

AWM52

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

**1/1/32
HEADQUARTER
UNITS**

Office of Co-ordination

August-October 1945



1/1/32-002\$

SECRET

ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY OF INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit Office of Co-ord(LHQ) Date and Time.—From 30 Aug 45 To 31 Oct 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	13 Sep 45		Minutes of Conference held Adv LHQ - MOROTAI 5 Sep 45	Serial 48
			The Object of Conference was to seek approval of C in C	
			AMF to measures previously agreed upon between SASEA	
			Mission and Adv LHQ	
	17 Sep 45		Taking over of facilities & stores from USA in Aust Territory	Serial 49 (LHQ122270/ 17 Sep)
	29 Sep 45		Forces for JAPAN. Notes on Conference held at LHQ	Serial 50 (minute)
			1000 hrs. 29 Sep	
	2 Oct 45		Services Adm Planning for JAPAN	Serial 51 (minute)
	2 Oct 45		Transfer of Items to SEAC	Serial 52 (LHQ129851/ 2 Oct)
			Services Adm Planning for JAPAN	" 53 (minute)
			Departure of Royal Netherlands Indies Army from Aust	" 54 (minute)
			Publicity - Release of Information for Publication	
			outside of the Services	" 55 (minute)

Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted)

(Erase heading not required.)

[illegible]

Serial 48
SECRET ORIGINAL

Australian Military Forces

(Office of Co-ordination)

SECRET

MINUTE

subject: MINUTES OF CONFERENCE HELD AT ADV LHM, PERTH, ON WED 5 SEP

CGO	D Plans
AD	AD
QMG	QMG
WGA	WGA
QMG	DR & CA
BGC	DR & I
SC-in-3	SC
	Brig Co-ord

Forwarded herewith is a copy of minutes of a conference held at Adv LHM on 5 Sep 45 between SC-in-3 and Maj Gen D HARRISON, head of SEAC Mission to Australia.

2. In forwarding these minutes Adv LHM noted the following :-

"With reference to para 7 of the minutes Maj Gen HARRISON has informed SCIN of the views of C in C in this regard and has undertaken to advise the calorific value of the ration decided upon by SEAC. On receipt of this advice, C in C will decide on the ration to be issued in the Australian Area."

3. Any further action on these minutes will be taken as follows :-

Minute 5	DSD - DSD(2)
" 6	DSD (with SC-in-3 Sub-para (a), DRACG, Brig Co-ord, Sub-para (b))
" 7	QMG (with A Branch)

Charles J. Ferguson
Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff
13 Sep 45

SECRET

COPY/003/EC

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

SECRET

Adv LHQ

AQ 305.1

Sep 45

Minutes of Conference held at Adv LHQ MOROTAI
on Wednesday, 5 September 45

1. Present

General Sir Thomas BLANEY, G-in-C AMF
Lieutenant General F. H. BERRYMAN
Brigadiers V. C. SMOBBE, E. W. WOODWARD
Major General D. HARRISON, Head of SACSEA Mission

2. Object

The object of the conference was to seek the approval of the G in C AMF to measures previously agreed upon at a Staff level between SACSEA Mission and LHQ and Adv LHQ.

3. Captured Japanese Arms and Equipment

It was agreed that it would be desirable to destroy captured weapons, ammunition and all war equipment other than that suitable for commercial use. As the UK Government might desire to obtain captured weapons, it was decided that G in C AMF would refer this question to the Australian Government with the suggestion that agreement should be reached with UK Government.

4. Defence Committee Agenda No 220/1945

Major General HARRISON referred to this Agenda and G in C AMF stated that it was in accordance with the signals he had sent on the subject. This Agenda has received the approval of the Australian Government.

5. Aide Memoire for discussion with Defence Committee

Major General HARRISON referred to this paper and stated that agreement had been reached on a Staff level. G in C AMF approved of this paper subject to the concurrence of his Staff at Adv LHQ. This concurrence was subsequently given.

Major General HARRISON referred to two special subjects in this paper :-

- (a) G-in-C AMF agreed to leave approximately 250 Australian signal personnel, together with the necessary equipment, with the relieving BRAC Forces for an interim period of from two to three months.

G-in-C AMF agreed to this arrangement and to confirm any related arrangements made by G-in-C.

- (b) It is agreed that the SACSEA Mission to Australia would include a "Q" Maintenance officer and a "Q" Movements officer, both of 1st Grade standing, for integration with the staff of Adv LHQ.

/Shipping

Shipping

- (a) Major General HARRISON stated that we would be dependent on the re-allocation of shipping by the Ministry of War Transport. C-in-C AMF pointed out that Australia had practically no shipping. Major General HARRISON said he would inform AMF of any re-allocation of shipping made to SACSEA by the Ministry of War Transport, and undertook to investigate on his return to his HQ the possibility of making available some SEAC shipping for Australian use after the major movements now in progress have been completed.
- (b) Major General HARRISON stated that he had already asked Supreme Allied Commander SEAC to impress on the NEI authorities that all shipping at their disposal must be pooled for common use under the joint control of SEAC and AMF. C-in-C AMF agreed that this was correct in principle.

7- Rations for disarmed Japanese troops

Where we have to supply disarmed Japanese troops because the local resources are not sufficient to maintain them in moderate standard of health, it was decided we should determine the calorific value of the ration to be issued. The calorific value so decided is not to be less than 60% of that of disarmed German enemy.

The issue of existing stocks should be so controlled as to conform forthwith to that calorific value. For this purpose the issues of Japanese stocks of rations must be controlled by local Commanders of occupying Forces.

(sgd) M. H. BERRYMAN
Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff
Australian Military Forces

(sgd) D. HARRISON
Major General
Head of South East Asia Command Mission

Distribution

LHQ
SEAC Mission to Aust

49.
OOC/ES/1

149.
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
(Office of Co-ordination)

SECRET

722270
Memo No. 13270

Headquarters
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne.

17 Sep 45

ADV LHQ
FIRST AUST ARMY
Brig BINNS

Copies to: Sec Army, SA, Sec Air (for HQ, RAAF), MA to S-in-C,
CGS (DSD), (2) AG (2), QMG (3), MGO (3), DGAE, CPO,
E-in-C, S-in-C, Brig Co-ord, DR & CA, Members of the
Committee (6);

TAKING OVER OF FACILITIES AND STORES FROM US IN AUSTRALIAN
TERRITORIES

1. The US General Purchasing Agent has asked that a Committee be sent to NEW GUINEA to co-operate with US Army representatives for the purpose of negotiating for the purchase of US installations (steel bridges, telephone channels, water channels, prefabricated huts are particularly mentioned). Copy of letter from US General Purchasing Agent is attached as Appx 'A'.

2. The Australian Committee will consist of the following representatives :-

QMG Branch rep	Brig L. H. BINNS, Chairman (S-in-C's authority)
MGO Branch rep	Lt Col J. LAWSON
E-in-C rep	Lt Col C. W. CORBIN
Finance rep	Mr E. J. TAYLOR
RAAF rep	To be nominated
Dept External Territories rep	(may be already in NEW GUINEA)
Commonwealth Disposals Comm rep	To be nominated

3. The members of the Committee from MELBOURNE will leave by plane at 0700 hrs Wed 19 Sep 45 - DCMG II is arranging for plane and will arrange for the necessary Movement signals to be sent. The plane will be available for the Committee in NEW GUINEA. Until arrival at HQ First Aust Army the Senior Officer will be in charge of the party.

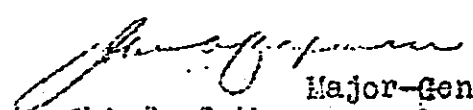
4. The Committee will assemble at LAE on 20 Sep 45. Brig Gen BROWNING US rep has been asked to be there.

5. Further arrangements will be made by the Chairman of the Committee.

6. Mr. TAYLOR, finance rep, will also represent the viewpoint of the Department of the Treasury.

7. The terms of reference of the Committee are attached as Appx 'B'.

8. Copy of Signals sent to Adv LHQ and First Aust Army are attached as Appx 'C'.


Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff

General Headquarters
United States Army Forces - Pacific
Office of the General Purchasing Agent

Rear Echelon AFPAO
Royal Bank Chambers,
287 Collins Street,
Melbourne. C.I.

15th September 45.

Mr. G.P.N. Watt,
First Assistant Secretary,
Department of the Treasury
(Defence Division)
Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE. S.C.I.

Dear Mr. Watt,

In connection with the contemplated removal of United States Forces from Australian New Guinea, enquiry has been received as to the desire of the Commonwealth Government to acquire certain facilities of United States ownership, such as telephone lines, cable, power and water lines, steel bridges, tanks and similar items located in Australian Mandated Territories.

It has been suggested that, if the Commonwealth is desirous of investigating any such installations, a Committee or individual with authority be appointed to meet with United States representatives (Brigadier General Browning), in Hollandia in order that mutually satisfactory arrangements may be discussed.

In the event the Commonwealth Government is not interested in the proposal made, it is planned that negotiations will shortly ensue between representatives of the United States and Netherlands East Indies Governments with respect to possible sale and purchase. If such a Commonwealth representative or group is named, discussions might also proceed with respect to the disposition to be made of certain items and portions of facilities which were originally obtained under Reciprocal Aid.

In view of negotiations now pending with Netherlands East Indies authorities, a prompt determination is respectfully requested.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd) C.D. BROMLEY
Colonel, AJS.
Acting General Purchasing Agent

SECRET

000/EC/1

Appx 'B'

COMMITTEE ON DISPOSAL OF US ARMY INSTALLATIONS AND STORES
IN NEW GUINEA

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The Committee will not go further than to indicate the installations and stores which are required except as stated in para 2 below. Whether we pay, and if so how much, is a matter which will be settled between the Treasury and General Purchasing Agent.

2. The Committee may settle on the spot for essential stores up to an overall limit of £100,000 (see 3(b) below).

3. PROCEDURE

(a) Installations

The Committee will indicate the installations which are required by Australian Services or External Territories and arrange for these to be left in situ pending negotiations on the terms under which they will be taken over between U.S. Army in Australia and the Treasury.

Installations not required can be disposed of by U.S. but the committee will need to determine whether the materials are of U.S. or R.E.I. origin. If the latter a settlement from the purchaser will be to the Australian Government.

In the case of installations constructed with mixed origin stores the committee can determine a percentage of R.E.I. materials and obtain the necessary agreement with the U.S. authorities that the agreed percentage of proceeds will be paid by U.S. Army to Australian Treasury.

(b) Stores

Stores of U.S. origin taken over will have to be paid for and this means a dollar settlement. A policy to restrict dollar payments as far as possible and a high level of essentiality should be established before it is agreed that stores will be taken for Australian Services or External Territories use. The committee to have a £100,000 authority to commit the purchase of stores and must refer back to Australia if additional funds are required giving full explanation and justification.

Separate inventories must be established for stores of U.S. and R.E.I. origin. So far as R.E.I. origin stores are concerned the Services can take over what is wanted for their use giving suitable receipts to the U.S. so that R.E.I. credit can be effected and any necessary inter-departmental adjustment made. R.E.I. stores not taken over can be sold to N.E.I. or other authorities, payment being made direct to Australian Government.

In the case of mixed stores the Committee would be empowered to determine an allocation of proceeds in agreement with U.S. authority. If in such cases the full proceeds are paid to U.S. it would be for them to remit the Australian proportion.

(c) Oil

Separate arrangements apply to oil and the committee should report on the procedures and their implementation.

/4. General Principles

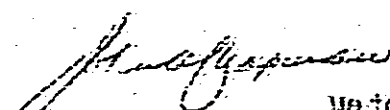
- 2 -

4. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

(a) The general principles to apply will be that a high level of essentiality must be established before it is agreed that installations and stores will be taken for Australian use. This applies particularly to property of U.S. origin. We are entitled to take property of R.A.A. origin without cash settlement.

(b) Credit of proceeds of R.A.A. stores and installations on their value when they are taken into use will be to R.A.A. account.

(c) Agreement at a high level will be made with the General Purchasing Agent that installations or portions thereof should not be destroyed deliberately or dismantled without advice to this Committee.


Major General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff

17 Sep 45

JOBY/000/23

Annex 1C

76396

From: LANDFORCES 151240K
To: LANDOPS FIRST AUST ARMY

ADM 76396 (.) unclassified (.) Part one (.)

enquiry received whether Australia desires acquire certain US owned facilities such as following, telephone lines, cable, power and water lines, steel bridges, tanks and similar items located AUSTRALIA NEW GUINEA and MANDATED TERRITORIES (.) US desire a committee of Australian officers to meet Brig Gen BROWNING to discuss and mutually arrange take over (.) if facilities not required by Australia US authorities propose deal with NEI (.) discussions also to include disposition of certain items and portions of facilities which were originally obtained under reciprocal aid (.) prompt action regarding above is necessary (.) Part two (.) Committee comprises six Brig BROWN under C in C's authority at Col CORBIN Engr Stores MGO representative Mr TAYLOR Territories Finance RAAF representative and representative External ~~XXXXXXXX~~ (.) party to concentrate LAE Thu 20 Sep (.) plane leaves MELBOURNE 0700 hrs 19 Sep taking CORBIN and representatives of MGO Finance and RAAF and will be available for party (.) External Affairs representative now in NEW GUINEA being instructed report LAE (.) Brig Gen BROWNING also being asked go LAE (.) papers going with party from here (.) this committee not to be confused with Lt Col MAURICE party of investigation on U.S. and Dutch stores.

(Sgt) JOHN A CHAPMAN
Major-General
RGC
15 Sep 45

From: LANDFORCES 171100K
To: LANDOPS FIRST AUST ARMY

76651

ADM 76651 (.) unclassified (.) ref Landforces signal
ADM 76396 of 15 Sep (.) correction (.) one (.) delete word quote
rptd unquote from Addressees (.) Two (.) add to Committee rep of

- 2 -

Disposal Commission leaving with party from MEMPHIS (.)

At Col JAWSON will be also rep

IMPORTANT

(sg1) J H H A CHAMMAN
Maj-Gen
DCG
17 Sep 56

50.

SECRET

NOTES ON CONFERENCE HELD IN ROOM 97 "A" BLOCK
AT 1000 HRS SAT 29 SEP 45

Forces for JAPAN

Present: - Brig C.M.L. ELLIOTT AMF
 Commander G. H. BECKER RAN
 Gp/Capt M. G. WATSON RAAF

Also in attendance: - Lt-Col A. T. McLEAN AMF
 Sqd/Ldr HARLEY RAAF

Acting Secretary - Lt-Col A. T. McLEAN AMF

BUSINESS

"To determine the administrative plans for despatching to JAPAN, and maintaining from AUSTRALIA the Australian component of the British Commonwealth Forces outlined in War Cabinet minutes (4400) and (4401). The probable effects of this plan on demobilization and the evacuation of the forward areas will be stated."

This necessitated deciding upon the basis on which the Australian component of the British Commonwealth Forces should be organized to ensure that the maximum use is made of common administrative services.

1. Brig Elliott stated that the Australian Force should be organized as economically as possible in manpower consistent with the occupation task. He pointed out that the establishing of an Australia Base as visualized was uneconomical and that the British Commonwealth Force should be planned as a whole and that a common base organization should be formed as far as possible.

Action by: 2. (a) Gp/Capt WATSON stated that the RAAF element had been planned on a strength of 2450 all ranks. On 28 Sep 45 War Cabinet had directed that this was to be reduced to 1750 all ranks. This restriction will involve a re-organization of the proposed RAAF Force; this was being worked out at the moment.

Brig Elliott (b) Brig ELLIOTT undertook to ascertain whether War Cabinet had placed any restriction on the Aust Army Component.

3. A general discussion then took place on the use and advantages of common administrative services and the following points were raised and agreed to by all

(a) Movement Control

All demands for movement (whether by air sea and land) of each of the three services shall be made on an Army Movement Control Group, in which will be incorporated RAN and RAAF representatives or detachments;

(b) Signal Communications

- (i) Internal signals in the occupation area will be a Service responsibility;
- (ii) Aust Army will be required to assist in laying land lines for RAAF;

/(iii) ...

Action by:

Army & RAAF
Sigs

(iii) The responsibility for operating the rear links to the Australian Mainland was discussed in order to ascertain if a common channel could be established with consequent saving of manpower and equipment. Gp/Capt WATSON stated a RAAF rear link was essential for the control of aircraft operating between AUSTRALIA and JAPAN. It was suggested that Aust Army could also use this link in lieu of establishing an Army channel. It was decided that the Signals staff of the Army and RAAF should be requested to confer and advise on this point.

(iv) RAN have facilities on their ships for rear link to AUSTRALIA.

(c) Engineers

Gp/Capt Watson

Gp/Capt WATSON noted that no provision had been made in the Army GOB for airfield construction, maintenance or for construction of accommodation for the RAAF component. He advised that a signal had been sent to the RAAF representative with the Services Mission in TOKYO to discuss this aspect with US authorities and that he would advise the reply later when the commitment could be reviewed.

(d) Supplies and Transport

(i) RAAF will provide own transport requirements;

(ii) RAN will require limited Army transport for shore detachments and movement of personnel and senior officers;

(iii) Aust Army will be responsible for the provision of rations, expense stores, PGM etc for RAAF component, the principle of supply being that RAAF will collect in own transport if distance from unit lines to supply depots is under 25 miles; if the distance is over 25 miles Aust Army will deliver to agreed point within 25 miles of RAAF unit lines;

(iv) Commander BETHUR advised that whilst the British Pacific Fleet is in the area they will be responsible for supplying all requirements including refrigerator items to RAN component. The system of supplying of Naval fuel has not been finalized, but RAN will be responsible for arranging.

RAN

(v) RAAF would prefer to draw Avgas from US sources but if US sources NOT available, as appears likely, Aust Army will be responsible for provision of Avgas. Bulk installations not required. It was decided that service representatives of Aust Army and RAAF should be requested to confer on this subject.

Gp/Capt Watson

or
Attention was drawn to possibility/supply from non-dollar sources.

Action by:

(e) Transportation and Docks Operating

The necessary number of skilled technical personnel required for port operating will be supplied by Aust Army, supplemented when necessary with unskilled labour or civil labour.

(f) Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

Services will provide for own requirements owing to different types of equipment.

(g) Medical

- (i) RAN will require up to 30 beds in Aust Army Hospital;
- (ii) RAAF component will include a Medical Clearing Station (50-100 beds) but they will require up to 35 beds in Aust Army hospital on 1½-2% being evacuated beyond Medical Clearing Station;
- (iii) Aust Army can provide these requirements from within existing OOB.

The need for a Medical Clearing Station was queried. Gp/Capt WATSON considered it necessary in case airfields were located at a distance from Australian Base or in the case of movement of RAAF sqns.

(h) Dental

- (i) Services will provide for own requirements;
- (ii) If Medical Clearing Station was NOT included in RAAF component assistance would be required from Aust Army resources.

(j) Ordnance, including stores and Ammunition

- (i) RAN have no requirements except that up to 50 tons of stores monthly may have to be handled in bulk from AUSTRALIA; they desire that this be handled by AAOC if possible;
- (ii) RAAF Air Stores Park will hold 30 days RAAF Ammunition and stores. Ammunition includes rockets and AA, but no bombs. Aust Army will be responsible for unloading and transporting of these stores to RAAF depots in JAPAN;
- (iii) Aust Army Ordnance Depot will include Ammunition Depot and Return Stores Depot.

(k) Pay

- (i) RAN will draw bulk requirements from Aust Army Cash Office;
- (ii) Gp/Capt WATSON stated that under a Treasury arrangement RAAF draw cash from US sources overseas. It was suggested that RAAF should draw in bulk from Aust Army in this case and it was decided that Aust Army and RAAF finance representatives should be requested to clarify this point.

Army & RAAF
Finance

/(1)

Action by:

() Printing

- (i) No arrangements have been made by Services for printing as it was considered that local arrangements could be made in JAPAN;
- (ii) It was also considered that the printing of a daily newspaper would be a British Commonwealth Force responsibility, or even an Occupation Force responsibility.

(m) Stationery

Services will provide under own arrangements owing to use of different forms etc.

(n) Postal

- (i) RAN will utilize Aust Army Postal organisation;
- (ii) RAAF postal detachment 1 officer 13 ORs will combine with Aust Army Postal Unit if in same area. This detachment appears large for 1750 RAAF but it is understood to include squadron etc postal personnel. It was decided that Aust Army and RAAF Postal Services should be requested to confer and determine combine organization if area and layout permits.

Army & RAAF
Postal

(o) Provost

- (i) RAN will land pickets which will come under Aust Army control whilst ashore;
- (ii) RAAF Service police detachment 2 officers 23 WCOs is included in RAAF component and will co-operate with Aust Army Provost.

(p) Canteens, Stores, Officers and ORs Clubs

- (i) Aust Army will be responsible for provision of RAAF requirements in bulk; RAAF will operate own unit canteens;
- (ii) RAN will be shipping small quantities of their requirements direct, balance to be drawn from Aust Army Canteen Service; this will need co-ordination between RAN and Aust Army Canteens Service;

RAN & Army
Canteens

- (iii) Aust Army Canteen Clubs to be available for all Service personnel.

(q) Detention Barracks

RAN and RAAF desire to use Aust Army Detention Barracks as required. It is understood from RAAF that this must be authorized by Governor-in-Council. (sic)

(r) Labour

Aust Army Labour Gp HQ will co-ordinate and requisition civil labour for all services.

(s) Amenities

All Services providing own amenities, but it is considered that cinemas would be pooled on a circuit basis.

Action by:

RAN will require exchange of films from Aust Army for cinemas on ships. RAN personnel whilst ashore to be allowed to attend Army and RAAF cinemas.

(i) Reception Camp

RAN & RAAF personnel will use Aust Army Reception Camp.

(ii) Education

All Services are self-contained.

(iii) Salvage

(i) Aust Army making no special provision at the moment;

(ii) Repair and Service Unit RAAF responsible for RAAF Salvage;

(iii) RAN no commitment.

4. Gp/Capt WATSON and Sqd/Ldr HARLEY will advise Lt-Col McLEAN of the logistic data for RAAF component in order that G (Movements) can be requested to prepare a plan on the movement commitment of the Aust Force to JAPAN and the effects this plan will have on the evacuation of the forward areas and demobilization.

5. Lt-Col McLEAN undertook to request Aust Army Services to contact RAAF services concerned with points raised in para 3 above which need clarification.

6. The meeting adjourned at 1145 hrs.

Brigadier
1 Oct 45

Distribution:

AG (5)
GMC (6)
MGO (4)
GMC (2)
DSB (2)
D/Plans (1)

Copies for info:

CGS
Defence
RAF (6)
RAAF (6)
Brig Elliott
Comdr O H Becher
Gp Capt M J Watson
Sq/Leader Harley
Lt-Col A T McLean

000/EC

51

SECRET

URGENT

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

M I N U T E

Subject: SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE PLANNING FOR JAPAN

AG (5)
 QMG (6)
 MGO (4)
 DSD (2)

Copy: CGS, D/Plans, GPO, RAN, RAAF

1. Ref CGS minute of 26 Sep 45 on the above subject and "Notes on Conference held in Room 97 'A' Block at 1000 hrs Sat 29 Sep 45" subject - Forces for JAPAN.

2. (a) The approx composition of the Australian component of the British Commonwealth Forces for the occupation of JAPAN is as follows :

	Pers	Vehs	Equipment NOT carried in vehs tons (M)	Location
<u>RAN</u>	Component will move to JAPAN under RAN arrangements			
<u>Army</u>	6680	502	4452	Adv LHQ and First Army areas. To be raised and concentrated at MORATAI vide LHQ SD79517 of 251755X and SD79463 of 261105X Sep
<u>RAAF</u>	1750	337 (8008 tons(M))	4324	LABUAN

(b) The tonnage of equipment NOT carried in vehicles for the Army component is based on the move of 1 Aust Corps from the mainland.

3. The AMF will be responsible for the maintenance of the Army and RAAF components of the Force; whilst the British Pacific Fleet is in the area they will be responsible for maintenance of the RAN component except for a monthly shipment ex Australia of approx 50 tons of Naval stores. In addition to the above naval stores RAAF will require to ship approx 200 tons (M) of RAAF stores monthly ex Australia to JAPAN.

4. It is realised that the layout and location of the Australian component in JAPAN will have a bearing on requirements such as transport and provision of Avgas etc. but pending firm information it is desired that planning be on the basis of the Force occupying a relatively compact area and the responsibility for maintenance of Avgas and other RAAF requirements being one for the AMF.

5. The immediate task is as laid down in the above quoted CGS Minute is "to determine the administrative plan for despatching to JAPAN, and maintaining from Australia, the Australian component of the British Commonwealth Forces outlined in War Cabinet Minutes (4400) and (4402). The probable effects of this plan on demobilization and the evacuation of the forward areas will be stated."

/6.

6. As a basis it is considered that maintenance may be shipped ex SYDNEY every 40 days, on this assumption it is requested that branches immediately work out and supply to Lt-Col McLean, O Block, Room 7, not later than 6 Oct 45 -

- (i) the minimum level of supply (stores margin) required in JAPAN.
- (ii) the approx tonnage (measurement) of 40 days supply for the Force.
- (iii) the approx tonnage (measurement) of Initial maintenance required.
- (iv) any special shipping requirement for maintenance, e.g. reefer cargo.
- (v) the monthly reinforcements required to be sent to JAPAN and the approx evacuation rate therefrom.
- (vi) the effect of this maintenance commitment on the demobilization plan of the branch, e.g. retention of staffs at depots, etc.

7. Q Branch will be supplied by Lt-Col McLean with details from other branches so that the movement and maintenance requirements can be worked out; from these movements and maintenance logistics the probable effects on demobilization and evacuation of the forward area will be worked out between A and Q Branches, DSD and Brig Co-ord

Charles B. J. for Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff
2 Oct 45

52

SECRET

003/ABC

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Office of Co-ordination

Memo No. 129851

2 Oct 45.

Adv LEQ
HQ First Aust Army

For info : RNI Army
SEAC Mission
AG (2)
QMG (3)
MGO (3)
BGS
DSD
DR & CA
CFO
EA

TRANSFER OF ITEMS TO SEAC

1. The Minister on 21 Sep 45 approved of the policy set out in the following memorandum. You will now implement this policy as required.

"The Secretary

In the near future units from South East Asia Command including Dutch units will progressively replace Australian troops in British Borneo and in all Netherlands' territories west of New Guinea. Such units will include Civil Affairs units. On relieving Australian forces the SEAC units may desire to take over certain facilities and equipment necessary for the control and administration of the areas, e.g. signal installations, motor vehicles, small craft, and reserves of all kinds.

It is requested that the Minister's approval be given for such transfers on payment to be made by the AMP to forces under command of SEAC and including the BECAF where such items are available locally -

- (a) from army stocks without replacement
- (b) in situ

Similar arrangements have been made by USA with NEI. The Minister has already approved of surplus stocks being transferred on payment to NEI Forces and NICA."

Chitt Mott B. J. for Major-General,
Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

SECRET

Serial 53

003/EG

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

MINUTE

Subject: SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE PLANNING FOR JAPAN

AG (5)
QMG (6)
MGO (4)
DSD (2)

Copy: CGS, D/Plans, CPO, RAN, RAAF

1. Ref CGS minute of 26 Sep 45 on the above subject and "Notes on Conference held in Room 97 "A" Block at 1000 hrs Sat 29 Sep 45" subject - Forces for JAPAN.

2. (a) The approx composition of the Australian component of the British Commonwealth Forces for the occupation of JAPAN is as follows :

	Pers	Vehs	Equipment NOT carried in vehs tons (M)	Location
<u>RAN</u>	Component will move to JAPAN under RAN arrangements			
<u>Army</u>	6680	802	4452	Adv LHQ and First Arm areas. To be raised and concentrated at MORATAI vide LHQ SD79517 of 251735K and SD79463 of 261105 Sep
<u>RAAF</u>	1750	337 (8008 tons(M))	4324	LABUAN

(b) The tonnage of equipment NOT carried in vehicles for the Army component is based on the move of 1 Aust Corps from the mainland

3. The AMF will be responsible for the maintenance of the Army and RAAF components of the Force; whilst the British Pacific Fleet is in the area they will be responsible for maintenance of the RAN component except for a monthly shipment ex Australia of approx 50 tons of Naval stores. In addition to the above naval stores RAAF will require to ship approx 200 tons (M) of RAAF stores monthly ex Australia to JAPAN.

4. It is realised that the layout and location of the Australian component in JAPAN will have a bearing on requirements such as transport and provision of Avgas etc. but pending firm information it is desired that planning be on the basis of the Force occupying a relatively compact area and the responsibility for maintenance of Avgas and other RAAF requirements being one for the AMF.

5. The immediate task is as laid down in the above quoted CGS Minute is "to determine the administrative plan for despatching to JAPAN, and maintaining from Australia, the Australian component of the British Commonwealth Forces outlined in War Cabinet Minutes (4400) and (4401). The probable effects of this plan on demobilization and the evacuation of the forward areas will be stated."

6. As a basis it is considered that maintenance may be shipped ex SYDNEY every 40 days, on this assumption it is requested that branches immediately work out and supply to Lt-Col McLean, O Block, Room 7, not later than 6 Oct 45 -

- (i) the minimum level of supply (stores margin) required in JAPAN.
- (ii) the approx tonnage (measurement) of 40 days supply for the Force.
- (iii) the approx tonnage (measurement) of Initial maintenance required.
- (iv) any special shipping requirement for maintenance, e.g. reefer cargo.
- (v) the monthly reinforcements required to be sent to JAPAN and the approx evacuation rate therefrom.
- (vi) the effect of this maintenance commitment on the demobilization plan of the branch, e.g. retention of staffs at depots, etc.

7. Q Branch will be supplied by Lt-Col McLean with details from other branches so that the movement and maintenance requirements can be worked out; from these movements and maintenance logistics the probable effects on demobilization and evacuation of the forward area will be worked out between A and Q Branches, DSD and Brig Co-ord.

Charles B. J. for Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff
2 Oct 45

Office of Co-ordination

M I N U T E

Subject: DEPARTURE OF ROYAL NETHERLANDS INDIES ARMY HEADQUARTERS FROM AUSTRALIA

AG
QMG
MGO
DGAD
EGS
DSD
DGMS
DDS
DES
DOE

1. The following authority has been received from Headquarters Royal Netherlands Indies Army in Australia by the Secretary, Department of the Army, and is circulated for the information of all concerned.

"Authority -

1. In view of the departure of the Royal Netherlands Indies Army Headquarters from Australia, it is desired to advise as follows :-

2. Capt Theodore Buys, Liaison Officer, has full authority to execute on behalf of the Commanding General, all transactions relating to supplies and equipment for the Royal Netherlands Indies Army.

3. It would be much appreciated if your valued assistance rendered could be continued.

For the Commanding General, R.N.I. Army

(Sgd) Prof. Dr. G. OTTEN, Colonel,
Director of RNI Army Services of Supply

3rd October, 1945

C. J. D. D. D., Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff
9 Oct 45

003/E2/5

55

SECRET

Australian Military Forces

MINUTE

Subject: PUBLICITY - NON-OPERATIONAL

GGG (8)
AG (10)
QIG (10)
HGO (10)
CPC (4)
M.S. (4)
DGR (2)

Copies for info to : BA, MA to C in C, DRACA, PWAP, HQ AWAS,
Aust Hill 10, Camp

1. A request was received from a leading radio trade publication that it be allowed to publish details of wireless equipment used by the Army, subject always to the requirements of security. The information they desire to publish is contained in instruction books etc prepared by the manufacturers and in some cases in Army handbooks.

2. The Committee set up by the C in C on the publicity of Non-operational Activities considered this request and discussed with General Staff advisers and other officers the question raised in para 1 above and other aspects such as engineer equipment and activities.

3. The C in C has authorised the release of such information subject to the requirements of security.

4. The Branch to which application is made or to which any application received by Army is referred, will be responsible for preparation of the information. Nothing which is considered to be of a security nature will be released, though naturally more latitude is permissible in this respect under peace conditions than was possible during war. Information which is of interest to General Staff advisers will be forwarded to DGR for co-ordination with the G3 advisers concerned; when this action has been taken, the information will be passed to DGR for release. Where the subject is the concern of one branch only it will be passed by the P30 direct to DGR for release, subject to conformity with instructions on security aspect promulgated by the General Staff.

5. Apart from applications received, Branches should consider material available, which would make known the Army's war effort and supply outside organisations with material suitable for publication which would be of use to these outside bodies and at the same time bring to notice many of the fine achievements of the Army during the war. Similar procedure will be adopted as in para above.

6. When any action has been taken under paras 4 and 5 above, a brief report will be submitted by DGR to the Secretary (Capt Sheedy) of the Non-operational Activity Publicity Committee.

John Sheedy
Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff

4 Oct 45

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SECRET

00C/A5C

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

SM8357

Headquarters,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne, S.C.1.

12th October, 1945.

H.Q., I.T. Force	(4)	H.Q., Vic L of C Area	(4)
H.Q., Western Command	(4)	H.Q., SA L of C Area	(4)
H.Q., Qld L of C Area	(4)	H.Q., Tas L of C Area	(4)
H.Q., NSW L of C Area	(4)	R.M.C.	(2)

Copies to - Sec. Dept of the Army (2); BA; CGS (4); AG (4);
QMG (4); MGO (4); CPO (4); MS (1); DGPR; DR & CA.

CIVILIAN OFFICE STAFFS - HOURS OF DUTY

Reference is made to LHQ memorandum CS 3438 of 7 Sep 45.

2. In general, it was found necessary to continue on a six-working-days' week, with hours of duty as set out in para.3 of the above memorandum.

3. It was not possible to revert to a five-working-days' week on account of such high priority tasks as long-term releases, demobilisation, release of prisoners of war, occupation of territories previously held by Japanese, civil affairs in relation to NMI and other territories, disposals, reviews, urgent maintenance etc.

4. However, it is considered that there may be in L of C Areas certain departmental groups which could work on the five-working-days' week basis without interfering with high priority tasks or without loss of present efficiency. This might be worked on a straight out five-working-days' week or a roster system which has the same effect but arranges for a proportion of the staff to work on Saturday morning and be given time off during the week. NT Force, Western Command, L of C Areas and RMC will examine this aspect and submit a report where the five-working-days' week could be established. It is desired that first report in this regard be submitted to reach LHQ by 31 Oct 45. The subject will be reviewed monthly thereafter and reports submitted at the end of each month. The contents of all such reports should be treated as confidential until a decision has been made.

5. Where a report from a L of C Area etc. relates to a general administrative installation, action will be taken at LHQ to refer to the Principal Staff Officer concerned for a recommendation as to the decision to be taken.

John A. Gorman
Major-General,
Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

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SECRET

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
(Office of Co-ordination)

Memo No 135675

Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
Melbourne, S.C.I.

First Army (4)
ANGAU (3)

15th October, 1945

Copies to - Joint Planning Cttee; DSD; AG(2); QMG(4); MGO(4);
CFC; UGAH(3); DR & CA(2); Dept of External Territories (2)

RESTORATION OF CIVIL ADMINISTRATION IN PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

Ref First Army Q5043 of 4 Sep 45 :

1. Approval is given for the restoration of Civil Administration in the whole of PAPUA and also that portion of NEW GUINEA which is SOUTH OF THE MARKHAM RIVER, as from 30 Oct 45.
2. Procedure will follow recommendations given in "Report on Preliminary Arrangements for the Transfer of Control from the Military Authorities to the Provisional Administration of the Territory of Papua - New Guinea" dated 20 Aug 45. Implementation of the recommendations will commence forthwith.
3. Authority is delegated to First Army to approve local arrangements necessary for the transfer of administration.
4. Transfer of works, services, transport facilities, equipment, arms, ammunition etc., supplies and stores to the Provisional Administration if required by them and insofar as they are available from Army holdings will be effected as follows:
 - (i) Works, services, fittings, furniture, transport facilities, equipment, arms etc., part used, will be declared by G.O.C. First Army or G.O.C. ANGAU to the Commonwealth Disposals Commission's representative. After price has been agreed upon, the Sales Advice will be forwarded to HQ AMF for adjustment with the Department of External Territories.
 - (ii) New transport facilities, equipment, arms, stores and supplies will be issued under the normal procedure for issues on payment. Accounts, however, will be forwarded through Service channels to HQ AMF for insertion of prices and for rendition to the Department of External Territories.
5. Financial adjustments in respect of Native Labour, Royal Papuan Constabulary, Native Medical Orderlies, Native Village Constables and Native Trust Accounts will be effected locally with the representatives of the Provisional Administration.
6. First Army will, so far as Service requirements permit, make such temporary arrangements as are needed for the maintenance and movement of the Civil Administration until that Administration has established its own facilities in this regard.
7. Buildings and installations within the areas provisionally selected for Post War Army needs will not be disposed of pending firmer information on probable requirements. Similarly, requests by Civil Administration for stores, equipment and plant, which is considered might be necessary for the training and maintenance of those Post War forces, will be referred to HQ AMF for approval.

[Signature] Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff

CCG/EC

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SECRET

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
(Office of Co-ordination)

Memo No. 141632

Headquarters
Victoria Barracks
Melbourne. S.C.I.

30 Oct 45

H.Q. FIRST ARMY (5)

Copies to:- HQ AUCAU (6); Adv HQ AIF (4); Sec; BA; AG (4);
QMG (6); MGO (6); C.F.O. (2); DCAID (2); DSD(2);
DR & CA (2); C.D.C (2); SEAC Liaison Section HQ, AIF

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS STORES AND EQUIPMENT IN PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA AREAS

With the early restoration of Civil Administration in, and the return of civilians to, the above areas, it will be appreciated that the demand upon the Services for surplus stores, supplies and equipment will be great, and that every effort should be made to give effect to the early release of necessary items required by the civil population to rehabilitate themselves in the areas quoted, especially in view of the Minister's direction outlined in para 4 of CGS minute 94/1/1298 of 15 Aug 45 (copy attached).

2. Authority has already been granted and delegations given to local commanders in HQ AIF memo No 135675 of 15 Oct 45 to declare their surpluses of part used stores to CDC Regional Managers, for transfer to the Department of External Territories. This authority and delegation are now extended to cover all surplus stores, except that declarations of items of armament and other important technical equipment will not be made without approval of HQ AIF. Where requests are received for release of such excepted items, they will be treated as urgent and immediately referred for decision to HQ AIF. The authority and delegation will also be held to apply to stores for release to missions, other civilian organizations and civilians, through CDC channels.

3. The position in regard to the use and/or disposal of Army stores of all natures in the above quoted areas is to be governed by the following priorities :-

- (a) Use by FIRST ARMY as required. First Army will adjust inter area deficiencies and surpluses.
- (b) If surplus to FIRST ARMY requirements and wanted on mainland as directed from time to time by HQ AIF, then to be brought to mainland if shipping is available within the time the stores are needed. Surpluses in one area of First Army which are deficient elsewhere in First Army area will not be declared without reference to HQ AIF.
- (c) If surplus to FIRST ARMY requirements and NOT wanted on the mainland, then to be declared in HG, etc to CDC Regional Managers for transfer to Department of External Territories or sale to such other authorities (including SEAC) or persons as CDC may arrange. Declarations to CDC will be made by Service representatives. The responsibility for bringing any surplus stores so declared in HG and Papua to the mainland rests with the CDC.
- (d) After all action has been completed in accordance with paras 3(a), (b) and (c) and 4, any remaining declared items will, on the certificate of Regional Manager CDC, "To the effect that such items have no sales value in the area or are not worth the cost of freight to dispose

of elsewhere" be destroyed in accordance with approved Treasury instructions to be issued at an early date (Treasury Defence Division circular No 1 of 9 Jul 45 also refers).

4. At present, the Australian Army has no responsibility whatever for the passing of stores in HG or Papua to SEAC. Therefore, stores which are otherwise urgently required in the area should not be held for that purpose. However, CDC will arrange sales to SEAC in accordance with their requirements and normal sales procedure. Priorities vide para 3 above will apply in this regard, and stores required by SEAC will only be supplied to that organisation after local requirements have been met.

5. In view of the above, action is to be taken to implement and have issued the necessary instructions to enable this procedure to become immediately effective.


6. The basis on which surpluses will be declared is as under :-

(a) Where it is considered that stores, although surplus to local requirements up to 31 Dec 46, may be an interim or a post-war requirement, reference will be made to HQ AMF before disposal action is taken. Guiding principles will be included in instructions issued under para 5 above. Surplus stores, supplies and property will be declared to the local Regional Manager CDC on the appropriate Disposals form.

(b) Copies of declarations will be forwarded to local Finance Representatives, Head of Service and CFO at HQ AMF, concurrently with those to the Regional Manager CDC. In certain cases, extra copies may be required by the Head of Service, but these may be arranged through Service channels.

(c) It is the responsibility of CDC to fix prices of items declared for sale to civilians and other non-Governmental Departments, the procedure in regard to transfers to Department of External Territories being in accordance with para 4(i) and (ii) of D363 memo No 135675 of 15 Oct 45. Cost prices will be given by Service representatives where readily available.

7. Copies of any instructions issued in regard to the above are to be forwarded to DGAD for the information of the Minister.


Major-General
Deputy Chief of the General Staff.

Department of the ArmyMinute Paper

Subject : DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS STORES, PARTICULARLY THOSE OBSOLETE
AND UNSERVICEABLE

AG
QMG
MGO
CFO

For info : DCGS; BA; BBA; CIA

The following memorandum has been received from the Minister.
PSOs will give wide publicity to this direction and ensure it is
made effective as quickly as possible.

"SECRETARY

1. My attention has been drawn to para.6 of the report of March, 1944, of the Truman Committee which reads :-

"There is a very natural hesitancy on the part of procurement officers to declare any articles to be surplus. They fear that if the changing course of combat operations should develop a need for the articles, they would be criticised by their superiors for having declared them to be surplus. They know that there is very little possibility of their being criticised for having ordered too much. They also realise that by declaring an article to be surplus they will be open to the charge, sometimes with foundation, that their purchases were unnecessarily too large and resulted in an increase in the cost of the war and the diversion of materials and manpower from other important uses."

2. I am also aware that the line between obsolescent and obsolete stores is difficult to draw, and that there may be a tendency to hold on to obsolescent stores in case they may be wanted some day.

3. Post mortems or recriminations cannot in any way contribute towards solving the problem of disposals. The economy of the country is such that the paramount problem today is disposal with the utmost urgency so that the Government's surplus stocks can be released at a time when the market is bare and there is a public demand for the commodities.

4. In order to encourage officers fearlessly to declare stores obsolete and/or surplus as is necessary, I wish to make it clear that it is not the policy of the Government to conduct post mortems into the reasons why there was ordered or is on hand a quantity of goods which has, in fact, not been used in whole or in part, even though the procurement of such goods may have caused an unnecessary increase in the cost of the conduct of the war and the diversion of materials and manpower from other important uses.

5. In accordance with such Government policy I direct that officers be informed that they are to fearlessly and freely declare for disposal such goods and properties as may be obsolete or in excess of requirements during the war, even though subsequently an unexpected change in the course of operations may call for the reintroduction of such goods to meet Army needs.

(Sgd.) F.M. FORDE,
Minister
9/8/1945"

(Sgd.) John A. Chapman, Major-General,
for Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

15 Aug 45.