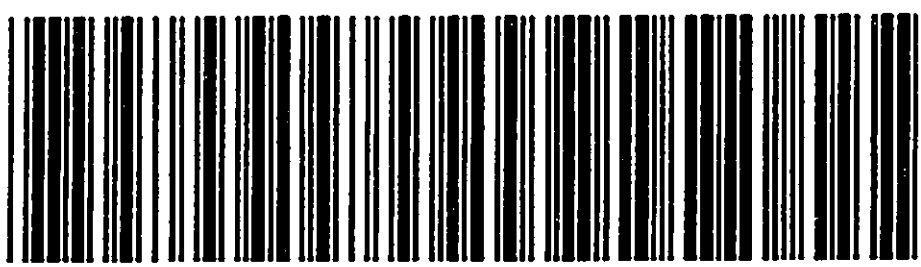
AWM52
Australian Military Forces, Army headquarters, formation and unit diaries, 1939-1945

# 1/12/19
# EAST & MIDDLE EAST UNITS

## AIF Headquarters Ceylon General Branch

April 1942, part 2, appendices



1/12/19-0034

VISIT TO COMMAND HQ BY LO - 2 APR 42

| Question | By Whom | Answer | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| This is a copy of a message taken over thw phone about extra troops (Security laxity) | LO | GIII (I) We have to take a certain amount of risk as communications are not good. I will trace the offender. | This was NOT justified - a flagrant breach of security instructions! |
| What camouflage materials are available? | LO | GIII (Cam) There is a small quantity of paint, also scrim nets. We have ordered large quantities of nets 30 x 30 of a local pattern (produces one). A 1½" mesh garnished with fibre. Looks excellent. | When & what will be available to us? |
| Is the GOC-in-C going to visit our area on Saturday? | LO | ADC (FOX) Yes. He will leave here at 0830 hrs. Get PEPPER to ring me. | ✓ |
| Are there any instructions for the operation of vehicles? | LO | G Nothing is laid<br>A No speeds has been issued by us. | |
| Will it be necessary for Aust troops to attend A/Tk school? | LO | GI Special report appended. ✓ | |
| We wrote on 31 Mar asking for 380 bicycles Does this letter satisfy yoyr requirements and how many can we anticipate? | LO | G2 There are about 580 cycles altogether. You can anticipate 200 to 250. Your letter is quite alright. | When do we get them. 200 to be issued [illegible] following up authority [illegible] 7/4. |
| Have you got a list of code names? | LO | GII No. We are going to use letters in groups of threes (like XYZ). These can be changed more readily. | ✓ |

R. T. COCHRANE.

Major

SUBJECT: VISIT BY L.O. to COMD. H.Q., A.T. SCHOOL, RICHMOND CASTLE.

The G1, in reply to my question as to whether men from Aust. units have to attend the A.T. School at Richmond Castle, and in view of an alternative suggestion said:

"I have not heard anything further about the matter since it was discussed by your A.Q.
"The General still wants the guns manned in the way previously arranged, so that you will have to send the men to attend the School unless the Brigadier R.A. knows something further."

S.C.R.A.,

who looks up the file, Says the Brigadier R.A. is away at present, but he knows nothing further about the matter."

O 47282. Wt. 31585/1342. 96,500 Lifts. 12/39. S.S. Ltd. 51-5336. Forms C348/1 Army Form C348
(Lifts of 100 in duplicate)

# MEMORANDUM.

From G11

To G1

Date ..... 19

Follow-up

File 7/4

Q. 6. – NOT finalised by Comd HQ ~~and~~ They are going to adopt similar procedure to that in M.E. G111(1)2 to follow up.

Follow up & report when complete 7/4

Q 4 – NO – COCHRANE was on this & did not finalise LOVELL is taking up today.

Q 6 – CRE informed

Q 7 – ADOS will be informed

7/4

O 47282. W.L. 31585/1342. 90,500 Lifts. 12/39. S.S. Ltd. 81-3336. Forms C348/77. **Army Form C 348**
(Lifts of 100 in duplicate)

# MEMORANDUM.

From..... G II .....

To..... G I .....

Date.....19

FOLLOW UP - CIPHERS.

I Within A.I.F

(a) Div to Bdes - cisquare

(b) Bde to Bns. syllabic

II Comd A.I.F.

At present none - DR is used.

(a) Cipher Course finishes Wednesday - Command have asked that student remain at Command HQ for six to have experience I agreed to this on condition we could have them if urgently required

Army Form C348
[Lists of 100 in duplicate]

# MEMORANDUM.

| From | To |
|---|---|
| | |

Date.....19

Sheet 2

(b) Comm will be by High Grade.

(c) Arrangements are in hand to get additional men trained.

(iii) AIF to AHQ (Melb) & AIF (ME) through Command Cipher office.
Messages typed here and then passed by Sigs to Command. All such messages are passed by land to Sig master (AIF) direct.

7/4

REPORT OF VISIT BY LO TO 16 & 17 AUST INF BDES - TUE 31 MAR 42

GS / Secretariat 6/4

16 AUST INF BDE

| Subject | Remarks |
|---|---|
| 1. Nominations requested for GIII (I) Cipher Officer, LO (capt), GII (L) GIII (L), 3 draughtsmen, 1 shorthand writer, 2 sgt clerks | To be advised by phone 1 Apr 42 Nominated 1 Apr to BM |
| 2. Cipher: Cisquare and syllabic held, no key word. See separate report. | |
| 3. BM required to know | Answers given verbally. 1 Apr 42 |
| (a) When Coy sigs would be moving from their area | |
| (b) When bty A/Tk Regt expected to arrive | |

17 AUST INF BDE

Reported to BM as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Clearing of areas<br>This HQ required particulars of definite areas to be cleared and of nature of clearing to be done. | This inf will be fwded. |
| 2. I Summaries will be issued as soon as available. | Inf in earlier summaries to be collated and fwded to Bdes. |
| 3. Road maps being prepared now. | |
| 4. Wire<br>30 tons of wiring stores authorised for immediate issue. | Bde requested stores to be consigned to GALLE sta. (CRE advised.) |
| 5. Motor Boat<br>Bde requested to furnish particulars as to type required and purpose. | Bde will fwd by letter. |
| 6. Developing of films<br>Arrangements not yet finalised | Is this finalized yet? If not take action - GIII(1)(a) |
| 7. Grenades etc<br>450 hand grenades (type unknown) and 275 Molotov cocktails authorised for issue to Bdes. | |
| 8. Demolitions<br>CRE responsible for all demolitions by own engs in AIF area | Bde will discuss with Eng. (CRE advised.) |
| 9. HQ Staff<br>Nominations requested for 7 vacancies similar to those required from 16 Bde | Complete nominations will be tabled to GI as soon as received. |

10. Cipher

Copies of cisquare and syllabic cipher sheets obtained and handed to cipher clerk this HQ (See separate report)

Queries by Bde: (replies given by phone 1 Apr 42)

1. What is the position re taking over land for camps and defended positions.

   A (by GI): Full details of owners of land etc, and dimensions to be fwded to this HQ who will arrange. Govt agent will assist in supplying details.

   Thro' Div HQ - full particulars to be fwded.

2. Procedure re evacuation of natives from defended areas

   A (by GI): Particulars re personnel and area to be evacuated to be fwded this HQ. When area proclaimed natives will be evacuated by police.

3. Policy re billetting of tps in lieu of hutting for stage 2.

   A (by GI): Where suitable, standing buildings to be used in preference to building of new huts. Particulars of any buildings so used required by this HQ.

4. Could MT ships be moved to GALLE harbour and MT unloaded by MLC.

   A (By GI): Under consideration. Infn to be obtained by LO re possibility of shipping in GALLE harbour.

   Has this been done?

5. Whether GOC will be visiting Bde this week. If not Bde Comd will come to COLOMBO after lunch Thursday.

   A (by GI): Will refer to GOC.

6. May approval be given for use of electric light where existing in buildings being used?

   (A (by CRE): Refer to local DCRE representative for approval.

   CRE/ Policy must be laid down by Comd & instructions issued

7. What accommodation stores available prior to delivery of MT

   A (by ADOS): No specific infn available but every effort being made to fulfil indents.

   ADOS/ "Generalities" are useless. Exact posn must be stated.

[illegible signature]

[illegible signature]

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

1 Apr 42

Memo G.1

(a) Communications to Bdes.

Sigs have advised that we are now in W/T comn with 16 Aust Inf Bde and 17 Aust Inf Bde.

(b) Ciphers

Key words have been prepared and issued to Bdes so that signals may now be sent in cisquare cipher between HQ AIF and Bdes.
Keywords for use with syllabic cipher between Bdes and Inf Bns and Fd Regts have been prepared and will be issued tomorrow.

(c) Cipher Clerks

Only one from 16 Aust Inf Bde on duty at this HQ. 17 Bde being asked to supply one clerk too, until school completed.

G II

What ciphers are available for use w/in
i. AIF
ii Comd & AIF
iii AIF & AHQ Melb & AIF (ME).
Have we sufficient copies

[signature]
Major.

[signature] 6/4

| | Initials | Date |
|---|---|---|
| G.O.C. | | |
| G. I | | 6/4 |
| G. II | | 3/4 |
| G. III (O) | | |
| G. III (I) | | |
| I. O | | |
| | | |

File

## VISIT TO COMMAND HQ BY LO - 2 APR 42

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| Are there any instructions for the operation of vehicles? | LO | G Nothing is laid<br>A No speeds has been issued by us. | |
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S.C.R.A.,

who looks up the file, Says the Brigadier R.A. is away at present, but he knows nothing further about the matter."

15

SECRET

Subject: COMDS & STAFF APPOINTMENTS - AIF (CEYLON)

HQ AIF (CEYLON)
Tel: COLOMBO 9583
6 Apr 42
File No: S/G/232

Herewith list of comd and staff appointments of AIF units stationed in CEYLON.

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Major General | A.J. BOASE |
| GSOI | Lt.Col | R.G. POLLARD |
| GSOII | Major | J.G.S. MOFFATT |
| GSOIII(O) | Capt | A.J.S. COTTER |
| GSOIII(I) | Lieut | T. COLQUHOUN |
| GSOIII(I) | Lieut | H.W. THOMAS |
| AA & QMG | Lt.Col | C. BOWSER |
| DAAG | Capt | W.N. LEES |
| DAQMG | Major | I.S. McKENZIE |
| ADOS | Lt.Col | B. WALTER |
| DADMS | Major | C.H. SELBY |
| DAPM | Capt | T.C. CUNNINGHAM |

RAE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| CRE 6 Aust Div | Lt.Col | L.C. LUCAS |
| Adjt RAE | Capt | W.S. CANTELO |

22 AUST FD PK COY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| OC | Major | W.E. WESTLUND |
| 2 i/c | Capt | R.K.J. NOLAN |

SIGS 6 AUST DIV

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| OC | Lt.Col | L.J. BRUTON |
| 2 i/c | Major | E.H. EVANS |
| Adjt | Capt | D.G. FISHER |

16 AUST INF BDE GP

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Brig | J.E. LLOYD |
| BM | Major | L.E. DAWSON |
| SC | Capt | W.L. DARCEY |

2/1 AUST FD REGT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | K.E. O'CONNEL |
| 2 i/c | Major | F. RICHARDSON |

2/1 AUST FD COY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| OC | Major | W.D. McDONALD |
| 2 i/c | Capt | C.E. BAIRD |

2/2 AUST INF BN

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | T.W. WHITE |
| 2 i/c | Major | J. MILLER |

2/2 AUST INF BN

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | C.R.V. EDGAR |
| 2 i/c | Major | P.A. CULLEN |

2/3 AUST INF BN

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | J.R. STEVENSON |
| 2 i/c | Major | J.N. ABBOTT |

No 1 COY AASC

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| OC | Capt | R.H. COGSWELL |
| 2 i/c | Capt | P.H. FERRIS |

2/1 AUST FD AMB

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | H.M. FISHER |
| 2 i/c | Major | D.A. CAMERON |

17 AUST INF BDE GP

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Brig | M.J. MOTEN |
| BM | Major | R.A.C. MUIR |
| SC | Capt | A.P. CHAPMAN |

2/2 AUST FD REGT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | W.E. CREMOR |
| 2 i/c | Major | R.F. JABOOR |

2/8 AUST FD COY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| OC | Major | W. BRIGGS |
| 2 i/c | Capt | J.C. HAY |

2/5 AUST INF BN

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | P.D. STARR |
| 2 i/c | Major | E.L. GOBLE |

2/6 AUST INF BN

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | F.G. WOOD |
| 2 i/c | Major | G.M. NORRIS |

2/7 AUST INF BN

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | H.G. GUINN |
| 2 i/c | Major | G.H. BROCK |

No 2 COY AASC

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| OC | Capt | C.E. JONES |
| 2 i/c | Lieut | D.S. ESPLIN |

2/2 AUST FD AMB

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | D.M. SALTER |
| 2 i/c | Major | R. SMIBERT |

2/2 AUST A FD WKSHOPS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Lt.Col | G.G. HAYMAN |
| 2 i/c | Major | L. JAMES |

4 AGH

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Col | E.L. SPIERS |
| 2 i/c | Lt.Col | C.W.B. LITTLEJOHN |

12 AGH

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Comd | Col | G.W. McCARTNEY |
| 2 i/c | Major | D.de la F.HENRY |

Note: Bdes may make extracts for issue down to units under comd.

[signature] Lt.Col
General Staff

| Distribution | Copy No |
|---|---|
| 16 Aust Inf Bde | 1 |
| 17 Aust Inf Bde | 2 |
| CRE | 3 |
| Sigs 6 Aust Div | 4 |
| GOC | 5 |
| G | 6 - 8 |
| AQ | 9 -11 |
| ADMS | 12 |
| ADOS | 13 |
| DAPM | 14 |
| LOs | 15-19 |
| File | 20 |
| War Diary | 21-22 |

Interview with G II (S): & G III (S)

Air Photographs of the island are to be taken of certain areas & will be made available to HQ. A.S.T. (CEYLON).

G II (S) stated that Comds & staff would have opportunities of flights for recce purposes.

In future sufficient copies of Intelligence Summaries would be made available for issue to units.

G III (S) Requested that every change of location be made known to HQ Ceylon Comd.

[illegible] 2/4

War Diary

War Diary:

Staff Appointments

The undernamed officers reported to H.Q. today to take up the staff appointments on "G" Branch:

Lieut T. Colquhoun 2/2 Aust Inf Bn as G III (S)

Lieut H.W. Thomas. 2/7 Aust Inf Bn as G III (S)

Lieut J.M. Macrae 2/6 Aust Inf Bn as Cipher Office.

Capt G.N. Godbold - 2/2 Aust Inf Bn as L.O. II.

(c 1a)

(a) Casualties : Naval, R.A.F. Military

No figures available.

Civil 32 killed.

2. Raiders were leased on a naval force reported at 0700 hrs 5 Apr 42, 110 miles South of DONDRA HEAD, consisting of :-

1 Battleship
2 Cruisers
4 other ships

(Comment: Possibly 2 aircraft carriers included, in view of number of H.A. involved in the attack ⊙)

30 March 42

A T School Instructor

LO The two NCO require to be bright lads who could act as Instructors

The 23 men are to man 6 Pdr A T guns & are to form part of a battery or regt.

Accomodation will be at Richmond Castle Kalutara

To which they will move 4 or 6 [illegible]

Can you give me any further information with regards to A T School

[illegible] Cochrane

MOST SECRET

REPORT ON VISIT OF B.G.S. CEYLON COMD.

TO G.I., H.Q. A.I.F. (CEYLON).

At 1530 hrs. on 28 Mar.42, B.G.S. called in connection with lack of receipt of copies of cables forwarded and received in connection with a request for M.G. Bn, H.Q. R.A.A., 6 Div.Cav. Regt. and A.Tk. Regt. together with respective Sig.Secs. and L.A.Ds. being diverted to CEYLON. Copies were brought by B.G.S. although he stated that copies had previously been sent, and showed a signature acknowledging receipt. On examination the receipt was from the D.R. Command H.Q. The matter was satisfactorily concluded. Explanation of the absence of the Duty Officer at Comd. H.Q. was made and full details regarding times at which this H.Q. endeavoured to communicate with him were given to the B.G.S. by D.A.Q.M.G. H.Q. A.I.F. It was admitted that owing to a mistake at the part of the Duty Officer there no officer on duty at Comd.H.Q. for twenty minutes, viz. 2010 to 2030 hrs. on 27 Mar.42.

1. Armoured Train: The following points were discussed with the B.G.S. with results shown:-

| | |
|---|---|
| (a) May two additional Brens or M.M.Gs. be supplied for use on the Armoured Train ~~for use~~ on land side ~~of armoured train~~ in order to provide all-round defence? | Action will be taken immediately to obtain weapons for this purpose although it may be some time before the necessary weapons can be supplied. |
| (b) May additional ammunition be supplied for M.Gs. and A.A.guns on the train? | The requirements for the train would be so small in relation to the total quantity available in the Island that the B.G.S. will issue instructions forthwith that whatever ammunition is asked for is to be supplied. |
| (c) May night firing be carried out during an exercise for the armoured train to be run between the 11th and 15th April? | Machine guns may fire but it would be advisable for the naval gun to be fired. Of course, care will have to be taken to ensure that fisherman are not injured in the practice. |
| (d) If a letter is sent in to Comd.H.Q. will action be taken by you to ensure that all concerned are warned? | If only M.Gs. are fired it is hardly necessary to take any such action but in any case send in a letter and appropriate action will be taken. |
| (e) Could a target be anchored offshore overnight so that the naval gun could engage it in the early hours of the morning? | Let us know what you want and we will see what can be done. |

R.G. Pollard ...Lt.-Col.
(R.G. POLLARD)

COLOMBO
29 Mar.42.

GII For chits re marked parts
SP
30/3.

COPY

SECRET

To :- ARMINDIA.

From:- GENCOM COLOMBO. 14092/18.

General Boase Comd 6 (6) Aust Div arrived. He is very anxious that following NOT now detailed to disembark here should however do so. H.Q.R.A.A. Div Div CAV Regt with Signal Sec and L A D Det Coy 6 (6) Aust Div Sigs M.G. Bn A.T. Regt with Sig Sec and L A D. These were not detailed to disembark because not asked for and he believes if representations made to Australia that permission would be given to unload here. Strongly support his view and request representations be made. All personnel above units except anti tank are in West Point. West Point not now coming. Correction after L A D Detachment read Coy.

(2)

To :- Gencom Colombo. rptd Troopers.

From:- Armindia.

X21.

Most Immediate.
Your 14092/18 dated 18/3.

Approval has been obtained for retention of troops in Ceylon as recommended by General Bosse Authority Army Melbourne 5829 (5529)? of 21/3.

Necessary action should now be taken by you.
T.O.O. 1401/21.

(3)

C.R.C.A.C. G/1.

H.Q. A.I.F. Ceylon.

Forwarded for information.

Ceylon Command.
28 Mar 42.

sd[redacted] Lieut-General,
G.O.C. Ceylon Command.

Note for War Diary

G1.

A 2K Dets.

In view of possible eventualities do you consider we should still provide the 2 NCOs and 23 ORs for the command A 2K corps?

[signature] 29/3

G II

BGS today offered a bty 1 Aust A Th Regt to perform duties for Command in lieu of above personnel.

This would enable Command to train additional Br & Indian personnel whilst duty being carried out by AIF.

BGS will inform GOC in C & notify this HQ of decision [signature] 30/3

HQ AIF (CEYLON)
27 Mar 42.

REPORT ON VISIT OF CRE TO CE CEYLON COMMAND 1500 HRS 26 MAR 42

Ref Map: Motor Map of CEYLON (6 miles to 1 in)

Present: CE, DCE and CRE 6 Aust Div.

CE outlined sapper problems, treating the operational roles first and giving priority to:

1. BRIDGING AND FERRYING

Selected sites were at ANGURUWATOTA and UDUGAMA with alternative site PITIGALA. The CE was concerned at the lack of bridging stores in the island and was relieved to know that 22 Fd Park were landing and had the Div brid ging equipment. CRE pointed out that this was sufficient only for 168' in bridge but would be very useful for ferrying.

CE stated that he was negotiating for native river craft and had prepared plans for pontoon bridges of these. Other bridging equipment and boats had been demanded from INDIA.

CE asked that CRE have recce made and selected sites and technical reports submitted to him.

2. NEW ROAD CONNECTIONS AND IMPROVEMENT

CRE has matter in hand. RP 1/4.

CE stated that a connecting rd between BADURALIA and KALAWANA was desired by Command and a further connection between NEBODA and the coast rd should be considered.

An endeavour was being made to have the PWD p ut through the KALAWANA rd but t hat body were not keen owing to the difficult country.

CE requested CRE to have recces made for both projects and reports submitted.

3. AERODROME DEFENCE

CE suggested t hat the Eng works required would depend on the policy of the GOC concerned.

If concrete favoured cement and reinforcing steel were available in sufficient quantities.

4. PREPARATION OF DEMOLITIONS

CE stated that Command had issued in Op Inst No 4 of 19 Mar an order of priority for and preparation of bridge demolitions and allotted responsibility for these.

CE wished 6 Aust Div to assume responsibility for the area covering BENTOTA and would communicate details later.

CRE 6 Aust Div would prefer to take over responsibility for all demolitions in 6 Aust Div Area.

CE has agreed to CRE being responsible for all demolitions in this area RP 1/4

5. ACCOMMODATION

This was in the hands of CRE Works South and CRE 6 Aust Div was to contact him on 27 Mar 42.

CRE 6 Aust Div asked for information concerning Eng stores as under:

| Question | By Whom | Answer |
|---|---|---|
| What is the Eng stores position in the island? | CRE 6 Aust Div | Not good but demands had been made on INDIA. |
| What wire is available? | CRE | 100 tons immediately available for 6 Aust Div. 250 tons island reserve. 2000 tons on demand from INDIA. |
| CRE instructed to take up question of res. Considered absurd until stocks sufficient | | |
| What tools are available? | CRE | Approx 2000 only picks and shovels; all out on issue. Also demanded from INDIA. |
| What local tools available in lieu of picks and shovels? | CRE | Quantity unknown but tool similar to Palestinian shovel-hoe probably available in large quantities. |
| What explosives are available? | CRE | 50 tons only in Army stock. approx 90 tons civilian sources. |
| Any A/Tk mines available? | CRE | None. Have been demanded and a bakelite firing device for use with G/C or gelignite being produced locally. |
| What timber is available? | CRE | Limited stock and all local cut controlled and reserved for ME. Fair stocks in bazar but controlled. CE asking for removal of ME control. |
| What is the position re other building materials? | CRE | Gal con iron stocks small. Ample stocks cement and reinforcement structural steel strictly controlled. Nails, bolts, ample stocks held. |
| What organisation exists or is proposed for obtaining Eng stores? | CRE | Two Corps dumps will be established in present 6 Div area - one just S of COLOMBO one in vicinity of AMBALANGODA. Two dumps in view of possible future 2 Div area. Suggest indents for Eng stores to be held by 22 Fd Park be 14 days requirements. |

Lt.Col
CRE HQ AIF (CEYLON)

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

(A) CEYLON Series 4 miles to 1"

REF MAPS: (B) " " 1 " to 1"

SHEET No.

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 4 Apr 42

| Serial No | Sender's No | Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | G/3/1 | 1721 | | Comd | 1655 | R.A.F. report enemy force approaching CEYLON and that air force standing by | L.O. sent to Comd for particulars |
| 2. | W 117 | 1736 | 16 Bde 17 Bde C.A.E. | | | Message from Comd reported. | |
| 3. | [illegible] (L.O.1) | [illegible] | | Comd | [illegible] | Enemy force reported 260 miles from DONDRA HEAD bearing 115° | |
| 4. | G3/2. | 1815 | | Comd | 1717 | Confirming message Serial 3. | |
| 5. | [illegible] | [illegible] | | Comd | — | L.O. reported to COMD and then [illegible] on order from B.G.S. Reported that [illegible] gone off duty at Comd and that [illegible] it was only [illegible] and [illegible] | |

ARMY FORM 2128 (Pads of 100)

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 5

| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS | IN (1) | No. of Groups. GR. | OFFICE DATE STAMP |
|---|---|---|---|
| | OUT | | |

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 3rd Ind Div 6 Aust Div Comdt Colombo Base Area

| FROM | Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| GENCOM | G3/1 | 4 | |

RAF report enemy force approaching CEYLON
O all aircraft warned to stand
by O further information will follow

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR BALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TELEPRINTER IMPORTANT

TIME OF ORIGIN 1855

SIGNED

BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

T.H.I.

T.O.R. 1921

Army Form C.2123.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS — IN (2)

OUT

No. of Groups. GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO [illegible]

FROM [illegible]

| Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number |
|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | 4 | |

[illegible]

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: IMMEDIATE

TIME OF ORIGIN: 1730

Signed [illegible]

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | L J [illegible] | | | | 1730 |

T.O.R.

Forms C2125/13. Wt. 36169/1739. 1,000M. pads. 12/39. R.&S. Ltd. 51-5537.

---

ARMY FORM C2123. (Pads of 100.) (1)

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS — IN

OUT

No. of Groups. GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 34 Ld Div. 6 Cav Bde Comdt Columbia Base Area

FROM GENCOM

| Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number |
|---|---|---|
| G3/2 | K | |

12/3/47 — Further to my DONDRA — G3/1 HEAD — position Rewing — 360 — 115 — duly.

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: [illegible]

TIME OF ORIGIN

Signed [illegible]

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.) M Dolan Lt

T.H.I. 1717

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R. 1825

Forms C2125/13. Wt. 11934/39. 250M. pads. 7/40. R.&S. Ltd. 51-7536.

Army Form C.2128.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS: IN / OUT

No. of Groups: GR.

Office Date Stamp

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM: 16 aust inf bde 17 aust inf bde rpt GRE sigs AQ

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

Originator's Number: S/G/180

Date: 4

In Reply to Number: 8

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ~~ref~~ amend | CEYLON | comd | op | instn | ~~no~~ |
| ~~8~~ | para | 5 as follows | (.) | tps | mentioned |
| paras | 1(c) | 3 | and | 4 | will |
| stand | to | from | 0400 | to | 0630 |
| hrs | tps | mentioned | paras | 1(a) | 1(b) |
| and | 2 | will | stand | to | from |
| 0630 | to | 0630 | hrs | (.) for infm | practice |

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER.

Originator's instructions Degree of priority

Time of origin

Signed

Signed

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

| System In | Time In | Reader | Sender | System Out | Time Out | Reader | Sender | System Out | Time Out | Reader | Sender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R.

Forms C2128/13. Wt. 36169/1798. 1,000M. pads. 12/39. B.& S. Ltd. 51-5537.

Army Form C.2128.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS: IN / OUT

No. of Groups: GR.

Office Date Stamp

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| of | japanese | to | anchor | transports | off |
| point | of | attack | at | about | 0200 |
| hrs | to | land | first | flight | about |
| 0430 | hrs | | | | |

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER.

Originator's instructions Degree of priority

Time of origin

Signed

Signed

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

| System In | Time In | Reader | Sender | System Out | Time Out | Reader | Sender | System Out | Time Out | Reader | Sender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R.

Forms C2128/13. Wt. 36169/1798. 1,000M. pads. 12/39. B.& S. Ltd. 51-5537.

Army Form C.2130. (Pads of 100.)

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

IN MESSAGE

No. of Groups GR.

Office Date Stamp

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO G.O.6 HORANA - RATNAPURA

FROM Brig LLOYD

Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| states | he | has | been | over | that |
| rd | which | he | discussed | with | you ⊙ |
| the | road | is | narrow | but | winding |
| ⊙ | Rd | does | connect | and | at |
| present | season | is | through | rd | ⊙ |
| PWD | are | working | on | it | |

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER.

Signed

Originator's instructions Degree of priority

Time of origin. 2232

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

| System in | Time in | Reader | Sender | System out | Time out | Reader | Sender | System out | Time out | Reader | Sender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

235031T. Wt. 30318'919. 450M pads. 10/40. W. & S. LTD 81-8011.

Army Form C.2130. (Pads of 100.)

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

[illegible] stalk

No. of Groups GR.

Office Date Stamp

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO G.O.6

FROM Brig LLOYD

Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| states | he | has | been | over | that |
| rd | which | he | discussed | with | you ⊙ |
| the | road | is | narrow | but | winding |
| ⊙ | Rd | does | connect | and | at |
| present | season | is | through | rd | ⊙ |
| PWD | are | working | on | it | |

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER.

Signed

Originator's instructions Degree of priority

Time of origin.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 2232

T.O.R.

| System in | Time in | Reader | Sender | System out | Time out | Reader | Sender | System out | Time out | Reader | Sender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

235031T. Wt. 30318'919. 450M pads. 10/40. W. & S. LTD 81-8011.

Army Form C.2126

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS | IN | No. of Groups. GR. | OFFICE DATE STAMP |
|---|---|---|---|
| | OUT | | |

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 16 Aust Inf Bde – 17 Aust Inf Bde

| FROM | A.I.F. CEYLON | Originator's Number X 1 | Date 1 | In Reply to Number |
|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| following | message | from | bde | TRINCO | times |
| 1826 | hrs | repeated | Q | KANDE | reports |
| parachute | landed | at | DAMBULLA | 60 | mls |
| down | COLOMBO | rd | from | TRINCO | Q |
| units | keep | watch | [illegible] | report | |

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 2051

SIGNED

SIGNED [signature] 1/12/39

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 2052

| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R.

Forms C2126/12. Wt. 36189/1798. 1,000M. pads. 12/39. B.& S. Ltd. 51-4437.

# DUTY OFFICER'S DIARY

| Date: | Time: | Messages: | Action Taken: | Remarks: | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1942<br>30 Mar<br>31 "<br>31 Mar<br>1 Apr | 0800 to<br>0800.<br>0800<br>0800 | Message (per telephone) from H.Q. Ceylon Comd. | Handed to GI 31 Mar | Duties handed over to Major MOFFATT<br>Major MOFFATT assumed duties<br>Duties handed over to Capt. SOLOMON | [illegible] 0800 31/3 |
| 1 Apr | 2027 | Gii Comd H.Q.<br>"Following message been received from Bde HQ. TRINCO begins –<br>KANDE reports parachute landed at DAMBULLA 60 mls down COLOMBO rd from TRINCO ⊙ all units will keep watch and report. | Message rptd to 16 + 17 Aust Inf Bdes | | [illegible] 2051 |
| 2 April | 0758 | Duty Officer. Comd. H.Q. Phone. Kandi police and patrols. 16 Bde have submitted negative reports re parachutists | Recorded. | | [illegible] 0800 2/4 |

P.A.

All communications both in and out Telephone and conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

(A) CEYLON Series 4 miles to 1"

REF MAPS: (B) " " 1 " " 1"

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 5 Apr 1942

| Serial No. | Sender's No. | Time | Originator To | Inquiries From | Inquiries T.O.C. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | | 0740 | | | | Air Raid commenced. | |
| 2. | Phone | 0832 | | 16 Bde | 0832 | One unidentified plane shot down in air combat. Location reported as 5 miles from 9010 4230 (Map A) on bearing 250° - time approx 0745 hrs | |
| 3. | verbal | 0834 | | Sigs | | Report unable to contact Bdes by phone (civil) | |
| 4. | Phone | 0835 | | Comd | 0835 | One enemy battleship & two cruisers 110 miles South of DONDRA HEAD at 0045 G.M.T. Total strength not seen but at least 4 other ships. | |
| 5 | M1 | 0847 | 16 Bde 17 " C.R.E | | | Serial No 4 repeated | |
| 6. | verbal | 0850 | | Sigs | | Report telephone lines in order again | |
| 7 | M2 | 0857 | COMD | | | Serial No 2 repeated | |
| 8. | | 0925 | | | | All clear sounded | |
| 9. | Phone | 0950 | | Comd | 0950 | Sighted over DONDRA HEAD 50 planes westerly going fast 0935 hrs | |
| 10. | Phone | 1008 | | Sgt [illegible] 2/2 Bn | 1008 | Nose of Jap plane found several miles out of town by natives and brought to Fort Rly Stn. Nose appears to be constructed of bamboo and fibre | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

(A) CEYLON Series 4 miles to 1"
REF MAPS: (B) " " 1 - - 1"

SHEET No.
HQ AIR (SECTION)
(Place) COLOMBO
(Date) 5 Apr 1942

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11. | - | 1325 | | HQ 16 Bde | 1130 | Enemy plane shot down located ATULUGAMA in paddy field 320395 (Map A) ⊙ Pilot descended in parachute and escaped thought to be wounded ⊙ Patrol searching | |
| 12 | M4 | 1403 | COMD. R.A.F | | | Serial No 11 repeated | |
| 13. | Phone | 1655 | | COMD | 1655 | For infm only ⊙ message received by 34 Ind Div begins one ship one funnel course East seen 1405 hrs six ships each one mast one funnel seen 1435 hrs course East ⊙ message received by 34 Ind Div from KANRESTURIA | |
| 14. | Phone | 1535 | | HQ 16 Bde | 1535 | Parachute ~~being~~ located and being sent in but so far not able to capture pilot ⊙ Piece of plane sent in this morning was located at spot where plane crashed. | |
| 15. | verbal L.C (May Lovell) | 1500 | | | | See App "A" attached | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc. conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

(A) CEYLON series 4 miles to 1"
PER MAPS: (B) " " 1 " - 1"

Sheet No.
HQ AIR (Station)
(Place) COLOMBO
(Date) 5 Apr 42

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outgoing TIME | Outgoing To | Incoming From | Incoming T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16. | Phone | 2040 | | Comd | 2040 | R.A.F. report from Inspector of Police CHILAN @ 964/353 @ Plane came in from sea at 1800 hrs 2 planes 1½ miles up DEDURU OYA river 2½ miles from CHILAN south of PUTTALAM @ confirmed by asst. supt. police CHILAN. | |
| 17. | Verbal L.O. (Maj Jovell) | 2045 | - | Comd | | See App. "A" | |
| 18. | G133 | 2057 | 16 Bde 17 " | | | Serial 16 repeated | |
| 19. | Phone | 2305 | | Combined Ops Room | 2305 | R.A.F. Coast Patrol report three unidentified ships SOUTH & WEST of RUSSA @ unable to send direction travelling owing to darkness @ T.O.O. 1950 hrs | |
| 20. | Verbal I.O. 17 Bde | 2345 | | I.O. 17 Bde | 2345 | Reported just returned from R.A.F. sta KOGGALA and nothing to add to Serial 19. Pilot was being questioned when he left. | |
| 21. | - | 2350 | 16 Bde | | | Serial 19 repeated | |
| 22 | Phone | 2355 | Combined Ops Room | | | Serial 20 repeated | |

App. "A"

## REPORT OF VISITS BY LO TO COMMAND HQ - 5 APR 42

| Question | Referred to | Originated by | Answer |
|---|---|---|---|
| **VISIT AT 1800 HRS:** | | | |
| A/ 1. What is channel of comn between this HQ and RAF e.g. in case of AIF tps locating crashed plane? | GII(I) | GIII (O) | If RAF detachment local notify them rptg infm to Comd HQ through HQ AIF. Otherwise direct to HQ AIF who will advise Comd HQ. |
| 2. What form is to be used for identification passes? | GII(I) | GIII (I) | There are several under discussion and decision not yet available. |
| 3. When will police guard on Jap plane which crashed at map ref ALUTGAMA (4 miles to inch) 820395 be relieved by RAF? | GII (I) | GII | Am referring to RAF. Will advise later. |
| 4. Is there any infm available re today's raid? | GII (I) | LO | Yes. Intelligence report 5 Apr 42 ~~herewith~~. |
| 5. Are there any other sources available to me for infm for use of Comd e.g. Combined Ops Room? | GII (I) | LO | Yes. I will arrange for you to be permitted to report to Military LO at Combined Ops Room. |

B. Handed copy of silhouettes of naval vessels and form with Japanese printing (both found by natives and handed to HQ 16 Bde thro' local police) and also part of wrecked plane to GII (I).
He expressed his appreciation of the articles and of the speed with which they had been fwded.
In interview with GI he requested that our tps be advised of necessity of capturing Japanese airmen alive so that they may be interrogated. I assured him this would be done. (Para to this effect in HQ AIF Intelligence Report dated 5 Apr.)

**VISIT AT 2045 HRS**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Have you any later advice re relief of guards over crashed plane? (ref interview at 1800 hrs) | Duty Offr | GII | Yes. RAF have a number of planes to collect and at present require guard to be maintained. We will advise you further tomorrow. |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2. | Is there many further infm available? | Duty Offr | LO | No. G staff are all away from the office. Some are due back about 2200 hrs if you care to ring then. |

---

2015 HRS

Phoned Duty Offr at Command HQ. He advised me no G staff yet returned and no further infm available.

---

Major

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

REF MAPS: (A) CEYLON Series 4 miles to 1"
(B) " " 1 " " 1"

HQ AIR (CEYLON)
(Place) COLOMBO
(Date) 6 Apr 42

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.C. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Phone | | | B.M. 16 Bde | | ① Enquired whether guard left for plane crash. ② There was a body underneath plane and that plane had sunk in the mud & they had rescued a large amount of equipment but still desired that rest be shifted. | Informed it was understood guard would be out shortly |
| 2. | Phone | | Comd | | | Information in Serial 1 repeated. | |
| 3. | Phone | 2125 | | B.M. 16 Bde | 2125 | Questions as per App A attached | |
| 4. | C212 | 2100 | | 17 Bde | 1950 (5 Apr) | Message as in Serial 19 (5 Apr) | |

(1)

E BM
16 Aust Inf Bde

G11.

BM rang enquiring whether guard left for plane crash yet. Informed that it was understood they would be out shortly.
BM stated that there is a body underneath the plane and that plane had sunk in the mud. They have rescued quite a large amount of equipment but still desired that rest be shifted.

6 APR.

6 Apr 1942

App. A

| B.M. 16 Bde enquired | G II replied - 7 Apr 42 |
|---|---|
| (a) Native labour and tools are available for clearing trees in HURANA area. Permission requested to hire this labour. | (a) At present no authority. Efforts would be made to obtain approval. |
| (b) Are there any M.L.G's available for defence of this area. | (b) Not till further stocks come to hand. |
| (c) Do R.A.F. intend to do anything about crashed plane in area. Plane has already disappeared beneath water. Body believed to be still in plane. | (c) Recover what material you can and leave what is unrecoverable by you for R.A.F. to collect later. They have been advised of locations. R.A.F. unable to spare personnel at present. |
| (d) Are any of maj. Westlands tps to move. | (d) They will move when accomodation fixed and their tpt available. |
| (e) For supplies of lumber and galvanised iron to provide shelter for ammo. | (e) I will see C.R.E. and let you know this morning. |
| (f) Ref message D/7/Q. Para 3 cancelled - "Is this a mistake" | (f) Checked with A.Q. answer is "message is correct". |

All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

(A) ~~Colombo~~ CEYLON [illegible] 1"

REF MAPS: (B) " 1 " " 1"

SHEET No.

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 4 Apr 1942

| Serial No | Sender's No | Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.C. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Phone | 1105 | | HQ. 16 Bde | 0730 | From JAKO. Unidentified vessel approx 2000 tons sighted 5 miles W of JAKO ⊙ moving N at 0715 | |
| 2. | Phone | | Comd | | | Serial 1 repeated | |
| 3. | verbal | 1230 | | L.O. (Maj Lovell) | | Combined Ops room reported verbally that ship identified friendly | |
| ~~[illegible]~~ | ~~[illegible]~~ | ~~[illegible]~~ | | ~~[illegible]~~ | | ~~[illegible]~~ | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No.

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 8 7 Apr 42

REF MAPS: (A) CEYLON Series 4 miles to 1"
(B) " " 1 " " 1"

| Serial No | Sender No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4. | C218 | 1400 | | HQ 17 Bde | 0950 | Sitrep ⊙ ref. GALLE centralised and our O.O No 1 enemy report from RAF KOGGALA that information may be available details follow ⊙ own tps digging complete to weapon pits GALLE KOGGALA ⊙ part 2 follows preparation roads and positions were being completed and left ready ⊙ 2/7 Bn holding exercise against RUSSA posn ⊙ Otherwise units to proceed as before emergency | |
| 5. | 3 | 1620 | HQ 17 Bde | | | Not understood | |
| 6. | C223 | 2330 | | HQ 17 Bde | 2120 | Ref our C219 ⊙ message should read ⊙ SITREP 0830 ⊙ ref. GALLE centralised and our O.O. number one ⊙ enemy ⊙ report from R.A.F. KOGGALA that information will be available details following ⊙ own troops diggings complete to weapon pits GALLE KOGGALA areas ⊙ preparation road blocks and positions ordered being completed and left ready ⊙ 2/7 Aust Inf. Bn holding exercise against RUSSA position ⊙ otherwise unit to proceed as before emergency | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc. conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 7 Apr 1942

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7. | L.O.'s Report | 2330 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |

# REPORT ON VISITS BY LO 1 - 6 APR 42

(7)

| | QUESTION (A) or SUBJECT (B) | To Whom | Orig BY | ANSWER (A) or COMMENT (B) | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | CEYLON COMMAND 1100 hrs | | | | |
| A | 1. Is there any further infm re ops yesterday? | GI | LO | No | - GI advised |
| | 2. What is latest posn re relief of guard over Jap crashed plane reported yesterday? | GII(I) | GII | We have nothing further. | S.C. 16 Bde advised |
| | 3. May I have permission to contact RAF direct and if so whom shall I see? | GII(I) | LO | Yes. Gp 222 but I don't know just where they are. Base HQ may be able to tell you. | S.C. 16 Bde advised See report under |
| | 4. Ref your letter 809/RA copies of DIYATALAWA 1/25000 NOT enclosed as stated. | SC/RA | GII | Sorry. Here are 6 copies. | Copies handed to GII |
| | 5. Have you any gridded sheets for use arty boards which our FD Regts may use pending receipt of indent? | SC/RA | GIII(O) | I know of none. There may be some in stores diverted from FAR EAST but not yet unpacked. I shall let you have some if they become available. | GIII(O) advised |
| | 6. Can you advise dates of A/Tk school? | SC/RA | GIII(O) | Commences tomorrow 7 Apr; finishes no definite date. BRA is a keen a/tk gunner and proposes following course closely and terminate school when he considers students have made sufficient progress. | GIII(O) advised |
| | 7. Ref your letter OS/4/Armn dated 4 Apr 42. Copy of letter CRCAO No 790/1/G referred to NOT enclosed. | ADOS (armn) | GII | Sorry. Copy of letter handed to LO. | Copy handed to GII |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | Handed to GII (I) range cards and graphs from Jap plane fwd to us by 16 Bde. Showed him Verey cartridge belt, rubber float and engine cover also secured from plane. | GII(I) | LO | Suggested these articles could be handed direct to RAF. | See report under |
| | ADOS (amn) Lt.Col HARVEY asked whether our Bdes would make their own Molotov cocktails if formula given to us. He considered it would be advisable and save tpt difficulties. | | | Agreed temporarily subject to confirmation by GI. If approved will collect formula 7 Apr from ADOS. | |

---

12 AUST GEN HOSP 1430 hrs

B

Discussed with A/Registrar security instructions existing prior to our arrival and co-ordinated same with those issued by these HQ.

---

HQ BASE AREA CEO 1600 hrs

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. | 1. Re CEYLON Command letter 112/G re PW; can you advise what arrangements have been made for detention of PW, particularly airmen? | Major TODD | GI | For time being they will be kept at the WELIKADDE GAOL in BASE LINE RD. When they arrive at your HQ please advise me or duty offr here (Tel 3291 - ext 31) and I will arrange reception. |
| | 2. I'm afraid it's NOT desirable to have PW brought to our HQ at all. We would prefer that immediately they reach COLOMBO they be taken to the gaol. | | | Alright but would appreciate your Bdes advising beforehand that they are sending PW so that I can ensure everything in order. |

3. We will do that as far as possible.

4. Re reporting of crashed aircraft what is priority in terms of the above-mentioned letter para 3(b)? (Unable to see SO at Comd HQ to get decision.)

1. Local RAF if any, otherwise
1. Combined Ops Room - Military LO (Tel 2391 Ext 205)
2. CEYLON Comd
3. HQ Base Area (Tel 3291 Ext 31)

---

COMBINED OPS ROOM 1730 hrs

B Unable to contact RAF I personnel (later found to be in Room 340 same bdg as Comb Ops) so handed engine cover rubber float and Verey cartridge belt (all fwd by 16 Bde) to Duty Offr RAF Ops Room (Sqn Ldr McLELLAND). He expressed his appreciation. Advised me to see Admin Branch RAF (Secretariat Bdgs) re relief of guard over crashed plane.

Infm gained from Combined Ops Room given ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ verbally to GOC at 2200 hrs.

---

COMBINED OPS ROOM 2300 hrs

Nothing further to report.

---

D J Lovell Maj

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form

# OPERATIONS DIARY

"A" CEYLON SERIES 4 miles to 1"

INF MAPS: "B" " " 1" to 1"

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 8 Apr 42

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | L.O.'s Report 7/4/1942 | 1100 | | ① Comd ② Armoured Train | | See report attached | |
| 2. | 5 | 1830 | | Comd | | SITREP SITNOR | |
| 3. | 11 | 1910 | | Comd | 1745 | From R.A.F.O 103/380 message begins ○ CATALINA reports three enemy battleships and one aircraft carrier about four hundred miles East of CEYLON at 0907 hrs G.M.T. ○ Direction of movement NOT known ○ ends | |
| 4. | 6 | 1910 | 16+17 Bdes | | | Serial 2 repeated | |
| 5. | | | | | | | |

# REPORT ON VISITS BY LO (1) - 7 APR 42

| Question (A) or Subject (B) | To Whom | Orig By | Answer (A) or Comment (B) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CEYLON COMMAND 1100 HRS** | | | | |
| **Bicycles** | | | | |
| 1. DCOO has advised our ADOS that he is ready to issue bicycles to us but is waiting your authority. Can it be fwd toDCOO? | GI | GI | We are awaiting your answer to our letter asking for numbers required by your units. | |
| 2. I understand this has already been fwd to you. (NB - Our reply then found by GI and requirements of Ind Div ascertained by phone.) | GI | GI | These will be allotted on a pro rata basis and I will authorise 200 for AIF. | ADOS advised and he asked if CEYLON Comd "G" Branch would advise AIF when authority given for issue of controlled stores. I will refer |
| **Armd Train** | | | | |
| 3. Handed this HQ letters S/G/188, S/G/198 and S/G/199 re above. | GII (O) | GI | (a) There are no tripods in CEYLON. They are coming from INDIA and you will be advised when available.<br>(b) Re temporary brackets and res supplies of water and amn suggest you deal direct with ry authorities. (Permission to do this then given by CI CEYLON Comd.)<br>(c) Other questions will be answered as soon as possible. | Will take up with Mr FREER (Mech Engr CGR)<br><br>I will follow up. |
| **Identification Passes** | | | | |
| 4. Has any form be decided upon yet? | GII)I) | GIII(O) | Yes. Not the red one which you are holding. Capt JAMIESON GIII(I) Security has the new cards and is issuing instructions. | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Japanese Army - Memorandum on** | | | | |
| 5. May we have as many additional copies as possible? At present we only hold 3 copies. | GII(I) | GI | That publication is now superceded by "Japanese Military Forces" Mar 42" copies of which will be fwd. | |
| 6. May I have say 8 copies now? | GII(I) | GI | Alright. We will let you have as many more as possible when distribution list completed. | Copies handed to BII suggested distribution 2. Base 2 HQ AIF 2 16 Bde 2 7 " |
| **Japanese Clothing & Equipment** | | | | |
| 7. Have you any of above which may be shown to units for infm? | GII(I) | GIII(I) | No. But there are sketches and particulars in "Japanese Military Forces, March 1942". | |
| **Development of Films** | | | | |
| 8. We are anxious to finalise list of authorised firms for developing films. Can you expedite? | GII(I) | GI | Capt JAMIESON GIII(I) Security is handling. I'll take it up with him. | |
| **Location Statements** | | | | |
| 9. Am returning 5 copies of your location statement. In future 10 copies will be sufficient for our use. | GIII(O) | GIII(O) | Noted. I have been directed to set out CEYLON Comd location statement in gps such as bde gps. Will you set AIF location statements out in same way? | Referred to GIII(O) |
| **Japanese Aircraft - Identification of Crashed** | | | | |
| 10. Can you advise us who found piece of plane handed to this HQ 5 Apr? GII of C in C's staff advises it reveals use of new type of plane and is particularly pleased. | LO HQ AIF | GIII(I) CEYLON Command | I will find out from 16 Bde | 16 Bde asked. |
| 11. In future will you furnish the following particulars with parts of plane fwd to this HQ? A) Description of article b) Name and address of finder | " | " | I will request our units. | Bdes to be notified in I reports HQ AIF. |

(c) Where found.
(d) Police District.
(e) Unit to whom handed.
(f) Action taken.

Molotov Cocktails

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12. Units outside ordnance areas such as CBO and TRI are now instructed to make own Molotov Cocktails. Here is recipe -.will that be in order? | LO HQ AIF | ADOS (amn) | Yes if we can get all materials. | (a) Major HAYWARD i/c AACS advised units should have good supply of empty beer bottles but only limited supply of empty whisky and gin bottles which are preferable.<br>(b) ADOS (AIF) advised he has already drawn M/ cocktails for and issued them to Div tps.<br>(c) Instructions will be issued to Bdes if confirmed by GI and asked to notify deficiencies of ingredients. |

---

ARMD TRAIN - RATNALANA ; 1600 hrs

Following conference with GI and offrs from CPRC I inspected the above trn together with Lt.Col BRUTON (CSO HQ AIF) and Lieut BESANT (CPRC). Lt. Col BRUTON will submit separate report on signal comm on trn.
In absence of Mr FREER (Mech Engr CGR) Mr RAJAGOPAL(i/c construction of trn) accompanied us. Mr FREER ARRIVED later.
Discussion as follows took place:

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Will you cover tops of trucks with wire netting to prevent hand grenades being thrown? | Mr FREER | GI | Yes. If you want it, but we were instructed by Gen DEESIP NOT to do so. | |
| 2. The train is now under our control and we would like it done. | Mr FREER | GI | Right. I would appreciate though if you would assist me by arranging for delivery of 700 square ft expanded metal 2" mesh to do the job. | CRE requested 7 Apr and undertakes to deliver. |
| 3. What is your opinion of reliability of driver and fireman of the train. We might require to use your opinion in a request to CEYLON Comd to grant permission to have substitute crew standing by. | Mr FREER | GI | The crew were chosen by the CM from volunteers and I'm not aware who they are. However in view of action generally of these people in last few days I think it most advisable to do as you suggest. | CEYLON Comd to be asked to grant necessary permission. Lieut BESANT knows personnel to fill jobs. |
| 4. Would it be possible to transfer searchlight to the inside of truck behind hole with shutter if requested by GI? | Mr FREER | GI | Yes if necessary. | GI did NOT confirm. |
| 5. Do you consider there are vulnerable parts underneath train which should and could be protected by sheeting adjusted to side of truck? | Mr FREER | GI | Yes there are several. I will see what can be done to protect them. | |
| Mr FREER advised that armd water truck is now being completed. | | | | |
| Mr FREER'S telephone no RATMALANA 37 | | | | |
| 6. Can we use the Aust Div Sig on the train? | LO | | Lt BESANT-I will refer to GOC | Answer?? |
| 7. The two 2.7 guns from INDIA have arrived in CDO. Any steps be taken to expedite delivery? | LO | | Lt BESANT I will follow up. | |

NAVAL OFFICE 1800 hrs

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | 1. What size ships can be off-loaded safely in GALLE harbour? | Navigation Staff Offr Comd HARPER | GI | Until monsoon period about middle of May ships drawing up to approx 30 feet. | |
| | 2. Could MT be off-loaded by MLC? | Naval Staff Offr Trade Lt-Comd HICKS | GI | As far as I know there is only one MLC here and that is used in CBO harbour. | |
| | 3. Do you know of any facilities available for off-loading in GALLE harbour? | " | GI | Yes details of facilities available to CLARKE SPENCE & Co (LLOYD'S agents GALLE) are in this letter. | Copy taken and referred to GI. |
| | 4. If possible how could it be arranged? | " | GI | I think it quite possible and you should see STO (near GOH) | GI has instructed me to discuss with AQ size of ships carrying our MT and see STO. I have arranged to see STO with AQ tomorrow 8 Apr. |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

(A) CEYLON 4 miles to 1"

REF MAPS: (B) " 1 " " 1"

SHEET No.

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 9 Apr 42

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | | 0750 | | | | Air Raid | |
| 2. | | 0835 | | | | All Clear Sounded | |
| 3. | | 0830 | | B.R.A | 0830 | BRA has eight 25 Pdrs without gun teams. Can 2/1 Fd Regt man them. They are only guns and have no tractors etc. | Taken up with L.O. (Maj Lovell) |
| 4. | verbal | 1100 | | Comd | 1100 | Two enemy aircraft over COLOMBO this morning | |
| 5 | 8 | 1115 | 16 Bde 17 Bde | | | Serials 1, 2, & 4 repeated | |
| 6. | verbal | 1220 | | D.R. | 1220 | Report plane crash on right of road 4 miles South of PANADURA | Comd advised |
| 7. | L.O.'s report | 1400 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 8. | Phone | 1935 | 17 Bde | | | Following working parties plus suitable quota officers & NCO's required daily until further notice to assist with preparation RAF installations @ KOGGALA 100 rank & file @ GALLE 24 rank & file @. Contact RAF works officer KOGGALA and arrange all details direct avoiding unnecessary interference with your defence preparations @ signal when work commences. | Sent in clear on instructions from G.O.C. |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS

## DIARY

(A) CEYLON 4 miles to 1"

REF MAPS: (B) " 1 " " 1"

SHEET No.

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 9 Apr 42

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 9 | 2230 | Comd | | | SITREP SITNOR | |
| 10. | C234 | 2330 | | 17Bde | 2145 | One coy from BUSSA starts work RAF KGA 0800 hrs 10 Apr until further notice ⊙ sec engineers worked at RAF several days and continues there | |

REPORT OF VISITS BY L.O.1 8 Apr 42.

| Question (A) or Subject (B) | To Whom | Orig by | Answer (A) or Comment (B) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| X. SEA TRANSPORT OFFICER 1000 hrs. (interviewed with AQ. HQ.AIF.) | | | | |
| A.1. With facilities available as out--lined in this letter from Clarke, Spence & Co, would you reconsider possibility of offloading MT in GALLE Harbour ? | STO | AQ | We would like to if possible, but the lighters referred to will only take stores. You require floats for MT. We could divert Commercial ships to GALLE to unload food which is essential, but there is the difficulty of carriage from GALLE to CBO. Can you help us in that regard. | AQ to see Movement Control re rail tpt & also possibility of own vehicles being available. He will report to G1. |
| NOTE. Staff Officer Trade (Lt.Comd.Hicks) whom I interviewed yesterday, had rung S.T.O. this morning prior to our visit on same subject. | | | | 1800 hrs 9 Apr<br>Lt Comd Hicks told me he understood 3 Comm. ships have been diverted |
| CEYLON COMMAND. 1130 hrs. | | | | |
| A. Information Japanese 5th Column Activities CEYLON. | G11(1) | 16 Bde. | | |
| 1. Can you let us have 9 more copies (for) unit distribution) of Appendix to Comd 1 Summary No 5. "Appreciation of Tactical Implications of prewar Japanese Activity in Ceylon". | | | I'm afraid not. In view of sources of such information, it is NOT intended that the appendix be distributed too widely. It is rather intended for infm. of the Bde Cmd who could advise his unit comds verbally at his confs. | Bde to be advised by LO.<br>Bde Comd notified verbally by L.O. 9/4/42. |
| B. "JAPANESE ARMY MARCH '42" | | | | |
| 2. G111(I) advised 17 further copies being distributed to HQ.AIF. (we already received 8) | | | | |

| Question (A) or Subject (B) | To Whom | Orig by | Answer (A) or Comment (B) | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Arty Practise. | | | | |
| 3. Ref your 809/RA dated 5 Apr and 26 Mar, is it intended that one bty per time or the whole unit should move to range. You say that only one bty can shoot per practise. | Staff Officer R.A. | G11 | You have 6 week ends allotted and only one bty per shoot should move. | |
| 4. MOLOTOV COCKTAILS. | | | | |
| G1 AIF would prefer bdes to get M/Cocktails already prepared. If it was necessary to prepare them ourselves, we would require say 1000 bottles. | ADOS Amn | G1 | Yes, you are to make them yourselves. You should have plenty of bottles, but I'll see what we can supply. They will probably be beer bottles. | Am to call back 9 Apr. |
| B.5. ARMED TRN. | | | | |
| Following are answers given by G11(O) available at present to Your letters. | | | | |
| a. Your ref S/G/67. Additl Brens (Quest 1a) | | | There are few available on island & a large demand. Yours are appd but dont know when available. | G1 advises to see BGS |
| b. question 1b. Amn. | | | There is plenty available and should be finalised with AQ 9 Apr | G1 already discussed with G1 Comd. |
| c. question 1c. Preparation for demolition. | | | CE has been instructed to confer with your CRE re requirements. | CRE advised. |
| d. Your letter S/G/199 question (a) res. amn. | | | We are writing navy asking for amn. (copy to go to you) | Have arranged to pick up copy of letter & go direct to navy to expedite. |
| e. question (i) revolvers | | | There are plenty. How many do you require. | I will advise you (CPRC since request 6 for gun crew) |
| (ii) Thompson S.M.G. | | | Regret none available. | |

| Question (A) or Subject (B) | To Whom | Orig by | Answer (A) or Comment (B) | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| d. Your letter S/G/188 | | | | |
| Question b. Permits for crew | | | Being taken up with A Branch. | |
| 6 Am still awaiting reply to our signal 06 dated 4 Apr asking requirements of mesh to cover our carriers. | LO | G11(O) | Will refer our HQ | |
| ARMED TRAIN | | | | |
| Interview with o/c CPRC(Maj.Harvey) & W.O.1 Yule. 1245 hrs. | | | | |
| 7. Can you give me details & whereabouts of two 2.75 guns for armd trn & said to be in CBO. | o/c CPRC | L.O. | I can find out | Am to call on Maj.Harvey 9 Apr. |
| 8. Our crew have not fired from the 12 pdr with proper fuses. Could some instruction be arranged? | ~~o/c~~ CPRC. L.O. | ~~L.O.~~ o/c CPRC | I'll see what can be done | Will refer to CEYLON COMD and Navy. |

Major.
L.O.(1)

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 10 Apr 42

REF MAPS: (A) Ceylon Series 4 miles to 1"
(B) " " 1 " " 1"

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Phone | 1235 | | Govt Agent Western Province | 1235 | Desired to know if the evacuation of civilians at KTR was to take place. | |
| 2. | Phone | 1510 | Govt Agt Western Province | | | Informed that no evacuation of civilians at KTR was to take place ⊙ If a partial evacuation was to take place he would be informed. | |
| 3. | L.O's report | 1530 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 4. | C237 | 2040 | | 17 Bde | | SITREP ⊙ ref. GALLE centralised ⊙ C Coy 2/7 Bn moved to KGA 726537 (map B) by 0800 hrs as arranged ⊙ otherwise SITNOR | |
| 5 | 13 | 2100 | Comd | | | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |

Army Form C2123

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS | IN | No. of Groups. | Office-Date Stamp |
|---|---|---|---|
| | OUT | GR. | 5 |

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO BONO

| FROM ATEM | Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 13 | 10 | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SITREP | O | SITNOR | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

This message may be sent as written by any means.

Signed

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent in cipher.

Signed

Originator's instructions
Degree of priority

Time of origin 2100

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

| System in | Time in | Reader | Sender | System out | Time out | Reader | Sender | System out | Time out | Reader | Sender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

T.O.R.

Forms C2123/13. Wt. 36183/1788. 1,000M. pads. 12/23. B.A.S. Ltd. 51-5537.

All communications both in and out Telephone etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

(A) CEYLON Series 4 miles to 1"

REF MAPS: (B) " " 1 " " 1"

SHEET

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 11 Apr 1942

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Phone | 0450 | | Comd | 0450 | Message received from MLO reads as follows — Coast watcher 15A MATUGAMA sighted light south of post - it burnt at intervals of 20 minutes - it is stationary | Duty Officer's Log |
| 2. | Phone | 0455 | Duty Offr 16 Bde | | | Serial 1 repeated | " " |
| 3. | " | 0500 | Duty Offr 17 Bde | | | Serial 1 repeated | " " |
| 4. | C237 | 0845 | | 17 Bde | 0700 | SITREPO SITNOR | |
| 5. | 759 | 0940 | | 16 Bde | 0632 | SITREPO SITNOR | |
| 6. | L.O.'s Report | 1000 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 7. | 343/910 | 1635 | | Comd | 1635 | As from morning Fri 10 Apr CEC observatory will send up an observation balloon at about 0200 hrs nightly ⊙ May all units please be informed of this so that activity in observatory grounds and the appearance of the small light attached to the balloon may not cause any unfortunate incident ⊙ Colour of light is white | |
| 8 | " | 1800 | All units | | | Serial 7 repeated | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc. conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No.

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 11 Apr 42

REF MAPS: (A) CEYLON 4 miles to 1"
(B) " 1 " " 1"

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.C.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9. | 15 | 2000 | COMD | | | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |
| 10. | 760 | 2130 | | 16 Bde | 1755 | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |
| 11 | C239 | 2130 | | 17 Bde | 1825 | SITREP ⊙ 1 troop 1 Aust A/Tk Regt now at BUSSA ⊙ otherwise SITNOR | |
| 12. | Phone | 2300 | | COMD | 2300 | At 2030 hrs to-night one A/A gun post north of harbour reported that a Sinhalese in C.L.I. uniform wearing glasses approx 5' tall was asking questions about gun sights positions shipping destination of shipping ⊙ asked to produce his identity card he made off on a motor cycle ⊙ civil and military police looking for him. | |

REPORT OF VISIT OF G111(1)I to G111 SECURITY 10 Apr 42

6

| Question (A) or Subject (B) | To Whom | Orig by | Answer (A) or Comment (B) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B. Returned Red identity cards (500) and 9 copies each of Ceylond Comd Temporary Call Sign Book & Ceylon Comd Alphabetical Index Call Sign Book. | G111 Security. | | | |
| . When will the new type of identity card be issued | G111 Security | | A. They are at Ceylon Comd now and will be issued within the next day or so. | |
| . The proof of a Weekly News Commentary will be flown to Ceylon and printed here by permission of Ind.Comd. It is desired that overybody has an opportunity to read this publication. Could you let me have a distribution list for the Australian Forces. | Lieut. Colquhoun. | G111 Security. | A. I will have the distribution at your office tomorrow. | |
| HQ AIF (Ceylon) have issued an instruction that Code names will not be used over civilian phones. | G111 Security. | | A. Excellent - good idea | |
| A. Could HQ AIF(Ceylon) supply a Field Security Sec of 1 Offr & 13 ORs for their own area, a course of instruction will be held shortly. | | | A. I will discuss with the G11 and let you know if it is possible. | |

Lieut.
G111(I)1.

REPORT OF VISIT OF G111(1)I to CHITRAFOTO 10 Apr 42

| Question (A) or Subject (B) | To Whom | Orig by | Answer (A) or Comment (B) | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. When will photographers be available to go to Bde Gps to photograph officers for identity cards. | Mr.Koch | | A. It is impossible to send photographers out on jobs at present because we are short of staff and none are available. | Collected photos of officers who had been to Chitrafoto and had photos taken for identity cards. |
| A. Could you recommend photographers near Bde areas who could do the job. | " | | A. I can give you the names of reliable photographers in areas near your troops and we are prepared to supply them with paper to do the jobs if they are short. The names of suitable people are ;-<br>At Kalutara - L.B.L. John.<br>At Galle - Frederick Studio.<br>- West End Studio.<br>At Moratuwa - P.O.Dias & Sons.<br>At Panadura - Ceylon Studios.<br>- Dekels Electric Studio. | |
| | | | B. As from yesterday Ceylond Comd have cancelled their contract with us to photograph officers for identity cards. | |
| A. Could Capt. H.A. Solomon call and have his photo taken again as there was a double exposure and the first snap was spoiled. | Lieut. Colquhoun | Mr.Koch. | A.I will inform Capt.Solomon. | |

Lieut.
G111(I)1.

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 12 Apr 1942

REF MAPS: (A) CEYLON 4 miles to 1"
(B) " 1 " " 1"

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards F.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | L.O.'s Report | 0830 | | Armd Train Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 2. | 732 | 0855 | | 16 Bde | 0705 | SITREP O SITNOR | |
| 3. | C241 | 0930 | | 17 Bde | 0700 | SITREP O SITNOR O N/C patrols with object of contacting civil coast watching stations and posts will operate as from 1400 hrs to-day O This HQ O.O. No 3 on above follows by DR | |
| 4. | L.O.'s Report | 1600 | | | | See report attached | |
| 5 | 784 | 1945 | | 16 Bde | 1750 | No change in situation | |

REPORT ON VISITS by L.O.1 - 10 Apr 42

(1)

| Subject. | To.with Whom. | For. | COMMENT. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|

ARMD TRN.
RATHALANA RY YARDS - 1000 hrs.
Accompanied by S.O.M.E.(Lt.Col Hayman) & rep.CRE.(Lt.Dossiter)

Demolitions.

1. Lt.Dossiter inspected trn and is preparing requirements.

Brackets M.M.Gns.

2. S.O.M.E. inspected trn and is arranging construction of necessary brackets. Estimates job finished 5 days after receipt of a MEG for measurement purposes

Arranged with O/C. C.P.R.C. for M.M.G. to be available to S.O.M.E. 11 Apr 42.

Brackets A.A.Gns.

3. S.O.M.E. considered he could construct different bracket to those now on mounting so that gns could be used for ground fire as well. Small platform to be placed around foot of mounting as well.

Meshing over truck tops.

4. Meshing has been delivered and work in hand.

| Subject. | To/with Whom | For | COMMENT | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Move of Trn to siding. | | | | |
| 5. There is only a single line from Ry.Yards to main line, so it is considered desirable to move trn to siding alongside main line. Recced area with Mr. Freer and am to discuss arrangements (incl.problem of camouflaging) with Mr. Bridge of C.G.R. Mr.Freer is prepared to send his workman to siding to complete trn if moved. | | | There are vacant bungalows alongside siding if necessary for trn guard. AC single phase power line alongside siding which may be of use. | |
| Accommodation. | | | | |
| 6. Mr. Freer advised that there are approx 4 bungalows (each about 3 rooms,kitchen, drainage,water etc) alongside Ry yards and now vacant. Thought we may be inter-ested. Rental to be arranged with C.G.R. | | | | A.Q. advised. |
| INTERVIEW WITH MAJ.HARVEY(O/C C.P.R.C.) 1500 hrs | | | | |
| Identification Cards. | | | | |
| 7. Maj.Harvey requested to submit passport photos of trn crew with particulars as per CEYLON Indent.Card(copy held by him) to this HQ so that we could issue. | | | Arrangements made with CHITRAFOTO to take necessary photos | Major Harvey advises matter in hand. |
| Petrol Coupons | | | | |
| 8. We require list of cars to be used, owners, type of car, petrol consumption etc, so that we can issue necessary authority to drivers to collect coupons from Staff Capt. S.O.T. | | | Ref. my interview G11(O) Comd 9 Apr. para 7. | |
| Overalls for Crew | | | | |
| 9. Major Harvey submitted list of above | | | Will take up. | |

| Subject | To/with Whom | For | COMMENT. | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Steel Helmets. | | | | |
| 10. What is possibility of crew being issued. | L.O. | Major Harvey | Will refer. | Same procedure as ammunition - above |
| CEYLON COMD. ARMD.TRN | | | | |
| 11 Ref your G/55 30 Mar; (a) Addtl Brens | L.O. | G11(SO) | 2 Brens appd for issue? | Approval taken to Q(Ceylon Command) & copy of authority to C.O.O. obtained & handed to A.D.O.S. to collect |
| (b) } Ammunition (c) } | L.O. | " | addtl 8500 tracer 28500 ball appd. | do. |
| ref S/G/199 5 Apr | | | | |
| (c) Weapons | L.O. | " | 6 revolvers should be available for gun crew. | Will follow up |
| 2.75 guns. | | | | |
| 12 Enquiries from all offrs at Comd. (incl.BGS) failed to reveal whereabouts of guns. It appears they have not arrived from INDIA. | | | | This section of |
| 13 Aircraft Recognition Signals. | G11(O) | L.O. | | |
| Can we be advised of above signals. | | | I dont know of any. Will investigate. | |
| Interpreters. | | | | |
| 14 Fair rate of pay 50 rupees per month | L.O. | G1%(I) | | |
| 15 We are getting out an instruction. How many do you think are required. | " | " | One per HQ. one per unit. | Since suggested by 2/2 Bn that 3 per unit reqd and should be military personnel Given [illegible] |

| Subject | To/with whom | For | COMMENT | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Time of O. Signal Message. | Capt in CSO Office. | L.O. | | |
| 16. What is ruling re GMT and CST. | | | CST used in messages within CEYLON GMT ex CEYLON. There is no need to incl. the letters | CSO AIF advised. |
| FL.LIEUT.SHERMAN - 1230 hrs. | | | | |
| P.W. (Airmen) | | | | |
| 17 Can you arrange to send an officer down to our bde areas when P.W. airmen located. | RAF 1 Offr. | L.O. | We would like to but owing to shortage of personnel and tpt, not always possible. Suggest that when airmen captured, you units phone my office direct (Tel.2391 ext 259) and we will advise them whether we can come down or where to send P.W. to us. | |
| Crashed Planes. | | | | |
| 18 All instruments, papers etc, to be sent to me, Room 341, BAUER BDGS, CHATHAM ST, CBO. Large parts of planes to be taken to R.A.F. RATMALANA. | L.O. | RAF 1 Offr. | Noted. Will be included in our Inst. to units. | |
| 19 Introduced Lt.DOSSITER (CREs Staff) to WING-CDR SAW, re obtaining parts of crashed planes for use as electrons. | | | CRE following up. | |

Major.

L.O.1.

(4)

# REPORT ON VISITS BY L.O. 11 Apr 42

| Subject | To or with Whom | By. | COMMENT | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **NAVAL SUPPLY OFFICER - 1130 hrs.** | | | | |
| Armed Trn - Res.Amn. | | | | |
| 1. Followed up Comd letter requesting 150 rds as reserve for 12 pr naval gun. | S.N.S.O. | L.O. | S.N.S.O. is to see whether it is available & advise us. | |
| **CEYLON COMD - 1430 hrs.** | | | | |
| Air Recognition Signals | | | | |
| 2. Have you any information yet | G11(O) | L.O. | No. Am contacting Air Co-op Officer. | |
| Field Security Service | L.O. | G11(I) | | |
| 3. Verbal report to G1. | | | | |
| Wireless Sets-Arty | | | | |
| 4. Your two Fd Regts are each getting 3 No.18 wireless sets. Do you think your HQ would be willing to let us have 4 No11 (or 101) sets back. BRA has taken 4 from the 51 Fd Regt. | L.O. | SC/RA | I will refer | |

D J Lovell Major.
L.O.1.HQ. AIF (CEYLON)

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc. conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No

HQ [illegible]

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 13 Apr 42

REF MAPS: (A) CEYLON 4 miles to 1"
(B) " 1 - " 1"

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | C245 | 0715 | | 17 Bde | 1800 (12 Apr) | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR ⊙ ref. GALLE centralized sheet HQ Corp 2/5 Aust. Inf. Bn moved 122589 to-day 2/5 Aust. Inf. Bn moves 115576 1000 hrs 13 Apr ⊙ platoon 2/6 Aust. Inf. Bn detached for duty COLOMBO A Corp 2/6 Bn 204548 | |
| 2. | C246 | 0845 | | 17 Bde | 0715 | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |
| 3 | 749 | 0855 | | 16 Bde | 0855 | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |
| 4. | GIII (1) 1 verbal | 1000 | | 6 cmd | | See report attached | |
| 5. | C51 | 1145 | | 17 Bde | 1030 | Brig Moten arriving your HQ approx 1200 hrs | |
| 6. | C250 | 1850 | | 17 Bde | 1410/13 | 6 [illegible]/880 Following movements are notified ⊙ 2/5 Bn ref. map GALLE centralised 1 inch to 1 mile MMNHNI ⊙ 2/7 Bn HQ Corp less 3 + 6 pls 22 mile post Rd AKURESSA - GALLE - RIMASR | |
| 7. | 754 | 2130 | | 16 Bde | 1930/13 | ref. map HORANA 1 inch to 1 mile 12 AGH Dental Unit located 920451 | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 13 Apr

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8. | 242/9 | 2130 | | Comd | 1607 | Request received by you for Engineer assistance on road work in your area ⊙ One Corp Pioneer Bn Indian Engineers probably available in next five days ⊙ report early where you wish to employ this unit ⊙ you will have to make arrangements for accomodation and feeding. | |
| 9. | C252 | 2145 | | 17Bde | 1800/13 | SITREP ⊙ nothing to report | |
| 10. | 753 | 2145 | | 16Bde | 1835/13 | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |

REPORT OF VISIT BY G111(I)1 to G111 SECURITY - 12 APR 42

| A-Question or B-Subject. | Orig by | To Whom | A-Answer or B-Comment | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Has the question of official photographers to develop & print films for the troops been settled yet. | | G111 Security | A. Local police have been asked to supply information about photographers but I do not expect a reply for some days. Units could go to the local police and get the information the police are sending, and so short circuit me, I dont mind in the least. | I have the names of a number of photographers in country areas-will check with local police and issue instruction to units that they be used if satisfactory. |
| B. Code Names - Could we have a list of CodeeNames being used by other units other than AIF in Ceylon. | | G111 Security | A. I have lists which you can have-if it is desired to use additional code names for Australian units, make them up and let me have an amended list. | Received copies of Code Names for 34 Ind Div, Ceylon Comd, Base Area & Troops under command. |
| A. Could I have some "Application for Employment" forms. | | | A. C.I.D. are checking 30 of these forms per day and it is likely that it would be weeks before any applications would be checked. Engage the peoples have them fill in forms, send the forms up here and a reply will be forwarded in due course. | A very unsatisfactory procedure-suggest units seek assistance from local police before engaging civilians. |

Lieut.
G111(I) 1.

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO.

HQ ATF (Ceylon)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 14 Apr

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | C254 | 0900 | | 17 Bde | 0715 | SITREPO SITNOR | |
| 2. | 723 | 0905 | | 16 Bde | 0630 | SITREPO SITNOR | |
| 3. | Phone | 1355 | | R.A.F. Ops | 1355 | CATALINA reports being shadowed by two JU88 about 250 miles East of KOGGALA at 1000 hrs L.T | |
| 4. | L.O.'s report | 1400 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 5. | | 1410 | 16 & 17 Bdes | | | Serial No 3 repeated | |
| 6. | 725 | 1930 | ~~16 Bde~~ | 16 Bde | 1410 | SITREPO SITNOR | |
| 7. | 21 | 1950 | Comd | | | SITREPO SITNOR | |

# REPORT ON VISITS BY L.O. - 13 APR 42

| SUBJECT | To or with Whom | Orig by | COMMENT | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CEYLON COMD.** | | | | |
| **ARMD TRN** | | | | |
| a. Petrol Coupons. | | | | |
| 1. Ref Comd R.O. para 89 (coupons to be drawn from O i/c tpt R.A.S.C) does that alter instructions to us for drawing coupons for crew. | G11(O) | L.O. | No. I have contacted Staff Capt. S & T. and you will still draw them from him. | |
| b. Replies to HQ AIF Questions. | | | | |
| 2. May we have written confirmation of verbal replies given to me. | G11(O) | L.O. | Yes, I will arrange. | |
| c. Ammunition. | | | | |
| 3. You have authorised issue of addtl 8,500 rds tracer & 28500 ball. May we have all ball (37,000 rds). | G11 (SO) | L.O. | Yes | Authority taken to Comd Q and copy of their instr. to C.O.O. rec'd by L.O. & fwd to A.D.O.S. for collection & delivery to RATMALANA. |
| Aircraft Recognition Signals. | | | | |
| 4 Are these available yet. | G11(O) | L.O. | Arrangements have been made with A.I.L.O. to advise us. | |
| A/Tk Mines - Dummy. | | | | |
| 5. Ref your 1307/1/O, when will these be available. | G11 (SO) | G11. | D.A.D.O.S. "P" is now only manufacturing 100 whichare to be given to C.L.I. Suggest Ind. Div & yourselves arrange for your own dummies. | |
| .45 T.S.M.G. Ammunition. | | | | |
| 6. What is possibility of allotment for training purposes. | " | " | None at present. | Verbal report to G1 & G11. |

| SUBJECT. | To or with Whom | Orig by | CONTENT | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sandbags. | | | | |
| 7. Are now controlled stores, What is position re requisitioning. | G11(SO) | G11 | Are only to be used in cases where rivetting etc, impossible. Docks, swamps etc have priority. Where necessary send chit to this HQ and we will authorise for Engs to issue. | |
| Eng Stores - Payment for | Comd. Paymaster in pres--ence of Capt.King "A" Branch. | G11 | | |
| 8. Your Admin Inst No.1 refers to Comd R.O.121 dated 13 Feb re above. What is reference and how does AIF get reimbursement. | | | This is first I knew of Admin.Inst No.1. However you can do as Comd. R.O.121 instructs i.e. submit receipts appd by G1 HQ AIF to Comd Paymaster. | |
| Carriers - Covering with Mesh. | | | | |
| 9. There are only 80 rolls of meshing available and you have asked for 50. Decision will be given as soon as pro rata basis agreed upon. | L.O. | G11(O) | | Information volunteered by Comd. L.O. did NOT disclose amount of meshing held by CRE. |
| Films.- Developing of | | | | |
| 10 Is there a decision re list of appd. firms for developing films. | G11(I) & G111(I) | L.O. | Am afraid we cant give you definite names as we havent got the staff necessary to make enquiries.CHITRAFOTO should be alright for CBO. but suggest Bdes contact local police who will "vet" local firms. | |
| Combined Ops Room. | | | | |
| 11 Entry to this room being tightened up and it is proposed to issue special "underground" pass es. Let us have a list of AIF personnel requiring such passes. | L.O. | G11(I) | Maj.Gen. A.J.BOASE.<br>Lt.Col. R.G.POLLARD<br>Maj. D.J.H.LOVELL<br>Lieut. C.T.COLQUHOUN | Appd by G1. |
| Tide & Moon Tables | | | | |
| 12. Are copies of above available. | G11(I) | L.O. | Yes, will get them and distribute. | |

| | SUBJECT. | To or with Whom | Orig by | COMMENT | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Japanese Army. | | | | |
| 13. | Ref your previous enquiry, we are receiving 10 copies of a book "Japanese Forces-Typical Photographs) & AIF will get 3 copies. We are hoping eventually to get sufficient copies to provide 1 per unit. | L.O. | G11(I) | | Will follow up Have on loan [illegible] |
| | Crashed Jap Plane -Payment of Natives for Salvage. | | | | |
| 14 | Is money available yet | G11(I) | L.O. | No, but cost has been submitted to RAF.I.Offr who is arranging payment. | Will follow up |
| | A/Tk Drivers. | | | | |
| 15 | Is there any indication how long the 18 drivers we loaned you will be required. | SC/RA | G11 | I'm afraid not. The RASC learner drivers have not yet turned up. | |
| | A&A Guns - Personnel for | | | | |
| 16 | If 2/1 Fd.Regt broken up into troop groups there would be sufficient personnel to man 6 Lt.A/A guns. | SC/RA | G11 | Noted | |
| | Wireless Sets - Fd.Regts. | | | | |
| 17 | Following your enquiry, GOC AIF is NOT willing to give up 4 No.101 Sets. | SC/RA | G1 | Is that notwithstanding the fact that there is very little likelihood of Arty functioning as Div, or even Regtl Arty, but rather as Btys. | |
| 18 | I still consider Comm between Btys & Regt are desirable & necessary. | SC/RA | L.O. | I still feel that your Fd.Regts could function with less than normal issue of 101s. | |
| 19 | If you have a concrete scheme of how they might, I will submit it. | | | | |

| SUBJECT. | To or with Whom. | Orig by | COMMENT | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ORDNANCE. | | | | |
| MOLOTOV COCKTAILS. | | | | |
| 20. Collected 1355 corks for issue to Bdes. | | | | Bdes advised approx 650 to be issued by LO. |
| 21. Arranged for 800 empty bottles to be collected from Sgts Mess, RE ECHELON Bks. Capt.Armstrong advises more available shortly. | | | | Bdes advised to collect 400 each from RE Sgts. Mess. |
| BASE AREA HQ. | | | | |
| ARMD TRN. | | | | |
| 22 Here is indent from O/C C.P.R.C. re overalls for crew | Major Todd | L.O. | As yet we havent any information re establishment of crew authorised by Comd. As soon as number is appd, we will arrange issue. | |
| 23 What is position re issue of steel helmets to crew. | " | " | Same as above. | |
| O/C C.P.R.C. - ARMD TRN | | | | |
| 24 Prior to authority for issue of two addtl bren guns, you should have had 8 MMG. Do you know where they are. | Major Hayward | L.O. | I know of 6 and I think two were to come from India. I will inquire. | |
| 25. Ref my arrangement with you whereby HQ AIF advised you in case of emergency to call out crew, GI would prefer original arrangement of our HQ advising Lts.BESANT, ROACH & W.O.1 YULE to stand. | " | " | Right. | |
| Medical Kits. | | | | |
| 26 We are advised by Comd that these are now at RATMALANA. | " | DADMS | Noted. | |

D.J.Lovell
Major
L.O.1.

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET [illegible]

HQ ATP (ASTIC)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 15 Apr 1942

PRE MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | C257 | 0730 | | 17 Bde | 1830 (14/4) | SITREP ⊙ ref GALLE centralised ⊙ following movements are notified ⊙ 2/5 Bn ⊙ HQ Coy to 117587 ⊙ 2/7 Bn ⊙ Adv HQ 22 mile-post rd GALLE-AKURESSA 391653 ⊙ A Coy South of 12 mile-post rd AKURESSA-MATARA 408651 ⊙ B Coy 91 mile-post rd GALLE-WELIGAMA 365513 ⊙ D Coy near police station AKURESSA 397658 ⊙ HQ Coy less mortar pl. one near 12 mile-post rd AKURESSA-MATARA 406654 ⊙ adv partly training Bn at 395779 | |
| 2. | C265 | 0910 | | 17 Bde | 0730 | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |
| 3. | 711 | 0910 | | 16 Bde | 0655 | SITREP ⊙ SITNOR | |
| 4. | L.O.'s Report | 0915 | | Comd | 0915 | See Report attached | |
| 5. | - | 0950 | | | | "Alert" Sounded | |
| 6. | 23 | 1600 | 16 Bde | | | RAF KOGGALA reported 1150 hrs that ships believed to be enemy and to include one battleship were off LITTLE BASSES AIR 293104 | |
| 7 | C267 | 1545 | | 17 Bde | 1230 | RAF reported 1150 hrs that ships believed to be enemy and to include one battleship were off LITTLE BASSES AIR 293104 | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No

HQ AIR (SENIOR)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 15 Apr 42

REF. MAPS:

| Serial No | Senior's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.C. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8. | C273 | 1838 | | 17 Bde | 1505 | R.A.F. reported 1505 hrs that contact with enemy battleship and destroyer lost owing to storm | |
| 9. | verbal | 2010 | | Sig | 2010 | DR. held up by flood water at point MATUGAMA ⊙ will arrive about midnight instead of 2000 hrs | |
| 10. | phone | 2020 | | Combined Op. Room | 1905 | KOGGALA CATALINA reports that at 1113 GMT regained contact with enemy force 60°23"N 81°46"E Course 280° ⊙ exact composition unknown believed to be 1 B/S and 1 cruiser ⊙ composition later confirmed by R.A.F. ⊙ RAF evening patrols have nothing to report | |
| 11. | 25 | 2037 | 16 & 17 Bdes | | | Serial 10 repeated | |
| 12. | 719 | 2215 | | ~~1830~~ 16 Bde | 2215 | Situation is still normal | |
| 13. | C279 | 2250 | | 17 Bde | 1815 | Nothing further from RAF re Jap warships ⊙ Suspicious light reported on coast East of TANDALLA AIR 179057 night 14/15 April ⊙ patrol from 2/7 Bn proceeding TANGALLA to-night to investigate | |

REPORT ON VISITS BY LO(1) 14 APR 42

| SUBJECT | TO OR WITH WHOM | ORIG BY | COMMENT | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CEYLON Comd Aircraft Recognition Signals** | | | | |
| 1. Is there anything available yet? | G11(O) | LO | Yes. Information is being sought from INDIA | Will follow up. |
| 2. **Launches** | | | | |
| How many launches do you require? We're hoping to let you have them in the near future. | LO | G11(O) | (after ref to G11 AIF) Notincl no reqd by CHK, - two, which are required for KOGALLA area. | G11(O) intimated that these would be made available. Will follow up. |
| **RATMALANA** | | | | |
| **ARMD TRN** | | | | |
| 3. Inspected Trn with Major MOFFATT and Lieut BESANT. Also siding for holding trn when completed. | | | Stores held by 2 C.L.I. for Armd Trns- 26468 rds .303 ball ammo. 7 days rations (though QM states there is a defiency and considers stores should be turned over) 3 MMG's complete with chests 23 bait boxes. 2 bar foresight with cases. 4 spare part bags. 6 D.P. belts 2 spare part boxes with spares 2 medical kits. | Will see FSD |
| 4. Called on 2 CLI at MT LAVINIA and received list of stores held by them. C.O. states will be unable to guard trn as his unit is now fully occupied. | | | | Arranged with QM 2 CLI to take delivery of further 37000 rds .303 2 brens complete with tripods |
| Lieut BESANT stated that he saw a number of LMG's and belts at A Fd Depot, BOXALL Lane and understood they were available to be drawn. | | | | |

Liaison Officer

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc. conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No.

HQ AID (STYLOX)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 16 Apr 42

THE MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 015 | 0010 | | Comd | 2330/15 | Catalina reports one battleship accompanied by one cruiser sighted originally in position 05° 58" north 82° 18" East at 1020 LT/15 ⊙ Second report gave position as 05° 56" north 81° 59" East at 1112 LT/15 ⊙ Contact was lost soon after this and was regained later at 1713 LT/15 in position 04° 18" north 81° 37" East ⊙ Course at last position was 280° at mean speed of advance 20 knots ⊙ By dawn the enemy can be within radius of position approximately 20 miles north of COLOMBO. | |
| 2. | 26 | 0025 | 16 & 17 Bdes | | | Ref. our 25 of 15 Apr contact with enemy naval force - Serial 1 repeated from "regained at 1713 LT/15" | |
| 3. | C282 | 0155 | | 17Bde | 2145 | Ref. map AMBALANTOTA 1/63360 ⊙ following for information ⊙ Coast watching station HAMBANTOTA observed flashes at sea 2145 his night 14/15 Apr ⊙ at same time flashes observed from land areas 096680 - 096683 Part 2 ⊙ 2 Buddhist temples in area ⊙ priests in one said to be Jap may have connection | |

(over)

NOTE: All communications both in and out Tele/phone etc. conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 16 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Messages | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3. (contd) | | | | | | with light ○ No report No details re name first ○ and further informations will be forwarded | |
| 4. | 701 | 1020 | | 16 Bde | 0645 | Situep ○ Situr | |
| 5. | C283 | 1020 | | 17 Bde | 0715 | Situp ○ Situr: 964/424 | |
| 6. | C284 | 1200 | | 17 Bde | 0910 | Ref our C279 ○ Following report from 2/7 Aust. Inf Bn at TANGALLA ○ Very lights fired from bearing 0300 and 0500 hrs ○ persons responsible NOT caught ○ further recce by officer no plans clashes to-day ○ patrol of coy strength will operate same location to-night | |
| 7. | C285 | 1300 | | 17 Bde | 0955 | Reported by MRGTM/C coast watching patrol 2/7 Bn that at coast from HAMBANTOTA air 21907E was one foot under water 0600 hrs 16/4/42 | |
| 8 | C286 | 1300 | | 17 Bde | 1120 | RAF reported NO further news of enemy battleship and destroyer at 1115 hrs | |
| 9. | 27 | 1300 | 16 Bde | | | Serial No. 9 repeated | |

(3)

# OPERATIONS DIARY

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc. conversations to be entered on this form.

SHEET NO

HQ ATF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 16 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.C.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | 28 | 1335 | AQ | | | Serial No 7 repeated | |
| 11. | 29 | 1335 | Comd 16 Bde | | | Serial No 7 repeated | |
| 12. | 30 | 1445 | Comd | | | Serial No 13 (15 Apr) & Serial No 6 (16 Apr) repeated | |
| 13. | C292 | 1935 | | 17 Bde | 1800 | 675/905 Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor | |
| 14. | L.O(1) | 1940 | | Comd | | See report attached | |
| 15. | 742/326 | 2045 | | Comd | 2015 | Please inform nature interval and colors of verey lights fired. | |
| 16. | Phone | 2100 | 17 Bde | | | Information required in Serial 15 requested ⊙ | Bde H.Q. stated they would enquire and report |

# REPORT ON VISITS BY LO.1 - 15 APR 42.

| Subject | To or with whom | Orig by | Comment | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CEYLON COMMAND** | | | | |
| Rd Distances. | | | | |
| 1. We are preparing a table showing distances between various towns in CEYLON. Any such information you can forward will be acceptable. | L.O. | G11(I) | I think our "I" people can help. | |
| Air Photos. | | | | |
| 2. Can you tell me present possibility of getting an air photo of our HQ at MATUGAMA. | G111(I) | L.O. | There is none at present. No air photos being taken at all. | |
| "I" Summaries. | | | | |
| 3. May we be issued with copy of "I" summary issued daily by G11 of C-in-C.staff. | G11(I) | L.O. | I'll see Major DUNCAN | |
| Vehicle Dispersion. | | | | |
| 4. Can you instruct your officers & drivers that only cars with permit from Camp Comdt at Comd HQ are allowed to enter MUSEUM grounds. All others to use car park on other side of road. | L.O. | G111(I) camouflage. | Request submitted to AQ FOR para in AIF R.Os. | |
| ARMD TRN - MMGs, Tripods & Belts. | | | | |
| 5. Are the above items, which are in A.Fd.Ordnance Depot in VAUXHALL LANE, the ones included in your list of controlled stores. | G11(SO) | L.O. | Yes | |
| 25 Pdrs on loan. | | | | |
| 6. Of the 8 which were collected by our 2/1 Fd Regt only 3 have sight clinometers. Can anything [illegible] | SC/RA | L.O? | I'll contact Ordnance | Will follow up |

| Subject. | To or with whom | Orig by | Comment | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gridded Covers.Arty Boards. | | | | |
| 7.If no supplies are yet available may we get one to be used for printing others. | SC/RA | L.O. | I'll get one from 51 Fd.Regt. | Will follow up. |
| Drivers - A/Tk School. | | | | |
| 8.Is there anything definite yet as to how long these men will be required. | " | " | No. Actually at the moment, it is doubtful if the RASC drivers will be available. | |
| V.R.D. Victoria Park. Armd Cars. | | | | |
| 9 Drew one HUMBER & one STANDARD Armd Car for demonstration purposes until full allotment is drawn. | | | There are 8 cars at the V.R.D. 6 STANDARDS (with Brens) & 2 HUMBERS (with no guns) of which we get 4 & C.P.R.C. 4 | |
| Naval Supply Offr. Armd Trn - amn for 12 pdr. | | | | |
| 10. What amn is now available. | | | You were to draw 125 rds originally, but before you did so, we urgently reqd the number which were in our Depot, intending to replace them from a supply on an amn ship in the harbour. However the ship was sent out before this was done. At present there are 50 rds available which you can draw & as soon as more come to hand you can draw the extra 75. As regards the res. of 150 rds this has not yet been appd. I'll let you know later. | 2 cal ammo trucks to draw. |
| Naval Security Offr. Fishing Fleet - GALLE. 11. Written reply recd. Verbal information also passed to Gl. | | | | Will follow up |

D Lowes
Major.
L.O.1.

ARMY FORM C-2128, (Large)
(Pads of 100.)

# MESSAGE FORM

15

Serial No.

| CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS. | IN | No. of Groups. | OFFICE DATE STAMP. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | OUT | GR. | |

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO H.Q. A.I.F. CEYLON.

| FROM | Originator's Number. | Date. | In reply to Number. |
|---|---|---|---|
| DUTY OFFR. HQ | 742/326 | 16-4-42 | 30. |

| PLEASE | INFORM. | NATURE. | INTERVAL | AND | COLORS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| OF | VERY | LIGHTS | FIRED | ⊙ | |

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

SIGNED

IN DIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.

SIGNED C. Cohill Capt. R.E. Cy D.P.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TIME OF ORIGIN. 20.15.

T. H. I.

T. O. R.

| System in | Time in | Reader | Sender | System out | Time out | Reader. | Sender. | System out | Time out | Reader. | Sender. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

Dutt Printing Works Cal. 79 (319-A-G544) D. 22.7.41—100000 Pad.

2045

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET No 1

HQ 4TP (NAVAL)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 17 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | C295 | 0235 | | 17 Bde | 2335 (16/4) | Four bhp RM fired on unidentified suspicious light vessel 2250 hrs range approx 8000 yds ⊙ Reported may have been submarine ⊙ NO result observed | |
| 2. | | 0600 | Cond | | | Serial 1 repeated | |
| 3. | | 0600 | 16 Bde | | | Serial 1 repeated | |
| 4. | C296 | 0505 | ~~17 Bde~~ | 17 Bde | 0700 | Ref our C295 16 Apr nothing further to report ⊙ Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor | ✓ |
| 5. | 706 | 0830 | | 16 Bde | 0650 | Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor | |
| 6. | Phone | 0930 | | 17 Bde | 0930 | Bishop seen bearing 230° from GALLE at 0907 hrs | |
| 7. | Phone | 1005 | | 17 Bde | 1005 | Bishop same religion as ourselves | |
| 8. | Phone | 1200 | | 17 Bde | 1200 | Ref C296 ⊙ Lights green and out to sea ⊙ No success last night ⊙ are trying again to-night. | |
| 9 | 36 | 1310 | Cond | | | Serial NO 8 repeated | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

2.

SHEET NO

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 17 Apr

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10. | L.O.(1) (verbal) | 1445 | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 11. | C299 | 2035 | 17 Bde | 1845 | Sitrep ⊙ 103/879 ⊙ Patrol 2/7 Bn TANGALLA area night 16/17 April saw light caused by natives at work ⊙ light not signalling ⊙ natives warned ⊙ further patrols same area to-night | |

# REPORT ON VISIT BY LO.1 16 APR 42

| SUBJECT | TO OR WITH WHOM | BY | COMMENT | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CEYLON Command** | | | | |
| **Code Names**<br>1. Comd Sig Office did NOT know their own code name. Should not these code names be in use. | G11(1) | LO | They should be used. I'll instruct signals. | |
| **Identification Aircraft**<br>2. Am arranging to have a small booklet printed so that it will fit in AB 64 paybook, showing silhouettes of British and Japanese aircraft. | LO | G~~1~~ (1) | | |
| **Armd Trn - Warning to Crew**<br>3. Would it be possible for a warning calling out crew of trn to be broadcast if necessary. At present we are dependant upon telephone and telegraph messages. Any simple code would suitable. | CSO | G1 | A good idea. I'll put it up to the Signals Board at its meeting tomorrow morning. | Will follow up. |
| **Trn Stores - Reimbursement for Expenditure**<br>4. Ref my report dated 13 Apr collected AFP 1922 form for claiming reimbursement from Comd Paymaster. | | | | Form with Trn Store File |
| **Controlled STores**<br>5. What stores required in our signal 22 dated 15 Apr are available? | G11 (SD) | LO | (a) Compasses-none available<br>(b) Binoculars - COO has been advised to make 48 available to AIF. You distribute them as you wish.<br>(c) .38 Rev Ammn-indent in ordinary way. | |
| **RAF 1 Offr**<br>**Payment ~~for~~ salvage of plane**<br>6. Has this been finalised yet? | I Offr | LO | AOC has approved of it. Should be available from RAF peymaster | Later collected amount from RAF Paymaster and advised Bde will fwd tomorrow. |

| SUBJECT. | To or with Whom | By | COMMENT | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Identification of Aircraft. | | | | |
| 7. Have had a large quantity of Silhouettes of British Aircraft printed and these will be distributed to you through Comd. | L.O. | I Offr. | Copy handed to L.O. | |
| ELECTRON from Crashed Aircraft. | | | | |
| 8. Your Engrs wanted certain parts from crashed Jap aircraft. I'm afraid these are not available but I have arranged for certain parts of our own crashed planes to be given to you. Contact our Salvage unit. | L.O. | I Offr. | | CRE Advised. |
| Crashed Japanese Aircraft. | | | | |
| 9. We are anxious to obtain as much material from crashed planes as possible. Personnel of your 12 AGH have a certain amount held as souvenirs, Could this be forwarded and if names are attached we will endeavour to return them after investigation. | L.O. | I Offrs. | Will Contact 12 AGH | |
| Report of Crashed Aircraft. | | | | |
| 10. Regret after much searching cant locate crashed plane reported by your D.R. last week. Can you supply further detail. | L.O. | I Offr. | Will see what can be done. | D.R. to be questioned |
| AHQ TRN (now) - RATMALANA. | | | | |
| Removal to Siding. | | | | |
| 11. Accompanied by,<br>MR FREER. Mech Eng. C.G.R.<br>MR BODGER. Mgr for Tracks, Sidings & Bridges C.G.R.<br>CAPT MAHONY of Transportation Directorate of Docks & Hys. | | | | |

| SUBJECT. | To or with Whom | By | COMMENT | REMARKS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11 Removal to Siding (Contd) | | | | |
| Inspected existing siding near RATMALANA Stn. Arranged plan so that movement of trn from siding to main line always possible. Mr.FREER attending to this. | | | | |
| Subject to our approval Mr.BODGER agreed to extend existing siding aprox 100-150 yds so that trn could be well concealed under Cocoanut trees. He estimated several days required for approval to take over land and then up to 7 days for completion of siding. | | | After ref to Cl, necessary approval being asked from Comd. | Particulars of necessary land & of empty houses on cnr. CASCIA Ave & WEDIKANDA Rd alongside proposed siding being obtained by CAPT.MAHONY. One house would be handy to guard. Will advise Base Area. Approval to go ahead with scheme to be given to TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORATE - (EASTERN BANK BDGS - Tel 4844) |

Major.
L.O.1.

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 18 Apr 1942

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.C.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 731 | 0740 | | 16 Bde | 0620 | Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor | |
| 2 | 707 | 0820 | | 16 Bde | 1800-17/4 | Situation still normal | |
| 3. | C401 | 0825 | | 17 Bde | 0705 | Sitrep ⊙ ref. your message 38 ⊙ no further information to hand report immediately 2/7 Bn send signal ⊙ otherwise sitnor | |
| 4. | C51 | 1330 | | 17 Bde | 1155 | RAF reports 3 water holes artificially coloured red forming equilateral triangle S.E. Air 197067 vicinity good landing ground ⊙ we are investigating | |
| 5. | Verbal L.O.(1) | 1400 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 6. | C300 | 1955 | | 17 Bde | 1900 | M/c and beach patrols ⊙ Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor ⊙ have nothing to report ⊙ ref. GALLE centralised sheet 2/6 Bn moved to 252566 to-day 1500 hrs | |
| 7. | C302 | 2030 | | 17 Bde | 0905 | Ref our C51 ⊙ investigation proved colour in water attributed to natural causes | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 19 Apr

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | C304 | 1050 | | 17 Bde | 0713 | Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor. | |
| 2. | 78 | 1050 | | 16 Bde | 0713 | Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor | |
| 3. | 742/105 | 1154 | | Comd | - | Four boom defence craft towing eight motor landing craft appearance flat bottomed barges may strike coast anywhere on west side of Leyton sometime to-day ⊙ these are own craft ⊙ going from South to North | |
| 4. | 42 | 1212 | 16 & 17 Bdes | | | Serial 3 repeated | See Duty Offis Log |
| 5. | Verbal L.O.(1) | 1300 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 6. | 792 | 1900 | | 16 Bde | 1746 | Sitrep ⊙ sitnor | |
| 7. | 1601 | 1955 | | 17 Bde | 1520 | Sitrep ⊙ sitnor ⊙ ref C51 2/7 Bn reports water-holes coloured naturally full report & sample of water follows | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

HQ ATD (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 19 Apr

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8. | 001 | 2105 | | 16 Inf Bde Gp Coy (61 Coy) RASC | 1800 | 15 Cwt Fordson PU vehicle WD no 715286 stolen from Chatham St Colombo at 1145 Apr 18 O vehicle is camouflaged dark green and has div signs no. 74 with red star on back & front O if located, please inform this unit | |
| 9. | 43 | 2117 | 16 & 17 Bdes | | | Serial 8 repeated | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 1

HQ ATF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 20 Apr

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 773 | 0805 | | 16 Bde | 0655 | Sitrep 0 Sitnor | |
| 2. | C1005 | 0912 | | 17 Bde | 0700 | Sitrep 0 Sitnor | |
| 3. | L.O.(1) verbal | 1100 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 4. | C1012 | 2040 | | 17 Bde | 2040 | Sitrep 0 Patrol 2/7 Bn TANGALA night 19/20 NIL report further patrol same area to-night 02 sub sec of 9 sec Engrs now located at AIR CICAGU 0 otherwise sitnor | |
| 5. | C1611 | 2055 | | 17 Bde | 1640 | Det 2/2 Fd Amb to 205546 0 detailed location statement as at 1200 hrs to-day follows | |
| 6 | C1013 | 2225 | | 17 Bde | 2015 | Coast watching station 15 report some unidentified aircraft at 1505 hrs fired few rounds into air probably testing guns all informed | |
| 7. | verbal L.O.(11) | - | | 16 Bde | | See report attached | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

HQ ATF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 21 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 751 | 0800 | | 16 Bde | 0655 | Situation reported by all units in area as normal | |
| 2. | C1014 | 0822 | | 17 Bde | 0715 | Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor | |
| 3. | 1015 | 1225 | | 17 Bde | 1100 | Ref GALLE centralised 16 Aust LAD 5 Pl HQ Gd Bn less det and det K Sec Sigs moved AKURESSA 397683 1000 hrs to-day | |
| 4. | 757 | 1915 | | 16 Bde | 1745 | ref map HORANA 1" to 1 mile A Coy 2/1 Fd Amb located at Scout Colony 812255 | |
| 5 | 751 | 1945 | | 16 Bde | 1745 | Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor | |
| 6. | C1018 | 2015 | | 17 Bde | 1800 | Sitrep ⊙ Sitnor ⊙ det 6 Div Postal Unit now at 397683 B Ech 2/7 Lan moving 401669 0800 hrs 22 Apr | |
| 7 | - | 2100 | | Comd | 1530 | Following from Police CBC at 1515 hrs ⊙ begins ⊙ from ASP TRN Lockup ERAVUR report 2 suspected parachutists near VALAICHEWAI. Enquiries being made ⊙ military informed ⊙ | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. ____

HQ AFF (CEYLON) 1

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 22 Apr 42.

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 732 | 0810 | | 16 Bde | 0700 | Sitrep 0 Situor | |
| 2. | C1019 | 0850 | | 17 Bde | 0715 | Sitrep 0 Situor | |
| 3. | C1020 | 1035 | | 17 Bde | 1250 | 2/2 Aust. Fd Regt less 3 Btys moved 393675 0900 hrs 0 opened new location 1200 hrs | |
| 4. | verbal L.O.M. | 1500 | | Comd | | See report attached | |
| 5. | Phone | 1545 | | 17 Bde | 1500 | 6 unidentified aircraft approaching from west - RAF investigating | |
| 6. | 48 | 1545 | Comd | | | Serial 5 repeated | |
| 7 | C1022 | 2025 | | 17 Bde | 1800 | Sitrep 0 situor | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS
## DIARY

SHEET NO 1

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 23 Oct

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 736 | 0810 | | 16 Bde | 1825/22 | Normal situation prevails in this area | |
| 2. | 7103 | 0810 | | 16 Bde | 0625 | Nothing to report | |
| 3. | C1025 | 0815 | | 17 Bde | 0700 | Nothing to report | |
| 4. | Naval LO (I) | 0930 | | Comd | | See report attached | |
| 5. | Naval L.O. 17 Bde | 0930 | | 17 Bde | | See report attached | |
| 6. | | | | | | | |
| 7. | S2 | 2000 | 16 & 17 Bdes | ~~16 Bde~~ ~~17 Bde~~ | | Serial 6 repeated | |
| 8. | C1028 | 2021 | | 17 Bde | 1815 | Nothing to report | |
| 9. | 7105 | 2030 | | 16 Bde | 1835 | Normal situation prevails | |
| 10 | Naval (2011) | - | | 16 Bde | - | See Report attached | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. _____

HQ AFF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 24 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 783 | 0845 | | 16 Bde | 0710 | Sitrep ⊙ sitnor | |
| 2. | C1029 | 0950 | | 17 Bde | 0750 | Sitrep ⊙ 2/5 Aust Inf. Bn reports flooding of GALLE-COLOMBO road for distance of 100 yds in area of 44 mile post at 1810 hrs ⊙ otherwise sitnor | |
| 3. | 343/910 | 1600 | | Comd | - | Flood report ⊙ RATNAPURA-NAMBAPANA first mile 6 inches water subsiding ⊙ second mile 2" water subsiding passable ⊙ hospital rd RATNAPURA 15" water subsiding ⊙ PANADURA-RATNAPURA 12" water rising midday ⊙ probable flooding GOVINNA area to-morrow | |
| 4. | 54 | 1610 | 16+17 Bdes AFW A/Tk | | | Serial No 3 repeated | |
| 5. | Phone | 2035 | | 16 Bde | 2035 | B.M. said that Brig she were leaving on the recce of northern area agreed with G.O.C. at 0900 hrs 25 Apr ⊙ they were taking W/T set with them shaped to keep touch that way | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 1

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 24 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards To TIME | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6. | C1030 | 2207 | 17 Bde | 1855 | Following movement notified 2/6 Bn B Corp now at 248566 @ rd AKURESSA-GALLE 6" under water 120593 for 100 yds @ track 275539 18" for 400 yds @ civil line down COLOMBO-GALLE, GALLE-MATARA @ otherwise situor | |
| 7. | 785 | 2235 | 16 Bde | 1855 | Siturep @ situor | |
| 8 | verbal (L.O.O.) | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 9. | verbal (L.O.O.) | | 16 Bde | | See Report attached | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

HQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 25 Apr.

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | C1031 | 0830 | | 17Bde | 0710 | Sitrep ⊙ sitnor | |
| 2. | Phone | 1010 | | Comd | 1010 | Rd low level CBO-HANWELLA (094165) 17 mile 3" water rising slowly ⊙ 19 mile 3' water rising ⊙ later flood can be bypassed via village ⊙ Detour signs already in position. | |
| 3. | Phone | 1020 | | Comd | 1020 | Rd HORANA-ANGURUWATOTA 6 mile 30" water impassable ⊙ ANGURUWATOTA ferry not working ⊙ PANADURA-RATNAPURA rd 18 mile 18" rising 22 mile 3½' rising ⊙ latter flood expected to subside this evening | |
| 4. | 57 | 1050 | 16+17 Bdes | | | Serials 2+3 repeated | |
| 5. | verbal L.O.(1) | 1100 | | Comd | | See report attached | |
| 6. | C1036 | 1935 | | 17Bde | 1805 | Sitrep ⊙ sitnor ⊙ M/C patrol reports rds clear of water | |
| 7. | 704 | 2200 | | 16Bde | 1645 | Situation normal | |
| 8. | verbal LO(1) | | | 17Bde | | See Report attached | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO. 4

HQ AIF (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 26 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards To (TIME) | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | C1039 | 0820 | 17 Bde | 0705 | Sitrep o Situor | |
| 2. | L.O (1) verbal | 0915 | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 3. | C1040 | 2000 | 17 Bde | 1855 | Sitrep o No main rds in area reported impassable o intermittent rain all day | |
| 4. | B46 | 2100 | 16 Bde | 2030 | Native found dead by roadside rd HORANA-PANDURA four miles from PANDURA 1640 hrs to-day o suspected rd used by army truck officer investigating with police o two soldiers suspected held in custody | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 27 Apr 42

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards To Time | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | - | 0845 | 16 Bde | 0745 | Sitrep o sitnor | |
| 2. | C301 | 0900 | 17 Bde | 0715 | Sitrep o sitnor | |
| 3. | verbal L.O.(11) | 1100 | 16 Bde | | See Report attached | |
| 4. | verbal (L.O.(1)) | 1100 | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 5. | 60 | 1155 | Comd | | Ref CEYLON 4 miles 1" ⊙ ferryman ANGORUWATOTA 093133 states ferry open for pedestrian and motor cycle traffic only ⊙ can instruction be issued for vehicles to be ferried ⊙ ferry capable carrying vehicles | |
| 6. | C1041 | 1605 | 17 Bde | 1505 | From 1200 hrs 27 Apr 2/8 Aust. Fd Coy at 395676 | |
| 7. | C1047 | 1825 | 17 Bde | 1635 | Change of location by 2/7 Bn A Coy 397658 D Coy 365515 | |
| 8 | ~~[illegible]~~ C1043 | 1924 | 17 Bde | 1815 | Sitrep ⊙ sitnor | |

**NOTE:** All communications both in and out Telephone etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO 1

AQ AIR (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 28 Apr

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards Time | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 71/3 | 0705 | | 16 Bde | 0645 | Situation is normal in this area | |
| 2. | C1041 | 0820 | | 17 Bde | 0705 | Sitrep ⊙ situor | |
| 3. | verbal (L.O.i) | 0900 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 4. | C1046 | 2000 | | 17 Bde | 1810 | 2/7 Aust Inf. Bn mortar pl now at 406654 ⊙ Sitrep ⊙ situor. | |
| 5. | C1051 | 2000 | | 17 Bde | 1835 | Sitrep ⊙ situor | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET [illegible]

HQ AID (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 20 Apr 42

FMF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards TIME | Outwards To | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 785 | 0830 | | 16 Bde | 0630 | Sitrep @ situor | |
| 2. | C1048 | 0830 | | 17 Bde | 0700 | Sitrep @ situor | |
| 3. | verbal (L.O.I) | 0830 | | Comd | | See Report attached | |
| 4. | verbal (L.O.II) | [illegible] | | 16 Bde | | See report attached | |
| 5. | verbal (Sig II) | 1720 | | Sigs | | Military line to HORANA is out and all calls will be required to go through Civil Exchange | |
| 6. | 7104 | 2145 | | 16 Bde | 1025 (28/4) | 21 Yd Regt advise 1 Bty less BHQ at STOUJGNL @ 2 Bty at JNGCJNLE @ ref map CEYLON 4 miles to 1" | |
| 7. | C1044 | 2145 | | 17 Bde | 1220 (28/4) | 2 Coy AASC moved 1200 hrs 28 Apr @ dispositions Coy HQ 404722 B.C.E. plus F.M.C area on rd AKURESSA-MORAWAKA from 26 to 30 mile posts @ D platoon remains 025640. | |

NOTE: All communications both in and out Telephone etc, conversations to be entered on this form.

# OPERATIONS DIARY

SHEET NO

HQ [illegible] (CEYLON)

(Place) COLOMBO

(Date) 30 Apr 1942

REF MAPS:

| Serial No | Sender's No | Outwards To TIME | Inwards From | Inwards T.O.O. | Message | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 7003 | 1040 | 16 Bde | 0645 | Normal situation prevails this area | |
| 2. | C1052 | 1040 | 17 Bde | 0710 | Sitrep o sitnor | |
| 3. | verbal L.D.(M) | 1100 | 16 Bde | | See Report attached | |
| 4. | 7007 | 1905 | 16 Bde | 1750 | Sitrep o sitnor | |
| 5 | C1054 | 2040 | 17 Bde | 1805 | Sitrep o sitnor | |
| 6. | 7006 | 1905 | 16 Bde | 1750 | A Coy 2/1 Bn on three day exercise o Route direct cross country BERUWALA o return Saturday | |