

**AWM52**  
**2nd Australian Imperial Force and**  
**Commonwealth Military Forces unit war**  
**diaries, 1939-45 War**

Item number: 8/2/17

17 Infantry Brigade

December 1940, Appendices, part  
2 of 2



17 Bde to be explained &  
 handed personally to Brig J. SECRET  
 MJB

NOTES OF CONFERENCE HELD AT 6 AUST DIV HQ  
1100 HRS, 28 DEC 40

Present:-

Comd, G I, AQ, CRA.  
 Comd, BM, 16 Aust Inf Bde.  
 CO, 2 1/c, 7 RTR.

1. GOC explained dispositions of Div, preliminary tasks of 17 Aust Inf Bde, and the expected date of arrival 19 Aust Inf Bde. He also gave the gist of the Conference notes of 26 Dec when the Comd WDF was present.
2. ZERO DAY was fixed as 2 Jan tentatively but was dependent on amn. Arrangements were being made for Air and Navy to bombard enemy posns 24 or 48 hrs before zero day.
3. APPROACH OF TANKS. On zero - 2 night 7 R Tanks carry out first stage of approach march SW of SIDI AZEIZ. Second stage of zero - 1 night would involve a 10 mile march in the dark and would take 5 hours. For the latter stage of this approach march to the final tank assembly area it was necessary to have low-flying aircraft to drown noise of "I" tanks.

Ask WDF to arrange for low-flying aircraft at this time and on several nights prior to zero day.

4. ENGRS. Task - to bridge A Tk ditch in 6 places, each bridge to be 20' wide. Four of these crossings to be completed to enable the passage of Bren Carriers and wheeled MT one hour after tanks have crossed.

Engrs to cut 6 gaps in the wire for the passage of the tanks and also 6 gaps in the stone wall.

5. INF. SL to be 1000 yds from and parallel to a line joining Posts 45 and 47. It is expected that arty will cut certain gaps in the wire, but the inf are to be prepared to cut their own gaps through the wire. From the SL to the wire inf require 30 mins.

6. "A" BN OBJECTIVES:

- (1) Posts 45 and 47. These posts each to be held by one pl, as an inner defence of the tank bridge head. The 1st objective will also include Posts 44, 46, and exploiting of Post 49.

(11) 2nd objective: Med Bty beyond 2nd road at 51333954 to OP at Trig 100 in 51273967.

7. ENGRS. A Sec 2/1 Fd Coy to assemble behind "A" Bn and accompany them to the A Tk ditch where they will carry out their tank bridging programme. Four bridges to the South of Post 47 and two bridges to the North. In addition, the Engrs will search the Northern edge of the minefield shown in front of Post 45 and if there are any mines will mark the Northern edge of the minefield with RED flags and RED lights in petrol tins shining towards the West.

8. TANK ATTACK. 7 R Tanks will have six tps, each of three tanks, available, i.e. HQ, a Sqn and a tp. The tanks will be timed to cross the A Tk ditch at 0700 hrs or earlier, the exact time to be determined by Lt-Col JERRAM and communicated to this HQ.

0658

Tanks 5  
 Pass 0640  
 Pass ditch 0658



at Res Coy.

at this stage left Coy 2/5 owing thro perimeter  
from Rd to to the rear.

K.O.O from 1/2 with arrival with Area Coy  
Movement determined by Capt. G. B. Bn & tanks  
It will be lined by C.O. to move on right flank with  
B. Bn. Still under Command 17 Bde

The first tp will proceed to mop up the NE corner in "A"  
Bn area and, on completion of mopping up, will come into  
reserve.

The Sqn of tanks on passing the A Tk ditch will  
wheel Right and adv with at least three tps forward, the  
Right tp on the inside of the perimeter, the Left tp down  
the second road directed at the enemy btys, and the centre  
tp in the centre.

Planned  
for 2/5  
Full Regt.

The maximum rate of adv after the Right wheel will be  
5 mph, and our arty supporting programme will be based on  
this rate of adv during the tank attack.

After the tanks reach the main road running due South  
of BARDIA they will rally about X-rds Pt 165 51353923. The  
tanks will rally at that pt and refuel and re-stock with amm.

9. ~~X~~ "B" BN.

"B" Bn will be timed to arrive in area A Tk ditch with  
the tanks and will follow each tp of tanks in a Southeasterly  
direction mopping up and proceeding until they reach the main  
road running South from BARDIA, where they will take up a posn  
at the junc of the perimeter and the road on the Right to ~~the~~  
~~of~~ PONTICELLI on the Left.

Sq 6 Aust  
Cav follows  
C. Bn  
fill gap  
B + C

10. "C" BN will move from the assembly area to the SL at  
0700 hrs and after the tank attack followed by "B" Bn has got  
under way, will move due East to objective on Ridge from Pt  
178 51423948 to 2700 yds to the East where they can comd the  
rd junc SW of BARDIA in squares 51663948 and 51743945.

11. Protection of the Left Flank. Ask Armad Div to prevent  
any enemy tank attack developing from the North from WADI  
CHARRUMA, and ask for "P" Bty A Tk guns to protect Northern  
flank.

Also to ensure that A Sqn 6 Aust Cav get eight VMGs.

12. SECOND PHASE. To be decided later.

13. ARTY.

Counter Bty. Policy: During "A" Bn adv arty to be  
concentrated to assist this adv and only a few enemy ~~to~~ btys  
which might directly interfere with this adv to be engaged.  
When the tank attack is launched and as day breaks, more guns  
to be put on counterary bty tasks.

The CRA said it was necessary to move btys into their  
new posns on the evening of zero - 2 day. He did NOT fear  
that the new posns would be located as he would take special  
steps to restrict all movement during daylight during zero - 1  
day and would take steps to maintain normal movement about  
vacated bty posns during zero - 1 day.

14. It was decided that conference notes should be issued and  
next conference should be held 1000 hrs, 30 Dec, 40.

-----



D-1 1941  
D. 1 Jan 2  
D 2 3

Subsequent to the Conference, G I WDF called at Div HQ and had a discussion with G I 6 Aust Div.

Slc  
1. Recognition Signals for Fwd Tps:

It was decided that WHITE calico strips, each 8' long and 1 1/2' broad in the form of a CROSS should be displayed by each Coy HQ when est and by leading Coys to enable our tac R aeroplane to locate our fwd tps.

2. It was decided that three fascines could be made available to bridge the A Tk ditch and would be delivered by OC Deception Unit.

3. It was decided that "P" Bty less a tp should be allotted to 6 Aust Div for A Tk protection.

4. It was decided that the Deception Unit should operate under 7 Armd Div in area North of the rd BARDIA-TOBRUK.

7 Armd Div to be responsible for the A Tk protection of the left flank of 6 Aust Div.

-----  
DISCUSSION OF G I and BM 16 AUST INF BDE

It was decided that the assembly area for "A" Bn should be around 50903950 and "A" Bn should move to the assembly area after dusk on the evening of zero - 1 day. Leave the assembly area for FUP at 0400 hrs. Bren Carriers and track vehicles NOT repeat NOT to accompany the Bn to assembly area unless aeroplane is overhead to drown noise. This Bn should arrive at FUP and be on SL by 0500 hrs.

"B" BN to assembly area at 0420 hrs and leave at 0515 hrs to cross SL at 0630 hrs.

"C" BN to arrive at assembly area at 0530 hrs.

The above times are approx correct but may be modified when zero hour is definitely fixed.

It was decided to att one coy of MMGs of 1 NF under comd 16 Aust Inf Bde on zero - 2 day and that one pl of MMGs should be allotted to each of "A", "B", and "C" Bns for consolidation.

NOTE.- The secrecy of these Notes will be maintained strictly and only divulged to offrs for whom it is essential in order that preparations may proceed.

F.H.B.  
28 Dec, 40.

Distribution -

- Comd
- CRA
- Brig 16 Aust Inf Bde
- Brig 17 Aust Inf Bde
- G I
- AQ
- Lt-Col JERRAM, 7 RTR.

make  
ownship  
check log and  
dot base  
know



93

Nowa.  
29-  
1615 hrs

Sitrep

Own troops - disposition as on attached

Sketch.

a) Enemy. Patrol reports furnished.  
Call from BM 0850 hrs OP at 51953849 surrounded by enemy. D Coy advanced one pln, fire on from 51953850. Attacked with 2 sections dislodged 2 enemy from Bir. Advanced to 51953852 in wad. Enemy arty + mortar dislodged sections. Order to retire 0950 hrs. NO sign O.P.

Shelling reports Coys

29	Time	Area	Rds	Type	Direct	Tired	Damage	Type gun
E Coy 5148 3816	0630	Between F Post	50 to 600	HE	From 45°	NO	Nil	not known
	0730	23 + along wire						
	1030	"						
	1100	"						
	1300 1315	"						
D Coy 5188 3834	1220	at 1640 about from Coy area	1	HE	From 22°	YES	-	18 pdr type

Visibility low

H.D. Dunkley  
Lieut.

1. Gun for 5222 3874 2/6 C Coy.
2. " " 5148 3929. 2/7 H.Q.

2/7 HQ  
5148 3836.







29 Dec. 40.

17 AUGST. INT. BDE. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 2.(Based on information received up to 2000 hrs. 29 Dec.)  
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Ref. Maps : BARDIA NORTH |  
              BARDIA SOUTH | 1 : 50,000  
                              Green Overprint.

Operations:

Patrols from our fwd. Bn. were very active during night 28/29 Dec., all patrols reaching WADI MUATTERED and only opposition encountered being by centre patrol, who engaged enemy approx. strength 70 in quarry 52013351, who had probably been forced from wadi by arty fire.

2/7 Bn. relieved 2/2 Bn. during night 28/29 Dec., relief completed 2220 hrs.

Air activity.

No hostile aircraft were observed in this area. Own patrols active.

Captured Documents.

Indicate that 151 Bn. 251 Legion of 2 COM Div. was in area when enemy driven back to BARDIA, also 201 Reggimento Artig.

Hostile Shelling.

Increased activity on 2/6 Bn. front probably due to very active patrols and patrols being observed moving back.

The shelling of 2/7 Bn. H.Q. seems to indicate that this area is one chosen for periodical shelling, this area having been shelled earlier this week.

Reports from Units.

C Coy 2/6 Bn. 52033316.

<u>Time</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>No. of Rds.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Direction</u>	<u>Tired</u>	<u>Damage</u>	<u>Type of gun.</u>
0630	Between	50	HE	From	No	Nil	Not known.
0730	W.P. 23	1		45°			
1030	& along	60					
1100	wire.						
1300							
1515							

D Coy. 2/6 Bn. 51883354

1220	At 164° & 600° from Coy area.	1	HE	22°	Yes	---	18-pdr.
------	--	---	----	-----	-----	-----	---------

H.Q. 2/7 Bn. 51473336

1420	200° fwd of 2/7 H.Q.	5	HE		---	---	How.
------	-------------------------	---	----	--	-----	-----	------

The guns shelling C Coy 2/6 Bn. may be those shown on BARDIA Map Green Overprint at 52223874; those shelling 2/7 Bn. H.Q. 51483929.

Enemy Operations.

Enemy surrounded arty. O.P. at 51953349, but showed no intention to fight when attacked by one pl. D Coy 2/6 and rapidly withdrew under cover heavy arty and mortar fire. Pl. reached wadi 51953852.



conclusions.

Patrol reports indicate that though WADI MUATTERED is not strongly held, the enemy is on the alert and when movement is observed arty fire is quickly brought to bear on the area.

The enemy appears to be waiting for us to show initiative.

Time of Signature 2030 hrs.

- Copy No. 1 2/5 Bn.
- 2 2/6 Bn.
- 3 2/7 Bn.
- 4 6 Aust. Div.
- 5 16 Aust. Inf. Bde.
- 6 N.F.
- 7-8 War Diary
- 9 File.

*V J Schepsted*  
 Liout.,  
 B.I.O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.



RK/JB

B.M.

S E C R E T

Copy No. 2.....

29 Dec 40

H.Q. 6 Aust Div.

ARTILLERY and PATROL PROGRAMME NIGHT 29/30 DEC.

Reference BARDIA NORTH and BARDIA SOUTH 1/100,000

ARTILLERY

Concentrations:

Area 51563916 51703895 51563903 from 1800 hrs to 1801 hrs and 0530 hrs to 0532 hrs, 2 r.p.g.p.m.

Harrassing Fire:

On area 51853907 51903903 51853900 between 0400 and 0600 hrs.

PATROLS

17 Aust Inf Bde:

- (a) Fighting Patrol in area of Wadi MUATERED in squares 523387 522387
- (b) Fighting Patrol from Pt about 51973858 to investigate to the East along Wadi MUATERED and North West along enemy defences.
- (c) Recce Patrol to proceed to OP at 51793866 and lie up in observation to-morrow.

16 Aust Inf Bde:

- (d) Fighting Patrol along enemy defences from right of Bde sector to thick green line through 511395.
- (e) Recce Patrol to area of Wadi head in 510395.

*R. King Maj*  
for Colonel,  
G.S. 6 Aust Div.

Signed at 1530 Hrs.

Issued: Copies No. 1 + 2 by LOS  
remainder by Sigs.

Distribution:-

16 Aust Inf Bde	1
17 Aust Inf Bde	2
RAA	3
WDF	4
GASO	5
File.	6

*AS*

*[Handwritten signature]*



From British prisoners - Queens - captured dawn 25 Dec.

Sgt., Cpl. and 7 O.Rs. - patrolling in WADI el  
MUATERED.

Were surrounded and captured; they say were taken to  
FORTRESS H.Q., BARDIA.

Location of H.Q. would seem to be S.E. of prominent  
loop in CAPUZZO RD. - approx Sq 516394 - see air photograph.

H.Q. in a deep WADI with dug-outs.

Interrogated on and off for 4 days. Kept in a tent  
about 200 yds from H.Q.

Questions asked :

1. Any information about 2" Mortar.
2. What certain CODE names were - in particular BEAM.
3. Wanted to know all organizations.
4. Did their arty do much damage.
5. What use we were making of captured lorries.
6. Where our gunners were - e.g. with MOSE.
7. Whether we were supplied through SALUM. They were  
told to say truthfully if they did not know answers  
to any particular questions.

With exception of a MALTESE with QUEENS - he speaks  
ITALIAN. Italians chained him - threatened to  
shoot him.

- i. They wanted to know if we have any A Tk rifles.
- ii. What the food was like.
- iii. What clothes we wore.
- iv. Where petrol and amn dumps were.
- v. Asked where INDIANS were and RIFLE BRIGADE was and  
also where the A. & S.H. were.
- vi. Lot of questions about Arty types - range - etc.

Prisoners driven by lorry from where captured to H.Q.  
Passed through a lot of wire - saw no strong points at all.

At one stage Ities removed knife rest from road.

Saw NO concrete and NO tanks. NO guns anywhere but  
heard them.

Saw a lot of troops - no definite estimate - all Ities -  
Blackshirts and Metropolitans mixed.

At this H.Q. - troops dug in sides of WADI - our Arty on  
day unknown constantly passing just over.

Taken off on 28th - through BARDIA and downhill to harbour.  
Saw 4 Generals - 1 of whom seemed more important with beard and pot belly.  
Placed aboard 210 ton schooner named "ZINGARELLA - put into hold in  
company with 100 Itie Labour Corps.

Had gone about 4 hours when interrupted by Destroyer.  
MALTESE was taken to deck where he shouted that ENGLISH prisoners were  
aboard. Ities laid down their arms - prisoners now ship. Arrives  
SALUM last night. British prisoners then landed at SALUM.



From Itie prisoners :-

All LABOUR CORPS - being evacuated to regain their unit, who had pushed out of BARDIA when our advance began. Generally speaking a useless lot - poor specimens.

Information :

1. Supplies at BARDIA were effectively bombed on 12/13 Dec - confirmed by several - 5 different supply depots hit - as a result a food shortage. Water is good - no shortage evident.
2. Coastal schooners have been arriving each 3 days - 7 ships since 13th.
3. On 17th a schooner brought on 500 land mines.
4. Of 7 ships, Navy can account for 5.
5. Evacuation - about 500 by sea since 12th.
6. Strong points in defences are mainly open sangars.
7. Landing Ground at BARDIA - not being used.
8. Defence of harbour - only 2 M.G. All coast defence guns were taken to BARRANI - confirmed by gun boat.
9. On 16th. 50 tons of wood and 30 tons petrol and 50 tons Diesel oil were landed.
10. On 3rd. Dec. 150 tons supplies arrived.
11. Garrison - appears that following Divisions are in BARDIA -  
62  
63  
2nd. Blackshirt.  
All 3 Divs have been forward and relieved in confusion - minus rifles and equipment and are not able to re-equip.
12. A small portion of 1 Div. Blackshirts remained in TOBRUK.
13. Small portion of 64 Div.
14. General impression - morale poor - pepping up morale with talk of re-inforcements from ITALY.
15. Tanks - M13 Tanks in BARDIA 6 seen - perhaps a Bn (about 35). Particulars - pictures to come, arms 47 mm in revolving turret. Armour - not sure - about 730 mm ?  
Lt. Tanks - about 2 Bns. (about 70).



16. Comd. Fortress - AMICO  
Late Comd. of 64 Div.
17. Gun which fires at SALUM is 149 mm.

Received by phone

2145 hrs 30 Dec.

From DEREK MEGU.



S E C R E T

Copy No. ....7....

17 Aust. Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summary,  
No. 3.

(Based on Information received up to 2200 hrs 30 Dec.)

Map. Refs: BARDIA NORTH. } 1/50,000 Green Overprint.  
BARDIA SOUTH. }

GENERAL: 2/5 Bn. relieved 2nd Liecesters. Relief completed 1310 hrs.

OPERATIONS: Our Patrols were again active during night 29/30, information being obtained on obstacles and strong posts.

Preliminary report Enemy attack on 'D' Coy, 2/6 Bn. :

At 1645 hrs a party of enemy came out from area of point 176 and moved into WADI. Shortly after an enemy pl. came out of the WADI and attacked the right pl. of 'D' Coy, supported by another pl. on their left flank. Our pl. sent a section to their right to try and cut off this pl., but a considerable volume of fire forced our pl. to defend. The enemy continued to fire until dusk when they withdrew. We had some difficulty with our L.M.G's although they had been tested this afternoon. The whole Coy. was engaged, also a pl. of M.M.G's supporting them. Our casualties one hand wound, one shell shock. - Estimated enemy casualties 17. It appears that this area, quarry - point 176 is strongly held as it was from there that yesterday's dawn patrol was fired on and also from there that the attack on artillery O.P. was launched which was repelled by counter-attack from a pl. of 2/6 Bn.

ENEMY DEFENCES: A. Tk. obstacles ~~51913863~~ 51913863 12' to 15' deep - perpendicular sides is very definite obstacle, almost man-obstacle. It was examined for 250x S.E. direction and found not to vary, although it appeared that a mine field had been laid in front of this no mines could be found. A report from a patrol indicates that the enemy have now drawn field guns close to the wire.

AIR ACTIVITY: No hostile aircraft reported over this area today.

HOSTILE SHELLING: 2/7 Bn report two shells fell 51493849. Heavy shelling tonight at 1645 hrs across left flank 2/6 Bn following our own artillery fire. Little damage done - detailed reports not yet to hand.

ENEMY ACTIVITY: After enemy artillery had covered the front an attack was launched on 'D' Coy 2/6 Bn.

CONCLUSION: It appears that the enemy attack last night may have been designed to threaten section of our artillery or alternatively to investigate the reason for our patrols which had been particularly active in the area in which the attack was made.

*V. Schofield*

B.I.O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Time of Signature. 2230 hrs.

- Copy No. 1 2/5 Bn.  
2. 2/6 Bn.  
3. 2/7 Bn.  
4. 6 Aust. Div.  
5. 16 Aust Inf Bde.  
7.8 War Diary.  
9 File.  
10. 'J' Bty.  
11. 2/2 Fd Regt.  
12. Brigadier.

6. NORTH Fusiliers



31 Dec. 40.

17 Aust. Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summary No. 4.Based on information at this H.Q. up to 2000 hrs. 31 Dec. 40.

General. 2/7 Bn. moved fwd. to new locations held yesterday by a Sec. in each locality.

The move was not apparently observed by the enemy.

B Coy. 2/6 Bn. pushed fwd. further during night and is consolidating. 52353869

Enemy Operations.

As a result of enemy fighting patrol attack on D Coy 2/6 Bn. one wounded P.V. was taken this morning - "Cried for mercy". Later one further prisoner captured.

Order of Battle. P.V. identified -

6 Coy 11 Bn 157 Regt 65 CINFV Div.

First Aid Personnel 157 Regt. 65 CINFV Div.

Enemy Morale. Information from P.V. indicates it to be very low, due mainly to lack of food, the non-appearance of the promised large reinforcements and lack of desire to fight. The willingness with which information, if known, was given, indicated either complete lack of spirit, or fear of harsh treatment by us. This great fear at first shown by P.V. indicates that the enemy impress on their personnel that they will be killed or tortured if taken prisoner by us.

Enemy Supplies. P.V. confirm reports of acute shortage of food supplies; water is inadequate at present.

Enemy Air Activity.

Right fwd. 2/7 Bn. report that, at 1708 hrs., aircraft, followed by whistling and thuds, were heard and may possibly be TETROS bombs.

Hostile Shelling.

As shown on Shelling trace attached.

Extracts from own Patrol Reports.PATROL No. 1. :-

Summary of report by Lieut. Sherlock, B Coy., after patrol 29/30

Dec. :-

Ref. Map BARDIA SOUTH 1:50,000.

Frontier Post 8 is on bank of WADI South of WADI RAMLA. Leaving F.P. 8 wadi very steep to WEST for 100<sup>x</sup> then turning NORTH for 500<sup>x</sup> to F.P. 9 which marks the start of WADI RAMLA. I travelled 600 yds. WEST along bank from where the WADI runs S.E. into the sea. The wadi affords excellent concealment for troop 50 deg. North there are wire entanglements which run WEST from the sea.

While patrol was moving along wire they heard enemy giving fire orders to Arty which had apparently been moved fwd. to vicinity of Frontier wire betw. Posts 16 and 17. Returned to CARRIER WADI night of 29/30 Dec.

PATROL No. 2. :-

2/7 Bn. Patrol No. 2 reports that the road from their area to BARDIA defences is passable with clearance on either side from shell holes and abandoned vehicles. A stone wall ten to fifteen yards long and three feet wide has been erected across the road in line with angle of tank trap. This trap runs east-west - turns north at this point and is approx 14-16 feet wide and 7-8 feet deep. Several vehicles and what appeared to be a plane were standing in the area formed by stone wall and North-south line of Trap. Personnel working about them crossed the trap by means of a bridge. No firing took place and patrol remained in the area from 0145-0215 hrs and patrol returned at 0320 hrs.

PATROL No. 3. :- Patrol reached point 52025861 - a junction of two wadis, the enemy appearing very active along direct front. At point 52035865 it appeared that the enemy were constructing sangars 70 yds to the front. Wire was being erected to the left. Moved off on a bearing of 255 degrees and stopped at a distance of 200 yds. Area covered with sangars and wadi shallower. At approx 52025862 there appeared to be an enemy strongpost. At point 51993860 numerous sangars.

Remarks. Pt. 162 is a fairly high feature but it is unknown whether it dominates the enemy. The wadi could be crossed easily by inf and carriers 200 yds from wadi junction 52043862.



Conclusions.

It is apparent that the action last night that the enemy are becoming suspicious of our increased activity and movement and may be anticipating an attack from the south east. However there are no indications of preparations for any major offensive by the enemy.

Time of Signature 2250 hrs.

*V. J. Schofield*  
Lieut.  
B.I.O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

DISTRIBUTION :

Copy No.	1	2/5 Bn.
	2	2/6 Bn.
	3	2/7 Bn.
	4	6 Aust. Div.
	5	16 Aust. Inf. Bde.
	6	File.
	7 - 8	War Diary.
	9	'J' Bty.
	10	2/2 Md. Regt.
	11	Brigadier.



SECRET  
\*\*\*\*\*

BAGUSH (L of C) SUB-AREA.

OPERATION ORDER No. 1.

COPY No. ....<sup>15</sup>.....

21 Dec 40.

INFORMATION.

1. H.Q. W.D.F. are moving Westwards in order to control the battle in an area of operations rapidly moving Westwards.
2. In consequence the L of C Administrative Area is extending Westwards to incl. SIDI BARRANI with effect from 21 Dec 40.
3. Administrative Control as from 21 Dec 40.
  - (a) Northern Delta L of C District is taking over responsibility for the administration of the area to incl. NAGHAMISH NULLAH.

In order to do this ALYRIA (L of C) Sub-Area is extending westwards to excl. DABA.

DABA L of C Sub-Area is extending westwards to incl. NAGHAMISH NULLAH and is now known as the BAGUSH (L of C) Sub-Area with Headquarters at MAATEH BAGUSH.

(b) A new L of C Sub-Area has been formed known as the MATRUH (L of C) Sub-Area which will comprise the Area excl. NAGHAMISH NULLAH - BIR FARUKA - SIDI BARRANI.

As a temporary measure H.Q. B.T.E. at present controls this Area direct.

INTENTION.

4. H.Q. BAGUSH (L of C) Sub-Area will move to MAATEH BAGUSH on the morning of 23rd December by road.

METHOD.

5. O.C. 2 Div Cav will provide six 30 cwt. lorries to move this Headquarters.

These vehicles will report to the Camp Commandant at 0700 hrs 23 Dec. Haversack rations will be required by the drivers.
6. A loading party of twenty native labourers will report to the Camp Commandant at the same hour.
7. Accommodation at MAATEH BAGUSH has already been earmarked by H.Q. W.D.F. and the Camp Commandant will take this over on a.m. 23 Dec.
8. Personnel of this H.Q. will be attached for all purposes to the Camp Commandant, Western Desert Force as a temporary measure.

Camp Commandant will inform Camp Commandant, W.D.F. of movement moving by ranks forthwith.

They will cease to be attached to No. 2 Coy. 4 L of C Signals as from 24 Dec.

/s.....



9. Units will continue to be administered by this H.Q., from MAATEN BAGUSH.

ADMINISTRATIVE.

10. An A.D.S. & T. and A.D.O.S., MATRUH Sub-Area are being posted to be responsible for the administrative arrangements of their respective departments in the MATRUH Sub-Area and at Railheads located in the BAGUSH Sub-Area.
11. Existing Supply and Ordnance arrangements for Units located at DABA will continue to be in force.
12. D.D.M.S. Northern Delta L of C District is providing a Medical Officer and a Medical Orderly for the combined R.A.P. (M.I. Room) at DABA.
13. C.M. and D.D.M.S., B.T.E., are arranging Engineer and other Medical re-organisation in the BAGUSH Sub-Area.
14. Reserves at railroads and otherwise located in the BAGUSH Sub-Area are at the direct disposal of H.Q. W.D.F. who are submitting demands direct to A.D.S.T. and A.D.O.S., MATRUH Sub-Area.

INTERCOMMUNICATIONS.

15. L of C Sigs are gradually taking over responsibility up to H.Q. W.D.F. by stages.
16. H.Q. BAGUSH (L of C) Sub-Area closes down at DABA at 0030 hrs 27 Dec and opens at MAATEN BAGUSH at the same hour.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

*acked  
0.142  
[Signature]*

Time of Signature 8.45 hrs.

*[Signature]*  
Colonel,  
Comd BAGUSH L of C Sub-Area.



DISTRIBUTION.

COPY No.

2 Div Cav N.Z.E.F.	1.
No. 2 Coy. 4 L of C Signals	2.
Advanced Supply Depot.	3.
Advanced Ordnance Depot.	4.
36 Fd Hygiene Section.	5.
1/INF MAR.	6.
2/5 C.C.S.	7.
2 I.C.C.S.	8.
R.T.O. DABA.	9.
Ry Operating Gp. N.Z.E.	10.
16 Ry Operating Coy N.Z.E.	11.
"B" Coy 2/8 Bn A.I.F.	12.
Sec 126 H. & M. Coy R.E.	13.
4 N.Z. Inf Bde Gp.	14.
17 Inf Bde. A.I.F.	15.
6 Div Cav Regt. A.I.F.	16.
Fd Park Coy. N.Z.E.	17.
Army Tps Coy. N.Z.E.	18.
4 N.Z. Fd Amb.	19.
2/1 Cav Div Fd Hygiene Sec	20.
Comd.	21.
D.A.A. & Q.M.G.	22.
S.C.	23.
Camp.	24.
D.C.R.E.	25.
D.A.C.E.G. (M)	26.
Labour Officer, DABA.	27.
R.T.O. SIDI HANNISH.	28.
H.Q. Northern Delta L of C District	29.
H.Q. Western Desert Bde E.A.	30.
H.Q. Mobile Bde E.A.	31.
L.C. 4 Inf Div.	32.
H.Q. Western Desert Force.	33.
War Diary.	34 & 35.
File.	36.

} For  
infor-  
mation. 33.







17 Aust Inf Bde will relieve 16 Inf Bde on night 27/28 and 30/31 Dec

2/6 BN will relieve 2 Queens under orders Brig. bound 16 Bde

2/7 BN will move to res. BN area 27/28 Dec under orders bound 16 Bde and subsequently relieve 2/2 BN AIF under orders to be issued by 17 Aust Inf Bde

2/5 BN will move into res. area on night 30/31 Dec

Role 2/6 BN Relieve on 27/28

1. on night 28/29, patrolling will be carried out along whole front to line of W. <sup>MUATARED</sup> ~~SHARABA~~ and will occupy <sup>high ground</sup> on right flank within areas of <sup>523/384</sup> ~~78100 7 18 to 19~~ as considered most suitable within that vicinity by C.O. 2/6

2. <sup>or before</sup> on night 29/30 C.O. 2/6 will plan to ambush observers on telegraph poles and occupy high ground or WAD1 as deemed advisable following information by patrolling



Wireless Trench

Feeding personnel 12 miles back  
(to about 27)

Run 1 reg. (or 700 men  
more)

But not now down  
it -

(See curves (line))



3. Special steps will be taken to patrol  
corner post West of U in UADI  
with the view of this post being  
attacked by a boy on night of 30/31  
Patrolling will have as a special end  
in view the capture and occupation  
of this corner post by silent  
attack rather than attack with arty.  
support.

C.O. 2/6 Bn. will keep in close contact  
with Brig. Comd. by <sup>frequent</sup> personal visits  
to Bde HQ to discuss <sup>the</sup> results of  
its commencement <sup>and</sup> ~~the possibility~~ <sup>the possibility</sup>  
need for an attack being supported  
by arty.

Brig. Comd. will also keep in touch with  
C.O. 2/6 Bn. in area of which prior  
advice will be given C.O. 2/6 Bn.



*16 Inf Bde Comd*  
16 INF BDE OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 5.

SECRET.

Copy No. 13

27 Dec 40.

Ref Maps : SALUM 1:100.000.  
SIDI BARRANI 1:100.000.  
BARDIA SOUTH 1:50.000.

1. 16 Inf Bde will be relieved by 17 Aus Inf Bde on nights 27/28 and 29/30 Dec 40 and will move in L.T. to BUQ BUQ 560369 area.
2. On relief 17 Aus Inf Bde will extend existing 16 Inf Bde area by taking over area at present occupied by 2/2 Aus Inf Bn of 16 Aus Inf Bde. New inter-bde bdy has been indicated to 17 Aus Inf Bde.
3. During night 27/28 Dec 40.
  - (a) 2/6 Aus Inf Bn will relieve 2 Queen's in present posns. 2 Queen's will move back to BUQ BUQ area by coys as soon as embussed.
  - (b) 2/7 Aus Inf Bn will move into fwd area S.W. of CAPUZZO 514376 preparatory to relieving 2/2 Aus Inf Bn on night 28/29 Dec 40.
  - (c) HQ 16 Inf Bde, 1 A. & S.H. and 'A' Coy 215 Fd Amb neither of whom will be relieved by incoming units will move back to BUQ BUQ area.
4. 2 Leicesters come under comd 17 Aus Inf Bde on completion of relief and remain in present posns until 2/5 Aus Inf Bn has occupied res posn on night 29/30 Dec 40. Orders for relief will be issued by HQ 17 Aus Inf Bde. On relief 2 Leicesters rejoin 16 Inf Bde in BUQ BUQ area.
5. 1 N.F. comes under comd 6 Aus Div on night 27/28 Dec 40. 'W' Coy 1 N.F. remains in present posns and comes under comd 2/6 Aus Inf Bn on completion of inter-unit relief. No alteration to present role.
6. 'J' Bty R.H.A. comes under comd 17 Aus Inf Bde on completion of relief. Tp at present with 2 Queen's remains in present posns and comes under comd 2/6 Aus Inf Bn on completion of inter-unit relief. No alteration to present role.
7. 2/2 Fd Regt RAA will continue in support of present 16 Inf Bde area after relief. Present D.F. tasks - C.D.F. signal and liaison arrangements will continue.
8. 'A' Coy 215 Fd Amb<sup>1815</sup> moves to ITALIAN HOSPITAL, BUQ BUQ leaving present posn at 1715 hrs 27 Dec 40 without relief. Casualties occurring after this hr will be evacuated direct to M.D.S. on Rd SALUM - BUQ BUQ at about 531378.



9. Tp carrying M.T. which brings up 2/6 and 2/7 Aus Inf Bns will carry back 2 Queen's and 1 A. & S.H. respectively to BUQ BUQ area.

Debussing pts will be as follows :-

- (a) For 2/6 Aus Inf Bn Rd and track junc 52093752 at which pt 2 Queen's will subsequently embuss.
- (b) For 2/7 Aus Inf Bn to S.W. of CAPUZZO from which pt tp carrying M.T. will be guided to 1 A. & S.H. area (para 10 (b) below).

Dispersion at 50 yds between vehicles while waiting.

10. Guides and T.C.P.'s.

- (a) 1 A. & S.H. will picquet track fwd from escarpment end of HALFAYA PASS at about 52653675 to Rd and track junc 52093752 from 1630 hrs 27 Dec 40. The duty of these picquets will be to ensure that tp carrying M.T. and all unit tpt of incoming Aus units is correctly guided to the Rd SALUM - CAPUZZO at 52093752.
- (b) 1 A. & S.H. will detail an offr to join tp carrying M.T. of 2/7 Aus Inf Bn at escarpment end of HALFAYA PASS. He will accompany this M.T. fwd and after 2/7 Aus Inf Bn has debussed will marshal it and lead it back to 1 A. & S.H. area.
- (c) 2 Queen's will arrange for pl guides to R.V. at Rd and track junc 52093752 at 1700 hrs 27 Dec 40. From this pt ingoing coys 2/6 Aus Inf Bn and outgoing coys 2 Queen's will use following routes :-
  - (i) Bn HQ - right fwd coy and res coy - East track.
  - (ii) Left and centre fwd coys - West track.
- (d) 2 Leicesters will establish a T.C.P. at Rd and track junc 52093752 by 1630 hrs 27 Dec 40.

11. Timings.

Incoming Aus Inf Units will NOT move Northwards from escarpment end of HALFAYA PASS before the following times :-

2/6 Aus Inf Bn	-	1700 hrs.
2/7 Aus Inf Bn	-	1745 hrs.

12. Rearward movement all units 16 Inf Bde will be at 80 VTM and 5 MIH. No lights of any sort.

Routes - 2 Queen's - Rd CAPUZZO - SALUM - BUQ BUQ.

HQ 16 Inf Bde.	)	
1 A. & S.H.	)	- HALFAYA PASS - Rd SALUM -
'A' Coy 215 Fd Amb.	)	BUQ BUQ.

HQ 16 Inf Bde will be clear of escarpment end of HALFAYA PASS by 1800 hrs.



13. Adm arrangements as follows :-

- (a) Supplies for 28 Dec 40 will be drawn by unit 'B' Ech vehicles from Supply Depot SALUM on 27 Dec 40. Supplies for 29 Dec 40 will be drawn by unit 'B' Ech vehicles from S.P. in BUQ BUQ area location of which will be notified later.
- (b) 2 Leicesters will draw supplies for 29 Dec 40 from Supply Depot, SALUM thereafter drawing from S.P., BUQ BUQ.
- (c) 'B' Ech HQ 16 Inf Bde - 2 Queen's and 1 A. & S.H. will be loaded with cooking gear, etc. on afternoon 27 Dec 40 and will R.V. at present 'B' Ech area by 1730 hrs same date. 'B' Ech as above will then move direct to new area under Bde T.O. 'B' Ech 2 Leicesters remains present posn.
- (d) L.A.D. 16 Inf Bde remains present posn and moves to BUQ BUQ area independently 28 Dec 40.

14. Unit recce parties for new area R.V. at present 'B' Ech location at 1300 hrs 27 Dec 40.

15. Intercomn as under :-

- (a) HQ 17 Aus Inf Bde opens at 51653775 at 1500 hrs 27 Dec 40.
- (b) HQ 16 Inf Bde will remain in present posn until completion of relief and will then move to new posn BUQ BUQ area at which a report centre will be established at 1500 hrs 27 Dec 40.
- (c) No change allotment No.11 sets - Wireless silence throughout relief - Cable comn remains - Cable sec will reel in and rejoin Bde HQ in BUQ BUQ area on 28 Dec 40.
- (d) Code word "HURRICANE" will be used to indicate completion of relief between 2/6 Aus Inf Bn and 2 Queen's and will be signalled by both bns to their respective Bde HQ's.
- (e) On receipt of above code word Comd 17 Aus Inf Bde assumes responsibility for present 16 Inf Bde area and Comd 2/6 Aus Inf Bn for 2 Queen's present area.

ACK.

*D. J. P. 6*  
Major,  
B.M. 16 Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:-		Copy No.	Copy No.	Copy No.
2 Queen's.	1.	2/6 Aus Inf Bn.	9. Bde Sup O.	17.
2 Leicesters.	2.	2/7 Aus Inf Bn.	10. Bde T.O.	18.
1 A. & S.H.	3.	2/5 Aus Inf Bn.	11. War Diary.	19/20.
J Bty R.H.A.	4.	2/2 Fd Regt RAA.	12. File.	21/22.
1 N.F.	5.	Comd.	13. ✓	
W Coy 1 N.F.	6.	B.M.	14.	
A Coy 215 Fd Amb	7.	S.C.	15.	
HQ 17 Aus Inf Bde.	8.	Bde S.O.	16.	



6 AUST DIV OO No. 4

Copy No.....2

PFF SALU 1/100,000  
 SALUM (CYRENAICA) 1/100,000  
 BARDIA ( " ) 1/100,000

27 Dec 40

INFORMATION

1. Enemy. As per Intelligence Summary No.2 of 26 Dec.
2. Own Tps. As per Location Statement of 23 Dec. On 26 Dec HQ 17 Aust Inf Bde 2/6 Bn and 2/7 bn moved by MT to BUQ BUQ area and ~~today~~ 2/5 Bn will move to BUQ BUQ. 7 Armd Div are operating of the left of this Divisional area. 16 Hy AA bty are Corps tps and sited for the protection of SALUM.

INTENTION

3. 17 Aust Inf Bde will take over the right brigade sector, at present held by 16 Inf Bde.

METHOD4. TIMES AND RELIEFS

- (a) Night 27/28 Dec 2/6 Bn will relieve 2 Queens.
- (b) Night 27/28 Dec 2/7 Bn will relieve 1 A & SH, but will move into an area about BIR HAFID 50653750.
- (c) 29 Dec 2/5 Bn will relieve 2 Leicesters.

5. COMD OF SECTOR On completion of the relief of 2 Queens, comd will pass to 17 Aust Inf Bde.

6. A Tk and MG "J" Bty RHA less one tp (A Tk Coy) and 1 NF (MG) Bn will remain in line and come under comd 17 Aust Inf Bde.

7. LIGHTS Lights are not to be shown between 1730 hrs and 0645 hrs each night.

8. ACTION of 16 Inf Bde. On relief 16 Inf Bde will move to BUQ BUQ in MT and come into Corps Reserve.

ADM

9. The MT which brings up 2/6 and 2/7 Bns will take out 2 Queens and 1 A & SH.
10. 2/6 Bn will debus and 2 Queens embus in area about landing ground 52263757.
11. 2/7 Bn will debus in area about B. HAFID and 1 A & SH will embus in W. EL HALFAYA area.
12. 16 Inf Bde will arrange to provide guides to debussings areas of 2/6 and 2/7 Bns.

INTERCOMN

13. ADV HQ 17 AUST BDE. Will open at CISTERN 51683776 on arrival in CAPUZZO area.

ACK. ✓

Signed at 0910 hrs  
 Issued:- Copies 1, 2 and 7 by LOs  
 Remainder by Sigs

*R. H. May*  
 for Colonel,  
 GS 6 Aust Div.

DISTRIBUTION -	Copy No.		Copy No.		Copy No.
16 Aust Inf Bde	1	16 Inf Bde	7	DAPM	15
17 Aust Inf Bde	2	GOC	8	Postal	16
RAA 6 Aust Div	3	G	9-10	Pay	17
RAE 6 Aust Div	4	AQ	11-12	Adv WDF	18
Sigs 6 Aust Div	5	ADMS	13	War Diary	19-20
AASG 6 Aust Div	6	DADOS	14	File	21-22



TW/TG  
105/6

SECRET

16 Aust Inf Bde  
17 Aust Inf Bde -  
18 Inf Bde (English)  
6 Aust Cav  
RAA 6 Aust Div  
RAE 6 Aust Div  
Sig 6 Aust Div  
AASC 6 Aust Div  
GOE  
G  
AQ  
ADC (Camp Adv HQ)  
Camp (Rear HQ)  
ADMS  
DAFM  
-----

WDF (Adv HQ) - For Information  
-----

M.T. MOVEMENT DURING ENEMY AIR ATTACKS.

48  
All formations and units will instruct drivers of vehicles, that MT on road SALUM - CAPUZZO, and roads through HALFAYA PASS, will NOT STOP during enemy air attack, but continue to move at a density NOT exceeding 15 VIM.

*R. King May*  
for Colonel,  
GS 6 Aust Div.

HQ 6 Aust Div.  
In the Field.  
27 Dec 40.

|||||

8-6  
8-6

*Whi.*



Ref. Map 1:50,000 BARDIA NORTH  
BARDIA SOUTH

1. INFORMATION:

(a) Enemy Intelligence Summary No. 2  
vide/ ~~xxxxxxx~~ and Orders of Battle issued 27-12-40

(b) Own Tps

As per location statements dated 27-12-40.

Arty. has been divided into two gps. Under command C.R.A.  
6 Aust. Div;

Gp(1) Under direct control DOAG, CARI, BEAK, GINA

Gp(2) Under command Lt. Col. V.H. Frowen R.A.,

PUMP (less GINA), TORO, MICA. 68 Med Regt.

The last mentioned unit has NOT yet arrived, but its arrival may be anticipated.

2. INTENTION:

The Arty will support an attack on BARDIA

3. METHOD:

The operations to support the attack will be divided into four phases

(a) Phase 1. The technical preparation of and dumping of amm in positions as under:

DOAG 507391 508391 507390 508390

CARI Area issued later.

BEAK Present Area.

TORO 505393 506393 505392 506392

PUMP 505395 503394 504394 505394

MICA 504396 505396 504395 505395

Technical preparation.

Survey tp R.A. will prepare at least one B.P. in each regtl area, accuracy: fix 10 m orientation 02'. B.P. information will be issued by this H.Q.

Units will fix tp positions forthwith and submit data to this office immediately it is obtained. This H.Q., will arrange to check all data.

(b) Zero lines and zones of fire.

DOAG Brg of Z L 45° - zone 60° R to 30° L

CARI to be issued later

BEAK Brg of Z L 30° zone 75° R to 20° L

PUMP Brg of ZL 90° zone 30° R to 50° L



FORECAST O.O. No. 1

-2-

- (Contd.) (b) TORO Brg of Z L 60° - zone 50° R to 40° L  
MICA Brg of Z L 90° - zone 45° R to 45° L

On arrival of 68 (M) Regt NABO will revert to regtl control. Should the extra med. bty NOT arrive GINA of PUMP will move to prepared position and remain under command of PUMP, in NORTHERN sector. Otherwise this position will be occupied by 6" (H) bty of 68 Regt and GINA will move forward ~~into~~ its present sector. Exact area will be indicated later. PUMP will be responsible for all preparations in the 6" H position, vide para 3 (a).

(c) DUMPING

Amm. will be dumped in tp positions at night up to the following scale

6" Medium	250 rds p.g.
Fd.	320 " "

Units will supply parties to unload amm and prepare such pits as are necessary. The pits or dumps must be camouflaged with shrubs cut from some distance away and spoil either removed or spread and camouflaged. NOT more than 100 rds fd and 50 med to be in any one pit or dump.

Amm. will be delivered by the R.A.Coln to the following M.Ps

PUMP) on main track EAST of pt 214 (501 388) M.P. A MICA)	
DOAG) Tk.junc. 5050 3872 TORO)	M.P. B
BEAK pt 206 sq. 508 385	M.P. C
CARI Cross rds 5170 3782	M.P. D.

With the exception of CARI units will be responsible for guiding amm. convoys from M.P.

CARI will dump as close as possible to M.P.

Each unit will place an officer in charge of its dumping party. This officer will NOT be changed except in case of emergency and this H.Q. will be informed of any such change.

Units will ensure that parties are sufficiently strong to have completed their work and camouflaged position well before daylight

(d) TRAFFIC

- (a) Vehicles will move at night at a pace NOT exceeding 6 m.p.h.
- ~~(b)~~ (b) Officers in charge of dumping parties will see that a track is prepared and rigidly adhered to.



(contd.) TRAFFIC

(c) For recce. purposes NOT more than two vehicles will be in the regtl area at any one time by day. Vehicles must proceed singly and be controlled by ~~xxxxxxx~~ an officer

(e) PHASES 2, 3, 4.

will be issued later as appendices.

Phase 2 will cover the occupation of positions a rd deduction of meteor by datum shoot ing.

Phase 3 will cover the technical preparation of task tables etc for the attack.

Phase 4 will cover moves subsequent to the opening of the attack and exploitation.

ACK.

Time of Signature 4.55 AM

Method of issue D.R.

*George W. D. Jones*  
Major.  
B.M., R.A., 6 AUST. DIV.

Distribution:

Copy No.	1	DOAG
"	"	2 CARI
"	"	3 MICA
"	"	4 TORO
"	"	5 BEAK
"	"	6 PUMP
"	"	7 68 Med Regt
"	"	8 PIPO
"	"	9 CANO
"	"	10 ENID
"	"	11 C.R.A
"	"	12 Col Frewer
"	"	13 WAR DIARY
"	"	14 " "
"	"	15 File



2/2 Bn relief of 2/2 Bn.

2/2 take over area of 2/2 and right fwd coy of 2/3 Bn to inter bde bdy as marked on map incl. 17 Bde. Relief of 2/2 & right coy of 2/3 may commence in daylight with small parties moving in, including fwd. coys if possible.

one coy (MC) N.F. with each of 2/6 & 2/7 rem. coy in reserve may be given role in battle by Div.

adjust fwd. coys to cover gap bet Bns if necessary. Use res. coy (MC) if thought advisable from rear posns.

2/5 Bn to relieve 2 Leicesters on 30 Dec. role. sighted to cover SALUM.

2/6 Bn. role

Phase 1. establish posn area Pt. 65 overlooking MARSABER-RAMLA or further fwd to W. MUATARED if possible.



Phase 2 ambush observers on telegraph  
line.

Phase 3 not later than night 31/1 take  
corner post. Fwd move in daylight  
if feasible.

1030hr

28 Dec.

WBY

Req. for .55 A.P.

.455

Grenades

Baseplates

Ballistite

no more cable available at present  
field glasses on way



WARM GLOVES

~~0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9~~  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

DAY FIGHTER

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

*[Faint mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side]*

*[Faint handwritten notes or numbers]*

*[Large area of faint, illegible handwriting, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side]*



2 Lancers will be relieved by 2/5 Bn  
during 30 Dec and will move by MT to  
BUQ BUQ area

Leading vehicles 2/5 BN will reach head  
of HALFAYA PASS at 0900 hrs 30 Dec  
Each Coy 2 Lancers will provide  
guides to meet this unit at head  
of ~~BA~~ HALFAYA PASS .. guides to RV  
there at 0900 hrs 30 Dec

*[Signature]* 28/12

Formed verbally to adjust 2 Lancers

Carriers with 2/6



INFORMATION REQUIRED BY 17 AUST. INF. BDE.

INTELLIGENCE.

1. Situation Reports :

These reports will be rendered at the undermentioned times :

- (a) Dawn.
- (b) 0730 hrs.
- (c) 1200 hrs.
- (d) 1650 hrs.

These reports will be rendered by message, the first word of which will be "SITREP" and will be franked "IMPORTANT". Sitreps will be rendered at other times as circumstances demand.

2. Summaries.

Intelligence Summaries when possible.

The reliability of the source must be stated. Care must be taken to see that such headings as "Miscellaneous" and "Various" are avoided, and Intelligence Summaries must always conclude with a para. giving deductions of enemy probable action.

3. Shelling Reports.

Units will notify Bde. H.Q. as soon as shelling occurs. Details as soon as possible. They may be submitted in the form of a tracing and should include the following information :

- (i) Exact times shelling began and ended.
- (ii) Bearing of the flash or report of the hostile gun. (The map reference of the place from which the bearing is taken must be given).
- (iii) Area shelled.
- (iv) Damage done.
- (v) Nature of fire, e.g. registration, bombardment etc.
- (vi) Number of guns firing and rate of fire.
- (vii) Whether guns or hows, and, if possible, the calibre.

4. Gas :

Whenever gas is used by the enemy, units will report in the following manner :

- (a) B.O. message giving type of gas used, if known, direct to Div., repeating any intermediate formations and units.
- (b) Detail report covering :
  - (i) Method of attack including aerial spray.
  - (ii) Type of gas used.
  - (iii) Areas affected.
  - (iv) Concentrations.
  - (v) Casualties.
  - (vi) Description of gas and sample.
  - (vii) Method used to mark area.

5. Air Action :  
as it occurs.

Report of hostile air action will be rendered by all units. Details of the information to be given are as under :

- (i) Place.
- (ii) Time.
- (iii) Method.

(a) of attack.

High or medium level, low flying, dive, or any new method

- (b)
- (c)
- (d)

Number and type of aircraft employed.

Was the raid preceded by recon. ?

Any special points.

- (iv) Duration of attack.
- (v) Effect obtained by A.A. fire.
- (vi) Damage inflicted by the enemy.
- (vii) Bearing of flight of aircraft to and from area attacked.

6. Disposition Maps. These will be rendered as circumstances demand, normally in the form of a tracing with special reference to fl. wks. & A. Tk. minefields.

7. Patrol Reports. In duplicate, as soon as possible after return of patrol.

*Major,  
17 Aust. Inf. Bde.  
20 Dec 40*



Ref. No. : 20000 2000 1:00,000  
Green Overprint.

SECRET

Copy No. 5

21 Nov. 40.

Operation Instruction No. 1.

Dear Col. Galtby,

Siv. Instructions call for action by your Co. as follows :

Follows :

Night 25/26

(1) You will occupy and hold ground in the vicinity of Pt. 125 in square 500000 to cover G.S. area 29, 25 in same square. I agree with your plan covering strength and movement of party, and objective.

The primary role will be to take up a position in the front S.E. bank of Biller-Banda and high ground Pt. 125 of sufficient frontage and accessibility through to hold the area.

The secondary role will be to ensure VAST of MOUNTAIN on FORTUNE's easterly. You will NOT commit the party to any undue risk in loss of personnel or the hindering of its primary role in carrying out the secondary role.

(2) You will occupy the area Pt. 121 in square 500000. Your primary role will be to secure the vital ground in this area and occupy it. You will subsequently propose to occupy this area with a Coy.

The secondary role will be to submit observations on the telegraph poles and examine the UNKOWN portion of VAST RE MOUNTAIN. Any action in carrying out the secondary role will NOT prejudice the primary role.

From night 26/26 to night 27/26.

You will arrange to reconnoitre the area of enemy post No. 9 - 5100000 and obtain information covering the following :

- (1) The possibility of securing the land, as shown in air photo, approx. 5100000, by a platoon to provide covering fire.
- (2) The practicability of gaining an entrance at :-
  - (a) the passage S.E. of Post 9 as shown on air photo.
  - (b) the passage across the tank obstacle WEST of Post 9 as shown on air photo and where road crosses the obstacle.

(3) The wire in the vicinity of (1) and (2) above, particularly in the FORT near the G.S. passage to Post 9.

(4) The location of Post 7.

(5) In the sketch marking on air photo in the vicinity of Post 7 a small ridge.

(6) The practicability of an attack on Post 9 from the vicinity of Post 10 at approx. 5100000.

(7) The general controlling of VAST of MOUNTAIN other than the above, and an exhibit in your proposals will be carried out as far as possible.

Distribution :

Copy No. 1 Lt-Col. Galtby HQ, HQ.  
 2 Comd.  
 3 File.  
 4-5 War Diary.

Trig. Comd. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.



2/6 AUST. INF. BN. - OPERATION INSTRUCTION - No. 2.

Ref. Map SALUM 1 : 100000

BARDIA SOUTH 1 : 50000.

PATROLS : Patrolling for night 28/29 Dec will be carried out as follows :-

- (a) Along whole front to line of WADI MUATERED. *OK if practicable*
- (b) B Coy will move 1 Pl forward by Sections under cover of Wadis to CARRIER WADI vicinity 52323842 to reach there in daylight. After Recce by Pl Comdr they will endeavour to occupy high ground vicinity Frontier Posts 1 and 5 in squares 523384 and 523385 under cover of darkness - with Recce forward as far as BIR ER RAMLA - 52333863. This Pl will occupy and hold this position. Sufficient runners for reporting and/or guides. Pl Comdr to decide if position can be held with available strength - if impossible, to take up commanding position as far forward as possible. Rations for two (2) days to be taken. Reports of enemy positions and activities required, and visibility along WADI MUATERED.
- (c) C Coy will examine Frontier Wire, and road with telephone poles - road 500x North and line of WADI MUATERED with special reference to wire, Tank Ditch and strong Posts - from point North of b in Argub 52103865 to dogley at a in Argub 52033856 - Patrol to move out at 1900 hours.
- (d) D Coy will patrol from S.W. point of WADI MUATERED to strong post at U in UADI examining wire and ditch each side of strong point - Patrol to move out by 2200 hours.
- (e) In (c) and (d) patrols to be Recce Patrols but with sufficient strength close behind to act as Fighting Patrol if pressed.
- (f) Not desired to encounter enemy if information can be obtained by Recce.
- (g) Reports by runner on return of Patrols in (c) and (d).
- (h) Bn password from 1800 hrs 28 Dec to 1800 hrs 29 Dec - "DOLLAR".

ACKNOWLEDGE :

Distribution :-

- Copy No. 1 - B Coy.
- 2 - C Coy.
- 3 - D Coy.
- 4 - A Coy.
- 5 - 17 Aust Inf Bde. ✓
- 6 - File.
- 7/8 - War Diary.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Lieut.-Col.,  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

*[Handwritten mark]*



*G.O. Track on Set Map*

*1410 hrs 29 Dec*  
**WD**

1 R.N.F. OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 1.

SECRET

Copy No. 7

(Ref. Map BARDIA SOUTH 1/50,000)

*My*  
COMMAND

1. The Battalion less "w" and "y" Coys is placed under command 17th Australian Infantry Brigade with effect from M.N. 27/28 Dec 1940. Letter "w" Coy is placed under command 2/6 Bn w.o.f. same date. Letter "y" Coy will be placed under command 2/2 Bn upon arrival in the area of this Unit.

2. Moves and Locations.

- (a) Bn HQ composed as in appx. A, will move to area Pt 185 (51733776) leaving present position at 0930hrs 28 Dec.
- (b) HQ Coy less Bn HQ as above, will move to area WADI AQRAB (52223739) (Ref Map SOLIUM 1/100,000) leaving present position at 1030hrs 28 Dec.
- (c) Letter "w" Coy will remain in present positions located as under  
 Coy H.Q. 52313784 No. 4 Platoon area 52183822)  
 No. 5 Pl. area 52183794 No. 6 Platoon area 51853820)  
 O.C. "w" Coy will be prepared to move his HQ in conjunction with requirements of O.C. 2/6 Bn.
- (d) Letter "y" Coy will move to areas already reconnoitred with O.C. 2/2 Bn, during morning of 28 Dec. Coy HQ will be located in area 51503830.
- (e) Letter "z" Coy will move to area WADI EL HASKIYAT (52303712) leaving present position at 1100hrs and will remain in reserve under Unit control.

3. Administration.

The QM. will arrange to contact Staff Captain 17 Bde p.m. 28 Dec to ascertain system of Supplies and Water and will issue instructions to Coys as necessary, pending which the present system will obtain.

4. Intercommunication.

The Signal Officer will arrange for L/T from Bn HQ to HQ 17 Bde, and will reconnoitre routes for L/T to "w" & "z" Coys. Communication to HQ Coy and "z" Coy will be by D.R.

5. Maps.

Maps BARDIA SOUTH 1/50,000 are issued herewith on scale as shown

Letter "w" Coy. ...	5.	Letter "y" Coy ...	5.
Letter "z" Coy ...	5.	Letter HQ Coy. ...	2.
Quartermaster ...	1.	Signal Officer ...	1.

Only one copy per Coy with red overlay is at present available. Further copies will be issued.

6. Relevant lists of Extracts from Code List No. 7 are issued on a scale of one per addressee less HQ 17 Inf Bde.

7. ACK.

*J.E. Williams*

In the Field.

1st Bn The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers.

Time *07.30* .....

Date 28th Dec. 1940.

Distribution.

O.C. Letter "w" Coy. ...	1.	O.C. Letter "y" Coy ...	2.
O.C. Letter "z" Coy. ...	3.	O.C. H.Q. Coy. ...	4.
Quartermaster ...	5.	Signal Officer....	6.
H.Q. 17 Inf. Bde. ...	7. ✓	File. ....	...



APPENDIX "A" TO OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 1 dated 28th Dec. 1940.

Composition of En. H.Q.

	<u>Vehicles.</u>
Commanding Officer. ....	1 car.
Second-in-Command .....	1 P.U.
A djutant .....	1 P.U.
Intelligence Officer .....	1 P.U.
R.S.M. and Orderly Room Staff.....	1 15cwt Truck.
Det. Sig. Pln. (personnel to be detailed by Signal Officer.)	2 15cwt Trucks.
All available police and Signal D.Rs. Officers Mess	1 30cwt Lorry.

O.C. HQ Coy. will inform Q.M. of detail of O.R.  
personnel contained in the above Operational H.Q.



17 Aust. Inf. Bde. O. O. No. 1.

Ref. Maps : SALUM  
 SALUM (CYRENAICA) | 1 : 100,000.  
 BARDIA ( " ) |

1. Information.

- (a) Enemy disposed as on I map green overprint.  
 (b) 2/6 Bn. occupying Right Bn. sector, 2/7 Bn. 1000<sup>x</sup> S.W. of CAPUZZO.  
 2/5 Bn. at BACCUSH. 2 Leicesters in reserve area SALUM.  
 16 Aust. Inf. Bde. on our left.

2. Intention.

2/7 Bn. will take over from 2/2 Bn. and right fwd. coy. of 2/3 Bn. on night 28/29 Dec. 40.

3. Method.

3. Boundaries

Inter Bde (incl 17 Bde) PT 177 at X-tracks 51373907 - PT 195 on road at 50993836.

Inter Bn (incl 2/6 Bn.) grid 517.

2/7 Bn. will relieve 2/2 Bn. and right fwd coy 2/3 Bn. during night 28/29 Dec and adjust dispositions to cover area during night 29/30 Dec. Relief will commence in daylight where possible.

4. M.G.

One coy 1 N.F. under comd 2/6 Bn.  
 One coy 1 N.F. " " 2/7 Bn. when relief complete.  
 One coy 1 N.F. in reserve sighted to cover gap between 2/6 and 2/7 Bns and to cover gaps on left front of 2/7 Bn.

5. Arty

2/1 Fd. Regt. in support 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

6. Liaison

2/2 Fd. Regt. will arrange for a L.O. with each of 2/6 and 2/7 Bns during hours of darkness.

7. Defensive Fire

Only BN Comds are authorized to call for D.F. at present.  
 Rate : 3 r.p.g.p.m. for 5 mins.

8. Lights

No lights will be shown between 1730 hrs. and 0645 hrs. daily.

Admin.

9. As in Div. Admin. Instr. No. 90.

Intercomm.

10. Bde. H.Q. at CISTERNS 51683776.


11. Signal Plan.

L/T to each Bn.  
 W/T listening set with each Bn.  
 Wireless silence will hold.

Ack.

Time of Signature 1456 hrs.

Method of issue by Sigs.

  
 Major,  
 Bde. Major, 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution :

2/5 Bn.	Copy No. 1	I.O.	Copy No. 9	2/1 Fd. Regt.	Copy No 17
2/7 Bn.	2	S.O.	10	2/2 Fd. Regt.	18
2 Leicesters	3	Sup O.	11	2/5 Bn.	19
1 N.F. (MG) Bn.	4	T.O.	12	6 Aust. Div.	20
"J" Bty RHA	5	O.M.E.	13	16 Aust. Inf. Bde.	21
Comd.	6	LO 1	14	File	22
B.M.	7	LO 2	15	War Diary	23-24
S.C.	8	LO 3	16		



*W.D.*

6 AUST DIV OO No. 5

Copy No:

*2*

28 Dec 40.

Ref Maps: SALUM 1/100,000.  
 SALUM (CYRENAICA) 1/100,000.  
 BARDIA (CYRENAICA) 1/100,000.

INTENTION

1. 17 Aust Inf Bde will take over the right portion of 16 Aust Inf Bde front during night 28/29 Dec 40.

METHOD

2. Inter bde boundary incl Right Inf Bde -  
 Pt 177 at X-tracks 51373907  
 Pt 195 on road at 50923836.

2/7 Bn will relieve 2/2 Bn during night 28/29 Dec 40.  
 2/3 Bn will adjust dispositions to new inter bde boundary during night 28/29 Dec 40.

3. Arty

In support Right Inf Bde - 2/1 Fd Regt.  
 " " Left " " - 51 Fd Regt.

Superimposed over Div front - FREW Gp:-

F Bty RAA  
 104 Regt PHA  
 7 Med Regt

Superimposed over Div front - 2/2 Fd Regt.

4. Liaison.- 2/1 and 51 Fd Regts will arrange for a LO to be with each fwd bn they are supporting during the hours of darkness.

5. Defensive Fire.-

During present phase only Bn Comds and Bde Comds are authorized to call for defensive fire. Rate: 3 rpgpm for 5 mins.

ACK

Time of Signature: 1100 hrs

Method of Issue: 1+2 by LO  
*Others by Sigs*

*R. King Maj*  
 Colonel,  
 GS, 6 Aust Div.

Distribution

Copy No.

16 Aust Inf Bde	1	ADMS	13
17 Aust Inf Bde	2	DADOS	14
RAA 6 Aust Div	3	Adv WDF	15
RAE 6 Aust Div	4	War Diary	16-17
Sigs 6 Aust Div	5	File	18-19
AASC 6 Aust Div	6		
16 Inf Bde	7		
GOC	8		
G	9-10		
AQ	11-12		



Ref. Map : AREA SOUTH 1:50,000  
Green Overprint.

SECRET.

Copy No. 4

20 Dec. 45.

Operation Instruction No. 1.

Dear Col. Godfrey,

Div. Instructions call for action by your Bn. as follows :

Night 20/22

- (1) You will secure and hold ground in the vicinity of Pt. 125 in square 513236 to cover O.P. area P6. 35 in same square. I concur with your plan covering strength and movement of party, and objective. The primary role will be to take up a position in the area; N.W. bank of BIR-er-SHILA and high ground Pt. 125 of sufficient frontage and necessary strength to hold the area. The secondary role will be to create VADI at MATHURD on EASTERN extremity. You will NOT commit the party to any undue risk in loss of personnel or the hindering of its primary role in carrying out the secondary role.

- (2) You will examine the area Pt. 171 in square 513234. Your primary role will be to secure the vital ground in this area and occupy it. You will subsequently prepare to occupy this area with a Coy. The secondary role will be to establish observers on the telegraph poles and examine the WESTERN portion of VADI EL MATHURD. Any action in carrying out the secondary role will NOT prejudice the primary role.

From night 20/22 to night 22/20.

You will arrange to reconnoitre the area of enemy post No. 9 - 5132362 and obtain information covering the following :

- (i) The possibility of occupying the bend, as shown in air photo, approx. 5132355, by a platoon to provide covering fire.
- (ii) The practicability of gaining an entrance at :-  
(a) the passage S.W. of Post 8 as shown on air photo.  
(b) the passage across the track obstacle WEST of Post 9 as shown on air photo and where road crosses the obstacle.
- (iii) The wire in the vicinity of (i) and (ii) above, particularly in the VADIS near the S.W. passage to POST 8.
- (iv) The location of POST 7.
- (v) Is the shadow marking on air photo in the vicinity of POST 7 a small ridge.
- (vi) The practicability of an attack on Post 9 from the vicinity of bend in VADI at approx. 5132355.
- (3) The general patrolling of VADI at MATHURD other than the above, and as outlined in your proposals will be carried out as far as possible.

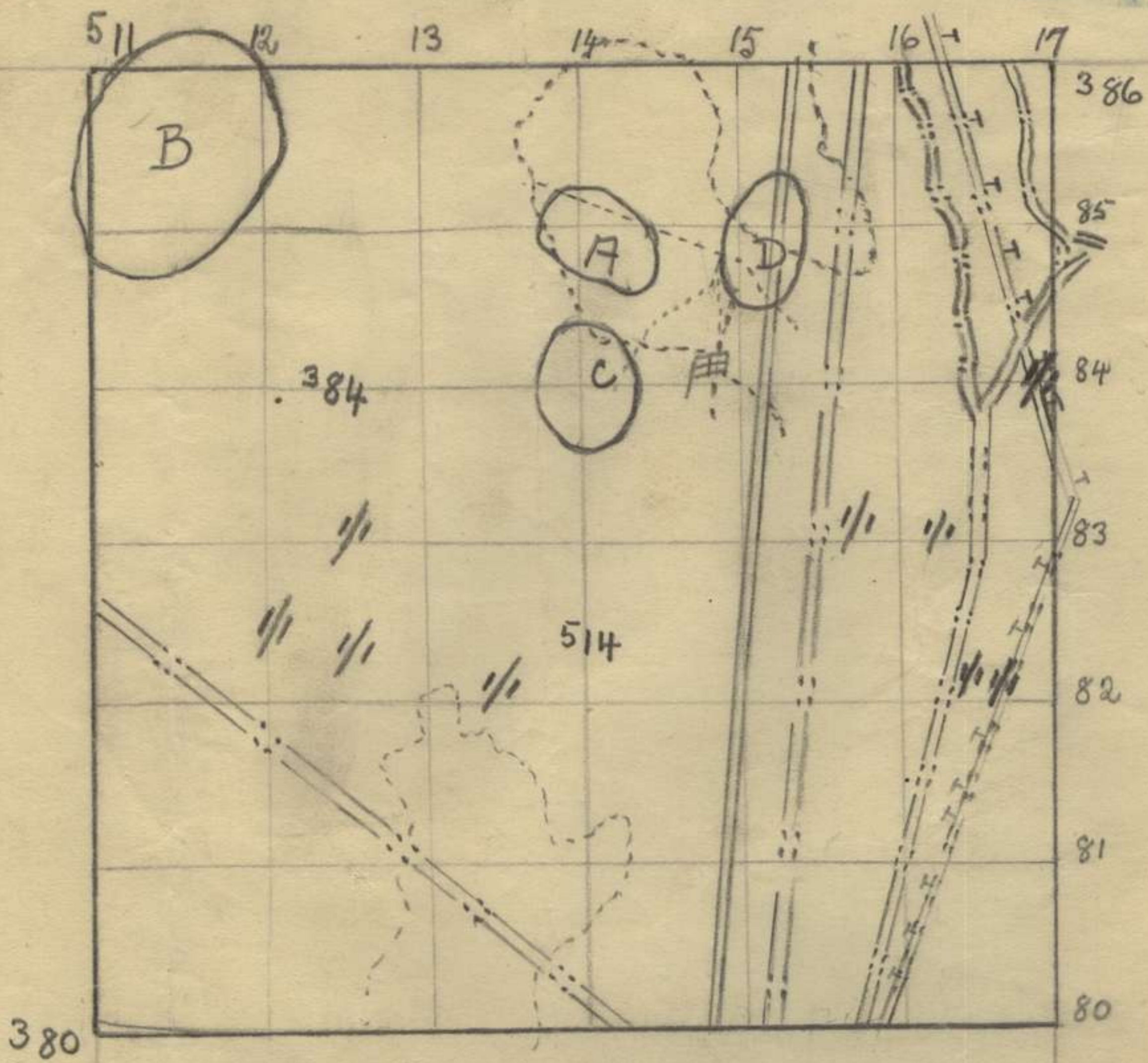
Distribution :

Copy No. 1 Lt-Col. Godfrey HQ, Bn.  
2 Col.  
3 File.  
4-5 War Diary.

4  
Comd. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde. Brig.,



REF. MAP BARDIA SOUTH 1:500,000



Plan Showing Roads & Tracks in  
ENGA Area.

B.H.Q RBGYOHGB  
EM JENNER.PTR.

30.Dec.40  
1410 L.T.



520

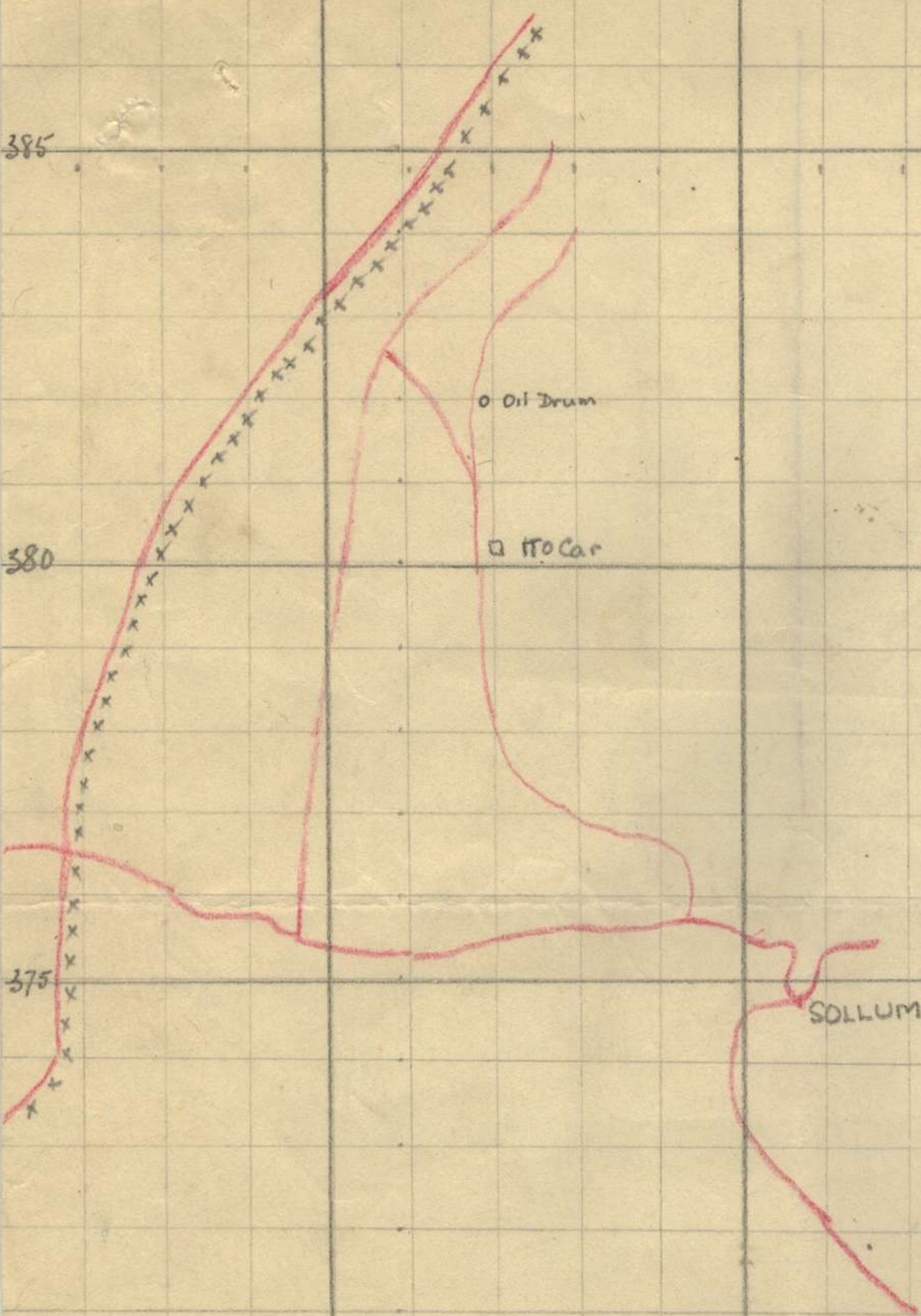
525

530

385

380

375



Extract from  
 SOLLUM  
 1:100,000

Showing Roads  
 in

520

NOWIA AREA.

1810. h

Drawn by  
 Hpl. Ross. I Sec 30/12/40



SECRET

SUBJECT:- Operations - Western Desert.

Copy No: 2

2040/G

DNID RN L.O.  
GASO RAF L.O.  
MOSE Q  
RA  
4th AA Bde

Reference Maps BARDIA North and South 1/50,000.

For ease of reference the area within the BARDIA perimeter will be divided into Northern, Centre and Southern sectors.

Boundaries will be :-

(a) Between Northern and Centre sectors

Rd BARDIA - TOBRUK incl to Northern sector.

(b) Between Centre and Southern sectors.

Rd from 51933953 - 51823955 - cross rds 51733945 - bend in rd at 51683944 - 51563904 - all incl to Centre sector.

In the Field.  
30 Dec 40.

Colonel,  
General Staff, Western Desert Force.

Copy to:- Adv BTE  
Bubo.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
16 Aust Inf Bde	1
17 Aust Inf Bde	2
19 Aust Inf Bde	3
RAA 6 Aust Div	4
RAE 6 Aust Div	5
Sigs 6 Aust Div	6
Comd	7
G	8
AQ	9
File	10



*W. D. Prang*  
Ref. Maps : BARDIA NORTH |  
BARDIA SOUTH | 1 : 50,000  
Green Overprint.

SECRET.

30 Dec. 40.

Operation Instruction No. 5.

Dear Col. Walker,

The following tasks will be carried out today and tonight as applicable.

- (1) Complete occupation of Fed. Coy. positions in localities selected by you with-in the general area laid down. In avoiding skylines, Fed. slopes and upward ground, Platoons may be distributed in separate areas. You are free to use your discretion in making any reasonable alterations which daylight discloses should be made. It is important that moves should be completed tonight.
- (2) Carry out patrolling task tonight on main BARDIA Rd. which was postponed. Initiate any further patrolling you deem necessary, but advise Bde. H.Q. early to avoid a clash with right Bn.
- (3) In view of a report that enemy A.P.Vs. moved out <sup>from</sup> N.E. corner of perimeter yesterday, ensure your protection by anti-tank guns under comd.
- (4) Warn Coys. that there may be instances of hoisting the white flag before any operations take place. If so, prisoners are to be encouraged to come across.
- (5) Should an opportunity present itself to clean up any pocket of enemy, do so at your discretion, providing risks leading to undue casualties are NOT taken. This will aid subsequent events.
- (6) Warn Sps. it is known that the enemy are laying "beoby" traps. This applies to wine, beer, etc. particularly. Officers and H.Q.Os. are to be instructed to maintain control of Sps. and prevent their wandering should the situation tend that way. There will NOT be any uncontrolled movement of Sps. in any circumstances.

*W. D. Prang*  
Brig.,  
Comdg. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Distribution :

Lt-Col. R.C. Walker M.D.  
Comd.  
File.  
War Diary (2).



Notes from C.O.s Orders 29/12.

*W. M. Dwyer*

1. 5 Aus Bn will relieve 2/Leic on 30 Dec 40. 2/Leic will go to BUQ BUQ.

2. Phase I. - Evacuation of A Ech and Cook Lorries. Will RV under M.T.O. on Summer Track. SP Main Rd opposite Aerodrome Buildings.

D Coy ( to go direct )	0840 Hrs
C -	0850 -
A -	0900 -
HQ	0910 -
B -	0920 -

15 MH 5 VTM - Route via SALUM. TCF Found by M.T.O. at start of Summer Track.

3. Coys will retain all L.M.G.s and A/Tk Rifles and one A/A Mounting per Pl., to carried on Tp Carrying Tpt.

Phase II - Relief.

4. 5 Aus Bn arrive at top of HALFAYA Pass 0900 hrs 30 Dec in Tp Carrying Tpt, where an Offr Guide per Coy in P.U. will meet them.

5. Guides to be in posn by 0845 Hrs

6. Coys Guides to lead relieving Coys by track HALFAYA - MUSALD dispersing from there to coy areas. Tp Carrying vehicles for D Coy NOT to approach closer than 500 yds WEST of Coy posn.

7. Coys Hand Over - Our Tps embuss in the same Tpt Carrying Tpt and coys move independantly to BUQ BUQ. Coy Comds to report by phone or personally when relief is complete - Code Word GLADIATOR.

8. Route - present posn - HALFAYA - Summer Track - BUQ BUQ.

9. Coys occupy former coy posns at BUQ BUQ.

10. It is anticipated that 5 Aus Bn will come up in Coy Gps in the order D C A HQ B.

11. Coys will fill in latrines and clean their Coy Areas to-day;

*W*  
Dist. All Coys, 5 Aus Bn., KANO.

*J. C. W.*  
Capt. & Adjt.  
2 Leicesters!



6 AUST DIV OPERATION INSTN No. 3

Copy No: 2

31 Dec, 40.

Ref Maps: BARDIA North and South 1/50,000.  
 CIRENAICA 1/100,000 Sheets 29, 30 and 40.  
 CIRENAICA 1/1,000,000.

1. This Operation Instn deals with the supporting action of the Royal Navy, RAF, WDF, and 7 Armd Div in conjunction with the attack on BARDIA by 6 Aust Div on D. 1 Day.
2. ROYAL NAVY.- Royal Navy are arranging to carry out the following bombardments with such forces as can be made available:-
  - (a) BARDIA village and the area within the perimeter and NORTH of the Rd BARDIA - TOBRUK during daylight on 1 and 2 Jan.
  - (b) The area within the perimeter and NORTH of a line 1000 yds NORTH of the Rd BARDIA - TOBRUK from daylight till 1600 hrs on 3 Jan with special reference to the WADI RAHEB 514401. This bombardment is being carried out by three battleships between 0800 - 0900 hrs 3 Jan and by smaller craft at other times during the period stated.
  - (c) No tps will be within 1000 yds of that part of the BARDIA perimeter NORTH of the Rd BARDIA - TOBRUK from daylight till 0900 hrs 3 Jan, or nearer than 500 yds to the same part of the perimeter from 0900 - 1600 hrs 3 Jan.
3. RAF.- 202 Gp RAF are providing:-
  - (a) Intermittent air bombardment throughout the period 31 Dec to 0530 hrs 3 Jan of the area within the BARDIA perimeter, continuing on the Northern sector only from daylight until 1600 hrs 3 Jan.
  - (b) Air protection over BARDIA and SALUM throughout daylight 3 Jan with special protection during the period 0800 hrs - 1030 hrs 3 Jan.
  - (c) Strat R WEST of TOBRUK - EL ADEM.  
 Any important enemy movement Eastward in area to be reported WDF by message dropping.
4. AC AIRCRAFT.- 208 AC Sqn RAF and 3 Sqn RAAF remain under Corps Comd for Tac R and fighter protection of Tac R respectively, and will provide the following on 3 Jan:-
  - Tac R - (a) Three sorties at 0700, 0930, and 1200 hrs - area BARDIA perimeter. Tasks:-
    - (i) To report posn of own fwd tps.



- (ii) Report dispositions of enemy forces within defences with special reference to enemy AFVs.

Reports by W/T and message dropping to HQs 16 Aust Inf Bde and 6 Aust Div.

(b) Two sorties TOBRUK - GAMBUT - BIR EL GOBI - EL ADEM. First sortie at 0900 hrs, second at call from 1200 hrs.

Tasks:-

Report concentrations or movement of enemy forces Eastwards. Message dropping on HQ 7 Arm'd Bde and HQ 7 Arm'd Div.

Arty R:-

Two sorties at call of CRA 6 Aust Div from 0730 hrs.

5. 7 ARM'D DIV.- Will fire arty concentration on gun posns and fwd posts in Northern sector during D - 1 and D 1 days and patrol in area of fwd defences during night D 1/D 2.

Method of implementing 7 Arm'd Div harassing operations:-

(a) 4 Arm'd Bde - Will order 4 RHA less "F" Bty to fire into Northern sector at intervals during D - 1 and D 1 days.

(b) Sp Gp - (i) Will order one bty 1 RHA to carry out similar harassing tasks.

(ii) Will carry out demonstration with inf and tanks towards fwd defences of Northern sector with object of containing enemy in that sector during D 1 and D 2 days and during night D 1/D 2, ascertaining effects of bombarding by patrolling if possible.

(iii) One bty 1 RHA will be placed in such a posn that it can engage enemy attempting to escape along Rd TOBRUK - BARDIA and at same time can be made quickly available to come under cmd 7 Arm'd Bde if required.

(iv) If an opportunity occurs success will be exploited inside defences, but NOT before 1600 hrs D 1 day.

6. RESERVES.- 16 Inf Bde and att tps will be in Corps res and will move on 2 Jan by march route along the coastal track so as to be in the area ABAR EL SILQIYA 520369 by 1200 hrs 4 Jan.

7. INTERCOMH.- Corps HQ remains present location. After capture of BARDIA Adv Corps HQ will be est in the area MENASTIR 506401.



- 8. 208 Sq. RAF will arrange for one RAF tender to report to Adv HQ 6 Aust Div by 1400 hrs 2 Jan.
- 9. 7 Armd Div will arrange to provide a set at their Adv HQ for listening-in to Tac R.

Frequency for Tac R:- 2750 Kcs.

Call Signs:- 7 Armd Div XY    16 Aust Inf Bde SS  
6 Aust Div SM    Adv HQ WDF    LO

- 10. Naval W/T stations, each consisting of one NO and two naval ratings, will be provided as follows for direct comm in emergency with bombarding ships:-

(a) HQ WDF	Call Sign	gB
(b) HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde	" "	gA
(c) HQ Sp Gp	" "	gC

The stations for (b) and (c) will both report HQ 6 Aust Div by 1200 hrs 1 Jan. 7 Armd Div and 6 Aust Div will arrange for guides to meet them there.

11. LIAISON OFFERS.-

(a) Two Corps LOs will be at each Div HQ from 1600 hrs 2 Jan.

(b) 7 Armd Div will maintain one LO at HQ 16 Aust Inf Bde from 1600 hrs 2 Jan.

(c) 16 Inf Bde will maintain one LO at Corps HQ from 1200 hrs 3 Jan.

- 12. WHITE CROSSES will be displayed at HQs of leading coys 6 Aust Div when halted to indicate to the air the posn reached by fwd tps.

- 13. The following code names will be used for comds on R/T and in texts of messages only:-

Comd WDF	RICHARD	Comd 6 Aust Div	MAC
7 Armd Div	JERRY	16 Aust Inf Bde	TUBBY
4 Armd Bde	BLOOD	17 Aust Inf Bde	SAVAGE
7 Armd Bde	DAN	19 Aust Inf Bde	BOB
Sp Gp	GREEN	16 Inf Bde	BILL

- 14. In the event of a general capitulation of the garrison of BARDIA the code word STOP will be signalled. On receipt of this code word all bombardment of the area inside the BARDIA perimeter, whether by sea, land or air, will stop.

- 15. Watches will be synchronised with HQ WDF at 2100 hrs 2 Jan.



16. In the event of the operation having to be postponed, the code word CEASE will be signalled.

ACK

Time of Signature: 2105 hrs, 31 Dec, 40.

Method of Issue: IOs and Sigs. *W. Berryman* Colonel,  
GS, 6 Aust Div.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
16 Aust Inf Bde	1
17 Aust Inf Bde	2
19 Aust Inf Bde	3
A Sqn 6 Aust Cav	4
RAA 6 Aust Div	5
RAE 6 Aust Div	6
Sigs 6 Aust Div	7
7 RTR	8
Comd	9
G	10
A	11
Q	12
AASC 6 Aust Div	13
Med	14
Ord	15
1 Aust Corps	16
File	17 - 18
War Diary	19 - 20



31 Dec. 40.

17 Aust. Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summary No. 4.Based on information at this H.Q. up to 2000 hrs. 31 Dec. 40.

General. 2/7 Bn. moved fwd. to new locations held yesterday by a Sec. in each locality.

The move was not apparently observed by the enemy.

B Coy. 2/6 Bn. pushed fwd. further during night and is consolidating. 52353859

Enemy Operations.

As a result of enemy fighting patrol attack on D Coy 2/6 Bn. one wounded P. was taken this morning - "Cried for mercy". Later one further prisoner captured.

Order of Battle. P.W. identified -

6 Coy 11 Bn 157 Regt 65 CINFV Div.

First Aid Personnel 157 Regt. 65 CINFV Div.

Enemy Morale. Information from P.W. indicates it to be very low, due mainly to lack of food, the non-appearance of the promised large reinforcements and lack of desire to fight. The willingness with which information, if known, was given, indicated either complete lack of spirit, or fear of harsh treatment by us. This great fear at first shown by P.W. indicates that the enemy impress on their personnel that they will be killed or tortured if taken prisoner by us.

Enemy Supplies. P.W. confirm reports of acute shortage of food supplies; water is adequate at present.

Enemy Air Activity.

2/7 Bn. report that, at 1708 hrs., aircraft, followed by whistling and thuds, were heard and may possibly be TETROS bombs.

Hostile Shelling.

As shown on Shelling trace attached.

Extracts from own Patrol Reports.PATROL No. 1. :-

Summary of report by Lieut. Sherlock, B Coy., after patrol 29/30 Dec. :-

Ref. Map BARDIA SOUTH 1:50,000.

Frontier Post 8 is on bank of WADI South of WADI RAMLA. Leaving F.P. 8 wadi very steep to WEST for 100<sup>x</sup> then turning NORTH for 500<sup>x</sup> to F.P. 9 which marks the start of WADI RAMLA. I travelled 600 yds. WEST along bank from where the WADI runs S.E. into the sea. The wadi affords excellent concealment for troops. 50 deg. North there are wire entanglements which run WEST from the sea.

While patrol was moving along wire they heard enemy giving fire orders to Arty which had apparently been moved fwd to vicinity of Frontier wire between Posts 16 and 17. Returned to CARRIER WADI night of 29/30 Dec.

PATROL No. 2. :-

2/7 Bn. Patrol No. 2 reports that the road from their area to BARDIA defences is passable with clearance on either side from shell holes and abandoned vehicles. A stone wall ten to fifteen yards long and three feet wide has been erected across the road in line with angle of tank trap. This trap runs east west - turns north at this point and is approx 14-16 feet wide and 7-8 feet deep. Several vehicles and what appeared to be a plane were standing in the area formed by stone wall and North-south line of Trap. Personnel working about them crossed the trap by means of a bridge. No firing took place and patrol remained in the area from 0145-0215 hrs and patrol returned at 0520 hrs.

PATROL No. 3. :- Patrol reached point 52023861 - a junction of two wadis, the enemy appearing very active along direct front. At point 52033865 it appeared that the enemy were constructing sangars 70 yds to the front. Fire was being directed to the left. Moved off on a bearing of 255 degrees and stopped at a distance of 200 yds. Area covered with sangars and wadi shallower. At approx 52023862 there appeared to be an enemy strongpost. At point 51993860 numerous sangars.

Remarks. Pt. 162 is a fairly high feature but it is unknown whether it dominates the enemy. The wadi could be crossed easily by inf and carriers 200 yds. from wadi junction 52043862.



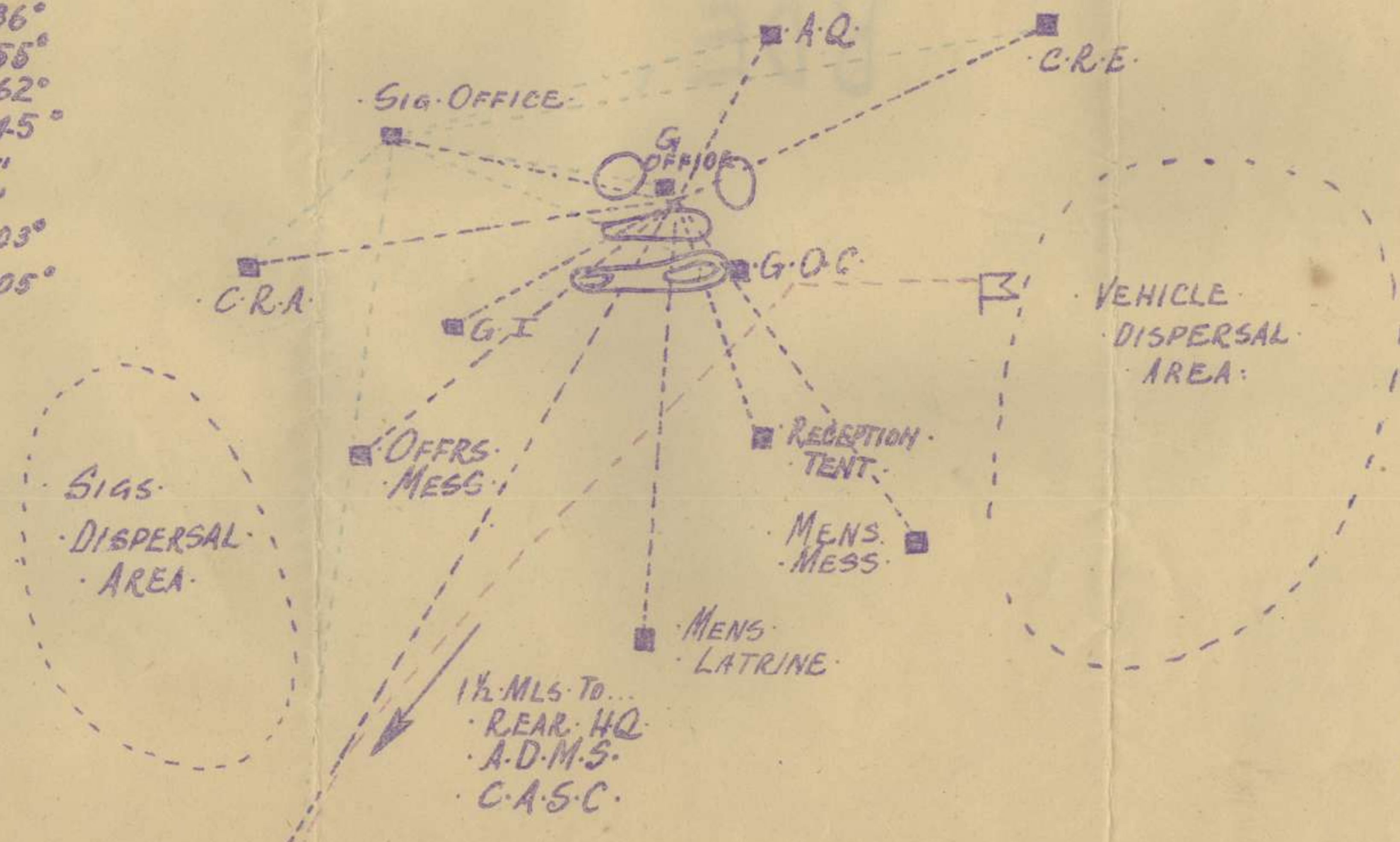
EYE SKETCH OF LOCATION OF DIV. H.Q.  
 REF. MAP. SALUM. 1:100,000. REF. PT. 51643742.

SCALE. 1" = 100 YDS.

SECRET

BEARINGS FROM G. OFFICE TO.....

A.Q.	328°
C.R.E.	11°
MENS. MESS.	94°
G.O.C.	128°
C.R.A.	186°
OFFRS. MESS.	155°
G.I.	162°
REAR. H.Q.	145°
A.D.M.S.	"
C.A.S.C.	"
SIG. OFFICE.	203°
RECEPTION OFFICE	105°



LEGEND

- TELEPHONE
- TRACKS
- BEARINGS FROM G. OFFICE

H.Q. 6. AVIST. DIV.  
 1500 HRS. 23. DEC. 40.  
 DRAWN BY W.G.



✓ 51783881  
✓ 51853892  
51853893

31 DEC 1940

FHB/TG

SECRET

PROGRAMME ARTILLERY CONCENTRATION SHOTS.

1 Jan	0515 hrs	Posts 9 & 11 in South Sector.
	1745 hrs	Junction perimeter and main rd BARDIA - CAPUZZO, Posts 27 and 29. 51503902
2 Jan	1750 hrs	Posts 19, 16, 18. Junction switch line and perimeter in south sector.

51543911

Copies to -

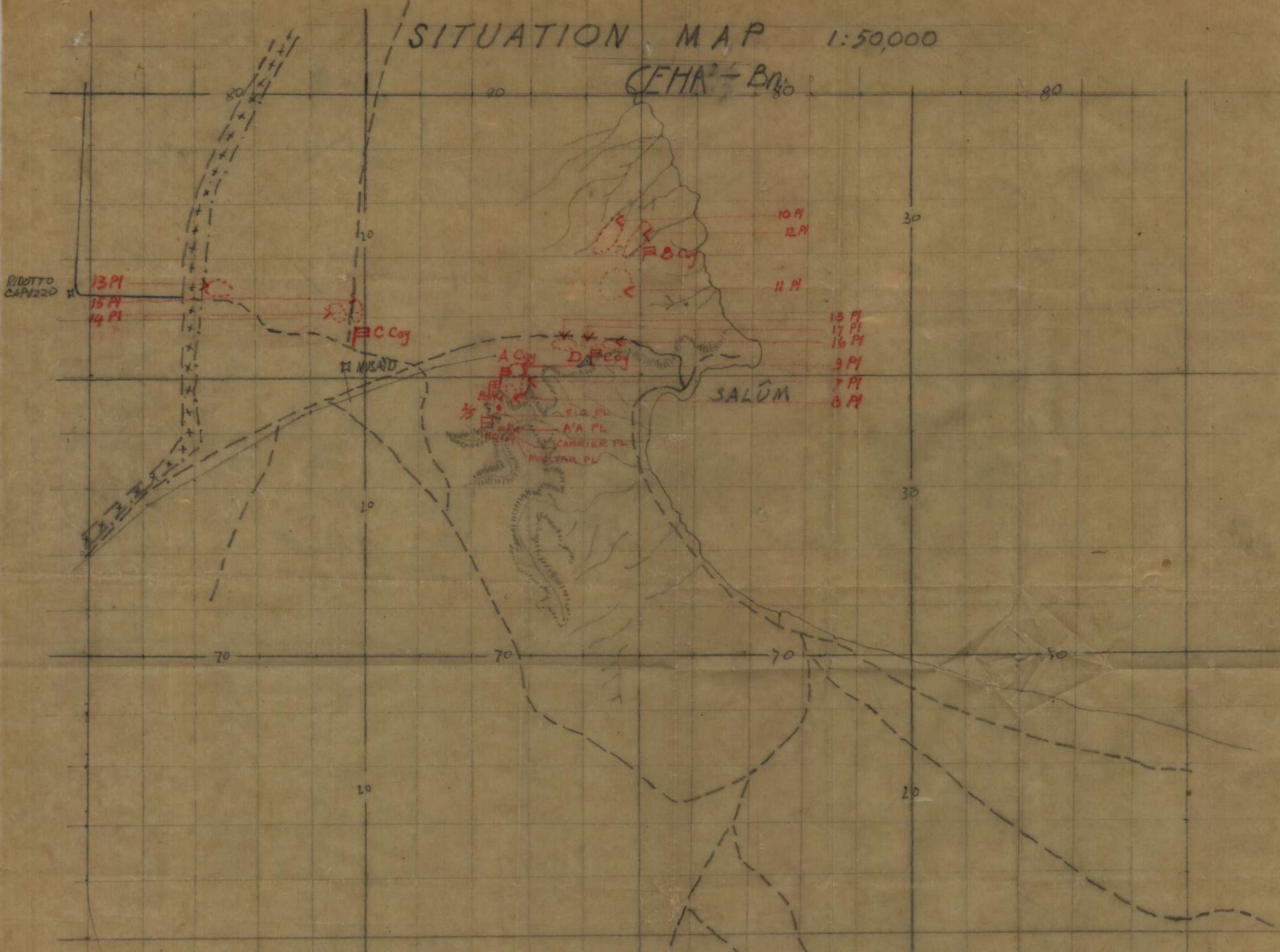
- 16 Aust Inf Bde
- 17 Aust Inf Bde
- RAA 6 Aust Div
- RAE 6 Aust Div
- Sigs 6 Aust Div
- Comd
- G
- Q

F.H.B.  
31 Dec 40.

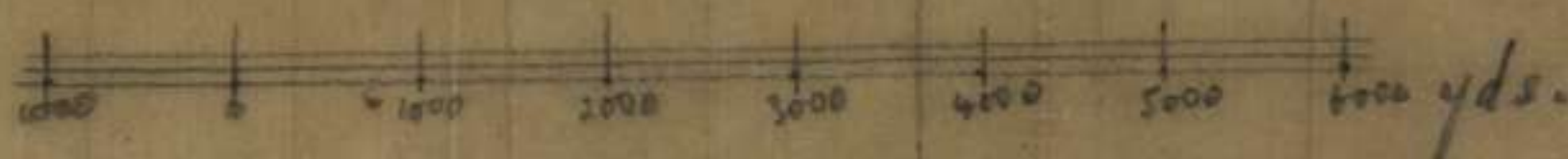


SITUATION MAP 1:50,000

CEHA - BN 40



Scale: 1:50,000



INT. SEC.  
31. DEC. 40.



24 DEC 1940

SUBJECT:- Appreciation of Service.  
-----

CR/Egypt/2/20207/A.

Headquarters,  
Western Desert Force,  
New Zealand Division,  
2 N.Z.E.F.  
6th Australian Division,  
No.1 L. of C. District,  
Canal L. of C. Area,  
Cairo Base Sub-Area.  
-----

The following telegram from His Majesty the King is reproduced and circulated down to Units to be brought to the notice of all Ranks :-

" Following from Secretary of State for War to General WAVELL by Command of the KING I transmit the following message from His Majesty "Begins" Please convey to all Ranks of the Force under your Command my heartiest congratulations on the Victory in the Western Desert, skill in planning this complicated operation, for which the greatest credit is due to yourself and to the Commanders and Staff of all three Services, was equalled by the efficiency and dash of the troops in carrying it out, the whole Empire will I am sure be proud that contingents from the Dominions and India as well as those of our Free French Allies played a distinguished part in this supremely successful encounter with an enemy vastly superior in numbers - GEORGE R.I - end "

Headquarters,  
British Troops in Egypt,  
Cairo: December, 1940.

Colonel,  
Assistant Adjutant General,  
British Troops in Egypt.

Copy list - List "A" Group "B".



6. AUST. DIV

ARTY AND PATROL PROGRAMME NIGHT 27/28 DEC 40  
Ref 'BARDIA' 1:100,000 North + South Sheets

SECRET

COPY No  
27 Dec 40

TASKS


16 AUST INF BDE -

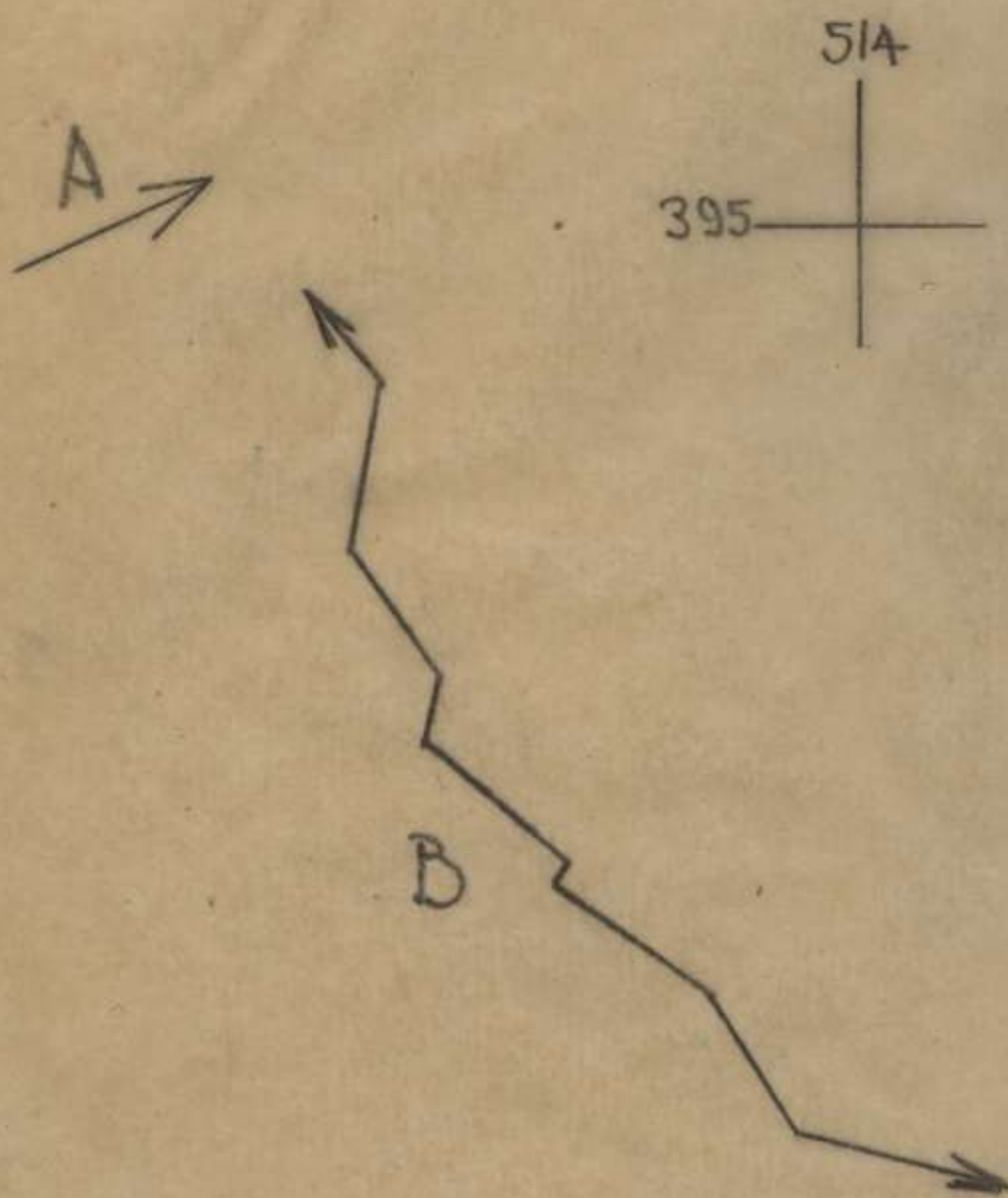
'A' Small Patrol to confirm information  
obtained on night 24/25 Dec.

'B' Fighting Patrols

ARTY -

----- HF from 1800 to 1930 hrs  
and 0500 to 0600 hrs

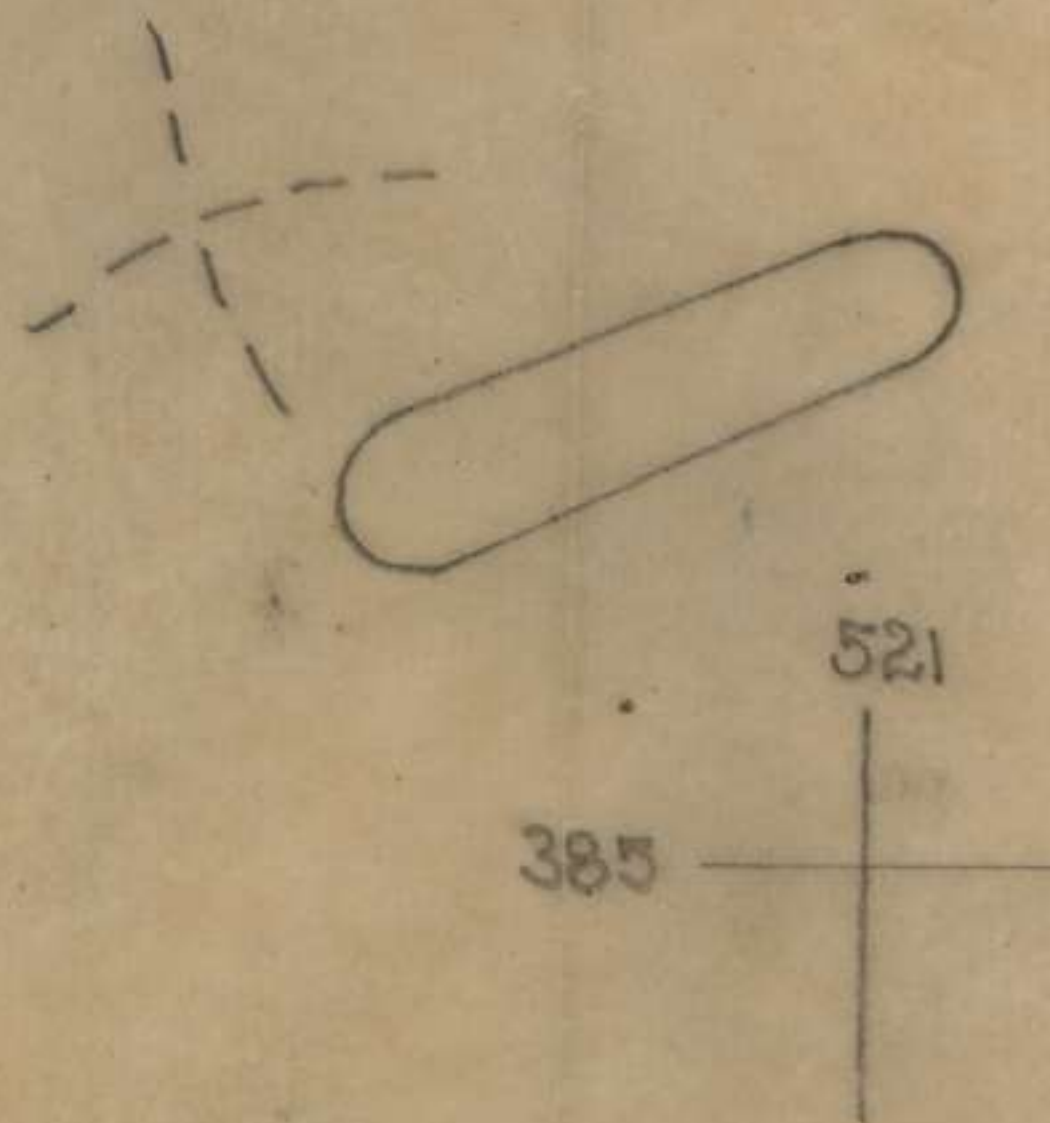
 Concentrations from 0500  
to 0503 hrs



W. J. ~~Folshing~~ <sup>for</sup> COL  
G.S. 6. AUST DIV

DISTRIBUTION

- 16 INF BDE
- 16 AUST INF BDE
- 17 AUST INF BDE
- R.A.A
- WDF
- FILE





Report of Lieut Dexter - Fighting Patrol - night of 28/29 Dec 40.

---

1. OBJECT - (i) To patrol road in squares 518384 and 519384.  
(ii) To patrol Wadi from 51863845 in North Easterly direction to enemy position.  
(iii) Recce of .176 (51943850).  
(iv) Observe enemy position.

2. CONDUCT OF PATROL -

(i) Fighting Patrol, One Pl strength, left HK(51853820) at 2100 hrs. Advanced on 358 deg for 2400x to road junctions 51843820. One Sec patrolled road direction N.E. for 400x and reported road gradually curves Northward. Branch track 200x from junction and joins road again 350x from junction. Road about 10' wide and metalled. One Section patrolled road running N.W. for 400x and reported Section Post dug-in on one side. One Section patrolled further branch running N.W. for 300x and reported no field works. The two branches running N.W. did not converge in area patrolled. Sketch of roads attached.

(ii) Advanced to Wadi 51863845 on bearing of 34 deg. Investigated Sangers at entrance and found them unoccupied. Continued advance up Wadi, inspecting numerous sangers on the way. After traversing 1500x left two Sections with Pl Sgt and proceeded for another 300x with one Sec. Left remaining Sec at this point and proceeded with Recce patrol of three men and self. About 300x from this position discovered two ground wires running up the Wadi in direction of the enemy. Did not cut them as thought they may be our own; or of the enemy, would make him suspicious.

Proceeded about 500x, passing dug-outs in the bed of the Wadi - all appeared deserted. Struck road, in bed of Wadi, running up to enemy position.

At point where first struck, branched over side of Wadi to East. Advanced along road for 150x and heard engine running and also what I took to be a human voice in the distance. At this point retraced our steps and picked up remainder of the Pl.

(iii) 1100x from mouth of Wadi inspected what I took to be .176 (51943850). A very prominent Sanger on Eastern side of Wadi. Crawled up to same and found it deserted. We heard no enemy during the patrol and saw no movement.

Arrived back at Coy at 0320 hours, 29 Dec 40.

0820 hrs.

W.R.Dexter, Lieut.



REPORT OF PATROL UNDER Lieut. J.B. PATERSON : Night 28/29 DEC 40.

-----  
(Left camp area - midnight).

1. Reached line 52083845 - Trig 171 - 52023849 at 0130 hrs.
2. Pl disposed on that line.
3. At 0230 hrs, 1 Off, 1 Sgt, & 6 O.Rs went on recce patrol on road Argub about 400x then Pl Comdr examined dogleg and found digging going on corner 52043861.
4. Returned to Pl arriving 0400 hrs; sent report back by runner.
5. At 0545 hrs, sent Sgt Cameron to move Nos 4 and 5 Secs forward as instructed.
6. At 0630 hrs, No 6 Sec moved forward under cover of other two Secs to come on to flank of telephone line and enemy O.Ps.
7. Run into enemy outpost at 52013851, tried to collect a prisoner and were not fired on till reached about 100x of post.
8. Bren taken on right but trouble with stoppage .  
Cpl. Goble moved to left with grenade and rifle near a quarry which turned out to be a strong-post.
9. Did not see any wire; and no tank obstacle except natural features.
10. Were outnumbered, and Bren out of action.  
Number encountered - about 70. Were fired on from flanks by a type of Mortar.
11. Cpl. Goble was seen to be severely hit by a grenade and believed killed. One other man wounded and returned with patrol.
12. Withdrew without further casualties, and reported to O.C. C Coy.

J.B. Paterson, Lieut.



PATROL REPORTS : NIGHT 28/29 DEC 40.

No. 1 - Lieut. W.H. Sherlock and 1 Pl B Coy.

Object-to occupy high ground near BIR ER RAMLEH for observation and further recce to WADI MUATERED and hold defensive position.

Report - Reached WADI 52323842 at 1800 hrs - were proceeding North at bearing of 8° at dusk.

No further information.

No. 2 - Lieut. J.B. Patterson and 1 Pl C Coy.

OBJECT - (a) To occupy position from Frontier wire at 52083845 to Trig 171 (52023849) and remain there to ambush pole-sitters.

(b) Send recce patrol to line of Rd South of ARGUB (sq. 520385) and vicinity.

REPORT - (a) Reached Frontier and 2 Secs getting in position for ambush.

(b) Recce patrol examined road and entrance to WADI at 52043856 - could hear digging 200x S.W. Patrol returned to vicinity Trig. 171 at 0410 hrs.

(c) Rifle and L.A. fire heard from vicinity ambush position at 0730 hrs - no further report.

(d) Patrol to return during day if practicable or at dusk tonight.

Further report soon as received.

No. 3 - Lieut. W.R. Dexter and 1 Pl. D Coy.

OBJECT - To investigate S.W. end of WADI MUATERED and rocks in squares 518384 and 519384 and endeavour examine wire and tank obstacle vicinity road junction 51943861.

REPORT - The report of Lieut Dexter is attached.

*W.D.*  
Lieut.-Col.,  
Commanding 2/6 Aust Inf Bn.

*Further report for 01 C Coy attached*



Ref. Map : SALUM |  
BARDIA | 1:100,000

SECRET.

29 Dec. 40.

PATROL REPORTS Night 28/29 Dec. 40.

Further Report Lieut. Sherlock Patrol.

Recced. to WADI RAMLA last night. Struck off "carrier" wadi 52333842 200<sup>x</sup> from top on bearing of 8<sup>o</sup>, but small wadi 500 paces. Sangar with phone wire running out on coast side, probably our abandoned G.P. 1600 paces "carrier" wadi. Struck head small offshoot RAMLA WADI 2000 paces. Travelled down it bearing approx 90<sup>o</sup>. 400 short paces met frontier Post 8. Further 200 short paces met main WADI RAMLA. Travelled NORTH and followed approx. 500<sup>x</sup> to frontier Post 9. Then WEST approx 500<sup>x</sup> wadi very deep to this point and practically impassable. At this point a very deep hole and caves - WADI there gets shallower. Put troops in defensive posn. and took out recce. patrol. On NORTH bank wadi immediately above our posn. and 50<sup>x</sup> from edge is frontier wire running on bearing 247<sup>o</sup>, continued frontier post 17. Also stone building in heavily wired enclosure. Wire continues EAST to limit of vision. 500<sup>x</sup> WEST of frontier post 17 found frontier post 18 also on bank of WADI. Observed from high ground NORTH bank wadi at first light. No movement seen, but phone lines and buildings observed about 500<sup>x</sup> away. Will spend day in WADI below frontier post 17 and wait for return runners until 2050 hrs. If not back by then will leave small rear party there and recce. to bank WADI MUATERED and take up suitable posn, sending back new posn. to rear party. Send bully beef, sticking plaster for feet. Frontier wire appears to run considerably further towards coast than shown on map.

T.O.O. 0805

(Sgd) W. H. SHERLOCK Lieut.



17 Aust Inf. Bde

From. 6 Bn

I 53.

29.

Patrol report @ Platoon B Coy on  
special task spent today concealed  
approx. 522,93862 @ Report frontier  
wire extends to sea along north  
bank RAMLA @ Other information  
on sketch attached @ Platoon position  
pending tomorrow area shown  
on sketch.

W



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

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

TO

SEAR

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

NOWA

Originator's Number

153

Date

29

In Reply to Number

Patrol	report	o	Platoon	B	coy
on	special	task	spent	today	concealed
approx	IAAEY	TGA	o	report	frontier
wire	extends	to	sea	along	north
bank	RAMHA	o	other	information	on
sketch	attached.	o	pln	propose	spending
tomorrow	area	shown	on	sketch	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

*H. Dunkley*  
Lieut

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

2020

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

T.O.R. 1173 30/17



TO

SEAR — DEREK

MEMORIAL FORM

PLEASE PRINT NAME IN FULL (GIVEN NAMES AND SURNAME)

DATE



area shell  
burst (medium)  
3200  
800x-1000x

Block house??  
with waste case  
on 17th  
2000x  
3240

Large dump  
gun emplacement  
1200x  
3180

NB Sarsen which I shall probably  
use for tomorrow by river  
500x330. Apparently unoccupied  
waste  
offering  
wreckage

Bldg. in waste  
shed - mentioned  
in SI.

Truck  
Post 17.  
air port  
was about  
here

gun emplacement

large Sarsen  
Sarsen  
Frontier  
port 19  
500x330

in field?  
in this area all day?

begin point  
of stretch

all bearings from origin  
point to object

5th Sherlock point 29 Dec

- waste  
MAHATARA  
RAM...  
AHL



Block House??  
with (white vane)?  
on top.

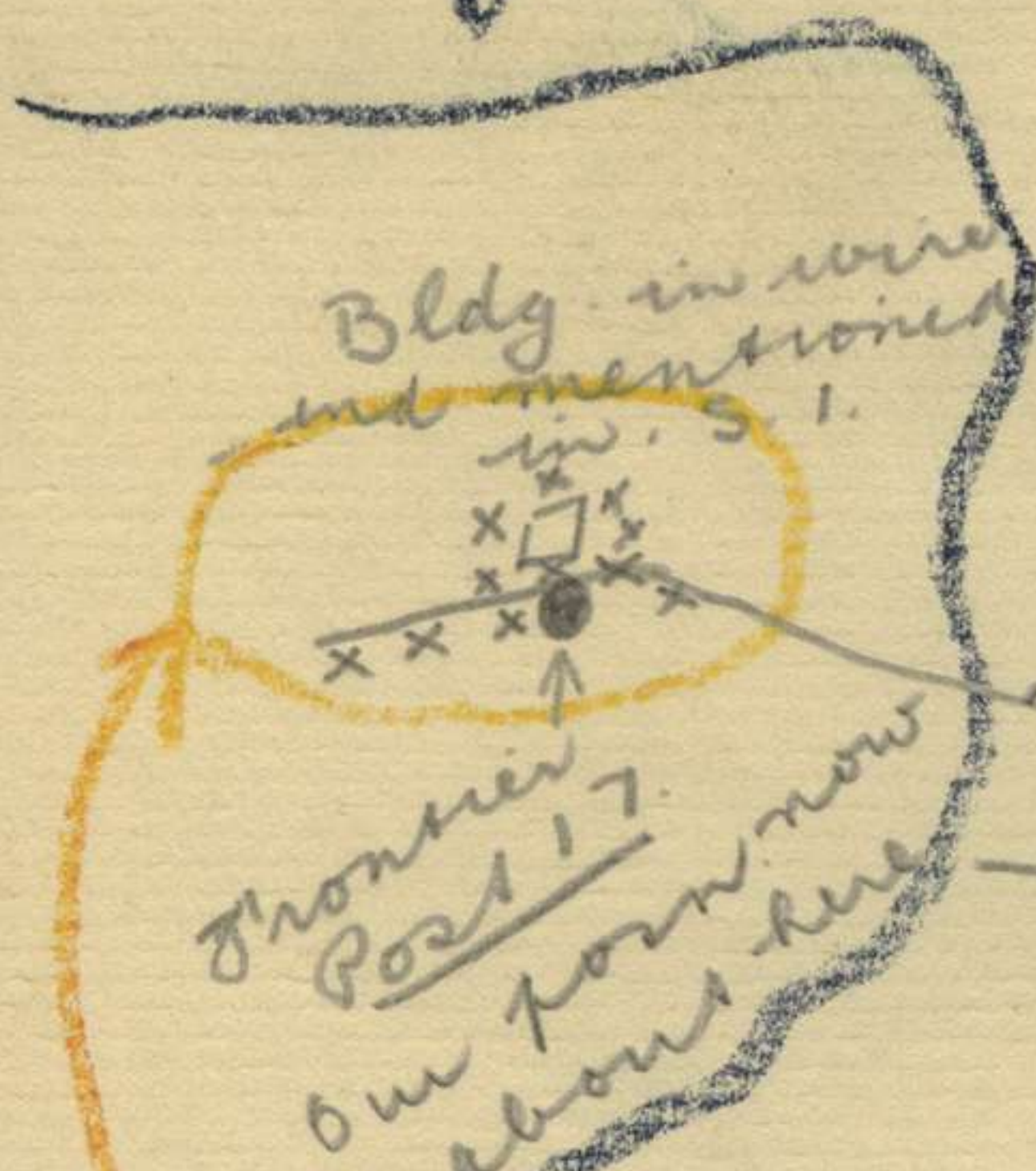
2000' x  
324°

Large dump  
(for gun emplacement)  
1200' x 318°

Area shell  
burst (medium)  
320°  
800' x 1000'

NB SANGAR which I shall  
probably use for  
tomorrow morning 500' x 333°

ENEMY'S POSNS



Enemy Postn.

Large Sangars  
Sangars

Apparently unoccupied  
Apparently occupied  
sangar in wadi

Frontier Post 10  
500' x 33°

WADI  
RAMLAH  
SEA

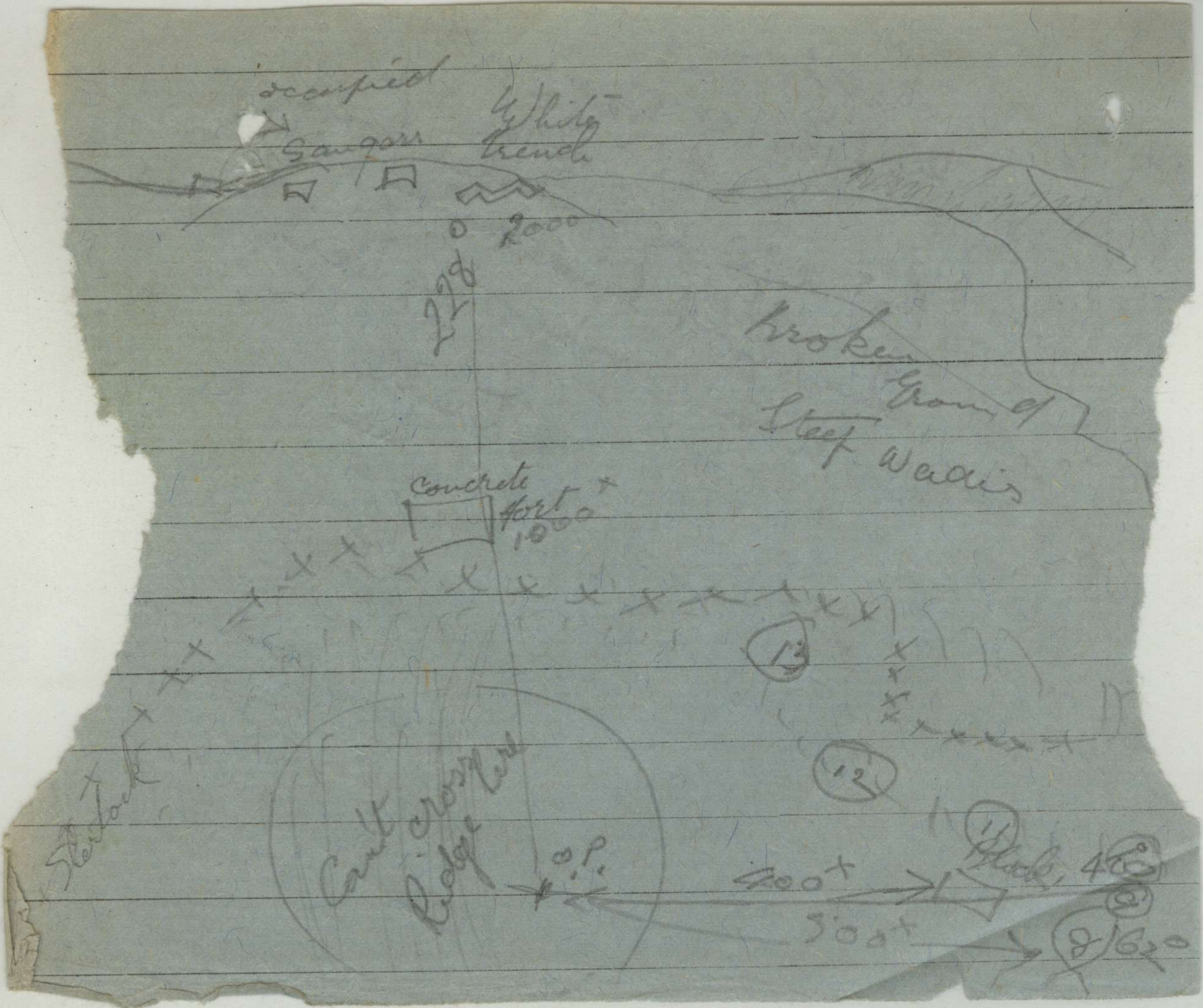
ORIGIN POINT

NB

all bearings as from  
original pt to objects

W. H. SHERLOCK. LIEUT  
29 Dec.







Sketch made  
by LIEUT. WARKIE  
CARRIER PLV.

No's refer to further work  
The sketch handed in  
about 21 o'clock 29 Dec

Drunkly  
Warkie



47 degrees

Mounds of white soil  
"the chalk Hill"

Hollow in the  
ground with  
showing "dwellings"  
in it.

Sort of  
emplacements

Nothing special  
here, just hillside

Measuring

double  
hollow

More hollows  
& dwellings

more  
dwellings



Horizon

Ground  
at  
about  
500.

For God's sake come up with  
my own between you & the  
buildings because I imagine they  
belong to the opposition

Two possible  
very forward O.P.s  
about 80 yds from where I  
was.



Two houses bears  $303^{\circ}$

Buildings in foreground bear  $338^{\circ}$

cliffs bear  $333^{\circ}$

~~Must find out whether buildings in foreground are ours or opponents. If ours they are the perfect O.P., and don't appear to be being shelled.~~

NO MOVEMENT OF ANY KIND

Bearing to Rt hand end of barracks  $174^{\circ}$

All bearings true

This sketch picked up  
by Henry Warfe.



~~By Tatum~~

5233842

hunt Sherlock - ~~105th~~

Receded to WADI RAMLA  
last night @ struck off "carrier"  
wadi 200' from top on beam 80  
hit small wadi 300 paces @  
Sangan with stone were  
munging out on coast side  
probably on abandoned O.P.

1600 paces "carrier" wadi. Struck  
head small offshoot RAMLA  
WADI 2080 paces. Travelled  
down it bearing approx 90°.

400 Short paces met further  
post 8. Further 200 short paces  
met main wadi RAMLA.

Travelled north & followed  
approx 500' to further post  
9. Then west approx 500'  
wadi very deep to this point  
& practically impassable



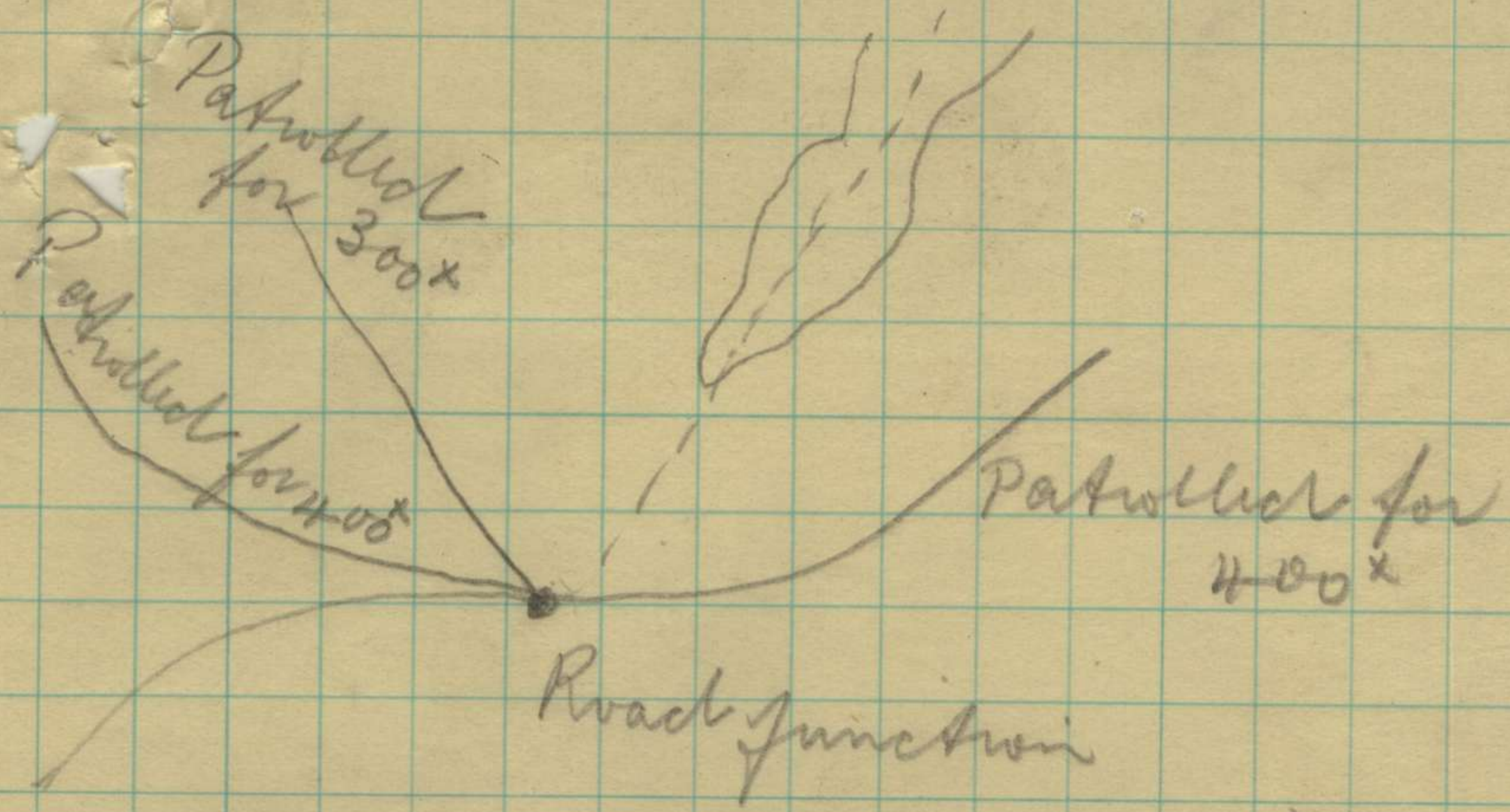
at this point a very deep hole &  
caves - WADI. The gully gets shallower  
① Put troops in defensive position  
& took out reconnaissance patrol ①  
6 on north bank wadi  
immediately above our position  
& 500' from edge is frontier  
wire running on bearing  
247° ~~from~~ frontier post 17  
also stone building <sup>in</sup> heavily  
wire enclosure ① wire continues  
east to limit of vision ① 500'  
west of frontier post 17 found  
frontier post 18 also on  
bank of wadi ① observed from  
high ground north bank  
report at first light ① no  
movement seen ~~by~~ but some  
huts & buildings observed about  
500' away. Will spend day  
in wadi below frontier



Frontier Post 17 + want for  
return munnys until 2030  
ms 0 spot back by then  
will have small war party  
then + need to bank next  
M V E T E R E D + take up  
suitable from landing back  
new from to war party 0  
send bully but sticking  
plaster for feet 0 further  
will appear to run  
considerably further towards  
coast than shown on map.

1.0.0 0505





Patrolled  
for 300x

Patrolled for 400x

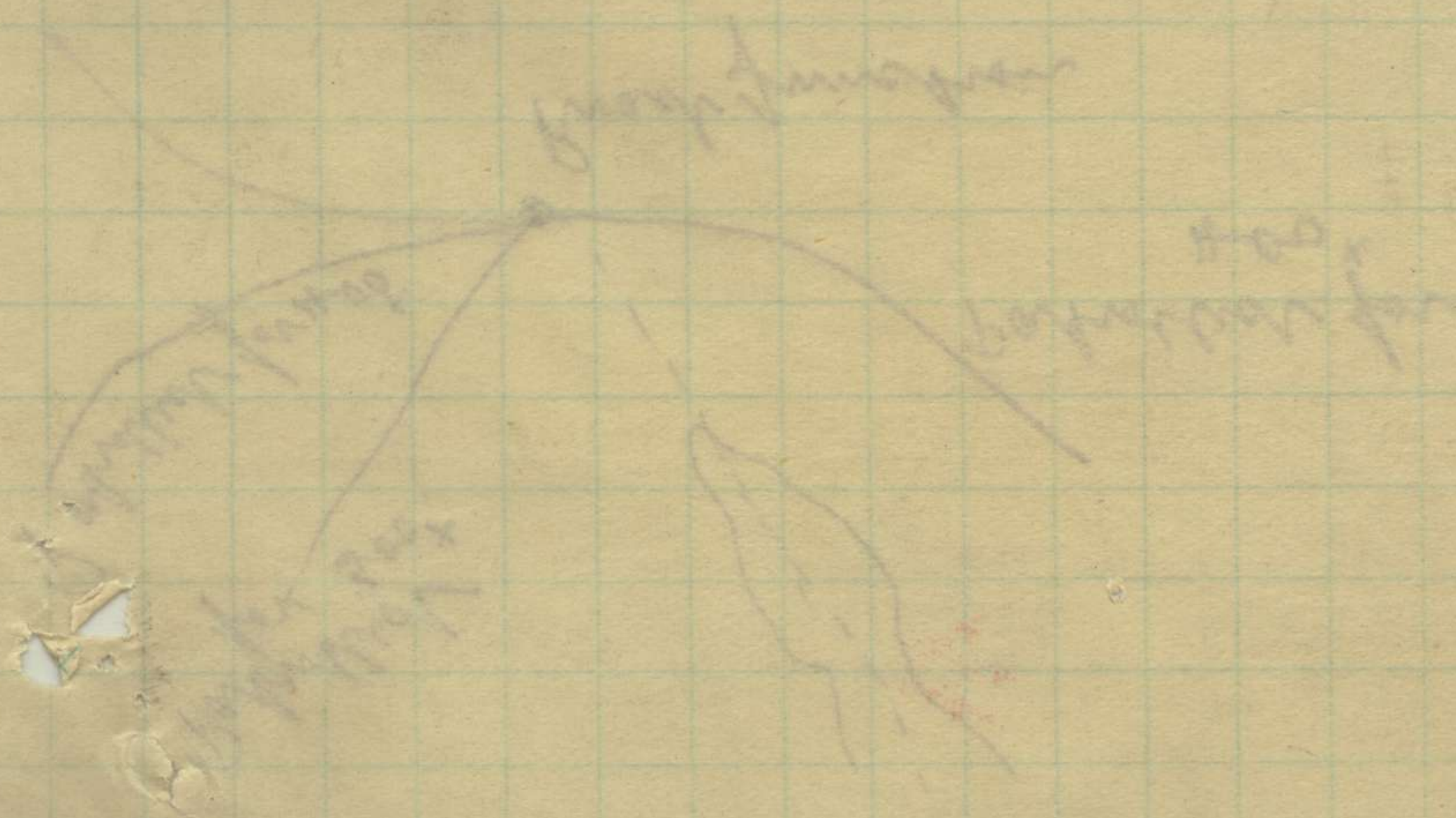
Patrolled for  
400x

Road junction

D



W.D. Jackson

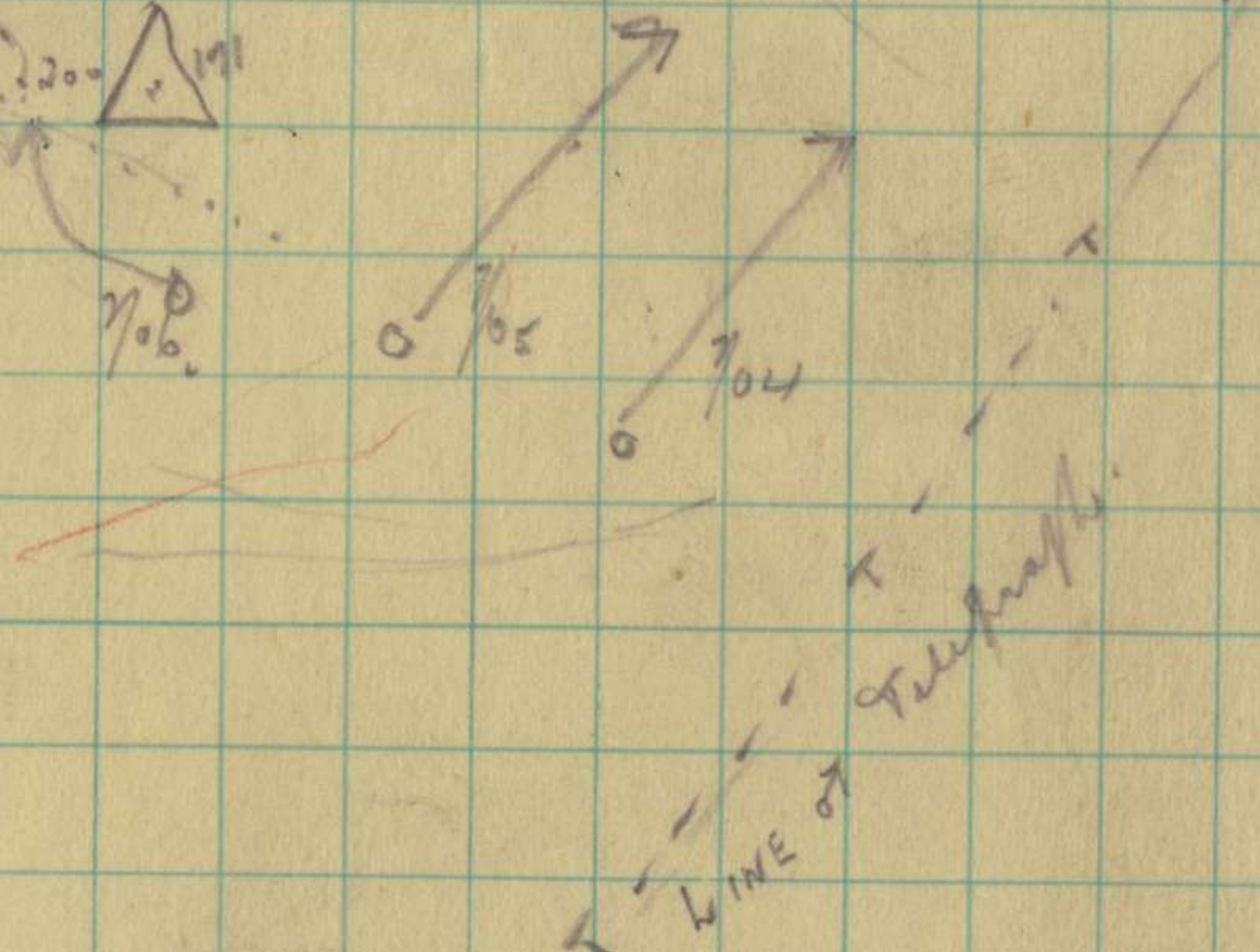
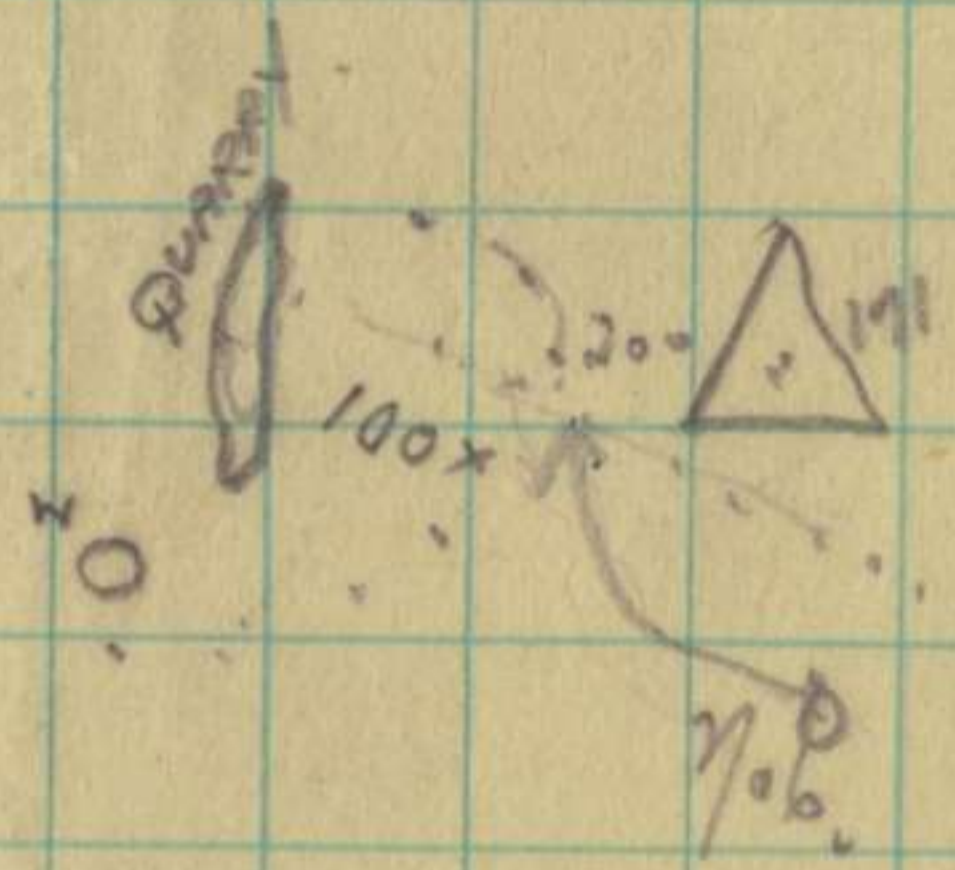




W

E

S





17 Aust. Inf. Bde. Intelligence Summary,  
No. 3.

(Based on Information received up to 2200 hrs 30 Dec.)

Map. Refs: BARDIA NORTH. } 1/50,000 Green Overprint.  
BARDIA SOUTH. }

GENERAL: 2/5 Bn. relieved 2nd Liecesters. Relief completed 1310 hrs.

OPERATIONS: Our Patrols were again active during night 29/30, information being obtained on obstacles and strong posts.

Preliminary report Enemy attack on 'D' Coy, 2/6 Bn. :

At 1645 hrs a party of enemy came out from area of point 176 and moved into WADI. Shortly after an enemy pl. came out of the WADI and attacked the right pl. of 'D' Coy, supported by another pl. on their left flank. Our pl. sent a section to their right to try and cut off this pl., but a considerable volume of fire forced our pl. to defend. The enemy continued to fire until dusk when they withdrew. We had some difficulty with our L.M.G's although they had been tested this afternoon. The whole Coy. was engaged, also a pl. of M.M.G's supporting them. Our casualties one hand wound, one shell shock. - Estimated enemy casualties 17. It appears that this area, quarry - point 176 is strongly held as it was from there that yesterday's dawn patrol was fired on and also from there that the attack on artillery O.P. was launched which was repelled by counter-attack from a pl. of 2/6 Bn.

ENEMY DEFENCES: A. Tk. obstacles ~~51913863~~ 51913863 12' to 15' deep - perpendicular sides is very definite obstacle, almost man-obstacle. It was examined for 250x S.E. direction and found not to vary, although it appeared that a mine field had been laid in front of this no mines could be found. A report from a patrol indicates that the enemy have now drawn field guns close to the wire.

AIR ACTIVITY: No hostile aircraft reported over this area today.

MOSSILE SHELLING: 2/7 Bn report two shells fell 51493849. Heavy shelling tonight at 1645 hrs across left flank 2/6 Bn following our own artillery fire. Little damage done - detailed reports not yet to hand.

ENEMY ACTIVITY: After enemy artillery had covered the front an attack was launched on 'D' Coy 2/6 Bn.

CONCLUSION: It appears that the enemy attack last night may have been designed to threaten section of our artillery or alternatively to investigate the reason for our patrols which had been particularly active in the area in which the attack was made.

U

*V. Schofield*

B.I.O. 17 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Time of Signature. 2230 hrs.

- Copy No. 1 2/5 Bn.
- 2. 2/6 Bn.
- 3. 2/7 Bn.
- 4. 6 Aust. Div.
- 5. 16 Aust Inf Bde.
- 7,8 War Diary.
- 9 File.
- 10. 'J' Bty.
- 11. 2/2 Fd Regt.
- 12. Brigadier.



Div advised 2215.

\* Report of attack on D boy 2/6 BN.

At 1645 hrs a party of enemy came out from area of A 176 and moved into WADI. Shortly after an enemy Pl came out of the WADI and attacked the Right Pl of D boy supported by another Pl on their ~~Left~~ flank. Our Pl sent a sec to their right to try and cut off this Pl but a considerable volume of fire forced the Pl to defend. The enemy continued to fire until dusk when they withdrew. We had some difficulty with our LMG's although they had been tested this afternoon. The whole boy was engaged also a Pl of MMGA supporting them. Our casualties one hand wound and one shell shock.

Estimated enemy casualties 17.

It appears that this <sup>quarry</sup> area, Pt 176 is strongly held as it was from there that ~~last~~ <sup>yesterday's</sup> ~~day's~~ patrol was fired on and also from there that the attack on arty O.P. was launched, which was repelled by



counter attack from  
a Pt of ~~2/6~~ 2/6 B.M.



In view of this happening C.O. 2/2 7d  
Regt after conference with Brig. has  
decided to withdraw his fwd bty  
to behind rear bty. for the night  
as he considered the risk of attack  
on these guns too great.

We have <sup>discussed with C.O.</sup> arranged for 2/2 7d  
Regt. to fire on quarry area <sup>at 0600</sup>  
~~his 31 Dec.~~ D.C. boy has patrols  
out and there is no arty fire <sup>off the map</sup>  
is considered, <sup>too risky</sup>  
~~withheld until dawn.~~

Comd. checked with C.O. 2/6 again  
this afternoon who is definite that D  
boy is in a reverse slope posn. and  
that there is no need to worry about  
their posn. Brig considers that it is  
essential to hold this area.

Message for ~~you advise~~ C.R.A. Brig understands he  
has special guns allotted to C.B. tasks. could  
be warn them to be prepared to engage disclosed  
enemy batteries in squares 521387 & 520389  
should they fire on us and 2/2 7d Regt.



SECRET.

PATROL REPORTS : NIGHT 29/30 DEC. 40

NO. I. Capt. R.H.Kiddle and 3 O.R.s D Coy.

OBJECT.

To examine approaches to Posts 7 and 9 and tank ditch and wire.

REPORT.

Left Coy. area track junction ref 51843843 at 2215 hours. Took bearing of  $110^{\circ}$  - moved forward for 2188 yds. then a bearing of  $143^{\circ}$  for a further 1000 yds. There were three tracks leading east and west - these were of little consequence. Continuing on to point 51913863 on the tank obstacle, which appeared at this point a very definite obstacle in my opinion. It was 12 to 15 ft. wide and 12 feet deep with perpendicular sides. Following the trap for 250 yards in a S.E. direction, it did not vary. The patrol was unable to get to it's next objective, namely Post No. 9, owing to the lateness of the hour. The patrol returned to the camp area at 07.00 hrs. having gone 1000 yards beyond the Coy. area.

*R.H.Kiddle*  
.....Captain.



6 AUST DIV ARTY & PATROL PROGRAMME  
FOR NIGHT 30/31 DEC, 40.Copy No: *2*

30 Dec, 40.

Ref BARDIA NORTH and SOUTH 1/50,000.

1. Locations of tasks are shown on att trace and indicated as follows:-

Arty concentrations.

→ Patrols.

2. Tasks are:-

Arty - Concentrations from 0600 to 0605 hrs.

RAE - F Recce Patrol.

16 Aust Inf Bde - E Fighting Patrols.  
G Recce Patrol.

17 Aust Inf Bde - A, B and C Fighting Patrols.  
D Recce Patrol.

*R. King May*  
Colonel,  
GS, 6 Aust Div.

Time of Signature: 1540 hrs.

Method of Issue: Copy No. 5 by DRLS, remainder by  
LO or orderly.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
16 Aust Inf Bde	1
17 Aust Inf Bde	2
RAA 6 Aust Div	3
RAE 6 Aust Div	4
WDF	5
File	6







# Shelling Report

30 Dec

C Coy

date	Time	area	number	Type	Direction	Tired	Damage
29	1408	Kilo 24	4	Sharp	20°	no	nil
30	0830	Wine right 13 place	4	HE	340	no	nil
	0924	200 x W Twp pt.	5	HE	20°	no	"
	0930	500 x W 13 PL	1	"	not known	"	"

## Bombing

30 nil

J. K. Rowland Capt



N O W A.

31 DEC 40.

S E A R.,

PATROL REPORT.

Herewith report of special recce patrol made by  
Capt. J.S. Rowan, O.C. "C" Coy.

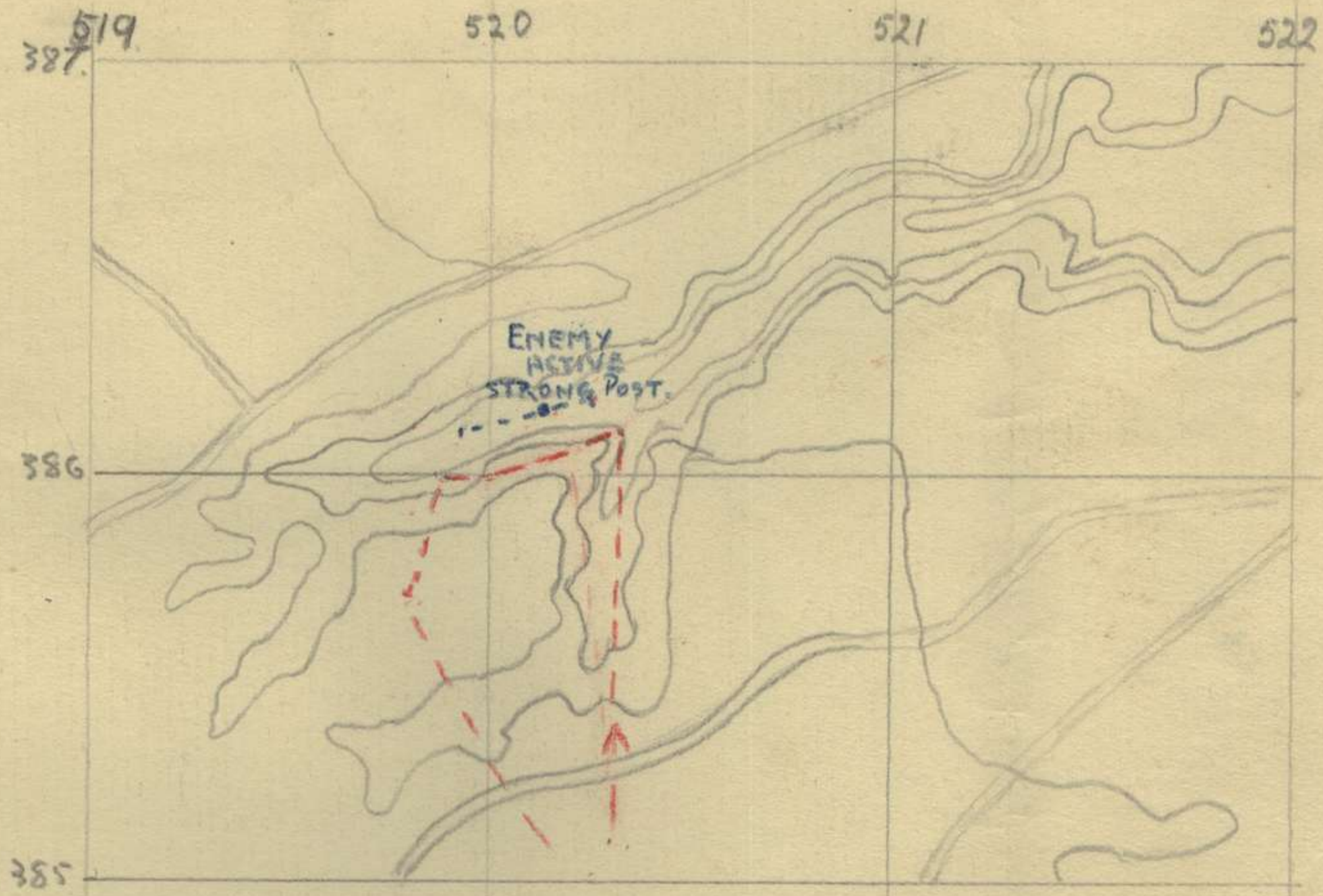
Information can be regarded as extremely accurate  
and reliable.

I endorse the opinion of Capt. Rowan in the last  
two para's.

*ad f...*  
Lieut.-Col.,  
Commanding N O W A.

*W*





REF MAP. BARDIA 1:50000



31 DEC 40.

PATROL REPORT : BY CAPT. J. ROWAN AND 6 O.Rs. : NIGHT 30/31 DEC.

OBJECT : To examine Wadi wire and approaches to Posts 7, ~~KXXXX~~ 9 and 11.

CONDUCT OF PATROL :

(a) Patrol moved out at 2000 hrs on a bearing of 360 deg., reached point 52023861 - junction of two Wadis.

(b) Enemy were very active along front from approx' a point 52033863 to 51993861.

(c) At point 52033863 I consider that, from the noise, the enemy were constructing sandars approx' 50 to 70x from the point where I was lying - (to my front).

(d) To our left front more activity which seemed to be erection of wire. I did not actually see the wire, but could hear it being strung. Was at this point for approx' one hour.

(e) Moved off on a bearing of 255 deg.; after a distance of 200x halted and there were a number of sangers in the area. The Wadi, as we moved along the South side became shallower.

(f) At this point, on the far side, there seemed to be an enemy strong-post - approx' 52023862 - looked like one large sanger ~~XXXX~~ about 12' across and numerous small ones.

(g) Moved onto a point 300x - 51993860 - passing a number of sangers, leaving Sec. I crossed the Wadi and moved about 50 paces up the far side; 4 enemy were about 20x away from me, a small amount of wire could be seen here also small sangers. From this point we started our return trip.

(h) At approx' 0015 hrs, on reaching a small depression about 51983857, a flare went up from a direction of 200 deg. this was a green flare - I was unable to estimate the distance. At this time visibility was cloudy - with several showers.

(i) Arrived in Coy area approx' 0200 hrs, having found that tractor was working BEHIND enemy lines.

REMARKS : The country, for a distance of 1600 paces, affords little cover; but from there on to the bank of Wadi the ground is broken and affords good cover. There are plenty of sangers and small off-shoots from Wadi.

Pt. 162 is a fairly high feature but am unable to say whether it dominates all the enemy. About 100x of enemy side of Wadi seems equally high. Good observation is obtained in the direction of Posts 7 and 11.

I consider that the Wadi can be crossed easily by Inf and Carriers can cross 200x from Wadi junction 52043862.

A Coy could be disposed in the area over which the patrol moved last night.

(sgd) J. Rowan

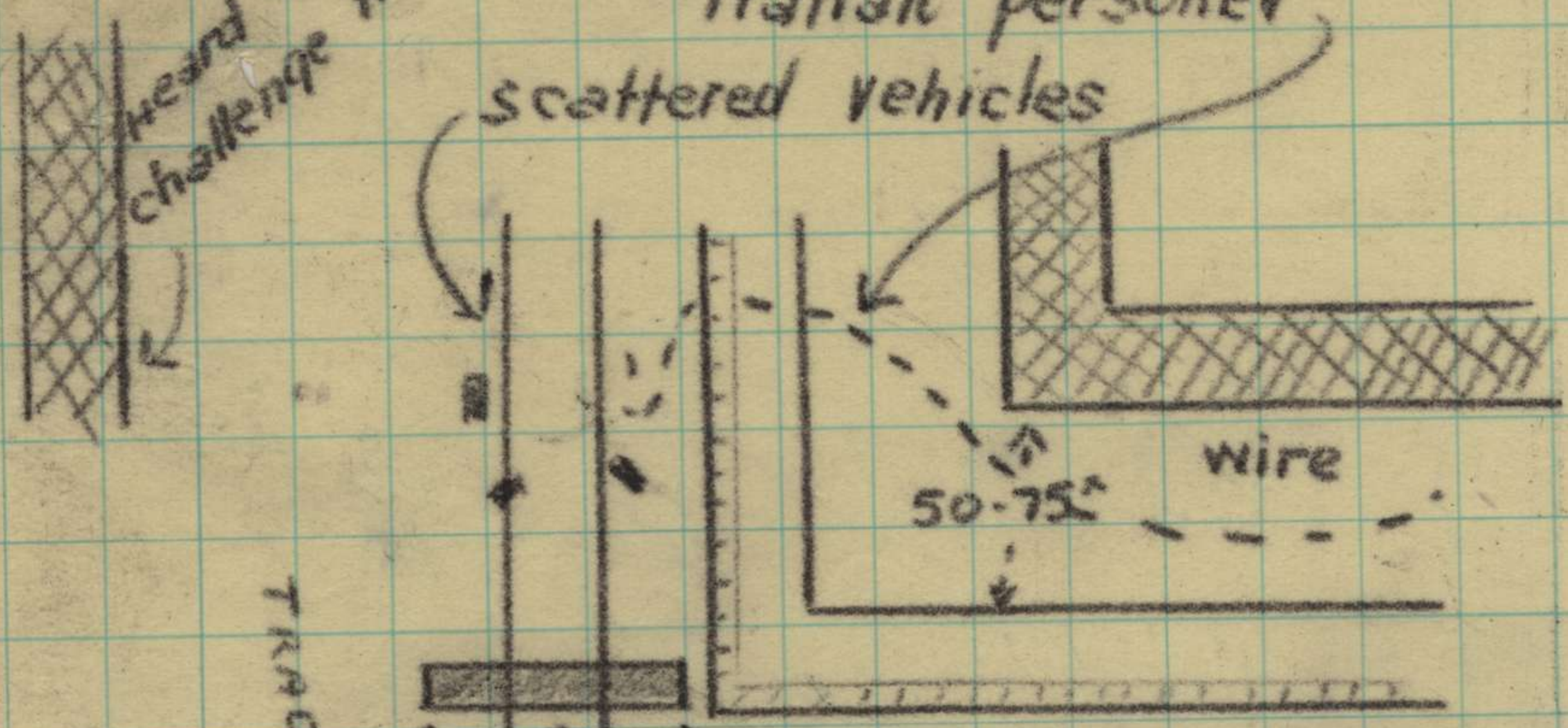
O.C. "C" Coy. NOWA. Capt.,

*advised to be*



heard sentries  
challenge from here

Track taken by  
Italian personnel  
scattered vehicles



TRACK

← 10' →

Ditch 14-16 ft wide  
7-8 ft deep

75 yds

single wire barbed

↑  
Road to BARDIA



TO TONY, ENGA.

TONY ENGA.

PATROL REPORT ON ROAD RUNNING NORTH TO BARDIA DEFENCES.

I proceeded on patrol on 31<sup>20</sup> Dec. at ~~03~~15 hrs. with 1 Sgt. and 12 O.Rs., and have to report as follows :-

The road from this area to BARDIA defences is passable to all traffic. There is plenty of clearance one side or other of all shell holes and abandoned vehicles.

A stone wall, ten to fifteen yards long and three feet wide (see sketch) has been erected across the road in line in-line with angle of tank trap.

This tank trap runs EAST and WEST and turns NORTH at this point. It is approximately 14 feet to 16 feet wide and seven to eight feet deep.

Several vehicles and what appeared to be a plane were standing in the corner of the area formed by stone wall and NORTH-SOUTH line of trap. Personnel were working about them but it was impossible to distinguish vehicles or what the men were doing.

Eight of these men crossed the trap apparently by means of a bridge and followed the course shown in the sketch.

On the left of the road was an indistinct outline, probably wire, from which a sentry was heard to challenge and immediately afterwards an illuminating flare went up over our heads.

No firing took place and the patrol remained in this area from 0145 to 0215 hours. No movement was seen or heard behind the wire, and the patrol reported back at 0320 hrs.

(Sgd) B. H. TIMMS, Lieut.

31 Dec. 40.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**TO**

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

~~SEAR~~ SEAR

**FROM**

NOWA

Originator's Number

I 57

Date

31

In Reply to Number

Sitrep	○	NOWAB	report	one	platoon
in	posn	IUPLO	HRV	2	platoons
500	yds	rear	high	ground	on
coast	Co	HO	tpt	carriers	and
mortars	still	at	wadi	IUPUP	TLU
MMC	NOT	yet	up	will	move
tonight	○	Some	MG	activity	in area

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS.

*Handwritten signature*

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

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

**IMPORTANT**

TIME OF ORIGIN

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.**



31 DEC 40.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY by LIEUT. H. DUNKLEY : AS AT 0'30 HRS. 31 DEC  
Ref. Map BARDIA SOUTH 1:50,000

OPERATIONS : "B" Coy :- Have moved to area 109 at 52353862, one Pl. M.M.Gs have moved with them. They will lay on fixed line across "C" Coy front. One Sec Carriers will join "B" Coy at first light, 31 DEC. Transport will move to Carrier Wadi - 52323842 - night 30/31 Dec.

Hostile patrol seen on coast line 700x North of Carrier Wadi afternoon 30th; not engaged by "B" Coy owing to need for secrecy.

Summary of report by Lieut Sherlock, of "B" Coy., after patrol 29/30 Dec :- *Ref map SA 2001 1/100000*

Frontier Post 8 is on bank of Wadi South of Wadi RAMLA. Leaving F.P.8 wadi very steep to West for 100x then turning North for 500x to F.P.9 which marks the start of Wadi RAMLA, I travelled 600x West along bank from where the wadi runs S.E. into the sea. The wadi affords excellent concealment for troops.

50 deg North there are wire entanglements which run West from the sea.

While patrol was moving along wire they heard enemy giving fire orders to Arty which had apparently been moved fwd to vicinity of Frontier wire between Posts 16 and 17. Returned to Carrier Wadi night of 29/30 Dec.

"C" Coy :- Now in position South East of Point 171 at 52023849. Summary of report by Lieut J.W. Champ "C" Coy, night of 29/30 Dec with patrol of 6 O.Rs. :-

OBJECT : (a) To investigate ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Wadi leading into MUATERED under A in ARGUB (52033857) with view possibility crossing and giving covering fire if Posts 9 and 11 are attacked.

(b) Examine Post 7 with view of possible attack.

REPORT : From Pl position proceeded to head of wadi. The last 200x slopes fwd toward enemy position, and was very stony. I left 5 men as covering party and went fwd with 1 man.

We found :- (a) Length of wadi from head to turn-off to right was approx' 800 paces.

(b) Width of bed of wadi - approx' 50 paces.

(c) Sides - steep, particularly East.

(d) Some vegetation in bed.

(e) Wadi appears to be Tank obstacle; but not man obstacle.

No enemy encountered, although companion thought he heard voices from, what appeared to be a quarry on, left head of wadi.

Returned 0430, and reported to Coy Comdr.

SHELLING REPORT - attached.

SPECIAL REPORT on Recce by Capt J.G. Rowan sent under separate cover.

"D" Coy - REPORT ON ATTACK - by Capt. M.Little :-

At 1645 hrs 30 Dec a party of enemy, estimated strength One Pl. attempted to approach my position at head of Wadi (51863845). My fwd Pls opened fire at 300x and I tried to swing portion of Right Fwd Pl across to cut them off; but very heavy Arty, Mortar, and S.A. fire - some from vicinity of point 176 - pinned them down. M.M.G. support was given by Pl of R.N.F. attached, which kept enemy on point 176 neutralised.

Enemy in wadi and own tps exchanged fire until dusk - when enemy ceased fire.

Casualties light - one man shell splinter through hand and one man shell-shocked.

One wounded prisoner taken on morning of 31st. and sent to SEAR direct from Coy.

Patrolling tasks for night 30/31 cancelled and defensive patrols substituted as point 176 appeared to be an enemy strong-point.

(At 2000 hrs noise of vehicles in Wadi, clattering sound suggested A.F.Vs.) - At 2150 hrs noise of motor in N.E. direction.

*H.H. Dunkley* Lieut., I.O., NOWA.

*Patrol No 1*

*Discounted report Capt Rowan - Tracker behind enemy lines*



SHELLING REPORT.

31 Dec. 40.

ENGA B.

30 Dec. 40.

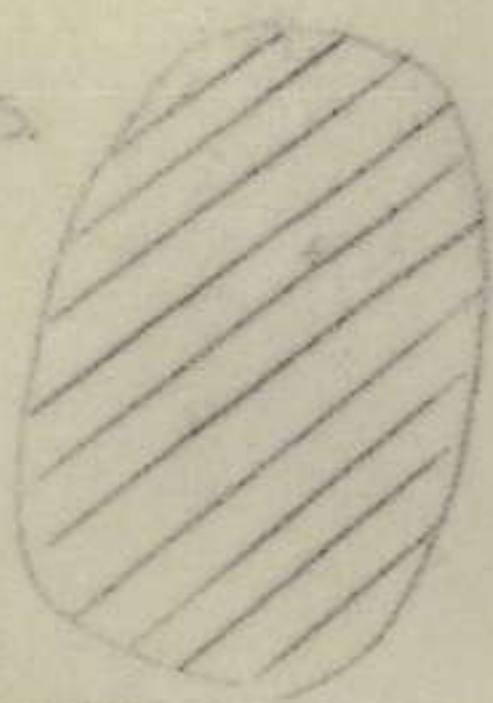
<u>Time</u>	<u>No. of Shells</u>	<u>Bearing</u>	<u>Area Shelled</u>	<u>Damage</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>No of G or guns</u>	<u>H.</u>
0815	2	-	L of Coy Lines	Nil	B	2	G
0950	5	-	" " "	"	B	5	G
1005	4	-	" " "	"	B	4	G
1006	2	-	" " "	"	B	2	G
1006	1	55° approx	Coy Lines	"	B	1	G
1455	1	-	L & behind Coy lines)	"	B	1	G
1510	4	-	" " "	"	B	4	G
1515	4	-	" " "	"	B (3 gp & 1 off)	4	G
						(3 gp & 1 off)	G
1650	30	-	Drop short	"	B		G
1700	30	-	" "	"	B		G
1702	49	-	" "	"	B		G
1704	2	-	" "	"	B	2	G
1708	13	-	" "	"	B	5	G
1710	6	-	" "	"	B	-	G
1711	12	-	" "	"	B (shrap)	4	G
1715	12	-	" "	"	B (shrap)	4	G
1714	8	-	L behind coy lines.	"	B	4	G
						(3 gp, 1 off)	G
1716	9	-	Drop short	"	B	3	G
						(shrap)	G
1717	1	-	" "	"	B	1 shrap	G
1718	9	-	" "	"	B	3	G
1719	16	-	" "	"	B	4	G
1720	5	-	" "	"	B	4-1 (shrap)	G
1721	6	-	" "	"	B	6	G
1721	7	-	" "	"	B	(7 shrap)	G
<u>31 Dec. 40.</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>" "</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>G</u>
0455	20	-	In coy area & behind	"	B	-	G

Other Coys. nil return up to 0830 hrs. 31 Dec. 40.

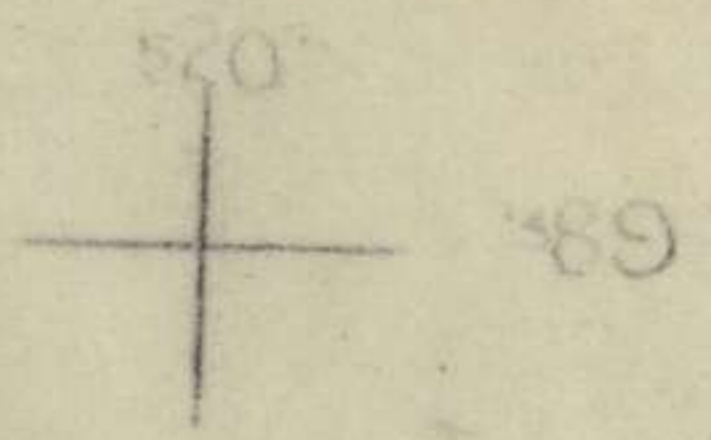
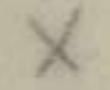
(Sgd) W. H. McCorkell



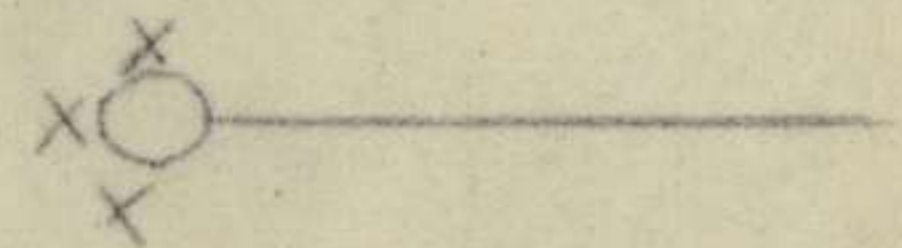
30 DEC.  
0815 - 1000 hrs 14 SHELLS  
1455 - 1712 hrs 235 " "  
31 DEC.  
0455 hrs 20 " "



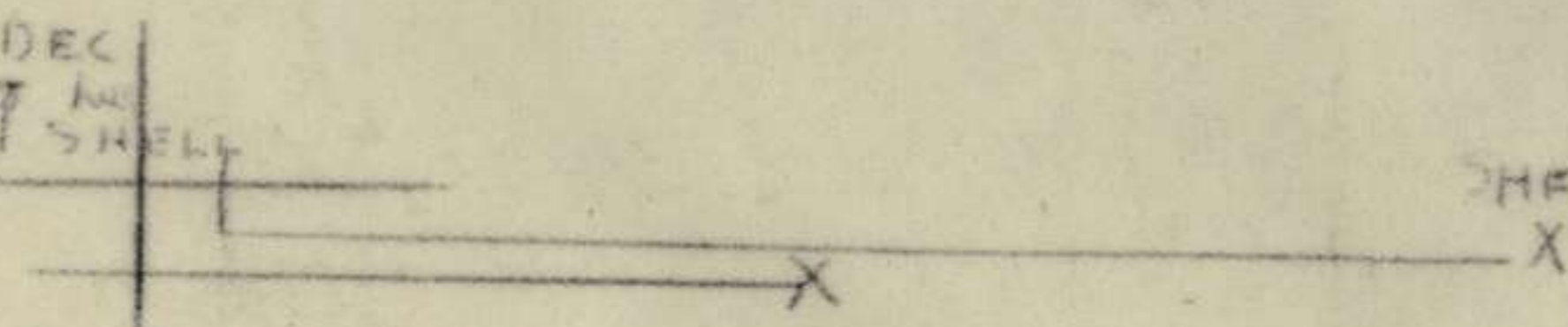
31 DEC  
4 SHELLS  
1015.



31 DEC  
1705 hrs  
SUSPECTED DELAY ACTION  
OR THERMO BOMB.



31 DEC  
1047 hrs  
584 1 SHELL  
31 DEC  
1015 hrs  
5 SHELLS  
510



SHELLING AND BOMB TRACE  
SEARCH AREA 31 DEC

REF MAP BARDIA 1:50000



PIPO SEAR. NOKO TRTO.

EMID.

0153

31

Army programme for night 31 Dec 1 Jan

Concentrating in area 51873876 52133873

52043859

51853866

from 0530 to 0535 hrs.

T.O.O. 1205

T.O.R. 1257



N O W A .

31 DEC 40.

PATROL REPORT : BY CAPT. J. ROWAN AND 6 O.Rs. : NIGHT 30/31 DEC.

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I consider that the Wadi can be crossed easily by Inf and Carriers can cross 200x from Wadi junction 52043862.

A Coy could be disposed in the area over which the patrol moved last night.

(Sgt) J. Rowan

Capt.,  
O.C. "C" Coy. NOWA.

*authd*



WAGA B.

30 Dec. 40.

<u>Time</u>	<u>No. of Shells</u>	<u>Bearing</u>	<u>Area Shelled</u>	<u>Damage</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>No of G or guns</u>	<u>H.</u>
0915	2	-	L of Coy Lines	Nil	B	2	C
0950	5	-	" " "	"	B	5	C
1005	4	-	" " "	"	B	4	C
1006	2	-	" " "	"	B	2	C
1006	1	SS <sup>o</sup> approx	Coy Lines	"	B	1	C
1455	1	-	L & behind Coy lines)	"	B	1	C
1510	4	-	" " "	"	B	4	C
1515	4	-	" " "	"	B	4	C
						(5 sp & 1 off)	
						(5 sp & 1 off)	
1650	30	-	Drop short	"	B		C
1700	30	-	" "	"	B		C
1702	49	-	" "	"	B		C
1704	2	-	" "	"	B	2	C
1706	13	-	" "	"	B	5	C
1710	6	-	" "	"	B	-	C
1711	12	-	" "	"	B	4	C
1715	12	-	" "	"	B	2	C
						(shrap)	
						(shrap)	
1714	8	-	L behind coy lines.	"	B	4	C
						(3 sp, 1 off)	
1716	9	-	Drop short	"	B	5	C
						(shrap)	
1717	1	-	" "	"	B	1 shrap	
1718	9	-	" "	"	B	3	C
1719	16	-	" "	"	B	4	C
1720	5	-	" "	"	B	4-1	C
						(1 shrap)	
1721	6	-	" "	"	B	6	C
1721	7	-	" "	"	B	7 shrap	C
<u>31 Dec. 40.</u>	11	-	" "	"	B	5	G
0455	20	-	In coy area & behind	"	B	-	C

Other Coys. nil return up to 0830 hrs. 31 Dec. 40.

(Sgd) W. H. McCorkell



S E C R E T

Copy No: 2

6 AUST DIV ARTY & PATROL PROGRAMME.

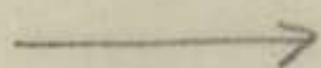
FOR NIGHT 31 Dec/1 Jan 4L.

Ref Maps: 1/50,000 BARDIA North  
BARDIA South

1. Locations of tasks are shown on attached trace and are as follows:-



Arty concentrations



Patrols.

2. Tasks are -

Arty - Concentration from 0530 hrs to 0535 hrs.

16 Aust Inf Bde - C Fighting patrols  
D Recce Patrols

17 Aust Inf Bde - A Recce patrols.

3. RAF bombing may possibly take place over BARDIA village from 0001 hrs to daylight.

*W. D. Campbell*  
Colonel,  
GS 6 Aust Div.

Time of Signature: 1015 hrs

Method of Issue: Copy No. 5 by DRIS, remainder by LO on orderly.

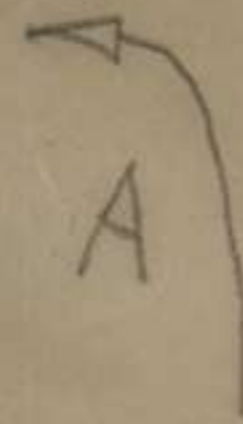
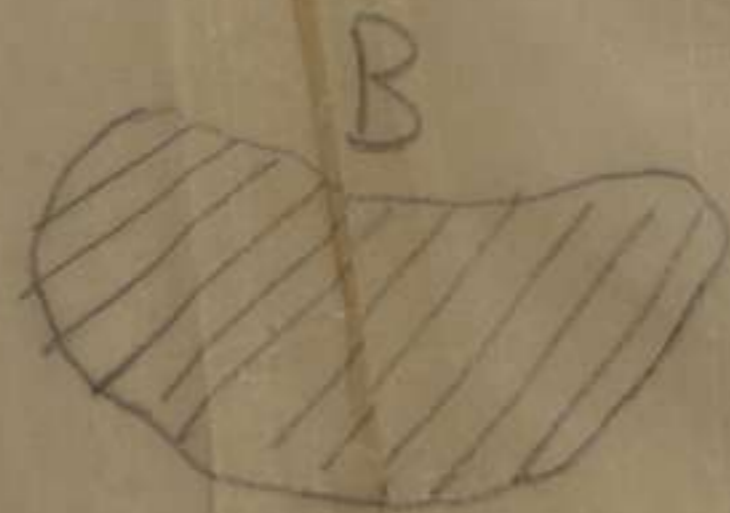
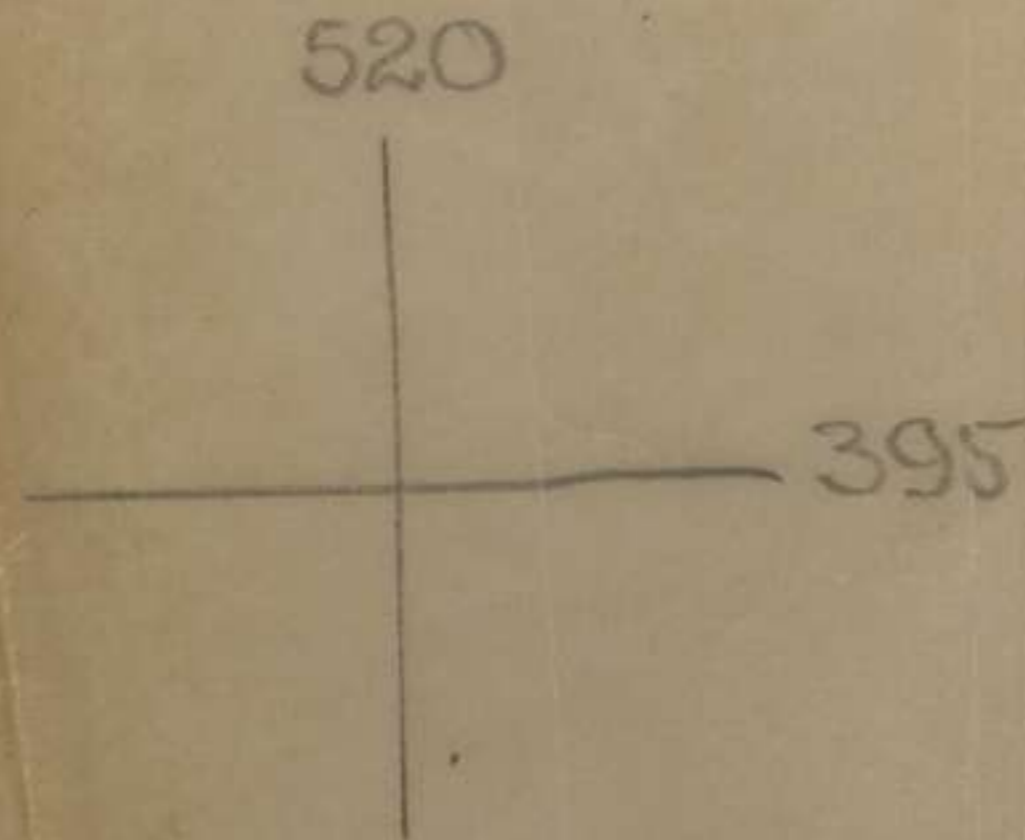
Distribution -

16 Aust Inf Bde	1
17 Aust Inf Bde	2 ✓
RAA 6 Aust Div	3
RAE 6 Aust Div	4
WDF	5
File	6



SECRET  
Copy No. 2.

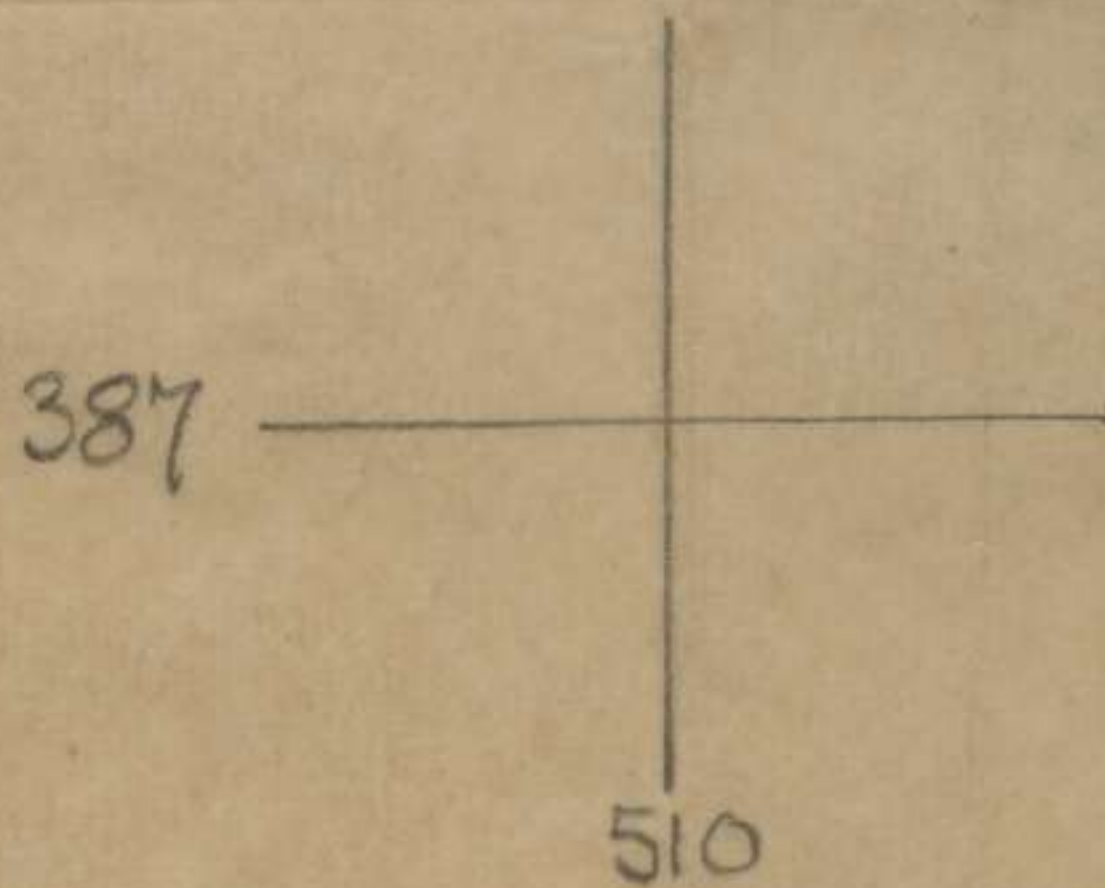
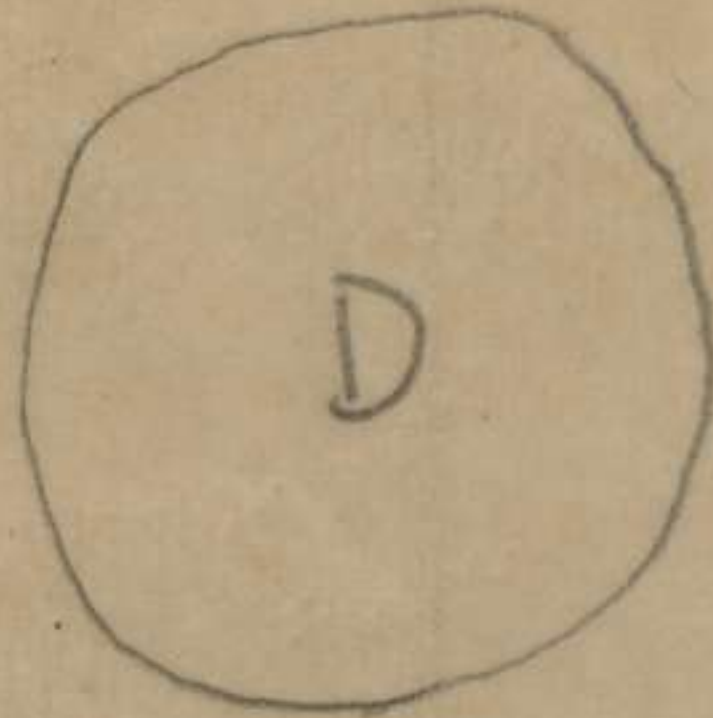
MME  
AN



M. J. Sam  
 8/2/15  
 Dec 1940  
 7/10:04 1/7  
 for Colonel  
 C.S., 6th Div



6. AUST DIV  
ARTY & PATROL PRO  
NIGHT 31 DEC





# Shelling Report.

ENGA

1 JAN 41

31 DEC 40

ENGA B

<u>Time.</u>	<u>No. shells.</u>	<u>Area Shelled.</u>	<u>Damage.</u>	<u>Nature.</u>	<u>No. of guns.</u>	<u>G or H</u>
0925	5	L. & behind lines.	Nil.	B	5	G (14.3 gm.)
1415	5-4	R. of coy. area.	"	B	5-4	G grouped. 1 off.
1430	5	" " " "	"	B	5	G "

31 DEC 40

ENGA A

1750	1	HM <del>HM</del> TOTXOM.	Nil.	-	1	-
------	---	-----------------------------	------	---	---	---

Other coys. nil report up to 0830 hrs. 1 JAN 40  
situation Report by signal.

W. M. Corbett  
Lt. Col.



Brig and one officer 17<sup>th</sup>  
Bde. O.C. and 9 officers  
Hobbs will report 16 Inf.  
Bde remnants 522 274 on  
or free for recon  
preparatory to relief  
Except for 2 cars personnel  
to travel in A.S.C. vehicles  
Supply Column petrol  
Coy petrols with relief  
divers ~~to~~ to proceed for see  
and report combat  
Coy AASC 528 33692



30 additional personnel  
Supply column and section  
Prosser Coy to be carried  
Remainig vehicles to be  
filled petrol.

Units moving forward to  
carry minimum kit no  
tentage Any surplus to  
be dumped central position  
present area under unit  
guards all of whom to be  
placed under one  
Commander for  
rationing purposes  
Ensure sufficient  
transport available  
for drawing rations.



If necessary retaining  
One 30 Cwt A.S.C. lorry. ©  
Arrange with Mr A.F.W.  
for one rec. section  
now at FOKA to move  
to 524268 as soon  
as possible © All  
personnel  
working this area to  
carry two despatches  
© Recce Camp to be  
closed.

---

Opf No. VV. 399.

message to be  
acknowledged.

TOO. Par 11. 2215. 21 Dec. Recd by Cable  
1018.  
" 3 2300 "



# MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

Serial No. 8  
No. of Groups. OFFICE DATE STAMP  
GR. **DIG-19. XII. 40**



(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 16 17 19 conting *sub. 6 cont sub R.H.H. R.H.E. R.H.S.C.*  
and B. A. Q. I. R.I.D.

FROM

L cont div

Originator's Number

1. 162

Date

19

In Reply to Number

city

0

nothing

further

to

report

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

*Albany May*

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

*0800*

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

*0800*

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER



19 bale

3162 (Label 1)

76

134

829

ON HIS MAJESTY  
FASTEN Envelope by gum  
OPEN by cutting Label ins

*Richmond  
Australia  
C. L. H. H.*



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

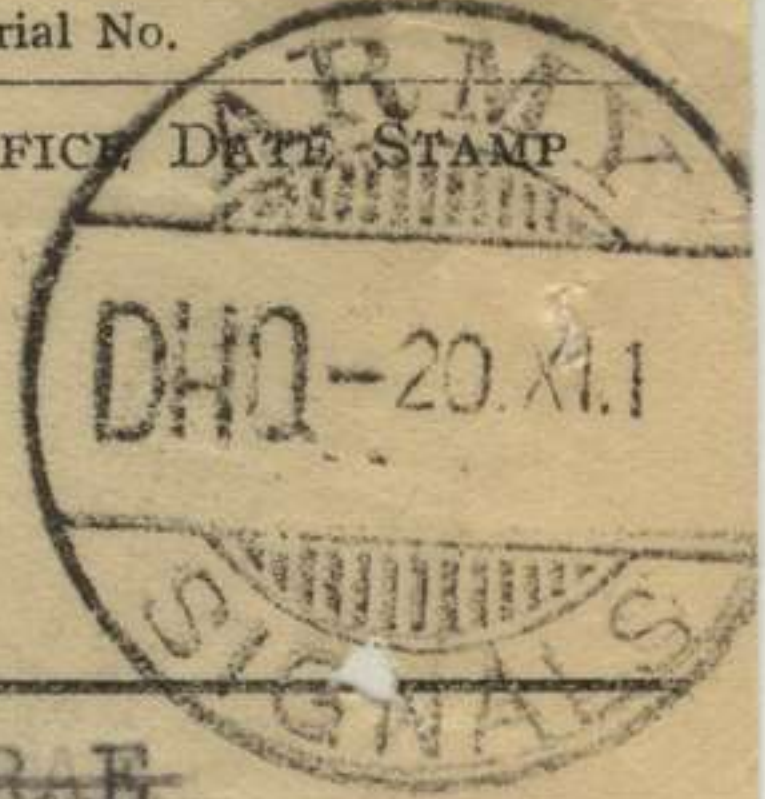
OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

GR.



(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

~~TO 16 aust inf bde 17 aust inf bde 19 aust inf bde 6 aust cav RAA RAE~~  
~~signs RASG comd G A Q I~~

**FROM** 6 aust div

Originator's Number

I 162

Date

20

In Reply to Number

SITREP	(.)	air	reports	enemy	in
position	outside	road	BARDIA	TOBHUK	on
outer	defence	of	BARDIA	(.)	many
MT	moving	inside	of	outer	defences
of	BARDIA	(.)	there	were	a
few	casualties	in	16	inf bde	from
shelling	of	SALUM	from	BARDIA	night 18/19

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

First 8 DRLS  
 remainder by orderly

TIME OF ORIGIN

0740 ELT

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

0815

T.O.R.

C.B.&S. Ltd. 51,3091.

SIGNED		READER		SENDER		SYSTEM OUT		TIME OUT		READER		SENDER	
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN												



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

GR.

**SECRET - CIPHER**

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

BUBO for CANO HORA ROMA

FROM

ENID

Originator's Number

VR349

Date

20

In Reply to Number

For information	⊙ Experience	gained	by
PIPO indicates	that	carrier	groups should
move forward	50	miles	daily ⊙
Distributor for air	cleaner	petrol	filter chassis
lubrication serviced	daily	drawn	refil
Sump	daily	⊙ Convey	speed 8 m.p.h. Longer
moves	than 50 miles	daily	should be made when necessary

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

2142/20

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

T.O.R.



VR 349.

Hq

17 Aust

Jay Bde

/

Secret

Dyney  
bar. make



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

No. of Groups

GR.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

HQ 17 <sup>and</sup> ~~12~~ Sde.

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

FROM

Adv HQ BTE

G.O.C in C

on

way

to

visit

Brig

Sewage

G.O.C. already here

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

*S.M.L.*

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.

SYSTEM IN

TIME IN

READER

SENDER

SYSTEM OUT

TIME OUT

READER

SENDER

SYSTEM OUT

TIME OUT

READER

SENDER

T.O.R. 1545

(5/3.) Wt. 39800/428

50M pads. 3-38

B. & S. Ltd. 51/1434.



RECEIVED AT 2 P.M. 25 FEB 1945  
 25 FEB 1945  
 12.07  
 1.1.1

TO: [REDACTED]  
 FROM: [REDACTED]  
 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

TO: [REDACTED]  
 FROM: [REDACTED]  
 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

TO: [REDACTED]  
 FROM: [REDACTED]  
 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

TO: [REDACTED]  
 FROM: [REDACTED]  
 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

TO: [REDACTED]  
 FROM: [REDACTED]  
 SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

MESSAGE FORM



# 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

17 aust inf bde

FROM

6 aust div

Originator's Number

0 24

Date

21

In Reply to Number

brig

and

one

offr

17

bde

OC

and

nine

offrs

2/6

bn

will

report

16

inf

bde

re-entrant

522374

on

22

dec

for

recee

preparatory

to

relief

(.)

except

for

two

cars

personnel

to

travel

in

ASC

vehicles

(.)

sup

coln

pot

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.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

-2-

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

coy	vehicles	with	relief	drivers	to
proceed	22	dec	and	report	comp
coy	AASC	52833692	(.)	30	additional
personnel	sup	coln	and	sec	pro
coy	to	be	carried	(.)	remaining
vehicles	to	be	filled	petrol	(.)
units	moving	fwd	to	carry	minimum

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.

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER



# 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

-3-

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

kit

no

tentage

(.)

any

surplus

to

be

dumped

central

posn

present

area

under

unit

guards

all

of

whom

to

be

placed

under

one

comd

for

rationing

purposes

(.)

ensure

sufficient

transport

available

for

drawing

rations

if

necessary

retaining

one

thirty

cwt

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.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

No. of Groups.

GR.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

-4-

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

ASC	lorry	(.)	arrange	with	2/2
A	fd	wkshop	for	one	rec
sec	now	at	FUKA	to	move
to	524368	as	soon	as	possible
(.)	all	personnel	arriving	this	area
to	carry	two	days	rations	(.)
recce	camp	to be	closed	ack	

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

2130

SIGNED

SIGNED

IMMEDIATE

T.H.I.

(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.O.R.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
- 2135 hrs. L.T



# 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 2/1 Fd Regt (Aust) *YTD* 17 Aust Inf Bde

FROM BUBO	Originator's Number 0550	Date 21	In Reply to Number
-----------	--------------------------	---------	--------------------

Following	from	MEGH	⓪	2/1 Fd Regt	
will	move	SIDI BARRANI		area	22
Dec.	⓪	O.C.	will	go	ahead
to	H.Q.	6 Aust Div	515 373	for	orders
⓪	Downward	from Sidi Barrani	will	be	dependent
on	orders	received	at	Div	H.Q.
⓪	Ack.				

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 by P.R.L.S.*

TIME OF ORIGIN  
*2245*

SIGNED  
*Perp eddie*  
*Magin*

(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.



# 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 DOAG TEFU UDAX HUPE PITH

FROM <del>17</del> CANO	Originator's Number 0 131	Date 21	In Reply to Numbers -
-------------------------	------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

Be	prepared	to	move	22	Dec
0	All	surplus	stores	kitbags	and
gear	to	central	dump	in	NOWA
area	by	0800	hrs	22	Dec
with	2	men	per	unit	as
guard					

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

*Brookley*

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

Originator's instructions Degree of priority  
*Important SDR*

Time of origin.  
1520

Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Signed				Signed			
System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H.I.  
T.O.R.  
C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# 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 UDAX HUPH TFE UPOS PUDA DOAG PITH

FROM	C/NO	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Numbers
		G.I.	21	

REPORT	WITH	TRANSPORT	TO	KILO 29	AT
1500	HOURS	WHERE	GUIDE	WILL	DIRECT
TO	COLLECT	TWO	GALLON	WATER	CONTAINERS
SCALE	OF	ONE	CONTAINER	PER	TWO
UPH	(.)	CONTAINERS	TO	BE	FILLED
FORTHWITH	(.)	Ack			

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means

*J. M. Gray*  
Signed

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

Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Originator's instructions  
Degree of priority

Time of origin.

1345

T.H.I.

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

# CIPHER SECRET

No. of Groups.	Serial No.
GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
21	DEC 1940.
Reg. No. ....	

TO BUBO for 17th Australian Inf. Brigade

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM 6th Australian Div. via ARTHUR O.11

Originator's Number: O.11      Date: 21st      In Reply to Number:

Be	prepared	to	move	22nd	Dec.
with	one	section	Pioneer	company	⊙
6th	Australian	cavalry	less	B	and
6	Squadron	and	2/8 Field	company	remain
BAGUSH	area				

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 *J. Rutter, Fus. Co.*

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

0800

T.H.I. 1322

T.O.R. 1340



# MESSAGE FORM

462  
Serial No  
No. of Groups. GR.  
23  
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

DR.

TO

PIPO CANO RAA RAE SIGS AASC COMP  
HQ MED PRO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

ENID

Originator's Number

010

Date

21

In Reply to Number

—

Maximum

VTM

~~exceed~~

rd 13 BARRANI SALUM

will

not

exceed

fifteen

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.

0710

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

0711

T.O.R.

1550

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER



# MESSAGE FORM

CALL  
AND  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS

IN  
  
OUT

OFFICE DATE SIGNATURE

No. of Groups

GR

(27)

CANO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

END

400

In Reply to Number

Originator's Number

Maximum  
V.M.  
excess  
S.A.R.B.A.M. SALOM

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

Stored

Stored

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

System	Time	Reader	Sender	System	Time	Reader	Sender
IN				OUT			



# 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 WARM

FROM CANO

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Numbers

0136

22

-

EMID	orders	one	rec.	see	to
move	to	524368	with	0	carry
minimum	kit	no	tentage	two	days
rations	0	world	CO	WARM	please
report	here	H.Q.	KILO	40	turnoff

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.)

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# 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 ~~ENID~~ BUBO for ENID

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Numbers
CANO	0 135	22	VR 399
ack			

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 periority

Time of origin.

1233

Signed

*[Signature]*

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# 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

*BUBO & ENID.*

FROM

*B. NEGU*

Originator's Number

*0244*

Date

*22*

In Reply to Numbers

*-*

<i>Forward</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>ENO</i>	<i>cannot</i>	<i>be</i>	<i>arranged</i>
<i>yet</i>	<i>⊙</i>	<i>Bubo</i>	<i>will</i>	<i>arrange</i>	<i>for</i>
<i>bring</i>	<i>here</i>	<i>papers</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>report</i>	<i>ENID</i>
<i>forthwith</i>	<i>⊙</i>				

*conferred with G-2 BUBO who agreed present arrangements should suffice*

*23 Dec 40  
0900 hrs.*

*2245*

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 periority

Time of origin.

~~*0129*~~

Signed

Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. *0025*

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.

*0129/23*



# 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 CEHA NOWA ENGA ROMA

FROM CANO	Originator's Number 0 134	Date 22	In Reply to Numbers -
-----------	------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

When	forward	move	ordered	carrier	gph
will	move	separately	by	stages	50
miles	daily	0	distributor	airplane	petrol
filter	chassis	lubrication	serviced	daily	drum
refit	sump	daily	0	bonvoy	speed
8	M.I.H	0	longer	daily	moves
only	if	necessary			

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,  
1050

Signed

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups

OFFICE DATE STAMP.

GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO

DOAG

FROM

CANO

Originator's Number

0 133

Date

22

In Reply to Numbers

above	on	22	dec	as	ordered
in	BURRO	0550			

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

*Black Jay*

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

Originator's instructions Degree of periority

Time of origin.

0108

Signed

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# 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 *BUBO*

FROM *CAMO*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Numbers

*0-132*

*22*

*0550*

*ack*

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

*[Signature]*

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

Originator's instructions  
Degree of periority

Time of origin,

*0105*

Signed

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pad



# 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 *BUBO*

FROM *CANO*

Originator's Number  
*0 132*

Date  
*22*

In Reply to Numbers  
*0 550*

*ack*

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

*Mitch Day*

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.

*0105*

Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Signed

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads



# 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 *ENID*

FROM *CANO*

Originator's Number

*0 139*

Date

*23*

In Reply to Numbers

*VR 391*

<i>ref</i>	<i>my</i>	<i>0 138</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>one</i>	<i>coy</i>
<i>PITH</i>	<i>on</i>	<i>way</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>remainder</i>	<i>sent</i>
<i>awaiting</i>	<i>provision</i>	<i>apt</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>when</i>	<i>apt</i>
<i>available</i>	<i>will</i>	<i>move</i>	<i>immediately</i>		

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

*Important*

Time of origin.

*1230 clear  
1245 cipher*

Signed

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**TO**

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

CANO

**FROM**

B4BO

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

23.

Interpreter for ENID arriving by train  
 Sidi-Haneish today. Interpreter's name  
 Lt. Stewart from BTE who will act temporarily  
 until civilian interpreter available.  
 Can you collect him from station and transfer  
 him to ENID as soon as possible where he

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.

1050

T.O.R.

1115

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
1/1	1050	Baxter									



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL  
AND  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

*urgently required*

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

*1045*  
**T.H.I.**

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.O.R.**



# 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 *BUBO for ENID*

FROM <i>CANO</i>	Originator's Number <i>0 138</i>	Date <i>23</i>	In-Reply to Numbers <i>VR 391</i>
<i>your</i>	<i>message</i>	<i>received</i>	<i>1030</i>
<i>0</i>	<i>PITH</i>	<i>party</i>	<i>moving</i>
<i>rece</i>	<i>parties</i>	<i>CRHA</i>	<i>and</i>
<i>1115</i>	<i>hrs</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>you</i>	<i>arrives</i>	<i>here</i>	<i>today</i>
<i>sent</i>	<i>on</i>	<i>immediately</i>	

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.

*[Signature]*  
*Immediate*

*1138 clear*  
*1207 cipher*

Signed

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50,000 pads.



# 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 PITH

FROM CANO	Originator's Number 0 137	Date 23	In Reply to Numbers -
-----------	------------------------------	------------	--------------------------

map	ref	SALUM	1/100000	0	contact
PONE	530368	0	selecting	right	0
on	arrival	detail	one	med	officer
report	duty	ENID	0	Detail	one
boy	and	four	in	ambos	attached
PONE	0	move	forthwith	reporting	here
first					

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 periority

Time of origin.

*Brook Maj.*

*immediate  
SDR*

*1044*

Signed

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads



To 17 Aust Inf Bde

From 6 Aus Div.

VR 591

21

For CANO 0 addressed

PITH. 0 map ref SALUM 1/100,000

0 Contact PONE 520568 0

Selecting Sight 0 On arrival

detail one med officer

report duty ENID 0 Detail

one Coyana four in

ambul attach PONE

Werner  
Sgt.

T.O.O. 1900 21

T.O.R. 1011 23

Deciphered 1030 23

Require 15 on 30 cost to left balance



# 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 **CANO**

FROM <b>SAM BURO</b>	Originator's Number	Date <b>23</b>	In Reply to Numbers
----------------------	---------------------	-------------------	---------------------

Have	been	in	touch	with	Advanced
HQ	with	reference	to	Rece	parties
additional	parties	not	more	than	four
for	Bw	of	the	two	Bw
who	have	not	already	sent	parties
forward					

*Rece parties 1115 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  
*23*

Time of origin.

Signed

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
<i>for phone</i>											

T.H.I.

T.O.R. **0943**  
C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

GR

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO. *RNTI VOQA FAHO CANO NIGE*

FROM *BUBO*

Originator's Number

*0557*

Date

*23*

In Reply to Number

<i>Nil</i>	<i>Sitreps</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>longer</i>	<i>required</i>	<i>⊙</i>
<i>Render</i>	<i>reports</i>	<i>enemy</i>	<i>activities</i>	<i>as</i>	<i>soon</i>
<i>as</i>	<i>known</i>				

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

*R.C. Kidd Major*

Originator's instructions Degree of priority

*IN CIPHER*

Time of origin.

*0855*

T.H.I.

T.O.R. *1610*

C.E.A. 5/40 50.000 pads.

Signed

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



# 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 *CRHA NOWA ENGA TO O.M.E.*

FROM <i>CANO</i>	Originator's Number <i>0 140</i>	Date <i>23</i>	In Reply to Numbers <i>-</i>
------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------	---------------------------------

<i>Maximum</i>	<i>VTM</i>	<i>rd</i>	<i>BARRANI</i>	<i>SALUM</i>	<i>will</i>
<i>not</i>	<i>exceed</i>	<i>fifteen</i>			

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 periority	Time of origin. <i>1715</i>
Signed <i>Brookley</i>	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.  
C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# 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 *ROMA. rear*

FROM *CANO*

Originator's Number

*0 141*

Date

*24*

In Reply to Numbers

*-*

<i>chaj</i>	<i>charrison</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>report</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>chaj</i>
<i>boltingwood</i>	<i>at</i>	<i>BUBO</i>	<i>forthwith</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>advise</i>
<i>no</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>30 evd</i>	<i>trucks</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>have</i>
<i>available</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>send</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>ROMA</i>	<i>fwd</i>

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

*chaj*  
Signed

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

Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Originator's instructions  
Degree of periority

*Important*  
*SDR*

Time of origin,

*1000*

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



To. 17th Aust Inf Bde

From. 6th Div. Vh. 382. 20.

Arrange collect 1500 containers  
water & gallon from QASABA  
reheat QASABA. O

\* to units CANO rpt. CANO only  
O Actv.

\* Modification of <sup>10</sup> letters.  
PISTNIYUAE.

Message

TOR. 8330 20/12

TOR. 0906 24/12.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

NORTHERN DELTA L of C

ADV HQ BTE tptd MEGU ANTI VOGA CANO MILT JEVA C in C MED. RA ALEX

FROM

BUBO

Originator's Number

0/559

Date

23

In Reply to Number

Sitrep	95	0	Own	casualties	confirmed
in	air	attacks	22	Dec	killed
3	wounded	5	0	Aerodromes	TOBRUK
BERKA informed	BENINA	successfully	bombed	0	all

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.

R.C. KIDD MAJOR

IN CIPHER

2005

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.



# 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 *RTH BAGUSH (L of C) sub area*

FROM *CANO*      Originator's Number *045440*      Date *24*      In Reply to Numbers *-*

<i>0.0</i>	<i>no 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>copy</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>ack</i>					

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 periority      Time of origin. *1103*

Signed *[Signature]*      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.  
C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *11*

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

*ZOVCN*

*Z*

OUT

No. of Groups.  
GR.

*22*



TO

*Cano*

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

*Zion*

Originator's Number

*AR 4*

Date

*24*

In Reply to Number

*---*

<i>Provost Section and</i>	<i>at 40</i>	<i>0630</i>	<i>has</i>	<i>meet</i>	<i>most are</i>	<i>leave</i>	<i>here</i>
		<i>0</i>			<i>ld</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>dec</i>
					<i>on</i>	<i>road</i>	

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

*2245*

T.H.I.

*2313*

T.O.R.

*0902.*

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SIGNED

SIGNED

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
	<i>0850</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>		<i>0</i>	<i>0900</i>		<i>[Signature]</i>				



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

G 137

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO **BUBO ENID**

FROM

**CANO**

Originator's Number

**0146**

Date

**25**

In Reply to Number

<b>CANO</b>	<b>NOWA</b>	<b>ENGA</b>	<b>leaves</b>	<b>0900</b>	<b>two</b>
<b>26 Dec</b>	<b>⊙</b>	<b>first</b>	<b>stage</b>	<b>BUQBUQ</b>	<b>⊙</b>
<b>arrive</b>	<b>food</b>	<b>area</b>	<b>by Dec</b>	<b>⊙</b>	<b>CEHA</b>
<b>UDAX</b>	<b>HUPE</b>	<b>PITH</b>	<b>TEFE</b>	<b>follow</b>	<b>29 Dec</b>
<b>⊙</b>	<b>ROMA</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>UPOS</b>	<b>remain</b>	<b>here</b>
<b>also</b>	<b>guard</b>	<b>on</b>	<b>dump</b>	<b>established</b>	<b>NOAT 11</b>
<b>of</b>	<b>Kilo</b>	<b>H 2</b>	<b>⊙</b>	<b>brig</b>	<b>and</b>

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

**235.**

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**T.H.I.**

**T.O.R.**

SIGNED		SYSTEM IN		TIME IN		READER		SENDER		SYSTEM OUT		TIME OUT		READER		SENDER	



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

2

OUT

No. of Groups.  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

BM  
his

CANO  
86

will arrive  
Dec.

arrive

ENID

1700

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

2315 LT.

SIGNED

SIGNED

(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



# 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 *Capt Ramsden*

FROM *CANO*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Numbers

*0 145*

*25*

*-*

*Please report today*

*ⓐ*

*this very*

*H.Q. urgent*

*1900*

*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 periority

*Immediate S.D.R.*

Time of origin.

*1740*

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.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads



# 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 *Lieut Walker*

FROM <i>CAMO</i>	Originator's Number <i>0144</i>	Date <i>25</i>	In Reply to Numbers <i>-</i>
------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------	---------------------------------

<i>Move</i>	<i> fwd</i>	<i> by</i>	<i> stages</i>	<i> as</i>	<i> arranged</i>
<i> at</i>	<i> first</i>	<i> light</i>	<i> 26</i>	<i> Dec</i>	

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means. <i>Approach only</i>	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER <i>[Signature]</i>	Originator's instructions Degree of periority <i>Immediate</i> <i>SDR</i>	Time of origin. <i>1730</i>
---	---	--	--------------------------------

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.
												C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# 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 CEHA NOWA ENGA

FROM	CANO	Originator's Number	0.143	Date	25	In Reply to Numbers	-
------	------	---------------------	-------	------	----	---------------------	---

Brig	and	staff	extend	best	wishes
and	compliments	of	the	season	to
COs	and	all	ranks		

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.

*Brookley*

Signed

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

Signed

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Originator's instructions  
Degree of periority

Time of origin.

1450

T.H.I.

System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40. 50.000 pads.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

No. of Groups.  
GR.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

ARTHUR <sup>Rptd</sup> CANO / By SDA.

FROM

ADV B.T.F

Originator's Number

01095

Date

25

In Reply to Number

CANO	1225	ONE	6-11	MOVING	15
BUBBUB	2-6	DEC	REQUIRED	250	CANON
petrol	SIDI	BARRANI			

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

1920

SIGNED

*M. DUNN*

*Cipher Immediate*

(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



# 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

CANO ~~RPD~~ MEGU ENID ABLO - SDN

FROM

ADV BTE.

Originator's Number

0 1093

Date

25

In Reply to Number

CANO	less	one	6a	will	move	BUOBUQ
26	Dec	and	relative		MASE	will
27/28	0	Arrangements	for		move	will
be	made	by	comd		CANO	0
Rations	to	will	29 Dec	water		will
27 Dec	will	be	carried			

analyt  
check

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

1900

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Cipher Immediate

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

SIGNED

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER



# 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

ABLO R/V CANO

FROM

A-IV BTE

Originator's Number

01094

Date

25

In Reply to Number

WARNING	ORDER	CO	MOVE	CANO	26
Dec	Q	CANO	will	ISSUE	order
to	you	for	ISSUE		

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

SDR

TIME OF ORIGIN

19.10

SIGNED

*M. Arnold Carr*

(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



# MESSAGE FORM

40

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

OR

38

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

CANO

FROM

ZION

Originator's Number

AR6.

Date

25

In Reply to Number

Carriers	on	trains	5	reach	you
early	morning	26	DEC 40	@ No	drivers
with	vehicles	escort	of infantry	and	artillery
artillery	personnel	@	Can you see	artillery	
reach	their	regiment.			

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.

1255 LT

T.H.I. 1350 LT

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40 20,000 pads.

Signed

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
V	1715	John									



Carrier Pt  
truck  
~~truck~~ crew  
Supt  
Office for 2/5  
-



MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 1

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	T. X01	No. of Groups. GR	OFFICE DATE STAMP CN 24
	OUT			

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO. CANO AHUM rptd MEGU Q.

FROM	ENID	Originator's Number 0 104	Date 24	In Reply to Number -
------	------	------------------------------	------------	-------------------------

1 DIR	will	move	to	area	ZION
staging	night	28/29	BARRANI	and	arriving
29	Dec.	⊙	will	revert	cond
ENID	on	arrival	⊙	will	arrive
with	rations	for	five	days	and
water	for	2	days	⊙	Remainder
of	Roma	approx	140	all	ranks

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.)							
System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

C.E.A. 5/40 20,000 pads.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *1*

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.

GR

OFFICE DATE STAMP

*CN*  
*24*

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

*at* *BAGUSH* *will* *remain* *there* *for*  
*present*

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.

*1045*

Signed

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
<i>P</i>	<i>1510</i>	<i>Buff</i>	<i>DC.</i>								

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

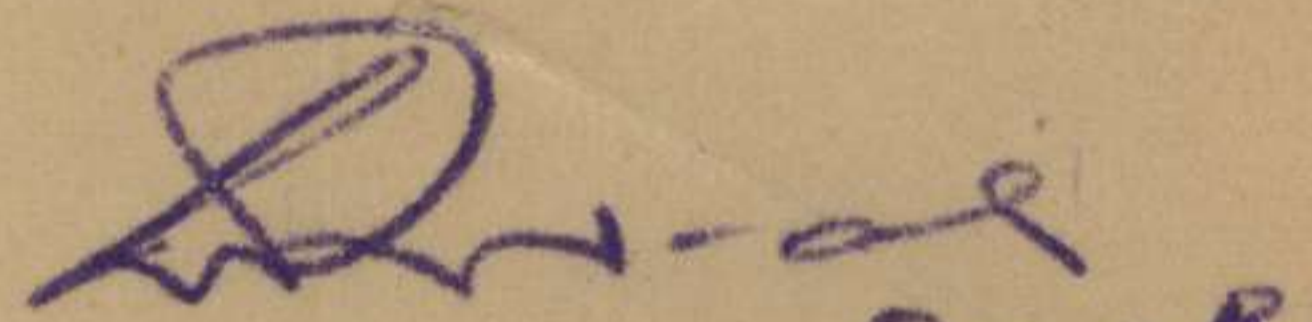
C.E.A. 5/40 20,000 pads.



85 L.O's

Please find out from units how many  
sets of ground to air signalling strips  
they have for use with the RAF code  
book. [For GI in a hurry]

29 Dec 1000 hrs

  
Capt



U.S. DAIRY

HQ.  
PLACE  
DATE

SHEET No

MESSAGE :

CON-  
FIRMED ACTION TAKEN

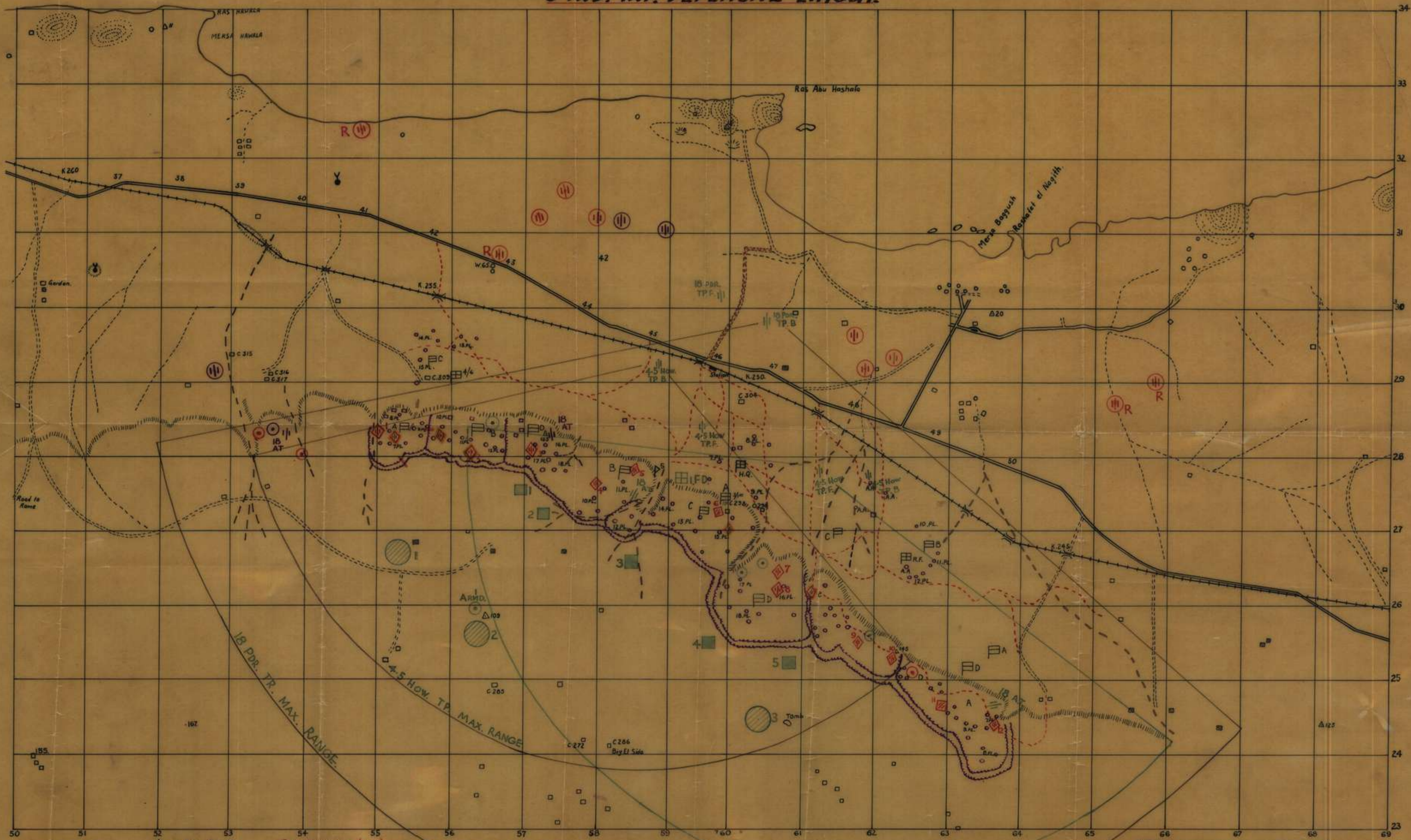
17th Base



# BAGGUSH POSN.

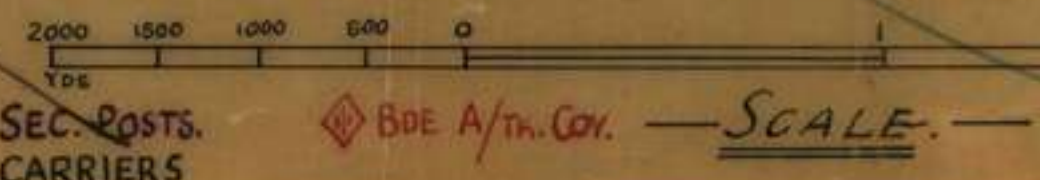
## 5 IND. INF. DEFENSIVE LAYOUT

...SECRET...



**LEGEND...**

- 1 FD REGT.
- D.F.
- C.P.
- 31 FD.
- R. ROVING (ALT.)
- 7 MED.
- P. BTRY. (SIGNALS) RHA.
- OP.
- SEC. POSTS.
- CARRIERS
- BDE A/TM. COY.



TRACED FROM MAP ISSUED TO  
 AUSTRALIAN DIV. 28-10-40  
 by W.G. HQ. 6 AUSTR. DIV.  
 1400 HRS. 10 NOV. 40



5 Dec. 40.

I. Action by Enemy.

1. Following receipt of information that Cav. had noted the withdrawal of the Reserve Coys. left defensive area, an order was issued by the Bde. Comdr. enforcing vigorous patrolling and alert observation.
2. The action of tps. was as follows :-
  - (a) Left Bn. (2/4) C.O. continued his vigorous policy by attacking with his right and centre coys. the position occupied by the 2/5 Bn. This pressure continued until the hour of withdrawal, during which time their general line was advanced in this area. The left coy. lagged and apparently did not note the withdrawal on their front. The centre Bn. (2/11) also attacked 2/5 Bn. area simultaneously and obtained equally vigorous contact.
  - (b) Centre Bn. (2/11). The action of this Bn. was vigorous in their pressure on both the 2/5 and 2/1 Bns. Just on nightfall a fracas developed on 2/1 Bn. front and umpires separated the contestants and ordered 2/11 Bn. to a line fwd. of 2/1 Bn. The move of the rear elements in 2/1 Bn. withdrawal was not followed immediately.
  - (c) Right ~~Bn.~~ (2/8). The axis of advance given for this ~~Bn.~~ took them clear of the front and they did not gain contact until approx. midnight, when they captured a fwd. Pl. of the 2/1 Bn. in their new defensive area.
  - (d) An axis of advance was given by Bde. Comd. to each Bn. which followed roads, railways, ~~trails~~, defined tracks and high ridges. The twisting nature of most lines caused divergence to the centre or outwards to the flanks during the progress of the advance on our left bde. sector and were generally inwards and caused some confusion.
  - (e) In order to achieve rapidity of movement, tps. were conveyed by M.T. on the routes on the outer flanks.
  - (f) The action of the 2/4 and 2/11 Bns. was highly commendable in their early contact and vigorous activity while their enemy still remained on the original defensive position. They followed the withdrawing tps. closely and by dawn there was a mixture of elements of both sides on the new position.
  - (g) After the very early stages of the advance contact between units, and, as progress was made, between coys and pls., was apparently impossible. During most of the operation Bde. H.Q. were completely out of the picture as all communications had either failed or information was not sent back. Bde. remedied this by sending out Liaison Officers to seek information.

3. Comments.

- (a) The initial action in harassing their enemy during withdrawal is to be highly commended. It was continuous, and the pressure was great on their left and centre but no contact was gained on the fronts of the 2/2 and 2/3 Bns.
- (b) Contact was never gained on 16 Bde. front until occupation of new posn., after withdrawal commenced.
- (c) It is considered that the action of the 2/4 and 2/11 Bns. in following the enemy after withdrawal without moving in bounds would be a foolhardy exploit under active service conditions, when it is so necessary to check the maintenance of contact and the occupation of lines in