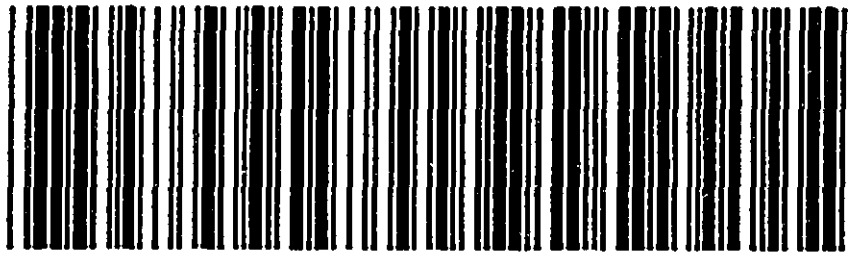
AWM52
Australian Military Forces, Army headquarters, formation and unit diaries, 1939-1945

1/14/8
AIR LIAISON

6 Command Air Liaison Section (6 Comnd AL Sec)

September 1943 - April 1944



1/14/8-0012

ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 21[illegible]. (adapted.)

Unit .....6..Aust..Comd..A.L..Section. *Date and Time.—From* .....SEP..'43.....*To* .....FEB..'44 Incl...

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			PERSONNEL.	
N.T. Area	13 SEP 43		VX.17030 Capt J.G.Court succeeded SX.21076 Capt C.A.Stevens as	
			OC 6 Aust Comd A.L. Section, Capt C.A.Stevens being appointed	
			as A.L.O. of 57 Aust Sqn A.L. Section.	
	3 OCT '43		SX.14106 Capt. C.P.Price arrived and was appointed A.L.O. to 59	
			Aust Sqn A.L. Section.	
	24 NOV 43		VX.11[illegible]35 Capt A.P.Crow arrived and was appointed A.L.O. to	
			53 Aust Sqn A.L. Section to replace VX.45502 Lieut S.H.Williams	
			who was transferred to A.L. Group, New Guinea Force.	
	16 DEC '43		VX.65135 Capt K.H.Gill appointed A.L.O. to 50 Aust Sqn A.L. Sec.	
			VX.16014 Lieut K.W.Kennedy appointed ALO. 61 Aust Sqn A.L. Sec.	
	8 FEB '44		Capt Stevens transferred to GDD, S.A.L of C Area for disposal.	
	16 FEB '44		NX.73234 Lieut P.F.McCabe arrived to replace Capt Stevens as	
			A.L.O., 57 Aust Sqn A.L. Section.	
	22 FEB '44		Capt Court transferred to 7 Aust Comd A.L. Section.	

L.

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

Unit 6 Aust Comd A.L. Section *Date and Time.—From* SEP '43 *To* FEB '44 Incl.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			GENERAL.	
			Each day all Air Operations are obtained and conveyed to Adv. H.Q., N.T. Force.	
			During ~~this~~ the above period A.L.O's conferences have been held on	
			Mondays of each week at Adv. H.Q., N.T. Force. Whenever pos-	
			sible, arrangements have been made for R.A.N. Army or R.A.A.F.	
			officers to give talks at these conferences.	
			All administrative matters covering Comd and Sig Sections are	
			dealt with by this section.	
			Arrangements were made for suitable vehicles to be allotted	
			to all sections, which are now all catered for.	
			W.E.T's prepared and submitted for all sections.	

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ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

ORIGINAL
4 MAY 1944

Army Form C. 2118.
(adapted.)

Unit 6 Aust Comd A L Sec *Date and Time.—From* 1 Mar 44 *To* 31 Mar 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
c/o Group 22 RAAF DARWIN			GENERAL	
			Similar to previous month.	
			PERSONNEL	
	8 Mar 44		SX14106 Capt G. F. L. Price (59 Aust Sqn A L Sec) temporarily	
			appointed to Adm Comd, authority N T Force signal SD1011 of	
			6 Mar 44	
	19 Mar 44		WX30100 Pte D. C. O'Halloran transferred to 7 Aust Comd A L Sec	
			— Major	

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ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form (adapt

57 AUST SQN A.L.SEC

Unit ATI. 452 (FIGHTER SQN) *Date and Time.—From* I MARCH 44 *To* 3I MARCH 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references Appendices, Diaries.
STRAUSS DARWIN N T.	I MARCH TO	7 MARCH 44	Normal training and general liaison duties carried out .	
			Exercise with air co-operation carried out with I35 Lt A A	
	8 MARCH TO	3I MARCH 44	Normal training and general liaison duties carried out.	
			On 9 MARCH 452 Sqn moved to PERTH on Operational move. A.L.O received	
			instructions from 6 Aust Comd A L Sec to remain in area and take up duty	
			with 84 Sqn which was expected to move into the area. On arrival of	
			84 Sqn it was found that their own AL O had arrived , so after spending	
			a few days with him A L O received orders to move to 54 Sqn R.A.F and	
			take over command of 59 Aust Sqn A.L.Sec owing to absence of the C O of	
			that section. A L O did not return to 57 Aust Sqn A.L.Sec until 29 March	
			On taking up duty again A.L.O continued normal training and general	
			liaison duty.	
			W.K.Cain Lt.	
			OC 57 Aust Sqn A.L.Sec	

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ORIGINAL

59 Aust Sqn A L Sec att to 54 Sqn

W A R D I A R Y MARCH 1944

1. ADM.

(i) Personnel of the section remain unchanged; no batman driver has so far been obtained.
On 8 Mar 44, Capt Price went to RAAF HQ N.W.Area, temporarily administering command of 6 Aust Comd A L Sec pending the arrival of Maj P. Osborne (vide Norforce signal SD1011 of 6 Mar 44, copies of which are attd as appx A) In his absence Cpl Stebbings was the only member of 59 Aust Sqn A L Sec remaining with 54 Sqn.
On 15 Mar 44, Lt McCabe (ALO, 57 Aust Sqn A L Sec) was attached to 54 Sqn temporarily administering command of 59 Aust Sqn A L Sec in Capt Price's absence. On 25 Mar 44 he was joined by his clerk, Cpl Martin C.A. and on the 26 Mar 44 Cpl Stebbings moved to HQ, N. W. Area where he was temporarily attached to 6 Aust Comd A L Sec pending his movement south on 32 days ARL.
On 29 Mar 44 Lt McCabe & Cpl Martin returned to 452 Sqn, and resumed the duties of 57 Aust Sqn A L Sec, thus leaving 54 Sqn with no A L personnel attached for the time being.

(ii) On 13 Mar 44 the section vehicle (No.15578) was inspected by A E M E at Adv HQ, N T Force. As a result, the vehicle was ordered into workshops for certain work to be done; this work was completed and the vehicle came back from Darwin Fortress Workshops on 4 Apr 44.

2. OPERATIONS - Nil.

3. TRAINING OF 54 Sqn Personnel.

(i) The training programme was interrupted by the departure of Capt Price to HQ, N W Area on 8 Mar 44.
(ii) 4 Mar 44. Capt Price gave a talk to the Pilots on the War situation. (No further talks on the War situation were given during the month)
(iii) The following lectures were given:-
4 Mar 44 Lt McCabe (ALO, 452 Sqn) gave a lecture to the pilots of his experiences in Timor.
4 Mar 44. Capt Starr (U S Army Air Force Tech Int Offr) gave a lecture to all personnel of 54 Sqn who cared to attend on "The Japanese Air Force"
29 Mar 44. Before resuming his duties with 452 Sqn, Lt McCabe gave a lecture to the pilots of 54 Sqn on the new "Combined Panel Code System"

4. EXERCISES. No exercises were carried out during the month due chiefly to :-
(i) Bad weather early in the month, which necessitated several exercises being cancelled.
(ii) The requirements of aircraft for operational purposes later in the month.

5. LIAISON. (i) Liaison was established with 7 R S U by a visit paid by ALO & Sqn IO on 1 Mar 44.
(ii) Liaison was also established with 2/11 Aust Fd Regt by a visit of A L O on 3 Mar 44.

6. VISITS.

(i) In addition to visits made by lecturers, etc., which are shown under the heading of "Training of 54 Sqn personnel", the following visited 54 Sqn during the month
4 Mar 44 F/O Moore (IO, 452 Sqn) also Maj Watson (Darwin Coast Arty)
4 Mar 44 Maj Burrowes & Lt Hunter (19 Aust HAA Bty) visited 54 Sqn & attended Capt Starr's lecture.
10 Mar 44 Maj Burrowes (19 Aust HAA Bty)
On 11 Mar 44, 18 Mar & 25 Mar 44, Capt Price visited 54 Sqn from HQ N W Area.
14 Mar 44 Capt Creswick (IO Darwin Fortress)
23 Mar 44 Lt West (19 Aust HAA Bty) visited ALO to arrange air co-operation in calibrating RADAR equipment.
24 Mar 44 Lt Willis (OC "E" Tp 161 LAA BTy) and F/O Miller (RAAF Tech int Offr) visited section.

(ii) The following visits made by the ALO, in addition to those made for the purpose of establishing liaison with other Units, are worthy of mention:-
7 Mar 44 Capt Price visited 1 Fighter Wing (F/L Johns IO) to advise that, as from 8 Mar 44, during Capt Price's attachment to HQ N W Area, Lt Kennedy (ALO 457 Sqn) would act as ALO to 1 Fighter Wing.

15 Mar 44 Lt McCabe visited 1 Fighter Wing & Capt Lee (S.L Offr, AAED Darwin)
20 Mar 44 Lt McCabe visited Capt Criswick (IO Darwin Fortress) and 84 Sqn
21 Mar 44 Lt McCabe visited 1 Fighter Wing
22 Mar 44 Lt McCabe visited 6 Aust Inf Bde Bn (Signal Offr)
24 Mar 44 Lt Willis (OC "E" Tp 161 LAA Bty)& F/O Miller (RAAF Tech Int Off)

G. B. Price Capt
59 Aust Sqn Hk Sec.

Army Form C.2126
(Field of 1937)

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. APP x A

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 59 Aust Sqn A L Sec rpt 6 Aust Comd A L Sec

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
Norforce	SD 1011	6	

Capt Aust until	Price Comd arrival	will A L Sec Maj	administer as from Osborne	comd 8	6 March

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS; (*[EXCEPT]) WIRELESS

signed R.Hopkinson Maj
SIGNATURE
*ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND INSERT "INCLUDING."

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.

SIGNATURE

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN 061830 KL

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

(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

ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY MARCH, 1944.

58 AUST. SQN. A.L. SEC.

ATTACHED TO NO. 2. SQN. R.A.A.F.

Throughout the month frequent visits have been paid to nearby Army units by the A.L.O. for the purpose of keeping them in touch with matters of an Air Force nature and the war situation generally.

Parties from nearby Units were conducted over HUDSON and BEAUFORT aircraft by the A.L.O. and members of air Crews.

The A.L.O. gave lectures on various types of photos and purposes for which used by ground troops and aircraft for different types of operations. This included a description of above to officers training at Amphibious Training School.

Several very successful co-operation exercises have been carried out with searchlights and A.A. Units in this Area. These Units have expressed their appreciation of the manner in which 2 Sqdn. personnel have co-operated and helped to make these exercises so successful.

In order to increase the knowledge of, and interest in, Japanese aircraft, a Sqn. officer has visited local A.A. troops of 155 Bty. A.A. Bty, with the latest information available. His talk on the subject included characteristics of each type of plane and points on recognition. Where possible spare material has been made available to assist these Units.

In preparation for the change from SWPA Panel Code to Combined Panel System the A.L.O visited army units and described the new system. A demonstration for the benefit of Air Crews of 2 Sqdn and nearby Army Units was arranged but, unfortunately, had to be postponed owing to Operational commitments. By arrangement with A.L.O. 452 Sqn. some officers and senior N.C.O's were able to attend a demonstration held by that Sqn.and 12/50 Aust. Inf. Bn.

An interest in the progress of the war and world events has been kept up by regular talks on the subject by the A.L.O. These are given on separate occasions for Air Crews, Ground Staff, and A.A. personnel. In addition a precis on this subject is sent to the Operations Officer, MILLIMBI, who passes it on to Air Crews and Ground Staff at regular meetings.

R.A. Scott Capt.
.....
(R.A. SCOTT)
CAPTAIN,
A/A.L.O. 58 AUST. SQN. A.L. SEC.

MAR 44 WAR DIARY SECRET

61 AUST SQN A L SEC.

Attd 457 SQN R A A F

Date

1. Nil.
2. ALO visited HQ 12 INF BDE.
3. Camera gun film taken with camera mounted on BOFORS gun during beat-up by BEAUFORT, shown on assessor to offrs and men of 161 Lt A/A BTY.
4. Nil.
5. Nil.
6. Nil.
7. Nil.
8. 10 Spitfires, lead by F/Lt MENZIES, 457 SQN, left for PORT MORESBY. 457 SQN given orders to move to PERTH at first light.
9. 16 Spitfires take off at first light for PERTH.
   84 SQN, RAAF, commences to move in to LIVINGSTONE strip.
10. ALO AOD PERTH.
11. do.
12.
13.
14.
15.
16. do.
17.
18.
19.
20.
21. do.
22.
23.
24.
25.
26.
27. do.
28.
29.
30.
31. do.

Lieut,
S. AUST SQN A. L. SEC

SECRET

ORIGINAL

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118. (adapted.)

Unit 6 Aust Comd A.L. Sec. AIF Date and Time.—From 1 April 44 To 30 April 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
c/- Group 22 RAAF, DARWIN.			ADMINISTRATION.	
			NX 113078 Major P.J.B. Osborne (ex RAAF School of Army Co-op. Canberra) assumed command of 6 Aust. Comd. A.L. Section. Capt. Price resumed command of 59 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec. attached No.54 Sqn. RAAF.	5 Apr 44
			NX 73234 Capt. P.P. McCabe and members of 57 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec.(attached No.457 Sqn.RAAF) were temporarily attached to No.1 Sqn.RAAF. Capt. Gill of 60 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec., attached No.1 Sqn RAAF, is absent on leave.	29 April 44
			It has been promulgated in GRO 151/44 that all sections have been classified as AIF Units.	
			TRANSFERS.	
			Advice has been received of the posting of the following officers to 1 Aust. A.L. Group, New Guinea.	27 April 44
			~~NX 107674 Capt. F.C. Hourn, ALO, 55 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec.~~ VX 112136 Capt. A.P. Crow, ALO, 58 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec. ~~SX 14106 Capt. G.L.F. Price, ALO, 59 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec.~~	
			These officers will be replaced by SX 24838 Capt. A.B. Hastings, VX 22938 Lieut. W.C. Ring, and NX 129528 Capt. H.S. Coghill, respectively.	
			PROMOTIONS.	
			The following officers have been promoted to the rank of T/Capt. whilst holding ~~xxx~~ appointments as ALOs.	28 April 44
			VX 16014 Lieut. Kennedy, 61 Austl Sqn. A.L. Sec. ~~NX 73234 Lieut. McCabe, 57 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec.~~	
			Personnel.	
			VX 58735 Cpl. S. Potter, 60 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec, evacuated from NT because of Malaria.	1 April 44
			ACTIVITIES.	
			~~Air co-operation was arranged for exercises conducted in DARWIN Area by 2 Aust. Inf. Bde. and Combined Operations Trg Cadre.~~	
			~~Successful AA Drogue Shoots were provided after liaison with No.6 Comm. Unit RAAF~~ for LAA and HAA gun crews in DARWIN, HUGHES, BATCHELOR, and FENTON areas.	

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SECRET.

Page 2.

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form O. 2118. (adapted.)

Unit 6 Aust. Comd. A.L.Sec. AIF *Date and Time.—From* 1 April 44 *To* 30 April 44

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			ACTIVITIES. (contd)	
			Further training of AA gunners took the form of "camera gunnery" --- a G45 cine camera was mounted on a Bofors Gun, with excellent results.	
			Details of a special transport - travel flight for Army Technical officers were co-ordinated with 6 Comm Unit RAAF.	
			Requests received for Air Photographs have been fulfilled by No.1 PRU RAAF.	
			.....Major O.C., 6 Aust. Comd. A.L. Section. AIF.	

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