

ラ工皇軍孤立無援ナリ
 諸君將兵今ヤ統帥部無策無
 謀ノ爲メ糧道断タト密林地
 帯ニ苦戦ラ工ノ友軍亦包圍
 セラルラ工ニ於ケル飲料水
 從來雨水ヲタンクニ受ケ決
 シテ河水ヲ用ヒズ然ルニ今
 ヤ天水タンク悉ク我爆撃ニ
 破レ用ヲナサズ皇軍モ先住
 民ガ川上ニ於テ用便等ヲナ
 セル赤痢菌充滿ノ水ヲ飲ミ
 其水ニテ飯ヲ焚キ赤痢猖獗
 ヲ極ム諸君既ニラ工ニ達ス
 可ラズ達スルモ病アルノミ
 犬死センヨリ我方ニ投ゼラ
 レニハ我方ノ諸君ヲ待ツ頗
 ル厚キモノナリ

THE JAPANESE IN LAE ARE CUT OFF!

J.20

Whilst you soldiers, victims of the breaking down of communications, the bungling of your staff, and the fierce onslaughts of the enemy are cut off in the jungle your comrades in Lae whom you are trying to reach are also isolated and hemmed in.

Before the Japanese came to Lae the Australians who were there would never drink the water from the rivers and streams, owing to its being fouled by the villages from the higher reaches, and the dysentery it always carried. They stored rain water in tanks. These tanks have now all been completely destroyed by the bombing of the Australian Air Force.

The Japanese in Lae are now forced to use this fouled water with the result that they are suffering from disease. You cannot reach Lae. If you did you would be welcomed only by dysentery and thirst.

But in the Australian lines lies welcome and safety.