

21/1/5/1

AUGUST TO
OCTOBER 1945

ORIGINAL

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

HEADQUARTERS
WAR GRAVES GROUP
(S.E.A.C.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ AUST WAR GRAVES Co. Date and Time.—From 17 AUG 45. To _____
(SEAC)

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Melbourne	17 Aug	1330	HQ. and 26 WGU. entrained Spencer St. for Sydney	
Sydney	18 "	1000	HQ. and 26 WGU. detrained Central.	
Sydney	19 "	1140	HQ. and 26 WGU. emplaned for Perth.	
Perth	19 "	2215	HQ. and 26 WGU. deplaned Perth	
Perth	20 "	0015	HQ. and 26 WGU. Emplaned for Cocos Is.	
Cocos Is	21 "	0520	HQ. and 26 WGU. deplaned Cocos Is.	
Cocos Is.	21 "	0745	HQ. and 26 WGU. emplaned for Colombo	
Colombo	21 "	1530	HQ. and 26 WGU. deplaned Colombo.	
Colombo	21 "	1900	HQ. and 26 WGU. marched in to S.M.R.C. and HQ. set up there.	
Colombo	22 "	0900	Commander reported to A.G.L. Alsea. and liased with D.A.A.G. and Staff Capt. D.D.G.R. & E. . Air movement arranged for Comd. to fly to Rangoon on 27 Aug. 45.	
Colombo	24 "	1030	Comd. attended D of Org. conference. Had pers interview with D.of O. and read secret reports.	

(11)

Alfred Capt

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Unit HQ. AUST WAR GRAVES Cp. Date and Time.—From Aug. 24th. 45 To
(SEAC)

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Colombo	24 Aug.		Comd. obtained authorities from A & Q Branch for the Unit to draw; Vehicles up to W.E. in any Base Area, Auth. to draw accom. stores and clothing replacements.	
Colombo	26 "	1130	Comd. returned from Alifsea	
Colombo	27 "	0600	Comd. departed Colombo for Calcutta en route for Rangoon	
Colombo	29 "	1900	Captain arranged for the onward movement of HQ and 26 WGU to Madras. Entrained Colombo.	
Madras	31 "	0800	HQ. and 26 WGU. detrained Madras and staged at English Reception Camp. Dvr. CATF J.H. was evacuated to 112 I.B.C.H. suffering from haemorrhoids.	
Madras	1 SEP th	0650	HQ and 26 WGU. emplaned Madras for Rangoon. Unit s were staged at Reception Camp 69.	
Rangoon	2 "	1500	Comd. arrived Rangoon ex Calcutta. Comd reported to HQ Twelfth Army and obtained suitable accomodation at 73 Fytsche Rd.	

R. L. Capt.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

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Unit HQ AUST WAR GRAVES Co. (SEAG) Date and Time.—From SEPT. "2" To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rangoon	2 SEPT.		Comd. conferred with ADGR & E 12 ARMY, Applied for Vehicles from AQMQ 12 ARMY. Authy granted. Arranged for rations with A.D.S.T. for area. Obtained some accommodation stores. Notified Base P.O. of the Units address. Liased with Bsh. A.D.G.R.& E. 26 WGU. to remain in Rangoon and to work Moulmein - Bangkok area with Br. Unit under supervision but NOT comd. of A.D.G.R.&E. Aust plotting for cems established by Aust HQ. to be retained. Nearly 100 Aust ex POW's have brought to Rangoon, and Capt Holland Aust Contact Team Officer has been interviewed. Lt Leeman will meet him at 0900 Hrs 6 Sept. Interviewed Lt. Col. Williams C.O. 2/2 Pnr. Bn at time of capture, handed over to Comd. plans, charts, etc of all cemeteries established by P.W's along Railway Line constructed between Thanbuzyat and Niki, and advised that Lt. Col McEachern at Bangkok has similar plans of eastern section.	

Alfred Capt

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Unit 10 AUST WAR GRAVES Co. (SEAC) Date and Time.—From SEPT* 5 To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rangoon	Sept 5		<p>Comd. granted air passage to Bangkok 00445 hrs 6 Sept, where comd proposes staying approx 1 week, after return from Bangkok proposes to proceed to Singapore to contact P.W's and obtain further information and establish permanent HQ. staff to move to Singapore 19 Sept. Transport received : one 3 ton 4x4 truck received on 4 Sept. Lt Leeman has this day taken delivery of 2 Jeeps.</p>	
Rangoon	Sept. 6		<p>Comd proceeded to Bangkok 6 Sept. and returned to Rangoon 7 Sept. Comd. on arrival at Bangkok proceeded to Allied P.W. HQ. and met Lt. Col. McEachern whose HQ staff is busily compiling data of records of recovered P.W's, dead, burials, cemetery locations and plans and atrocities. There are now some 311 P.W's in Rangoon area and Lt. Leeman is constantly engaged in interviews and gaining much information.</p>	

After Capt.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ AUST WAR GRAVES Cp. (STAC) Date and Time.—From SEPT. 5. To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rangoon	Sept. 5		HQ. Staff is fully occupied in recording new information which is coming forward steadily and duplicate lex forms are being prepared for 26 WGU. On Sept 13. Lt. Leeman and Sgt. Rankin will proceed by air with one jeep to Bangkok which will become HQ. 26 WGU. Five more personnel will move by air probably on 16 Sept. whilst two drivers with 3 ton truck, jeep and two trailers will move by sea with stores approx 2 Oct.	
Rangoon	Sept. 16		Comd moved by air to Bangkok on 14 Sept. with Lt Leeman, Sgt. Rankin and one jeep. Comd returned Rangoon 15 Sept. At Bangkok Comd. introduced Lt. Leeman to A.I.O. Major Quick Lt. Col McEachern and all Staff Officers. Obtained a copy of a list of 1539 certified deaths in Thailand. Next conferred with G.I. 7 Div HQ. and discussed proposed itinerary of recon. Lt. Leeman & Lt. Eldridge and 3 ex P.W Officers to do recon of Railway Line.	

(11)

Alker Capt.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Unit NO. AUST WAR GRAVES Co. (SEAB) Date and Time.—From SEPT 16 . 45 To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rangoon	Sept. 16		Satisfactory collection of practically all stores and equipment requisitioned, including additional clothing.	
Rangoon	We. 22 Sept.		Comd left by air for Singapore on 17th. but owing to bad flying aircraft had to turn back. Comd left again on 18th this time getting through. 5 personnel of 26 WGU. were to proceed by air to Bangkok on 20th but owing to bad flying conditions and restrictions on air travel they were unable to proceed. Their move is anticipated to take place on either 23rd or 24th. Owing to poor condition of 3 ton truck issued to 26 WGU Captain endeavoured to have the vehicle condemned and a new one issued in lieu. 12 ARMY could not issue a replacement but released a new engine for the vehicle. 6 Tents have been issued to 26 WGU. and a Battery Charger was released by 12 ARMY. A list containing 1539 names of deceased Aust.	

R. L. Capt.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C.2118.
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Unit HQ AUST WAR GRAVES Cp. (SEAC) Date and Time.—From W/E 22 SEPT. 45 To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rangoon	W/E 22 Sept.		<p>personnel which was brought back by Comm. from Bangkok has been lexed in duplicate. Communications received from Lt. Leeman state the recce of Burma Railway has commenced.</p> <p>During the week S. Captain investigated a rumour that there were some deceased Aust buried in the vicinity of Rangoon Jail. This rumour proved to be false.</p>	
Rangoon	W/E 29 Sept.		<p>S. Capt. contacted 7 Div at Mingaladon with reference to flying 5 26 WGU to Bangkok. S.C. was advised that all aircraft had been diverted to Saigon and there was no possibility of flying our men till the first week in October. A report was received from Lt. Leeman covering the recce of Prachau & Kirikan areas. Also Lt. Leeman made arrangements with P.W. HQ. Bangkok to hand over all records etc. to S/Sgt. Capper on his arrival in Bangkok. 26 WGU, 3 ton truck was received</p>	

R. H. Capper

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C.2118.
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(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ AUST WAR GRAVES Gp. (SEAC) Date and Time.—From W/E 29 SEPT. 45 To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rangoon	W/E 29 Sept.		<p>fitted with new engine on 25 Sept. in good condition.</p> <p>Capt. Thomas, ex P.W. was interrogated this week and supplied a list containing 69 names.</p> <p>S.C contacted D.A.Q.M.G, 12 Army with reference to manufacture of Aust. type crosses. D.A.Q.M.G. suggested that the crosses be manufactured at Singapore and distributed from that area.</p> <p>Sgt. Tulloch W was admitted to 38 B.C.H. on 26 Sept. 45 suffering from tonsillitis.</p>	
Rangoon	W/E 6 Oct.		<p>Efforts are still being made to fly the five 26 WG personnel to Bangkok. 12 Army can give no details as to when an aircraft will be available. All information with reference to deceased Aust. personnel is up to date.</p> <p>No report has been received from Lt. Leeman owing to lack of communications but 12 Army informed S.C. that a Fighter Pilot observed their movements along the Railway Line.</p>	

Robert Capt.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

Unit 7th AUSTRALIAN WAR GRAVES Co. (SEAS) Date and Time.—From W/E 13 OCT. 45 To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Rangoon	W/E 13 Oct.		Five 26 AWGU personnel to Bangkok on 11 Oct. . S/Sgt was in charge of the party and was instructed to report to Lt. Col. Anderson V.C. at ex PW Hqs. Lt. Col. McKinnon ADGR&E 12 Army handed over to this Hqs. a list of 38 names of deceased Aust. personnel. A signal was received from Comd. in Singapore on Oct 13th giving instructions for Hqs. to move to Singapore. Sgt. Tulloch is still a patient at 38 B.G.H. but his discharge is anticipated on Monday 15 Oct.	
Rangoon	15 Oct.		Sgt Tulloch rejoined Unit ex 38 B.G.H. Authority received for Unit to move by air to Singapore on 17 Oct.	
Rangoon	17 Oct.	0730 hrs	Hqs emplaned Mingaladon 0730 hrs for Singapore.	
Butterworth	17 "	1400 "	Deplaned Butterworth 1400 hrs.	
Butterworth	17 "	1530	Emplaned Butterworth for Kuala Lumpur 1530 hrs.	

A. Kerr Capt.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Unit HQ AUST WAR GRAVES Gp. (SEAC) Date and Time.—From OCT 17. 45 To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Kuala Lumpur	17 OCT.	1700 hrs	Deplaned Kuala Lumpur 1700 hrs. Unit spent night at British Reception Camp. Pte Robertson received Med Attention for and injured ankle sustained on leaving Rangoon.	
Kuala Lumpur	18 "	0830	Emplaned Kuala Lumpur for Singapore 0830hrs.	
Singapore	18 "	1015	Deplaned Singapore 1015 hrs. Hqs moved in to Adv Hqs. and took over.	
Singapore	W/E 27 Oct.		<p>Pte Hyslop marched in ex Hospital Rangoon. Pte Hickey with 2 vehicles stores etc is expected to arrive during next few days</p> <p>Lt. Leeman is expected to report in ex Bangkok shortly on advice received,</p> <p>25 WGU has been working in Singapore area maintaining local PW Cems and officiating with direct burials.</p> <p>Lt. Smith O.C. 25 WGU was admitted to 2/14 AGH on 23 Oct suffering with Dengue Fever. Major Gough was also admitted to 2/14 AGH on 26 Oct. he also had Dengue Fever.</p>	

Alfred Capt

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Unit HQ AUST WAR GRAVES Gp. (SEAC) Date and Time.—From W/E 27 Oct 45 To _____

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Singapore	W/E 27 Oct.		<p>Pte Robertson has completely recovered from his injured ankle.</p> <p>S/Sgt. Josephson AAPC. was attached for duty.</p> <p>Hq Staff employed on collating the copious information re deceased personnel received from many sources.</p> <p>Arranged with B.G.R. that British type crosses will be used throughout SEAC.</p> <p>British Records Section, comprising of 3 Offrs. 32 O'Rs are expected reporting for duty during next few days.</p> <p>A.D. Hygiene reported that Scrub Typhus is prevalent throughout this area and urged rigid precautions be taken.</p> <p>Arrangements were made with the British Army re payment of Coolies employed by this HQ on Cemetery work, owing to the return to Australia of 2 Aust PW Rec. Gp. Hqs who had previously been paying the Coolies. Stores and equipment were also obtained without any difficulty.</p>	

Atker Capt.