

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

Item number: 8/2/26

26 Infantry Brigade

December 1944

ORIGINAL

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

29 JAN 1945

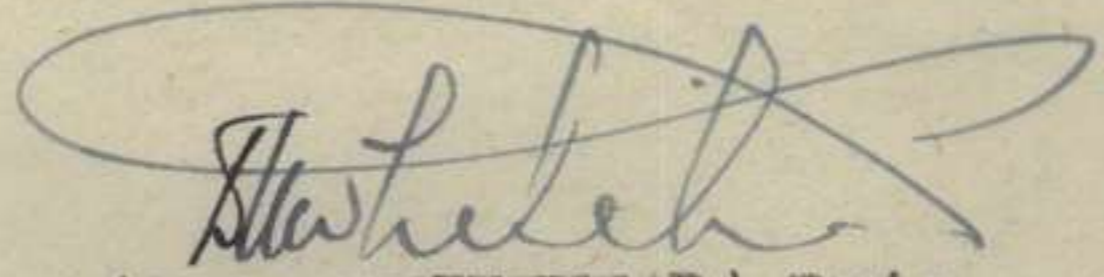
1 Jan 45.

WAR DIARY - DECEMBER 1944

1. Staff Capt (Capt J.O. Geddes) inspected 2/23 Bn Hygiene. Bde Comd visited Brig WINDEYER DSO. ED., Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde, and remained to Mess. Pictures held at Camp Cinema for 26 Aust Inf Bde personnel.
2. Normal routine.
Sporting - Cricket 2/48 Bn defeated 2/23 Bn.
2/24 " " Bde HQ.
3. Church parade attended by Bde HQ personnel at 2/24 Bn. Padre JULIEN officiated. In the afternoon Bde Comd watched the semi-final of the football competition. 2/23 Bn defeated 2/7 Fd Regt.
4. Staff Capt, accompanied by DADH, Maj HOLT, inspected hygiene of 2/48 Bn. BM(L) and IO reced area of Arty fd firing range, where a demonstration by the divisional arty regts will be held on 7 Dec. 2/48 Bn and 2/23 Bn will take part in a star shell demonstration night 7/8 Dec.
5. Bde Comd, BM and SC conferred with CRA, Brig EASTICK, at the arty range re the forthcoming star shell demonstration. Bde Comd later proceeded to observe 2/24 Bn trg in WILD RIVER area. Lt Col TURNBULL, Assistant Mil Attache of CANADA to AUSTRALIA, discussed trg policy with Bde Comd as applicable to CANADIANS should they operate in PACIFIC areas. Lt Col MUNTZ, CO 2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt dined with the Bde Comd, and later discussed preparations for Bde and Cav exercise "LONGFOOT", to be held 18-22 Dec.
6. BM (Maj N.B. TREBECK) with LO 1 reced area between HERBERTON and AHERTON rds vicinity TRACEY'S CORNER (ref MF GARNET - PALMERSTON 1:63360) for Bde exercise 18-22 Dec.
7. All personnel of 9 Aust Div proceeded to the arty fd firing range. At 1400 hrs the Divisional Arty, consisting of 2/7, 2/8 and 2/12 Fd Regts conducted various types of shoots. Demonstration continued till 1530 hrs. At 1945 hrs star shell demonstration commenced. 2/48 Bn attacked defended posns held by 2/23 Bn. Effectiveness of star shells in supporting a night adv, and also assisting defence against attack was demonstrated. 26 Bde bivouaced night in the area.
8. At 0600 hrs Bde commenced move back to camp area. Remainder of day spent in general routine.
9. Sporting Results - 2/48 Bn defeated Bde HQ at Cricket. Bde tennis raquets have been restrung, and the Bde HQ tennis court is now in use again. At the cinema, the pre-release of the film "Rats of Tobruk" was screened. The film was generally disappointing to the troops.
10. Church Pde held at 2/23 Bn. Two gps were taken, C of E personnel conducted by Padre JULIEN, Other Demominations by Padre FARMER. BM(L) and Int Sjt carried out recce of MF ARCHER area (ref MF GARNET 1:63360) to prepare for Battle Inoculation Exercises. Tennis - 2/48 Bn Offrs played Bde HQ Offrs at Bde HQ court.
11. Bde Comd confined to bed with an attack of influenza. Colds now prevalent in the Bde. IO attended a conference at 9 Aust Div. Second semi-final of Football Competition played between 2/43 Bn and 2/24 Bn. The game was won by 2/43 Bn.
12. 0830 hrs. Current Affairs talk to all offrs of Bde HQ. Further recce by BM(L) to MF ARCHER area.

13. General Routine.
14. 2/24 Bn carried out fd firing exercise with sp of 13 Aust Fd Bty. This is the first of the series of Battle Inoculation exercises. BM(L), LO 1 and IO directed the exercises. Maj N. B. TREBECK, BM to this Bde since its return to AUSTRALIA from NEW GUINEA, returned to his unit, 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. He will be succeeded by Maj K.J. KATEKER, originally of 2/27 Bn.
15. 2/23 Bn carried out Fd Firing exercise with sp 57 Aust Fd Bty.
16. 2/48 Bn carried out exercise similar to 2/23 and 2/24 Bns.
17. Church Pde attended by Bde HQ personnel at 2/23 Bn. Preparations completed for Exercise "LONGFOOT". 1400 hrs. A conference of umpires was held, at which Lt Col R. AINSLEE DSO, 2/48 Bn, Chief Umpire for exercise, issued instructions to umpires, and explained phases of exercise. Annual recreational leave commenced with personnel who have not been on leave for 9 months up to 31 Oct 44. 63 personnel from the Bde proceeded to 9 Div Reception Camp.
18. At 0600 hrs Exercise "LONGFOOT" commenced with 2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt adv against defended posns held by 2/23 and 2/24 Bns. Heavy rain fell during the night, making conditions unpleasant for the exercise.
19. Exercise "LONGFOOT" continued, 2/23 and 2/24 Bns having withdrawn to second line of defended posns. Thunderstorms with hy rain during day.
20. Exercise continued with further withdrawals by 2/23 and 2/24 Bns. Further thunderstorms and rain.
21. At 1200 hrs exercise concluded. Personnel were ferried back to camp areas. Maj J. SMITH, MLO 2 Aust Mil Ldg Gp, attached to 26 Bde for Amphibious Ops planning.
22. Further hy rain throughout the day will probably necessitate postponement of the Bde Mil and Athletic Sports to be held tomorrow. 1500 hrs. Bde Comd held conference of all senior offrs who took part in Exercise "LONGFOOT". Points throughout brought out by the exercise were discussed. Bde Comd accompanied by LO 1 attended Christmas parties at 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn and 2/3 Tk/A Regt.
23. Bde Sports have been postponed to a later date. Rain continued during the day. At 1900 hrs 26 Bde offrs Christmas Party held at Offrs Mess. SC (Capt J.O. GEDDES) proceeded on ARL.
24. Preparations for Christmas continued at Bde HQ. Bde Comd attended Mess at 2/2 Aust MG Bn.
25. Christmas Day - Bde HQ personnel attended Church Pde at 2/48 Bn. Huge marquee erected and decorated for the men's Christmas Dinner. Bde HQ offrs and sjts took over the camp duties for the day. The offrs, with Bde Comd as head waiter, provided excellent service for the tps. Afternoon spent in rest.
26. Trips and picnics to scenic spots of the district have been organised for the coming week. A party of Bde HQ personnel proceeded to TULLY FALLS. Bde Comd and staff visited TULLY FALLS.
27. Bde party proceeded to LAKE EACHAM. Swimming was the chief pastime. Bde Comd and BM(L) attended GOC's party at RAVENSHOE Offrs Club. Mobile cinema screened at 2/24 Bn.

28. The Bde Inter-Bn Sports held at 2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt sports ground provided keen competition throughout the day. Military events held in the morning resulted in 2/48 Bn gaining first place, 2/24 Bn second and 2/23 Bn third. Athletic events resulted - 2/24 Bn first, 2/48 Bn second and 2/23 Bn third. Unit canteens provided refreshments for the tps.
- 29 . A further 4 offrs and 80 ORs from the Bde proceeded on ARL.
30. A further 145 personnel proceeded on leave. Lt Col McARTHUR, PMLO of 2 Aust Mil Ldg Gp, visited the Bde Comd. Grand Final of Division Basketball Competition was played between 2 /23 Bn and 2/12 Fd Regt, and resulted in a win for 2/23 Bn. Lt Col R. AINSLEE and Lt Col F.A.G. TUCKER attended a conference with the Bde Comd at 2100 hrs.
31. Church Pde at 2/48 Bn attended by Bde HQ personnel. Party of Bde HQ personnel spent day at TULLY FALLS. At present approximately 20% (468) of the personnel of the Bde are on Annual Recreational Leave.



(D.A. WHITEHEAD) Brig.
Comd 26 Aust Inf Bde.

Dinner

NO 26 Aust Inf Bde.

XMAS DAY 1944.

XMAS 1914

M E N U

Tomato Soup

Roast Turkey

Baked Ham

Roast Potatoes, Marrow, Green Peas

Xmas Pudding and Cream

Assorted Fruits

Nuts, Raisins

Tea and Coffee

Additional Delicacies

Blue Boilers a la Geddés

Hobbs Hash

Goodall Goulash

A Buckshee Bottle of Booze

W.D.



26 Australian Infantry
 Brigade

Athletic & Military Chiships.

23 DEC 44

PATRON

Brig WHITEHEAD D.S.O. M.C. E.D.

COMMITTEE

Chairman Maj P G C WEBSTER.

Secretary Maj H W SNELL.

Members
Maj S H McRAE.
Lt K STEVENS.
Lt J C GRAY M.M.
Lt R G FOSTER
Lt C R BURKE.

Chief Marshalling Officer Maj H C MORPHETT. M.C.

Marshalling Officers
2/23 Lt. R. CANNING
2/24 Capt G TRAVIS.
2/45 Capt D N WALLIS.

Recorder Capt. V NELSON Bde Int Sec

Commentator Capt. K LOVELL
Sjt FOSTER.

Communications Capt. D HOWESETT.

Works Officer Lt N S AFFLECK.
Sjt R JOHNSTON.

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PROGRAM B -

Military Events

Serial	Time	Event	Competitors	Judges
1	0900	Wire Crushing	1 pl each Bn	Lt A LYNE
		1st.....2nd.....		
2	0910	P1 Drill	1 pl each Bn	Maj McLEOD
		1st.....2nd.....		
3	0910	3" Mortar	2 dets each Bn	Lt R ISKOV Lt I MENZIES Lt R MacCLURE
		1st.....2nd.....3rd.....4th.....5th.....		
4	0905	Alarm Race	1 Ssg each Bn	Lt J SHATTOCK
		1st.....2nd.....		
5	0930	Signals	1 team of 6 each Bn	Capt D HONEYSETT Lt R G KEATS Lt E TAYLOR Lt H SALMON
		1st.....2nd.....		
6	0945	Tpt Driving	1 x 3ton 4 x 2 each Bn	Lt J RUNGE Lt E GIBBS Lt A GREATEUX MC Lt D HILL
		1st.....2nd.....		
7	1000	Guard Competition	2/24 Bn	Brig WHITEHEAD DSO, MC, ED
8	1015	Tk/A (2 Ps)	2 dets each Bn	Lt NOAK Lt A HEAD Lt M STEEL
		1st.....2nd.....3rd.....4th.....5th.....		
9	1015	Granade Throwing	2 ORs each Bn	Capt McLELLAN.
		1st.....2nd.....3rd.....4th.....5th.....		

Military Events

10	1015	Bren Stripping	2 teams each Bn	Lt I EDWARDS ROSEL MC
11	1030	Band	1 each Bn	
		1st.....2nd.....		
12	1115	Guard	2/23 Bn	Brig WHITEHEAD DSO, MC, ED.
13	1115	Stretcher Bearer	Team of 4 pers & patients each Bn	Capt D HOPE F REYMANSON
		1st.....2nd.....		
14	1130	MMG	2 teams each Bn	Lt R GREER Lt C NORGATE Lt J GIBSON
		1st.....2nd.....3rd.....4th.....5th.....		
15	1145	M T	4 Jeeps and Trailers each Bn	Lt J RUNGE Lt E GIBBS Lt A GREATEUX MC Lt D HILL
		1st.....2nd.....		
16	1145	Guard	2/48 Bn	Brig WHITEHEAD DSO, MC, ED.
		1st.....2nd.....		

POINTS

When 3 competitors -	1st	8
	2nd	5
When 6 competitors -	1st	8
	2nd	5
	3rd	3
	4th	2
	5th	1

ATHLETIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Chief Judges Capt. M D WRIGHT

Judges
Capt. J DUDLEY
Lt F BEATON
Lt W JARDINE
Capt. M SEARLE
Capt. L I JONES
Capt. J McINTOSH.
Lt. J A R BUCKLEY MC
Lt R G COOPER
Lt. A J O'ROURKE

Starters
Lt I MENZIES.
Lt C TAYLOUR.

Timekeepers
Lt M FARQUHAR.
Sjt E STUART.

Track Stewards
Sjt A GOODALL.
Sjt G IRATE.
Sjt G MCGEE.
Sjt E ADAMS.
Sjt R INGRAM.
CPL H SPENCER.

Colours
2/22 Rd RED
2/24 Rd PURPLE
2/48 Rd WHITE

Points
1st 8
2nd 5
3rd 3
4th 2
5th 1

----- CROSS -----

ATHLETIC PROGRAMME

Serial	Time	Event	Lane	Competitors
1	1330	100 Yds	1 2/23	.....
			2 2/23	.....
			3 2/23	.....
			4 2/24	.....
			5 2/23	.....
			6 2/48	.....
		1st	2nd	3rd
			4th	5th
2	1335	Long Jump	1 2/48	.....
			2 2/24	.....
			3 2/24	.....
			4 2/23	.....
			5 2/48	.....
			6 2/23	.....
		1st	2nd	3rd
			4th	5th
3	1335	Obstacle Race (No Points)		
4	1340	Woodchop (Standing)	1	.....
			2	.....
			3	.....
			4	.....
			5	.....
			6	.....
		1st	2nd	3rd
			4th	5th
5	1355	220 Yds	1 2/48	.....
			2 2/24	.....
			3 2/24	.....
			4 2/48	.....
			5 2/23	.....
			6 2/23	.....
		1st	2nd	3rd
			4th	5th

ATHLETIC PROGRAMME

Serial	Time	Event	Lanes	Competitors
6	1400	Tug - O - War		2/23 v 3/48
		1st		
7	1405	880 Yds.	1 2/48	.....
			2 2/23	.....
			3 2/24	.....
			4 2/48	.....
			5 2/24	.....
			6 2/23	.....
		1st	2nd	3rd
			4th	5th
8	1405	High Jump	1 2/23	.....
			2 2/23	.....
			3 2/48	.....
			4 2/24	.....
			5 2/48	.....
			6 2/24	.....
		1st	2nd	3rd
			4th	5th
9	1410	Kicking the Football (No Points)		
10	1425	Tug - O - War		2/24 v
		1st		
11	1430	440 Yds	1 2/48	.....
			2 2/24	.....
			3 2/23	.....
			4 2/24	.....
			5 2/23	.....
			6 2/48	.....
		1st	2nd	3rd
			4th	5th

ATHLETIC PROGRAMME

Serial	Time	Event	Lanes	Competitors
12	1425	Hop - Step & Jump	1	2/24
			2	2/23
			3	2/23
			4	2/48
			5	2/23
			6	2/48
1st.....	2nd.....	3rd.....	4th.....	5th.....

13 1455 Throwing the Cricket Ball (No Points)

14	1505	Relay Race	1	2/24
			2	2/48
			3	2/24
1st.....	2nd.....	3rd.....		

15	1515	Woodchop (underhand)	1	.....
			2	.....
			3	.....
			4	.....
			5	.....
			6	.....
1st.....	2nd.....	3rd.....	4th.....	5th.....

16 1525 Tug - O - War Final

1st..... 2nd.....

17	1530	1 Mile	1	2/25	4	2/48
			2	2/24	5	2/23
			3	2/48	6	2/24
1st.....	2nd.....	3rd.....	4th.....	5th.....		

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 2 / 12 / 1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Brig	NX 376	WHITEHEAD	D.A.	Comd	Yes		
Maj	NX 12371	TREBECK	N.B.	BM	Yes		
Maj	NX102558	MCLEOD	N.R.	BM(L)	Yes		
Capt	SX 2725	GEDDES	J.O.	SC	Yes		
Capt	WA 9895	NELSON	V.N.	L.O.	Yes		
Capt	SX 7971	WRIGHT	M.	LO(1)	No	Det 4 Aust V&O Sec	15 Nov
Lt	NX 70750	HESLOP	R.W.	SC(L)	Yes		
Lt	NX153124	RUNGE	J.W.	TO	Yes		
Lt	VX 50311	STEVENS	K.W.	LO(2)	Yes		
Lt	VX 41643	LYNE	A.	LO(3)	Yes		
<u>SERVICES.</u>							
Capt	VX104034	HEYMANSON	A.H.B.	AALC	No	Det HQ 9 Aust Div	14 Nov
Capt	VX 39004	LIVINGSTON	A.G.	AASC	Yes		
Chap	NX132875	BRYSON	A.W.	AACHD	No	Det 2/23 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	SX 21713	FARMER	S.H.	AACHD	No	Det 2/24 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	VX108118	JULIEN	C.G.	AACHD	No	Det 2.48 Aust Inf Bn	
Lt	NX 66063	OAKES	E.E.	AAES	Yes		
Lt	QX 263	COX	C.J.	AAOC	Yes		
Lt	SX 17938	NICHOLAS	W.H.	Hyg O	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
MR	B/282	BEVIS J.V.	YMCA representative		
MR	B2/365	PEARSON H.H.	Salvation Army representative		

2 Dec 44.

Date of Despatch

(Sgd) J O Geddes Capt
SC 26 Aust Inf Bde
Signature of Commander

War Diary

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
34 / **44** (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday **9^m 12 4** / / 194 (Unit)

W.E. **II 2 / 4** OFFRS. **19** O.R.'s. **66** + OFFRS. O.R.'s. ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

W E EXCLUDING ATTACHED				DETAIL	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W E								
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W E	Surplus to W E	Posted Strength		Arm or Corps	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W E	Deficient W E	Rein'ts Required				
			1	Brigadier*									
			2	Lieut.-Colonels									
	2		8	Majors									
	1	2	7	Captains									
				Lieutenants									
				Quarter-masters									
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.									
				Civilians Counting as Offrs									
	3	2	18										
		DETAIL		A.I.P.	C.M.P.	A.W.A.B.	A.A.N.B.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N.	R.A.A.P.	**	TOTAL.
		A		18									18
		E.(1)											
		E.(2)											

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
SX7971	Capt	WRIGHT M	4 Aust V & O		Ceases to be det
			Sec TRINITY		
			BEACH		

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / / 194

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

9 12 4

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday ____/____/194. (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials	Posting	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed	Date of Detachment
Brig	NX 376	WHITEHEAD	D A	Comd	Yes		
Maj	NX 12371	TREBECK	N B	HM	Yes		
Maj	NX102558	MCLEOD	N R	HM(L)	Yes		
Capt	SX 2725	GEDDES	J O	SC	Yes		
Capt	WX 9895	NELSON	V N	IO	Yes		
Capt	SX 7971	WRIGHT	M	LO(1)	Yes		
Lt	IX 70750	HELOP	R W	SC(L)	Yes		
Lt	NX153124	RUNGE	J W	TO	Yes		
Lt	VX 50311	STEVENS	K W	LO(3)	Yes		
Lt	VX 41643	LYNE	A	LO(2)	Yes		
<u>SERVICES</u>							
Capt	VX 39004	LIVINGSTON	A G	AASC	Yes		
Capt	VX104034	HEYMANSON	A H B	AALC	No	Det HQ 9 Aust Div	14 Nov
Chap	NX123875	BRYSON	A W	AACHD	No	Det 2/23 Bn	
Chap	SX 21713	FARMER	S H	AACHD	No	Det 2/24 Bn	
Chap	VX108118	JULIEN	C G	AACHD	No	Det 2/48 Bn	
Lt	NX 66063	OAKES	E E	AAES	Yes		
Lt	OX 263	COX	C J	AAOC	Yes		
Lt	SX 17938	NICHOLAS	W H	Hyg O	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment	Nature of Attachment.
Mr	B/282	BEVIS J V	YMCA Representative		
Mr	B2/365	PEARSON H H	Salvation Army Representative		

9 Dec 44

Date of Despatch

S.G. 26 AUST INF BDE
Signature of Commander

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

35 / 44 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16 / 12 / 1941 HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde (Unit)

W.E. II / 2 / 4 OFFRS. 19 O.R's. 66 + OFFRS. O.R's. ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.								
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.				
			1	Brigadier *									
				Lieut.-Colonels									
	1		1	Majors									
	2		8	Captains									
	1	2	7	Lieutenants									
				Quarter-masters									
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.									
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.									
	4	2	17										
		DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
		A.		17									17
		E.(1)											
		E.(2)											

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX104034	Capt	HEYMANSON A.H.B.	HQ 9 Aust Div	12 Dec	Ceases to be detached.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
NX12371	Maj	TREBECK N.B.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn	14 Dec	Detached pending cessation of secondment As BM 26 Aust Inf Bde

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / / 194

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 16/12/1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Brig	NX 376	WHITEHEAD	D.A.	Comd	Yes		
Maj	NX102558	McLEOD	N.R.	BM(L)	Yes		
Capt	SX 2725	GEDDES	J.O.	SC	Yes		
Capt	WX 9895	NELSON	V.N.	IO	Yes		
Capt	SX 7971	WRIGHT	M.	LO(1)	Yes		
Lt	NX 70750	HESLOP	R.W.	SC(L)	Yes		
Lt	VX 50311	STEVENS	K.W.	LO(3)	Yes		
Lt	VX 41643	LYNE	A.	LO(2)	Yes		
Lt	NX153124	RUNGE	J.W.	TO	Yes		
Maj	NX 12371	TREBECK	N.B.	B.M	No	Det 2/17 Aust Inf Bn	14 Dec
SERVICES							
Capt	VX104034	HEYMANSON	A.H.B.	AALG	Yes		
Capt	VX 39004	LIVINGSTON	A.G.	AASC	Yes		
Chap	NX123875	BRYSON	A.W.	AACHD	No	Det 2/23 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	SX 21713	FARMER	S.H.	AACHD	No	Det 2/24 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	VX108118	JULIEN	C.C.	AACHD	No	Det 2/48 Aust Inf Bn	
Lt	NX 66063	OAKES	E.E.	AAES	Yes		
Lt	OX 263	COX	C.J.	AAOC	Yes		
Lt	BX 17938	NICHOLAS	W.H.	AAMC			
				(HygO)	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Mr	B/282	BEVIS J.V.	YMCA		
Mr	B2/365	PEARSON H.H.	Salvation Army		

16 Dec 44
Date of Despatch

[Signature]
S.C. 26 AUST INF BDE
Signature of Commander

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Wan Diary

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23 12 / 4 / 194 4 Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde (Unit)

W.E. 11 2 4 / OFFRS. 19 O.R's. 66 + OFFRS. O.R's. ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.								
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.				
			1	Brigadier *									
	2		2	Lieut.-Colonels									
	1	2	8	Majors									
			7	Captains									
				Lieutenants									
				Quarter-masters									
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.									
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.									
	3	2	18										
		DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
		A.		17									17
		E.(1)											
		E.(2)											

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
* * Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
VX 45607	Maj	SMITH J.R.	2 Aust Mil Ldg Group	21 Dec	Att for duty

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
SX2725	Capt	J O GEDDES		22 Dec 44	Marched out 24 days Rec Leave

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / / 194

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23 / 12 / 1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Brig	NX 376	WHITEHEAD	D A	Comd	Yes		
Maj	NX102558	McLEOD	N R	BM(L)	Yes		
Maj	NX 12371	TREBECK	N B	BM	No	Det 2/17 Aust Inf Bn	14 Dec
Capt	SX 2725	GEDDES	J O	SC	No	M/out Rec Leave	
Capt	WX 9895	NELSON	V N	IO	Yes		
Capt	SX 7971	WRIGHT	M	LO(1)	Yes		
Lt	NX 70750	HESLOP	R W	SC(L)	Yes		
Lt	VX 50311	STEVENS	K W	LO(3)	Yes		
Lt	VX 41643	LYNE	A	LO(2)	Yes		
Lt	NX153124	RUNGE	J W	TO	Yes		
<u>SERVICES</u>							
Capt	VX104034	HELMANSON	A H B	AALC	Yes		
Capt	VX 39004	LIVINGSTON	A G	AASC	Yes		
Chap	NX123875	BRYSON	A W	AACHD	No	Det 2/23 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	SX 21713	FARMER	S H	AACHD	No	Det 2/24 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	VX108118	JULIEN	C G	AACHD	No	Det 2/48 Aust Inf Bn	
Lt	NX 66063	OAKES	E E	AAES	Yes		
Lt	OX 263	COX	C J	AAOC	Yes		
Lt	SX 17938	NICHOLAS	W H	AAMC	Yes		
				(Hyg O)			
		<i>Dougl</i>					

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Mr	B/282	BEVIS J V	YMCA		
Mr	B2/365	PEARSON H H	Salv Army		
Maj	VX 45607	SMITH J R	2 Aust	Mil Landing Group	21 Dec 44

23 DEC 1944

Date of Despatch

[Signature]
Signature of Commander

WD

The information contained in this document
is not to be communicated, either directly
or indirectly to the Press or to any person
not authorised to receive it

26 AUST INF BDE
ROUTINE ORDERS.

Part I

by


BRIG D A WHITEHEAD DSO MC ED COMMANDING 26 AUST INF BDE

No 2

In the Field

23 Dec 44

NIL

for 
(J O GEDDES) Capt
SC 26 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

GREETINGS

The Bde Comd wishes to extend to all ranks his best wishes for Christmas and the coming year and hopes that we will all be able to spend the next Festive Season in peace and with our own people.

Distribution :

2/23 Aust Inf Bn
2/24 Aust Inf Bn
2/48 Aust Inf Bn
26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec
2/78 Aust LAD
4 Pl A Coy 2/1 Aust Gd Regt
Camp
Offrs Mess
Sjts Mess
ORs Mess
File
War Diary (2)

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde Unit

3744 (Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 30/12/1944 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
XXXXXXXX							
Brig	NX 376	WHITEHEAD	D.A.	Comd	Yes		
Maj	NX 12371	TREBECK	N.B.	BM	No	Det 2/17 Aust Inf Bn	14 Dec
Maj	NX102558	McLEOD	N.R.	BM(L)	Yes		
Capt	SX 2725	BEDDES	J.O.	SG	No	Recreation Leave	22 Dec
Capt	WX 9895	NELSON	V.N.	IO	Yes		
Capt	SX 7971	WRIGHT	M.	LO(1)	Yes		
Lt	NX 70750	HESLOP	R.W.	SG(L)	Yes		
Lt	VX 41643	LYNE	A.	LO(2)	No	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	
Lt	VX 50311	STEVENS	K.W.	LO(3)	Yes		
Lt	NX153124	RUNGE	J.W.	PO	Yes		
<u>SERVICES</u>							
Capt	VX 39004	LIVINGSTON	A.G.	AASG	Yes		
Capt	VX104034	HEYMANSO	A.H.B.	AALC	Yes		
Chap	NX123875	BRYSON	A.W.	AACHD	No	Det 2/23 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	SX 21713	FARMER	S.H.	AACHD	No	Det 2/24 Aust Inf Bn	
Chap	VX108118	JULIEN	C.G.	AACHD	No	Det 2/48 Aust Inf Bn	
Lt	NX 66063	OAKES	B.E.	AASS	Yes		
Lt	OX 263	COX	C.J.	AAOC	Yes		
Lt	SX 17938	NICHOLAS	W.H.	Hyg O	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
VX 45607	Major	SMITH J.R.	2 Mil Ldg Gp	21 Dec 44	
B/282	Mr	BEVIS J.V.	YMCA		representative
B2/365	Mr	PEARSON H.H.	Salv Army		representative

30 Dec 44
Date of Despatch

W. Heslop
Signature of Commander

B.C. 26 AUST INF BDE

WD

SECRET

Copy No. 20...

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
A/73B/910
13 Dec 44

26 AUST INF BDE ADM INSTR 10
EXERCISE LONGFOOT

Ref Map MT GARNET 1"

GEN

- 1. This instr deals with the adm arrangements for exercise LONGFOOT issued in conjunction with 26 Aust Inf Bde Exercise LONGFOOT memo of 9 Dec 44.

SUPS

- 2. Ration Scale
Normal ration scale will be issued for the exercise except that tinned milk will be issued in lieu of fresh.
- 3. Sup Pts
Will be established :-
 - (a) for CAV FORCE DID RAVENSHOE
 - (b) for INF FORCE 3998.
- 4. Umpires
Will be rationed by units to which att.
- 5. POL
Available at Sup Pts.

TPT

- 6. Op Vehs
 - (a) CAVFORCE - full WET plus 11 Jeeps and Trailers
 - (b) INFFORCE - WET only (8 Jeeps and Trailers).
- 7. Non-Op Vehs
All units may use NON-OP Exercise only vehs for carrying blankets in addition to one on the man. No other Non-Op vehs will be used.
- 8. Marking of Vehs
 - (a) Op Vehs of CAVFORCE will have a diamond shaped piece of white paper pasted on the inside of the windscreen in the right hand side (Sides of diamond - 4").
 - (b) Op Vehs of INFFORCE will have a circular piece of white paper pasted on the inside of the right hand side of the windscreen (Diameter of circle - 6").
 - (c) NON-OP, Umpires and exercise only vehs will have a white cross pasted on the inside of the windscreen on the left hand side. Length of arms of cross - 6".
- 9. Pet Res
All vehs will carry one 4 gall tin of petrol as res.
- 10. Interconn Vehs
Units may use non-op vehs for interconn between exercise HQ and camp.

WATER

- 11. (a) All water will be superchlorinated before consumption.
- (b) Water Trucks will not be used.
- (c) 2 gall cans are allotted and available from HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde Q Store for units to collect:-

2/9 Aust Cav Commando Regt - 200 x 2 gall tins
 2/23 Aust Inf Bn - 200 x 2 gall tins
 2/24 Aust Inf Bn - 200 x 2 gall tins.

(d) Water Pts

2/13 Aust Fd Coy will establish Water Pts for CAFFORCE and INFFORCE. Location to be notified. These water pts will have fittings suitable for filling 2 gall tins.

MED

12.

Cas

(a) Exercise casualties will NOT be evacuated beyond unit RAPs. Chief Umpire will arrange distribution of casualty slips to be issued by this HQ, these will be collected by umpires from RAP daily and will be checked under arrangements of chief umpire against slips issued. Any discrepancies will be reported to this HQ.

(b) Normal Sick

2/11 Aust Fd Amb will arrange normal "milk run" to unit RAPs daily. Units will advise respective Bde Report Centres location of RAP by 0900K daily.

13.

SCRUB TYPHUS

All clothing taken on exercise will be completely treated with "BETTY" mite lotion and certificates that this has been done will be submitted to this HQ by 1800K 17 Dec 44.

14.

MALARIA

- (a) Tents Mosquito and Mosquito Repellant will be neither carried nor used.
 (b) Atebrin daily will be adm under offr supervision. Reports that atebrin has been correctly adm will be reported daily to Bde Report Centre by 1200K using expression "ATEBRIN ACK".
 (c) Umpires will be required to report on the adm of atebrin.

HYG

15.

Latrines

Shallow trench latrines will be used and carefully covered after use. Before leaving areas latrines will be closed and "foul ground" signs with the date will be erected.

16.

Sullage and Garbage

Where fires are permitted ALL refuse (food, scraps, tins etc.) will be incinerated. Where fires are NOT permitted refuse will be buried and foul ground signs erected before leaving area.

REC

17.

- (a) 2/78 Aust LAD remain present location
 (b) 2/123 Aust Bde Wksp and Ord Fd Pk remain present location

MISC

18.

Blankets

One blanket (and ground sheet) will be carried on the man, additional blankets may be carried in unit Non-Op exercise only tpt.

19.

Fences and Gates

- (a) The greatest care will be taken to ensure all fences and gates are closed after use. Cutting of fences will be avoided as far as possible.
 (b) If it is necessary to leave a fence or gate open the unit opening same will place a picquet on the opening to prevent straying of stock and will close the fence or gate before leaving the spot.

...../(e)

(c) Certificates that all fences and gates have been properly closed to the satisfaction of the owners will be rendered to this HQ after completion of the exercise by 1800K 22 Dec 44. The written clearance of the property holders will be attached to certificates.


20. FIRE
Care will be taken to ensure that fires do not get out of control and that before leaving any area all fires are extinguished.

21. PW
Will be evacuated by units to Bde Report Centre. OC Bde Report Centre will return PW by MT to unit B Ech as early as practicable after receipt. Bde Report Centre will not provide PW with meals or blankets.

22. "A" RETURNS
AFW 3008 Strength State will be rendered :-

- (a) by CAVFORCE as normal
- (b) by INFFORCE to Bde HW in present location by 0800K daily.

ACK



(J. G. GEDDES) Capt
SC 26 Aust Inf Bde

Time of Signature 1725K

Distribution :

- 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Copy 1 - 2
- 2/24 Aust Inf Bn 3 - 4
- 2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt 5 - 8
- Comd 9
- BM 10
- SC 11-12
- LO 13-14 (for Bde Report Centre)
- Sup O 15
- Chief Umpire 16
- File 17-18 (for noting by
26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec
4 Pl 2/1 Aust Guard Regt
2/78 Aust L A D)
- War Diary 19-20
- Spares 21-22

RESTRICTED

The information given in this document is not to be communicated, either directly or indirectly, to the Press or to any person not authorised to receive it

HQ 26 AUST INF BDE
ROUTINE ORDERS
PART I
by

BRIG D & WHITEHEAD DSO MC ED COMMANDING 26 AUST INF BDE

No 32

In the Field

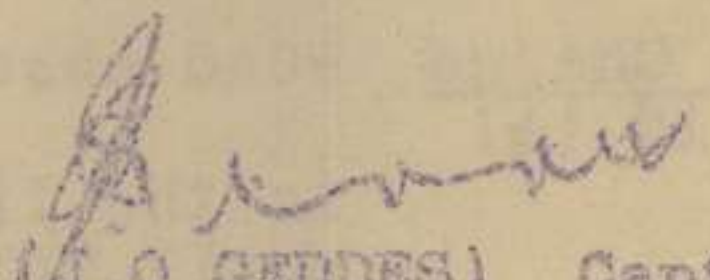
13 Dec 44

180. INDISCRIMINATE USE OF FIREARMS

1. Complaints have been received relative to indiscriminate shooting by military personnel, which resulted in bullets passing dangerously close to a number of civilians.
2. Severe disciplinary action will be taken against personnel responsible should further incidents occur.
3. (a) There are a number of bird and animal sanctuaries in the vicinity of 9 Aust Div area, in which shooting is strictly prohibited. All ranks are subject to civil law if found shooting in these sanctuaries.
(b) Where approval is given for personnel of 9 Aust Div to shoot in specified areas, only sporting shooting will be allowed i.e. personnel will use shot guns only. The use of issue weapons is prohibited. On such occasions full precautions will always be taken before shooting commences.

181. OUT OF BOUNDS

All kitchens in Bde HQ lines are out of bounds to all personnel other than kitchen and mess staffs concerned.


(J. O. GEDDES) Capt
26 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution :

Comd
BM
SC
Camp
TC
CSM
Gd Pl
26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec
2/78 Aust LAD
Officers' Mess
Sergeants' Mess
ORs Mess
File
War Diary (2)

NOTICES

INSTRUCTORS FOR INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DIVISION - DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE

The Department of Labour and National Service has advised that, under Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme, many additional trade instructors will be needed on cessation of hostilities in technical schools and colleges.

...../Full

Full particulars are available at Education Eut.

A DCM convened by Brig W J V WINDEYER Adm Comd 9 Aust Div was held in the field on the 6 Dec 44.

WX 7765 Cfn ISAACS F R - HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

President: Major A J GRENVILLE - HQ 9 Aust Div

1st Charge WOAS absenting himself without leave
AA 15(1) in that he
in the field absented himself without leave from 2030 hrs until 2145 hrs 10 Nov 44.

2nd Charge WOAS conduct to the prejudice of good order and military
AA 40 discipline
in that he
in the field on 10 Nov 44 improperly used jeep no 130873 the property of the Commonwealth of Australia for his private purposes.

the accused pleaded GUILTY to both charges and was so found by the Court.
the accused 25 days in open arrest awaiting trial.

On 6 Dec 44 the court sentenced the accused to be fined the sum of £7/10/0.

On 10 Dec 44 Maj-Gen G F WOOTTEN Comd 9 Aust Div confirmed the finding and sentence.

Promulgated to the accused in the field on the twelfth day of December 1944.

A DCM convened by Brig W J V WINDEYER Adm Comd 9 Aust Div was held in the field on the 6 Dec 44.

WX 37413 Pte WILLIAMS T O - HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

President: Major A J GREVILLE - HQ 9 Aust Div

1st Charge WOAS absenting himself without leave
AA 15 (1) in that he
in the field absented himself without leave from 2015 hrs until 2130 hrs 10 Nov 44.

2nd Charge WOAS conduct to the prejudice of good order and military
AA 40 discipline
in that he
in the field on 10 Nov 44 improperly used Jeep No 130873 the property of the Commonwealth of Australia, for his private purposes.

the accused pleaded GUILTY to the first charge and NOT GUILTY to the second charge. The Court found him GUILTY of both charges.

On 6 Dec 44 the Court sentenced the accused to be fined the sum of £5/-/-.
the accused was 25 days in open arrest awaiting trial.

on 10 Dec 44 Maj-Gen G F WOOTTEN Comd 9 Aust Div confirmed the finding and sentence.

Promulgated to the accused in the field on the twelfth day of December 1944.

60

RESTRICTED

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HQ 26 AUST INF BDE
ROUTINE ORDERS
PART I
by

BRIG D A WHITEHEAD DSO MC ED COMMANDING 26 AUST INF BDE

No 32

In the Field

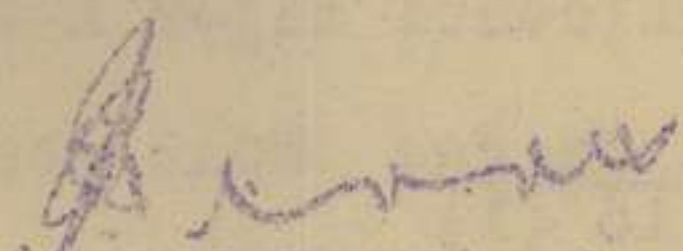
13 Dec 44

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(J O GEDDES) Capt
HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution :

Comd
BM
SC
Camp
TO
CSM
Gd Pl
26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec
2/78 Aust LAD
Officers' Mess
Sergeants' Mess
ORs Mess
File
War Diary (2)

NOTICES

INSTRUCTORS FOR INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DIVISION - DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR
AND NATIONAL SERVICE

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AA 40 discipline
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Promulgated to the accused in the field on the twelfth day of December 1944

11 Dec 44

FD FIRING EXERCISE

INSTRS FOR THE EXERCISE

Ref Maps : 1:25000 WILD RIVER
1:25000 WILD RIVER WEST

1. Gen

Each bn with in sp one fd bty will carry out a fd firing exercise "Bn in the Attack" under bde control on the WILD RIVER ARTY RANGE in the area 2284, 2384, 2283, 2383.

2. Object

The object of the exercise is :-

- (a) To provide a battle inoculation
- (b) To practice battle procedure
- (c) To exercise comds of bn supporting arms in providing close sp during an attack.
- (d) To exercise inf comds in cooperation with arty comds when arty is placed in sp of inf.

3. Tps taking part

- (a) 14 Dec : 2/24 Aust Inf Bn
13 Aust Fd Bty
- (b) 15 Dec : 2/23 Aust Inf Bn
57 Aust Fd Bty
- (c) 16 Dec : 2/48 Aust Inf Bn
57 Aust Fd Bty.
- (d) On each of the above days a det of 4 Pl 2/1 Aust Gd Regt will cooperate, representing in skeleton 2/4 Aust Cav Sqn.
- (e) 4 x 3-in mortars only will be carried.

4. Representation of enemy

- (a) LMG posts Plain hessian screen 4 x 2 ft.
- (b) MMG posts Green hessian screen 4 x 2 ft.

5. Directing Staff

- (a) Director - Brig D.A. WHITEHEAD
- (b) Assistant Directors - Maj N.B. TREBECK
Capt M. WRIGHT
Capt V.N. NELSON

6. Safety Offrs

See Appx "A" (to be issued later).

7. Safety Precautions

See Appx "A".

8. Dress

- (a) Directing Staff : JG, hats, white armband each arm.
- (b) Safety offrs : JG, steel helmets, white armband each arm.
- (c) Tps taking part : Inf - JG, steel helmets, marching order.
Arty - As ordered by 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

9. Allotment of amm

- (a) Fd bty each day - 500 rounds HE.
- (b) Each 3-in mortar (4) - 50 rounds HE (available at Bde HQ)
- (c) Each MMG (4) - 10 belts.
- (d) Owing to nature of ground it is NOT intended to allot amm to rfn, LMG, OSMG and 2-in mortar numbers of inf bns.
- (e) Gd Pl will carry following SAA :-
(i) Each rfn 50 rounds.
(ii) Each LMG 300 rounds.

10. Conduct of the Exercise

- (a) Each bn will carry out a rehearsal of the exercise on the morning of the day allotted. During the rehearsal firing of weapons will be limited to the ranging of weapons.
- (b) The exercise proper will be carried out during the afternoon.
- (c) Timings will be as follows :-
(i) Gd Pl disposed on ground vide NARRATIVE 1 (to be issued as Appx "B").
(ii) Bn assembled in area 222832 vide NARRATIVE 1 by 1000K.
(iii) Rehearsal commences 1000K.
(iv) Exercise proper commences 1400K.
(v) Exercise finishes approx 1700K.

11. Movement to exercise area

- (a) 40 x 3-ton vehs for tp carrying will report to bn lines at 0600K on the day on which exercise takes place. Tps will debus at rd and track junc 238812 and march to assembly area 223832.
- (b) 2/7 Aust Fd Regt will make own arrangements for movement of btys. Personnel to move with each bn will RV at 223832 by 1000K each day.
- (c) Separate instrs issued to 4 Pl 2/1 Aust Gd Regt.

12. Return to camp area

Bns will bivouac in area track and rd junc 238812 on night following exercise and return to camp the following morning back loading on vehs debussing tps at 238812 vide sub para 11(a) at approx 0700K.

N.B. Trebeck
(N.B. TREBECK) Maj.
EM 26 Aust Inf Bde

(3)

Distribution :

<u>Unit</u>	<u>No of copies</u>
2/23 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/24 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/48 Aust Inf Bn	1
4 Pl 2/1 Aust Guard Regt	1
2/7 Aust Pd Regt	4
Comd	1
BM	1
SC	1
IO	1
LO(1)	1
Chief Safety Offr	10
File	2
War Diary	2 ✓

War diary

Ref Maps: MT GARNET 1 inch to 1 mile
PALMERSTON 1 inch to 1 mile.
HERBERTON 1 inch to 1 mile.

1. Object

The object of the exercise is -

(a) To practice 2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt in the following roles :-

- (i) Regt as adv gd for the Div, covering a wide front.
- (ii) Regt in attack.
- (iii) Regt in withdrawal.

(b) To practice bns in rearguard action, occupation of defensive posn, and advance.

2. Units taking part

2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt.
2/23 Aust Inf Bn
2/48 Aust Inf Bn.

3. Time and location

(a) The exercise will take place north of RAVENSHOE, between the ATHERTON road and HERBERTON-RAVENSHOE road.

(b) The exercise will commence at 0600 hrs 18 Dec and be terminated on the afternoon of 21 Dec or morning of 22 Dec.

4. Control and Directing Staff

(a) Director - Brig D.A. WHITEHEAD

Asst Directors - Maj N.B. TREBROK
Maj N.R. McLEOD
Capt V.N. NELSON
Capt J.O. GEDDES

Chief Umpire - Lt.Col R.I. AINSLIE

(b) The following umpires will be supplied by 2/48 Aust Inf Bn :-

Majors or Capts	-	3
Cpts or Lts	-	20

Total offrs		23

NCOs		52

5. Dress

(a) 2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt. JG with hats.

(b) 2/23 and 2/24 Aust Inf Bns. JG with Steel Helmets.

(c) Directing Staff and umpires. JG with hats and two white armbands.

6. Representation of fire

- (a) Blank amm will be provided by units being exercised.
- (b) LMG firing ball amm into a pit will be used by 2/23 and 2/24 Bns. These pits will be sited away from line of adv, and units will nominate an offr to be responsible for safety of each LMG that fires.
- (c) Aldershot grenades may be used if available.

7. Comms

- (a) 2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt. A Bde HQ Report Centre will be established and will represent Adv HQ 9 Aust Div for purpose of all comms, infm and orders.
- (b) 2/23 and 2/24 Aust Inf Bns. Another Bde HQ Report centre will be established and will represent Tac Bde HQ for purpose of all comms, infm and orders. Det of 26 Bde Sig Sec will be attached to each Bn.
- (c) 26 Bde Sig Offr will issue separate instrs regarding comms, allotment of W/T sets, code names, frequencies, call signs, etc.

8. Adm

Separate Adm Instrs will be issued.

9. General Situation

- (a) CAVFORCE are advancing north from RAVENSHOE between the AMHERSTON rd and HERBERTON-RAVENSHOE rd. 2/9 Aust Cav Regt is adv gd of 9 Aust Div.
- (b) INFFORCE has been forced to commence a withdrawal northwards to their main def posn. 2/23 bn and 2/24 bn form the rear-guard to cover this withdrawal.

10. Detailed Instrs

The following detailed instrs will be issued as required :-

- (a) Opening narrative.
- (b) Op Instr to CO 2/9 Aust Cav Regt.
- (c) Op Instr to 2/23 and 2/24 Bns.
- (d) Forecast of events and Instrs to umpires.

N.B. Trebeck

(N.B. TREBECK) Maj.
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution :

2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt	1
2/23 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/24 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/48 Aust Inf Bn	4
26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec	5
Comd	6
BM	7
SC	8
IO	9
LO	10
Chief Umpire	11
File	12
War Diary	13-14 ✓

OPENING NARRATIVE -- CAVFORGE

1. On the 15 Dec 44, 9 Aust Div encountered strong enemy opposition south of RAVENSHOE. On 16 Dec, 24 Bde attacked with some success and there was evidence that the enemy was preparing to withdraw. At 1400 hrs 17 Dec another attack was launched and overran the enemy position and it appeared that he had withdrawn his main force during the night. Tac R reported considerable enemy movement north of WONDECIA and increasing activity in the FLAGGY CREEK area and JENSENVILLE area.
2. At last light 17 Dec, patrols had reached RAVENSHOE town area and reported it clear of enemy. Local inhabitants said the enemy had just left the town and thought they would not have gone back very far.
3. Comd 9 Aust Div decided to continue the adv at first light 18 Dec and accordingly issued CO 2/9 Aust Cav Regt with the attached Op Instr.

9 AUSTRALIAN DIV OP INSTR 66

SECRET

17 Dec 44

Op Instr No. 9

Ref Maps : MT GARNET 1 inch to 1 mile
 PALMERSTON 1 inch to 1 mile
 HERBERTON 1 inch to 1 mile.

INFORM

1. Enemy

- (a) Enemy has commenced withdrawal from RAVENSHOE area and is apparently preparing def posn south of WONDECIA.
- (b) One Bn suffered very heavy casualties during 24 Bde attack 17 Dec.

2. Own Troops

- (a) 26 Bde is still in MT GARNET area and will be moved by top on 18 Dec. 24 Bde will come into Div res.
- (b) 20 Bde are occupying town of RAVENSHOE night 17/18 Dec.

ROLE

3. 2/9 Cav Regt will act as adv gd to 9 Div and pass through RAVENSHOE at 0600 hrs 18 Dec 44.
4. 2/9 Cav Regt will move between ATHERTON rd and HERBERTON-RAVENSHOE rd, and advance as rapidly as possible to locate main enemy posns. In particular it is desired to establish whether main enemy posns are covering the ATHERTON rd or HERBERTON rd.

INTERCOMM

5. HQ

Adv HQ will be established in vicinity hill 3400 (4187) by 0800 hrs 18 Dec.

W. Beck
 17 Dec 44
 G.S. 9/11/44

Distribution:
 2/9 Cav Regt
 Comd
 BM
 SO
 IO
 Sig O
 Chief umpire
 File
 War Diary
 Spares

1
 2
 3
 4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9-10 ✓
 11-15

OPENING NARRATIVE - INF FORCE

1. On 16 Dec the enemy launched a Bde attack on posns south of RAVENSHOE and the attack had some success but was finally held and considerable casualties were inflicted. There were indications, however, of further forces coming up to renew the attack and so comd decided that a withdrawal would probably be effected.
2. Preliminary arrangements were made during night 16/17 Dec and thinning out commenced at midday on 17 Dec. The posn was to be finally abandoned at last light 17 Dec. However, at 1400 hrs 17 Dec another attack was launched and 2/48 Bn who were still in posn suffered heavy casualties and the enemy captured the posn.
3. 2/23 and 2/24 Bns were then in the process of moving back under cover of 2/48 Bn as rearguard. This development caused Bde Comd to issue the attached Op Instr to COs of 2/23 and 2/24 Bns.

26 AUST INF BDE OP INSTR 5

SECRET

17 Dec 44

Copy No. 10

Ref Maps : MP GARNET 1 inch to 1 mile
PALMERSTON 1 inch to 1 mile
HERBERTON 1 inch to 1 mile.

INFM

1. Enemy

Approx two Bdes appear to be in RAVENSHOE area and are likely to follow up their successful attack as rapidly as possible.

2. Own Troops

- (a) Remainder of 9 Div are moving into the WONDECLA area, but will not be concentrated there until approx 20 Dec.
- (b) 26 Bde will withdraw to the general area of EVELYN ridge and occupy defensive posn there until the Div is ready to continue the attack.
- (c) 2/48 Bn have sustained fairly heavy casualties and will be withdrawn immediately to Bde pos.

ROLE

4. 2/23 Bn and 2/24 Bn will fight rearguard action to impose maximum delay on the enemy.

METHOD

5. Trps
Right : 2/23 Bn
Left : 2/24 Bn.

6. Boundary

- (a) 2/23 Bn incl HERBERTON rd to incl Inter-bn bdy.
- (b) 2/24 Bn excl Inter-bn bdy to incl ATHERTON rd.
- (c) Inter-bn bdy : 3400 feature 4187 - 3700 feature 400917 - cross rds 393977.

7. Holding Lines

- (a) The general line, 3600 feature 3792 - 3700 feature 400917 3600 feature 4292, will be denied to the enemy until 1900 hrs 18 Dec.

...../(b)

- (b) The general line 3700 feature 3595 - apex 384959 - twin knob feature 4296 will be denied to the enemy until 1900 hrs 19 Dec.
- (c) Actual delaying posns occupied by each Bn will be decided by respective COs, but they will ensure that the general Holding Lines are denied to the enemy until the time stated. Bns then be prepared to occupy def posn on EVELYN RIDGE.
- (d) 2/23 Bn incl rd junc 373979 to incl cross rds 393977, 2/24 Bn excl crossrds 393977 to incl ABERDEEN rd 414984.

INTERCOMN

8. Bde HQ

Bde HQ will be established vicinity re-entrant 393983 by 0800 hrs 18 Dec.

M. B. Terrence
 (M. B. TERRENCE) Maj.
 BN 26 Aust Inf Bn.

Distribution :

2/23 Aust Inf Bn	4
2/24 Aust Inf Bn	2
Comd	3
HM	4
SG	5
IO	6
Sig O	7
Chief Umpire	8
File	9
War Diary	10- 11 ✓
Spares	12- 15

FORECAST OF EVENTS

Order	Day	Time	Situation	Anticipated action	Remarks
1	18 Dec	0600	2/9 Cav Regt pass through RAVENHORN	Three sqns forward covering front	2/23 and 2/24 Bns in posn
2	18 Dec	0600-1900	2/9 Cav Regt held south of first holding line	Eight patrolling	2/23 and 2/24 bns withdraw after dark, concealing their withdrawal.
3	19 Dec	0600-1900	2/9 Cav Regt held south of second holding line	Patrolling finds withdrawal of enemy and possibly contacts main def posn.	2/23 and 2/24 Bns withdraw after dark to def posn on EVELYN RIDGE
4	20 Dec	0600-1000	Recece of def posn	Counter patrolling by 2/23 and 2/24 Bns	
5	20 Dec	1000-1200	Concentration of Regt to launch attack		2/23 and 2/24 Bns endeavour to collect infm of impending attack and prepare C/A role.
6	20 Dec	1300-1400	Attack launched with local success	C/A launched by Bn not engaged	
7	20 Dec	1400-1900	Cav Regt forced to withdraw	2/23 and 2/24 Bns follow up and attack withdrawing Regt	
8	21 Dec	0600-1400	Withdrawal action continues	Cav Regt makes firm stand	
9	21 Dec	1430	Exercise terminated		Units return to camp

War diary

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

3/2/44/152

9 Dec 44

2/9 Aust Cav (Commando) Regt.
2/23 Aust Inf Bn
2/24 Aust Inf Bn
2/48 Aust Inf Bn

26 AUST INF BDE JUNIOR OFFRS TACTICAL SCHOOL
NO.1

1. Object

It is intended to run one or more Tactical Schools for Junior Offrs to give them tactical trg on pl and coy basis.

2. Dates

The first course will begin at 0800 hrs 3 Jan 45 and will consist of 12 working days. Subsequent course will depend on time available.

3. Instructors

- (a) Instructors will be drawn from unit pers who have attended LHQ Tactical School, A or B wing. The following offrs will be required during the course :-

<u>O.L.</u>	Maj	TREBECK
<u>Coordinator</u>	Capt	WRIGHT
<u>Instrs</u>	Maj	McRAN
	Maj	WEBSTER
	Maj	MORPHETT
	Capt	VINES
	Capt	ROW
	Capt	ISSELL (if available)
	Capt	TRAVIS
	Lt	GOODEN
	Lt	GATHERALL

- (b) The above offrs will report to EM at Bde HQ at 0800 hrs Monday 11 Dec to discuss the syllabus, method of instr and preparation of work.

4. Students

The following students will attend :-

Each Bn	-	8 offrs
Each Cav Sqn	-	4 offrs
Total :		<u>36</u>

5. Location

The School will be held at Bde HQ, students reporting daily. A marquee tent is available as lecture room and cloth model room, and when exercises in the field are to be held tpt will be arranged by Bde HQ.

6. Syllabus

Syllabus is att as Appx "A".

...../7.

7. Adm

- (a) When exercises in the field are being held, out line-ups will be required by all students.
- (b) When the syllabus requires work in lecture room or cloth model, students will return to units for midday meal and, where applicable, evening meal. In such cases, Cav students will mess with Bns as follows :-

2/4 Sqn students with 2/23 Bn
11 Sqn students with 2/24 Bn
12 Sqn students with 2/48 Bn

8. Nominal Rolls

Nominal rolls of students attending will be submitted to Sds HQ by 1200 hrs 20 Dec 44.

C. B. Wright
(N.B. TRUMBULL) Maj.
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde

Copies to :
BM
Capt WRIGHT
SC
War Diary (2) ✓

SYLLABUS - TACTICAL SCHOOL

APPX 'A'

DAY	0800 - 0900	0900 - 1000	1015 - 1115	1115 - 1215	1400 - 1500	1500 - 1600	1900 - 2030
1	(0800-0830) Conduct of course and syndicates. Maj TREBECK	(0830-1000) Opening address and Principles of War. Brig WHITEHEAD	Organisation of an Inf Bn. L Lt GOODEN	Study of Ground (CM) GD Maj TREBECK	← Appreciations (CM) → L and GD Capt ROW		Written appreciations to be handed in by 0800 hrs. IE
2	← Inf Specialist Pls (Sig, MMG and Mortars) → GD Maj MORPHETT	The advance (CM) L and GD. Maj MORPHETT	Staff duties L Maj McLEOD	Attack L and GD Maj McRAE	← Orders → L Maj TREBECK		Written exercise to be handed in by 0800 hrs. IE
3	← Attack Open Warfare → CM Maj McRAE	Pd Arty L and GD. Capt ROW	Inf Specialist Pls (Tk A, Pnr) GD Maj MORPHETT	← Battle Procedure (CM) → L and GD Maj WEBSTER			
4	MG Bn L and GD Capt TRAVIS	Air Photos L Capt NELSON	← Attack Open Warfare → Maj McRAE Lt CATHERALL				Patrols L and GD Lt BUCKLEY
5	Defence (CM) Open Warfare L and GD Maj WEBSTER	Sub unit adrn L and GD Capt GEDDES Capt WRIGHT	Tk A Regt L and GD. Capt WRIGHT	Engrs. Organisation and equipment L and GD. Capt TRAVIS	← Defence Open Warfare → CM Maj WEBSTER		Defence Jungle. L and GD. Maj WEBSTER
	Pl and Coy Hygiene L Lt NICHOLAS	Military writing exercise IE Maj McLEOD	Quiz IE Capt WRIGHT	Preparation of TEWT and cloth model exercises. L and GD. Capt WRIGHT	Preparation of simple TEWT. IE Capt WRIGHT	Return and discussion of appreciations and Op Orders GD Maj TREBECK Capt ROW	

L = Lecture

GD = General Discussion

CM = Cloth Model

IE = Indoor Exercise

OE = Outdoor exercise

WD

RESTRICTED

The information given in this document is not to be communicated, either directly or indirectly, to the Press or to any person not authorised to receive it

HQ 26 AUST INF BDE
ROUTINE ORDERS
PART I

by

BRIG D A WHITEHEAD DSO MC ED COMMANDING 26 AUST INF BDE

No 31

In the Field

6 Dec 44

173. DRESS

1. Troops may now wear summer dress when proceeding on local leave; summer dress is defined as follows :-

(a) ORs

- Trousers and Shirt KD or JG
- Boots
- Anklets Web
- Belts Web
- Hats KF with puggaree and chin strap

(b) Officers

As for Officers' Club RAVENSHOE

2. Sweaters will NOT be worn as an outer garment by troops on leave.

3. Subunit commanders will ensure that all troops are thoroughly inspected and correctly dressed before proceeding on leave.

174. LOADING OF VEHES (GRO Q420/44)

1. The following veh loads of personnel will not be exceeded :-

Vehicle	Troops without Equipment	Troops in full Marching Order
Cars DS	6 incl driver	-
Jeeps	5 " "	-
Vans or Trucks 12 - 15 cwt	6 excl " "	6
Vans 1 ton	10 " "	8
Trucks 30 cwt	15 " "	12
Lorries or Trucks 5 ton	20 " "	16
" " " 7 ton		
semi trailer	35 " "	28

2. Personnel travelling in Army Vehicles will sit on seats or on the floor of the vehicles. It will be an offence for any individual to stand up in a moving vehicle, to sit on the roof of the cabin or on the canopy or to permit any portion of his person to project beyond the sides or rear of the vehicle.

3. The senior officer or NCO travelling in any vehicle is responsible that the vehicle in which he is travelling is not overloaded and that all personnel travelling in the vehicle are seated correctly. where no officer or NCO is travelling in a vehicle then the driver of the vehicle is responsible that it's carrying capacity is not exceeded and that personnel travelling in the vehicle are correctly seated.

175. TRAFFIC CONTROL

1. Attention is drawn to maximum speeds for vehicles as laid down in Bde HQ ROs of 26 Sep 44.

...../2.

2. Jeeps towing trailers are limited to a maximum speed of 25 mph.

3. Where signs limiting the speed limit are placed at the side of roads all vehs will adhere to the speed limit shown on such signs e.g. 20 MPH on MT GARNET from RAVENSHOE to Boundary of Camp Area, etc.

176. INCOME TAX - MEMBERS WITH DEPENDENTS RESIDENT OVERSEAS (GRO F431/44)

1. The Income Tax Assessment Act provides for rebates of tax in respect of a taxpayer's dependents resident in Australia.

2. Where a member of the AMF has married while serving overseas, rebates may be claimed in respect of his wife and of any children of the marriage, even if they are residing overseas. Such persons are, for this purpose, deemed to be domiciled in Australia.

3. No rebate will be allowed in respect of other dependents residing outside Australia.

177. LOSSES AND THEFT

Subunits will ensure that all cases of suspected theft are reported to this Hq immediately the loss is discovered.

178. PRIVATE COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING CASUALTIES (GRO A437/44)

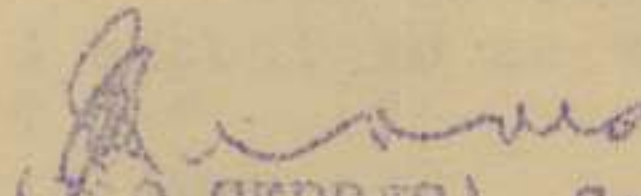
1. Private cables and telegrams reporting battle or other casualties are prohibited. In letters, no reference is to be made to any such casualty until after a period of one month from the date of its occurrence.

2. The prohibition and restriction imposed by para 1 hereof are not applicable to communications sent by a member relative to a casualty sustained by himself.

3. This order has been dictated by motives of consideration for the feelings of the relatives of members of the forces who, in many instances, have been caused unnecessary suffering and suspense through information contained in private correspondence from operational areas and which, in some cases, has proved to be inaccurate.

179. ANGAU - APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE DISTRICT SERVICES (GRO 417/44)

Attention is drawn to Bde HQ ROs of 26 Sep 44. Applications must be lodged with this Hq not later than 20 Dec 44.


(J. O. GEDDES) Capt
SQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution :

- Comd
- BM
- SC
- Camp
- CSM
- Gd Pl
- 26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec
- 2/78 Aust LAD
- TO
- Officers' Mess
- Sergeants' Mess
- ORs Mess
- File
- War Diary (2)

NOTICES

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
APPLICATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE AMF FOR STAFF APPOINTMENTS.

1. Any member of the AMF who is between the ages of 25 and 50 may apply for an appointment on UNR&RA Staff.
2. Successful applicants will be required to serve at a headquarters or in any area liberated by the United Nations.
3. Appointments to UNR&RA Staff will probably be of a comparatively short duration as it is expected that the administration will function only during the immediate post-war period.
4. The following is an outline of the more important activities of the administration; applicants should have some knowledge of these functions.
 - (a) Supply - general experience - trade procurement and distribution.
 - (b) Industrial rehabilitation.
 - (c) Agricultural rehabilitation.
 - (d) Transportation and warehousing
 - (e) Welfare and camp administration
 - (f) Displaced persons rehabilitation
5. Further details are available on application to the orderly room.

HQ 26 AUST INF BDE CANTEN
TRADING TRANSACTIONS

Period 31 Oct 44 - 30 Nov 44

<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Stock at beginning of period 57..16..1	Sales for period as per Sales Book 538..15..9
Purchases for period - less Discounts as per stock purchase Journal 515 ..12..0	Stock on hand at 30 Nov 44 58.. 8..9
Damaged stock written off 12..4	
Profit for period : Discounts recd £25.16.0	
Less Loss on trading incl stock 2..11.11	
23.. 4..1	
£597.. 4..6	£597.. 4..6

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES as at 30 Nov 44

<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>Assets</u>
Advance from GOCs Special Fund 60.. 0..0	Cash on hand as per Cash Book 43..17..2
Excess of Assets over Liabilities : Balance fwd from 29 Oct 44 £94..18..1	Balance to Cr of Canteen Trust A/c 83.. 7..0
Profit for period 23.. 4..1	Stock on hand at end of period 58.. 8..9
Stock delivered but NOT paid for 7..10..9	
£185..12..11	£185..12.11

...../we certify

We certify that we have examined the Cash Book, the Canteen Trust Account and vouchers relating to HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde Canteen Trust A/c and that in our opinion this statement correctly sets out the position of the funds as at 30 Nov 44.

[Handwritten signatures]

HQ 26 AUST INF BDE REGTL FUNDS

17 Oct 44 - 30 Nov 44

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
1944			
17 Oct	Balance in hand 41.. 6..2	Purchase eggs	15.. 3..6
27 Oct	Transfer funds ex	sausages	1.. 0..5
	5 Bde 5..5	marrow	16..0
	AACS Canteen profits	carrots	1.. 5..0
	Aug 4.. 5..1	swedes	10..0
	Sep 4..18..4	cabbage	13..0
	4 Pl 2/1 Aust Gd	pork	5.. 0..0
	Regt 8..17..5	mince	11..3
		Unit Dance Balalaeva Club	17..10..0
		Soft drinks for Dance	1..12..0
		Balance in hand	15..11..3
	<u>£57..12..5</u>		<u>£57..12..3</u>

Note : Following accounts outstanding :-

26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec	16.. 8..0
4 Pl 2/1 Aust Gd Regt	12..16..1
2/78 Aust LAD	6..15..1
Pro Sec	4..15..11
Dental Unit	10..8

We certify that we have examined the Unit Trust Book relating to HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde Regtl Funds and that in our opinion the balances are as shown in the Regtl Trust Fund A/cs.

[Handwritten signatures]

26 AUST INF BDE SIG SEC REGTL TRUST A/C

Balance as at 31 Oct 44	17.. 9..0	Expenditure for Nov	Nil
Receipts :			
From AACS Profits	5..17..6	Balance as at 30 Nov 44	21.. 6..6
	<u>£21.. 6..6</u>		<u>£21.. 6..6</u>

2/78 AUST LAD REGTL TRUST A/C

Balance as at 30 Nov 44 £15..13..3

(There were no receipts or expenditure during the month of November)

We certify that we have examined the Unit Trust Books relating to 26 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec Regtl Trust Fund and 2/78 Aust LAD Regtl Trust Fund and that in our opinion the balances are as shown in the Regtl Trust Fund A/cs.

[Handwritten signatures]