

10/7/5/4

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

DECEMBER 1941

TO

FEBRUARY 1942

ORIGINAL

2/3 MOTOR AMBULANCE
CONVOY - MALAYA

SUMMARY OF WAR DIARY OF
2/3 M.A.C., A.I.F.
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1. The following is a sequence of movement and location of the 2/3 M.A.C., A.I.F. from the time of arrival in MALAYA 25 Apl 41 - 4 Mar '42.
2. The Unit was billeted at The KAJANG BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL, KAJANG from date of arrival until the end of Nov '41, when it moved to JASIN and occupied the site of the local Hospital and No.2 Camp.
3. Dec 4 '41 - Unit less 1 Sec ordered by Malaya Comd to move to IPOH breaking journey at K.L. for one night. Arrived at IPOH 5 Dec - "B" Sec rejoined Unit ex 36 Fd Amb.
4. Dec 8 '41 - Declaration of War by Japan - "B" Sec detached to 36 Fd Amb under Comd 11 Ind Div - left same day to co-operate in KROHKOL SCHEME Capt D.J.BRENNAN, M.O. 2/3 MAC accompanying party. 36 Fd. Amb arrived KROH the same day.
5. Dec 9 '41 - 2 Amb Cars detached for duty from "A" Sec with 2/3 Res M.T. A.I.F.
6. Dec 13 '41 - HQ, A Sec & W/shops under comd 3 IND CORPS left IPOH for BAGAN SERAI. Lt/col LEVIS, DADMS, L of C was contacted with view to further movement. Arrived BAGAN SERAI same evening. HQ established in rubber. Site chosen was particularly bad, access to camp site only was possible after bridges were constructed subsequent to arrival.
7. Dec 14 '41 - CO & Adjt visited BEDONG, site of 5 CCS also contacted ADMS 11 IND DIV at SUNGAI PATANI and MDS at UNITED PATANI HOSPITAL. The clearance of these Units, subsequent to our arrival had been carried out by 1 MAS (Capt Coventry) and was decided that these units be cleared of all casualties by 1 MAS to temporary collecting MDS at Chinese School at BUTTERWORTH, and that subsequent evacuation of wounded be our responsibility.
8. Dec 15 '41 - Evacuation of MDS BUTTERWORTH to CIVIL HOSPITAL, TAIPING, carried out by A Sec, task took 18 hrs to complete, involving the transportation of 287 casualties - mostly lying - a distance of 130 miles, i.e., 260 milesthe round trip.
9. Dec 16 '41 - Sigs Centre at BUKIT MERTAJAM contacted and approx. 40 cases found and evacuated to CCS, located at BAGAN SERAI.
10. Dec 17 '41 - Endeavour made to contact B Sec in vicinity of KETIL - unsuccessful. Lt.N.DUNN admitted 10 AGH MALACCA - Lt KELLAHER apptd in temporary comd C Sec pending permanent appointment Lt.R.Griffiths.
11. Dec 18 '41 - Message received from CORPS HQ to hold all available transport for evacuation of military and civil casualties from PENANG. Move was subsequently cancelled.
12. Dec 19 '41 - Personnel of 5 CCS together with patients and equipment assisted to move BAGAN SERAI - TAIPING. Rear party of 2/3 MAC under Capt.Parsons had narrow escape during heavy bombing of BAGAN SERAI by enemy aircraft.
13. Dec 18 '41 - HQ established at MATANG ROAD HALT on road TAIPING-PORT WELD - 5 CCS, 36 Fd Amb at CIVIL HOSPITAL TAIPING with B Sec of 2/3 MAC. CO & Adjt visited these Units also DADMS L of C. 1 amb was attached to 2/3 Res M.T. for duty.
14. Dec 20 '41 - Orders issued for 2/3 MAC to completely clear 5 CCS by 0800 hrs Dec 21. Task completed - patients being loaded onto Amb Train at IPOH STATION. Unit HQ established at NEW HOSPITAL CAMP SITE, IPOH. B Sec withdrew gradually via KUALA KANGSAR with 36 Fd Amb.
15. Dec 21 '41 - After a stay of approx 10 hrs in IPOH - Unit moved under orders to KINTA KELLAS - CCS being established at Railhead BATU GAJAH A sub/sec of B Sec was sent with ADS 36 Fd Amb along GRIK ROAD.
16. Dec 22 '41- BATA GAJAH was heavily attacked for 8 hrs by a/craft and evacuation could only take place at night.

17. Dec 23. '41 - B Sec with 36 Fd Amb moved to CHINESE MATERNITY HOSPITAL at IPOH. KINTA KELLAS ESTATE HOSPITAL filled with evacuee sick, serviced by medical orderlies and CO 2/3 MAC. Unit moved to SUNGEI SUNKAI.
18. Dec 23/24 '41 - Unit established at SUNGEI SUNKAI ESTATE - CCS at GROUP HOSPITAL. CCS with personnel etc., moved to TANJONG MALIM.
19. Dec 25 '41- HQ established at KALUMPANG. 36 & 16 Fd Amb began leap-frogging - A sec serving 36 Fd Amb. CO & Adjt visited MDS at BIDOR. Amb train loaded on 3 occasions at TANJONG MALIM and locomotive was serviced by personnel of Unit.
20. Dec 26 '41.- 5 CCS to CIVIL HOSPITAL at KUALA LUMPUR, 2/3 MAC at RASA. B Sec rejoined Unit - A Sec servicing MDSs'. W/Shops Sec at RAWANG in PWD - opportunity being taken to service B Sec vehicles.
21. Dec 27 '41 - Heavy Civilian casualties at RASA - first aid treatment & evacuation by 2/3 MAC to SERENDAH. Unit visited by BRIG STRINGER, DDMS, M.Comd.
22. Jan 1 '42. CO & Adjt visited Kuala Lumpur- contacted Brig Siever & Col D Lewis.
23. Jan 3 - BATU CAVES, B Sec servicing 5 CCS. Medical Administration split into 3 CORPS AREA & L of C. with consequent increase number of MDSS requiring servicing. Lt. Parsons recommended to rank of Capt by Malaya Comd.
24. Jan 6 - CO visited MALACCA and contacted Lt/col Glyn White with reference to change in C Sec Comd. the only information regarding this matter of which he had received 2nd hand. Returning - visited SEREMBAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, approximately 30 AIF casualties there.
25. Jan 7 - Unit moved to KAJANG & occupied KAJANG RUBBER ESTATE. Unit was visited by BRIG SIEVER & Lt/Col Lewis - CCS located at KAJANG HIGH SCHOOL. BURIAL party was provided by Unit to clean up after heavy dive-bombing of Village.
26. Jan 9 - 5 CCS was assisted to move to RANTAU area and on Jan 10 Unit moved to new location at SUNGEI HAMPAR near RAMBAU. CO visited MDSs in L of @ area at PANGLIMA GRANG and DENKIL. SEREMBAN DIST HOSP was cleared to Hosp train by B Sec.
27. Jan 11 - TAMPIN, 5 CCS at DIST HOSP, 2/3 MAC at SUNGEI DUA ESTATE, TEBOL.
28. Jan 12/13 - Unit moved to LABIS under comd AIF WEST FORCE. Moving to KLUANG Jan 13, occupying area next to 2/4 CCS AIF. ADMS WEST FORCE, COL A.P. DERHAM visited frequently by CO or Adj. Don R was provided for ADMSs use. A Sec was working north of SEGAMAT and evacuating to SEGAMAT HOSPITAL and following on evacuation of this area both A and B Secs returned to Unit HQ. After necessary service to vehicles CCS attached 2/10 Fd Amb with MDS south of SEGAMAT - B Sec, 3 Sub-secs with 38 Fd Amb and MDS YONG PENG - MUAR RD.
29. 19 Jan - AANS personnel, evacuated from 2/4 CCS to 13 AGH. Heavy Sec & Hq of ~~XXXXX~~ 2/4 CCS assisted to move to FRASER ESTATE, KUALAI, Light Sec remaining behind with 2 Sub-section of A Sec. 5 CCS established at RENGAM. A Sec with 13 Fd Amb - B Sec with 38 Fd Amb - C Sec with 2/10 Fd Amb AIF.
30. Jan 24 - Moved to DURIAN SEBATANG ESTATE, 2/4 CCS at OLD MENTAL HOSP. JOHORE BAHRU.
31. Jan 28 - Advance party of Unit and reserve amb vehicles moved to TONG BEE ESTATE at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile stone SINGAPORE-JOHORE BAHRU RD. Remainder of unit following later on Jan 29.
32. Jan 29 - 20 amb cars detached under comd Lt/Col NEALE to take part in "BRIDGE HEAD WITHDRAWAL".
33. Feb 8. - Unit HQ attacked by enemy dive-bombers and sustained losses to extent of 19 vehicles being rendered unserviceable. Casualties to personnel numbering 8, none fatal.
36. Feb 10 - WOOTON ESTATE, with balance of Unit at corner of HOLLAND RD and BUKIT TIMAH RD, one driver killed whilst evacuating casualties from CHANGI area and two injured.

37. 11 Feb '42. Unit HQ now located at ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, SINGAPORE., which gradually became central HQ for all ambulance transport, ~~under~~ and detachments of 2/9 - 2/10 FG Ambs. using the Cathedral as an MDS. Capt. Brennan operating an ADS in Cathedral vestry. Command of all amb transport assumed by CO 2/3 MAC, this included 1,3,5 and 13 MASs, 1 MAC, B Ech Amb Car Coy and Sec of 2/2 MAC AIF. Hospital ship WAHSUL and 2 parties of AANS embarked.

38. Feb 15 - CAPITULATION - HQ and 50 ambs remained behind until 4 Mar during which period Singapore was completely cleared of all military casualties to Changi and Nee Soon, also Bidatari and Serangoon.

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Andrew R
.....Maj.
Comd 2/3 M.A.G. A.I.F.

2/3 MAC

Charles
Washington
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