

13/15/7/2

OCTOBER TO  
DECEMBER 1942

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN /

ORIGINAL

7 ADVANCED AMMUNITION  
DEPOT

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted)

Unit H.Q. No7 Adv Amn. Depot

Date and Time.—From 1/10/42

To 5/10/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>Hughenden</u>	<u>1/10/42</u>		<u>Work is proceeding, at new Depot at Baronta with</u>	
	<u>to</u>	<u>17.00 Hrs</u>	<u>sorting and stacking of recently received ammunition.</u>	
	<u>4/10/42</u>			
	<u>5/10/42</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Col. Kingham, D.D.O.S. Qld I of C Area, returned to</u>	
			<u>Hughenden from Mt. Isa and made tour of depots at</u>	
			<u>Hughenden and Baronta. Conditions with regard lack of</u>	
			<u>Personnel, Transport and necessary equipment were</u>	
			<u>brought before him and it is hoped that matters which</u>	
			<u>are hindering the efficient operation of this Depot</u>	
			<u>will soon be straightened out.</u>	
			<u><del>28 O.Rs. as reinforcements to</del></u>	
			<u>3rd Ord Amn. Coy...marched in and were attached to the</u>	
			<u>strength of this H.Q. making a total personnel strength</u>	
			<u>of 57 at this depot.</u>	

*W. J. Kingham  
9/11/42*

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted)

Unit HUGHENDEN

Date and Time.—From 6/10/42

To 9/10/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>HUGHENDEN</u>	<u>6/10/42</u>	<u>17/00 Hrs</u>	<u>10 ORs. from 1st. Aust Labour Coy marched in for labour &amp; duties at this depot.</u>	
			<u>Received a consignment of approx 250 Tons of ammunition and unloading, sorting and storing of same is proceeding.</u>	
			<u>Equipment in fulfillment of W.E.Tables is beginning is to come to hand,issuing of stores and equipment is being proceeded with.</u>	
	<u>8/10/42</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Movement of Ammunition from old Depot to new site at Baronta is being proceeded with and with the arrival of additional transport it is hoped to be able to complete the movement in 6 to 8 weeks.</u>	
	<u>9/10/42</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>23. O.Rs. from 1st. Aust Labour Coy. marched in for labour duties. These men are nearly all "B" class personnel and are wholly unsuited for heavy work.</u>	

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted)

Unit HUGHENDEN

Date and Time.—From 10/10/42

To 14/10/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HUGHENDEN	10/10/42	17.00 Hrs.	Shifted approx. 100 tons of Ammunition from old Depot to Baronta since 8/10/42.	
	12/10/42	"	Owing to the arrival of a further ammunition train at Baronta all available personnel and M.T. has been transferred to Baronta thus causing temporary stoppage of movement, for the present, of stocks from old depot.	
			These stoppages are causing grave concern at this H.Q. as the "Wet" season is near at hand and <del>unless</del> unless this movement is completed before the rain comes grave doubts are held whether it will be possible to clear ammunition from this area.	
	14/10/42	17.00 Hrs.	Cleared receipt of 300 tons and sorting and stacking of same is proceeding. Owing to pressure of work and under-strength of this depot it has not been possible to grant men a rest period and they are showing signs of fatigue.	

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit H.Q. No 7. ADV AMN DEPOT.  
HUGHENDEN.

Date and Time.—From 15/10/42 To 18/10/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>HUGHENDEN</u>	<u>15/10/42</u>	<u>17.00</u>	<u>Lieut A.D. Hill, C.O.O. of this Depot left today on a tour of inspection of F.A.Ds. at SELLMEI and BROOKHILL. These Depots have just come under the control of this H.Q. on instruction by D.O.S. L.H.Q.</u>	
	<u>16/10/42</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>32 O.Bs. of 1st AUST LABOUR COY, marched out and 1 Officer and 40 O.Bs. of 14th. SERVICE COY, marched in. These new personnel are far more suitable for ammunition work.</u>	
	<u>1</u>		<u>Three mechanics on loan to this H.Q. from 5th. Adv. Ord Workshops, are doing excellent work in repairing grounded vehicles and it is hoped to have all vehicles on the strength of this H.Q. in a serviceable condition within the next week.</u>	
	<u>18/10/42</u>		<u>Moved a further 30 tons of ammunition from old Depot making a total of approx. 180 tons to date.</u>	

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit: H.Q No 7. ADV AMN DEPOT  
HUGHENDEN

Date and Time.—From 20/10/42 To 25/10/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HUGHENDEN	20/10/42	1700 Hrs	Ammunition trains are arriving at Baronta in a	
	To		conti nuous stream and it is necessary to work personnel	
	25/10/42		12 hours a day to clear siding in a reasonable period.	
			Approximately 2000 Tons of ammunition has been advised as	
			in transit. This incoming ammunition has caused a stoppage	
			in movement of stocks from old depot to Baronta. <del>Fixe</del>	
			In an endeavor to overcome this trouble five	
			M.T. vehicles are being returned to Hughenden each night	
			and loaded with ammunition by 0730 hrs next morning and	
			return to Baronta, intime to take their turn in the train	
			unloading operations. It is estimated that with this	
			routine the movement of the old depot will take at least	
			eight weeks.	
			Major Sisson, C.I.Q.O. visited this area and made	
			an inspection of Ammunition and storage in this Depot.	

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Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit H.Q. No 7. ADV. AMN. DEPOT  
HUGHENDEN.

Date and Time.—From 27/10/42 To 31/10/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>HUGHENDEN</u>	<u>27/10/42</u>	<u>1700 Hrs.</u>	<u>A wire was received this morning from Milbase g'd L. of C. requesting return of 30 cwt vehicle to Enoggera.</u> <u>This request aggravates the already serious position of transport shortage at this Depot as it necessitates withdrawing a 3 ton vehicle from ammunition duties to carry water and rations for the use of this Depot.</u> <u>Another 30 cwt vehicle has been requisitioned for.</u> <u>Lieut A.D. Hill returned from inspection of F.A.Ds. under the control of this H.Q.</u>	
	<u>29/10/42</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Lieut C.W. Steele proceeded to Seelheim today to be O.O. 71 F.A.D. in place of Lieut Watson who will be returning to this H.Q. for duty.</u>	
	<u>31/10/42</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Ammunition Storehouses at the new depot at Baronta have been completed and administration buildings are now under construction</u>	

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*Arthur L.*  
C.O.O. H.Q. Adv. Amn. Depot

1156

30 JAN. 1943  
H.Q.

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted)

Unit No. 7 Advanced Ammunition Depot Date and Time.—From 1 / 11 / 42 To 5 / 11 / 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BARONTA	1/11/42	1700	Work of sorting and stacking ammunition in the new Depot, is progressing very satisfactorily and at least 5 loads of ammunition per day is being moved from the old storage at Hughenden to Baronta.	
	4/11/42	1700	An ammunition train arrived this morning and unloading was carried out until 1200 hrs. Rest period was granted to the troops from 1200 hrs. till 2359 hrs. It is being endeavoured to grant a half day rest period a week to permit personnel some recreation as relief from long hours of heavy work which they are doing. A violent thunderstorm was experienced this afternoon accompanied by heavy wind no material damage was done.	
	5/11/42	1700	Unloading of ammunition train completed and a further 30 tons of stocks moved from old depot Hughenden.	

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Nov 1942

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit H.Q. No. 7 Advanced Ammunition Depot Date and Time—From 6 / 11 / 42 To / 11 / 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BARONTA	6/11/42	1700	An inspection of the ammunition area revealed large quantities of ammunition in the open. Owing to the lack of personnel it has been impossible to store ammunition in sheds and cope with the constant inflow of ammunition trains. Men are working 12 hrs. a day in an endeavour to clear ammunition stored in the open. Heavy rain began at 1645 hrs. and is continuing. Col. Fraser of 2/2nd. A.G.H. visited Baronta reference R.A.P. Orderly and the hygiene arrangements of depot.	
	7/11/42	1700	Rain continued throughout last night and 6 motor vehicles are grounded at old depot Hughenden. <sup>is</sup> It <del>was</del> found that after heavy rain it is impossible to operate loaded M.T vehicles between Hughenden and Baronta and as it is reported that heavy rain is prevalent during the next few months it	

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is likely a great deal of interference will be experienced in movement of stocks from old depot Hughenden.

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted)

Unit H.Q. No. 7 Advanced Ammunition Dep Date and Time From 8 / 11 / 42 To 11 / 11 / 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
B. ARONTA	8/11/42	1700	Administrative Offices were moved from Hughenden to Baronta today leaving only garrison guards at old depot Hughenden. Further receipt of ammunition today is being unloaded further hindering the effort of getting ammunition stacked in the open into storehouses.	
	10/11/42	1700	Capt. De Lance Holmes of M.G.O. Branch L.H.Q. accompanied by Lieut. Pritchard C.O. personnel arrived today and carried out inspection of installations in this area. Lieut. Pritchard checking and giving instruction on regimental matters. Ammunition trains still arriving.	
	11/11/42	1700	Capt. Holmes and Lieut. Pritchard departed to Townsville. as Public Works Dept. again started work on camp buildings and new supply of materials are to hand. Messes and Administrative buildings should be finished in the near future.	

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted)

Unit H.Q. No 7. Adv. Amn. Depot

Date and Time.—From 12/11/42 To 14/11/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>BARCOTA</u>	<u>12/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	500 tons ammunition on rail in sidings 3 trains in transit approx. 600 tons. Received notification of M.T. reinforcements from Gaythorne. Capt. Suthers No. 1 L of C Sub Area is endeavouring to obtain additional men to alleviate the acute shortage of manpower in this depot. Received signal advising 40 Labour Coy. and 4 M.T. despatch from Brisbane.	
	<u>13/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	Unloading ammunition trains proceeding. Lt. Watson M.M. arrived and taken on strength of this Unit. Received signal that 45 men of 16th Empl. Coy. would arrive tonight. Also 3 additional M.T. would be available from the 127th Gen. Carry Coy.	
	<u>14/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	46 men of the 16th Empl. Coy. marched in at 0100 hrs. truck with camp equipment being left behind at Charters Towers. men were bedded down in Men's Mess. The new men will help to alleviate the pressure of work when broken in to handling ammunition.	

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit Hq. No 7. Adv. Amn. Depot

Date and Time. From 16/11/42 To 23/11/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>BARONTA</u>	<u>16/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	Camp gear of 16th. Empl. Coy. arrived this morning and tentage arrangements completed. A 30Cwt vehicle was received for use for Camp duties and will enable a 3ton vehicle to be released for carting of ammunition. Still 60 trucks of ammn to be unloaded and a further train between Townsville and Baronta.	
	<u>17 to 19/11/42</u>		Unloading of amn proceeding. also parties working in depot stacking and sorting ammn into storehouses.	
	<u>20/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	Only 9 trucks ammn left in siding out of total of 90.	
	<u>21/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	After 7 days strenuous work men were granted full rest day.	
	<u>22/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	Clearing of ammn in siding completed.	
	<u>23/11/42</u>	<u>1700</u>	Movement of stocks from old depot at Hughenden restarted and 80 tons shifted for day.	

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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(adapted.)

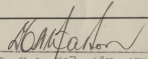
Unit H.Q. No7. Adv. Amn. Depot

Date and Time.—From 24/11/42

To /11/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BARONTA	24/11/42	1700	<p>Boarding of personnel to Ordnance Stores and 1 H.Q.O. and 1200rs. to D.I.D. Hughenden for an indefinite period is causing serious delay in handling of ammn in the depot.</p>	
	25/11/42	1700	<p>All personnel received inoculations and were granted afternoons rest.</p>	
	26/11/42		<p>2 trains containing ammunition arrived this morning (approx 300 tons) unloading proceeding. Consigned 4648 rds. 18pr. H.E. to 71 P.A.D. Sellheim.</p>	
	28/11/42	1700	<p>Completed clearing ammunition trains.</p>	
	30/11/42	1700	<p>Moved into H.Q. Administrative Building. Building not yet completed awaiting arrival of doors &amp; windows as are mess buildings. Lack of materials is hindering completion of all buildings in camp area. Ablutions and showers are also awaiting the installation of water supply.</p>	

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 Lieut.  
 for C.O.O. H.Q. No7. Adv. Amn. Depot.

26 FEB. 1943

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit H.Q. NO. 7 ADV. AMM. DEPOTDate and Time.—From 1/12/42 To 6/12/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BARONTA	1/12/42		work of sorting proceeding in depot, also moving stocks	
	to			
	3/12/42		from old depot at Hughenden. I.O.O.Lt. Maddocks arrived for inspection ammunition	
	4/12/42		Unloading ammunition train. Violent thunderstorm experienced	
			in evening. I.O.O. completed inspection and marched out.	
	5/12/42		Completed ammunition train and moved further 30 tons	
			ammunition from old depot at Hughenden. Heavy thunderstorms	
			still being experienced. I.O.O.'s inspection revealed extensive damage	
			by water to ammunition stored in open. wired D.D.O.S. reference	
			damage and further allocation of labor to this depot.	
			further violent storms experienced with heavy rain.	
	6/12/42		Roads between Baronta and Hughenden impassable. All M.T.	
			grounded. Rainfall to date 61". Forty trucks ammunition in siding	
			cannot be unloaded. Cessation of rail service due to washout of	
			line between Baronta and Hughenden. water entered most storehouses -	
			no damage was caused. Stocks in open to be inspected.	

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*Arthur L.*  
C.O.O. H.Q. Adv. Amm. Depot

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required)

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit H .Q. NO.7 ADV.AMM.DEPOT

Date and Time.—From 7/12/42

To 20-12-42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
BARONTA	7/12/42		No rain fallen since 2200 hours yesterday. M.T. still grounded. unable to unload rail waggons (40).	
	8/12/42		Further heavy rain. M.T. vehicles bogged in dispersal lines. Rainfall since 5/12/42 - 9½ inches. 60 rail waggons of ammunition in siding waiting to be unloaded.	
	9/12/42		Further rain last night. No trains between Hughenden and Baronta. reports indicate likely resumption of rail services at 1800 hours.	
	10/12/42		No further rain. Ammunition area still very heavy - unable to use M.T. Personnel engaged in inspection of ammunition stored in open.	
	12/12/42		Major Leahy of Engineer Services visited Baronta and made an inspection of the area.	
	13/12/42		Working party putting down corduroy tracks across bad patches of roads in depot. will endeavour to start unloading ammunition trains tomorrow. Lt. Hill left for duty tours of F.A.D.'s.	
			Further receipt of ammunition by rail making total of 120 trucks to be unloaded.	
	14/12/42		Roads reasonably dry. Unloading of 120 rail waggons started. Party working at old depot at Hughenden. Rebuilding stacks in open which collapsed during wet period. Party filling in surface of roadways damaged by trucks.	
	15/12/42		Lt. Johnson A.S.N. marched in from 4th. Ord. Amn. Coy.; and has taken over duties as Adjutant at this depot. Unloading of rail waggons proceeding satisfactorily.	
	20/12/42		Completed unloading of rail waggons (120) at 1400 hours.	

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*Adair*  
C.O.O. H.Q. Adv. Amn. Depot

## WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

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Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

Unit H.Q. NO. 7 ADV. ARM. DEPOT

Date and Time.—From 21/12/42

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*Advised by.*  
 C.O.O. H.Q. Adv. Amn. Depot