8/2/14/4

CAO ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

Feb 1978

NOVEMBER &
DECEMBER 1942

ORIGINAL

H.Q. 14 INFANTRY BRIGADE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

Original

782 adv HQ Landing by Pack Horses and Pack Horses returning to unit

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit 14 AUST INF BDE H.Q. Date and Time.—From 1 NOV 42 To 30 NOV 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	1		Lieut FORD, G. 55/53 Aust Inf Bn took over appointment LO 2.	
			14 Aust Inf Bde Op Order No 10 issued.	
	2		Lieut PIPER, 55/53 Aust Inf Bn, appointed Bde Amenities Offr.	
	3		Bde HQ commenced digging battle H.Q.	
	4		Muster pde and rifle inspection by BM. -	
			Brig WOOTEN, 6 Aust Div, visited Bde H.Q., and with Bde Comd visited	
			unit areas to inspect battle posns.	
	5		Normal routine.	
	6		" "	
	7		Maj A.L. MACDONALD, B.M. left to attend Staff School, CANBERRA.	
			Capt J.L. MARCHANT to act as B.M.	
	8		N42901, Lieut L.B. SMITH, LO 1, promoted to rank of Capt.	
	9		Normal routine	
	10		" "	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42 *Unit* 14 AUST INF BDE H.Q. *Date and Time.—From* 11 NOV 42 *To* 20 NOV 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	11		Lieut-Gen HERRING, GOC NGF inspected 36 Aust Inf Bn and 55/53 Aust Inf Bn pers in MORESBY area.	
	12		Capt F.C. PIGGIN, Bde I.O. left to resume regtl duties with 3 Aust Inf Bn. Capt. L.E. STEPHENS, I.O. 55/53 Aust Inf Bn to act as Bde I.O. pending return of Lieut CHRISTIE from school. N43559 Lieut V.W. BAYLISS Bde Sig Offr, promoted to rank of Capt.	
	13		Normal Routine.	
	14		Maj-Gen ALLEN, late Comd 7 Aust Div, assumed Comd 6 Aust Div.	
	15		Normal Routine.	
	16		" "	
	17	1110	Maj-Gen ALLEN, comd 6 Aust Div, visited Bde H.Q.	
	18		Normal routine.	
	19	1930	Maj P.R. ADAMS, takes over appointment of B.M. from Capt.J.L. MARCHANT	
	20		14 Aust Inf Bde Adm Order No 1 issued .....Appx B	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit 14 AUST INF BDE H.Q. *Date and Time.—From* 21 NOV 42 *To* 30 NOV 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	21		Dental Offr came on strength 14 Aust Inf Bde, pdes to be held daily.	
	22		Normal routine	
	23		Maj-Gen Allen, Comd 6 Aust Div visited Bde H.Q. and with Bde Comd and HM, inspected bn def posns.	
	24		Normal routine.	
	25		" "	
	26		Raid 90. Three enemy bombers made two runs over Bde H.Q. area and were engaged by SL and AA. fire.	
	27		Normal routine.	
	28		" "	
	29		" "	
	30		55/53 Aust Inf Bn came under comd 30 Aust Inf Bde and issued with warning order to move.	
			GENERAL : During the month Bns and Bde HQ were occupied mainly digging def posns, but route marches were held regularly. 3 Aust Inf Bn under 7 Div pushed fwd to BUNA with adv tps.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

Army Form C.2128
(Adapted Large)
(Pads of 100)
Reprinted March, 19[illegible] a.w. 10m pads.

MESSAGE FORM

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 14 AUST INF BDE 30 AUST INF BDE rptd 55/53 AUST INF BN AQ

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
6 AUST DIV	9	29	

(Write horizontally)

WARNING	ORDER	(.)	SECRET	(.)
55/53	aust	inf	bn	will
be	placed	under	comd	30
aust	inf	bde	forthwith	and
be	at	four	hours	notice
to	move	as	from	0800L/30
(.)	pending	orders	to	move
55/53	bn	will	be	responsible
for	present	bn	area	and
role	(.)	in	the	event
of	an	emergency	arising	prior
to	order	to	move	55/53
bn	will	revert	to	comd
14	aust	inf	bde	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT BY ANY MEANS: AS WRITTEN *(EXCEPT) ( ) WIRELESS

SIGNATURE

* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

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

SIGNATURE [signature]

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 1400

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

War Diary

SECRET

Copy No 8

1 Nov 42

14 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 10

Ref map PORT MORESBY (Special) 1 in to 1 mile

1. INTRODUCTION

(a) The object of this instn is to outline the tasks allotted to 25 Aust Inf Bde Carr Gp in the defence of BOMANA, LALOKI and WAIGANI aerodromes.

(b) The plan is based on the following anticipated phases during the attack:-

(i) First Phase - Bombing and machine gunning of areas surrounding the dromes with a view to locating and destroying AA posns and tps within the area.

(ii) Landing of paratps to sieze and occupy areas adjacent to dromes in order to cover landing of airborne tps.

(iii) Landing of airborne tps by tp carrying planes and/or gliders.

2. INFM

(a) Enemy

(i) Areas in which it is considered probable that the enemy would sieze and occupy by paratps is as follows:-

GAOL GARDEN area map ref 965465

Clearing NW of LALOKI runway map ref 946475 to 934479

WAIGANI SWAMP area

(b) Own tps

(i) Tps available for def of dromes include all Army and AAF personnel located in areas of responsibility.

(ii) 25 Aust Inf Bde Carr Gp

3. ALLOTMENT OF CARRS AND ROLE

(a) Allotment

BOMANA) drome - one carr pl and one carr borne mortar
LALOKI) pl each
WAIGANI)

(b) Roles

Carrier roles will generally be as follows:-

(i) protection of areas suitable for enemy paratps landings

(ii) protective recce and delaying action

(iii) harrassing of enemy concentrations

(iv) immediate attack to counter enemy penetration

4. TASKS

(i) One carr pl and one carr borne mortar pl will be permanently stationed on each of the three dromes and remain under comd 14 Aust Inf Bde. In the event of an attack on either of the three dromes pls will pass to comd of the respective Sector Comds.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

(ii) Drome Sector Comds , appointed by HQ 6 AUST DIV, are at present :-

BOMANA	Capt W F COCORAN	208 C A G Bty
LALOKI	Capt L D GAY	101 C A AA Bty
WAIGANI	Capt E H SANDERS	2/17 Aust Lt AA Bty

(iii) Pl comds will liaise immediately with drome sector comd and make themselves familiar with drome defence scheme

(iv) Patrols will be maintained as follows:-

BOMANA SECTOR-along tracks south of LALOKI RIVER establishing contact with patrols from WAIGANI at 926477

LALOKI SECTOR-all tracks immediately North and NW of drome as far as map ref 903497 establishing contact here with WAIGANI patrol

WAIGANI SECTOR-tracks in immediate vicinity of WAIGANI SWAMP maintaining contact with patrols at points stated above

5. MAINTENANCE OF VEHS

(a) To ensure that carrs are used economically prior to a state of operational emergency being declared pl comds concerned will ensure that carrs are NOT used for tasks which, during the present phase, can be as efficiently performed by a wheeled veh.

(b) In addition to the above, patrols, wherever practicable, will be performed on foot prior to a state of operational emergency being declared to exist.

6. ADM

Amn, Rations, Water and POL

Eight days reserve will be stored in sec posns.

7. INTERCOMN

(a) Direct L/T to pl HQs will be established and maintained by drome Sector Comds

(b) Alternative comn by M/C orderly will be planned

(c) Alarm Signals to be sounded on aerodrome sirens are as follows:-

(i) Raid warning RED - three long blasts
(ii) Paratps-series short blasts
(iii) All clear-one long blast

NOTE: on RED warning all personnel will stand by their carriers

ACK

Time of Signature 1225 hrs

Maj
BM 14 Aust Inf Bde

Issued by DR

DISTRIBUTION

25 Aust Inf Bde Carr Gp	Copy No	1	For infm
BOMANA drome Sector Comd		2	
LALOKI . . .		3	HQ 6 AUST DIV 10
WAIGANI . . .		4	HQ AA Def 11
Comd		5	Spares 12,13,14
SC		6	
FILE		7	
War Diary		8-9	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

War Diary

SECRET

Copy N° 9

1 Nov 42

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

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Maj
BM 14 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature 1225 hrs
Issued by DR

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LALOKI . . .		3	HQ 6 AUST DIV 10
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Comd		5	Spares 12,13,14
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FILE		7	
War Diary		8-9	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

14 INF. BDE. H.Q.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit 14 Aust Inf Bde HQ. Date and Time.—From 1 Dec, 42. To 31 Dec, 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY.	2 Dec.		55/53 Aust Inf Bn (under comd 30 Aust Inf Bde) received orders to move by air to POPONDETTA on Dec 3.	
	3 Dec.		55/53 Aust Inf Bn pers remained on WARD'S DROME awaiting transportation for most of the day but owing to air accident at POPONDETTA no pers were despatched.	
	4 Dec.		55/53 Bn arrived at Drome at 1030 and by midday two planes, one of which carried CO had left but owing to further accident planes returned with pers still on board.	
			Tps now under comd 14 Aust Inf Bde:- 36 Aust Inf Bn, 3 Aust Inf Bn Rear, 55/53 Aust Inf Bn Rear, 25 Aust Inf Bde Carr Gp.	
	5 Dec.		2/14, 2/16, 16 Bde and 49 Bn Carr Gps came under comd 14 Aust Inf Bde. 55/53 Aust Inf Bn pers were dispat ched for POPONDETTA.	
	7 Dec.		IO, I Sgt and 1 OR made recce NW MORESBY and reached a point approx 3 miles from DOURA.	
	8 Dec.		55/53 Bn went into action and cleared MG post on the SOPUTA SANANANDA TR.	
	9 Dec		39 Aust Inf Bn Carr Pl came under comd.	
			36 Aust Inf Bn ordered to occupy def posns combining tactical e xercise with completion of diggings.	
	10 Dec.		Xmas cards were prepared by Bde I Sec for distribution among Bde HQ pers.	
	11 Dec.		36 Bn exercise completed but Bn will remain in def posns until finished.	
	13 Dec.		255 L.A.D. came under comd 14 Bde.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

14 INF. BDE. H.Q.

Second.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY.	14 Dec.		36 Bn came under comd N.G.F. preparatory to move by air. Movt arranged by 6 Aust Div.	
	15 Dec.		Adv party 36 Bn were emplaned at WARD'S DROME for POPONDETTA.	
	16 Dec.		Balance of 36 Bn pers emplaned for POPONDETTA.	
	17 Dec.		2/27 Bn Carr Pl came under comd 14 Bde. Instns received from 6 Aust Div to supply 15 Jeep Drivers for service in fwd areas.	
	24 Dec.		Initial issue of "PLINK", Bde HQ Magazine. Bde Comd and BM visited hospitals and spoke with wounded soldiers of Bns of this Bde.	Appx " A"
	25 Dec.		Although the men have spent previous Christmas periods in perhaps more pleasant surroundings, it is doubful if they were ever in better spirits. The whole of Christmas day was granted free of any parades by the GOC. The men's mess was embellished with the aid of poisanmas, coconut palms and tree ferns, while the floor was covered with a rust gravel outlined by small white stones. One of the men had a spasm of improvisation and utilised the green camouflaging scrim for streamers. So that altogether it was a very pleasant atmosphere. Christmas dinner consisted of poultry, roast beef, potatoes and beans with Christmass pudding and custard for dessert followed by oranges and sweets; all unusual luxuries of the island. The current remark was "never tasted better anywhere". The Bde Comd chatted to several of the men and wished all pers the best of luck.	
	26 Dec.		Normal routine was resumed.	
	27 Dec.		Normal routine.	
	28 Dec.		At 1600 hrs warning order to move received from 6 Aust Div. This entailed	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

Secret.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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H. 100M 2/42

Unit 14 Aust Inf Bde. HQ. Date and Time.—From 1 Dec, 42. To 31 Dec 42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	28 Dec.		transportation by air to POPONDETTA. No move was to take place before 0630 hrs 29 Dec and then less the Bde Comd. The men worked well into the night dyeing their eqpt and getting gear packed.	
	29 Dec.		Party of 18 consisting BM, SC, IO, LO 1, Sig O 1 and 13 ORS (incl 3 Sigs) moved to WARD'S DROME, but owing to the presence of zeros over the mountains all planes were grounded. The party returned to camp.	Appx "B"
	30 Dec.		Same party left camp at 0600 hrs and eventually at 0945 hrs left WARD'S DROME by DC3 tpt plane.	
POPONDETTA.		1020	No enemy opposition was encountered enroute and the plane landed safely at POPONDETTA. Party moved to SOPUTA by foot, two men being left behind in charge of gear. Pers spent the night at ASC HQ, 4000 yds from front line. Noise of arty shelling left little opportunity to sleep.	
SOPUTA	31 Dec.		BM was called to HQ 7 Aust Div to see GOC, Maj Gen Vasey. The General gave orders that 36 and 55/53 Aust Inf Bns were to come under comd the Bde as soon as they could be relieved from SANANANDA, probably within two days. The Bde would move to GONA and relieve 21 Aust Inf Bde, its task being to carry out offensive ops against the enemy in the AMBOGA R area while holding the Div's left flank and preventing any enemy interference from that direction. The estimated strength of the enemy in the AMBOGO area was 400-600 while the Bde strength was below 300, the Bns having suffered by casualties from malaria and enemy action since arriving in the fwd area. This of necessity was expected to limit the Bde's offensive ops to displays of force and offensive patrolling. The General also stated that Lt Col G. Matthews would arrive shortly to temporarily adm comd of the Bde.	
			At 1100 hrs the adv Bde HQ party under the BM set out for GONA with an LO	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

14 INF. BDE. H.Q.

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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(adapted,)

H. 100M 2/42

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SOPUTA.	31 Dec.		from Div as guide. The intention was to make arecce of a new track to GONA which would be shorter for the Bns when they moved there. The route was fwd of our arty posns and led for about four miles through hy jungle and swamp in which the enemy was known to have been the night before when he had attacked and destroyed some of our arty. The remainder of the track was through hy mud and swamp from 3-4 miles. The BM formed the party into a fighting patrol with himself in comd and moved deployed. However no opposition was encountered and at 1530 hrs the party reached 21 Bde HQ. Many of the party were utterly exhausted by the difficult nature of the going. Brig Comd 14 Aust Inf Bde	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

War Diary

"PLWK"

Magazine Of HQ 14 Aust Inf Bde

Vol 1 No 1 — 24 Dec 1942 — "On The House"

SONG FOR TODAY

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men !"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep;
"God is not dead; nor doth He sleep !
The Wrong shall fail
The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men !"

"Longfellow



THE BRIGADE COMMANDER'S XMAS MESSAGE

The world situation is now so much brighter that I feel justified in wishing all ranks of this HQ a Happy Xmas and Good Luck for the coming year.

While appreciating the simple pleasures which come to us at this period of the year, we have no illusions of what lies ahead of us. 1943 may well prove to be the bloodiest year of this war, for we are fighting a ruthless, cruel, savage and cunning race which gives no quarter and expects none. With the New Year will come the call to Australia for a greater effort and sacrifice and we will need, in the field of battle all our courage, skill and daring; and in the factories of our great Commonwealth, greater and still greater efforts, if we are to bring victory nearer, and we hope, a lasting peace. Whatever the future may hold for us I know I can rely on all ranks to give of their very best.

The 3 Bn, during the past three months, has written a brilliant page in the annals of our Military History.....the 55/53 Bn, a few days ago, clashed with the Japs at Gona and emerged gloriously from their first encounter.....and the 36 Bn, as I pen these lines, is even now moving forward to give the enemy a taste of their metal.

We are on the offensive and we can look forward to 1943 with every confidence, to bring us much nearer, if not actually victory and peace.

The best of good wishes and good luck to you all.

L Smith Brigadier



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

A THOUGHT FOR XMAS

On the eve of Xmas 1942, our thoughts naturally wander back to our loved ones at home. We cannot be with them this Xmas, and share with them the joys of the festive season, as we have done in days gone by, because today we find ourselves fighting for the freedom, for the very existance of those we love and cherish so much. Already many we know and love from our own Bde have blasted the enemy; some have paid the supreme sacrifice for the great cause, so let us follow their noble example, be proud to do our bit, and suffer silently for those who are so dear to us. We must remember that they too have their trials and crosses to bear, we know that their thoughts and prayers alike, are with us: so for their sakes let us smile boys, and carry on for the brighter and happier times that will be theirs and ours in time to come.....,Ed

THE IDEA BEHIND "PLINK"

"PLINK" makes its debut and with its first issue extends to all readers Heartiest Xmas Greetings.

It is intended that its pages be filled solely with the work of we folk of Bde HQ, and that we will not have to "borrow" items from other sources. Also, it is not intended to try to compete with that worthy publication "Guinea Gold" which, always so full of interesting news, is eagerly sought each day, but to record our own efforts at writing on topical subjects.

Many humorous things happen during our working and free hours that are "good enough" to talk about afterwards and the pages of "PLINK" are for that purpose.

Among us are many "dark horses", who can write quite well--in this issue are such examples--and to those "PLINK" appeals for contributions,

Let's go and here's to the success of "PLINK"!

Ed

THANKS A MILLION!.....

To the A.C.F. for the scrumptious Xmas Hampers we all received.

However we feel that a mistake must have been made in packing for when we opened ours we found NO BEER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

OUR TEN COMMANDMENTS

Always leading the field in discipline the 14 Bde has ten commandments, all its own. It is not true that if you break one of them you will not go to heaven, but it is CERTAIN that you will answer to the BM if you do not keep all of them.

1: Thou shalt answer the bell promptly at 0630 and shalt be punctual at all parades.

2:- Thou shalt roll thy tents by 0800 each morning and have them in inspection order.

3:- Thou shalt not swear in the camp area.

4:- Thou shalt pay proper compliments to officers at all times.

5:- Thou shalt always be clean and tidy, and keep thy arms and equipment likewise.

6:- Thou shalt make thyself a bed to sleep in.

7:- Thou shalt keep thy camp clean.

8:- Thou shalt carry thy arms and equipment at all times.

9:- Thou shalt always carry thy pay book and thy meat ticket, and not leave the camp area without permission.

10:- Thou shalt wear thy shirts at all times and long pants, long sleeves between evening meal and morning parade.

The General!!! What a pal. NO MORE SLIT TRENCHES WILL BE DUG.

"Moses"

LONG LIVE THE DIFFERENCE

In the French Parliament before the war one of the Deputies, making a speech urging the improvement of the legal status of women, said:-

"After all, there is very little difference between men and women!".

With one accord, the entire Chamber of Deputies rose and shouted as one man:-

"Vive la little difference!".

.....

QUESTION

Can a man marry his widow's niece?

(Answer Page 5)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

OUR SERGEANT-MAJOR

Our sergeant-major is not a bad sort,
Bill Jones is his name, or "Squeaker" for short;
The batmen all love him, he finds plenty of work,
When there are holes to be dug out comes the dirt;
They curse him all day and growl to themselves:-
"We'll get even, then wish him in Hell".
The Pioneers too, they don't miss out,
When he sings out for Hobday, you should hear him shout;
At six-thirty each morning, he goes through the lines;
Shouting to everyone, "All out, rise and shine!"
He gets out of bed like a two year old, dashing,
He never sleeps in, he doesn't like spine-bashing.
But take it all round he gets the work done,
And is always a sport for all kinds of fun;
So give him a go and don't make his job tough,
He'll let you know when you've had enough;
We will give him three cheers and a kind word or two,
And I bet he will like it, wouldn't you?

Pte Bill Pavey

MISS 1942-- WAR MODEL

Two men got into a railway carriage of a long-distance train. They hoped for a compartment for themselves so that they could enjoy a free and easy chat.

They were greatly disappointed when a demure maid got in. One of the men tipped the other a wink and started talking about things most likely to make the lady seek another compartment.

"You know, old man, it's very awful to have to say it, but I don't think I've told you that I'm an illegitimate child".

"Well that's strange, George, I'm one too."

Not even that shifted Miss 1942. All she did was to take a cigarette from her case and then almost turn her bag inside out, trying to find a match. At last she gave it up and turning to the bright pair, said with the sweetest smile:-

"Have either of you two illegitimates got a match?"

.....

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE

FOR SALE Bulldog, WILL eat anything. Very fond of children.

WANTED Young girls for pickling and bottling.

FOR SALE FORD car, the property of a lady with a sports body. View any time after 6.

FOR SALE Small bath for baby with enamel bottom.

WANTED Cottage near sea for small family with good drainage.

Miss BROWN having cast off clothing of all description, invites inspection at any time.

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WHO STARTED THAT RUMOR ?

First of all there was the dinkum oil from MacArthur, - or was it Forde or Blamey ?- that the 14 Bde would carry out a victory march through all Australian capital towns, yes the date, 14 Dec. It would be lovely, yes, two days at Brisbane, two days at Newcastle, two at Sydney. Did we say two ?. Well, we think youchaps would have taken care of that, but anyway, that's the story.

Then there was the time when all the under 20's were going back for certain, but of course they are still here.

Those class 2 men should not be in the tropics, the heat is far too great for them, so we'll send them home. When ???????

Hush Hush !!! Don't join the A.I.F. because all the Militia will return after six months. How many days do they have in their months up here anyway?.

We'll have a fine time with those Queensland lassies! Yes, we are going back to Warwick to be regrouped. Whacko, but when ?.

Oh yes, it came over the wireless that the Yanks had definitely taken over the Island and all the Aussies were going home. Tokio radio again.....?

Then there was the big article concerning the shylocking of the 14 Bde to New Guinea, which appeared in Smith's Weekly. Anyone read it ?. No but I heard.....x

Right from the horse's mouth ! All A.I.F. will be regrouped after three months in New South Wales and then sent to India. Now, who started this one ?.

Heard three months ago !! Higher up doesn't want chocos here. Home by Xmas !

Curtin, or was it MacArthur ?- said that six months in the tropics was long enough for troops. Did anyone see this in print ?.

Then there was the unit, which was returning with this and another Bde, and handed in all its equipment.....but it was only being regrouped and here too !!

Naturally with the shortage of shipping space it would be more convenient for us to be reissued with new transport when we return, so we will hand our transport in to higher authority by 25 Nov. Now, who started that one ?.

What is the Sigs name, who held the plug open and heard that this and another Bde would be returning ?

Now, why would the GOC want to inspect us twice within such a short period ? We are never inspected unless we are going somewhere.....so we must be going home !

Who was it that told the "Q" Staff that they had been told to requisition for new uniforms ?. No, it wasn't Mickey Mouse !

Another one from the horse's mouth ! Before January, 1943, 14Bde will have rejoined 2 Div. What's the name of those new troop carrying planes America is producing ?.....better get a couple quickly !

Who was it that said that this and another Bde would not be getting any Xmas Hampers ?. I am enjoying mine, aren't you ?.

The sailing date was all fixed for Nov 28 (1942 ?) and what a beautiful morn it was too.....the ships were all set to sail, but no orders came through for us to embark.

"Itoljaso"

.....

Answer to question at foot of page 3

DEAD MEN DON'T MARRY !

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THE REASON WHY ?

(This article was written by a private soldier who is well known to all of us. Because it expresses so admirably the realisation of the tasks before us, as understood by a man in the ranks, and is NOT the words of one of our leaders, it is considered worthy of special mention. Ed)

Many of us hold that we were shylocked up here for no apparent reason. Some ask quite indignantly, "Why were we brought to this Godforsaken hole"?

The answer is quite simple and the reason should not be hard to see for anyone, who stops a moment to think. Now to start at the beginning let's look at the whole position simply. We may as well ask why we ever came into the army at all.

There should be no need for the writer to delve into the causes of the present gigantic struggle for freedom, or to point out that, but for the soldier, our great country would eventually fall into the hands of the enemy. All the privileges, which we now enjoy would be taken away from us. Is life worth living if we are not free ?. Are we prepared to throw away our freedom without a fight ?.

We must remember that Australia, as a nation is only a baby and cannot muster an unlimited supply of manpower, hence every man MUST do his bit, if we are to maintain our peace and security. There's a job for all of us to do, so let's pull together and down those, who challenge our freedom.

Sometimes we find it hard to agree with decisions made by the authorities, who are planning the strategy of this war, but chaps, they are much more familiar with the situation than we, they know as we do, what is at stake, so let's not question their actions but pull together to help win through. Leaving our loved ones is tough, chaps, we all agree, but isn't it better to defeat that yellow plague here and now than let it wipe out many, who are near and dear to us?.

And so it was that there was a job to be done here and that job demanded our presence--hence we came. Already our cobbers of this Bde have won their spurs and handed out in no mean way to the enemy some of his own particular brand of dog medicine. Let's not complain, chaps, let's be proud of being here to fight for the freedom, which is ours. Of course there are those still back home making sure that each wave on Bondi Beach, doesn't bring in a Jap sub, but let's remember that the war will not end with the taking of New Guinea, or even New Britain.....there's plenty for ALL to do, so, while we are here let's do our job well.

"Private Soldier"
14 Bde HQ.

* * * \

MY COMPANY

They listened to the rumor,
Which made them bite their lips,
For 'twas about, that they were bound
For Moresby on some ships.

They left their homes behind them,
There were not many tears,
And though their hearts were heavy,
Not one would show his fears.

The days were long and sultry,
There was no breeze nor rain,
The boys grew rather bored and tired,
Then.....on the move again !

They always did a real good job,
No matter what they tried,
And now, the news I heard last night,
Was some were injured, some had died.

Once I was among them,
So my heart is filled with pride,
And I confess that while I live,
I'll spread it far and wide.

Pte Bernie Edwards.

.....

ON THE HILLS OF MORESBY.

The majestic hills, in solemn silence, reign supreme,
Lightly clothed with trees and scattered stone,
Rising gently and sometimes steeply, hill on hill,
Such splendour was not meant for man alone.

Below, that stately palms wave lazily by the sea,
Like steadfast guardians of the sundrenched shore;
The blue-rippled waters glisten in the morning sun,
And the sea against the reef foams gently o'er.

The ships at anchor swing slowly with the ebbing tide,
On the breeze comes the clattering winches' call;
The dust from the road rises in the shimmering heat,
While the hills stand watching silently over all.

Ptes H. Marks & A. Oberg.

....

GOD AND THE AUSSIES !

A captured German officer told a British officer, "You cannot win this war, God is with US!".

Promptly the British officer replied, "That's alright, we have the Australians".

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"HOW'S YOUR MORALE?"

We take a very low view of the absence of a certain officer, who usually takes such a low view of us.
Poodle-oking on the mainland, we believe !

Who's the officer who masquerades as a Chinese coolie ?.
It is rumored that he has requisitioned for the appropriate hat.

Cause for suspicion followed a recent outbreak of diarrhoea necessitating a certain few being relieved of their duties for a few days.
Well, who wouldn't get suspicious when the COOKS got it !

Who's the sergeant who, while at the range, mistook his bayonet for a meat skewer ?.
We almost had another fresh meat day !

Who's the most popular man on Bde Hq ?
Ask the mailman.....

We have learned that the officers will be having a duck for Xmas.
Yes, Bill Pavey got it at cricket the other day !

Who gave us all a surprise by his appearance in the cast of a recent concert ?
His, "Ah ! A little bit of sniggle !" quite knocked us off our balance. Hope we see more of him.....

We'd simply love an introduction to the dashing brunette who wears the exciting white frock and turban at our concerts.
Last time we saw more of her thighs.....

We hate to be personal, but what was the trouble with the same young lady's brassiere during that hulu dance ?

On a recent Sunday outing, at a certain native village, it was noticed that the native children were very affectionate towards "Squeaker".
Is this "Squeaker's" first visit to the tropics ??.

Who's the sergeant who is continually being blitzed over his tent.
He'll tighten up all round one of these days.

Some people have all the luck !
What officer has landed himself a school in Australia so that he can continue to enjoy the company of the weaker sex, which he found so congenial, while in hospital.

It is complained that some of the boys get a COOL reception from the R.A.P.
We've heard Doc Smith's "Anti Itch" concoction has something to do with it.

Well ! Well !! At last "Ipana" is to flash new white dentures, when he grins.
Now, he'll be able to eat his own cooking, we hope !

Politeness oozes from the "Q" Store these days !
They've adopted the motto, "The customer is always right."

It's much easier riding comfortably in a sedan on those roads than on an iron steed.
Ask the officer, who has tried both.

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PLINK'S HUMORISTS

With the initial issue of "PLINK", we introduce our humor corner, featuring those two irrepressible diggers, Squeaker and Barney, on active service, somewhere in New Guinea. Naturally there is no need to introduce their formidable sergeant or their commanding officer.

In spite of the heat and grime of the tropics our diggers find time to look on the brighter side of things now and then. Heard this week by the camp roundsman:-

Trapped !!

CO: This cheese was stolen from the QM store and later found in your pack.

Squeaker: I 'ave a craving for wheese, sir. Y'see I am one of the Mice of Moresby.

CO: Very well, my man. FOURTEEN DAYS IN THE TRAP.

Our humorists were doing a stretch in the clink, for insulting the serg, and the CO passed by-

Barney: Blimey ! ....there goes old February.

Squeaker: February ??????

Barney: Yairs....he never opens his mouth under 28 days !

You're telling us !!. The worthy, serg, always willing to sprout, was telling our friends of his soccer talent; at the same time gulping hoggedly at a bottle of beer.

Serg: I was a famous soccer player before the war broke out, played in all the big matches, I did. I toured all over the empire. glug ! glug ! glug !

Squeaker: By cripes, they must 'ave picked yer for yer dribblin' because you're no good at passin'.

What's the difference !!

Barney: I wish I could git inter the trench mortars.

Squeaker: Oh !.....and wot the 'ell do yer know about mortars ?.

Barney: Wot do I know about mortars !! Gorblimy I've been a bricklayer all me blinkin' life.

Slightly tropo !!

Squeaker: Can yer lend me a tenner until pay day ?. I want to 'ave a game of two up.

Barney: Sure pal.....take it out of this two bob.

Squeaker: Well, wot do yer want now.....a receipt ?.

Barney: No.....I want me blinkin' change.

And so ends the days with Squeaker and Barney, our tropo diggers. We may see more of them next issue.

"Tropo Joe"

.....

CRICKET

Who was the dark horse at the cricket match the other day ?. It is gleaned that Prigg, the postie, had quite a day. First he arrived with a week's air mail, then he took four cheap wickets.....to finish the day he carried his bat for HQ.. ...but we wont say anything about the two sitters he dropped or should we ?.

Some batsmen showed good form. Worthy of mention were the knocks by Woodward and Richardson, of Transport fame, while veterans of the same team, Bowley and MacLeod, batted solidly. Dickson and Rundle shaped well for HQ, but both were unluckily run out.

Scores:- Transport 121 (Woodward 26, Richardson 21, Bowley 21) Prigg 4-12, Maher 2-8 defeated Bde HQ 85 (Maher 38, Stevens 15) Richardson 5-7.

Sporting Roundsman.

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SLIGHTLY PESSIMISTIC !

(Any resemblance between the character in this poem and any living person is PURELY INTENTIONAL)

Optimism is a virtue, but a pessimistic thought
Is only what we have in mind, when of dangers, we are taught;
It depends upon the person, and his strength of mind, by gad,
As to whether he'll be happy, when the bombs fall on the pad.
But a certain little fellow of a pessimistic kind,
Allowed his expressions to flow from out of his mind;
The troops were very hardy and prepared to meet the foe,
But he told us something startling, of things we didn't know.
It appears we're going to perish and never see our homes,
Doomed to die in Moresby, when the Japs bomb our dromes.
He wears a single crown, he really should know all,
But we only hope He's kidding, his story is so tall.
He, being a soldier and a leader of the men,
We must believe his story, else he'll tell it all again.
His mind is scientific and he studies crawling things,
He mentions birds and insects, but it wasn't of their stings.
He spoke in all sincerity (and he wears a crown)
So it seems as though we're doomed, we Mice of Moresby Town.
"No one will ever get away from this place alive",
The lads began to wonder, had the lads began their drive;
His next few words were deeper, "Even the ants will die",
Why the man's an entomologist, else he studies on the sly.
"And the crows will come", he added, "and pick out both yourzeyes";
This news was very touching, we only hope he lies.
The troops are very saddened, their spirits very low,
They dive for cover daily, when they see a circling crow.
They've become so pessimistic and really think it's true;
Some day they know for certain, the Major will get his due.
They gave him every sympathy, he gives them all the same,
Because they know he's really happy, when the bombs drop from the planes.

J.M.

.....

14 BRIGADE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.

Since we came to New Guinea, our Auxiliary has done stirling service in providing us, here in the battle zone, with comforts, books and magazines etc., besides attending to any of our folk at home, in needy circumstances. The members have toiled long and hard, and now, at Xmas, we learn that they have thought of our children and ensured that Santa visits each one of them with a present.

Our heartfelt thanks are extended to this gallent band of women; at the same time we bid them all a Happy Xmas and Brighter New Year.

.....

The Editor wishes to thank all those, who have contributed items and assisted in the production of this issue. By such co-operation will yourpaper continue to improve.

.....

Because plink is really a poor substitute for plonk, and plonk is a poor substitute for wine, let's make "PLINK" better than plonk and a good substitute for wine !

.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AWM2020.71.8606

SECRET
29 Dec 42.
Copy No. 16

14 AUST INF BDE MOVEMENT INSTN

1. 14 Aust Inf Bde Adv HQ will move by air:-

2. Composition - Comd - BM Maj P R ADAMS
Pers as per plane tables att.

3. Pers will move in plane lots in accordance with tables.

4. Order of move:-

No 1	Plane	Comd	Maj	P R ADAMS
No 2	"	"	Lieut	R W JOHNSTONE
No 3	"	"	"	[illegible] VARNEY
No 4	"	"	"	LE BRETON
No 5	"	"	WOII	McCAFFREY B

5. MOVEMENT

(i) Tpt from Unit area to Ward'[illegible] Drome in plane lots. On arrival report to Bde Emplaning Offr Capt G A COLMAN
(ii) Plane lots NOT to exceed 5000 lbs

6. Embussing Offr - Lieut V R PIPER

7. Embussing Point - Bde Adm Area.

8. Start Time - To be notified

9. Tpt - Bde T[illegible] will provide:-

4 x 3 ton lorries
2 x 15 cwt Vans for movement of pers to drome

Vehs will report under comd Bde TO at time to be notified.

10. Eqpt and Stores

(a) Sig eqpt will be concentrated in plane lots under supervision SO 1 and 2 in embussing area one hr prior to start time.
(b) Remaining stores will be concentrated in plane lots under supervision BQMS.

11. Synchronization of Watches - Through Sig Sec one hr prior to starting time on 30 Dec 42.

ACK

D. Anderson Capt. for maj
B.M. 14 Aust Inf Bde.

Signed at 2115 hrs

DISTRIBUTION

Plane Comd	Copy No 1 - 5	Comd	Copy No 11
Bde TO	6	SC	12
Capt Colman	7	SC (L)	13
Lieut Piper	8	LO II	14
SO	9	File	15
BQMS	10	War Diary	16 - 17
		Spares	18 - 20

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7. Embussing Point - Bde Adm Area.

8. Start Time - To be notified

9. Tpt - Bde Tpt will provide:-

4 x 3 ton Lorries
2 x 15 cwt Vans for movement of pers to drome

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