid down in para. 5 above:-

(a) S.W.GROUP

COMD. - Col. J.C.KININMONTH D.S.O.
STAFF - V.D.C. Staff and incl. VIC COV.FORCE L.O.
TROOPS - 6 Bn VDC(less D Coy) 7,8,9 and 19 Bns VDC

PARTICULAR ROLES

(1) Act in close co-operation with QNCF and protect that FORCE from the WEST.
(2) Deny the enemy firm landings on the SOUTH WEST VICTORIAN coast from incl. BARWON HEADS to the SOUTH AUST. border.
(3) Be prepared to destroy bridges and likely crossings over HOPKINS R., MT.EMU CREEK, BARWON, MOORABOOL,LITTLE and WERRIBEE RIVERS.
(4) Watch for enemy attempted crossings of LAKE CORANGAMITE.
(5) In the event of invasion pending - prepare for destruction jetties, piers and other outport installations within S.W.SECTOR.
(6) Guard suspension bridge over MOORABOOL R.
(7) Guard WIRELESS STATION GEELONG.
(8) Guard A.O.B. at WARRNAMBOOL (with FTD personnel)
(9) Guard and maintain defensive works on coast. from incl. BARWON HEADS-TORQUAY (with FTD pers.)

(b) S.E.GROUP

COMD. - Brig. W.H.Scott C.M.G. D.S.O. V.D.
STAFF - VDC Staff and incl. L.O. VIC.COV.FORCE.
TROOPS- 10, 11, 12 and 13 Bns. V.D.C.
PARTICULAR ROLES

(1) Act in close co-operation with QNCF and protect that FORCE from the EAST.
(2) Deny the enemy firm landings on SOUTH EAST VICTORIAN COAST from incl. RYE BACK BEACH to NEW SOUTH WALES border
(3) Guard A.O.B. at YANAKIE (with FTD personnel)
(4) Guard A.O.B. at MALLACOOTA (with FTD personnel)
(5) Guard S.E.C. installation at YALLOURN.
(6) Block and prepare for cratering at suitable points the following roads:- SOUTH GIPPSLAND HIGHWAY, GRAND RIDGE ROAD, PRINCES HIGHWAY.

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7 (cont) (7) In the event of invasion pending - prepare for destruction jetties, piers and other outport installations within S.E. SECTOR.

8 INTELLIGENCE

(a) Comdrs. of Groups are responsible that INT. information whether MILITARY or AIR is sent direct to H.Q. VIC.COVERING FORCE by the speediest and most secure means a vailable.

(b) VOLUNTEER AIR OBSERVER CORPS channels, if convenient, may be used by all VDC personnel, and V.A.O.C. will automatically pass information on, provided correct address of addressee is stated.

(c) SITREPS will be forwarded by Group H.Q.s to H.Q. VIC COVERING FORCE by safe hands, marked map of L.O., or any other channel safest under the particular circumsta nces.

(d) SITREPS MUST be rendered every four hours when operations are in progress and information will be given under the following headings:-

Enemy ground activity.
Enemy a ir and naval activity.
Operations of own tps, incl. projected ops.
Abnorma l weather conditions.
Other information, incl. remarks and deductions.

(e) P.W. a nd Captured Documents and Equipment from Enemy Aircraft.

Prisoners will be IMMEDIATELY searched. All effects, with exception of identity discs (from which a rubbing will be taken) will be put in sepa rate parcels clearly marked with names, identification of aircraft, time and date of crash etc., and dispatched IMMEDIATELY TO AIR INTELLIGENCE, R.A.A.F. H.Q. MELBOURNE. Prisoners will be sent under escort, as soon as practicable, by fastest availa ble means to nearest R.A.A.F. Unit, which must be warned in advance of capture.

ADM.

9 Adm. Instns. will be issued by VIC. V.D.C. H.Q.s pending operations.

INTERCOMMN

10 (a) Location of H.Q. VIC. COVERING FORCE - 023349 (MELBOURNE 1" sheet).

(b) Communication within the area will be based on P.M.G. lines, V.A.O.C. posts and any other safe available means.

(c) Further instructions will be issued later regarding alarm and other signals.

ACK.

Signed at ...1800 hrs.....

Issued by ...10R.....

Distribution (see attached list).

[signature] Major.
G.S.O.1 VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE O. INSTN. No.1 (VDC)

Sheet 4.

Distribution	Copy No.
V.D.C. H.Q. Vic.	1
V.D.C. S.E.Grp	2
V.D.C. S.W.Grp.	3
Q.N.C.F.	4
G.O.C. Vic.Covering Force	5
G.S.O.1 " " "	6
AA & QMG " " "	7
G3(1) " " "	8
Vic L of C Area	9 & 10
7 Melb L of C Sub Area	11
Flinders Naval Depot	12
Sthn. Area Int.	13
File	14
War Diary	15 & 16
Spares	18 17 - 20

2 Motor Div

17

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

SECRET

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE ADM. INSTRN. No. 1. Copy No. 25.

H.Q., Batman Avenue,
MELBOURNE.

21 July, 1942.

1. H.Q., Q.N.C.F. will close at QUEENSCLIFF at 1200 hrs. Tuesday 28 July 42 and cease to function as from that time.

2. Units in QUEENSCLIFF-NEPEAN AREA with the exception of those set out in para.3 below will come under direct command of H.Q., Victoria Covering Force Batman Avenue Melbourne as from 1200 hrs. Tuesday 28 July 42.

3. (a) Units set out in para 3 (b) below will come under command of C.F.D. (Lt.Col. Inches) who will in turn come under direct command of H.Q. Victoria Covering Force as from 1200 hrs. Tuesday 28 July, 42.

(b) R.A.A.(P.P.F.D.); R.A.E.(P.P.F.D.); P.P.Frt.Sigs.; 3 Frt.Coy A.A.M.C.; 11 Frt.Coy.A.A.M.C.

4. 3 Grn.Bn.(Coast Defence), 9 Grn.Bn.(Coast Defence) will maintain close liaison with C.F.D.

5. Comd. Q.N.C.F. will make arrangements for :-

(a) PERSONNEL

(i) Personnel hereunder to be transferred to H.Q. Victoria Covering Force:-

V91203 Capt.E.Baum.
V50817 Lieut.A.M.Lord.
V18830 Lieut.I.A.Williams.
V91261 Sgt. W.Smith.
V54519 L/Cpl.J.J.Duguid.
V36990 L/Cpl.S.Key.
V186107 Pte. Miller C.J.

(ii) All other personnel to be returned to their original units.

(b) AMMUNITION

Ammunition held to be placed in storage in Forts under arrangement with C.F.D. and to be held there pending further instructions.

(c) PETROL

As for para. 5(b) above.

(d) SUPPLIES

Reserve rations to become responsibility of C.F.D.

(e) TRANSPORT

Cars, Vans, and M/Cycles to be transferred to H.Q. Vic.Covering Force, Batman Avenue, with the exception of Van C19187 which will be returned to 9 Grn.Bn.

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5.(cont) (f) CAMP STORES and OFFICE EQUIPMENT(typewriters etc).

To be transferred to and located at H.Q. Vic. Covering Force. Transport to be arranged by H.Q. Q.N.C.F.

(g) Q.M.STORES

As for para.5(f) above.

(h) RECORDS

As for para.5(f) above.

(i) Sufficient personnel to clear site under the direction of Staff Captain.

6. S.M.O.QUEENSCLIFF will transfer A.D.S. to site previously occupied by H.Q.,Q.N.C.F. as soon as vacated.

7. ACK.

Lt. Col.
A.A.& Q.M.G.Vic.Covering Force.

Distribution	Copy No.
H.Q.,Q.N.C.F.	1-2
R.A.A.(PPFD)	3
R.A.E.(PPFD)	4
P.P.Frt.Sigs.	5
3 Frt.Coy AAMC	6
11 Frt.Coy AAMC	7
3 Grn.Bn.	8
9 Grn.Bn.	9
C Sec.104 Res.M.T.	10
H.Q.A.A.Defences	11
112 Lt.A.A.Regt.	12
G.O.C.	13
C.R.A.	14
G.S.O.1	15
A.A.& Q.M.G.	16
D.A.A.G.	17
D.A.Q.M.G.	18
L.O.	19
C.D.H.	20
S.M.O.Queenscliff	21
Vic L of C Area	22
7 Melb L of C Sub Area	23
8 Ballarat L of C Sub Area	24
War Diary	25-26
File	27

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

SECRET.

WAR DIARY

Copy No. 13

14 Jul 42

H.Q. BATMAN AVENUE MELB

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE O.INSTN. No.2 (A.A. DEFENCES).

REF. MAP: - MELBOURNE 1" to 1 mile.

OBJECT:

1. To increase the A.A. protection of the MELBOURNE DOCKS area.

METHOD:

2. A.A. GUNS
One troop of four 40 mm BOFORS AA guns will be sited at the following gun stations:-

No.1 gun 983367

No.2 gun 973358

No.3 gun 984352

No.4 gun 990359

3. TROOP H.Q. will be established at FLAGSTAFF GARDENS 993368.

4. PERSONNEL to man the guns are being supplied by Arty.Trg. Depots.

5. COMMAND The troop will be under command CAAD MELBOURNE for operations.

6. ROLE (a) To assist in protection of DOCKS area against enemy low flying or dive bombing attacks. High flying enemy recce.A/craft will NOT be engaged.
(b) To carry out normal trg. when not engaged in operational role.

7. CAAD will report to H.Q. VIC.COVERING FORCE IMMEDIATELY gun stations are ready for operational role.

ADM.

8. VIC. L.OF C.TRG.DEPOTS are responsible for:-
(a) Arranging the necessary accommodation for personnel.
(b) Selection and movement of necessary personnel.
(c) Rationing, cooking and sanitation arrangements.
(d) Training of personnel.

9. AMMUNITION is available at SOMERTON at one hour's notice and will be drawn when provision for storage at gun stations has been made.

INTERCOMM.

10. H.Q., A.A. DEFENCES will establish communication between G.O.R. and Troop H.Q.

ACK.
Signed at 1500 hours
Issued by

W.L. Trevidder Major,
G.S.O.1, Victoria Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE O.INSTN. No.2 (A.A. DEFENCES).

REF. MAP: - MELBOURNE 1" to 1 mile.

OBJECT:

1. To increase the A.A. protection of the MELBOURNE DOCKS area.

METHOD:

2. A.A.GUNS
One troop of four 40 mm BOFORS AA guns will be sited at the following gun stations:-

No.1 gun 983367

No.2 gun 973358

No.3 gun 984352

No.4 gun 990359

3. TROOP H.Q. will be established at FLAGSTAFF GARDENS 993368.

4. PERSONNEL to man the guns are being supplied by Arty.Trg. Depots.

5. COMMAND The troop will be under command CAAD MELBOURNE for operations.

6. ROLE (a) To assist in protection of DOCKS area against enemy low flying or dive bombing attacks. High flying enemy recce.A/craft will NOT be engaged.
(b) To carry out normal trg. when not engaged in operational role.

7. CAAD will report to H.Q. VIC.COVERING FORCE IMMEDIATELY gun stations are ready for operational role.

ADM.

8. VIC. L.OF C.TRG.DEPOTS are responsible for:-
(a) Arranging the necessary accommodation for personnel.
(b) Selection and movement of necessary personnel.
(c) Rationing, cooking and sanitation arrangements.
(d) Training of personnel.

9. AMMUNITION is available at SOMERTON at one hour's notice and will be drawn when provision for storage at gun stations has been made.

INTERCOMM.

10. H.Q., A.A. DEFENCES will establish communication between G.O.R. and Troop H.Q.

ACK.
Signed at hours
Issued by

W.L. Trevidder Major.
G.S.O.1, Victoria Covering Force.

1500

VICTORI. COVERING FORCE O. INSTN. No. 2 (A.A. DEFENCES)

DISTRIBUTION	Copy No.	
C.A.A.D. (Melbourne)	1	
112 Lt. A.A. Regt.	2	
G.O.C.	3	
Brig. R.A.	4	
G.S.O. (1)	5	
A.A. & Q.M.G.	6	
I.O.	7	
H.Q. Trng. Depots Vic L of C Area	8	for information
7 Melb L of C Sub Area	9	for information
H.Q. Vic L of C Area	10 - 11	
File	12	
WAR DIARY	13 - 14	
SOUTHERN AREA INT	15	(FOR INFN)
SPARES	~~15~~ 16	

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

SECRET
Copy No 14
22 July '42
H.Q.
Batman Av.
Melbourne.

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE O INSTN NO 3. (A A Defences)

OBJECT

1. To increase the A A protection of MELBOURNE AND YALLOURN areas.

METHOD

2. A.A. GUNS 112 lt. A.A. Regt. will recce and occupy gun stations in the following localities :-

One Troop	NEPEAN
One Troop	YALLOURN
One Troop	MARIBYRNONG
One Troop	LAVERTON and PT.COOK (2 guns each station)
One Troop	QUEENSCLIFF
One Troop	NEWPORT
One Troop	BROADMEADOWS

3. COMMAND Gun stations will be under command CAAD MELBOURNE for operations.

4. ROLE Protect vulnerable Pts and Areas against low flying or dive bombing attacks. High flying enemy recce aircraft will NOT be engaged.

5. CO-ORDINATION CAAD MELBOURNE will ensure that positions selected are co-ordinated with A A Defences of MELBOURNE and YALLOURN areas.

ADM.

6. Adm instructions issued separately.

INTER-COMN.

7. H.Qs. will be connected by line to existing warning system.

8. H.Q., VIC COVERING FORCE will be advised immediately guns are in position.

ACK.

Major
G.S.O.(1) Vic. Covering Force

Signed at 1800 Hours

Issued by
DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No.		Copy No.
112 Lt. A.A. Regt.	1	Vic. L. of C. Area	8
CAAD Melbourne	2	7 Melb Sub Area	9
Q.N.C.F.	3	8 Ballarat Sub Area	10
G.O.C.	4	Sthn Area	11
C.R.A.	5	D.N.O.	12
G.S.O.(1)	6	File	13
A.A. & Q.M.G.	7	War Diary	14-15
		Spares	16-18

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Vic Cov Fce (for Div War Diary)

(Margin for Filing Purposes)

NO 42/184

PAGE 1

A.F. W.3010 (Books of 100).

Date of last A.F. W.3010 rendered

24 JULY 1942 Number of sheets

attached to this return THREE

Casualty Return---Officers

H Q, Q-N C F (Unit.)

Detail of casualties to officers which have occurred since last return. The detail should include all battle casualties, accidents, admission to and discharge from hospital, casualty clearing station, etc. Promotions (acting, temporary, local or substantive), transfers, postings, attachments, etc., courts-martial, leave of absence, particulars of marriage and birth or death of children, alteration in next-of-kin with postal address, transfers to "X" List and any other items connected with an officer's service.

Rank.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Nature and Date of Casualty.	Date.	Remarks. (In the case of casualties from wounds or disease, any available information for communication to relatives should be stated.)
	THE UNDERMENTIONED PERSONNEL HAVE VOLUNTEERED FOR SERVICE IN THE A I F BEEN CLASSIFIED MEDICALLY FIT CLASS I AND COMPLETED A A F A 200 ARE TRANSFERRED TO A I F AND ALLOTTED ARMY NUMBERS AS SHOWN:-					
BRIGADIER	V 65899	KNOX G H	HQ, QNCF	VXM 65899	27/7/42	
	IT IS MY SONSIDERED OPINION THAT THIS OFFICER IS IN EVERY RESPECT FITTED TO COMMAND.					
	vide:-	VIC L OF C R/O Part I 226 Para 3 (61/6/1673.)				

[signature] Maj-Gen
Comdg Vic Cov Force....

[signature]
Signature of Commanding Officer.
CAPT.
Staff Capt. Q.N. Cov. Force

Date 27 JULY 42

H Q, Q-N C F (Unit.)

QUEENSCLIFF
(Bde. Divn. Area with which Unit is serving.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

SECRET

Copy No. 16

H.Q.
VICTORIA COVERING FORCE
Batman Av.
MELBOURNE

TO
ALL RECIPIENTS OF VIC. COV. FORCE O INSTN No.1. (V.D.C.)

AMENDMENT TO VIC. COV. FORCE O INSTN. No.1. (V.D.C.) 30 Jun 42

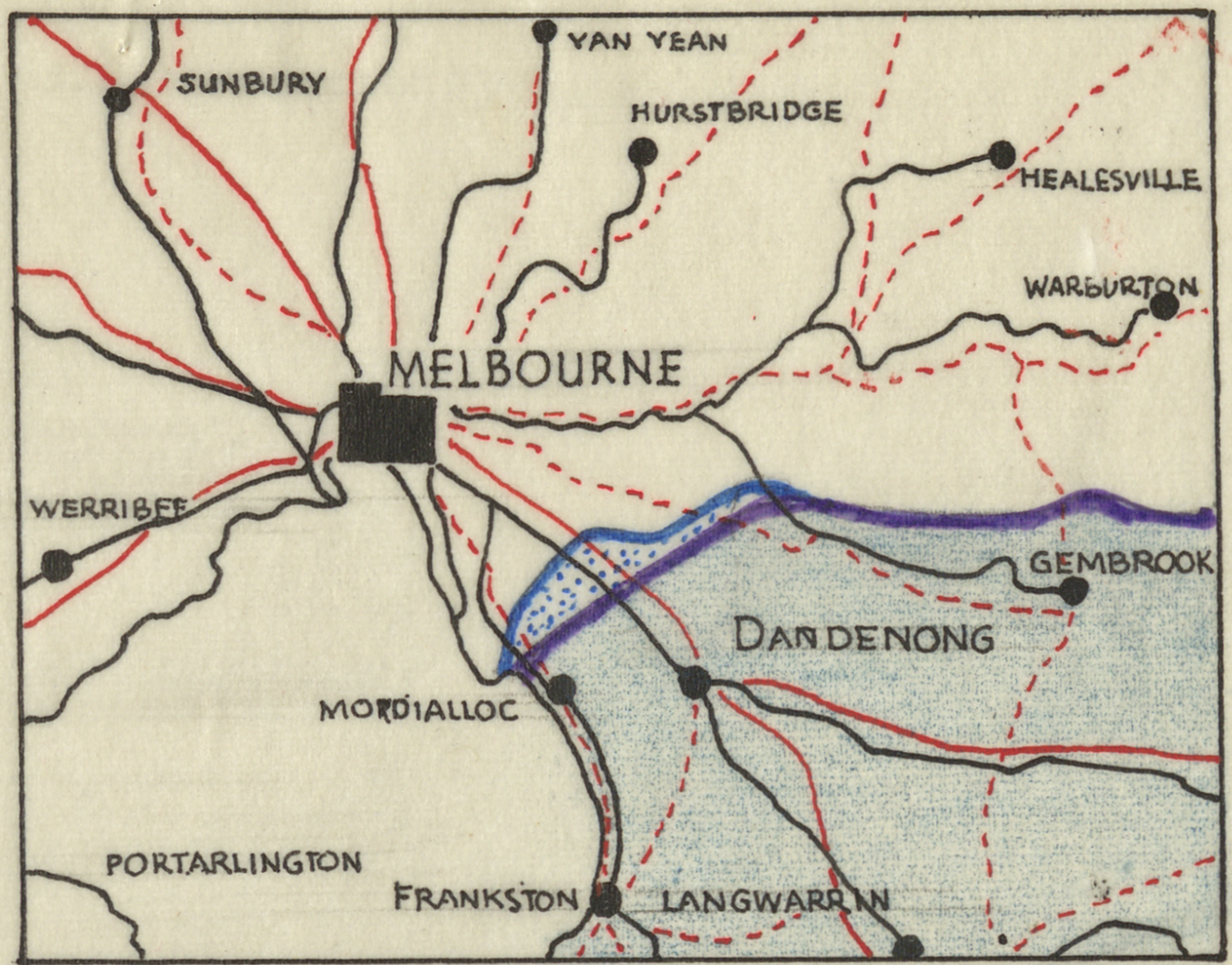
1. The NORTHERN Boundary of VIC. COV. FORCE Area will now be amended in accordance with the attached tracing - "Amendment to APPX. 'A' VIC. COV. FORCE O INSTN. No.1. (V.D.C.)

2. The area shown blue dotted will now be included in S.E. Gp. V.D.C. Area.

3. ACK.

Major
GSO1. Victoria Covering Force

Distribution	Copy No.
V.D.C. H.Q. Vic.	1
V.D.C. S.E.Grp.	2
V.D.C. S.W. Grp.	3
G.H.Q.S.E.	4
G.O.C.Vic.Covering Force	5
G.S.O. 1 " "	6
AA & QMG " "	7
G3(1)	8
Vic L of C Area	9 & 10
7 Melb L of C Sub Area	11
Flinders Naval Depot	12
Sthn. Area Int.	13
File	14
War Diary	15 & 16
Spares	18 17 - 20
2 Motor Div	17



Amendment to APPX "A".

Vic Covering Force O. INSTN No 1 - V. D. C.

30 Jun - 42

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
AWM2020.71.8288

COPY

SECRET SECRET

H Q Q-N COVERING FORCE

LOCATION STATEMENT (OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE)

Serial No	Unit	Ref Map	Location	Remarks
1	H Q QNCF	SORRENTO 1:63360	689803	
2	H Q R A A	" "	720804	
3	F C R A A	" "	721760	
4	Q'cliff Bty R A A	" "	670782	
5	Crows Nest Bty "	" "	710804	
6	Nepean Bty R A A	" "	711766	
7	Pearce Bty R A A	" "	717762	
8	H Q R A E	" "	719804	
9	Depot Sec R A E	" "	713803	
10	Frt Sec Lonsdale R A E	" "	675781	
11	" " Nepean R A E	" "	711767	
12	" " Pearce R A E	" "	717762	
13	" " Franklin R A E	" "	775749	
14	H Q Frt Sigs	" "	713803	
15	Frt Sigs Q N C F	" "	689803	
16	Frt Sigs Nepean	" "	711766	
17	Frt Sigs Fire Comd.	" "	720761	
18	Frt Sigs Franklin	" "	774747	
19	H Q 3 Res Bn	" "	683801	
20	Left Coy 3 Res Bn	" "	659791	
21	Right " " "	" "	623816	
22	Ocean Grove Coy "	" "	589812	
23	M G Coy 3 Res Bn	" "	665805	
24	H Q 9 Res Bn	" "	773743	
25	" Coy 9 Res Bn	" "	752756	
26	A Coy 9 Res Bn	" "	807696	
27	B Coy " "	" "	724758	
28	C Coy " "	" "	765731	
29	D Coy " "	" "	774747	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

Serial No	Unit	Ref Map	Location	Remarks
30	E Coy 9 Res Bn	SORRENTO 1:63360	778743	
31	104 Res M T Coy "C" Sec	" "	666805	
32	3 Frt Coy A A M C	" "	709805	
33	11 Frt Coy A A M C	" "	765745	
34	28 A A Bty	" "	716802	

Date 27 JUN 42

Time 2359 hrs

(sgd)G.H. KNOX
Brig
Comdr Q-N Covering Force

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

COPY

H.Q. A.A. DEFENCES
381 Royal Pde.
PARKVILLE N.2
June 27th 1942

H.Q. VIC COVERING FORCE

LOCATION STATEMENT

A.A. BTYS & COYS.

Herewith Statement showing location of A.A. Station and A.A. Coys. H.Q. and Cluster Stations.

UNIT	LOCATION	MAP REF	REMARKS
HQ AAD	PARKVILLE	998404 Melb Sheet	
4 AA BTY	BHQ COODE ISLAND	959368 "	
	NTH WILLIAMSTOWN	926309 "	
	ALBERT PARK	009320 "	
10 AA BTY	BHQ BRAYBROOK	883405 "	
	NTH ESSENDON	930456 Sunbury	
11 AA BTY	BHQ YALLOURN	333905 Moe	
	No.1. Station	345908 "	
	No.2. "	325906 "	
28 AA BTY	BHQ WILLIAMSTOWN R'course	898307 Melb	
	QUEENSCLIFF	PORT PHILLIP BAY B8d59	
30 A A BTY	BHQ YALLOURN	333912 Moe	(occupied but not in action.
	LAVERTON	803285 MELBOURNE	
	POINT COOK	791250 "	Not occupied
31 AA BTY	BHQ W'TOWN R'COURSE	898307 "	
HQ. AA COYS	MARIBYRNONG	926408 SUNBURY	
53 AA COY	PARKVILLE & COY H.Q.	998398 MELBOURNE	Occupied
	GOLF LINKS	074482 YAN YEAN	Not occupied
	MOONEE VALLEY	972430 MELBOURNE	Occupied
	NORTHCOTE	050418 RINGWOOD	"
	BULLEEN	118406 "	"
	BURNLEY	055345 "	"
	ST.KILDA	017313 MELB.	"
	GLENHUNTLY	078277 RINGWOOD	Not occupied
	BRIGHTON	025248 MELB	Occupied
64 AA COY	KEILOR H.Q.	872482 SUNBURY	Not occupied
	SYDENHAM	806532 "	"
	ST.ALBANS	833465 "	"
	MC NABBS	868528 "	"
	GREENVALE	928563 "	"
	TULLARMARINE	928508 "	"
	NORTH CAMPBELLFIELD	989557 "	"
	FAULKNER	003497 "	"
	MILLEARA RD.	902446 "	"
65 AA COY	SUNSHINE H.Q.	879385 MELB	Occupied
	FAIRVIEW	796340 "	Not Occupied
	WILLIAMSTOWN	938298 "	"
	SALT WORKS	824274 "	"
	DOCKS	973361 "	Occupied
	ARDEER	836395 SUNBURY	Not occupied
	TOTTENHAM	914374 MELB	"
	REFINERY	870322 "	"
	ROBINSON'S RD.	780402 "	"

(sgd)
For Comd AA Def.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

SECRET

H.Q. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE WEEKLY INT. REPORT.

No.9 on information recd. up to 1000 K/31

Copy No.

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

1. 9th Bn.V.D.C.(HAMILTON) held an Alarm Bn. Mobilization on 19 Jul 42. Zero hr. for alarm was known only to Bn.H.Q. and Coy. Cdrs. Time taken by all Coys to mobilize travelling distances up to 40 miles was 60-90 mins.

The Mobilization was very satisfactory - reality was well maintanied - equipment etc. was in good evidence & communications good and on the whole Bn. showed a great improvement from previous tests.

B. TOPOGRAPHICAL

Ref.Map: COLAC 4 miles to 1 inch.

2. 19th Bn.V.D.C. report NORTH of PRINCE'S HIGHWAY roads are in good order, but flat country is waterlogged to some extent. In the OTWAY area main roads good but many other roads impassable to motor traffic until drier weather conditions pertain.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

3. Nil.

D. MILITARY SECURITY

4. YARRAM STATION MASTER and also a V.D.C. private report signalling being carried out from the HADALYA HILLS towards the coast 2100-2400 K/23. Graded A1.

5. Still further reports are coming to hand from V.D.C. relative to signalling and lights in vicinity of LAKES ENTRANCE.

6. Below is a copy of a letter received by a COLAC photographer who passed it on to 19 Bn.V.D.C. The photographs mentioned were supplied.

"

10 McGregor St.
CANTERBURY.
20/7/42

Mr.L.Woods
Photographer
COLAC.

Dear Mr.Woods,

In reply to a letter which I recently wrote to the Postmaster at Colax, your name and address has been forwarded to me as a suitable man with whom to place photographic orders.

As you will notice by my address, I live in a suburb close to Melbourne, and am unfamiliar with the people and district of Colac. However, I hope the following request will not prove inconvenient to you.

Over a period of years, I have maintained an enthusiastic interest in different types of railway engines, and have collected quite a considerable number of photographs of various kinds.

At present there are 2 more photos which I am particularly anxious to get, to add to my collection.

They are both Narrow Guage engines, which are stationed at Colac, and run on the Beech Forest,Crowes line.

The numbers of the engines I require are 5A and 14A, as I already have photoes of the others operating on that line.

Now, could you please photograph the two I have mentioned by numbers, and 2 copies of each one, that is 4 photos altogether, post card size.

If you will do this for me, will you please reply (stamp enclosed) and send them, together with cost stated, or if you prefer I will forward cost before you dispatch order to me.

Trusting that I have made the above quite clear,and

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D. 6(cont) that you are able to locate these two engines, which I definitely know to be stationed at Colac. I will be pleased to receive your reply as soon as convenient to you.

I am,
Yours Faithfully,
(sgd) STANLEY C.WALLEY "

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE.

7. Nil.

8. Ack.

Major.
G.S.O.1.Vic.Covering Force.

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TELEPHONE

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.—SOUTHERN COMMAND

DAC/RSM

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. .....

Headquarters,
Victoria Covering Force,
Batman Avenue,
Melbourne

G.S.I.
Room 1027
H.Q., VIC. L. of C. AREA

INTELLIGENCE REPORTS

1. Herewith additional information received too late for inclusion in WEEKLY INT. REPORT No.8.

W. C. Grenda

Major
G.S.O.(1) Victoria Covering Force

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

War Diary

SECRET

H.Q. VIC. COVERING FORCE WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REPORT

(Additional Infmn to) No.8. on infmn. recd. up to 1000 K/24 Jul 42

Copy No. 5

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

1. Nil.

B. TOPOGRAPHICAL

2. Ref. Map. WARRAGUL 4 miles to 1 inch.
V.D.C. report roads covered by this map are as follows :-
First Class - in good order.
Second & third class roads around hills are in poor condition.
Rivers and creeks are at Winter level.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

3. Nil.

D. MILITARY SECURITY

SECURITY OF OPERATIONS

4. It has now been discovered that the majority of lights reported in S.E. coastal areas have been caused by fox hunters. These people have had the seriousness of the matter pointed out to them and warned not to offend against regulations again.

SECURITY OF INFORMATION

5. 11th Bn V.D.C. Report suspected ITALIAN meetings are being held vicinity NILMA (Ref Map WARRAGUL 4 miles to 1 inch) Graded B.1.

SECURITY OF PERSONNEL

6. Below is a copy of the minutes of an inaugural meeting of the "Eureka League". The men behind this movement are noted Communists and as far as V.D.C. are able to ascertain are endevouring to perpetuate the memory of the unfortunate circumstances which led to the incident of the "Eureka Stockade ". All the individuals mentioned below are of immature years, and could have more sound ideals put before them.
Copy of Minutes
" We, the members, signify our intention of joining the Eureka League and form ourselves into a provisional committee for the purpose of the Eureka League in PAKENHAM - Sunday 14 Jun 42.
Moved by Comrade Cook, seconded by Comrade Jackson Carried.
Chairman- Prov. W. Richards, nom. by A.Cook and A. Cook nom. by W. Richards - Com. Richards elected.
Secretary - Com. J.S. Stanistree nom. by Com. Jackson & Cook nom. by W. Richards. - Cook elected.
Treasurer Com. Richards elected.
Moved by Com. O Jackson sec. by Stanistree that a meeting be held next Friday night at 8 p.m. to discuss progress Carried.
Meeting closed at 5 p.m. Sunday 14 Jun '42.

SECURITY OF INFORMATION

7. Ref. Map. WARRAGUL 4 milesto 1 inch. Two V.D.C. Signallers report signalling being carried out from the KERGAARD HALL, BLACKWARRI toward Ninety mile Beach on 7,8,9 and 12 th Jul.'42. They state the following letters being sent N.E.I.S.S.

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE

8. Nil

9 Ack.

GSO (1) Vic. Covering Force Major

TELEPHONE

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.—SOUTHERN COMMAND

DAC/AH

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No .....

SECRET.

H.Q.
VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

H.Q. VIC COVERING FORCE WEEKLY INT. REPORT No. 8.

ON INFM UP TO 1000 hrs 24 JULY '42

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

1. "D" Coy 10 Bn V D C gave assistance when Allied bomber crashed 0645 K/12- Map Ref - SORRENTO 997709.

B. TOPOGRAPHICAL

2. NIL.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

3. Most of low lying country in SOUTHERN VIC AREA is still water-logged and ground is too soft for use of A F V's.

D. MILITARY SECURITY

4. N.G.LANGTON, O.C. No. 8 Pl "C" Coy 13th Bn V D C has had several authentic reports made to him by persons having seen a green flare fired to sea from vicinity of LAKE TYRES at 1915 K/12.
No further reports have been received and no trace of persons haveing been near the said position were found.

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE

5. "X" Coy LAVERTON report that poor Coy armament in comparison with that of American troops has a definite detrimental effect.

W.L. Spendder Maj.,
G.S.O.I. Vic Covering Force.

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War Diary

SECRET

H.Q. VIC. COVERING FORCE WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE

On information received up to 1200 hrs 17 July '42. REPORT No.7.

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

1. NIL

B. TOPOGRAPHY

2. All low lying country water logged. Most roads passable.

3. V.D.C. report Rivers and Creeks in PORTLAND - PORT FAIRY - WARRNAMBOOL Areas are swollen and in some cases have burst banks and caused flooding.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

4. NIL

D. MILITARY SECURITY

5. Below is a copy of a message found at approx. 1715 hrs. on 14 Jul '42 on the GEELONG - QUEENSCLIFF RD. (SORRENTO 1" to mile 63360 - 646831.)

Message F Q. NNG/MP 18/5 am From DADT (1) VIC. L. of C. AREA

To MILBASE MELB.
From. G.H.Q. MELB. MGD 20060 15/5/42

Reference Road Testing new M/C delivered by local Agents against Army Orders • Approval given reduce from 100 miles to 25 miles to prevent delay delivery (•) Repeat these instructions Inspecting Officer your Area (•) Addressed MILBASE SYDNEY Repeat MELB. ADELAIDE PERTH. T.00 1115
20 May 42

6. Member 6 Bn V.D.C. reports :-
For some weeks past, he and his wife have been able to listen into telephone conversations between GHERANG Military Camp and another Military Camp or Authority.
e.g. 1010 K/5 July, following information was heard from GHERANG Camp.
" Observed unidentified 'plane flying SOUTH over coast."
Also he has heard information re transport movements from BACCHUS MARSH.
Informant states further that on any night between 1900 K and 2100 K, military information can be heard on his telephone, Number CERES 4.
Graded A.1.

7. Attached is copy of letter received from V.D.C. regarding further activities of JEHOVAH WITNESS SECT.

8. Attached is copy of letter received by 12 Bn V.D.C. regarding lights seen at CORNER INLET and MORRIS' HILL.

9. An extract from "GREAT SOUTHERN ADVOCATE" of 2 Jul '42 re ENEMY ALIENS is attached.

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE.

10. NIL

W L Greenlee Major
GSO1 Victoria Covering Force

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(COPY)

SECURITY REPORT (SHOWN) (a) BY P.J.WILSON 12th BN.

12 BN V D C
FOSTER 3 JUL '42.

INTELLIGENCE-WEEKLY REPORT

Security - Lights. Telephone message was received last night at 2020 hrs K2 Jul from Air Force Melbourne stating that Toora Air Observation Post reported lights observed from Western end of Corner Inlet , also, that they thought they could see tracer oullets being used. Air Force Melbourne wish to know if lights could be seen from Foster. With Mr.J.H. Mitchell I went to observation post on roof of my house, but nothing could be seen until 2100 Hrs. when light was observed at a bearing of 184 Deg. Light continued until 2115 Hrs. It appeared something like a flare. Every now and then it would flare up brightly for a moment and then die down again , and remain just visible. No tracer bullets were visible from Foster.

This morning I rang up Mr Snell, a farmer living in the approximate vicinity of the place where the lights were coming from. He made enquiries from one of his men who had observed the lights and stated that the lights were being shown from a ridge in Foley's . From bearing taken and this information it is possible to locate the spot where the lights were showing as at map reference Foster shire map 186228, Warrugal 1/200000 E 7 60.55.

Mr Snell further said that a truck has passed down the road past his farmhouse at 1930/K2 Jul and returned at 2200/K2 JUL. He could not give any description beyond that it was a dark truck. As the road pat his place shown on Foster map as Black Swamp road is a dead end and does not present a run through to Darby River Road, as shown on map, there appears little doubt that the occupants of the truck were responsible for the lights.

It is difficult to see the purpose of the lights unless it was a party out shooting foxes It seems rather a long way to go to shoot foxes and no shots appear to have been heard from Mr Snell's place. I do not think either that a stationery flaring up occasionally is the sort used to shoot foxes. Mr.Snell also stated that the lights had been seen once previously from the same position when enquiries were made by the Military Authorities at Darby Camp.

Pending an answer to enquiries in my letter ~~de~~ 2/142 of 9th ultimate. I did not go out to investigate lights but if they are seen again will try to get Police to go out with us as we have no arms at present.

(Sgd) P.J.Wilson ,
21/c 12th Bn V.D.C. FOSTER

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COPY

SECURITY REPORT (SHOWN B) BY B.K. COATES O.C. A. COY 12th.Bn V D C.

A/106

A Coy 12th Bn V D C (VIC)
TRARALGON
27 June 42.

12th Bn H Q.
S E Group V D C
TRARALGON

INTELLIGENCE: WEEKLY REPORT.

SECURITY. Rumored that Aust Prime Minister advised Trades Union Delegates Re. destruction of 48000 tons of PETROL at Darwin by one Jap Bomb.

(Sgd) B.K. Coates
O.C. A. COY 12th BN V D C.

REPORT BY V 355518 MAY R.W. YARRAM AND OTHERS TO O. C.R.L. STOCKWELL , C COY.

C COY H.Q.
12th BN V D C
YARRAM 6 July '42

Pte R.W.MAY Reports:

On tuesday, 30 June , at about 5 O'Clock in the morning I saw a particularly bright light (like a flare) appear on Morris' Hill about 3 miles from where I live.

On Tuesday night about 8 O'Clock I saw signalling being carried out from this point towards the coast.

On Thursday night at a point East of Morris Hill, which appeared to be on Grand Ridge Rd, I also saw lights appear.

.....

V355502 KING, LEO, AND V355447 CASBOLT, T. Pte, also have seen lights at night.

(Sgd) C.R.L STOCKWELL.

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COPY.

SUPPLEMENTARY INTELLIGENCE REPORT 19th BN
7 JUL '42

SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. With reference to the activities Jehovah Witness Sect in the Otway Forrest Area. It is now learnt that the prime mover at present is a person named Keith Bennett of Gelibrand. Bennett was recently before the Police Magistrate at Colac Court claiming exemption from Military Service as a conscientious objector.

Information received from VDC members in the district, and verified by the sectio leader, shows that Bennett visited Kennedys Creek on Saturday 27 June and contacted other members of the sect at Kennedys creek and conducted a meeting.

On his return journey he canvessed some Carlisle River residents for support, Of the Carlisle River residents canvas on 28 June Mrs K Skinner and Mrs A. Alexander have been interviewed by the VDC Section leader at Carlisle River.

Both these ladies are hostile to the sect and from them the VDC leader obtained confirmation of his observations

This information is class as A 1.

H.G. BRADFFT Lieut Adj
For C.C. 19th Bn VDC.

(Sgd) S.F. BEACH Capt
S.C. South Western Group VDC.

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War Diary

HEADQUARTERS, VICTORIA COVERING FORCE. SECRET.

Copy No. 5

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 2

On information received up to 1200 hrs. 10 July 42.

NOTE: 1. The information contained in the undermentioned paragraphs and Appendices, if considered of operational and/or trining value, may be reproduced for information of all units. Adequate steps should be taken to safeguard the Security of this Intelligence and the source must NOT be quoted as being other than I.H.Q. I.S.

PART I : OPERATIONS.

(1) PACIFIC OCEAN

(a) SALAMUA - LAE.

Own Land Operations: Allied land forces carried out a successful land raid on the night 27-28/6. Quantities of papers and equipment are reported to have been captured. Enemy casualties have been estimated at 85. Our own casualties were limited to 2 wounded.

Note: Observations indicated that Japanese reinforcements have reached SALAMUA from LAE. There is also a supplementary report that 40 Japanese were landed there by aircraft on 29/6.

On the night of 30/6-1/7 Allied land forces attacked an enemy outpost at HEATH'S PLANTATION (8 miles N.W. of LAE). It is reported that the element of surprise was lost through an alarm given by dogs. Superior enemy numbers caused the withdrawal of our troops but enemy casualties are said to be 41 killed, many wounded.

Own Air Operations: Attacks on this area were made by Allied aircraft on 27/6 and 28/6 targets being the SALAMUA ISTHMUS, the LAE aerodrome and general objectives. Bombs are believed to have been dropped within the target area, but poor visibility prevented accurate observations. There were no Allied losses. On 29/6 and 30/6 we again attacked LAE, with excellent results and again without loss.

Enemy Land Activity: During the course of our air recce on 26/6 it was observed that the enemy are carrying out constructional work on SALAMUA ISTHMUS and on KELA ROAD. This report gave no further details.

Enemy Air Activity: Results of our air recce on 29/6 revealed 43 fighters and 1 bomber in the vicinity of the aerodrome, whereas only 18 had been reported on 23/6. Evidence was secured, also, of a new W/t station on the east side of MT. LUHAHAN(¾ mile N.E. from LAE aerodrome).

A late report states that enemy aircraft bombed WAU(30 miles S.W. of SALAMUA) on 2/7. No damage was reported.

(b) RABAUL.

Own Air Operations: During the period under review our aircraft made 3 raids on the RABAUL area. LUKANAI aerodrome, MALAGUNA aerodrome and wharves at RABAUL were attacked without Allied loss. Bombs fell on runways and buildings, and fires were started on the wharves.

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(c) TULAGI AREA.

Own Air Operations : Successful raids on TULAGI (SOLOMONS) were made by our aircraft on 26/6 and 27/6; and,on 30/6, we attacked SIOTA, which is 10 miles N.W. of TULAGI. At TULAGI bombs were observed to fall on CHINA TOWN Police Station but no details are available of the SIOTA raid. On each occasion there were no Allied casualties.

Enemy Land Operations: Following on a previous report that the aerodrome at BUKA was overgrown, comes advice that constructional work is now being carried out and that considerable native labour is engaged in it.

Enemy Movements: It was reported on 27/6 that 100 JAPANESE were at FAISI,100 having left for TULAGI. Ample stores are believed to have been left at FAISI.

Note: Previous information indicated the presence of "at least 100" Japanese troops at FAISI. L.H.Q. Order of Battle set down the number as 100. The above report suggests that 200 troops were located in this area.

Enemy Shipping: Two reports from native sources indicate that a Japanese light cruiser was possibly sunk in the vicinity of SANDFLY PASSAGE (N.W.end of FLORIDA ISLAND) on 22 or 23/6. The reports state that neither aircraft nor explosions were heard.

Note: A report on 20/6 suggested that TULAGI Harbour was being used as a base for 1 large or 2 small warships.

(d) PAPUA.

Enemy Air Operations: The enemy made a comparatively intense raid on the PORT MORESBY area on 26/6 without achieving notable results. It is reported that from 6 to 10 enemy aircraft were hit.

(2) EAST INDIES.

(a) TIMOR

Own Air Operations: On 30/6 Allied aircraft successfully bombed buildings on the DILLI waterfront. It was noted that fires started as a result of our air attack on 25/6 were still burning. A further report states that DILLI was twice raided by our aircraft on 1/7. In the first raid bombs were dropped on the barracks W/T Station, and fires were observed. The second raid resulted in fires at the Law Courts, Police Office, Customs House and Post Office. There was no enemy interception in either raid.

Enemy Land Operations: Following on a report that 5 enemy ships were expected to arrive shortly at DILLI, it has now been observed that billets are being prepared at LIQUICA(15 miles west of DILLI) possibly for the accommodation of expected troops. On 28/6 an enemy patrol about 25 strong was engaged bymour patrols in the vicinity of KRUERA.

(b) CELEBES

Own Air Operations: Our aircraft attacked the aerodrome at KENDARI on 30/6. Several fires were started and at least three enemy aircraft were seen to be destroyed.on the ground.

(3) FAR EAST

(a) BURMA

Chinese Troop Movements: Information from the SHINGBWIYANG area suggests that the H.Q.s of the CHINESE 5th Army and 22 Div. proposed entering INDIA via HPACHET HI (25 miles N.W. of SHINGBWIYANG).

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Further to the report concerning the presence of 15,000 troops in the PORT HERTZ-SUMPRUBUM area, it is now considered that this force may include the 200 Division, previously thought to have returned to CHINA.

Enemy Operations: General.: Our photographic recce of RANGOON on 25/6 revealed considerable shipping and railway activity in that area. Large numbers of small craft were also observed. When we bombed AKYAB on the same day, however, no movement was seen there and no opposition encountered.

Enemy Troop Movements: Reports received during the period under review suggest a gradual withdrawal of enemy troops from the north of KALEWA, although the presence of a rearguard north of HOMALIN is indicated by the reported evidence of some 4,000 JAPANESE and BURMANS in that area on 25/6. Local inhabitants in the KINDAT district, which is 93 miles south of HOMALIN, reported on 28/6 that the majority of the JAPANESE formerly in that vicinity had returned downstream. The arrival of some 300 JAPANESE at KALEYMO (125 miles S.S.W. of HOMALIN) on 25-26/6 has been reported.

On the IRRAWADDY front, SADON (30 miles east of MYITKYINA) is stated to have been occupied by approximately 400 JAPANESE on 10/6: and, in the ARAKAN district, it appears that PALEKWA and SULLAWA (respectively 80 miles and 100 miles S.E. of TAMU) were occupied by traitor Burmans on 25/6. No movements or troops are reported in YUWA, YENAN or PANTHA, all of which are within 31 miles S.E. of TAMU.

(b) JAPAN

Enemy Equipment: A report has been received that JAPANESE landing troops carry a short length of rubber tube lined with material which automatically purifies water slowly sucked through it.

Enemy Tactics: AIR. Information available from actual operations indicates that in Japanese bombing formations, the leader or his deputy is the key man, and that if he is shot down the formation, in most cases, does not press the attack. Fire should, therefore, be concentrated in the first place on the leader.

In low level ground attacks, however, it has been found that if fire is opened on the leader, the following aircraft quickly locate A.A. positions and strafe them heavily. It is suggested that in such attacks fire should be mainly concentrated on the later planes.

It is reported that in their attacks the Japanese make a practice of leaving one machine circling above the target, possibly for high cover, but probably to locate A.A. positions. If, as very often happens, a second attack quickly follows the first, the A.A. positions are immediately attacked.

In some instances, the Japanese have flown fairly high over a target to attract A.A. fore and searchlights, whilst part of the formation (or one plane) will shut off its engine, then run in low to make the attack.

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(4) MIDDLE EAST.

Operations: EGYPT.

OWN and ENEMY:

By 26-27/6 ROMMEL's three main concentrations were massing for an attack on MERSA MATRUH. In fact, on 27/6 came confirmation that GERMAN Panzer Divisions had penetrated our minefields North of SIDI H AMZA on the evening of 26/6 and were closing on MATRUH.

On 28/6 the enemy concentrations South of MATRUH had moved still further East, and advanced units were reported to be astride the coast road 6 miles west of FUKA. The bulk of our forces were withdrawn from MATRUH to positions South and East.

It then became clear that the decisive battle for ALEXANDRIA was to be fought in the narrow coastal bottleneck between EL ALAMEIN and the QUATTARA saltmarsh depression,35 miles inland.

By 30/6, the enemy's advance troops were past EL DABA, 70 miles East of MATRUH, and the major battle began on the following morning.

While the main fighting had been taking place near EL ALAMEIN (70 miles from ALEXANDRIA) the possibility was recognised that some attempt might be made by the 21 Panzer Division to cross the QUATTARA saltmarsh. Our mobile forces in the South were disposed accordingly.

During the afternoon of 1/7 the enemy attacked one of our defended positions 9 miles S.W. of EL ALAMEIN. The attack was made from the rear, says the report, and some of the enemy tanks penetrated our defences. These were later driven out. Our columns engaged the enemy and forced his withdrawal.

It appears that enemy attacks on our ALAMEIN line during the morning were not made in great strength but as the day progressed the strength increased. No actual details of the operation were given, but the result was described as "not unsatisfactory".

Our activities on this day were considerable. It is reported that our light bombers made over 100 sorties,attacking enemy concentrations N.W. of the ALAMEIN line. Our Beaufighters attacked the landing grounds at SIDI BARRANI,destroying 6 enemy aircraft and damaging 13. All available Wellington bombers attacked enemy M/T in the battle area with excellent results.

(5) OTHER AREAS.

Balkan Armies: A note on the significance of the BALKAN armies in the AXIS war effort is given as Appendix"B" to this Summary.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

PART II : MILITARY SECURITY.

(6) SECURITY OF DOCUMENTS.

A unit recently vacated an area leaving many records and documents undestroyed, unguarded and open to view. These included inter alia:

(i) Routine Orders (dated) giving name of C.O. and Adjt. and showing that all home leave passes were to be handed in immediately.

(ii) Stock sheets showing complete recent re-equipment, and showing in preparation evidently for active service.

(iii) A.A. Forms 130 of recent date, the number of wills made again making the same inference clear. Further, a civilian who rang up the unit's orderly room to make an enquiry and who was unknown to members of the unit, was told the date of the unit's departure, the names of other units accompanying and a distant destination. This is only part of the evidence of this unit's dangerous negligence. Investigation proceeding.

(7) LETTER HEADINGS

Welfare organisations are supplying notepaper to troops which is headed either with the name of the town, or with an inviting space printed ".....Camp". Any notepaper the troops receive should have all such letters obliterated, and security posters should be put up in all huts used by personnel. No doubt officials of welfare organisations would co-operate in this matter if approached.

(8) SECURITY OF INFORMATION

The first spot checks by District Censors and Field Censorship sections in the First Aust. Army show that the disclosure of information continues. Censors were supplied with all mail posted during 24 hours in selected areas. In 16 out of 152 green envelopes the location of units was disclosed. Among the civil mail were a quantity of letters from soldiers, correctly franked and stamped with a unit censor stamp. Of 328 soldiers' letters from one area almost half contained disclosures.

This, and many other cases, show how necessary it is that C.O.s of all units continue to stress "security" as an integral part of a unit's discipline. Cases still occur of officers franking letters they obviously have not read. Stress should be laid on the important responsibility imposed on officers in this respect.

(9) FIFTH COLUMN ACTIVITIES.

Attached as Appendix "A" is a list of possible enemy fifth column activities completed from a report on the subject prepared by Security Service. Enumerated are enemy activities actual or suspected which have been recorded since the outbreak of war with Germany. They deserve study in order that adequate precautions may be taken in advance to prevent their succeeding in this country.

Major.
G.S.O.1. Vic. Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

SECRET

FIFTH COLUMN ACTIVITIES V.C.F. I.3. No.2.

APPENDIX "A"

Types of activity are summarised in the following paragraphs. The first section contains those which may be detected and baulked before the start of operations, the second those which would only come to light after operations had commenced.

Section I.

(a) (i) The establishment of hidden supply and ammunition dumps.

(ii) The organisation of secret fortified positions to be held by armed fifth columnists awaiting arrival of their troops, or in a situation to interfere with or distract our troops.

(iii) Collection of our uniforms for enemy use.

(b) (i) The mining of fortifications and military works.
(ii) Attaching explosive charges to the underwater parts of ships in harbour.

(c) (i) Establishing secret W/T centres.

(ii) Use of W/T stations by missionaries in remote areas.

(iii) W/T sets installed close to aerodromes to report air activities.

(iv) It is alleged that a few days before the capitulation of Singapore a W/T set was discovered in the Cathay Building, the tallest in the city. It was noticed that this building was unharmed while the area around was shelled and bombed. A local photographer had a W/T set in a top flat of the building and had been acting as F.O.O. for the Japanese heavy batteries.

(d) Undermining the morale of the civil population.

(i) by urging the people to revolt against the Government, and refuse to co-operate with the military authorities.

(ii) by spreading rumours and propaganda.

Section. II

(a) (i) Sniping troops and police from behind our lines.

(b) Seizing key-points.
(i) Communication centres, such as telephone exchanges and witeless stations.
(ii) Public utility centres, such as pumping and power stations.
(iii) Air, sea and land transport stations.
(iv) Essential supply centres, such as ammunition dumps, war factories, arsenals etc.

(c) Short circuting wires so as to switch on street lights.

(d) Signs on ground or roof-tops pointing out targets for aircraft by day.
(i) By laying out sheets, washing, newspapers, etc. in a particular pattern; or large "X" in chalk or paint or bright cloth or planks or logs in a "V" pointing to a target.

(ii) By scattering rice in the open ~~xxxtx~~ or on roads, or cutting crops etc. in a pattern

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Such marks can be set out and removed before a raid, their position having been learned through photographic reconnaissance.

(e) Signalling suitable targets to aircraft at night, either openly by rockets, torches, etc, or causing a fire, or secretly by lights hidden in a chimney or tree stump or flashed through a hole in a roof.

(f) Signalling targets to observers on the ground.

(i) In Malaya a unit whose positions were continually shelled found that a Malay had set up a bamboo- pole with a coloured streamer near each position. He was shot.

(ii) A spy penetrating our line for information was given distinctive clothing, e.g. a Malay in a jersey.

(g) Sending false reports and telephone calls to H.Q. and local commanders.

(h) Interrupting communications and transport lines.

(i) Cutting of telegraph and telephone lines.
(ii) Sabotaging of railways by removing fish plates, putting an obstruction on the line or secreting bombs.
(iii) Obstructing motor traffic by steel spikes embedded in the road or such means.

(i) Using identity papers taken from prisoners.

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Appendix B.

SIGNIFICANCE OF BALKAN ARMIES IN AXIS WAR EFFORT.

The following figures (representing divisions) show the prominent part played by the Balkan armies in the Axis war effort.

Army Total Strength	Original Expeditionary Force to RUSSIA	Now on Russian Front and Lines of Communication	Policing Other Occupied Territory
ROUMANIA 28	23	about 15	about 1
HUNGARY about 25	6	2 -3	3
BULGARIA 21	-	-	8

It will be seen that ROUMANIA and HUNGARY are at the moment contributing some twenty-two divisions. Information, though conflicting, suggests that neither of these countries is as yet irrevocably committed to any future figure. If GERMANY succeeds in dispellings the mutual suspicion that exists between them, they should be physically capable of supplying a total of 40 - 45 divisions for the Eastern Front or other occupied territory. Most of these would be inferior troops, but in the present circumstances they would be of great value for employment on secondary duties.

In addition to Hungaro-Roumanian friction, most reports agree that Roumanian morale is very low. Their forces have again suffered heavily throughout the campaign and again in the recent fighting in the DONETZ basin. The campaign has also cost them much of their war material and it is stated that te Germans have takan from them most of the Russian equipment they have captured. Their belief in German invincibility which led them into the conflict, has been shattered; at the same time the shortage of fuel and food, which would be superabundant but for German requistions, has also a marked effect.

BULGARIA'S contribution of only eight divisions (five in YUGOSLAVIA and three in GREEK THRACE) would probably be increased if Germany were to attack TURKEY. It seems improbable that GERMANY will be able to induce BULGARIA to go to war with RUSSIA, but BULGARIA is likely to take on policing of more occupied territory during the coming months. The Bulgarian lower classes are mostly peasants with Soviet sympathies and pro-Communist town-dwellers. There have been several reports of political arrests, trials and executions, especially since the Russian war started, and there is undoubtedly a widespread though rigorously repressed Communist movement. It is believed that of BULGARIA's twenty-one divisions some four or five, originating from coastal and other areas where Communism is strong, are of doubtful reliability.

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APPENDIX C

NOTES ON JAPANESE METHODS USED IN INVASION OF HONG KONG.

1. INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

(a) Japanese intelligence was extraordinarily good. Consular staffs, spies, probably Japanese officers and men in disguise, and probably fifth columnists, had made an extremely accurate and comprehensive survey of all our fixed defences and vital communications, and of the role of our troops during "manning" exercises.

(b) This survey was made possible by the complete absence of adequate security measures until recent months, by the weakness of the Special Branch of the Hong Kong Police, by the refusal of the Hong Kong Government to expel the followers of Wong Ching Wei, by the lack of any civil anti-fifth-column organisation, and by the inefficiency of our intelligence and counter-espionage organisations.

(c) The result of (a) and (b) above was that the Japanese were able to gauge very accurately the exact minimum force necessary to capture Hong Kong, the most advantageous landing points, and to destroy or disable our fixed defences and vital communications piecemeal very quickly and methodically.

(d) The antidote to such enemy intelligence activity appears to be the rectification of the weaknesses in (b) above, and the conversion of as many fixed defences as possible into mobile defences.

2. AIR FORCES.

(a) Operations began in the approved Nazi manner with a surprise and lightning 'blitz' on the airport, and the destruction of our meagre air force. This left the garrison with no means of air reconnaissance, and allowed the Japanese aircraft to operate unhindered except by our scanty and not very efficient anti-aircraft defences which in many areas (e.g. the Mainland and certain parts of the Island) was non-existent and in no case exceeded a two-gun density.

(b) Our air raid warning system, designed to give at least twenty minutes warning, in actual practice rarely gave more than ten minutes grace and frequently much less before the arrival of enemy aircraft. The antidote to this weakness seems to be the adoption of the excellent system operating in Free China, where possible.

(c) Hogh level and dive bombing was very accurate, and was effectively used against our fixed defences. At first only 25-lb anti-personnel bombs were dropped; later 250-lb bombs were used.

(d) Dive bombing was extensively used against infantry positions about to be attacked, and against naval vessels in harbour.

(e) Aircraft were frequently used to observe enemy artillery fire, and to report the exact position of their own troops. Such troops used to display on the ground white silk flags centred with a red Japanese sun, to assist identification by their aircraft.

(f) It was noticeable that a flight of three enemy aircraft would carry out an attack, and then one aircraft would break formation , swing away, and later come over the same area again at low level, presumably to observe the effect of the attack. It would later join its formation.

(g) The Japanese Air Force never flew at night.

3. ARTILLERY

(a) The Japanese force attacking Hong Kong was exceptionally strong in artillery, although their guns were mostly of light calibre. They employed Army as well as Divisional artillery in their force of three divisions.

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(b) They employed very effectivemortar batteries, 15-cm howitzers, one 9 inch heavy gun, light artillery (75mm and 10.5-cm, mostly on pack) on the Island supported by medium artillery from the mainland, one or more very mobile 4-inch duns with armour peiercing shells against sp splinter proof shelters, and 1-pdr. or 2-pdr guns (possibly anti-tank gans) against motor torpedo boats.

(c) Artillery fire was surprisingly accurate, though about one shell in every seven failed to explode.

(d) The Japanese were adept at dragging guns to the top of hills siting them in positions very difficult to locate. They also sited guns behind hills, as we possesses no sound ranging equipment, and nor aircraft, and as the Japanese seldom fired at night except to support an attack, thereby preventing location by flash spotting, counter battery work by our artillery was difficult.

(e) The Japanese used a good form of sound ranging equipment, as well as army co-operation aircraft, for their very heavy and effectice counter-battery fire.

(g) The 9-inch gun is beleived to have been mounted in a previously prepared(and artfully concealed) concrete emplacement on the Japanese golf course or even in the club house itself on the mainland.

(f). Artillery ammunition supply was maintained by forced local Chinese labour. Any coolie failing to work up to Japanese expectations was shot out of hand.

4. ENGINEERS.

(a) The Japanese engineer services appear to be extremely efficient. The speed with which they erected bridges over the frontier river on the morning of 8th December was very creditable.

(b) It is practically certain that our entire demolition scheme on the mainland was betrayed to the Japanese intelligance agents in the Japanese Consulate by a Brittish Sergeant (late R.E.) of the Hong Kong Volunteers Defence Corps. The Japanese engineers were thus able to repair or circumvent the damage with remarkable speed, or possesed a wonderful foresight as to the exact quantity and kind of material for each task.

5. STORM TROOPS.

(a) The Japanese employed 2000 special storm troops as the spearhead of their attacks on particularly 'hard nuts', e.g. the capture of the SHINGMUN REDOUBT, the landing on the Island, the formation of a bridge-head, the capture of WONG NEI CHONG GAP etc.

(b) These storm troops were exceptionally fine soldiers, magnificiently trained, brilliantly lead, highly intelligent, and exceptionally well, though lightly equipped. Each man carried an excellent photo-engravure copy of our own Ordnance Survey maps with Japanese names superimposed, with all our positions accurately marked in red chalk, and each individual's route and objective marked in blue. The standard of map reading was very high indeed. Each man also carried a white silk flag centred with a red Japanese sun, and with the names of all his friends written on the white part.

(c) These storm troops were exceptionally well trained in scout craft and marksmanship. Moreover, they wore rubber soled shoes to silence their movements.

(d) METHOD OF ATTACK

(1) Numbers of storm troops would infiltrate through our lines under cover of darkness. and would hide in trees and bushes whence they would snipe our troops from the rear,

(2) The position to be attacked would be subjected to very heavy dive bombing and artillery fire during the day.

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(3) Parties of ten storm troopd would storm the position, making such good use of ground and cover that they were rarely seen. The position meanwhile would be subjected to intense mortar fire, and fire from 0.5 inch machine guns to penetrate the iron doors and windows of concrete shelters and pillboxes.

(4) When all parties of storm troops were in position in the dark, the mortar fire would suddenly increase. Then the parties of storm troops would rally and assault the position, throwing hand grenades, and firing tommy-guns while receiving supporting fire from light automatics. If our troops took shelter in their concrete shelters, the storm troops would surround the positions and drop grenades down the air vents of the shelters, and pick off with tommy-gun fire anyone who attempted to bolt from the shelter.

(5) The antidote to this methof of attack appears to be for our own troops to be dug in in deep slit trenches sited for all round defence on the commanding heights of the hills; to be well equipped with machine guns, grenades, Very lights and mortars; and to be wired in out of hand grenade range.

6. INFANTRY

The infantry which supported the storm troops were usually well turned out, and was always well equipped. They proved themselves to be first class determined fighters; well trained, well versed in securcraft, and exceptionally well trained in the best principles of Indian mountain warfare. They avoided roads and tracks, and always moved across country keeping to the spurs and choosing as their objective the dominating heights of the hills. The moment an objective was reached, they immediately dug themselves in in good trenches adapted for all round defence, and protected themselves with a wire fence. In an advance they always received good covering fire from their light automatiesm and made good use of mortars to prepare the way. They usually uttered loud cries and shouts when assaulting a position, either to terrorise the defenders or to keep in touch with one another. Practically all attacks were made at night. As a Chinese General said a year ago: "The Japanese will do waht you least expect. They will choose the darkest night , the foulest weather and the worst ground, because it is the same for both sides- but the Japs are specially trained for such conditions."

7. SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) The Japanese had a good field telephone system. It is noteworthy that all their signal cable was painted yellow.

(b) Although our intelligence officers tried to discover information about the enemy, who had captured private houses in various parts of the Island by ringing up each house on the automatic telephone system, no Japanese ever answered such a call. It is strongly suspected however, the Japanese intelligence officers listened in to our conversations on the military telephone system.

8 DECEPTION.

(a) Japanese troops on several occasions caused confusion among our troops by wearing discarded British anti-gas capes, and Brittish uniforms stripped from dead or wounded British soldiers.

(b) Japanese troops entered many Chinese houses and confiscated all available civilian clothing. It is beleived that many Japanese soldiers used this disguise to infiltrate unobserved through the streets, and through the air raid tunnel system from the entrances in their possesion to the exits behind our lines.

9 FIFTH COLUMNISTS

(a) Fifth columnists were active sniping out troops behind the lines, and also in establishing visual communications with enemy batteries.

(b) No sabotage appears to have beenattempted.

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10. LANDING PARTIES.

(a) The landing parties chose a moonless night with an abnormally high tide. They were also assisted by a large fire at the adjacent oil storage tanks which produced a dense pall of smoke.

(b) Landing craft were extremely shallow flat-bottomed (possibly folding) boats which had probably been carried over land to the point of embarkation. After the first flights, a variety of junks, sampans, lighters etc, were used.

(c) Landing craft sailed in flights of three, the leading craft being fitted with an outboard motor and towing the other two.

(d) Landings were carried out in absolute silence.

(e) Landing craft were very vulnerable to small arms fire, gave no protection whatever to their crews or loads, and were extremely susceptible to rammings by or the wash from Motor torpedo boats.

11. PROPAGANDA.

(a) Enemy aircraft dropped numerous leaflets over the island. They were all extremely crude and showed an astonishing ignorance of Brittish and Indian psychology.

(b) Propaganda leaflets took three forms:-

(1) Appeals in Elglish and Japanese to Indian troops to turn against their Brittish officers on the promise of receiving especially good treatment from the Japanese. (Although case is known of any Indian troops taking advantage of this offer, it is understood that after the capture of Hong Kong- but not before, when some attrocities were committed- Indians were all set free after being disarmed, and allowed to wander at will throughout Hong Kong. This raises the very big problem of their disposal- will they be schooled in anti-British propaganda and drafted into India to do fifth column work ?). These phamphlets obviously had no Indian as their author.

(2) Pamphlets cyclostyled in Kowloon by subversive Indians (probably clean shaven Sikhs from Shanghai, known to have come down to this area with the Japanese) written in Urdu and claiming the authority of Subhas Chandra Bose, the revolutionary leader who deserted from India to Berlin.

(3) Sobstuff phamplets of the "Home Sweet Home" and "Lovers Embrace" order designed to make Brittish troops homesick.

(c) Loudspeakers were installed in rowing boats which cruised about the harbour in the still hours of the night, blaring forth gramophone records of European love songs, appeals to the Canadian troops to surrender, and subversive propaganda in Urdu to Indian troops.

(d) None of these methods appeared to rouse any feeling among our troops except derision and contempt.

12. CONCLUSION.

In conclusion it is confidently beleived that our troops can repel all Japanese attacks, and change to a successful offensive if the following main conditions are observed.

(a) The ability of the enemy is not under-estimated.

(b) Our troops are suitably equipped for the task in hand.

(c) Our troops are well led, and are sufficiently trained in night work, and in mountain and bush warfare.

(d) Our troops are "inoculated" against fits of the "jitters".

(e) Our troops are equipped with plenty of suitable entrenching tools, and invariably dig in below ground level as by second nature.

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arrange for allround defence, and wire themselves in on all occasions.

(f) The avoidance of concrete and concrete - mindedness.

(g) The determination to fight to a finish

(h) The Officers are really well trained, and look after their men carefully, intellignetly, sympathetically and energetically.

(i) Commanders are experienced in mountain and bush warfare tactics.

(j) Commanders seek to obtain surprise at every possible occasion.

(k) Staff and regimental "Q" arrangments are really first class.

(m) Adequate artillery and air support.

(n)(l) Defenses are as mobile as possible, and there is a large mobile reserve.

(n) Crediting the enemy with the ability to perform the apparantly impossible, and regarding NO ground or obstacle as impassable.

(o) A really active, soundly trained, Intelligence service.

(p) The use of local material for guerilla work behind the Japanese lines.

(q) Great attention to secrecy.

(r) The use of cleverly constructed booby traps in withdrawel.

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Appendix D

A NOTES ON STRENGTH ORGANISATION AND TACTICS OF JAPANESE TROOPS EMPLOYED AGAINST HONG KONG, DECEMBER 1941.

(1) Strength :

Probably 2 Divisions + 2000 specially trained assault troops & Army artillery.

Major Manners and Mr. A.L. Shields, two captured civilians were given an opportunity by the Japanese of looking at troops and were sent across to tell us what they had seen. Manners, an ex-soldier, estimated their strength in the island on December 25th at 1½ Divisions. Our strength was 2 infantry brigades, totalling with coast and A.R. artillery and H.K.V.D.C. about 12,000 men.

(2) Casualties :

Enemy - It is impossible to estimate enemy casualties. Japanese must have suffered considerable casualties during daylight as they approached the inner line. Artillery fire was reported most effective. They suffered a certain amount of damage to their guns during the artilllery duel December 13th to 17th. They suffered again heavily crossing the harbour on the morning of December 18th when an extremely successful MTB attack was put in which sunk many landing craft for the loss of 2 MTBs.

Further losses are hard to estimate. The Japanese troops were excellent on cover taking and seldom presented easy targets except during approach marches when they frequently presented artillery Targets Undoubtedly they lost men during the close fighting on the island.

Ourselves -

Again difficult to estimate. 1 Middlesex, 2 Royal Scots 5/7 Rajputs, 2/14 Punjabs were down to 1/3rd to ½ of their original strength. While the Canadians also suffered heavily, a minimum of 4000 killed and wounded is the better guess, to me only a guess. Many prisoners were also taken although the fate of these is uncertain. Stories of shooting, bayonetting and ill-treatment of prisoners were received from troops who got away, but undoubtedly some prisoners were kept. What happened after the capitulation is not yet known.

(3) Organisation.

Japanese Divisions and Regiments seemed to have had normal organisation. Undoubtedly army artillery was used, since dud shells up to 9" calibre were found (see (4) (b) below). What surprised us most was the use of 2000 specially equipped assault troops. These troops were very lightly equipped and very well armed with Tommy guns, light automatics, heavy, .50 calibre M.Gs. for piercing P.B. shelters, a plentiful supply of grenades and a very heavy scale of Mortars indeed. Great use is made of the latter weapons by the Japanese.

(4) Tactics :

(a) Infantry

The assault troops described above were used as the spear-head of the attack. They were generally employed in parties of ten, keeping fairly close together to facilitate control. They did practically all their attacking by night, moving in darkness and lying up in the daylight, digging in and wiring where necessary.

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otherwise hiding in the scrub. When they attacked they first of all mortared and shelled our positions heavily then worked forward in bunches and came in flinging grenades by the dozen and with Tommy guns blazing. Adequate supporting fire being given from light machine guns. Meanwhile, parties of snipers worked their way through and left up in rear of our positions with rifle and grenades and sniped continually by day. They chose their cover well and were most difficult to locate.

It was difficult to distinguish between these special troops and ordinary infantry, but every Japanese soldier appeared to be equipped as lightly as possible carrying only his weapons and ammunition and as little equipment besides as possible. They wore rubber shoes not boots. Their complete silence of movement was most marked and as a result they made rings round the heavily equipped and booted British infantryman. It is suggestedt that rope soled shoes which could easily and cheaply produced in India would be ideal for this type of warfare as rubber soled shoes slip in wet weather.

Every Japanese infantryman carried in addition a map which was a photostat copy of our 1:20,000 with the Japanese names superimposed. On their maps all our positions were marked in RED and his start line route and objective in BLUE. Map reading was of a high standard and it is likely in addition that either guideswere used or that officers had previously "walked the course" as civilians in HONG KONG. At any rate, the Japanese knew their country.

Every Japanese soldier carried a personal flag of white silk with the red rising sun in the middle. On the flags were written the names of all his friends. These flags were frequently used as grounds strips to indicate the position of the foremost troops to aircraft and were run up quickly on captured buildings.

Japanese were often in "scruff order" and wore suits of any colour often patched. This took our troops by surprise at first who were looking for the conventionally clad Japanese infantryman.

Japanese did a lot of shouting when attacking presumably either to create terror in the enemy, for encouragement, or to indicate their positions to one another. Lastly, Japanese infantry adhered closely to the best principles of mountain warfare. They always went for the tops of th the hills and seldom tracks or paths when attacking. They had our positions taped and when they came up against a pillbox sidetracked it and took another route. They were imbued with the German doctrine of getting on at all costs. This going for the tops of hills was the undoing of the HONG KONG Defence scheme since pillboxes were sited to cover tracks and paths and were seldom put on the top of a hill. The Japanese could get above very quickly getting mortars and/or light guns up with them, and would scupper the pillbox by getting it from behind f om a direction in which they were defiladed from the loopholes. On occasions they showed fanatical bravery. One party went for a pillbox starting at 100 yards distance. The last man left alive pulled out the firing pin of his grenade thus killing the pillbox crews.

(b) Artillery Tactics.

Japanese artillery fire was surprisingly good.. They are exxxt excellent gunners although their material is not so good as ours. About 1 in 7 Jap hells is a dud, and although their shells make a terrific noise the destructive effect is not very great. Bad detonation is frequent. Nonetheless their fire is most accurate. From the accuracy with which they engaged fixed defences it is likely that a certain amount of artillery survey had been carried out beforehand. Their counter battery work was also good. All our mobile artillery had its share of shelling although casualties were not great. Counter battery was probably carried out by air observation combined with flash spotting and sound ranging. Intercepted W/T messages indicate that the latter method was used. Incidentally our flash spotting organisation was most effective and the Japs stopped bombarding at night in ordr to avoid giving away their gun positions and only fired when supporting an attack. Japs had an advantage over us in that they could get flash cover behind the Kowloon hills whereas in the final stages nearly all our positions were visible to ground troops or aircraft.

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When doing a destructive shoot the enemy were prepared to go on pouding away for hours. FORT DAVIS 9.2" Battery underwent 3 or 4 days continuous bombardment by 9" and 15 cm: guns. Ammunition supply seemed to be both plentiful and efficient. For the lighter natures this was done mainly by impressed coolie labour particularly on the island.

Japs were very fond of mounting guns on hill tops. Their light mountain guns were carried up and got into action very quickly on the hills close behind the infantry. Sited thus on a hilltop and always quickly dug in they were very difficult to knock out.

As far as could be made out Japs had normal divisional artillery plus army artillery. Dud shells up to 9" were found, remainder being mostly 10.5 cm:75mm: and 15 Cm:. Light artillery was quickly deployed on the island supported by medium and heavy from the mainland. One or more 4" guns firing A.P. Shell were mounted in Kowloon and used for the deliberate destruction of North ShoreP.Bs, Mortars were mounted in the area of Hol s Wharf and the Kowloon Wharves and bombarded the town and the Naval Dockyard. Many of these were silenced. Japs also had a plentiful supply of A/Tk guns, which appeared to use 1 pdr. These were also used against MTBs. Dud and partially detonated shells from these guns were recovered.

(c) Other Arms.

A.F.Vs.

The only A.F.Vs. encountered were Armoured Cars on the island. Three of these were destroyed by 2 pdr. fire in Stanley Village.

Landing Craft.

Landing craft used in the crossing from Kowloon were light shallow draft boats used in strings of 3. The leading boats had an outboard motor. Their only armament was that of the troop carried. They were easily sunk by S.A. fire and a number were capsized in the wash of the MTBs.

All kinds of requisitioned craft launches, lighters, junks and Sampans were also used.

Engineers

Japanese are good sappers. The Sawmchun river must have been quickly bridged in the night of December 7th/8th. Standard of field works appeared to be high. Great emphasis appeared to be laid on digging in quickly and the quick construction of gun and weapon forts.

Signals

Major Manners when questioned, stated that Japs had good field Telephone system. Jap wires were YELLOW in colour.

(d) Naval Tactics.

A full report from the Naval side has been submitted by Cdr. Montague. From a military point of view no naval attacks at all were made on Hong Kong. Cruisers and destroyers blockading Hong Kong kept out of gun range. The only ship that came within range was a destroyer which on being engaged by FORT BOKHARA (9.2") and receiving a hit xxxx or near miss decamped hurriedly.

(e) Air Tactics.

A full report on this subject has been submitted by Sqn/Ldr. OXFORD, A.L.O. From a military point of view Japanese air attacks consisted of the repeated dive-bombing of forts, A.A. sections and field artillery positions, and infantry positions prior to attack. Casualties from bombing cannot be said to have been serious, but the moral effect of being bombed knowing that we could not strike back must be taken into account. More than anything we needed reconnaissance aircraft . If we had had but one or two planes the position and initiative of the enemy would have been ascertained. As it was we were fighting blind from the very start. Jap Reconnaissance planes were continually over Hong Kong and they must at all times have had good information from them.

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A.A. Artillery did well. A total of 7 certain plahes were shot down and it is likely that there were a lot of"lame ducks". All the above seven were definitely seen to crash.

Another impottant feature were the pamphlet raids made by the Japanese. The pamphlets dropped were of 3 types :-

(1) Appealing to Indian troops to turn on their Brittish Opressors and desert, to the Japanese lay down their arms and kill their Officers, when they would receive especially good treatment.

(2) Appealing to Brittish troops to give up a hopeless struggle and desert to the Japanese who would then "guarantee their lives and livings".

(3) Appealing to Chinese to welcome the Japanese deliveries.

The above raids were reinforced by loud speaker broadcasts from KOWLOON in the still hours of the night playing the most sensational tunes such as "Home Sweet Home", songs by Deanna Durbin, coupled with propaganda of the most maudlin and sentimental kind in order to make the troops homesick. No doubt the Japanese knew that both Brittish battalions had been gone six years abroad and over 4 years in Hong Kong.

Needless to say the above methods were a great source of amusement to both the British and Indian troops.

(f) Fifth COLUMN-

Although no organised sabotage took place there was a considerable amount of fifth column work done by the Japs. This consisted of Wang Ching Wei or Formosan personnel who shot up troops withdrawing through Kowloon (these may have been clothes Japanese) who instigates looting, sniped from houses, and signalled to Japanese artillery etc by means of home made signalling lamps a specimen of which was brought to Fortress H.Q. This menace was, however, eventuallt got under by police acting in concert with Chinese organisations of Admiral CHAN CHAK and Col.H.K.Yl and some dozens of offenders were shot.

B. MILITARY LESSONS TO BE LEARNT FROM THE FALL OF HONG KONG.

(1) Once again we underestimated the enemy. From his showing in China we had been led to believe that the jap would get a rude shock when he came up against first class troops, that he was bad at night work, and that his equipment was greatly inferior to ours. In Hong Kong we learnt that he is a first class soldier, is excellently trained for both day and night work, determinedly led, has unlimited "guts" and that his equipment is very good indeed, and that he has plenty of it. If we are going to beat him we have got to have the very highest standard of training and physical fitness and the most modern equipment and plenty of it.

(2) You cannot beat the Japs with two men and a boy. One Brittish or one Indian soldier may be a match for one Jap, but is definitely not for 2 or 3 Japs.

(3) Japs are "fighting fit" and go for the hilltops, we must be or get there first.

(4) Fixed concrete defences are deathtraps if traced. In modern war youm must go down in the ground and not up. Pillboxes can be bypassed, are expensive, obvious and men are reluctant to leave them under fire and are mown down as they leave. The Brigade staff or West Infantry Brigade who were cornered for 2 days in a pillbox and killed one by one as they left. Troops must be taught to dig in quickly wherever they are and have plenty of tools to do it with.

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(5) Mobile Reserves are essential. In this connection the non-arrival of the M.T. and carriers of the Canadians was most disastrous. Armoured cars and carriers proved invaluable but were all too few.

(6) Partly trained troops must not be sent to potential theatres of war where they will be in the front line at once. Both Canadian Battalions sent to Hong Kong consisted of magnificent material, both officers and men. On arrival we were appaled at their lack of training. We had 3 weeks to train them in before hostilities started. We had to start from the scratch with N.C.Os Weapon Training Cadres. Magnificently equipped, they unpacked their weapons only 14 days before war started. Their M.T. and Carriers had not arrived. As a result of their arrival the whole Defence Scheme of Hong Kong was changed, and when called upon to play their part they made the most elementary tactical mistakes. Partly trained, they faced a first-class enemy and as a result knew themselves beaten from the start. Had we in the morning of December 18th two fully trained battalions capable of carrying out the counter-attacks ordered in the difficult country of Hong Kong, we might have localised Jap penetration, prevented further landings and dealt with what was already ashore. In point of fact, our only remaining "fresh" reserve proved a broken reed, and the Canadians received a rude shock from which they never fully recovered.

(7) Battalions go stale if left in a station too long. Both 2 R.S. and 1 Mx. had been 4 years or over in Hong Kong, which is a long time for so small applace.

(8) Troops must be trained to fight lightly equipped, particularly when counter-attacking, otherwise they will be no match for the lightly equipped Jap "Storm Troops". Great emphasis must be laid in training on silent movement particularly in night work, and lying up watching and listening under cover. Fieldcraft is all important against Japanese and the methods of a "Stalker" must frequently be employed. He will be stalking you and you have to get him first. If he hears you you are probably sunk. Rubber or rope soldd shoes must be worn except on long marches.

(9) We must think out and use local methods of transport for heavy equipment particularly coolies. The Japs use coolie labour with great effect and conserve the strength of their fighting troops as a result.

(10) MTBs are a great success against Jap landing craft. They carry two torpedoes and depth charges and are most vulnerable to hostile gun and small arms fire and are liable to blaze up when hit but stand a very sporting chance at night. If boldly handled in darkness they will do untold damage. In Hong Kong our MTBs were being used elsewhere when the Japanese landing occurred. Had even two boats been lying up near the North Shore they might easily have broken up the second and third flights on their way across. We learnt our lesson about this and always had MTBs in the uncaptured part of the North Shore by night lying up and waiting. Although this is really a Naval matter military commanders must not hesitate to ask for MTB support.

(11) It is an old story that reliable information is hard to get in war. This was particularly so in Hong Kong. Liaison work ~~xxxxxx~~ by Staff Officers proved invaluable but due to four officer casualties in the 6 staff we had all too few officers available for this work. A supply of additional trained liaison officers with trucks or motor-cycles would have been invaluable. On one occasion 2 staff officers went on a liaison job together and got wounded by the same grenade. Two staff officers should not do a job that one can do just as well.

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(12) Our failure to work out plans in peace for co-operation with the Chinese in War was the result of our neutrality policy which forbade staff talks, etc. This proved most regrettable in fact as we received many last minute offers of help from the Chinese, such as the offer of personnel to do guerilla fighting just at the time when we most needed them, but then our Ordnance Depots and magazine were besieged by the enemy and we were unable consequently to provide them with arms. Chinese organisations under Admiral CHAN CHAK and Col. S.K.YI did excellent work in suppressing the Fifth Column menace. Other garrisons should profit by this lesson. Doubtless the same mistake will not occur again.

CONCLUSION :

In spite of the foregoing the Japanese is by no means an invincible enemy. Isolated posts, even a handful in number, really sticking, can and did hold out indefinitely against the Japs. But he is a first class soldier excellently equipped, full of "guts", and trained with great throughness in the hard school of war. Only by realising and studying his methods, shall we beat him.

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H.Q, VICTORIA COVERING FORCE -WEEKLY INT.REPORT No. 6

On information received up to 1200 hrs. 10 July 42.

PART I - INTERNAL.

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

1. "D" Coy 9th Bn. V.D.C. HAMILTON Area carried out a TEST Mobilization 5 July 42.

Mob.Times:				
No.10 Pln.	CASTERTON	67 men	-	4 hrs.
No.11 "	MERINO	63 "	-	2 hrs.
No.12 "	CONDAH	36 "	-	3½hrs.

Owing to faulty message communication, mob. generally was not a success. "Reality" not realized - time taken too long. Equipment and rations were generally missing. Morale was good.

B. TOPOGRAPHY

2. A row of trees north of A.A. gun position at ref. map SUNBURY 930456 prevents operations in as much ~~xx~~ that angle of depression below 6° is impossible.

3. Recent rains have rendered most unmetalled roads impassable to M.T. in 19th Bn.V.D.C. Area(BALLARAT-LAKE CORANGAMITE-CAPE OTWAY areas).

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

4. Typical winter conditions prevailing do not help comfort for men living out but morale is not affected.

D. MILITARY SECURITY

5. A letter written by a member of 28 Aust.A.A.Bty. was found to contain an exaggerated report of illness in camp.

Comment: The communication was stopped and the offender admonished.

6. Reports still coming to hand regarding activities of JEHOVAH WITNESS Sect at GELLIBRAND.

7. In a report just received from the KAWARREN-GELLIBRAND district a member of the V.D.C. now claims that early in JUNE he ~~saw~~ a man on the GELLIBRAND road proceeding SOUTHWARDS answering to the description of the escaped ITALIAN prisoner. Graded D.4

8. A V.D.C. member at DARNUM reports that on Sunday 28-6-42 a meeting of all ITALIANS in the district was held at BRUSCO's House,DARNUM. On further enquiries it was found that these ALIENS meet frequently at each others' homes, more especially when there has been an Axis victory. Graded B 1

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE

9. NIL.

PART II - EXTERNAL.

Nil.

10 Aug 42

W. Brierley
Major.
G.S.O.1 Vic.Covering Force.

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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS, VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. 4. TO 1200 HRS 3 JULY 42

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.

1. DEFENCE WORKS.

11th Bn V.D.C. reports the establishment and completion of a chain of Signal Posts throughout Bn Area, and are now able to get messages through Area by visual signalling, using improvised equipment.

In addition 11th Bn report that all Units in the Bn have now completed their Defence Lines and the Bn has a uniform system of defence posts from MOE to PAKENHAM consisting of outpost lines covering each town.

2. TEST MOBILIZATION - "C" COY 9th BN V.D.C.

An alarm was forwarded by Bn Comd to Coy Comd at 1000 hrs 28 June 42.

Message fwd to Pl Leaders immediately.

Mobilization was NOT successful generally.

A misunderstanding regarding the test was apparent.

Full instructions and orders regarding active conditions required were given by Bn Inspecting Officers and Instructors.

B. TOPOGRAPHY.

3. Recent rains have caused further flooding in the low lying ground in the 3rd Res Bn Area (Point Lonsdale Area Q.N.C.F.), thus assisting our defence system.

4. TRARALGON reports 2nd and 3rd class roads as being in fair order, with rivers and creeks being at almost normal levels.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

5. Living conditions for men in forward areas have been improved by construction of huts from salvage timber but the winter conditions make it necessary for further comfort.

D. MILITARY SECURITY.

6. SECURITY OF INFORMATION.

Attached as Appx "A" is a photograph published in the magazine "Pix" of the 4th July 42. Military Security Instructions No 3 of 12 Dec 39 issued by Military Board makes it an offence for military personnel to communicate with "Pen Friends". It is suggested that as this magazine has a large circulation amongst service personnel, the Editor should immediately be notified of these Security Instructions.

7. SECURITY OF MILITARY PERSONNEL.

A man dressed as an American Soldier and who stated he was No 20,998,761 Sgt J.LAMONT 93rd Bombardment Squadron of the American Air Corps was in Q.N.C.F. Area from 27 June 42 to 30 June 42, supposedly on leave. After investigation had been made the American Army H.Q. beleived him to be either A.W.L., a deserter, or an imposter as his Unit was not in Victoria. He was taken into custody and handed over to American Military Police. A full report will be submitted when this H.Q. receives the American Military Police Report.

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H.Q. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE. WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REPORT No 4. CONTD.

8. SECURITY OF MILITARY OPERATIONS.

No. L.2. Gun Pearce Bty has been moved to the new Pearce Bty No 2 emplacement and is mounted and ready for action. A 6" Mk 11 dummy piece has been mounted in the L.2. emplacement.

9. 19th Bn V.D.C. report that the Jehovah Witness Movement is growing in the area around GELLIBRAND township. R.C.TAYLOR has been given as a prominent member. Graded A.1.

10. 10th Bn V.D.C. report :- Steel boat at Stony Point. Has been there about 3 weeks. 70' long, 130 h.p. Diesel engine, auxiliary sails, 2 masts, ex tug boat, crew of 5. Referred to locally as the "Mystery Ship". Fishing equipment on board, but no fishing undertaken. Skipper Dyson. Party ownership. Shell Coy supplied 400 galls of fuel oil.

11. A V.D.C. member was a witness to a 'plane crash 9 June 42 in which Officer and crew were killed. An R.A.A.F. 'phone was in the vicini but was locked, so he could not contact R.A.A.F. and report the accident. It is recommended that reliable V.D.C. members to have access to locked R.A.A.F. 'phone boxes.

12. Attached hereto are (8) eight negatives confiscated from Gunner EISENHAUER R.A.A. taken in Q.N.C.F. area. These negatives contain vital military information. It is thought that these were taken without the knowledge of Security Regulations but it is desired that this man be checked by F.S. Section.

E. 13. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE.

Attached as Appx "B" is a photograph taken from "Pix" 10 Jan 42, handed to Q.N.C.F. by a Dutch Naval Captain. It is his opinion that the JAPANESE could use these type of things to prove to the BURMESE that the white races could and would probably eventually oust the native BURMESE even in doing the road-making (which picture refers to), if the BURMESE continue to submit to the BRITISH EMPIRE.

14. The attached article (Appx"C") was published in the HERALD 26 June 42 and sums up particularly the feelings of many of the Coastal Defence personnel in Q.N.C.F. area.

15. A report submitted to this H.Q. by Gunner DUNLOP on possible "FIFTH COLUMN" activity in MELBOURNE is being prepared and will be forwarded as soon as it is available.

PART II EXTERNAL

N I L.

W.L. Spencer Major
GSO 1 Vic.Covering Force.

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H.Q., VICTORIA COVERING FORCE

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REPORT No. 3.

To 1200 hrs. 19 JUNE 1942.

PART 1. INTERNAL

A. OPERATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

1. "B" Coy. 9th Bn. V.D.C. carried out a TEST Mobilization. Commns. used were - M.Car -M/C - Bicycle - Horse - Light Signals.

The Mobilization Test was very satisfactory under the prevailing conditions and all troops very keen. The average time taken by a Pl. with members living up to 16 miles away was 2 hours.

Arrangements are being made to move transformer sub-station at Nepean from the pole in front of F.C. cottage to a position surrounded by concrete blast wall. The transformer at present may constitute an aiming point.

Demining of BARWON HEADS Bridge has been completed.

B. TOPOGRAPHY

2. V.D.C. report re WARRAGUL area:

Roads : Third class around hills are bad. Second class are generally greasy and unsuitable for heavy vehicles. YARRAM Area - Second class roads in this Area are in good order. Third class roads are fair and paddocks are in good order.

C. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.

3. Rivers and creeks in WARRAGUL Area are flowing strongly. Rainfall for the month so far is 79 points.

D. MILITARY SECURITY

4. NIL.

E. ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE

5. Morale of civilians in S.E. Gp. V.D.C. is good.
V.D.C. troops in this area are apparently discontented over recall of rifles - particularly in coastal areas, also the non-issue of greatcoats which are necessary to carry out night work under wintry conditions.

W.B. Spridden Major.
G1 Victoria Covering Force.

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SECRET.

APPENDIX

H.Q. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REPORT No.3.

Herewith copy of letter re signalling reported at BINGINWARRI by 12th Bn. V.D.C. FOSTER :

" Sir,

With regard to the signalling reported at Binginwarri, I was informed that the Commonwealth Investigation Officer who was here for some 36 hours had satisfied himself that the lights complained of were caused by rabbit trappers going round the traps with a bright lantern and that the appearance of Morse Code was caused by them walking up and down in front of their lamps.

I discussed this theory with Mr. V. Wood of Welshpool platoon and he is entirely dissatisfied with it. I also saw Mr.Kelt, O.C.10 Platoon, who has seen the lights and he states that he knows Morse when he sees it, and there was definitely Morse. Constable Bell also will not accept this explanation, nor does it seem plausible to me.

I observed from my house what appeared to be a searchlight last night. It was going about half an hour. I reported it at once to the police but ascertained this morning that they took no action.

Is it the desire that V.D.C. personnel should investigate reports of lights or that the matter be left to the Police ? "

(Sgd) P.J.Wilson
D.C.O. 12th Bn.
V.D.C. FOSTER. "

MAJOR
GI Victoria Covering Force

19 JUN 1942

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War Diary.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated, either directly or indirectly, to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

Serial No. 1

Nos. 1 - 17.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS, PART I

by

Major-General F.P.DERHAM, D.S.O., V.D.
General Officer Commanding.

H.Q. BATMAN AVENUE
MELBOURNE.

3 July 1942.

Nos. 1 - 17.

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1. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE ROUTINE ORDERS PART I.

These Orders, commencing with No.1 of 1942, will be issued each Friday unless additional orders are necessary.

2. VICTORIA COVERING FORCE

The correct designation of the Force under Maj-General F.P.Derham,D.S.O.,V.D., previously known as Melbourne-Queenscliff Comd., will in future be Victoria Covering Force

3. ACCIDENTS INVOLVING ARMY VEHICLES

The attention of all concerned is especially directed to the provisions of M.B.I. Q127 of 30 Sep.41.

4. DAMAGE TO PRIVATE PROPERTY.

(1) When in the course of Military operations or of Military duty, entry is made on private land, the utmost care is to be exercised to see that unnecessary damage is not caused to ratepayers' property and that live stock is not unduly disturbed.

(2) In entering or leaving private land, all gates are to be properly closed to prevent live stock from straying on to the roads causing inconvenience and loss to the owners of the stock.

(3) M.T.Drs. are to be instructed not to enter private land without orders.

(4) As recent complaints have been received that above instructions are being disregarded, the direction of all concerned will be drawn to this instruction.

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5. COURTS OF INQUIRY - ASSEMBLING AUTHORITY.

1. (a) Courts of Inquiry under A.M.R.& O. 445 (Illegal Absence) are assembled by the C.O. of the soldier.

(b) Courts of Inquiry into other matters (vide AMR & O 662) are assembled by an authority mentioned in AMR & O 662(2) (i.e. the Offr. in Comd. of any body of the Mil.Frces.)

(c) In regard to accidents involving mil.vehs., the Court may be assembled only by a Formation Comdr. (MBI Q127/41).

2. Orders assembling such Courts, and the AAF A2 must show that they have been assembled by order of and in the name of the appropriate authority referred to above even though a Staff Offr. has signed such order in accordance with AMR & O 21.

6. BINOCULARS, COMPASSES(PRISMATIC) AND WATCHES.

(1) Binoculars,Compasses(Prismatic) and Watches are unit stores and must remain so. When pers. to whom these articles are on issue are transferred from the unit for any reason, action will be taken to withdraw the items for re-issue.

(2) The unit will keep a record of the registered numbers of these articles on issue to each member,

(3) All personnel at present in possession of these articles will report them to the Unit H.Q. (to be rptd. in all unit orders).

7. REGIMENTAL LISTS - VIC L OF C AREA UNITS.

(1) Regimental Lists of Offrs in order of substantive rank are to be submitted by all Units VIC L OF C AREA, as at 30 Jun 42, to reach these HQ NOT later than 6 Jul 42.

(2) Amendments to such lists are to be prepared as at the end of each month and forwarded to reach these HQ NOT later than the 6th day of the following month. In the event of there being no amendments, NIL returns are to be submitted.

(3) Lists are to be compiled in accordance with the pro form hereunder.

Unit .....

Regimental List of Offrs as at .....(Date).

No.	Name	Sub. Rank	Date of Appt.to	Auth.	Temp. Rank	Date of Appt.to	Auth.	Posting in Unit.

8. SEASONAL LEAVE FOR SEEDING PURPOSES.

(1) VIC L OF C AREA R/O 33/42, is amended to the effect that whilst leave is to be at the discretion of Comdg.Offrs., all such leave may be suspended by Formation Comdr.if the mil.situation so demands.

(2) Pers.proceeding on leave of this nature will have promulgated to them all conditions affecting such leave. (to be repeated in unit Orders).

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9. SALVAGE MATERIALS - REQUISITIONS FOR

As from 15 May 42, all requests for materials from Salvage Depots (L of C) must be accompanied by a written order signed by an Offr. of the Unit requiring the service

10. INDEPENDENT (COMMANDO) COYS - A.I.F.

(1) Pers. in all units (AIF and AMF) are informed that recruiting of Offrs. and NCOs for Cadre Courses, and ORs for Trg.Courses, for the above-named Coys. will be proceeding continuously until October and December 1942, respectively.

(2) In addition the following specialists are required:-

RAE Section	-	(Lt.-NCOs-Sappers). Fitters,Joiners, Carpenters,Electricians,Pioneers.
Corps of Sigs.Section	-	(Lt.-NCOs-Sigmn),Instrument Mechs.,Operators (sigs). Signallers,Clerks,Drs.(MT) Mechs (MT).
Cooks	-	Sergeants, Corporals, ORs.
AAOC	-	Armourers (Cpls)
AAMC	-	(Captains,Sgts) Cpls,Med.Orderlies.

(3) Applicants for allotment to Independent Coys must possess the following qualifications: -

(a) Age over 20 years and under 35 years.

(b) Medically fit and active with a liking for physical trg.

(c) Amenable to discipline and able to keep own counsel.

(4) It is desired that applicants should have completed at least three months' individual Trg.

(5) Volunteers must be willing to take risks outside those normally taken by pers. serving in fighting units.

(6) Successful applicants will be trained in Guerilla Warfare. In the case of Offrs and NCOs the period of trg. will be ten weeks and ORs five weeks.

(7) Trg. will cover the following:-

Fieldcraft, Night Operations,Unarmed Combat, All Weapons, Explosives, Demolitions, Booby Traps, Raids,Riding, Swimming and Rowing.

(8) It is of paramount importance that every opportunity and encouragement to enlist in these Coys be given to all pers. of AIF and AMF units, and Comdg.Offrs. are to co-operate even to the extent of encouraging their best pers. to offer their services and will personally ensure that this Order is given effect in its entirety.

(9) Applications will be forwarded through the normal channels to HQ Vic L of C Area, where arrangements will be made for pers. to be brought before Selection Boards.

(10) Selected AMF pers. will be enlisted in the AIF, and all record matters finalised prior to despatch to Guerilla Warfare School.

(11) The above is to be promulgated further in all Unit Part I Orders.

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11. COURTS OF INQUIRY

(a) A Court of Inquiry, constituted as under, will assemble at a time and place to be specified by the President to inquire into and report upon the collision - Army Vehicle C68319 58 AA Coy.R.A.E. and COW and injuries to V90626 Spr.LANYON R.J. on 27 May 1942:

President

Capt. G.E.PATTERSON 53 A.A.Coy R.A.E.

Members

Lieut J.W.BYRNE 65 A.A.Coy R.A.E.
Lieut.L.STACEY 64 A.A.Coy R.A.E.

(b) A Court of Inquiry, constituted as under, will assemble at a time and place to be specified by the President to inquire into and report upon discrepancies in stores on charge to 3rd Gru.Bn. as revealed by Ordnance Audit Examination Report No. 1905, commenced on 21st April and completed on 29th May 1942:

President

V71800 Capt. F.MERRIMAN, Frt.Engrs.

Members

V50827 Lieut.H.L.WARD, Frt. Engrs.
V13659 Lieut O.J.DOWNING,H.Q.,Q.N.C.F.

12. VEHICLE ON STRENGTH

The undermentioned vehicle is taken on strength H.Q.Victoria Covering Force as from 1 April 42.

Make	Buick
Reg.No.	D3 718
Owner	Mrs. V. Race.

13. SECRECY DISCIPLINE

The following order by the Comdr-in Chief, South West Pacific Area, is republished hereunder for information and necessary action, and is to be published in Unit Orders:-

"(1) The attention of all Offrs, enlisted men and civilian employees is invited to the necessity for maintenance of secrecy discipline.

(2) The efficiency of the enemy espionage and information service has been a conspicuous factor of his general mil success, at this time.

(3) There is evidence of leakage to the public of information regarding the disposition and movement of mil units and material, presumably the result of careless talk at social gatherings, in hotel lobbies and on public conveyances. The tendency to talk in an atmosphere of conviviality requires no further comment.

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13. (Cont)

(4) Offrs, enlisted men and civilian employees are forbidden to discuss any mil. matters in the presence or hearing of any stranger, either mil. or civilian. They must understand that comments regarding mil. subjects may become dangerous to the safety of our troops and our cause.

(5) While it is obvious that, in the majority of cases, the intent was not malicious, and that public curiosity is a constant temptation, it must be accepted that comments regarding mil. subjects in an unofficial setting and to unauthorised persons indicate lack of a proper sense of official responsibility.

(6) The Comdr-in Chief directs that this matter be brought to the attention of all mil. and civilian pers. in your comd, with a view to exercising increased caution in respect to mil. information."

14. ACTION TO BE TAKEN WHEN NATIONAL ANTHEM IS PLAYED.

(1) It has been observed that a lack of uniformity exists regarding action to be taken by Offrs. and ORs when the National Anthem is played.

(2) Attention is invited to AMR & O 1153 and 1154 which are to be promulgated in Unit Orders:-

"1153 (R681)(1). Whenever the National Anthem is played, all ranks in mil uniform not under the orders of the Offr comding the parade are to stand at attention, Offrs, WOs and NCOs saluting.

(2) Offrs in attendance on His Majesty and other Royal Personages or the Pers Staffs of Governors-General and Governors(where such Governors-General or Governors represent the Sovereign on official occasions) are not to salute when the National Anthem is played for the royal salute. The only exception is on an occasion of the trooping of the colour; when the National Anthem is played on the presentation of arms to the colour, all Offrs, including thise in attendance, are to salute. On a parade, after the royal salute has been given, the Mil Board or Offr comding is alone to be regarded as in attendance, and is to take up position in rear of His Majesty or the Governor-General or Governor as the case may be.

1154 (R682) When the National Anthem is played on occasions when there is no parade, or on occasions of a non-mil nature, all ranks in mil uniform are to stand at attention, Offrs, W.O.s and NCOs, if wearing head dress, saluting."

15. NATIONAL SECURITY(LANDLORD and TENANT) REGULATIONS.

(1) Members of the Forces or their dependants who desire to complain of breaches of the National Security(Landlord and Tenant) Regulations should not communicate with members of Parliament or with Federal or State Departments, but should approach the nearest Clerk of Courts for advice as to their rights and obligations under those Regulations.

(2) This Order will be published in all Unit R.O.s.

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16. COMPLAINTS BY MEMBERS OF THE FORCES.

(1). The attention of all ranks will be directed to AMR & O 293(1), which provides as follows:-

" Offrs and soldiers are forbidden to use any method of obtaining redress of real or supposed grievances other than those prescribed by the AMR or authorized by these Orders. Anonymous complaints and complaints through the press are forbidden."

(2) The use of outside influence is forbidden by AMR & O 307(1), which provides:-

" The use of outside influence to support complaints or applications for personal advantages, or in any matter affecting the position of an Offr. or soldier, is contrary to discipline. The only proper course for an Offr or soldier is to apply through his CO or to complain in accordance with the AMR and these Orders. Any attempt to obtain favourable consideration of requests or grievances by other means is forbidden."

(3) The provisions of Division 1 of Part IV of the AMR & O will be explained to all formed units on parade at least once in every three months, and to all members in training depots once every month. The consequences of failing to observe the provisions of that Division will be made clear.

(4) All complaints or applications of the nature described in para.2 above received at any HQ through unauthorized channels will be forwarded to the unit concerned, with a direction that the member will be paraded and informed of the Unit Order on this matter, and that any further failure to observe its provisions will be dealt with as an offence.

(5) The above Order will be published in all Unit R.O.s

17. UNIT LOCATION, STRENGTH and ACCOMMODATION.

The attention of all concerned is directed to Vic L of C R.O. 209 regarding this matter.

Lt. Col.
A.A. & Q.M.G.
Victoria Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

DISTRIBUTION:

Vic L of C Area	4
Q.N.C.F.	12
H.Q.A.A.Defences	12
112 Lt.A.A.Regt	6
X Coy	1
Y Coy	1
G.O.C.	1
C.R.A.	1
G.S.O. 1	1
A.A. & Q.M.G.	1
D.A.A.G.	1
D.A.Q.M.G.	1
L.O.	1
Camp Comdt.	1
Chief Clerk	1
War Diary	2
File	1
Spare	2
	50

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WAR DIARY

NOT FOR PUBLICATION.

The information contained in this document is not ot be communicated, either directly or indirectly, to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

Serial No. 2

Nos. 18 - 24

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

ROUTINE ORDERS, Part I.

by

Major-General F.P.DERHAM, D.S.O., V.D.
General Officer Commanding.

H.Q., BATMAN AVENUE,
MELBOURNE.

10 July, 1942.

Nos. 18 - 24

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18. GENERAL ROUTINE ORDERS FOR ESPECIAL ATTENTION.

The attention of all concerned is especially directed to the undermentioned General Routine Orders of 3 Jul 42 :-

0150 - Conservation of Rubber.
F160 - Supplementary Ration Allowance.

19. CORRIGENDUM

Ref. Vic.Covering Force R.O. 1/11(b)
Last line of para(b) should read "29th May 1941".

20. PRESERVATION OF .45-inch AMMUNITION.

G.R.O. 0142

(1) Cases have occurred of .45-inch ammunition for Thompson sub-machine guns failing to function owing to ingress of moisture.

(2) To obviate this it is essential that strict attention be paid to the preservation of this ammunition after it has been removed from sealed liners. It should be examined periodically and cleaned with a slightly oily rag. The greatest care will be taken to keep the ammunition as dry as possible and, where it is loaded into magazines, these will be unloaded at frequent intervals and the ammunition dried and cleaned.

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21. PERSONNEL WITH SIGNAL QUALIFICATIONS SERVING IN ARMS OTHER THAN SIGNALS.

G.R.O. A145

(1) Owing to the acute shortage of trained signal personnel for the Australian Corps of Signals, the co-operation of all commanders is desired to obtain suitable personnel for this arm of the Service.

(2) Commanders(other than of units of Signals) will submit names of all personnel who, in their civil occupation, were employed in the following trades or occupations:-

Telephone mechanics.
Linemen.
Telegraphists.
Wireless Operators.
Telephone switchboard operators.
Electricians.
Cable jointers.
Teleprinter operators.
Teleprinter mechanics.

The census will include the names of all persons who, at the commencement of hostilities, were holders of the Postmaster-General's Department's Amateur Operator's Proficiency Certificate.

(3) Returns will be submitted in the following form:-

Rank	No.	Name	Unit	Civil Occupation	Posting by trades on M.E. of present unit	Remarks

(4) Returns will be furnished to Div.H.Q. or L of C HQ through normal channels, for consideration by Comd.Div. Sigs. or Chief Signal Officer.

(5) Officers and N.C.O.s will not be included in this return.

(6) This return(in duplicate) is to reach this H.Q. no later than 17 Jul 42.

22. THE BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL.

G.R.O. A146

(1) Any person to whom the British Empire Medal has been or may be awarded may, on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary, place after his or her name the letters "B.E.M.". This includes the recipients of the Medal of the Order of the British Empire awarded before 29th December,1922, as well as those who received the Medal of the Order of the British Empire for Meritorious Service after that date.

(2) Commissioned officers of the A.M.F. and warrant officers of the P.M.F. who have been awarded the Medal should report the fact to their commanding officers, giving particulars of the award, and this information should then be forwarded through the usual channels to L.H.Q., so that the letters "B.E.M." may be recorded in the Army List.

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23. CONTROLLED STORES (C [illegible])

G.R.O. 0158 (1) The following items being in short supply will in future be considered "Controlled Stores" :-

Serial No.	Item
1249	Instruments, testing (quote type and make)

(2) Action will be taken to amend A.A.F. E.5-8, Schedule "L", accordingly.

24. RENDERING OF REPORTS-STATES-RETURNS.

The attention of all concerned is directed to the necessity for punctual submission of the above by the dates specified.

Lt. Col.
A.A. & Q.M.G.
Victoria Covering Force.

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DISTRIBUTION:

Vic L of C Area	4
Q.N.C.F.	12
H.Q.A.A.Defences	12
112 Lt.A.A.Regt	6
X Coy	1
Y Coy	1
G.O.C.	1
C.R.A.	1
G.S.O. 1	1
A.A. & Q.M.G.	1
D.A.A.G.	1
D.A.Q.M.G.	1
L.O.	1
Camp Comdt.	1
Chief Clerk	1
War Diary	2
File	1
Spare	2
	50

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Serial No. 4

Nos. 27-54

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

ROUTINE ORDERS, Part I.

by

Major-General F.P.DERHAM,D.S.O.,V.D.

General Officer Commanding.

H.Q., BATMAN AVENUE, MELBOURNE.

24 July,1942.

Nos. 27 - 54

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27. COURTS OF INQUIRY.

(a) A Court of Inquiry, constituted as under, will assemble at a time and place to be specified by the President to inquire into and report upon damage to Army vehicle M/C C13205, on strength 52 A.A.Coy.R.A.E., and injuries to V53498 Cpl.PARKER B. 53 A.A.Coy.R.A.E. 11 June 42;

President

V71171 Capt.H.H.SMITH 64 A.A.Coy.

Members

V10178 Lieut.L.E.STACEY 64 A.A.Coy.
V50062 Lieut.W.E.M.BODDY 53 A.A.Coy.

(b) A Court of Inquiry, constituted as under, will assemble at a time and place to be specified by the President to inquire into and report upon damage to Army vehicle C26948 and verandah post at Kensington on 2 June 1942:-

President.

V91203 Capt.D.J.HENDERSON 3 Grn.Bn.(Coast Defence)

Members

V92190 Lieut.H.W.NORMAN 3 Grn.Bn.(Coast Defence)
V91529 Lieut.C.W.ORR 3 Grn.Bn.(Coast Defence)

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28. WILLS-Making and Disposal of by Members of the A.M.F.(FTD).

Vic L of C R.O.227

1. CO's of Units will arrange for every member of their Units to prepare a Will on AA Form A130, and for it to be enclosed in AA Form A131(envelope) Where a member has already made a Will the present form and location where such Will has been lodged, must be inserted on the AA Form 130 and enclosed in the envelope in lieu of making a fresh Will. Where a member marries after making his Will, this nullifies/previous Will and a fresh one is necessary.

2. A supply of these Forms may be obtained from VIC L OF C AREA Stationery Depot on demand.

3. Completed forms are to be lodged with H.Q. Vic.Covering Force for transmission to Oi/c VIC L OF C AREA Records Office as soon as possible, accompanied by Schedule in duplicate, one copy of which will be receipted and returned to Units.

29. MOTOR TRANSPORT-Policing of Speed Limitations-Need for Improved Driving Discipline and Economy in Use of Oil.

Vic.L of C R.O.230

1. Strict supervision of the use of Motor Transport and the effective policing of speed limitations must receive the personal attention of all Comdrs. who will themselves set an example in this respect.

2. The necessity for greatly improved driving discipline is obvious - training should ensure that braking and rapid acceleration receive great attention.

3. Economy in lubricating Oil needs stressing, particularly in relation to salvage. Much salvaged engine oil is spoilt by mixing used gear oil with it. Segregation of gear oil and engine oil in salvage is not being achieved and results in losing very much oil.

4. The attention of all ranks is to be drawn to MBI's Q63 and Q68 of 8 Apr 42.

5. This Order is to be repeated in all Unit Orders.

30. MISSING RIFLES No.1,Mk 3-Nos.80424 and 73827.

Vic L of C R.O.231

1. A check will be made by each unit of all rifles on charge or in possession, with a view to recovery of these rifles.

2. Discovery is to be reported to H.Q.VICTORIA COVERING FORCE, and rifles are to be returned to COO,4 AOD,VIC L OF C AREA.

31. SALUTING

G.R.O. A198

1. Action is being taken to amend A.M.R.& O. 1165 by omitting sub-regulation (1) and inserting in its stead the following sub-regulation:-

"(1) W.O.s,N.C.O.s and private soldiers in uniform shall salute an officer at all time except when passing or being passed by him -
(i) in a crowded thoroughfare or assembly; or

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31. (contd).

(ii) during an exercise in the field; or

(iii) when on parade under the immediate control of a superior; or

(iv) when precluded by the nature of their duties from so doing."

This amendment will be anticipated and effect given thereto forthwith. All ranks will be instructed accordingly.

2. In view of the number of officers who have been recently commissioned, care is to be taken to ensure that they fully understand the implications of the provisions concerning saluting.

All officers are to salute their seniors before addressing them on duty or on parade. When not on duty or parade officers under field rank are to salute all officers of field rank and upwards. General officers and field officers are to salute their superiors in rank.

3. Officers are to salute officers in any of His Majesty's Naval or Air Forces and of the Allied Naval, Military or Air Forces, in accordance with para.2.

4. M.B.86358 dated 13th November,1941, is cancelled.

32. LEAVE FOR SEASONAL OCCUPATIONS.

G.R.O. A199

1. The maintenance of the output from rural industries is very necessary to the successful prosecution of the war effort

2. The responsibility of providing sufficient labour for this purpose rests with the Deputy Director-General of Man Power in the various L of C Areas, but seasonal requirements are so great that it has been found impossible to supply all the necessary labour from outside the Services.

3. It has been agreed that leave without pay may be granted to Army personnel from rural districts for seasonal requirements, on the recommendation of the relevant Deputy Director-General of Man Power and on the understanding that before such leave is recommended all sources from outside the Service will be fully exploited.

4. Leave for this purpose may be granted by COs on the following conditions:-

(a) Leave may be granted only when recommended by the Deputy Director-General of Man Power in the L of C Area concerned.

(b) Personnel granted leave must have completed three months' training.

(c) Personnel must apply in writing for leave without pay.

(d) Officers, N.C.O.s, and specialists will not be granted leave.

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32. (contd)

(e) Travelling costs will not be a charge against the Department of the Army.

(f) Leave may be cancelled at any time, and personnel must be able to rejoin their units within 24 hours of receipt of notification of recall.

(g) Formation Commanders may suspend the granting of such leave when the military situation so demands.

(h) Not more than 10 per cent of any unit will be granted leave for seasonal occupation at any one time.

(i) Leave involving numbers of men will not be granted for any period in excess of one month without reference to L.H.Q. which will, from time to time, as necessary, issue instructions regarding leave for special reasons extending over longer periods but in individual cases leave in excess of one month and under two months duration may be approved by a Formation Commander if he is satisfied as to the bona fides of the application.

(j) Any seasonal occupational leave granted will be deducted from recreation leave so far accumulated.

(k) Personnel granted leave over three months are to be transferred to Unit "X" List.

5. The channel of communication regarding such leave will be: Deputy Director-General of Man Power to H.Q.L. of C.Area and then to units, with copy to Formation concerned, and vice versa.

6. The instructions outlined above are designed to give a working policy generally on the procedure to be adopted in regard to release of serving personnel. In cases where definite instructions of release are given to Formations from these Headquarters, it must be accepted that they are based on the requirements of the nation.

7. The following instructions regarding seasonal leave are cancelled:-

Circular 43910 of 1st May, 1942.
Telegram A26884 of 18th June, 1942, addressed to First Aust. Army, Second Aust. Army, 3 Aust. Corps and Q'land, N.S.W., Vic, S.A., W.A., and Tas L of C Areas.

Telegram A27362 of 20th June, 1942, addressed to 1 Aust. Armd. Div.

33. G.R.O. F.223

FEDERAL TAXATION - DEDUCTIONS FROM DAILY RATE OF PAY OF MEMBERS OF THE FORCES TO MEET TAXES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1942.

1. Members of the Forces, other than recently returned A.I.F., are required to lodge income tax returns in any case where the income (as a soldier and private income), including the value of subsistence, field allowance and allotments, but excluding dependants' allowance, derived during the year ended 30th June, 1942, exceeded £156.

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33. (contd)

2. Members of the Forces so liable for the payment of income tax for the year ended 30th June 1942, will be assisted to meet such payments by having deducted from their drawing rate of pay a daily rate, approximately equivalent to that required, according to their rank and rate of pay. They will be duly advised of the rate to be deducted, and the drawing rate in paybooks will be adjusted accordingly.

3. Deductions and payments will be made by the Army and controlled by the District in which the member enlisted, irrespective as to whether or not the member derived his income in that State.

4. To enable the Army and the Taxation Department to carry out the proposed procedure, it is necessary that all taxation returns be forwarded to the correct authority. In this connection members should submit their returns for the year ended 30th June 1942 to the Commissioner of Taxes in the capital city of the State in which they enlisted, e.g. a member who enlisted in Victoria - say, with an Army No. "V"12345 - will forward his return to the Commissioner of Taxes, Melbourne, Victoria.

5. The substance of this G.R.O. will be published each week, until 31st July 1942, in all unit orders.

34. WEEKLY VARIATION IN STRENGTH STATES AND FIELD RETURNS.

A great deal of variation in Strength States and Field Returns has been noted and more care and supervision is required in their preparation and collation. All appropriate staffs from units upwards are to give this matter strict attention and staff captains or equivalent staff officers are to carefully check both unit returns and unit nominal rolls.

Lieut.-Colonel.
A.A. & Q.M.G.
Vic.Covering Force.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8288

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Serial No. 5

Nos. 35 - 42

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

VICTORIA COVERING FORCE.

ROUTINE ORDERS, Part I.

by

Major-General F.P.DERHAM, D.S.O., V.D.

General Officer Commanding.

H.Q., BATMAN AVENUE, MELBOURNE.

31 July, 1942.

Nos. 35 - 42

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35. FEDERAL TAXATION - DEDUCTIONS FROM DAILY RATE OF PAY OF MEMBERS OF THE FORCES TO MEET TAXES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1942.

L of C
R.O. 243

1. Members of the Forces, other than recently returned A.I.F., are required to lodge income tax returns in any case where the income (as a soldier and private income), including the value of subsistence, field allowance and allotments, but excluding dependants' allowance, derived during the year ended 30 Jun 42, exceeded £156.

2. Members of the Forces so liable for the payment of income tax for the year ended 30 Jun 42 will be assisted to meet such payments by having deducted from their drawing rate of pay a daily rate, approximately equivalent to that required, according to their rank and rate of pay. They will be duly advised of the rate to be deducted, and the drawing rate in paybooks will be adjusted accordingly.

3. Deductions and payments will be made by the Army and controlled by the District in which the member enlisted, irrespective as to whether or not the member derived his income in that State.

4. To enable the Army and the Taxation Department to carry out the proposed procedure, it is necessary that all taxation returns be forwarded to the correct authority. In this connection members should submit their returns for the year ended 30 Jun 42, to the Commissioner of Taxes in the capital city of the State in which they enlisted, e.g. a member who enlisted in Victoria, say, with an Army No. "V"12345 will forward

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35(cont) his return to the Commissioner of Taxes, Melbourne, Victoria.

36. LEAVE PASSES

L of C R.O. 244

1. Attention is drawn to the careless manner in which leave passes are being made out in some units. Cases have also come under notice recently where leave books, apparently left carelessly about in Coy Offices, have been stolen, with the result that many leave passes have been made out by personnel themselves.

2. In future, leave passes will be kept under lock and key; each leave pass will be serially numbered and a record of same kept by the unit.

3. Leave passes will, in all cases, be made out carefully and legibly in indelible pencil, using double-sided carbon so that name appears on back of pass; the name of the soldier being inserted in block letters, and his initials Regtl. No. and unit, and the date of expiry of leave, will be clearly shown.

37. VEHICLES-ACCIDENTS TO-AA FORM G13(ACCIDENT REPORT)

L of C R.O. 245

1. O'sC units will ensure that in all cases involving traffic accidents, particularly where private vehicles or citizens are involved, comprehensive reports on AAF G13(Accident Report) are completed, without delay, and signed by the MT driver implicated.

2. O'sC units will provide each driver with AAF G13, and ensure that instruction regarding the completion thereof has been given.

3. Attention is directed to para 43 of Standing Orders for the Operation and Maintenance of Mechanised Vehicles. Drivers will study these instructions carefully, and particularly section B of para 43, requiring drivers to ascertain names and addresses of driver and owner of any other vehicle concerned, and also of any witnesses to the accident. Independent witnesses, where possible, will be questioned and their names and addresses obtained. Failure of MT drivers to obtain this important information has often deprived the Department of its legal right to recover damages sustained to its property by negligent private drivers. This Order willbe promulgated in unit ROs. At regular intervals it will be repeated to MT drivers.

38. CONSERVATION OF RUBBER.

L of C R.O. 246

The position as regards the supply of rubber is serious, and the replacement of tyres is becoming increasingly difficult. By observance of the following instructions a considerable saving in rubber can be effected

(a) Officers must at all times maintain the strictest supervision in the use of MT.
(b) Elimination of non-essential use of MT and MT to be used wherever possible.
(c) Except in exceptional circumstances, DS cars must not be driven to exceed 30 mph.
(d) Correct inflation of tyres.

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38. (cont).

(e) Wherever possible, sudden application of brakes is to be avoided; a gradual reduction in speed when approaching road intersections would do much to obviate this fault.
(f) Vehicles must not be overloaded.
(g) Avoid cornering too fast.
(h) Check steering gear regularly.
(i) Oil is extremely damaging to rubber, and great care must be taken to avoid oil and grease coming in contact with tyres and tubes.

39. BOOTS - INSPECTION OF

L of C R.O.247

1. Attention is directed to SCRO's 114/41, 582/41 and 76/42.
2. Commanding Officers and Officers i/c Detachments will be held responsible if fortnightly inspections are not carried out, and appropriate action taken to have boots repaired. They will also take disciplinary action in cases of neglect in the care of boots.
3. With proper care under normal conditions of service, boots should not require initial repair under three weeks. In very bad cases the boots will be returned to No.2 Sub-Depot and marked "FOR INSPECTION", and will be accompanied by a short history.

40. SUPPLY OF OFFICE FURNITURE FROM DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - ACCOUNTING FOR

L of C R.O.251

1. The Chief Auditor has drawn attention to the omission to bring to charge in many cases articles of Office Furniture received by units direct from the Department of the Interior.
2. Accounting Officers will submit without delay to COO, 4 AOD, 31 Flinders Lane, CRV's for any furniture as not brought to debit.
3. In the case of future receipts, one copy of the CRV, AA Form F22, will also be forwarded to the Department of the Interior to support the claim for payment.

41. PROTECTED ANIMALS, BIRDS AND PLANTS

G.R.O. A232

1. From reports received it appears that in some cases protected animals, birds and plants are being destroyed by troops.
2. Except in emergency, all ranks will observe the laws of the States and Territories of the Commonwealth relating to the protection of animals, birds and plants.
3. This G.R.O. will be published in all unit R.O.s

42. GENERAL ROUTINE ORDERS FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION.

The attention of all concerned is especially directed to the undermentioned General Routine Orders of 24 July, 1942.

A227: Recommendations regarding Officers- inclusion of Personal No.
A231: Use of Churches and Chapels for secular purposes.
Q234: Vacation of Property.
0236: Anklets, Web.
0237: Blankets, water bottles, etc. - carriage by personnel proceeding from units on duty or leave.

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42.(cont)

0238: Boot repair materials.
0239: Scale of Field Service Accommodation - Stores and Tentage (Scale "A").
0240: Gauging of .303-in. Rifle and Machine Gun Barrels.
0242: Recovery and reclamation of worn or damaged components which have been replaced.
0243: Cartridges Q.F.,75 mm Mk.I Shell with Mk.IV Fuzes.
0244: Removal of High Explosive fillings from Service Ammunition.
0245: Films - Accounting for and storage by units.
0246: Camouflage of tents - Bituminous Emulsion.
0247: Mechanical Vehicles.
0248: Amendments to A.F.E.2 Series.
0249: Procedure in the case of accidents involving Mechanical Vehicles.
F251: Unit Trust Funds.

Lieut-Col.
A.A. & Q.M.G.
Victoria Covering Force.