

AWM52

Australian Military Forces, Army headquarters,
formation and unit diaries, 1939-1945

1/1/15 HEADQUARTER UNITS

Director of War Graves
Services (LHQ Graves
Registration)

January - June 1942, November -
December 1942



1/1/15-001\$

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C2118
(adapted.)

Unit B. R. L.H.Q. Date and Time.—From 3-1-42. To 1-3-42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE.	3/1/42.		Lieut. R. Tassie was transferred from H.Q. S/C. to A.H.Q. for Graves Registration duties working under Major A. E. Brown in the Directorate of Organisation, A Branch.	
	28/1/42.		New War Establishments to supercede W.E.IV/1940/127/1 were drawn up to provide G.R. & E. Units of Higher and Lower Establishment, to record the deaths of forces of the equivalent strength of an Army Corps or Division respectively, and the Order of Battle was amended to provide for the immediate raising of the following Units under W.E.IV/127A/1 Lower Establishment and IV/127/2 Higher Establishment as shown in Remarks Column.	Nth Cmd. G.R. & E. Unit No. 1 - Lower Estab. Est. Cmd G.R. & E. Unit No. 2 - Higher Estab. Sth Crd 3rd G.R. & E. Unit No. 3 - Higher Estab. Sth Cmd 4th G.R. & E. Unit No. 4 - Lower Estab. Sth Cmd 5th G.R. & E. Unit No. 6 - Lower Estab. West. Snd G.R. & E. Unit No. 5 - Lower Estab. 7 M.D. N.T. G.R. & E. Unit No. 7 - Lower Estab. 8 M.D. N.G. G.R. & E. Unit No. 8 - Lower Estab.
	1/3/42.		A.H.Q. Instructions for War (provisional) No. 3A - Graves Registration - were compiled and issued, cancelling all previous instructions.	
	1/3/42.		A new F.S.P Bk pamphlet was written on "Identification of Bodies, Burials, Graves Registration, Disposal of Effects, Burial of Enemy Dead", and issued as Pamphlet No. 11A (Aust. Ed.) 1942. This was distributed to all units of A.I.F. and A.M.F. in Australia.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

M. 1000 2/42

Unit G.R. L.H.Q.

Date and Time.—From 16/3/42. To 6/4/42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE.	16/3/42.		Major A. E. Brown was appointed A.A.G. Graves Registration and relinquished his appointment as D.A.A.G. (Maintenance) with D. of O.	
	25/3/42.		Amended Army Forms 2090A, W3314 and W3190, were drawn up to comply with existing conditions. Stocks of these and other necessary existing Army Forms and labels were printed and despatched to all Commands and M.D.'s. Forms A.A.F.W. 2-3 & 4 were also designed and issued.	
	26/3/42.		As weekly strength returns disclosed that G.R. & E. Units had not been raised in accordance with previous instructions a telegram (A11468) was despatched to all Commands and M.D.'s instructing that Units should be raised forthwith.	A.11468.
	30/3/42.		A tentative arrangement was made with the U.S.A.F.I.A. whereby any burials of deceased members of American Forces which were carried out should be advised forthwith through D.R.O. to the nearest American H.Q.	
	1/4/42.		Standing Orders Graves Services - for Graves Registration & Enquiry Units and Engineer Services were compiled and issued.	M.B. 33047.
	6/4/42.		Reg. 37 National Security Regulations, War Operations - This permitted an Officer of Police in charge of a Police Station to order the burial of any person who in his opinion had been killed as the result of war operations. It was considered that this included the power to order the burial of members of the armed forces. To ensure that a complete record of such	

8/6.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

H. 100M 2/42

Unit G.R. L.H.Q.

Date and Time.—From 3/4/42. To 18/4/42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			deaths of members of the armed forces should be maintained.	
			a draft Ministerial Instruction in connection with Reg. 37 was drawn up and submitted to the Department of Defence Co-ordination for consideration by Cabinet.	
	3/4/42.		A consultation was held with the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research to ascertain the most suitable white ant resisting timbers for use in construction of G.Reg. symbols.	
	⁵ 8/4/42.		W/E A. H. Q. 111/1/2, Graves Registration Section, was amended to include :- Lt. Col. A.A.G. ... 1 Major D.A.A.G. ... 1 Captain. ... 1 S/Sgt. (Clerk) ... 1 Cpls. (Clerks) ... 2 Pte Orderly. ... 1	
	6/4/42.		Major A. E. Brown proceeded to N/C and E/C on 6/4/42 for the purpose of organising the Graves Services.	
	14/4/42.		Major Brown returned from N/C and E/C.	
	14/4/42.		Lieut. Tassie promoted Captain.	
	18/4/42.		The Graves Registration Section G.H.Q. moved to 2 Echelon for accommodation in order that records of deaths and burials might be compiled.	

18/4/42

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

4/
Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 100W 2/42

Unit G.R. L.H.Q.

Date and Time.—From 22/4/42. To 1/5/42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	22/4/42.		A recommendation was submitted that W/E 111/1/2 Graves Regn. Section in the proposed new establishment for G.H.Q. should be amended to read :—	
			"Directorate of Graves Registration"	
			Lt. Col. (D.G.R) ... 1	
			Major. (A.D.G.R) ... 1	
			Captain (Staff Capt)... 1	
			W/O.I (Clerk) ... 1	
			S/Sgt. (Clerk) ... 1	
			Sgt. " ... 1	
			Cpls. " ... 2	
			Pte(Orderly) ... 1	
	24/4/42.		Lieut. C. A. Reavell 1 Aust. G.R. & E. Unit, A.I.F., was posted for duty with Graves Registration G.H.Q. on 24/4/42.	
			A detachment of 1st Aust. G.R. & E. Unit which had returned from M.E. was reorganised to form 2/2 Aust. G.R. & E. Unit A.I.F., This unit was detailed for duty in Q'd L of C Area.	
	1/5/42.		A report on cemetery arrangements at Darwin was received from the American Authorities. Owing to the adverse nature of the report, the communication was forwarded to H.Q. N.T. L of C Area, asking that their comments be forwarded forthwith.	U.S. 333.1
				44423.
	1/5/42.		Approval was granted for the establishment of a Graves Regn. Section on the H.Q. of each L of C Area for the purpose of representing the D.G.R., L.H.Q. and for the co-ordination of Graves Services within the L of C Area.	

8/9

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

H. 1004/2/22

Unit G.R. L.H.Q.

Date and Time.—From 1/5/42 To 20/5/42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	1/5/42.		Pte M. Thompson A.W.A.S. was T.O.S.	
	11/5/42.		It was decided that the enlargement of photographs of War Graves should be carried out under the direction of D.G.R. L.H.Q. and that cameras provided for in the W.E.T. should be replaced by a less expensive model using a film size $3\frac{1}{4}$ x $2\frac{1}{4}$ ".	
	11/5/42.		Aust. Red Cross wrote asking for details of their scheme for exchange of photographs of P.O.W. & Internee graves.	
	11/5/42.		A letter was received from the Aust. Red Cross Society enclosing a copy of a cable from the British Red Cross in which it was requested that photographs of graves of P.O.W. and Internees be provided.	5381 16595
	11/5/42.		Each L of C Area was advised of the most suitable timber, recommended by Council for Scientific and Industrial Research for use in the construction of Pegs and Crosses.	
	18/5/42.		Instructions re the selection and layout of cemetery sites were prepared and distributed to each L of C Area.	
	20/5/42.		A recommendation was submitted for amendments to O of B. to delete Nos. 2 and 3 G.R. & E. Units Higher Estab. and add one G.R. & E. Unit Lower Estab. to each Q'd, W.A. and N.T. L of C Areas and three G.R. & E. Units Lower Establishment to each N.S.W. and Vic. L of C Areas.	

G 9/16

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.) 6/.

M. 100W 2/42

Unit G.R. L.H.Q.

Date and Time.—From 21/5/42 To 27/5/42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE	21/5/42.		S/Sgt. J. A. Morrissey transferred from 2 Echelon to Graves Registration.	
	22/5/42.		All Chaplains General were written asking their views in connection with the proposal to lay out War cemeteries on a non denominational basis.	52932 - 3-4-5.
	22/5/42.		The Sec. Gen. Australian Red Cross was advised on 22/5/42 that such photographs would be supplied as they became available. <small>OF A.C.P. AND INTERNEES GRAVES</small>	
	22/5/42.		A conference was held between the Dept. of Def. Co-Ord., the Sec. Aust. War Memorials Committee, and the A.A.G. Graves Registration to discuss a proposal for the preparation of a War Cabinet agenda whereby D.G.R. L.H.Q., should assume responsibility for preparation of Records of all deaths and burials of Service personnel, the provision of War Cemeteries and the maintenance of such War Cemeteries on the erection of suitable temporary memorials.	
			It was decided that conferences should be arranged with Navy, Air Force and U.S.F.I.A. for the purpose of submitting a scheme for co-ordination and to obtain their concurrence.	
	23/5/42.		Major Brown met Air Force representative in conference at which the principle of co-ordinating the Graves Services was agreed to subject to ratification of the Air Board.	
	24/5/42.		Major Brown proceeded to S.A. L of C Area to organise Graves Services.	
	27/5/42.		Major Brown returned from S.A. L of C Area.	

9/6

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

71.
Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 100W 2/42

Unit G.R. L.H.Q. Date and Time.—From 23/5/42. To 8/6/42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE	28/5/42.		Graves Registration Section moved from 2 Echelon to 39 Acland Street, South Yarra.	
	29/5/42.		A comprehensive collection of "Notes on Training for G.R. & E. Units" was compiled and distributed to L of C Areas.	50252.
	29/5/42.		Major Brown met Navy Board representative in conference at which the principle of co-ordinating the Graves Services was agreed to subject to ratification of the Navy Board.	
	4/6/42.		Conference with U.S.A.F.I.A. re co-ord. Agreed in principle subject to confirmation by Higher Authority.	
	4/6/42.		Pte. P. M. H. Crook, A.W.A.S. - T.C.S. as Clerk.	
	8/6/42.		Instructions re blue print regarding layout of cemeteries forwarded to each L of C Area.	SM 9807

David
18/9/42

GRAVES REGISTRATION HQ.

1.11.42

7.11.42

MELBOURNE

2.11.42

From 2nd. Echelon suggesting that queries regarding graves registration be put through Staff Officers instead of 2nd. Echelon.

2.11.42

From Department of Supply & Development advising arrangements completed for funeral services at Rockhampton, Concurry & Ipswich.

3.11.42

From Staff Officer Graves Registration N.T. Force forwarding information on R.A.N. personnel and advising that future application for same should be made to this Directorate.

3.11.42

To
M.L.O. London advising that negative and print of photograph of grave of QX.1261 Pte. F.R. Russell, 2/33 Bn. already forwarded for transmission to Lady Russell. Grave being rephotographed and further copy will be forwarded when available.

3.11.42

To Staff Officer N.T. Force advising that unit shown on memorial symbols of various Air Force personnel will in all cases be only R.A.A.F.

4.11.42

To Staff Officer Graves Registration Vic. L. of C. Area - - - forwarding list of personnel who died in Australia after return from over seas and requesting erection of memorial symbols where necessary.

5.11.42

To Camp Commandant advising two additional A.W.A.S. clerks required for this Directorate.

18 JAN. 1943

GRAVES REGISTRATION HQ.

1.11.42

7.11.42

MELBOURNE

5.11.42

To Staff Officer Graves Registration N.G. Force enclosing copy of memorandum 95/1/6 regarding Air Force burials in Hanuabada Cemetery.

5.11.42

To H.Q. all L. of C. Areas and Forces advising that Directorate of Graves Registration will assume responsibility for maintenance and temporary marking of 1914 - 1918 war graves, compiling of necessary records and notification to next-of-kin etc.

S.M. 21428

5.11.42

To Secretary Defence from Secretary Army advising that D.G.R. will assume responsibility for maintenance and temporary marking of 1914 - 1918 war graves, compiling of necessary records and notification to next-of-kin etc.

6.11.42

To H.Q. Repatriation Commission advising that D.G.R. has taken over from Engineers Services Branch the responsibility for marking and maintenance of 1914 - 1918 war graves and requesting that all State Repatriation Commission Branches be advised to forward to D.G.R. the monthly list previously submitted to Engineers Services Branch, on these matters.

7.11.42

To H.Q. Q'ld L. of C. Area drawing attention to unsatisfactory condition at present existing in Q'ld L. of C. Area re war - cemeteries and requesting report on the matter.

7.11.42

To POW. IB. supplying particulars received from Staff Officer N.G. Force re unidentified enemy burials and requesting notification of identification numbers allotted.


Major.
Director Graves Registration.

9.11.42.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

8.11.42.

14.11.42.

MELBOURNE

8.11.42.

From H.Q. Q'd L. of C. Area advising that no R.A.N or R.A.A.F burial returns have been received and requesting that same be forwarded in order that memorials may be erected, also - - - requesting instructions regarding arrangements for burial service of enemy dead.

9.11.42.

To OI/c 2/2 G.R. & E. Unit Milne Force with reference to burials listed in report number 11 not being in accordance with standard lay-out of cemetery plan.

10.11.42.

From H.Q. Q'd L of C. Area advising space available for burial of service personnel at Toowong Cemetery now very restricted and requesting that plans for new Brisbane War Cemetery be expedited.

10.11.42.

To H.Q. N.S.W. L of C. Area from QMG re urgent manufacture and shipment to 2/2 G.R. & E unit Milne Force of 500 Graves Registration crosses.

10.11.42.

From Staff Officer Graves Registration S.A. L. of C. Area and Tas Force requesting particulars of burials of R.A.N and R.A.A.F. personnel in their areas.

10.11.42.

To OI/c 2nd. Echelon advising that A.F's W3314 and Records Office weekly returns frequently do not agree on ranks of deceased personnel, probably owing to non receipt of casualty returns of promotions prior to report of death. Requested that any necessary corrections be forwarded to this Directorate when Part 2 order promulgating promotion is published.

10.11.42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration N.G. Force setting out suggested procedure for recording and notification of burial of unidentified personnel.

A

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

8.11.42

14.11.42.

MELBOURNE

10.11.42.

To H.Q. Q'ld L. of C. Area and S.A. L. of C. Area advising that list of burials of R.A.N. and R.A.A.F. personnel in areas concerned is being compiled and will be forwarded at an early date.

10.11.42

~~To DCS request for 1200 prefabricated coffins to be procured and shipped to 5/2 G.R. & E. Unit Mine Force.~~

10.11.42

POWIB forwarding particulars of unidentified enemy burials supplied by Staff Officer Graves Registration N.G. Force and requesting identification numbers.

10.11.42

From Staff Officer R.A.E (Wks) Vic. L. of C. Area forwarding Repatriation Commissions monthly schedule of Ex-A.I.F. deaths.

10.11.42

To H.Q. a.. L. of C. Areas and Forces re 1914-1918 war graves advising that ^{forwarding of} questionnaire regarding erection of headstones and maintenance of these graves will be carried out by D.G.R. L.H.Q.

10.11.42

To H.Q. Q'ld L. of C. Area advising that matter of establishment of war ^{memorial} cemetery at Brisbane is still under consideration

10.11.42

To Staff Officer Graves Registration N.S.W. L. of C. Area advising that communication from administrator of St. Peter's & St. Paul's Cathedral Goulburn will be replied to direct by Chaplain General Rev. T. Mc. Carthy. No action will be taken to alter existing instructions at Goulburn.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHM.

8.11.42.

14.11.42.

MELBOURNE

10.11.42

To D.A.G. (O) enumerating duties of Staff Officer Graves Registration Vic. L. of C. Area and recommending that W.E. H.Q. Vic L. of C. Area be amended to provide for upgrade of Staff Officer Graves Registration from Capt. to Major.

10.11.42

To D.A.G. (O) advising that responsibility for 1914-1918 war graves will involve maintenance and keeping records of approximately 20,000 graves and requesting approval to submit an amendment for increase in W.E. of this Directorate.

10.11.42

To Staff Officer Graves Registration N.S.W. instructions regarding exhumation and reburial of late 400268 Flt/Sgt. Bassett E.R.

10.11.42

To Staff Officers all L. of C. Areas and Forces advising that it is not necessary to rephotograph every correct inscription and that instructions will be issued from D.G.R. when retakes are desired.

10.11.42

To O1/c 2nd. Echelon requesting that instructions be issued to L. of C. Records Offices that full information regarding deaths in all theatres of war be included in weekly reports of deaths and burials.

10.11.42

To D.O.S. recommending amendment to W.E.T. E2-200B.

10.11.42

VF 346746 Cpl. Sergeant T.O.S. 10.11.42.

14.11.42

To Milbase Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Hobart advising that burial of service personnel will not be effected in war cemeteries and where such are not available in nearest Civil Cemetery. Private burials will not now be permitted.


A/Director Graves Registration.

Major.

15.11.42.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ

15.11.42

21.11.42

MELBOURNE

16.11.42

To R.C. Archbishop of Sydney:- from Minister, advising that Military Cemetery at Rookwood is a completely independent area and that all Chaplains General concurred with method of laying out Military Cemeteries.

16.11.42

To Austforce, Gaza, for General Morshead from A.G. re possible return to Australia from Middle East of 2/1 Aust.G.R. & E.Unit.

MG 233.

16.11.42

From H.Q. H.S.W. L. of C. Area:- advising that files and records in connection with 1914-1918 war graves are being forwarded as instructed.

227363.

16.11.42

To O.1/c 2nd. Echelon requesting that instructions be issued to Records Offices for one copy of each AAF W3314 received to be forwarded to this Directorate.

16.11.42

To all Staff Officers:- instructions regarding records to be maintained by Graves Registration Section H.Q. L. of C. Areas.

16.11.42

To Staff Officer H.S.W.:- advising that Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. Penguin was included in distribution of Navy Office circular stating that D.G.R. assumed responsibility for maintenance of graves of all deceased personnel.

17.11.42

To all Staff Officers:- advise urgently all deficiencies W.E.T. each G.R. & E.Unit.

A 63379

17.11.42

From POWIB -advising that numbers allotted to unidentified enemy bodies have been cancelled from NGD.145028 onwards and that numbers are to be issued by N.G. L. of C. Area records Office.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

15.11.42

21.11.42

MELBOURNE

17.11.42

To D. of O.: - requesting that 2/15 Aust. G.R. & E. Unit be moved from Alice Springs to Port Moresby.

17.11.42

From Department of Defence: - SS 8783 covering memo - War Graves - War Cabinet Agenda 27/1942 supplement No.1 - copy No.12 re burial of service personnel.

132/702/28.

17.11.42

From H.Q. N.G. Force: - particulars of U.S.A. personnel buried in Bomana and Port Moresby Cemeteries.

17.11.42

To C.F.O.: - re arrangements and issue of rail tickets for N.O.K. or relatives to attend funeral in a War Cemetery.

18.11.42

To H.Q. N.G. Force: - requesting that all Units be instructed in the correct manner of conducting Field burials and submitting burial returns.

18.11.42

To Staff Officer N.G.: - advising that no action is required and no records will be maintained of U.S.A. personnel.

19.11.42

To POWIB requesting that this Directorate be advised of numbers allotted by N.G. Records Office to all enemy dead.

19.11.42

From Staff Officer Graves Registration N.T. Force: - advising Lieut. K.A. Horsley O.C. 7 Aust. G.R. & E. Unit has transferred to "M" A/Tk. Bty. Capt. R.G. Webb appointed O.C. unit.

19.11.42

To O.i/c N.T. Records Office advising that inquiries should be addressed direct to 2nd. Echelon not Directorate Graves Registration L.H.Q. 2nd. Echelon.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

15.11.42

21.11.42.

MELBOURNE

19.11.42

From H.Q. Q'ld L. of C. Area:- advising that memo 08147 of 17.9.42 provides list of all cemetery reservations. Those not pegged out have been provided with initial pegs.

132/702/288.

19.11.42

To Staff Officer W.A. L. of C. Area:- advising that matter of exhumation of deceased service personnel from Civil Cemeteries and reburial in War Cemeteries is under consideration.

20.11.42

To Staff Officer N.G. Force:- advising there is difficulty in establishing identity of previously reported unidentified personnel with those identified in later reports, citing examples and requesting that matter be investigated.

20.11.42

From H.Q. N.S.W. forwarding burial returns of R.A.A.F. personnel buried in Rookwood War Cemetery.

21.11.42

From Mil Sec. advising that N.13240 T/Capt. N.E. Melville posted for duty with 10 Aust.G.R. & E. Unit as O.C. to date 22.9.42.

21.11.42

From N.S.W. L. of C. Area:- advising that site of Rookwood War Cemetery was selected without any consideration as to denomination.

VF 395617. Pte. Bennett D.L.

T.O.S. 19.11.42.

VF 395675. Pte. Jackson B.J.

" " " " " "

VF 395899. Pte. Wallis A.T.

" " " " " "

VF 395963. Pte Thomas R.H.

" " " " " "

ACS
Major.
A/Director Graves Registration.

24.11.42.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

22.11.42.

28.11.42.

MELBOURNE

23/11/42.

To all L. of C. Areas etc - List of Unit abbreviations to be used on inscriptions for memorials erected by G.R. & E. Units.

S.M. 2431.

23/11/42.

From Chief Engrs. Branch N.S.W. L. of C. Area, re despatch of files relative to 1914-1918 war graves.

23/11/42.

From D.E.S. advising that lowest tender for construction of 500 crosses for despatch to Milne Force amounts to £204 3s 4d.

23/11/42.

From Milbase Brisbane-requesting instructions re acquisition of site for National Memorial Cemetery.

A.22966 (q'd)

23/11/42.

To Milbase Brisbane - re A.22966 - take no action pending finalisation financial arrangements by Aust. War Memorials Committee.

A.64534.

23/11/42.

Draft G.R.O. submitted, cancelling the practice of permitting N.O.K. or others to arrange for disposition of remains of deceased soldiers and that all burials will be effected in war Cemeteries where available etc.

23/11/42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration N.T. Force - Supplying basic particulars re 13 R.A.A.F. personnel reburied in Berrimah War Cemetery.

23/11/42.

To D.A.G.(O) - Drawing attention to confusion caused in identification of remains of deceased soldiers because of absence of, or incorrect details on, discs identity.

23/11/42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration W.A. - advising that temporary Cemetery register could be made, also that upgrading of Cpl. Clark is being considered.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

22.11.42.

28.11.42.

MELBOURNE.

23/11/42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration Q'ld - Original layout plans of Townsville War Cemetery not in accordance with instructions. Forward layout plans of Townsville, Cooktown and Nambour.

23/11/42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration N.S.W. - Re burial returns R.A.A.F. - R.A.A.F. Group H.Q. has been requested to supply you with burial returns of deceased members of R.A.A.F. buried in N.S.W.

23/11/42.

To D.E.S. - Requesting that arrangements be made for erection of partitions in two rooms and enclosing of front verandah at 39 Acland Street.

23/11/42.

To D. of O - recommending that 15 G.R. & E. Units be moved to Port Moresby and that the Order of Battle, A.M.F., be amended accordingly.

23/11/42.

From H.Q. N.G. Force - Re War Graves 1914-1918 - 86 graves in Civil Cemetery Rabaul - all records lost in evacuation from Rabaul.

26/11/42.

From Staff Officer Graves Registration N.T. Force - Advising that no record is held of 1914-1918 graves at N.T. Force H.Q.

26/11/42.

To Director Mcc. Maintenance - Requesting that facilities of the Army Cinema Branch be made available to this Directorate for enlarging photographs of memorials etc.

GRAVES REGISTRATION L.H.Q.

22/11/42.

28/11/42.

MELBOURNE

26/11/42.

To Sec. Prop. & Survey Branch Canberra. Reference your memo of 24.10.42 and copy of letter from Town Planning Commissioner W.A. - statements therein not in accordance with facts etc.

259/742/1439.

26/11/42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration Tas. Force suggesting that land reserved for War Cemeteries at Campbelltown and Otlands not be used for burials at present stage and that burials be effected at Launceston and Hobart respectively.

26/11/42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration N.G. - War Cemeteries in Efogi, Kokoda, & Buna areas will be established by Staff Officer Graves Registration when warranted. Arrangements will be made later for exhumation and reburial in permanent War Cemeteries.

To H.Q. Q'd L. of C. Area - Re telegram A 22966 concerning National Memorial Cemetery - no instructions had been issued by D.G.R. for possession order. D.G.R. intends to visit Brisbane as soon as possible.

27/11/42.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration Vic. L. of C - Instructions regarding inscriptions on memorials & crosses.

To D.S.D. - submitting suggested W.B. for grave services maintenance details in each L. of C. Area.

To Staff Officer Graves Registration Q'd - advising that contracts for funerals will only be placed or cancelled with the approval of D.G.R. and all matters concerning same will be referred to this H.Q.

To D.A.G.(O) - suggesting that approval be given for all G.R. & E. Units to be shown on C.O.B. as L.H.Q. Units.

GRAVES REGISTRATION LHM.

22/11/42.

28/11/42.

MELBOURNE

28/11/42.

To Mil. Sec requesting that Capt. J.H. Chapman be posted for duty with D.G.R. L.H.Q.

To D.D. Contracts- requesting that endeavours be made to place funeral contracts in Benalla, Seymour, Ballarat, Sale and Hamilton districts.


A/Director Graves Registration

Major.

1.12.42.

WAR DIARY of INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 100N 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

Date and Time.—From 30.11.42 To 5.12.42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE	30/11/42		To Mil-Sec- Requesting that copy of monthly list of A.A.M.C. casualties be supplied to this Directorate.	
	1/12/42		From H.Q. S.A. L. of C. Area - Advising that records of 1914-1918 war graves forwarded to D.G.P. on 25/11/42.	52/2697.
			From H.Q. S.A. L. of C. Area - Extract from photographic register together with prints and negatives.	16/2707.
			From P.O.W.I.B. - Forwarding request from Swiss Consul for photograph of grave of P.W. GA. 42130 Meyer E.	10/2708
			To C.P.O. - Requesting expedite supply of paint urgently required for graves service in H.T.	
			To C.F.O. - Requesting that Major A.E. Brown be authorised to sign as an authorised ordering officer for matters concerning care and maintenance of war graves and provision of suitable cemeteries.	10/2716.
			From Staff Officer H.S.W. - recommending establishment of war cemetery at Narrabri.	
	2/12/42		To H.Q. Tas Force - Further to telephone conversation with Lt. Col. Hall - forwarding extract from war cabinet decision agenda 27/1942 and referring to graves service generally.	
			From Sec. Army. - The use of black cloth-covered coffins for funerals of soldiers will be discontinued. Polished coffins of same quality to be used for all ranks.	76/701/176.

18 JAN. 1943

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 100M 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION HQ.

Date and Time.—From 30.11.42 To 5.12.42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE	3/12/42.		To Sec Army - Conference of service Departments suggested a common policy (detailed) to be adopted re arrangements for H.O.K. and relatives to attend service funerals.	251/906/92.
			To Staff Officer Graves Registration M.S.W. approving establishment of war cemetery at Marrabri.	10/2789.
			From D.A.G. (Org) - As yours is a "service" control and transfer of units and personnel is now with you. It is not necessary to show G.R. & E. Units on O.D.B. as L.H.C. Units.	17/2797.
			To all Areas - advising re discontinuance of use of black cloth-covered coffins (as in 76/701/176)	S.H. 23540.
			To Sec. Department of Supply and Shipping - Requesting advice regarding any renewal of funeral contracts for Port Pirie and Canberra.	11/2816.
			To Sec. Defence - Re War Cabinet Agendum 27/1942 requesting interpretation of the term "interned enemy civilians etc"	12/2827.
	5/12/42.		From D.M.E. - advising that Army Cinematograph Section is available for D.A.P. photograph work as requested.	16A/2834.
			From Milsec - Approval-Capt. J.H. Chapman to be posted from 15 G.R. & E. Unit to D.A.P. L.H.C.	28/2835.
			From Sec. Necropolis Springvale- Advising that general interments C. of E. Section D and R.C. section B suitable only for 5' burials.	12/2843.
			Capt. J.H. Chapman commenced duty 2/12/42.	

A.B. Brown Major.
A/Director Graves Registration.

8.12.42.

WAR DIARY of INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

M. 100W 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION HQ. Date and Time. — From 7.12.42. To 12.12.42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>MELBOURNE</u>	<u>7.12.42.</u>		From H.Q. Tas. Force - Advising policy regarding War Graves and Cemeteries now implemented where required.	10/2852
			To S.D.L. L.H.Q. - advising that Major A.E. Brown will visit Queensland L. of C. Area on duty 13/12/42.	55/2859
			To H.Q. Queensland L. of C. Area - Procedure to be adopted regarding graves of R.A.A.F. personnel.	24/2862
			To H.Q. Queensland L. of C. Area - Cancellation of contract covering Landsborough appears reasonable. In future, advice of this nature should be forwarded to L.H.Q. for necessary action with Department of Navy and Air.	
			To all L. of C. Areas - Requesting that copies of contracts for headstones and plaques be forwarded to D.G.R.	3.H. 23647/
			To C.F.O. - Requesting financial authority for \$2000 be made available to Vic. L. of C. Area - 1942-43 Estimates Div. 78 War Graves.	
			To R.A.W. Liaison Officer - Detailing procedure to be carried out in regard to enemy dead to enable POWIB to carry out its functions in accordance with provisions of Geneva Convention.	14A/2887.
			From H.Q. S.A. L. of C. Area - Details of cases in which G.R.O.A 147/42 has not been strictly observed.	20/2901.
	<u>9.12.42.</u>		To H.Q. Queensland L. of C. Area - Organisation of Graves Service is responsible for implementation of Policy as determined by L.H.Q. Head of service is D.G.R. who is represented at L. of C. Areas by a Staff Officer.	

WAR DIARY ~~or~~ INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

M. 1002 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION HQ.

Date and Time.—From 7.12.42. To 12.12.42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>MELBOURNE</u>			From Sec. Army - Decision of War Cabinet contained in Min. No. 2500 of 13/11/42. Further instructions will be forwarded to High Commissioners Office, London. Correspondence of a routine nature might be forwarded direct to Imperial War Graves Commissioner.	2935.
			To POWIB - Extract from Staff Officer's report on POW and Internee graves at Murchison & Saturna.	
	10.12.42		To Staff Officer Graves Registration, Vic. L. of C - Graves Registration will determine type of coffin to be used in burials made under his arrangement etc.	132/702/306.
			To Milbase Brisbane - Major A.E. Brown will arrive Brisbane by rail 14/12/42, on duty.	70885.
			To D of O. - Requesting that instructions be issued for the raising of Graves Service Maintenance Details in accordance with W/E 4/127B/1 -	17-2972.
			To D of O - Requesting that undermentioned amendments to Order of Battle for L. of C. Areas be arranged in accordance with W/E 4/127B/1, Graves Service Maintenance Details.	
			To D of O. - Requesting that instructions be issued to Vic. L. of C. Area that personnel of 1 Aust. G.R. & E. Unit from Middle East be attached to D.G.R.	
	11.12.42		From C.F.O. - Approval Finance Authority for Vic. L. of C, Area requested in minute of 7/12/42.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 15CM 2 1/2

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ.

Date and Time.—From 7.12.42. To 12.12.42.

[illegible]

A/Director Graves Registration

15.12.42.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

N. 1007 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION HQ

Date and Time.—From 14.12.42. To 19.12.42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
HELBORNE	14.12.42.		To S/O Graves Regn. H.T. Force - In view of number of casualties and difficult nature of country in H.G. 15 G.R. & E. Unit being moved from Central Australia to Port Moresby. You may be able to arrange for a small detachment of 7 G.R. & E. Unit to be located at Alice Springs.	28/3006.
			To S/O Graves Regn. H.G. Force - Arrangements made for 15 G.R. & E. Unit to be moved to Port Moresby. Personnel fully experienced and should be used on north side of Owen Stanley Range.	28/3008.
			To all Areas - Forwarding copy of W.E. IV/127B/1 "Graves Maintenance". Separate instructions will be issued regarding raising personnel.	12/3013.
			To Senior Naval Officer, Royal Netherlands Navy - Particulars of establishment of Broome War Cemetery and burials of Dutch Nationals.	36/3020.
	15.12.42.		To S/O Graves Regn. H.T. Force and S/O Graves Regn. H.G. Force - advising further alterations and abbreviations for cross inscriptions.	57/3038 & 39.
	16.12.42.		From Department of Army - Copy of cypher to High Commissioner London - Reference previous correspondence it is advised that the Commonwealth has decided to assume responsibility in Australia and territories for burial of P.O.W. and interned enemy civilians. Erection of temporary memorials, maintenance of graves and compilation of records.	11A/3064.
			To S/O Graves Regn. W.A. - Forwarding list compiled from R.A.A.F. records of R.A.A.F. personnel deaths and burials in W.A.	24/3069.
	17.12.42.		Milbase Sydney - Advising 50 bundles G.R. crosses, paint etc., ready for shipment to H.G. first available boat.	56/3070/

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 102M 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION INQ.

Date and Time.—From 14.12.42. To 19.12.42.

[illegible]

W. W. W. Major.
A/Director Graves Registration.

22.12.42.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

11. 100M 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ. Date and Time.—From 21.12.42. To 27.12.42.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information I. of C. Area	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE	21.12.42.		To S/O Graves Regn.S.A./ - Advising that photographic albums may be purchased locally as requirements warrant.	42/16A/3154.
			To CPO-re unsatisfactory position in regard to supply of photographic equipment from No.3 Sub-Depot Albury.	42/16A/3155
			To Department of Supply & Shipping - Forwarding copy of report from S/O Graves Regn.Vic.I. of C. Area in which Funeral Contractor states that instructions were received from Timber Control that bottoms of coffins had to be made from 3 ply instead of pine as specified in contract.	42/11/3157.
			From IWGC - Minutes of proceedings 24th Meeting of Imperial War Graves Commission.	42/12/3160.
			To S/O Graves Regn.N.S.W./ - re burial of 64689 A.C. LWhaite L.H. R.A.A.F. - Error of permitting private burial was due to inexperience of a junior officer. No.2 (Training) Group taking all necessary action to prevent a recurrence of the error.	42/24/3156
	22.12.42.		From S/O Graves Regn.N.C.Force - Detailing instructions received from H.Q.N.C.Force re construction of Metal Graves Registration Crosses (picket and plate)	42/51/3144.
			To S/O Graves Regn.N.S.W./ - returning U.S.A. regarding charges for disinterment and reburial of Flt.Sgt.Bassett E.R. Same should be checked with contract rates and certified by you.	
			To S/O Graves Regn. W.A./ - advising that correct title for members of Mercantile Marine is Merchant Navy. - private funeral notice will not be chargeable against public funds - Letters R.I.P. will not be inscribed on Graves Regn.crosses.	42/5A/3165.

WAR DIARY ~~or~~ ~~INTELLIGENCE~~ SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

U. 100X 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION LH2. Date and Time.—From 21.12.42. To 27.12.42.[illegible]

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

H. 100W 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION LHQ

Date and Time.—From 28.12.42 To 2.1.43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MELBOURNE	28.12.42		To Staff Officer Graves Regn. H.T. Force - Forwarding copies of G.R.O.'s as requested in your WRI25.	42/7/3226
			To Staff Officer Graves Regn., H.T. Force, Vic. L. of C. Area and N.S.W. L. of C. Area - Forwarding additional list of R.A.A.F. deaths and burials in your area since September 1939. Further information will be passed to you as available.	42/24/3227, 8 & 9.
			To Howard Smith Ltd. from Navy Office - Forwarding particulars of casualties on S.S. Period 15.12.42.	42/37/3231.
			To Milbase Brisbane for Col. Sharp - Please advise decision regarding Staff Officer Graves Registration.	42/1/3234.
			To Staff Officer Graves Regn. H.T. Force - Acknowledging receipt of Leica Camera No. 180624.	42/16A/3235.
			From D.D. Contracts - Forwarding copy of communication from Holford & Craig re their contract for funeral services at Bairnsdale and requesting information re same.	42/11/3232.
			From H.Q. M.S.W. L. of C. Area-forwarding copy of letter received from Secretary Property & Survey Branch Canberra re proposed War Cemetery Canberra - forwarding plans under separate cover.	42/10/3211.
			Minute to 2nd. Echelon - Confirming telephone conversation advising that Echelon Monthly list for November 1942 contained details of 181 deceased M.S.W. Personnel, particulars of which have not been supplied on Records Office reports.	42/9/3221.
			Minute to 2nd. Echelon - Reference A632/42 - In order that decision regarding eligibility for War Graves of deceased members of V.D.C. may be decided, it is requested that cause and circumstances of each death be advised to this Directorate through Records Office reports.	42/9/3222.

WAR DIARY OF INTELLIGENCE--SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C, 2118
(adapted.)

U. 100W 2/42

Unit GRAVES REGISTRATION LHM.

Date and Time.—From 28.12.42 To 2.1.43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			To Staff Officers all Areas - Detailing duties of Graves Maintenance details and advising WET (E2-2000) has been prepared.	42/11/3233
			From Aust. Mil. Liaison Officer U.S.A.S.C.S - advising H.Q. U.S.A.S.C.S are anxious to obtain suitable canvas bag for personal effects of dead or wounded men and requesting any suggestions on the subject.	RE/3236
			To Aust. Mil. Liaison Officer U.S.A.S.C.S - advising that normal practice of Australian Force is to use sandbags or similar container for transmission of personal effects of deceased or wounded personnel etc.	RE/3237.
	29.12.42		To D.D. Contracts:re Helford & Craig communication. Detailing method for payment of Cemetery fees and advising that K.O.K. may not arrange for disposal of remains of deceased members of forces.	42/11/3233
			From Staff Officer Graves Regn. Q'land - requesting instruction regarding cross inscription re Unit where death occurs after attestation and before soldier being drafted to a Unit.	42/51/3243
			To Staff Officer Graves Regn. Q'land L.of C. Area - Branch of service (if known) could be inscribed on cross when soldier dies before being drafted to Unit otherwise use A.I.F. or A.M.F.	42/51/3270.
			To Staff Officer Graves Regn. N.S.W. L. of C. Area - advising that plans and specifications of proposed Centre Plot and Flag Pole for War Cemetery Rookwood are in course of preparation.	42/24/3266.
			To Staff Officer Graves Regn. N.S.W. L. of C. Area - re communication from Secretary Catholic Cemetery Necropolis and advising that it is unnecessary to inscribe "R.C." on crosses of Catholics buried in an R.C. Cemetery and that same may be replaced by "R.I.P." in cases referred to.	42/51/3224.

C. G. S. WEEKLY REPORT TO PRIME MINISTER.

WEEK ENDING 5.12.42.

DIRECTORATE GRAVES REGISTRATION O - LAND HEADQUARTERS.

FUNERALS.

Approval has been received for the discontinuance of the use of black cloth-covered coffins for deceased service personnel. In future coffins will be wood, polished, and those used for - Officers will be of the same quality as for other ranks. The necessary instructions in this regard have been issued.

PHOTOGRAPHY.

A large volume of photographic work will be necessary in the enlarging and reproduction of photographs of war graves. Arrangements have been made for the services of the Army - - - Cinemetograph section to be available for such work on behalf of D.G.R.


Major.
A/Director Graves Registration.

8.12.42.