

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

Item number: 8/2/26

26 Infantry Brigade

May 1945, Daily Letters &
Operation Reports, part 3 of 3

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

162130I

TO : List C

G0281 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 162100I (.) enemy killed by 2/4 cdo sqn on AGNES yesterday identified as personnel from 3 coy 374 indep inf bn (.) recount this morning of enemy dead in this area totalled sixteen (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) 7 pl A coy patrolled to water's edge on eastern coast 654498 (.) no enemy seen but signs of recent withdrawal to NORTH along numerous small tracks square 4765 some scattered amm and food dumps were seen on AMAL track (.) coastal defns did not appear to have been occupied recently (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 bn at 1430I an air strike of 11 P 38s with NAPALM was made on DAISY and during the day this feature was shelled by both arty and naval gunfire (.) a coy recce patrol from FLORIS to DAISY during afternoon reported that the enemy had moved back from the feature (.) posn was occupied without opposition (.) evidence was seen of rapid evacuation (.) patrol from SADIE to DAISY linked with A coy on feature (.) a probable MDS was seen at 475674 (.) two pls are on DAISY at present (.) D coy standing patrol to NW spur of SYKES reported enemy were still on feature (.) C coy patrol moved from coy posn to 424674 and contacted 2/23 bn patrol along track at 425675 (.) 3 enemy were seen (.) patrol moved down spur to coy posn 430675 then patrolled fwd to SNAGS TRACK (.) enemy fired on pl from EAST of SUSIE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) B tp patrol on track from AGNES to SUSIE to 435678 saw no enemy (.) A and C tps no change (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 bn (.) A coy was relieved by B coy 2/23 bn (.) B coy which withdrew this morning WEST to allow air strike on 105 feature returned at 1145I to 419689 and were engaged by hy enemy fire (.) own cas 1 killed 4 wounded (.) B coy moved to 418690 (.) D coy captured ELBOW at 419684 (.) C coy 2/23 bn relieved D coy (.) 1 Dutch MMG was captured today (.) a patrol to 411721 then to 416731 in DJOETA OILFD area struck track 6 ft wide confirming Jap trace (.) track runs NORTH and SOUTH (.) no signs of recent use and no enemy seen (.) another C coy patrol to 416720 behind jap pocket moved along track 4 ft wide and cut sig wire at 414718 (.) patrol on return SW of enemy posn saw 3 japs (.) pl still in contact with enemy at 412718 (.) FOX SECTOR (.) C coy 2/23 bn relieved D coy 2/24 bn by 1530I (.) B coy patrol to 428679 saw 12 japs at approx 427680 (.) engaged enemy with fire (.) other patrols within area made no contact but found 2 dead japs in tunnel (.) pl A coy crossed SNAGS TRACK and occupied SW spur MARGY at 423683 and found remnants of 75 mm gun presumed to be one active on previous day (.) during day naval bombardment fired 628 rounds on DAISY 105 feature and 102 feature (.) approx 700 rounds were fired by 2/7 fd regt in sp of our tps (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn (.) tac HQ 404677 (.) A coy 422672 (.) pl 418668 (.) pl 415667 (.) B coy 425678 (.) pl 423681 (.) C coy 420683 (.) D coy 403672 (.) pl 411673 (.) pl 402678 (.) 2/24 bn (.) tac HQ 407684 (.) A coy 398692 (.) B coy 415689 (.) C coy 401717 (.) pl 412726 (.) D coy 412684 (.) 2/48 bn (.) tac HQ 433659 (.) A coy 462675 (.) pls DORRY ESME DAISY (.) B coy 442667 (.) pl DAISY (.) C coy 430675 (.) pls 428674 431675 (.) D coy SYKES (.) pl 428669 (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) tac HQ 470654 (.) A coy 476655 (.) pl 471654 (.) B coy FLUTE (.) C coy TIRAKAN (.) pl 459649 (.) D coy HELEN (.) pls SADIE 472657 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) HQ and A tp 443664 (.) B tp 438681 (.) C tp 436674 (.) enemy cas for period ending 162100I (.) counted dead 22 est additional dead nil progressive total 479 and 93

If liable to etc

W. H. Wright
Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

162130I

TO : List C

GO281 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 162100I (.) enemy killed by 2/4 cdo sqn on AGNES yesterday identified as personnel from 3 coy 374 indep inf bn (.) recount this morning of enemy dead in this area totalled sixteen (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) 7 pl A coy patrolled to water's edge on eastern coast 654498 (.) no enemy seen but signs of recent withdrawal to NORTH along numerous small tracks square 4765 some scattered amn and food dumps were seen on AMAL track (.) coastal defs did not appear to have been occupied recently (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 bn at 1430I an air strike of 11 P 38s with NAPALM was made on DAISY and during the day this feature was shelled by both arty and naval gunfire (.) A coy recce patrol from FLORIS to DAISY during afternoon reported that the enemy had moved back from the feature (.) posn was occupied without opposition (.) evidence was seen of rapid evacuation (.) patrol from SADIE to DAISY linked with A coy on feature (.) a probable MDS was seen at 475674 (.) two pls are on DAISY at present (.) D coy standing patrol to NW spur of SYKES reported enemy were still on feature (.) C coy patrol moved from coy posn to 424674 and contacted 2/23 bn patrol along track at 425675 (.) 3 enemy were seen (.) patrol moved down spur to coy posn 430675 then patrolled fwd to SNAGS TRACK (.) enemy fired on pl from EAST of SUSIE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) B tp patrol on track from AGNES to SUSIE to 435678 saw no enemy (.) A and C tps no change (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 bn (.) A coy was relieved by B coy 2/23 bn (.) B coy which withdrew this morning WEST to allow air strike on 105 feature returned at 1145I to 419689 and were engaged by hy enemy fire (.) own cas 1 killed 4 wounded (.) B coy moved to 418690 (.) D coy captured ELBOW at 419684 (.) C coy 2/23 bn relieved D coy (.) 1 Dutch MMG was captured today (.) a patrol to 411721 then to 416731 in DJOETA OILFD area struck track 6 ft wide confirming Jap trace (.) track runs NORTH and SOUTH (.) no signs of recent use and no enemy seen (.) another C coy patrol to 416720 behind jap packet moved along track 4 ft wide and cut sig wire at 414718 (.) patrol on return SW of enemy posn saw 3 japs (.) pl still in contact with enemy at 412718 (.) FOX SECTOR (.) C coy 2/23 bn relieved D coy 2/24 bn by 1530I (.) B coy patrol to 428679 saw 12 japs at approx 427680 (.) engaged enemy with fire (.) other patrols within area made no contact but found 2 dead japs in tunnel (.) pl A coy crossed SNAGS TRACK and occupied SW spur MARGY at 423683 and found remnants of 75 mm gun presumed to be one active on previous day (.) during day naval bombardment fired 628 rounds on DAISY 105 feature and 102 feature (.) approx 700 rounds were fired by 2/7 fd regt in sp of our tps (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn (.) tac HQ 404677 (.) A coy 422672 (.) pl 418668 (.) pl 415667 (.) B coy 425678 (.) pl 423681 (.) C coy 420683 (.) D coy 403672 (.) pl 411673 (.) pl 402678 (.) 2/24 bn (.) tac HQ 407684 (.) A coy 398692 (.) B coy 415689 (.) C coy 401717 (.) pl 412726 (.) D coy 412684 (.) 2/48 bn (.) tac HQ 433659 (.) A coy 462675 (.) pls DORRY ESME DAISY (.) B coy 442667 (.) pl DAISY (.) C coy 430675 (.) pls 428674 431675 (.) D coy SYKES (.) pl 428669 (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) tac HQ 470654 (.) A coy 476655 (.) pl 472654 (.) B coy FLUTE (.) C coy TARAKAN (.) pl 459649 (.) D coy HELEN (.) pls SADIE 472657 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) HQ and A tp 443664 (.) B tp 438681 (.) C tp 436674 (.) enemy cas for period ending 162100I (.) counted dead 22 est additional dead nil progressive total 479 and 93

If liable to etc

W. H. Wright
Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

162200I

TO : List B

G0318 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 17 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will (a) clear SNAGS TRACK to 431679 (b) attack and capture FREDa (c) after air strike and NOT before 1200I attack and capture MARGY (d) relieve 2/24 bn of SNAGS TRACK from ANZAC HIGHWAY to the ELBOW (e) continue responsibility for FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue responsibility for GEORGE SECTOR NORTH of SNAGS TRACK (b) carry out patrols to the EAST of ANZAC HIGHWAY between SNAGS TRACK and DJOETA OILFDS with a view to finding suitable approaches to TRIG 105 CLARICE and HILDA from the NORTH (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) continue task of clearing SNAGS TRACK EAST of OSTRICH (b) establish one coy at ESME with task of patrolling to the NORTH with a view to establishing extent of enemy defs and suitable approaches to his defs (c) be relieved of all responsibility in BAKER SECTOR SOUTH of ESME (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will (a) establish one coy in HELEN area with the task of patrolling all tracks to the NORTH and EAST as far NORTH as ESME (b) assume responsibility for security and mopping up in BAKER SECTOR except for ESME area (c) establish one coy on FINCH (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) by 170800I withdraw C tp from present posn to approx 440672 to enable 2/48 bn to shell SUSIE (b) patrol tracks to WEST of AGNES as far as 43 grid line (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will patrol all tracks to the NORTH as far as JOHNS TRACK (.) SEVEN (.) (a) a maximum NAPALM air strike has been arranged on TRIG 105 NOT before 1100I NOT after 1200I (b) run will be line FREDa - MARGY - TRIG 105 (c) fluorescent panels will be displayed by 2/24 bn on CRAZY RIDGE and 2/23 bn on ELBOW (d) 2/24 bn will indicate target with mor smoke (e) bomb line SNAGS TRACK (.) EIGHT (.) (a) naval bombardment will be made on TRIG 105 - MARGY NOT before 0830I NOT after 1030I (b) during afternoon other bombardments will be made on CLARICE and LINDA

If liable to etc

11/11/44

Maj

War Diary

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

162200I

TO : List B

GO318 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 17 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will (a) clear SNAGS TRACK to 431679 (b) attack and capture FREDa (c) after air strike and NOT before 1200I attack and capture MARGY (d) relieve 2/24 bn of SNAGS TRACK from ANZAC HIGHWAY to the ELBOW (e) continue responsibility for FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue responsibility for GEORGE SECTOR NORTH of SNAGS TRACK (b) carry out patrols to the EAST of ANZAC HIGHWAY between SNAGS TRACK and DJOETA OILFDS with a view to finding suitable approaches to TRIG 105 CLARICE and HILDA from the NORTH (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) continue task of clearing SNAGS TRACK EAST of OSTRICH (b) establish one coy at ESME with task of patrolling to the NORTH with a view to establishing extent of enemy defs and suitable approaches to his defs (c) be relieved of all responsibility in BAKER SECTOR SOUTH of ESME (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will (a) establish one coy in HELEN area with the task of patrolling all tracks to the NORTH and EAST as far NORTH as ESME (b) assume responsibility for security and mopping up in BAKER SECTOR except for ESME area (c) establish one coy on FINCH (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) by 170800I withdraw C tp from present posn to approx 440672 to enable 2/48 bn to shell SUSIE (b) patrol tracks to WEST of AGNES as far as 43 grid line (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will patrol all tracks to the NORTH as far as JOHNS TRACK (.) SEVEN (.) (a) a maximum NAPALM air strike has been arranged on TRIG 105 NOT before 1100I NOT after 1200I (b) run will be line FREDa - MARGY - TRIG 105 (c) fluorescent panels will be displayed by 2/24 bn on CRAZY RIDGE and 2/23 bn on ELBOW (d) 2/24 bn will indicate target with mor smoke (e) bomb line SNAGS TRACK (.) EIGHT (.) (a) naval bombardment will be made on TRIG 105 - MARGY NOT before 0830I NOT after 1030I (b) during afternoon other bombardments will be made on CLARICE and LINDA

If liable to etc

11/11/44

Maj

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

162200I

TO : List B

G0318 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 17 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will (a) clear SNAGS TRACK to 431679 (b) attack and capture FREDA (c) after air strike and NOT before 1200I attack and capture MARGY (d) relieve 2/24 bn of SNAGS TRACK from ANZAC HIGHWAY to the ELBOW (e) continue responsibility for FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue responsibility for GEORGE SECTOR NORTH of SNAGS TRACK (b) carry out patrols to the EAST of ANZAC HIGHWAY between SNAGS TRACK and DJOETA OILFDS with a view to finding suitable approaches to TRIG 105 CLARICE and HILDA from the NORTH (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) continue task of clearing SNAGS TRACK EAST of OSTRICH (b) establish one coy at ESME with task of patrolling to the NORTH with a view to establishing extent of enemy defs and suitable approaches to his defs (c) be relieved of all responsibility in BAKER SECTOR SOUTH of ESME (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will (a) establish one coy in HELEN area with the task of patrolling all tracks to the NORTH and EAST as far NORTH as ESME (b) assume responsibility for security and mopping up in BAKER SECTOR except for ESME area (c) establish one coy on FINCH (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) by 170800I withdraw C tp from present posn to approx 440672 to enable 2/48 bn to shell SUSIE (b) patrol tracks to WEST of AGNES as far as 43 grid line (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will patrol all tracks to the NORTH as far as JOHNS TRACK (.) SEVEN (.) (a) a maximum NAPALM air strike has been arranged on TRIG 105 NOT before 1100I NOT after 1200I (b) run will be line FREDA - MARGY - TRIG 105 (c) fluorescent panels will be displayed by 2/24 bn on CRAZY RIDGE and 2/23 bn on ELBOW (d) 2/24 bn will indicate target with mor smoke (e) bomb line SNAGS TRACK (.) EIGHT (.) (a) naval bombardment will be made on TRIG 105 - MARGY NOT before 0830I NOT after 1030I (b) during afternoon other bombardments will be made on CLARICE and LINDA

If liable to etc

Maj 11th Tdn

Maj

War Diary (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

From: 26 Inf Bde
To: List C

112130I

GO240 (.) SECRET (.) Revisit to 112100I (.) right sector (.) two coy
 on 1 bn NEI inf cleared area squares 4560 4559 and WEST of KAROENGAN
 river in square 4659 NO mov seen (.) sawmills at KAROENGAN were
 completely destroyed by Japs (.) at 1100I pl C coy 2/3 pnr bn moved
 NORTH from 472658 and attacked enemy posns ring contour 60 472658 (.)
 attack NOT successful as enemy had reinforced the posn since yesterday (.)
 own cas 2 KIA 2 WIA (.) enemy also holding in str ring contour 60 475658
 to SSE crossing track at 476654 posns also held SOUTH of JOHNS TRACK
 from this pt extent NOT known (.) by 1400I A and D coys 2/3 pnr bn had
 relieved B and C coys respectively (.) 2/4 cdo sqn C tp remained in
 contact with enemy SNAGS TRACK 436673 (.) A tp on ring contour 70 438681
 sent recce patrol to 433676 NO mov seen by going thick undergrowth
 prevented patrol reaching SNAGS TRACK (.) 2/48 bn patrols (.) A coy (.)
 one patrol moved to trig 67 at 463675 cut Jap track noted signs large
 number Japs had moved in NW direction (.) second patrol moved to 463669
 found slightly used track killed one stray Jap (.) third patrol moved
 to creek junc 423664 failed to locate Jap track (.) C coy patrol oper-
 ating from LYONS reced feature to WEST and SE NO mov seen (.) D coy
 patrol moved due WEST from SYKES to BUTCH found several Japs on track
 killed two wounded one continued NE noted about ten Japs on ridge at
 427668 attempted to encircle and attack but found ground unfavourable
 came under hy fire and retired NO cas (.) left sector (.) 2/24 bn (.)
 B coy (.) one patrol from 411689 to trig 105 NO mov seen withdrew to
 418689 to enable night HF tasks to be carried out (.) second patrol
 cleared enemy off spur 412685 assisted by flame throwers enemy withdrew
 NO cas patrol occupied posn (.) C coy patrol moved along main rd to
 OILFDS and were ambushed at 410722 by estimated enemy str of 10 NO cas (.)
 patrol withdrew and a larger fighting patrol sent to same area found
 enemy had withdrawn (.) D coy patrol cleared enemy from spur running
 EAST WEST 413682 own cas 1 killed 1 wounded NO enemy (.) A coy (.)
 one patrol cut SNAGS TRACK at 417684 NO mov seen (.) second patrol
 cut the track at 418684 observed 2 cars DS and 3 trucks and a track
 running up spur to trig 105 (.) third patrol cut track at 419684
 observed unoccupied enemy posns at track bend 420685 NO mov seen (.)
 fourth patrol moved down EAST WEST spur running parallel to and SOUTH
 of SNAGS TRACK and contacted enemy posns at 414684 that were delaying
 D coy adv along the track (.) patrol acted as block to prevent enemy
 moving back up spur (.) 2/23 bn local recce patrol (.) FOX sector (.)
 located native church used by Japs as sup pt at 411662 native report
 Japs in village 420667 recce patrol to investigate first lt tomorrow (.)
 at 0830I air strike carried out on enemy def posns area of track bend
 424679 (.) naval bombardment on targets 417683 417687 430690 and 438693
 (.) engrs report (.) two jetties at PENINGKI one at 464588 badly damaged
 one at 462602 950 ft long in good condition (.) 140 mines neutralized
 today (.) locations (.) Bde HQ 427654 (.) 2/23 bn (.) HQ 404677 (.)
 A coy 415665 one pl 414661 one pl 418661 (.) B coy 403678 one pl 406679
 one pl 402678 (.) C coy 412672 (.) D coy 403672 one pl 406672 one pl
 403673 (.) 2/24 bn (.) HQ 403672 (.) A coy 416683 one pl 415683 (.)
 B coy 411689 one pl 412685 one pl 418690 one pl 413686 (.) C coy 400717
 one pl 402718 one pl 395717 D coy 408682 one pl 413682 (.) 2/48 bn (.)
 HQ 443659 (.) A coy 448669 (.) B coy 442667 (.) C coy LYONS (.) D coy
 SYKES one pl 437662 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) HQ 441663 (.) A tp 439682 (.)
 B tp 441663 (.) C tp 436674 (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) HQ and A coy 472654 (.)
 B coy EVANS (.) C coy TARAKAN feature (.) D coy 472656 (.) D coy 2/2 MG
 bn and 2 coy 1 bn NEI inf NO change (.) progressive totals jap cas (.)
 counted dead 373 (.) estimated additional dead 66 (.) PW 5

If liable to etc

M J Russell Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

122200I

TO : List C

G0251 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 122100I (.) CHARLIE SECTOR 2 coy 1 bn NMI inf (.) coy attempted to cross KAROENGAN this morning but were unable to do so will cross by other means tomorrow (.) pl searched DINGO area and SE to ring contour 90 no enemy seen (.) 2 pls searched general area EAST of BEVIS HIGHWAY to 47 grid and NORTH to 62 grid no enemy seen (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) D coy attack against ring contour 60 overran fwd enemy posns approx 16 enemy killed (.) bayonet attack halted by LMGs and HMGs sited in depth (.) withdrew to more favourable ground to allow more to harrass ridge (.) C coy patrol from DISTRICT I to gen area DISTRICT VI saw no enemy (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) B tp patrolled SOUTH and SW in attempt to cut track EAST of enemy posn 434674 (.) in all three attempts were made at 433676 432677 432679 without success due to enemy posns overlooking track (.) at 432679 a pimple was seen on track at 430679 approx 50 ft high and well developed by enemy (.) from these patrols it is apparent enemy is holding in str from 434674 NE along ridge dominating track to pimple at 430679 (.) 2/48 bn (.) B coy pl moved to 467672 and enemy voices were heard approx 200 yds NORTH (.) recce was made NORTH to 467674 est 10 to 20 enemy in area pl remaining 467672 overnight (.) pl from A coy cut track 461677 remaining there overnight track had been used considerably since rain and many footprints led SOUTH (.) A coy HQ moved to 461677 (.) D coy (.) pl patrolled to 428669 killed 1 enemy (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 bn continued local recce patrols (.) 2/24 bn DOG SECTOR (.) A coy patrol to 413678 thence to 417675 to 419674 to 423678 no mov seen (.) B coy patrol to 105 feature got to within 70 yds of feature fired on by enemy (.) withdrew to allow shelling of feature (.) C coy pl to 411721 supported by tks (.) engaged enemy with a rty mor and BESA fire (.) enemy withdrew pl occupied posn snipers reported firing from 408726 (.) D coy (.) enemy reoccupied posns at 413682 on northern slopes of ridge below our posn (.) posn heavily mortared by us (.) locations (.) following locations changed since revsit of 122100I (.) 2/23 bn (.) A coy HQ 410665 pl 418668 (.) pl 415667 (1) 2/24 bn (.) A coy pl 415633 (.) B coy (.) pl 418690 (.) pl 413686 (.) C coy (.) pl 411721 (.) D coy (.) pl 413682 (.) 2/48 bn (.) A coy (.) pl 461678 (.) B coy (.) pl 463663 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) sqn HQ 443664 (.) A tp 434678 (.) B tp 443664 (.) NMI (.) in area 450600 to 460590 (.) total enemy cas counted dead 392 estimated additional dead 68 PW 5

If liable to etc

[Handwritten signature]

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

132200I

TO : List C

G0856 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 132100I (.) BAKER SECTOR (.) 2/3 par bn
 (.) A coy attacked HELEN and SADDIM features after by naval and arty cons
 and air bombing (.) the coy gained the false crest below main feature
 but were unable to capture top of feature as enemy pulled back and engaged
 fwd pl with hy LMG fire and grenades (.) A coy posn now 472656 in this
 area enemy appeared well equipped and some bunkers were barricaded with
 bags of rice (.) B coy moved to vicinity creek junc 473664 with intention
 of moving down NORTH SOUTH track to engage enemy in rear (.) coy was
 unable to locate track (.) enemy cas not known (.) CHARLIE SECTOR (.) 2
 coy 1 bn NEI inf landing craft moved coy to CAPE BASIN coy landed at
 jetty and fo und four SLs demolished except for one generator (.) signs
 were seen of recent enemy occupation but no enemy contacted (.) coy
 cleared SPIKE SPEAR and PEACH 2 dead enemy found (.) at CAPE BATOE
 496592 a number of six in shells and 75 mm shells were found but no guns
 2 demolished dutch radar installations were found but no enemy were seen
 in this area (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/4 cdo sqn at approx 1200I A tp moved
 SOUTH towards SUSIE (.) enemy on feature engaged our tps with 30 mor
 bombs then two parties of approx 20 each moved fwd to attack tp (.) tp
 moved back to AGNES (.) no sign of enemy was seen here after 1600I (.) B
 and C tps no change (.) 2/48 inf bn (.) B coy patrol est a strong block
 at pt on track near DORRY (.) A coy patrol killed 1 enemy and wounded 1
 near ESME (.) patrols from DORRY and ESME contacted on track at approx
 462676 (.) patrol from D coy to BUTCH in search of 4 to 5 enemy known to
 be in area saw no sign (.) enemy cas 7 killed 1 probagle (.) FOX SECTOR
 (.) 2/23 inf bn (.) A coy patrol to 426678 found enemy in str in JANET
 area (.) D coy patrol 418683 saw no enemy (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 inf
 bn (.) B coy patrol to 105 feature saw 2 enemy in area 11 pl B coy
 assisted by one other pl moved to 413686 at 1830I after tks had destroyed
 enemy posns in this area which were also neutralised by hy fire from bns
 supporting weapons (.) enemy counter attacked but pl remained in occupati
 tion of posn (.) G coy patrolled to 400726 NE alonged thence to 396722
 to 397719 saw no enemy (.) enemy cas 4 killed (.) PT boats today brought
 back 4 Psw from NOENOKAN island (.) prisoners had been held by natives
 after being wrecked in this area until PT patrol called at island (.)
 locations (.) following locations have changed since revsit to 132100I
 (.) 2/24 bn HQ 406683 (.) A coy pl 420684 (.) 2/48 bn (.) A coy HQ
 461677 (.) pl 451668 (.) pl 452668 (.) B coy pl 465673 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn
 A tp 438681 (.) enemy cas for 24 hrs ending 132100I (.) counted dead 16
 est additional dead 16 progressive totals 409 and 84

If liable to etc

M. Wright
Capt.

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

142200I

TO : List C

G0262 (.) ^{SECRET (.)} /revisit to 142100I (.) BAKER SECTOR (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) this morning by arty and naval conca were brought down on SADIE and HELEN as part of softening up policy in this strongly held enemy area (.) patrols were sent SOUTH and EAST of HELEN from coy base at ALICE (.) at approx 1430I an air strike was made by 16 P38s and 3 B25s on HELEN and SADIE features (.) recce by AUSTER plane showed that NAPALM had scarred features along ridge at 470660 471659 472658 470657 474659 to 471655 (.) large burnt out areas were also seen at 475656 and 476655 (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 bn (.) 8 Pl of A coy which was moving this afternoon to DAISY found that although feature was clear of enemy during morning posn had been occupied by 15 - 20 enemy during afternoon (.) pl moved to feature 400 yds WEST of DAISY to consolidate for night (.) a patrol from SYKES area moved out NW along spur and contacted enemy 300 yds from SYKES feature (.) 18 pl patrol from D coy cleared BUTCH and took up posn tonight at approx 428669 patrol to OSTRICH contacted no enemy and C coy are now in posn on feature (.) enemy cas 1 killed own cas nil (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) patrols during day to SUSIE feature heard considerable noise in that area and saw enemy mov on that posn (.) a small enemy party digging in at 436679 had 3 cas inflicted on them by A tp protective patrol (.) B tp relieved A tp on AGNES this morning (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 bn (.) C coy 13 pl engaged enemy est 30 strong with 3 LMGs astride track at 413777 (.) pl patrolled to the flanks but did not locate enemy flanks 1 tk moved by rd to pt 408719 and fired on enemy posns nearing last light (.) results not known (.) A coy relieved by C coy 2/23 bn moved to high ground at 421684 (.) A coy patrol from 415683 moved to track at 417684 thence EAST to track bend (.) 25 enemy were observed from 422686 moving in NNW direction (.) patrol notified D coy pl with tks at 417685 (.) pl ambushed enemy assisted by tk fire and killed 14 own cas nil (.) track between 418684 to 420615 requires considerable work to be made jeepable (.) D coy have moved to 414684 (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 bn (.) patrol from RIPPON to MAJOR to PATTY to contact enemy seen on former patrol saw no enemy (.) C coy patrol to SNAGS TRACK area 424678 to 421681 heard enemy felling timber in area 425678 (.) engns blew amm dump in FOX SECTOR at 409662 containing 75 and 105 mm shells (.) own cas nil enemy cas nil (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn (.) tac HQ 404677 (.) main 412654 (.) A coy HQ 410665 (.) pl 418668 (.) pl 415667 (.) B coy HQ 403678 (.) pl 406679 (.) pl 402678 (.) C coy HQ 414681 (.) pl 414683 (.) pl 413650 (.) pl 415683 (.) D coy HQ 403672 (.) pl 406672 (.) pl 403673 (.) pl 411673 (.) 2/24 bn (.) tac HQ 407684 (.) A coy HQ 421682 (.) pl 420684 (.) B coy HQ 418690 (.) pl 412685 (.) pl 418690 (.) pl 413686 (.) C coy HQ 401718 (.) pl 412719 (.) pl 397718 (.) pl 401717 (.) D coy HQ 415684 (.) 2/48 bn (.) tac HQ 443659 (.) main 425653 (.) A coy HQ 462675 (.) pl DORRY (.) pl 473667 (.) B coy HQ 442667 (.) C coy HQ 427673 (.) D coy HQ SYKES (.) 2 pl SYKES (.) pl 428669 (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) tac HQ and D coy 470654 (.) A coy 467656 (.) B coy FLUTE (.) C coy TARAKAN (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) HQ and A tp 443664 (.) B tp 438681 (.) C tp 436674 (.) enemy cas for 24 hrs ending 142100I (.) counted dead 21 est additional dead nil progressive totals 430 and 84

If liable to e to

[Handwritten signature]

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

152200I

TO : List B

GO266 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 152100I (.) CHARLIE SECTOR (.) 2 coy
 1 bn NEI inf (.) coy in area 450601 (.) the area SOUTH of the 62
 grid line has been searched and no enemy contacted (.) BAKER SECTOR
 (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) following the hy arty naval and air strikes on
 HELEN and SADIE 14 may 45 the enemy withdrew and these two features
 were both occupied by D coy by 151100I (.) patrol from A coy moved
 EAST along JOHNS TRACK to AMAL pl reported well prepared enemy posn
 at 479654 consisting of trench and bunker system posn showed sign of
 hasty enemy withdrawal (.) at 484654 patrol moved down southern track
 to 481648 buildings were seen in the area but no enemy contacted (.)
 B coy patrol from FLUTE to ALICE saw no enemy (.) D coy patrol NORTH
 along track to creek 475663 to lower slopes of DAISY 475664 approx
 found vacated enemy bivouac area (.) no enemy seen (.) DOG SECTOR (.)
 2/48 bn (.) pl A coy patrolled to DAISY from DORRY (.) reported enemy
 still in occupation and digging in (.) A coy pl moved to FLORIS this
 afternoon and are now holding feature (.) C coy are now holding
 OSTRICH feature (.) enemy cas for the day 12 killed 3 probables (.)
 2/4 cdo sqn (.) patrol to FREDA found enemy in area also on ridge
 between AGNES and SUSIE (.) enemy disappeared in direction of SUSIE
 (.) at 1600I the enemy attacked AGNES with approx 30 men using LMGs
 and mors in sp (.) the enemy charged our posn but the attack was
 repelled enemy cas 8 killed own cas 3 wounded (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.)
 2/24 bn (.) A coy patrol reached posn 427679 where enemy fire from
 LMGs was encountered (.) the B coy patrol to 105 feature was held up
 by enemy fire from a pprox 419690 (.) pl dug in at this posn (.) C coy
 no change (.) D coy attacked feature 419684 with pl (.) pl came under
 fire from 75mm and pulled back to allow arty to shell posn (.) enemy
 gun was pinpointed at 421684 (.) enemy cas 7 killed 4 probables (.)
 FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 bn (.) patrolled extensively in their sector (.)
 no enemy was seen (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn (.) tac HQ 404677 (.) A
 coy 410665 (.) pl 418667 (.) pl 415667 (.) B coy 403678 (.) pl 406679
 (.) pl 402678 (.) C coy 414681 (.) pl 414683 (.) pl 413680 (.) pl
 415683 (.) D coy 411673 (.) 2/24 bn (.) tac HQ 407684 (.) A coy
 425680 (.) pl 420684 (.) B coy 416690 (.) pl 412685 (.) pl 419690 (.)
 pl 401717 (.) D coy 415684 (.) 2/48 bn (.) tac HQ 443659 (.) A coy
 462675 (.) B coy 442667 (.) C coy 427673 (.) D coy SYKES (.) pl
 428669 (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) tac HQ 470654 (.) A coy 476655 (.) B coy
 FLUTE (.) C coy TARAKAN (.) D coy HELEN SADIE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) HQ
 443664 (.) A tp 443664 (.) B tp 438681 (.) C tp 436674 (.) NEI area
 450601 (.) 2/2 MG bn D coy 428653 (.) enemy cas for 24 hrs ending
 152100I counted dead 27 est additional dead 7 (.) progressive totals
 457 and 93 (.) enemy mined rd and airstrip - DJOETA during night
 14/15 may (.) in future an early morning sweep of this rd will be
 made daily (.) two RAAF vehs blown up on these mines (.) SNAKS TRACK
 (.) no work commenced yet on track (.) enemy attempt to mine this rd
 in daylight stopped by inf fire (.) one 75mm shell set as antipersonnel
 at 401687 (.) as this area was swept by protectors yesterday mine was
 apparently laid during night 14/15 may

If liable to etc

M. D. Wright
 Capt.

W.D.

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

172100I

TO : List C

GO284 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 172100I (.) CHARLIE SECTOR (.) 2 coy 1 bn NEI inf have cleared areas SOUTH of EAST WEST grid line 62 (.) NO enemy sighted but signs of recent occupation (.) coy HQ and two pls now located DINGO 4662 one pl THORN (.) patrol today to trig 90 476624 NO details (.) BAKER SECTOR (.) 2/3 pnr bn A coy moved to FINCH (.) B coy patrol from FLUTE to ALICE NO mov seen (.) D coy patrol from 474664 to 476664 to DAISY NO mov seen (.) further patrol D coy from track junc 482655 to 484673 (.) NO mov seen but many abandoned def posns in area 482656 to main EAST spur of SADIE (.) recent footprints in PHILLIS creek swamp going NORTH (.) 2/48 bn (.) B coy HQ and 10 pl now at trig 67 map ref 462676 (.) 12 pl ESME (.) 11 pl patrolled NORTH along track to pt 459679 thence to spur NW ESME crossed two creeks and a third at 456688 (.) this track well used and by going patrol returned after reaching pt 455685 NO mov seen (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 bn (.) 14 pl C coy patrol contacted enemy at 430674 killing 5 own cas 1 killed (.) D coy patrol on OTWAY to knoll at 438668 thence to knoll at 438670 (.) 2 enemy moved off this feature (.) patrol then cleared through to A coy 443667 (.) 2/23 bn (.) C coy 13 pl patrol out at 1030I along track off SNAGS TRACK at 420684 towards MARGY met sniper fire at 423685 and came under LMG fire patrol withdrew and ambushed at 422685 but suffered NO cas (.) patrol located enemy posn 425679 appeared to have been evacuated hurriedly (.) posn apparently redent gun site gun shield 75mm shells and SAA found (.) one enemy dead in foxhole (.) tunnel located vicinity 421684 facing MARGY (.) two enemy dead at tunnel (.) B coy attack on 427679 repulsed by enemy with one HMG two LMGs and rifle fire (.) NO cas (.) 2/4 cdo sqn B tp patrolled to CLARICE reached 433685 found two naval enemy dead in foxhole (.) sounds of enemy activity up spur towards CLARICE (.) further patrol to LINDA reached pt 439686 (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 bn (.) C coy patrol report sawmill complete with diesel engines circular saws benches and timber and apparently in good working order DJOETA village 389721 (.) during night enemy laid 75mm fused shells br 399703 DJOETA rd but shells failed to explode (.) A coy est standing patrol at 405695 (.) B coy patrol to trig 105 enemy still in occupation (.) C coy patrol from 405696 to 419702 struck freshly dug posns occupied by enemy (.) two enemy sighted moving SOUTH at 409700 (.) D coy moved to 393720 (.) tac HQ moved to 400718 (.) E tp 57 bty arrived from SADAU island during afternoon and est at 435637 (.) naval bombardment for 17 may (.) at 1500I 107 five in on trig 105 feature and 423688 (.) result area well covered an explosion believed to be amn dump smoke rising to 400 ft (.) at 1605I 253 five in on LINDA (.) result area well covered (.) fire directed by air OPO (.) NO direct air sp for 17 may as aircraft staging area airfd temporarily unserviceable (.) engr report (.) SNAGS TRACK now passable to jeeps to 417684 and 100 yds beyond (.) two bull dozers working on land slide from that pt to ELBOW (.) enemy cas for period ending 172100I (.) counted dead 15 (.) est additional dead 1 (.) progressive totals 494 and 94 (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn tac HQ 407683 (.) A coy 423673 (.) B coy 425679 (.) pl 425679 pl 423681 (.) C coy 420683 pl 420684 pl 421683 pl 420682 (.) D coy 403 672 pl 403673 pl 411673 (.) 2/24 bn tac HQ 400718 (.) A coy 398692 (.) B coy 416689 (.) C coy 411720 (.) D coy 394720 (.) 2/48 bn tac HQ 443659 (.) A coy 442667 (.) B coy trig 67 pl ESME pl DORRY (.) C coy 427673 pl 426672 pl 428675 (.) D coy SYKES pl 429668 (.) 2/3 pnr bn tac HQ 443643 (.) A coy FINCH (.) B coy FLUTE pl ALICE (.) C coy TARAKAN HILL pl 459640 (.) D coy 472654 pl SADIE pl 472654 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn tac HQ and A tp 442664 (.) B tp 438681 (.) C tp 436673 (.) 2 coy 1 bn NEI inf tac HQ and two pls DINGO pl THORN

If liable to etc

W. J. Brown
Lieut.

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

182200I

TO : List C

G0289 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 182100I (.) BAKER SECTOR (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) coy patrol from SADIE SE to 418655 then NORTH to 483665 saw no enemy (.) no enemy were killed in this sector during the day (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 inf bn C coy attack on MARGY was met by hy fire from ridge to NORTH of the feature incl shelling from a 75mm gun (.) C coy occupying area 420683 (.) at 1430I bombing by P 38s on 105 was observed by C coy (.) 6 to 7 Japs were seen running about in the bombed area (.) enemy is still in possession of JANET (.) enemy eqpt captured today incl AA binoculars with mounting at 419683 (.) enemy cas 2 killed own cas 2 wounded (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 inf bn (.) B coy patrol which reached 451689 at track junc SOUTH of LAURA continued adv to 102 feature and found it unoccupied (.) track to this feature was well defined and showed no sign of recent use since rain (.) 30 to 40 well constructed shelters and 1 sniper's post seen in area (.) patrol occupied feature a nd at last lt B coy less 1 pl were in posn at 447692 (.) P1 C coy to 429671 to 431672 contacted 4 enemy and killed 2 (.) pl which sent fwd recce patrols from firm base at 430676 to observe enemy mov on SNAGS TRACK returned to coy posn at OSTRICH tonight (.) considerable enemy activity was seen on track (.) enemy cas during day 4 killed 2 probable (.) own cas 1 wounded (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 inf bn (.) following by air strike B coy attacked and captured enemy posn on 105 feature (.) complete/ or enemy dead not yet known (.) many unoccupied posns were found (.) coy now patrolling EAST and SE (.) C coy patrol from 412718 to track 417718 saw 1 Jap on track (.) cas for day (.) own 2 wounded enemy 2 killed (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/4 cdo sgn (.) patrol saw 6 Japs on spur 434682 (.) enemy moving towards FREDa (.) enemy posns were located at 439686 (.) high tree has been found on AGNES giving good observation of FREDa CLARICE and LINDA (.) enemy cas 2 killed (.) 2 Psw trying to escape from TARAKAN by boat were captured by natives (.) interrogation proceeding (.) naval bombardment (.) targets engaged feature 105 and MARGY (.) 200 shells fired (.) air strikes (.) 1230I to 1300I 18 B 24s with 288 250 prs bombed feature 105 (.) result 90% bombs on target (.) 1335I 9 P38s with NAPALM on feature 105 (.) result (.) all bombs on target and tps occupied feature without opposition (.) locations (.) 2/23 inf bn tac HQ 407683 (.) A coy 423673 pls 418668 415667 (.) B coy 425679 pl 423681 (.) C coy 420683 (.) D coy 403672 pls 411673 402678 (.) 2/24 inf bn tac HQ 400718 (.) A coy 398692 (.) B coy 421689 (.) C coy 411720 pl 412718 (.) D coy 394720 (.) 2/48 inf bn tac HQ 443659 (.) A coy 442667 (.) B coy 447692 pl ESME (.) C coy 427675 pls 426672 428675 (.) D coy SYKES pl 429668 (.) 2/3 pnr bn tac HQ 443648 (.) A coy FINCH (.) B coy FLUTE pl ALICE (.) C coy 472654 pl SADIE (.) D coy TARAKAN HILL pl 455649 (.) 2/4 cdo sq n tac HQ 442664 (.) A tp 442664 (.) B tp 438681 (.) C tp 436673 (.) total enemy cas for 24 hrs ending 181900I (.) counted dead 8 est additional dead 2 progressive total 502 and 96

If liable to etc

list not cap

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

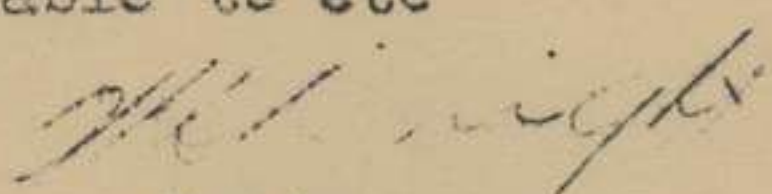
FROM : 26 INF BDE

192130I

TO : List C

GO295 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 191900I (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) patrolled actively in BAKER SECTOR no enemy mov seen (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 inf bn (.) B coy in general area 102 feature with one pl. LAURA (.) pl patrol WEST from coy area found enemy in str 150 yds along track engaged enemy killed 2 probable 1 (.) own cas 1 killed (.) A coy patrol to CLARICE engaged enemy SE of feature (.) enemy now hold this posn in str (.) enemy cas 1 killed 1 probable (.) patrol C coy to posn occupied yesterday overlooking SNAGS TRACK saw considerable enemy mov along rd (.) enemy believed to be building store dump at 432675 (.) D coy 2/48 inf bn relieved by A tp 2/4 cdo sqn on SYKES (.) attack was made on FREDa but owing to difficulty of approach enemy was contacted on CLARICE (.) FREDa still held by enemy (.) B coy moved fwd to eastern knoll 105 feature and met by fire from LMGs moved to both flanks and were showered by grenades (.) occupying western knoll 105 tonight (.) in close contact with enemy (.) A coy captured BEECH and are sitting astride NORTH SOUTH track at 421698 (.) enemy cas 5 killed (.) patrols to trig 90 and trig 76 saw no enemy mov (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 inf bn (.) patrol to areas FRANK STURT SYLVIA contacted no enemy (.) B coy patrol to 428680 found enemy in probable ambush posn (.) patrol fired on from 3 sides but withdrew with no cas (.) B coy patrol EAST on SOUTH side SNAGS TRACK came under hy fire at 428679 from WEST (.) 1 enemy killed (.) a patrol to MARGY area heard enemy mov (.) this feature appears to be definitely occupied (.) enemy cas for day 5 killed (.) own nil (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) A tp relieved D coy 2/48 inf bn on SYKES (.) air strikes (.) at 1430I 5 B24s with 150 250 prs bombed trig 90 423687 result all bombs along ridge from NORTH of 423687 to NORTH of MARGY (.) engr report (.) rd blocks SNAGS TRACK EAST to ELBOW at 420685 now jeagble (.) repairs to br 445652 completed (.) recce of rd DJOETA MT TANGKOL to 408728 (.) good bitumen rd to this pt (.) arty fired 132 rds in sp of todays activity on HILDA LINDA CLARICE and area 430692 to 420692 (.) 3.7 AA today fired 40 rds (.) locations (.) 2/23 inf bn (.) tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 422673 pls 415667 418668 (.) B coy 424679 (.) C coy 420683 pl 422683 (.) D coy 403672 pl RIPPON (.) 2/24 inf bn (.) tac HQ 401718 (.) A coy 421679 (.) B coy 421689 (.) C coy 4247 17 (.) D coy 424719 (.) tk A 412698 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) tac HQ B and C tps 442664 (.) A tp SYKES (.) 2/48 inf bn (.) tac HQ and C coy no change (.) A coy AGNES (.) B coy 447692 (.) pl 451689 (.) D coy 442667 (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) BHQ 443648 (.) A coy 420637 (.) B coy FLUTE (.) C coy 472654 pl SADIE (.) D coy TARA KAN HILL pl 459649 (.) enemy cas for 24 hrs ending 191900I (.) counted dead 13 est additional dead 3 (.) progressive totals 515 and 99

If liable to etc


 Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 86 INF BBE

202100I

TO : List C

G0270 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 201900I (.) 2 coy 1 bn NEI inf patrolled extensively in CHARLIE SECTOR killing one Jap (.) no other enemy were seen (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 inf bn (.) 11 pl B coy moved to SNAGS TRACK 428679 and made contact with enemy on WEST of this posn (.) enemy were engaged (.) 5 Japs killed (.) pl est firm base at 428679 (.) C coy patrol located enemy LMG at 424684 mor fire was brought down on this posn (.) results not known (.) A coy patrolling WILLS STURT area searched all tracks in area (.) Jap 75mm amm dump was found 420666 (.) 3 additional dead Japs were found today in 14 pl area (.) D coy patrols to ESSEX SW to FRANK and STURT found 1 set of Jap foot prints leading to and from ESSEX to ANZAC HIGHWAY (.) enemy cas for day 8 killed own cas nil (.) 2/3 pnr bn BAKER SECTOR (.) B coy patrol FLUTE ESME to 465672 to FLUTE made no contact (.) no signs of recent enemy mov (.) B coy patrol from FLUTE SE to JANIE MYRNA and ALICE through PAMOESIAN NW to FLUTE saw no signs of recent enemy activity (.) patrols to SADIE DAISY and FLORIS and along JOHNS TRACK to coast found no enemy (.) GEORGE SECTOR 2/24 bn (.) A coy patrol from feature BEECH encountered enemy at 423701 (.) patrol engaged enemy own cas 1 killed 1 wounded (.) enemy cas unknown (.) A coy patrol from 422695 SOUTH to 422693 contacted and engaged enemy (.) own cas nil enemy cas unknown (.) coy killed 6 Japs during day (.) B coy attacking eastern 105 knoll encountered by LMG fire and fused 75mm shells (.) coy killed 7 Japs suffered 2 wounded remaining in posn on western knoll 105 feature tonight (.) D coy patrol from 409717 to feature 415709 saw no enemy (.) DOG SECTOR 2/48 bn (.) A coy (.) 8 pl moved 80 yds up spur on FREDa towards knoll at 430680 from track junc (.) fire and mov est 30 enemy on WEST knoll of FREDa and others on 3 knolls to EAST (.) enemy also in posn at 431683 (.) coy remaining AGNES for tonight (.) B coy patrols report feature NELLIE believed clear (.) no mov seen on patrol (.) C coy 14 pl reached 429677 but darkness prevent further mov to occupy knoll at 430679 on track junc SNAGS TRACK (.) enemy cas for today 4 killed (.) during early hrs of morning enemy attempted to infiltrate into 2/48 bn posns at 437674 and OSTRICH area (.) 2 enemy were killed and approx 3 presumed dead (.) our nil (.) 2/24 bn harassed by enemy JUKI during night in A coy (.) 2 enemy killed and 1 wounded (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) patrols today in the BUTCH SYKES and OTWAY area made no contact (.) 75mm gln engaged 57 Bty during night (.) air strikes (.) 16 P 38s dropped 16000 lb NAPALM on FREDa at 201100I (.) engr activity (.) elevated OP constructed at 438681 on 100 ft tree (.) new WP est at 399717 (.) 53 comp AA regt has fired approx 2000 rds in sp of ops since P day (.) arty sp was given throughout todays activities (.) enemy cas for 24 hrs ending 201900I (.) counted dead 29 est additional dead 4 (.) progressive totals 544 and 103 (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 422673 pl 418668 415667 (.) B coy 424679 (.) C coy 420683 pl 422683 (.) D coy 403672 pl RIPPON (.) 2/24 bn tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 421697 (.) B coy 419689 (.) C coy 418718 (.) pl 415718 (.) D coy 394719 pl 389722 (.) 2/48 bn tac HQ 443661 (.) A coy AGNES (.) B coy 447692 (.) pl 451689 (.) C coy 427675 pl 426672 pl 428675 (.) D coy 442667 (.) 2/3 pnr bn tac HQ 443648 (.) main 443648 (.) A coy 424637 (.) B coy FLUTE pl ESME (.) C coy 472654 pl SADIE (.) D coy TARAKAN HILL (.) pl 459649 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn tac HQ 442664 (.) A to SYKES (.) B and C tps 442664

(cas
(area (.)

If liable to etc

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

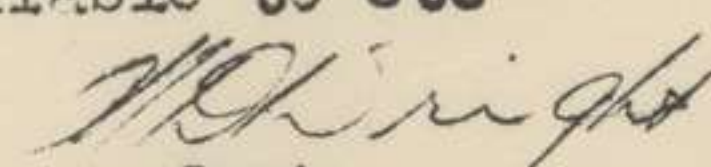
FROM : 26 INF BDE

212140I

TO : List C

G0275 (.) SECRET (.) rewsit to 211900I (.) 2 coy 1 bn NEI inf patrolled extensively in the area EAST of 48 grid and between grid lines 63 and 64 but contacted no enemy (.) patrols NORTH of grid 64 are continuing (.) BAKER SECTOR (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) B coy patrol from FLUTE to 451668 NE to ESME SOUTH to TRIG 67 to SARAH to 451668 saw no enemy mov (.) bn disposns are unchanged (.) DOG SECTOR (.) B coy 2/48 bn adv after air strike on enemy posns general area 102 feature and occupied posns further along ridge 100 yds fwd of previously held defs (.) enemy cas 2 killed own 2 wounded (.) 17 pl D coy moved to ambush posn at 431676 and killed 5 enemy (.) own cas 1 wounded (.) enemy disposns as result of patrol (.) knoll at 430678 and NORTH of track at 431677 (.) no LMG fire was encountered but some rifle fire (.) track to GALAH 431674 appears well used and is 4 ft wide (.) the enemy are occupying the feature (.) enemy cas for day 9 killed 1 probable (.) own cas 4 wounded (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 bn (.) B coy pressed enemy on SNAGS TRACK 427650 and harassed enemy with mor and arty fire (.) C coy patrol to 422653 then 424683 saw 2 footpads leading SOUTH from MARGY towards creek (.) a probable WP was found at 422683 (.) D coy patrols to MAJOR ESSEX and WILLS saw no enemy mov (.) 2 dead Japs were found on track at 428679 apparently water carriers killed yesterday by 11 pl (.) enemy cas for day 1 killed own 2 wounded (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 bn (.) B coy late today adv along ridge from 105 towards MARGY breaking enemy resistance and approached close to last remaining post on ridge at MARGY which is now almost surrounded (.) fighting continued on narrow ridge until last light mopping up is in progress (.) some disorganised small parties of enemy remain in area covered today (.) the attack exploited softening up done by air strikes arty and mor fire and was further supported by arty mor and tk fire (.) enemy cas 4 killed 3 probable (.) 1 LMG and rifles captured (.) C coy patrol to 423694 saw 1 Jap sentry on track (.) patrol to 421696 to 424699 to 423691 used presumed Jap L of C (.) enemy heard approx 100 yds to SOUTH (.) enemy cas for today 4 killed 3 probables (.) 2/4 cdo sqn local patrols (.) during yesterdays activities 2/7 fd regt fired 1174 rds in sp of bns on HINDA FREDA HILDA and CLARICE engaging LMG posn pillboxes woodpeckers strongly defended enemy area and enemy arty (.) further sp was given today (.) enemy cas to 211900I (.) 14 killed est additional dead 4 progressive total 558 and 107 (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 422673 pls 418668 415667 (.) B 424679 pls 428679 423681 421687 (.) C 420683 pls 422683 420684 (.) D 403672 pls RIPPON ESSEX (.) 2/24 bn tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 421697 (.) B 423688 moving to MARGY (.) C 418718 pl 415718 (.) D 394719 standing patrol 391743 (.) 2/48 bn tac HQ 443661 (.) A coy AGNES (.) B LAURA (.) C 442667 (.) D 426673 pls 428675 428678 (.) 2/3 pnr bn no change (.) 2/4 cdo sqn HQ B and C tps 442664 (.) A tp SYKES (.) 2/48 bn 1 sec MMG and mors 437673

If liable to otc



Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM: 26 INF BDE

222120I

TO : List C

GO 281 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 221900I (.) 2 Coy 1 Bn NEI Inf pl less one sec which was stationed at AMAL returned to DINGO via BREAST (.) Daily clearing patrols to HINES and trig 90 saw no enemy (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 bn (.) B coy patrol moved EAST along SNAGS TRACK and contacted a pl of 2/48 bn at 430678 (.) pl today captured JANET and has now consolidated on the feature (.) C coy moving to MARGY from NORTH with tk sp from ELBOW 420685 held up by enemy MMGs at 423686 (.) enemy cas 2 killed (.) three rifles and one JUKI were captured (.) total enemy cas for day 5 killed (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 bn (.) A coy patrol from 421696 to 418694 to 418692 to 418690 then EAST made contact with B coy returning by same route (.) B coy patrol from 422688 to 424692 heard voices at latter reference (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 bn (.) D coy 16 pl withdrew under hy fire from knoll NORTH of track junc 432678 (.) enemy attempted encircling move (.) enemy cas unknown own cas 1 killed 3 wounded (.) pl returned to firm base (.) B coy patrol NE on approach to 102 heard groaning from area presumed to be Jap MDS (.) A coy today attacked FREDA following by air strike (.) Coy was engaged all afternoon against enemy on four knolls on feature (.) by last light company had firmly established themselves on two of these knolls (.) enemy cas 5 killed 15 probables (.) own cas 12 wounded (.) CHARLIE SECTOR (.) 2/3 Pnr Bn (.) extensive patrolling within area made no contact with enemy (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) patrol to SUSIE found enemy still holding feature (.) estimated strength of enemy unchanged (.) patrol to 433669 thence to 433673 encountered enemy in area astride rd 433674 (.) patrol remaining for night at 433669 where enemy posns capable of holding 20 men were found (.) A tp moved to FREDA in sp of A coy 2/48 bn late this afternoon (.) result enemy shelling airstrip 21 May 1 tractor slightly damaged no cas (.) 2/7 Fd Regt 24 hrs to 211800I engaged 9 targets total expenditure 452 shells (.) 13 bty set up previously captured 75 mm gun on ridge 419683 (.) gun not used as target JANET now in our hands (.) engr report (.) during night 21/22 May enemy laid five flying pigs 70 yds off SNAGS TRACK at 417685 (.) Mines neutralised (.) mines on track 418684 were also neutralised (.) enemy cas for 24 hrs to 222100I (.) counted dead 12 estimated additional dead 15 progressive totals 570 and 122 (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 403672 pls FRANK ESSEX RIPPON (.) B 424679 pls 423681 427680 (.) C 422687 pl 422683 (.) D 414683 (.) 2/24 bn Tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 421697 pl 420695 (.) B 423688 pl 421689 (.) C 413718 pls 414718 418721 408712 (.) D 412700 pl 414701 (.) 2/48 bn Tac HQ 443661 (.) A Coy AGNES (.) D coy 428679 pls 428675 428678 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn Tac HQ 442664 tp SYKES tp FREDA tp 408726 (.) 2/3 pnr bn unchanged (.) The B24s and P 38s that carried out the strike on FREDA today were directed on target by 3 in mortar smoke in conjunction with observation by ASUTER aircraft of 16 AOP Flt RAAF (.) during the strike the AOP reported very accurate bombing by B24s and apparently complete coverage of target area by Napalm dropped by P 38s (.) flames from several Napalm bombs rose to a height of 100 feet with dense smoke to a 1000 feet (.) the first leaflet dropping mission on enemy held areas between features 102 and 105 was carried out by 16 AOP flt at 221530I note (.) locations (.) 2/48 bn A coy pl FREDA (.) B coy LAURA

If liable to etc

Alfred
 Capt

WD

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

232350I

TO : List C

GO284 (.) SECRET (.) re visit to 231900I (.) DOG SECTOR (.) after air strike on AGNES feature by 20 P38s this morning A coy 2/48 bn which had withdrawn from feature during strike patrolled fwd and found enemy in occupation of knolls 1 and 2 (.) est strength 6 each knoll (.) B24s had not been able to bomb owing to low cloud (.) count of enemy dead fwd of A coy this morning following last night's counterattack was 20 dead and at least 10 est dead (.) 18 pl D coy moved along spur from pl posns to a rea 430674 and found signs of hastily evacuated weapon pits and foxholes (.) patrol to GALAH found it unoccupied and when relieved by 2/4 cdo sqn patrol moved WEST along SNAGS TRACK (.) patrol from 12 pl established firm base at 443690 (.) recon fwd heard voices at 444690 (.) enemy eqpt captured during day 1 knee mor 1 LMG (.) total enemy dead for day 21 (.) FOX SECTOR (.) 2/23 bn (.) B coy patrol contacted enemy and were engaged by them from area 423688 (.) own cas 3 killed enemy unknown (.) 13 pl C coy moved SOUTH from 90 feature towards MARGY and contacted strong opposition approx 200 yds down ridge (.) withdrew without cas after killing 2 (.) during night 22/23 may 2 attacks by enemy on 15 pl C coy at 0300I and 0600I were repulsed (.) 3 dead Japs found with 2 75mm shells fused as grenades (.) enemy had removed papers from body (.) total enemy killed today 6 (.) GEORGE SECTOR (.) 2/24 bn (.) A coy attack on high feature 423695 unsuccessful (.) mines apparently detonated by enemy in this area wounded 7 (.) B coy patrol made contact with A coy this afternoon (.) B coy ration jeep sighted 1 Jap at 408690 (.) C coy patrols to feature 423716 made contact with enemy (.) no cas own or enemy (.) enemy party today moved in from EAST between 14 and 15 pl (.) enemy engaged no cas (.) D coy suffered 3 cas from enemy HMG at 413700 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) A tp found 1 dead Jap at 432670 (.) C tp patrolled to CAPE DJOEATA reached 391770 (.) move from 408723 to trig 113 along ridge to creek 393764 (.) fresh enemy tracks moving SOUTH along creek seen (.) patrol to MAPLE 415726 saw no enemy mov (.) patrol along rd thence by track to 406740 to MAPLE saw fresh footprints at 406747 (.) 2/3 pnr bn patrolled FLUTE ESME DORRY SARAH areas but made no contact (.) AUSTER aircraft again dropped leaflets on Jap HQ area (.) today 1 DD and 1 destroyer escort engaged barracks and gun emplacements at CAPE DJOEATA (.) 210 5-in shells plus several thousand 40mm and 20mm were fired by vessels causing fires and blowing up probable amn dump (.) during air strike this morning Jap used smoke in numerous areas to confuse aircraft in recognition of target indicated by own smoke (.) enemy cas for 24 hrs ending 231900I (.) counted dead 28 est additional dead nil progressive totals 598 and 122 (.) 2/7 fd regt 24 hrs to 221900I (.) 6 targets engaged 491 HE shells and 6 smoke fired (.) 53 Am regt again supported ops (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 403672 pls FRANK ESSEX RIPPON (.) B 424679 pls 425679 423681 (.) C 426688 pls 421683 422687 (.) D 414683 (.) 2/24 bn tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 421696 (.) standing patrol 403689 (.) B 395719 (.) C 413717 pls 407712 417717 419715 (.) D 413700 pls 413705 414701 (.) 2/48 bn tac HQ 443661 (.) A coy 442667 (.) B LAURA (.) C AGNES (.) D 426679 pls 428675 431675 (.) 2/3 pnr bn no change (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) tac HQ 442664 (.) A tp 2 secs SYKES 1 sec GALAH (.) B tp 442644 (.) C 408726 (.) during night 22/23 may approx 8 enemy armed with 75mm shells grenades rifles and spears attacked 2/4 cdo sqn HQ (.) enemy driven off 1 killed 1 probable (.) own cas nil

If liable to etc

W.D. Wright

1 *Comd* *TD*

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 AUST INF BDE

TO : LIST C

242130I

GO 288 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 241900I (.) DOG SECTOR (.) 2/48 bn (.) air strike scheduled for today on FREDa was cancelled owing to bad visibility (.) planes arrived over area but were not able to bomb (.) C coy recce patrol to FREDa found enemy still in occupation of knolls 1 and 2 (.) B coy patrol reached low ground between NELLIE and 102 feature (.) Jap outpost seen on northern slopes 102 (.) 18 pl D coy moved up SNAGS TRACK to junc at 431675 (.) pl moved NORTH to all knoll previously occupied by enemy (.) 3 enemy were killed in area (.) eating gear for approx 30 men and 25 haversacks found (.) FREDa 3 knoll was visible and appeared to be burnt out (.) telephone line on track to FREDa damaged by our mortar fire (.) numerous 75 mm shells and naval shells found ready fused (.) 17 pl ordered to occupy position but 80 yards from junc were fired on from pill box and enemy in trees who had returned to feature (.) pl killed 1 Jap but owing to darkness returned to company area (.) enemy cas for day 3 killed 6 wounded (.) 2/23 bn (.) FOX SECTOR (.) D coy patrol moved 150 yards EAST of 90 feature (.) found track junc and moved SOUTH (.) sound of sawing heard 1 Jap killed (.) three Japs were seen leaving pill box at 423686 today after shelling (.) captured Jap 75 mm was used by bn to shell MARGY from ELBOW feature SNAGS TRACK (.) 2/7 Fd Regt manned gun (.) D coy patrols towards MARGY feature engaged and killed 2 enemy at 422685 (.) Bren Gun fire was heard from enemy position on feature (.) evidently captured weapon (.) toall cas for day Enemy 3 killed 3 presumed dead (.) 2/24 bn (.) following attempts at infiltration on A coys positions this morning at 0130I coy killed 1 enemy and 1 PW taken at dawn (.) C coy 15 pl which enemy attempted to encircle during night returned to coy area today (.) pl had engaged enemy constantly throughout night (.) 12 enemy presumed dead (.) A coy patrols moved from coy positions NNE and EAST and located enemy positions including three water holes which were booby trapped by patrol (.) Coy harassed enemy positions with mortar fire during day (.) D coy patrol to 415701 saw no enemy movement (.) enemy cas for the day 9 killed 17 estimated dead (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) B Coy patrol to FLUTE JANIE MYRNA ALICE saw no enemy movement (.) D coy patrol to 470654 to 471654 NORTH to HELEN SADIE and DAISY made no contact (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) on occupation of SUSIE feature today 50 enemy pits were found in the area but no weapons (.) area had been battered by artillery and mortar fire (.) 4 enemy dead were found on feature (.) cav patrol today captured 2 DUTCH natives (ex PW) at 377761 (.) patrol to CAPE DJOEATA last reported 383783 (.) enemy cas for day 5 dead (.) mine laid night 23/24 May on DJOEATA rd today damaged tank track at 408695 (.) 2 Coy 1 Bn NEI Inf (.) patrolled extensively with in CHARLIE SECTOR (.) No enemy movement (.) 53 AA Regt fired 175 rounds on DJOEATA village and possible gun positions at CAPE DJOEATA (.) 2/7 Fd Regt from 221800I to 231800I fired 837 rounds in support of our troops on FREDa LINDA BEECH (.) total enemy cas for 24 hrs ending 241800I (.) counted dead 20 estimated additional dead 20 progressive totals 618 and 142 (.) total PW now 17 including 4 from NOENOEKAN ISLAND (.) LOCATIONS (.) 2/23 bn Tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 424680 pl 423681 (.) B 404673 pls RIPPON FRANK (.) C 415683 pl 408684 (.) D 422688 pls 420689 422686 422683 (.) 2/24 bn Tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 421696 (.) B 395719 (.) C 413717 pls 407712 417721 413717 (.) D 413700 pls 419705 414701 (.) 2/48 Bn Tac HQ 443661 (.) A Coy 442667 (.) B LA URA (.) C AGNES (.) D 427679 pls 428679 429675 (.) 2/3 pnr bn Tac HQ 443648 (.) A coy 424637 (.) B FLUTE (.) C 443649 (.) D TARAKAN HILL pl 470654 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn HQ 442664 (.) A tp 432674 (.) B tp SUSIE (.) C to 408724 (.) Standing patrol 405734

If liable to etc

DRLS

M. Wright
Capt.

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

262130I

FROM: 26 INF BDE

TO : LIST C

 GO 297 (.) SECRET (.) revert to 261900I (.) 2/3 Pnr Bn (.) patrols
 to HELEN SADIE and DAISY NORTH to 484670 saw no movement (.) B coy
 patrol from FLUTE SW down spur to contact Cav HQ at 442664 saw recent
 footprints 2 Japs at 444666 leading NORTH (.) 2 Coy 1 Bn NEI standing
 patrol on AMAL beach engaged 4 enemy trying to move SOUTH along beach
 at 260115I 2 enemy killed (.) 2/24 bn (.) this afternoon six sqns B24s
 carrying 216 thousand pound bombs struck at DROOP (.) following the
 strike C coy attacked and captured the feature which had been stripped
 bear by the bombing (.) a considerable amount of personal equipment was
 found in enemy positions (.) A Coy pl patrolled from 420696 patrolled
 800 yards along ridge SOUTH and SW to approximately 420690 no movement
 seen (.) 1 Jap was killed by C coy patrol before air strike 300 yards
 EAST along track (.) presumably sentry (.) 2/48 Bn (.) B coy patrol from
 coy area to approx 444693 on spur running NORTH EAST from NELLY approached
 to within 30 yards of track running EAST and WEST (.) apparently linking
 102 NELLIE and HILDA (.) two parties of two unarmed Japs and one party
 of 8 armed Japs were seen on track (.) while moving to lay ambush patrol
 was fired on from 102 (.) recent bomb strike on 102 has cleared feature
 giving enemy good observation (.) decoy patrol moved to approx 433867 (.)
 100 yards due NORTH heard much talking and estimated six to eight enemy
 in area (.) 2/23 Bn (.) D coy patrol NORTH to 423689 thence to 422689
 saw no enemy movement (.) from 1545I to 1645I our own arty shelled MARGY
 at 422684 with good results (.) 2/4 Cdo Sqn (.) patrol in DJOEATA area
 found two 75 mm guns intact with sights and amn (.) light railway system
 in good order runs from 375797 to 375793 (.) patrol remaining 375793
 tonight (.) 6 enemy dead and 1 JUKI were located in destroyed tunnel
 at 432635 by 2/7 Fd Regt (.) regiment to 251800I fired 801 shells on
 enemy positions (.) Jap 75 mm gun manned by Fd Regt fired during same
 period 126 rounds (.) 53 Comp AA Regt fired approx 100 rounds in support
 of operations on HILDA to 250700I (.) 8 DUTCH bombs with pressure fuses
 and four depth charges with same fuze were found in 2/11 Fd Amb area today
 (.) enemy cas for day counted dead 10 estimated additional dead nil
 progressive total 662 and 146 (.) locations 2/23 Bn Tac HQ 406682 (.)
 A Coy 425679 pls 424680 427680 (.) B 415683 pl 408684 (.) C 404671 pls
 403678 405671 (.) D 421687 pls 422687 422683 419689 (.) 2/24 Bn Tac HQ
 400717 (.) A Coy 421696 (.) B 395719 pls 413715 415717 (.) C 418716 pls
 417713 418716 420716 (.) D 615700 pls 419704 419705 514701 (.) 2/48 Bn
 Tac HQ 443659 (.) A Coy OSSIE (.) B 447692 pl LAURA (.) C 443657 (.)
 D FREDA (.) 2/3 Pnr Bn no change (.) 2/4 cdo sqn 443665 (.) A tp AGNES (.)
 B tp SUSIE (.) C tp 408724 (.)

If liable to etc

M. Light
 Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

272230I

TO : List C

00402 (.) SECRET (.) revert to 271800I (.) at approx 262054I 6 - 8 Jap aircraft approached area from SOUTH (.) one plane dropped six bombs in PAMONGIAN swamp (.) 2/23 bn A coy patrol from 427680 to creek junc 429681 thence NNW to 429683 struck high undergrowth in this area making movement extremely difficult (.) patrol moved SE to creek bed 430682 (.) 2 Japs were seen at 430684 (.) D coy recon patrol to 424688 engaged by enemy strength unknown from 424689 (.) 75mm in bn area knocked out Jap LMG posn 422685 at 1645I (.) MMG with D coy fired on 2 Japs at 422684 killing one (.) MARGY harassed during night by mortar and MMG fire (.) 2/24 bn A coy patrol following this morning's strike at 0900I by 18 B24s and 16 P38s with NAPALM advanced to 419702 killing one Jap (.) one Jap found dead (.) D coy following successful air strike this afternoon by 18 B24s on POKER captured feature POKER ONE 418702 (.) A coy 17 pl patrol from 421696 to creek 421699 to 419702 thence 70 yds SOUTH where pillbox and 2 man shelter seen (.) 1 Jap killed (.) patrol took up posn by bunker and killed 2 Japs approaching posn (.) 1 dead Jap found presumably killed by bombing (.) patrol A coy contacted D coy on present posn POKER ONE (.) enemy cas for day 11 killed 1 probable (.) own 1 wounded (.) 2/48 bn D coy patrol engaged 2 Japs between track and creek at 432682 killing 1 and wounding 1 patrol withdrew to allow mortaring of area (.) A coy patrol reached B coy track 700 yds below B coy at 453687 (.) track not suitable for carrying saps (.) B coy patrol found tracks leading NE and to MICHAEL from PATRICK (.) no enemy seen on MICHAEL (.) patrol proceeded down spur NW from PATRICK to creek finding numerous footprints along track EAST towards FAITH (.) return to PATRICK for night (.) tracks to this feature do not appear to have been used for considerable time some papers found on posn INDONESIAN with some ENGLISH (.) D coy patrol reports area creek junc 438683 small spurs each of which has pits big enough for riflemen (.) 2/4 cdo sqn patrol to CAPE DJOEITA report captured 75mm coastal type guns in good condition (.) cement buildings in area also diesel engine (.) railway in good repair (.) patrol now holding area 376796 (.) enemy on LOYAL feature at 380793 have 1 LMG and rifles probably in pillbox seen in area (.) A tp on AGNES relieved by pl 2/3 pnr bn (.) 2 coy 1 bn NEI inf coy HQ now at 488654 (.) enemy cas counted dead 12 est additional dead 3 progressive totals 674 and 149 (.) arty sp from 251800I to 261800I 137 rds on MARGY NELLY and LMG posn (.) 75mm gun 26 rds destroying diggings on MARGY (.) 53 AA regt 50 rds predicted fire on HILDA (.) naval fire on CHARITY feature controlled by AUSTER 40 rds (.) 53 AA regt fired 75 3.7" rds at enemy aircraft last night apart from considerable 40mm fire (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 423679 pls 424680 427680 (.) B 415683 pl 405684 (.) C 404671 pls 403678 405671 (.) D 421687 pls 422687 422683 419689 (.) 2/24 bn tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 421696 (.) B 395719 (.) C 422709 pl 422708 (.) D 414701 pls 420703 419706 418702 (.) 2/48 bn tac HQ 443659 (.) A OSSIE (.) B 447692 pls LAURA PATRICK (.) C 443657 (.) D FREDA (.) 2/3 pnr bn tac HQ 443648 (.) A coy 424637 (.) B FLUTE pls ESME AGNES (.) C 443649 (.) D TARAKAN HILL pl 470654 (.) 2/4 cdo sqn tac HQ 408724 (.) tps SUSIE 377793 (.) 2/3 pnr bn patrolled extensively within BAKER SECTOR

If liable to etc

M. Wright
Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

282125I

TO : List C

G0406 (.) SECRET (.) rewsit to 281900I (.) 2/24 bn (.) 8 pl A coy operated from 421697 to 421699 where patrol base was est (.) pl moved along spur NE to within 30 yds of POKER THREE (.) 2 Japs seen moving into posn 1 killed 1 wounded (.) patrol came under fire from 20 yds NORTH of feature (.) 6 weapon pits and 1 bunker seen in area (.) track in good condition probably used for water parties (.) further patrol to SADDLE between POKER TWO and THREE (.) 30 yds from crest heard enemy voices and sound of digging in direction of POKER TWO (.) C coy patrol to 424708 struck enemy in strength on ridge (.) enemy cas for day 4 killed 2 wounded (.) A coy ambush SOUTH of BEECH unsuccessful but 2 enemy killed on returning (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) patrol to SYKES saw footprints of 1 enemy on feature (.) patrol to OSTRICH saw no enemy (.) C to found 1 BROWNING gun with magazine both in good condition at 380740 (.) C to patrol from base at 376793 EAST along ridge found 3 DUTCH pillboxes at 377793 previously occupied by enemy (.) proceeding further 100 yds along ridge encountered enemy LMG and rifle fire from 379793 (.) patrol withdrew to base with 1 killed (.) standing patrol at 377797 half sec C to (.) 2/48 bn (.) patrols today killed 3 enemy in FREDA and 102 areas (.) B coy patrol to FAITH found enemy on posn but not able to estimate enemy strength (.) a coy patrol cutting new track from AGNES to B coy (.) engr activity today (.) work commenced 437673 on construction of jeep track to FREDA (.) following stores destroyed CAPE DJOEATA 22 DUTCH mines 6 75mm grenades 118 75mm shells fuzed as grenades 10 105mm shell cases fuzed as grenades 1 diesel generating unit 50 KW rating located (.) generator in good condition power unit ruined (.) arty to 271800I fired 93 rds on dug in enemy posns (.) 75mm gun for same period fired 42 rds destroying 2 pillboxes (.) 2/23 bn (.) this afternoon following MMG arty and mortar fire on MARGY 17 pl D coy moved SOUTH from 420689 to 420686 then EAST up spur to 422686 where fwd scout contacted enemy killing 2 (.) by LMG fire prevented consolidation (.) LMG and possible MMG posns on ridge vicinity 423585 engaged during afternoon by supporting arms and 75mm (.) after hits on both posns enemy fire ceased (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) patrolled extensively with own sector (.) footprints of 2 Japs moving SOUTH were found at 421658 (.) enemy cas (.) counted dead 5 estimated additional dead nil progressive totals 683 and 149 (.) 3 PW captured today 1 DISTRICT VI (.) 2 brought in by natives captured NORTH of CAPE DJOEATA in prahoe (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn no change (.) 2/24 bn tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 422697 pls 421697 (.) B 423709 pls 419716 420718 422708 (.) C 393719 (.) D 418702 pls 420704 419706 419702 (.) 2/48 bn no change except B coy pl from PATRICK to LAURA (.) 2/4 cdo sqn 2/3 pnr bn no change (.) 2 coy 1 bn NEI inf 488654

If liable to etc

V. D. Wright

Capt

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

TO : LIST C

292115I

GO 413 (.) SECRET (.) revsit to 291900I (.) three PWs brought in by natives today (.) one captured at TIBY two captured at KARIS (.) red flash at 1711I guns engaged one HELEN at 1750I height 14500 (.) 2/4 Cdo Sqn (.) C tp in CAPE DJOEATA area captured further two 75 mm CD guns located approx 379797 (.) arty det reports both guns damaged beyond repair (.) beach in vicinity of gun area was mined (.) patrol from 378793 to JEMTY thence EAST along coast reached 382795 (.) no contact made with enemy (.) patrol to recce approach to LOYAL from EAST and SOUTH found possible native cemetery 386795 (.) 2/23 bn (.) following air strike by 11 Mitchells on MARGY this morning 18 pl D coy pushed forward on to feature but were met by heavy enemy cross fire (.) pl was forced to withdraw to coy area (.) cas 2 Killed 1 believed killed 2 wounded (.) A coy 7 pl patrol to 427680 observed SE spur of MARGY 425682 where six Japs were seen (.) Japs moved into cover before patrol could engage (.) C coy patrol to HESSEX SYLVIA FRANK ANZAC HIGHWAY to 402672 observed 2 sets of Jap footprints leading SW to village (.) One Jap seen on ridge at 402672 but disappeared and could not be found (.) 2/24 bn (.) this morning six enemy were seen 50 yds from C coy (.) 1 Killed (.) C coy patrol out 271550I in today patrolled EAST to general area 44 grid line and NORTH and SOUTH of creek junction 442713 (.) swamp in this area 439713 waste to shoulder deep (.) signs of Jap footprints seen on tracks at 443707 and 428712 (.) one Jap killed at 443707 and one at 423713 (.) Jap outside C coy killed this morning was carrying flour in pack (.) DUTCH grenade and marked map of area (.) A coy patrol contacted 2/23 bn on point 105 (.) 2/48 bn (.) B coy patrol at 449693 moved from this position on general bearing 300 degrees magnetic and reported track followed by previous patrols showed signs of recent enemy movement (.) D coy patrol saw 4 Japs at 437684 who withdrew into bush (.) five Japs also seen on spur to SOUTH (.) B coy patrol attempting to cut FAITH NELLIE track was unable to do so owing to difficult terrain (.) D coy patrol engaged enemy same position as yesterday 432686 and killed one Jap (.) position appears to be enemy listening post (.) D coy patrol killed two Japs in LINDA area (.) footprints of three to four Japs found at 456680 where enemy cut sig wire yesterday (.) one 81 mm US Mortar found FREDA knoll (.) 2/3 Pnr Bn (.) patrolled extensively in BAKER SECTOR but made no contact (.) during night 28/29 May enemy movement was seen in vicinity pump house 443665 (.) two Japs found floating in sea offshore PAJAU ISLAND yesterday with throats cut (.) natives state they attacked Japs with knives (.) enemy cas for day counted dead 10 estimated additional dead 2 progressive total 693 and 151 (.) locations (.) 2/23 bn Tac HQ 406682 (.) A coy 425679 pls 424680 427680 (.) B 415683 pl 403684 (.) C 404671 pls 403678 405671 (.) D 421687 pls 422687 422683 419689 (.) 2/24 Bn Tac HQ 400717 (.) A coy 422697 pls 421656 421697 422697 (.) B 423709 pls 418716 425713 422708 (.) C 394720 D 418702 pls 420704 419706 419702 (.) 2/48 bn unchanged (.) 2/4 cdo sqn unchanged (.) 2/3 pnr bn unchanged (.) searchlight locations (.) 4 radar controlled 348690 393721 447659 421640 (.) 4 NOT radar controlled 399675 457643 412657 440643 (.) AUSTER aircraft dropped escape leaflets on alleged NEI PW area at 435694 today (.) planes also assisted spotting air strike on MARGY and Naval Bombardment HILDA area (.) 2/7 Fd Regt to 281800I fired 212 rounds on HILDA and 108 rounds regimental DF and HF at 422685 (.) 53 Comp AA Regt fired 101 rounds on HILDA feature 274 rounds of Naval Gunfire were fired on HILDA feature during same period

If liable to etc

ALL right
Capt

WD (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

302115I

TO : List C

GO419 (.) SECRET (.) re visit to 301900I (.) 2/23 bn (.) 18 B24s scheduled to strike MARGY approx 1000 hrs preparatory to attack by bn on this feature were unable to bomb owing to weather (.) clouds closed in to 1500 ft (.) bombers engaged secondary target mainland BORNEO (.) A coy patrol to 432683 encountered LMG fire and engaged enemy (.) thick nature of terrain prevented observation of results (.) standing patrol to end of spur 424682 prepared to engage enemy following mortar bombing on enemy posns (.) no enemy were observed in area (.) D coy patrol to 423688 encountered enemy fire (.) difficult terrain forced patrol to withdraw (.) 2/24 bn (.) patrol from 421706 engaged 8 enemy at 422705 (.) track from DJOEATA OILFD to DROOP POKER and BEECH now clear (.) B coy captured INDONESIAN employed by Japs on carrying parties at 301115I (.) native carried pamphlet dropped by AUSTER advising natives to escape to AUSTRALIAN lines (.) patrol from 422713 to 425713 saw no enemy (.) D coy today killed 2 Japs fwd of 17 pl posn (.) 2/48 bn (.) A coy patrol with engr booby trapped area WP 446682 (.) B coy patrol to 446693 made no contact with enemy (.) D coy patrol from 442688 observed 12 Japs at approx 440688 but could not engage owing to terrain (.) posn mortared (.) patrol from D coy to 432686 SW of LINDA where Japs were sighted yesterday remained in posn for some time but no enemy seen (.) much enemy activity heard on CLARICE (.) B coy patrol from 444691 NE up spur towards 102 feature sent small recon party fwd who heard chopping EAST and WEST on slopes of feature (.) final climb to top of feature appears almost sheer (.) 2/3 pnr bn (.) D coy patrol EAST along JOHNS TRACK to 482655 EAST to mouth PHILLYS CREEK found 1 Jap (.) on return patrol struck 3 250lb bombs buried in sand 300 yds NORTH of creek (.) bombs exploded killing 4 and wounding 5 (.) craters 24 ft wide 6 ft deep (.) bombs probably ignited by pressure switch (.) 2/4 cdo sqn (.) 6 tp patrolled to and occupied feature at 381791 no mov seen (.) enemy infiltration again occurred night vicinity water pumping plant 443665 where enemy threw 2 fuzed 75mm shells wounding 1 dvr in jeep (.) 2 Japs during night approached 2/48 bn B coy posns fired on and walked into booby trap 1 probably killed other wounded (.) Japs left behind 1 fuzed 75mm shell 2 DUTCH blast grenades and 2 spears (.) enemy cas for day counted dead 6 est additional dead nil progressive totals 699 and 151 (.) engr activity today (.) 135 75mm shells and 12 DUTCH mines found in 2/23 bn area (.) 8 booby traps set at water hole at 450680 (.) 12 50kg DUTCH bombs and 13 DUTCH mines deloused on track along beach to EAST from CAPE DJOEATA (.) 2/7 fd regt to 291800I fired 944 rds on MARGY HILDA LINDA 102 area and suspected 75mm posn (.) during same period 120 rds of naval fire brought down on HILDA (.) locations (.) 2/24 bn B coy 422708 pls 422710 422714 422701 (.) D 418702 pls 427704 420706 419702 (.) otherwise no change in locations

If liable to etc

W. L. Knight
Capt

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

062200I

TO : LIST B less Serials 12 - 24 - 25 - 27

GO177 (.) SECRET (.) confirming verbal orders for ops 7 may (.) ONE (a) (.) high ground astride SNAGS TRACK at 433674 will be captured and SNAGS TRACK cleared as far WEST as that pt in two phases (.) (b) (.) Phase I clear area WEST of SPARKS TRACK (.) tps (.) 2/48 bn with in sp one bty 2/7 fd regt one tp C sqn 2/9 armd regt and one sec 2/13 fd coy one pl D coy 2/2 MG bn (.) task (.) clear off enemy area bounded in EAST by SPARKS TRACK in SOUTH by rd from rd bend 444655 to rd junc 436657 in the WEST by southern spur OTWAY and in NORTH from br at 443665 to OTWAY (.) ST not later than 070700I (.) (c) Phase II (.) capture high ground at 433674 (.) tps RIGHT 2/4 cdo sqn with in sp one bty 2/7 fd regt one tp C sqn 2/9 armd regt and one sec 2/13 fd coy (.) LEFT 2/48 bn with in sp one bty 2/7 fd regt (.) tasks (.) RIGHT clear SNAGS TRACK as far as high ground at 433674 (.) LEFT capture high ground at 433674 route ridge from SYKES to high ground at 433674 (.) ST to be notified after completion Phase I (.) intercomm (.) phase I (.) 2/48 bn report to bde HQ on completion phase I (.) phase II (.) 2/48 bn will lay line from tac HQ to br at 443665 to be teed-in to line of 2/4 cdo sqn (.) TWO (.) 2/3 pnr bn less two coys and in sp one bty 2/7 fd regt will adv along and clear JOHNS TRACK as far as coast at AMAL (.) ST not later than 070700I (.) THREE (.) one coy 2/3 pnr bn will relieve 2/4 cdo sqn on TABKAN feature by 070700I (.) FOUR (.) one coy 2/3 pnr bn will relieve 2/48 bn on EVANS by 070800I (.) FIVE (.) (a) 2/23 bn with in sp 2/7 fd regt one tp C sqn 2/9 armd regt one sec 2/13 fd coy will capture high ground astride SNAGS TRACK at 420684 (.) (b) route along SNAGS TRACK from ANZAC HIGHWAY (.) (c) ST Not later than 070700I (.) (d) 2/23 bn will continue to occupy and hold ESSEX feature and MT API feature astride ANZAC HIGHWAY (.) SIX (.) (a) 2/24 bn will recce to MT ALOEMPOER at 400714 (.) (b) route ANZAC HIGHWAY (.) (c) SP MT API at rd junc 405685 (.) (d) time out 070730I (.) (e) time in not later than 071600I (.) (f) tasks (i) is enemy occupying def posns covering ANZAC HIGHWAY between MT API and MT ALOEMPOER if so location and type def posns (ii) report any enemy mov along route (iii) has ANZAC HIGHWAY been demolished or prepared for demolition at any pts if so at what pts (.) (g) patrol report will be submitted to bde HQ by 071900I (.) SEVEN (.) 2/24 bn will continue to be responsible for def of airfd and FRANK feature (.) EIGHT (.) (a) NEI coy will continue adv along BEVIS HIGHWAY to PENINGKI (.) (b) ST not later than 070700I (.) NINE (.) following airstrikes will be carried out (.) (a) astride SNAGS TRACK from rd junc 416684 to rd junc 420684 (.) 6 B25s on run SW to NE along line of airstrip (.) (b) astride SNAGS TRACK from rd bend 420685 to rd junc 422682 4 B25s on run NNW to ESE along SNAGS TRACK (.) (c) NOT before 070800I NOT after 070830I

If Hiable to etc
Myra
Mary

DRLS

PRO FORMA MESSAGE

FROM : 26 AUST INF BDE

TO : List B less seria 1s 12, 18 19
24 and 25

071130 I

War Diary

GO 197 (.) SECRET (.) Confirming verbal orders for ops of 8 May (.)
 FIRST (.) 2/23 Bn gp (a) will continue attack along general line SNAGS
 TRACK to secure area SESANIP OILFIELD (b) patrol ridge MT API to trap
 pt 105 (421689) (.) SECOND (.) 2/24 Bn (a) will continue patrolling
 to SNAGS TRACK between 42 and 43 NORTH SOUTH GRID lines (b) with engs
 patrol NORTH along ANZAC HIGHWAY to MT LOEMPOER to locate and disarm
 mines and booby traps along rd (.) THIRD (.) 2/48 Bn will occupy pres-
 ent posns and be prepared for further ops along line SNAGS TRACK after
 2/4 Cdo Sqn has secured objective (.) FOUR (.) 2/4 Cdo Sqn gp will adv
 along SNAGS TRACK and capture high ground astride track at 432675 (.)
 FIVE (.) 2/3 Pnr Bn gp (a) will continue attack along gen line JOHNS
 TRACK to MAL (b) patrol high ground overlooking TARAKAN between
 DISTRICT VI and DISTRICT I reporting location enemy posts and tracks
 in that area and tracks crossing JOHNS TRACK (.) SIX (.) allotment to
 units of tps 2/9 Armd Regt, FOOs 2/7 Fd Regt and dets 2/13 Fd Coy
 will remain unchanged (.) SEVEN (.) all ops will commence NOT later
 than 080730 I (.) EIGHT (.) Written patrol reports will be submitted
 to Bde Hq NOT later than 081900 I

If liable to etc.

100/100/100
Mag .. *Wing*

D.R.L. Se

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

WD(2)

FROM : 26 INF BDE

082230I

TO : LIST B Less serials 12, 18, 19, 24

GO211 (.) SECRET (.) confirming verbal orders for ops 9 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn gp will (a) continue attack along gen line SNAGS TRACK to capture high ground rd junc 420684 (b) contact 2/24 bn with a view to taking over role of airfd def (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn gp will (a) clear ANZAC HIGHWAY to DJOEATA OILFDS and also the DJOEATA OILFDS area (b) est one coy in DJOEATA OILFDS area prepared to carry out patrols to SOUTH and SE (c) prepare scheme for def of airfd ready for hand-over to 2/23 bn (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) patrol tracks EAST of SNAGS TRACK NORTH of DISTRICT I between gen line of survey posts and SNAGS TRACK (b) patrol NW from SYKES to high ground on northern slopes of BUTCH (Square 4266) (.) FOUR (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) continue attack along gen line SNAGS TRACK to secure high ground astride track at 432675 (b) patrol track to NW from rd bend 441673 (.) FIVE (.) 2/3 pnr bn gp will (a) continue attack along JOHNS TRACK to AMAL (b) report location any tracks running NORTH and SOUTH from JOHNS TRACK (.) SIX (.) 2 aust beach gp will arrange for mopping up patrols within beach maint area (.) SEVEN (.) C sqn 2/9 armd regt allotment of tps (a) two tps to 2/23 bn (b) one tp to 2/24 bn (c) one tp to 2/48 bn (.) EIGHT (.) 2/13 fd coy will continue present tasks (.) NINE (.) the following air strikes have been arranged (a) on target area rd junc 422682 NOT before 0800I NOT after 0830I (b) on target area high ground centre pt 433691

If liable to etc

[Handwritten signature]

War Diary (2)
37A/80

BRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

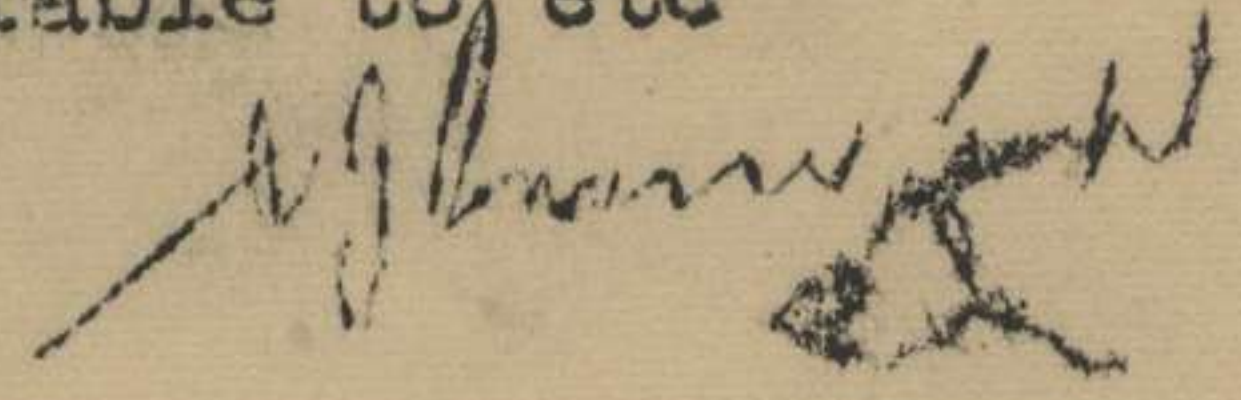
FROM : 26 INF BDE

102200I

TO : List B

G^U 108 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 11 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue patrolling in FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn (a) will continue attack along SNAGS TRACK (b) will patrol SE from DJOEATA OILFDS along track towards TRIG 105 (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn (a) will patrol NNW from SYKES to SNAGS TRACK at approx 433675 (b) patrol to and set ambushes along JAP TRACK at following pts 461678 463669 471664 (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue attack against enemy posns astride JOHNS TRACK 477654 (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) continue attack along SNAGS TRACK (b) adv from ring contour 70 at 438681 to establish rd block on SNAGS TRACK at 430679 and attack SE along SNAGS TRACK to destroy enemy pocket (.) SIX (.) NET coy will continue mopping up in area PENINGKI - KAROENGAN (.) SEVEN (.) ahr strike by 12 B25s has been arranged on target 400 yds square centre pt 425679 NOT before 0745I NOT after 0830I our G0106 refers

If liable to etd



Warplan, (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

112200I

TO : List B

GO112 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 12 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will (a) continue patrolling within FOX SECTOR (b) set two (2) ambushes on SNAGS TRACK between 42 and 43 grid lines in GEORGE SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) attack and capture trig 105 (b) continue patrolling within GEORGE SECTOR (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) clear BUTCH (b) set two ambushes on JAP TRACK at 463675 and at 464669 (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnc bn will attack and capture ridge from ring contour 60 at 472658 to 477653 (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will clear SNAGS TRACK from 430679 to 436674

If liable to etc
[Signature]
 Maj

War Diary

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

122330I

TO : List B

G0118 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 13 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue patrolling within FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) mop up enemy pockets along SNAGS TRACK on southern slopes CRAZY RIDGE (b) capture TRIG 105 (c) advance and establish contact along SNAGS TRACK EAST of SESANIP OILFDS (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will set ambushes along JAP TRACK at FLORIS and ESME (.) FOUR (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will hold in present posns setting ambushes along tracks leading into posns (.) FIVE (.) 2/3 pnr bn with air naval and arty sp will attack and capture HELEN and SADIE (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will cross KAROENGAN RIVER and clear CAPE PASIR and CAPE BATOE (.) SEVEN (.) following air strikes have been arranged on HELEN and SADIE (a) 4 B25s NOT before 0745 NOT after 0815 (b) 4 B25s NOT before 0815 NOT after 0845 (c) 4 B25s NOT before 0845 NOT after 0915

If liable to etc
M. J. McArthur
 Maj

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

122340I

TO : List B

G0119 (.) restricted (.) all units will submit to this HQ by 131900I a location state shewing location of HQ of each addressee and att unit (.) in future units will notify this HQ immediately any change of location

If liable to etc
M. J. McArthur
 Maj

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

132315I

TO : List B

G0305 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 14 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue patrolling within FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue mopping ops on CRAZY RIDGE (b) carry out patrolling GEORGE SECTOR (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) patrol to CSTRICH and if found suitable occupy the feature (b) will hold ambush posn on KINGS TRACK and continue patrolling (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn by 141600I will (a) establish two coys in def posns along JOHNS TRACK between 470654 and 466656 and patrol to locate enemy defs to SOUTH and EAST of HELEN and SADIE (b) est one coy astride eastern entrance to SNAGS TRACK on NE spur OTWAY and SW spur FLUTE thus relieving 2/48 bn of the responsibility for security and mopping up in that area (c) continue occupation T-R-K-N feature (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sgn will occupy eastern spur SUSIE astride SNAGS TRACK and AGNES and carry out patrolling to locate enemy defs on FREDa CLARICE and LINDA (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will continue mopping up in area CAPE BASIR and CAPE BATOE (.) SEVEN (.) following NAPALM air strikes have been arranged on HELEN and SADIE (a) 12 P38s NOT before 1030I NOT after 1130I (b) 12 P 38s NOT before 1430I NOT after 1530I (c) 5 mins naval arty and mor bombardment will succeed each strike (d) target will be indicated by mor smoke and during the period of the strikes no smoke will be used in any other areas (e) during period of strikes all tps will be clear of the following area SOUTH of the 667 grid line EAST of 467 grid line and NORTH of 65 grid line

If liable to etc

AJ Hatcher

Maj

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

132320I

TO : List B less Serials 7, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 32, 33, 35, 36

G0306 (.) RESTRICTED (.) addressees will advise this HQ NOT later than 151000I number vacancies required for number 5 course grade III wing staff school (aust) also number rank and name of nominees in order of preference (.) course commences 19 jun (.) nil returns required

If liable to etc

AJ Hatcher
Capt

War Diary (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

142215I

TO : List B

09310 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 15 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will carry out patrols within limits of FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) clear SNAGS TRACK from ZEBRA to FREDA (b) be prepared to clear trig 105 if NAPALM strike made (c) destroy enemy posn at 412721 (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) clear SNAGS TRACK from OSTRICH to and incl SUSIE (b) be prepared to join with 2/24 bn at FREDA (c) patrol to DAISY and if clear occupy (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will (a) carry out recce to southern spur HELEN to observe effect of NAPALM strike made today and to see if feature still occupied recce to be completed by 0845I (b) after bombing and NAPALM attacks in morning again patrol to HELEN and be prepared if NOT occupied or only lightly held to seize and occupy (c) if held in strength after a further NAPALM attack during afternoon again advance on HELEN prepared to seize and occupy (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will patrol from AGNES towards SUSIE FREDA CLARICE and LINDA to see if occupied and if so in what str and nature of defs (.) SIX (.) following air strikes will be carried out on HELEN and SADIE in sp 2/3 pnr bn (a) 12 B24s with 100 lb and 500 lb bombs NOT before 0900 NOT after 0930 (b) 12 P38s with NAPALM NOT before 1000 NOT after 1030 (c) if required 12 P38s with NAPALM NOT before 1530 NOT after 1630 (d) if NOT required the latter strike will be in sp 2/24 bn on TRIG 105 with same timings (e) bomb lines same as for today (f) mor smoke will be used for indication and NO smoke used in other sectors during strikes (g) AUSTER will be used for observation all strikes (h) arty and mor concs will succeed each NAPALM strike

If liable to etc

Maj Katchar

Maj

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

152300I

TO : List B

GO314 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 16 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will relieve 2/24 bn as follows (a) B coy 2/23 bn relieve A coy 2/24 bn on SNAGS TRACK by 160800I (b) C coy 2/23 bn relieve D coy 2/24 bn at the ELBOW the time of relief depending on the clearing by the 2/24 bn of SNAGS TRACK around the ELBOW (c) A coy 2/23 bn will continue to occupy SYLVIA and FRANK (d) D coy will occupy RIPPON ESSEX and airstrip ridge (e) 2/23 bn will continue to be responsible for FOX SECTOR (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) clear the ELBOW (b) patrol to trig 105 after airstrike to ascertain if still occupied (c) continue patrolling within GEORGE SECTOR (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) attack and destroy enemy post on OSTRICH and exploit to SUSIE (b) patrol to DAISY to ascertain if still occupied (c) be prepared to occupy DAISY if NAPALM strike made (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will (a) continue patrolling to AMAL and ensure that area is clear disarming any weapons found which may be of value to enemy. (b) patrol tracks EAST of SADIE (c) patrol tracks running SOUTH from JOHNS TRACK (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will patrol to CLARICE and LINDA with a view to establishing location enemy defs (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will patrol tracks NORTH from CAPE BATOE - CAPE PASIR to AMAL (.) SEVEN (.) the following air strikes have been confirmed (a) 4 P38s with NAPALM and 12 B25s with GP 250 lb on trig 105 NOT before 0830 NOT after 0930 (b) 12 P-38s with NAPALM NOT before 1400 NOT after 1500 primary target trig 105 secondary target DAISY (c) no smoke will be used to indicate targets and will NOT be used in other areas during period of strikes (d) fluorescent panels will be used for strikes on trig 105 (e) units will immediately patrol target areas on completion each strike

If liable to etc

W. J. M. M. M.

Maj

WD

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

172200I

TO : List B

GO326 (.) SECRET (.) order s for 18 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue attacks along SNAGS TRACK (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue attack against enemy in area 414718 (b) patrol to locate approaches and enemy defs on BEECH (c) patrol to trig 105 after air strike and be prepared to occupy if enemy has withdrawn (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) continue pressure against enemy in OSTRICH - SUSIE area (b) patrol from ESME to LAURA and trig 102 (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling all tracks in BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) patrol from AGNES to FREDA CLARICE and LINDA (b) patrol from SNAGS TRACK to approach SUSIE from NE (.) SIX (.) following air strikes have been requested (a) 6 B24s on trig 105 NOT before 1200 NOT after 1300 (b) 12 P38s with NAPALM on trig 105 NOT before 1330 NOT after 1415 (c) run through FREDA - MARGY - 105 (d) mor smoke will be used for indication (e) fluorescent panels will be displayed by tps on the ELBOW and CRAZY RIDGE (.) SEVEN (.) naval bombardments (a) on trig 105 - MARGY NOT before 0800 NOT after 1030 (b) on CLARICE - HILDA during afternoon

If liable to etc

M. Matcham
NVA

WD

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

182310I

TO : List B

G0329 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 29 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 inf bn will (a) maintain pressure and harass enemy posns on MARGY and SNAGS TRACK (b) be prepared to occupy MARGY when captured by 2/24 inf bn (.) TWO (.) 2/24 inf bn will (a) destroy enemy on trig 105 - MARGY ridge and patrol EAST along ridge from trig 105 to establish contact (b) adv on BEECH with a view to occupying (c) patrol main track MAPLE - BEECH - trig 105 (d) patrol to trigs 90 and 76 (e) destroy enemy post at 414718 (f) patrol high ground immediately NW of DJOETA OILFDS (.) THREE (.) 2/48 inf bn will (a) establish coy on trig 102 and carry out local patrols along tracks to EAST and WEST of posn (b) attack and capture FREDA (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will relieve 2/48 inf bn on SYKES (.) SIX (.) following air strikes have been requested (a) 12 P38s with NAPALM on FREDA NOT before 0930I NOT after 0945I (b) 6 B24s on HILDA NOT before 1400I NOT after 1500I (c) run for NAPALM strike TARAKAN HILL - OTWAY - SUSIE - FREDA (d) fluorescent panels on TARAKAN HILL and OTWAY (e) run for Liberators trig 105 - HILDA (f) indicating mor smoke (g) NO smoke will be used in other areas during period of strike

If liable to etc

W. M. Taylor

Maj

Way Diary (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

192230I

TO : List D

GO330 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 20 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will remain in present posns carrying out local patrols to enemy posts on JANET and MARGY (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) patrol tracks NORTH and SOUTH of BEECH to establish extent enemy defs (b) to attack and capture ridge from TRIG 105 to MARGY (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) attack and capture FREDA (b) patrol enemy posns on OSTRICH and TRIG 102 (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pdr bn will (a) assume responsibility for beach def LINGKAS area (b) continue patrolling BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sq n will carry out local patrols from present posns (.) SIX (.) following air strikes have been requested (a) 12 P38s NAPALM on FREDA NOT before 1000 NOT after 1045 (b) 12 P38s on MARGY and ring contour 90 NOT before 1400 NOT after 1445 (c) mor smoke for indication of target (d) smoke will NOT be used in other areas during period of strikes (e) fluorescent panels will be displayed

If liable to etc

M. Nathan

Maj

W D (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

222300I

TO : List D

G0335 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 23 may (.) ONE () 2/23 bn will continue attack on MARGY (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue adv EAST of TRIG 105 (b) patrol enemy posns on POKER and DROOP (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) continue mopping up ops on FREDA (b) be prepared to attack TRIG 102 if air strike made (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) occupy AGNES and MACKS (b) commence patrols towards CAPE DJOEATA (.) SIX (.) following air strike has been arranged (a) primary target FREDA 18 B 24s and 20 P38s NOT before 1045 NOT after 1200 (b) secondary target TRIG 102 same period (c) mortar smoke for indication (d) no smoke will be used in other areas

If liable to etc

[Handwritten signature]
Maj

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

232140I

TO : List D

G0337 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 24 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue pressure on MARGY (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will continue patrols in GEORGE SECTOR (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will be prepared to patrol to FREDA after air strike and to occupy the feature if it has been vacated by enemy (.) FOUR (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will carry out dawn patrol to SUSIE and if clear of enemy occupy (.) FIVE (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will continue patrolling on CHARLIE SECTOR (.) SEVEN (.) the following air strike on FREDA has been arranged (a) maximum effort B24s and P38s (with NAPALM) NOT before 0900 NOT after 1000 (b) mor smoke will indicate target and will NOT be used in other areas during period of strike (c) run will be TARAKAN HILL - OTWAY - FREDA

If liable to etc

M. D. Wright
for Maj Capt

WD (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

242150I

TO : List D

GO339 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 25 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue attack on MARGY (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will continue patrolling GEORGE SECTOR (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will attack FREDA only if air strike made (.) FOUR (.) 2/4 cdo sgn will continue patrolling in area NORTH of DJOEATA OILFDS (.) FIVE (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) SIX (.) following air strikes have been requested (a) 18 B24s and 20 P38s on FREDA NOT before 0830 NOT after 1000 (b) 12 B25s primary target FREDA secondary target DROOP NOT before 1530 NOT after 1630 (.) run on FREDA will be WEST to EAST (d) nor smoke will be used to indicate targets and will NOT be used in other areas during period of strike

If liable to etc

Maj

w D (2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

252215I

TO : List D

GO342 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 26 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue
attack on MARGY (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will be prepared to attack DROOP
after air strike (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will patrol to CLARICE and NELLY
(.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE
(.) 2/4. cdo sqn will (a) complete patrol to CAPE DJOEATA (b) patrol to
LINDA () SIX (.) NEI coy will continue patrolling in CHARLIE SECTOR (.)
SEVEN (:) Following air strike has been requested on DROOP (a) 6 sqns
B24s and 18 P38s NOT before 1500 NOT after 1630 (b) mor smoke will be
used for indication (.) run will be WEST to EAST (.) fluorescent panels
will indicate run

If liable to etc

W.D. (2)
Maj

WD

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

262310I

TO : List D

GO346 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 27 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue attack on MARGY (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue adv from DROOP towards POKER (b) be prepared to attack and capture POKER after air strikes (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will continue patrolling CLARICE and HILDA (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will relieve 2/4 cdo sqn on AGNES with one pl (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) continue mopping up in CAPE DJOEATA and est one tp in that area (b) move one tp to DJOEATA OILFDS (.) SIX (.) NEI coy will continue in CHARLIE SECTOR incl a patrol to CAPE BATOE and CAPE PASIR (.) SEVEN (.) following air strikes have been requested (a) three sqns B24s and eighteen P38s (with NAPALM) on POKER ONE NOT before 0830 NOT after 1000 (b) three sqns B24s on POKER TWO and POKER THREE NOT before 1500 NOT after 1600 (c) mortar smoke will be used to indicate targets and will NOT be used in other areas during periods of strikes (d) run will be from WEST to EAST

If liable to etc

H. J. H. H. H.
Maj

WD

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

272330I

TO : List D

G0350 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 28 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will continue patrolling in MARGY - TRIG 105 area (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) continue mopping up in DROOP - POKER area and exploit to the EAST of POKER (b) continue patrol EAST along line 71 grid line to BINILATOLNG RIVER and report on any tracks or signs enemy mov (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will (a) patrol FAITH - PATRICK - NELLY area (b) patrol CLARICE - LINDA area (c) report enemy defs and tracks in these areas (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will patrol in BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will (a) continue mopping up in CAPE DJOEATA area (b) provide close protection for CD guns and other captured eqpt

If liable to etc

[Handwritten Signature]
Maj

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

282245I

TO : List D

GO406 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 29 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will (a) be prepared to attack MARGY after air strike (b) be prepared to advance along ridge EAST of TRIG 105 after air strike (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) carry out general patrolling in GEORGE SECTOR (b) patrol to ridge at 430694 with a view to finding suitable approach to FUKUKAKU and enemy def's in that area (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will continue patrolling in area LINDA TRIG 102 (.) FOUR (.) 2/4 cdo sq n will continue attack against enemy posn on LOYAL (.) FIVE (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) SIX (.) following air strikes have been arranged (a) 12 B25s on MARGY NOT before 0900 NOT after 1000 (b) 12 B25s primary target MARGY secondary 425689 NOT before 1400 NOT after 1500 (d) run will be along line of air strip (e) mor smoke will be used for indication

If liable to etc

W. H. Wright
for Maj

War Diary

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

TO : LIST D

292200I

GO ~~414~~ (.) SECRET (.) orders for 30 May (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will attack
MARGY after air strike (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will patrol to CHARITY to recce
tracks and enemy movement in that area (.) THREE (.) 2/48 Bn will
continue patrolling in LINDA - TRIG 102 area (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 Pnr Bn will
continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 Cdo Sqn will attack
and capture LOYAL (.) SIX (.) following air strike has been requested (.)
18 B24s and 16 P 38s with NAPALM on MARGY NOT before 1000I NOT after 1100I
(.) run will be SOUTH to NORTH (.) mortar smoke will be used to indicate
target

If liable to etc

W. K. Wright
Capt

W.D(2)

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

302015I

TO : List D

GO357 (.) SECRET (.) orders for 31 may (.) ONE (.) 2/23 bn will attack MARGY after the air strike (.) TWO (.) 2/24 bn will (a) patrol to the FUKUKAKU area to ascertain enemy defs and mov (.) THREE (.) 2/48 bn will continue patrolling in LINDA - TRIG 102 area (.) FOUR (.) 2/3 pnr bn will continue patrolling in BAKER SECTOR (.) FIVE (.) 2/4 cdo sqn will attack and capture LOYAL (.) SIX (.) following air strike has been requested (a) 18 B24s 12 B25s and 18 P38s on MARGY NOT before 0830 NOT after 1030 (b) run will be SOUTH to NORTH (c) mortar smoke will be used for indication (d) secondary target FUKUKAKU

If liable to etc

W.D. Mitchell

Maj

26 ABST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE REPORT

No 4.

(From information to 171800 I)

Prng 28.
Bm/Myt (4)
se (4)
h.O.
ATIS

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITIES.

See (1) Sitrep
(2) Operational Report

2. ENEMY DISPOSNS STRENGTHS DEFS AND WPNS

(a) <u>Disposns Ref</u>	<u>Est No.</u>	<u>Service</u>
413717	30	MINSAIBU
419701	Unknown	-
105-102 features	150	Combined Army/Navy
422685-424684	30	SNLP
427680	25	SNLP
Sc 4367	120	Combined Army/Navy
432685)		
435686)		
443685)	120	Army

(b) Defs.
Enemy dugin - pill boxes and fox holes.

(c) Weapons.
Estimated one 75mm Regtl gun
Mortars)
HMG) unknown
LMG)

3. ENEMY CASUALTIES.

See SITREP.

4. ENEMY EQUIPMENT CAPTURED OR DESTROYED.

(a) Weapons Captured.

- 8 8mm pistols
- 27 MEIJI 38 Long rifles
- 2 Type 99 Rifles
- 2 Type 92 JUKI
- 2 TAISHO 11 LMG's
- 1 Type 99 LMG
- 2 13.15mm Type 92 MG
- 2 25mm Twin Barrel Dual Purpose
- 3 75mm Type 41 Regtl Guns
- 1 50mm Mortar
- 1 90mm Mortar
- 1 9mm SMG (SCHMEISSER)
- 1 Lewis type MG with AA mounting.
- 1 Lewis type MG
- 1 Folding boat
- 2 Verrey pistols
- 8 81mm Mortars (constructed TARAKAN)
- 7 Paravanes

(b) Weapons Destroyed

- 3 TAISHO 11 LMG's
- 2 Type 92 JUKI
- 1 25mm Dual purpose Twin Barrel
- 2 Type 41 Regtl Guns
- 3 S/L
- 1 Dump 75 and 105mm shells
- 1 Fuel truck

(c) Misc Captured.

10 Dutch rifles STEYR
3 40mm BOPORS
2 Vickers 40 MM's (from crashed Liberator)
1 Lewis MF (cal .30 US)
1 6in CD Gun Dutch (destroyed)
2 81mm Mortars (Dutch)
1 .22 US repeating rifle
2 Winchester 1917
1 Dutch HMG
1 Dutch Arm'd truck
12 Civilian motors (US) destroyed
6 " " " " recovered

(d) Enemy Dumps Captured.

4 dumps 75mm amm
3 " Aerial bombs up to 500lbs
2 " 6in naval shells- charges and fuses.
3 " Sea mines
Small dumps SAA throughout area.

(e) Enemy Stores.

Fuel dump 300 drums
2 water filter sets
Fuel dump incl approx 100 shovels
Dump- approx 100 tons pumping eqpt
" 500 tons piping
500 bags rice
100 bags flour
Dump of tinned foods
Number small dumps of rice and flour.

5. TACTICS.

Enemy is content to remain in well concealed defs and await our advances. Posns are sited along ridges on fwd slopes. All posns over run have alternative posns on reverse slopes for protection during bombing and shelling. These shelters are usually tunnels dug into the side of the features or dugouts with overhead protection of logs covered with 1ft or more of earth.

6. ENEMY METHODS.

Enemy infiltration parties have been less active against our posns during night. This is probably due to casualties received from our booby traps and alertness of our tps.

7. SUPPLY SITUATION.

(a) Food

Where enemy have hastily retreated from posns, quantities of food have been found in shelters. Chief items are rice and biscuits. Enemy dead appear to have been in good physical condition but poorly clad which indicates that food supplies so far have been ample.

(b) Amm.

Small quantities of SAA remain in vacated posns. It would appear therefore that reserves of amm from FUKUKAKU are available to enemy.

Prepared demolition charges and booby traps in small numbers have been left in def area.

8. TOPOGRAPHY.

Japanese posns are located in rugged terrain and dense vegetation. Areas of resistance are connected by foot pads along ridges. Movement through virgin scrub restricted by lawyer vine and other forms of undergrowth.

(V.N. NELSON) Capt.
IO 26 Aust Inf Bde.

26 JUNE 1965 IMP HDE INT REPORT No 5
(Infm 24 hrs to 181800Z)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

See 8

(a) SITREPS

(b) OPERATIONAL REPORT

2. ENEMY DISPOSNS, DEFS AND WEAPONS

See Appx A.

3. INDICATIONS ENEMY INTENTIONS

Determined resistance by the enemy in holding strong def posns indicated that he intends to fight to the end. Enemy shows reluctance to attack in force and has not repeated an assault of the scale of his attack on our posns on AGNES 15 May 45.

4. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY

Nil.

5. ENEMY CAP

See SITREP.

6. ENEMY BOBT AND DUMP (24 hrs to 181800Z)

(a) Captured

(i) CAPE BATON AREA

1 25mm Twin Barrel Dual purpose (damaged)

Dumps - 500 rds 25mm HE

27 6-in Naval Shells

440 25mm fuses

75 and 105mm Demolition charges

18 6-in shell cart

(ii) KAROENGAN

1 Naval Torpedoe (approx 25-ft x 18-in diameter)

Engr stores with tools etc

(iii) SESANIP OILTDS

1 10 cm AA Binoculars

(b) Destroyed

(i) CAPE BATON

1 a/L (US made)

1 pr Naval Bin

2 Mobile Radars

2 Lighting Fla etc

(ii) KAROENGAN

3 Marine power engines

1 s/L

7. ENEMY TACTICS

Enemy remains inactive but is offering stiff resistance from prepared posns.

The one 75mm gun believed remaining to enemy opened up at pt blank range on our advancing troops from 424688. Enemy indirect arty fire has been erratic and has met with little success.

8. PW

Two PW brought in by natives 1217501. PW had deserted on 10 May and attempted to reach mainland of BORNEO. Both PW were from 3 Pl 1 Coy ANLP 2 Gd Force. Details of interrogation will be published when available.

Nelson

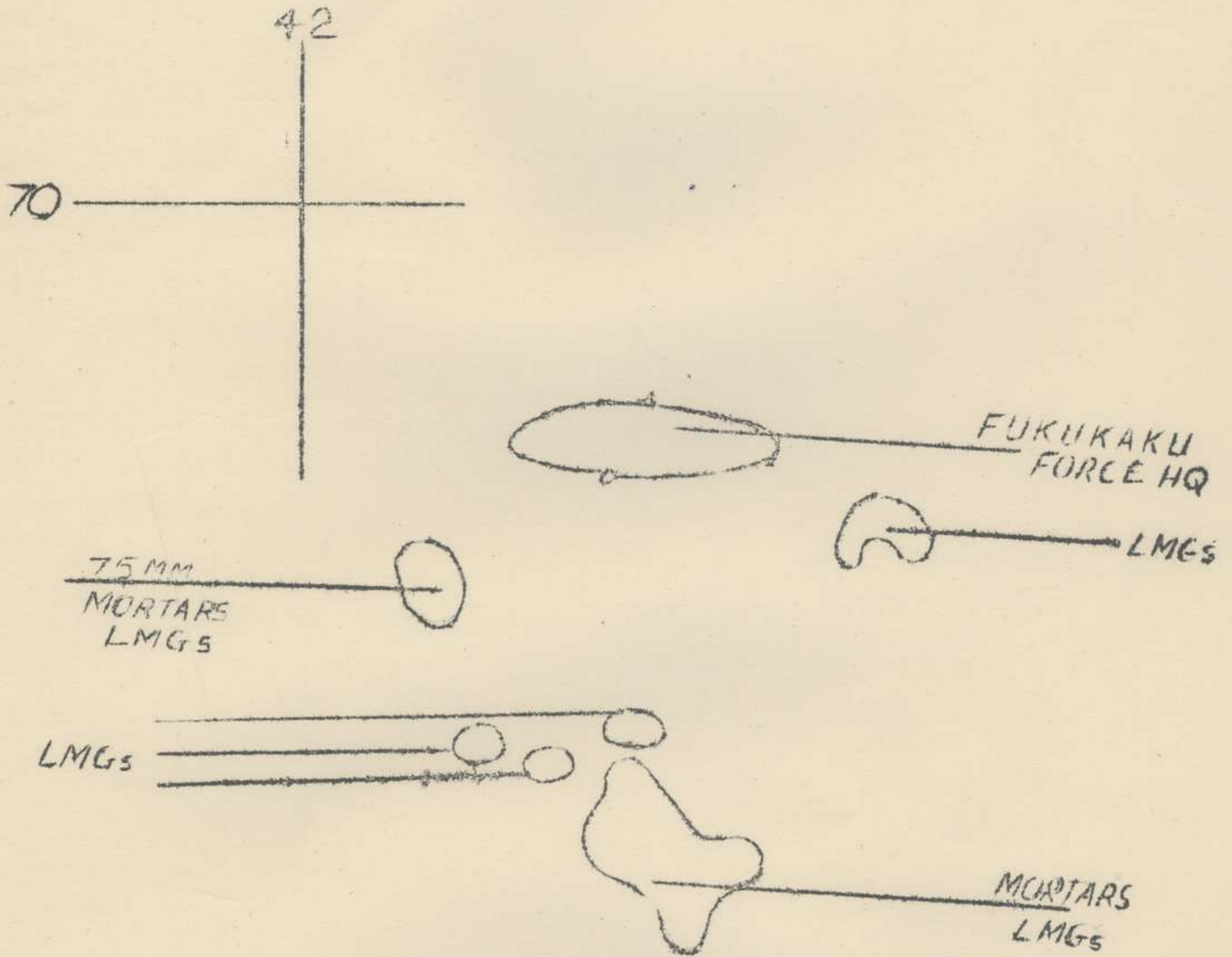
(V N NELSON) Capt
10 26 Aust Inf Bde

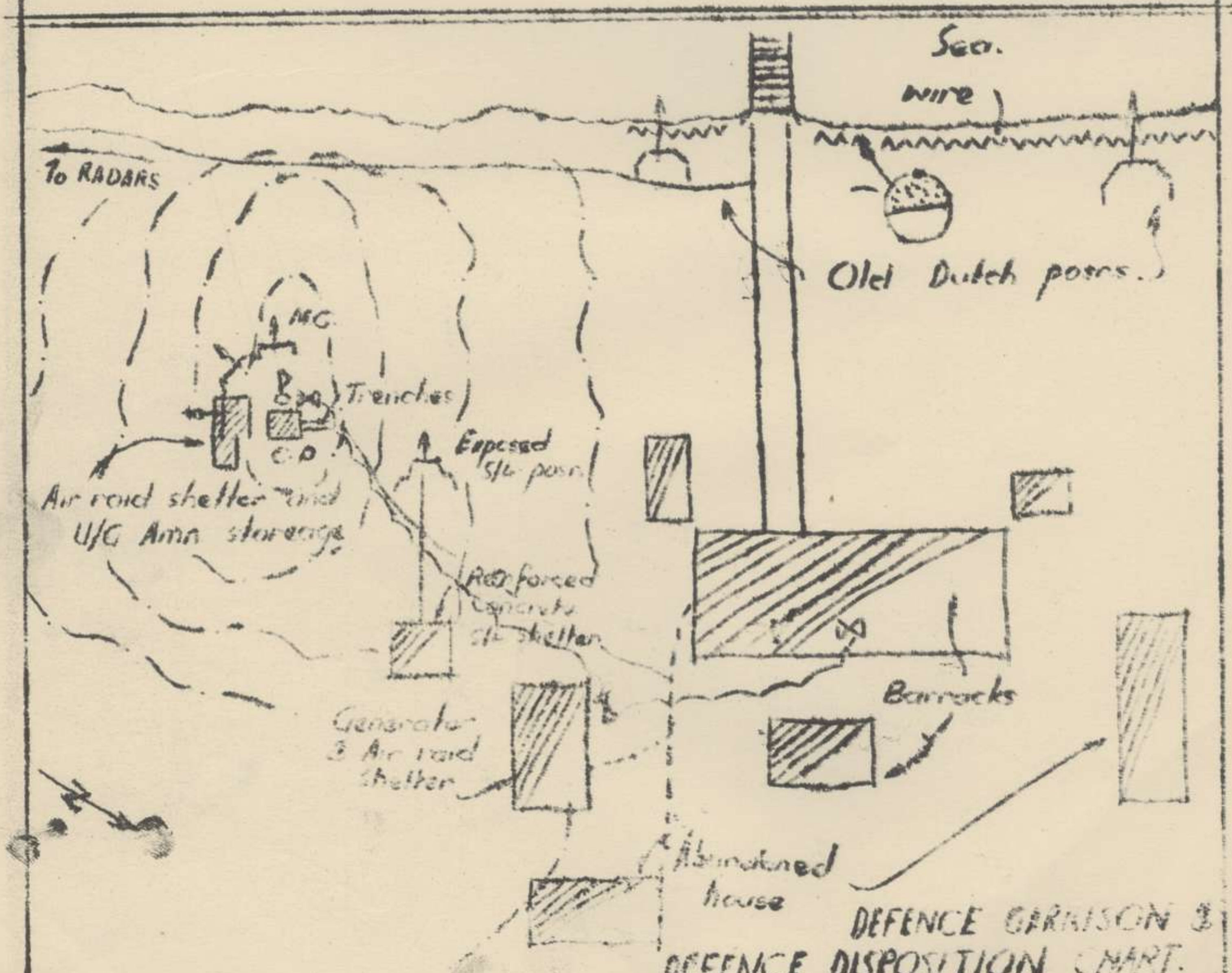
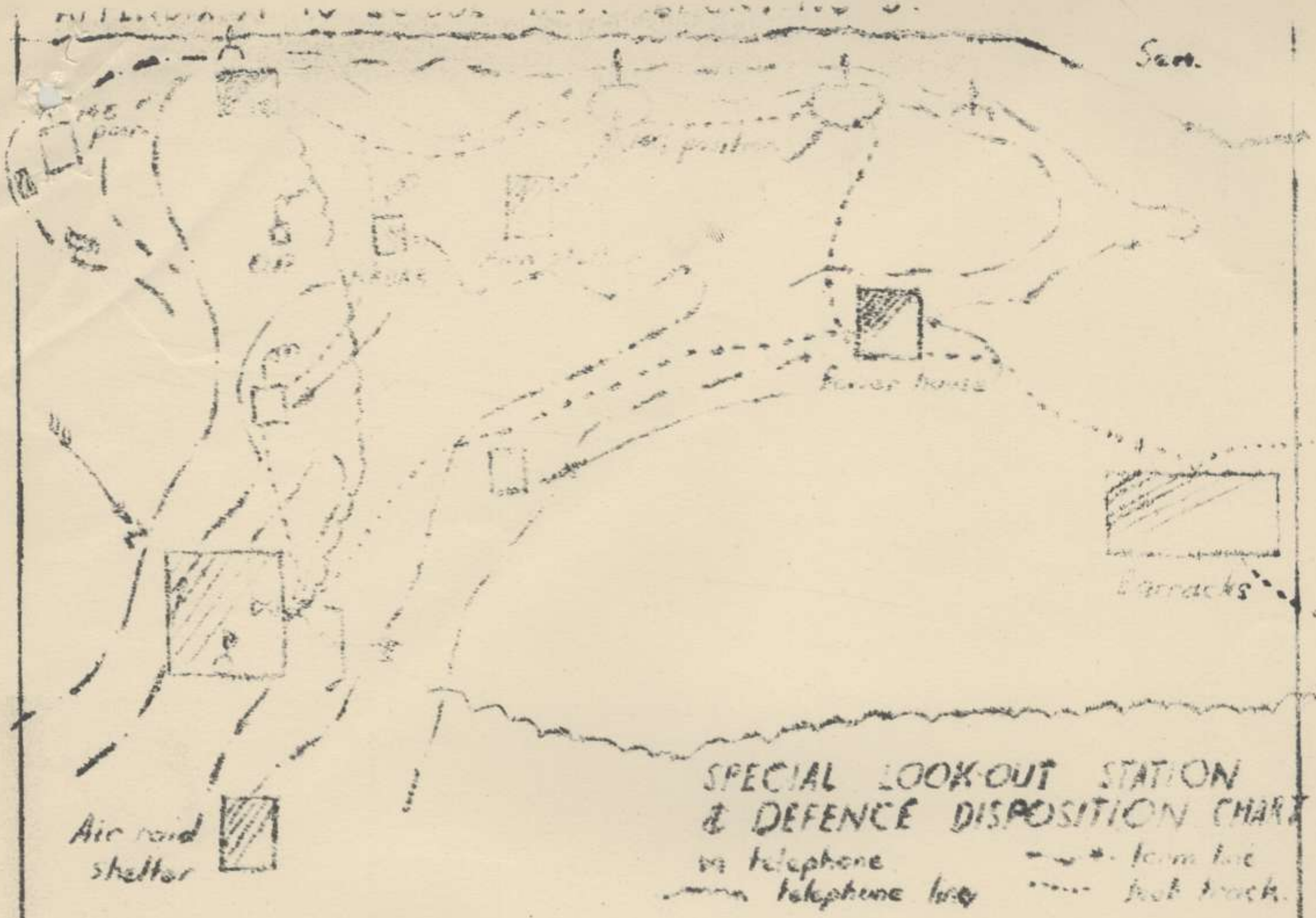
Distribution :

- List B
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APPX A TO INT REPORT No 5

ENEMY DISPOSNS & WEAPONS





TRACE OF CAPTURED MAP FIELD SKETCHES OF DEFENCES AT
TO PASIR REF MAP TARAkan 1:25000.

(From information to 201800I)

~~Secret~~

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.
See (a) SHARP
(b) Operational Report.

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS AND WEAPONS.

(a) Dispos.
See trace APPX A.

(b) Weapons.

Enemy has at least two 75mm guns still operating but either because of am shortage or to avoid counter fire from our Arty he uses them sparingly, and fires only once or twice a day.

At 192300I 75mm shells fell on the airstrip and on FR INF but enemy ceased fire when engaged by our Arty.

3. ENEMY INTENTIONS
NO change.

4. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY.
Nil.

5. ENEMY CASUALTIES.

Enemy cas reported for 24hrs to 201800I	Est addit- Counted Dead	PT ional killed
--	----------------------------	--------------------

6. ENEMY TACTICS.
The enemy continues his night raids using grenades and 75mm shells as grenades. Operating in parties of two or three, they move to assigned objectives and attempt to enter our posns. (See Appx C)

7. ENEMY SUPPLY SITUATION.
There is NO indication of any serious shortages, either in am or food supplies but the necessity for economy in the use of MG am is stressed in an enemy instruction (Appx C)

It is believed that the use of 75mm shells and shell cases as grenades is NOT dictated by any shortage of grenades but because of their greater killing effect.

8. SECURITY.
Security of enemy posns is stressed in Coy Comd's instructions to pl commander 3 pl, extracts from which appear in Appx C.

9. TOPOGRAPHY.
(a) Swamps. Areas in vic of ck juncs in low ground at approx 10-20m level have been found to be swampy and in some places impassable. This is common on both the EASTERN and WESTERN sides of the Island, and in many cases this info is NOT contained on the 1/25000 TARAKAN sheets. The areas most recently discovered are :-

From 405693 EAST to approx 415695, width approx 300 yds to 500yds.

From ck junc 453682 to ck junc 457680, width varying

TOPOGRAPHY (Cont)

- (b) Features. Ring contour features as shown 1/25000 TARAKAN sheets have in some cases been found to consist of from 3-4 smaller features, any of which could easily be mis taken for the feature shown on map. Trig 105 and FREDA are typical examples of this. Spurs leading to such points are usually razor backed and steep, with, in many cases, only a narrow pad or NONE at all.
- (c) Tracks. Track from 427682 entering SNAG's Track at 422682 has been found by patrols to be a ck.

Capt.
(V.N. NELSON)
IO 26 Aust Inf Bde.

TRACK TRACE

Ref map TARAKAN SOUTH
(SPECIAL) 1/25,000.

LEGEND

Tracks found by patrols -----
from captured maps ————

44

71

68

47

ANZAC
HIGHWAY

JOHNS
RIVER

Extracts from documents captured CRAZY RIDGE 19 May.

FROM OC COY to PL COMD

14 May 1630 hrs.

1. This evening 3 pl will despatch an infiltration unit composed of two men to the SEBANIP ROAD (between the former 3 pl and coy positions) where the enemy have their tents and telegraph wires. (Reco will be carried out from the hill behind the former HQ position to the present 3 pl position). They will cause casualties to members of demolition squads who are probably using microphones (mine detectors).
2. An enemy patrol infiltrated through to above the Coy HQ tunnel. (at 1530 hrs sounds of pistol shots were heard so extra precautionary measures were taken. The pl leader immediately sent a patrol of three men which caused the withdrawal of the enemy).
3. Should the enemy discover our position, it will become useless and very dangerous so change the position and place sentries around it. Positions will be constructed so as to cause minimum damage from mortar fire.
4. Positions must have elasticity, and remembering that there will always be guerrilla activity, powerful rifle fire must be maintained to annihilate the enemy.
5. The type of amn used by the enemy sub-MGs is unknown, but it is not type 98, we know that they are using --- (illegible) type.
6. Special precautionary instructions have been issued to move silently especially where there is no cover.

FROM OC COY to PL COMD,

15 May

1. Night infiltration units and infiltration patrols (composed of small numbers) will vigorously undertake guerrilla warfare to change the situation and counter-attack. Positions will be constructed so as to have elasticity, tactical advantage, and protection from fire.
2. Emergency weapons will be put to practical use to form cross fire.
3. (partly illegible) On the road between SEBANIP and YAMANAKA position, there are enemy sentry units so caution is necessary.
4. TONIGHT'S INFILTRATION UNITS COUNTER-ATTACK AND DISPOSITION.
 - a. HQ pl: In front of coy position and strengthening of present position.
 - b. I pl will attack the immediately opposing enemy and recover the position.
 - c. 3 pl: the vicinity of the original 3 pl and coy cook-house.
 - d. MG pl: on road fork (right side looking from crashed plane) To strengthen one part of coy position.
 - e. Mtn Gun pl: Strengthen Mtn Gun position.
 - f. OKADA unit: Same as MG pl.
5. If enemy is recognised, fire and repulse him before he infiltrates into our position. After repulse of enemy, be quiet and be on guard of enemy mortars. 1000 hrs will be the most dangerous time so security and lookout will be observed. (MG amn will be recognised).
6. Guard especially the rear and flanks of coy posn.
7. The enemy attack will be fierce. Although we recovered the coy position, the battle is yet to start.
8. Necessary articles will be removed from the vicinity of the coy tunnel as it will be destroyed shortly. Barracks will also be burned down.

26 AUSTRALIAN INF BDE INT REPORT

SECRET

Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde
21 May 45

NO. 8

(From infm to 211800L)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

See (a) Sitreps
(b) Operational Report

2. ENEMY DISPOSNS, DEFS, WEAPONS

- (a) Disposns. See Appx A att.
- (b) Defts. - The capture of 105 feature revealed a network of bunkers, trenches, foxholes and shelters. Although the feature was a tangled mass of fallen timber from bombing and shelling, the number of undamaged shelters illustrates the effectiveness of enemy subterranean defts.
- (c) Weapons. Between 1422 hrs and 1435 hrs, 14 shells fell on the airstrip at 398672, and 404674. Three sound bearings and one smoke bearing placed the gun at approx 428691. As no identifiable fragments have yet been found, some doubt exists as to whether this gun is a Bn Gun (70mm Type 92) or the 75mm Regtl Gun, or 75mm Mtn Gun. To date only type captured or destroyed have been 75mm regtl guns Type 41. PW statements and captured documents have referred only to 75mm Mtn Guns. From the believed location of the gun to the fall of shells, the range is 3900 yds. Maximum range of 70mm Bn Gun is 3000 yds, but additional range might be gained from the altitude. Height above sea level at gun posn is approx 320 ft. Target area is sea level. It is doubtful, however, that even under these circumstances this range could be obtained. During the past few days, the gun location has changed considerably. The mobility and rapid change of location tends to confirm the belief that the weapon is the 75mm Mtn Gun.
- (d) Capt. Captured on HILLEN feature -
1 small type quadrant
1 sight (marked 92 inf) believed to be Bn Gun 70mm
1 motor tricycle fire fighting plant, airstrip
capt.

3. ENEMY INTENTIONS.

No change.

4. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY - Mil

5. ENEMY CAS.

<u>Counted Dead</u>	<u>Probably Killed</u>	<u>PWS.</u>
14	4	-

6. ENEMY TACTICS

The enemy made an unsuccessful attempt to mislead our aircraft before the air strike on 102 feature. When this feature was registered with mortar smoke, smoke also appeared in area 425689 and 427697. These tactics have been practised in the past and have been anticipated by our Air Force.

7. ENEMY SUPPLY SITUATION

Four enemy dead (Army tps) examined on JANET feature had been in good physical condition. All were carrying ample food supplies, and their pouches were well filled with amm. Two only were carrying rifles, the remainder additional water bottles.

ENEMY COMMUNICATIONS

It is doubtful if line comn is now employed by the enemy. PWs have stated that, with the isolation of units, comn between fighting tps and HQ is by runner only. Some system of signals however is employed at night by colored signal flares, as during the past 3 nights flares have been noted at the following times :-

Night	18/19	-	2100 hrs.
	19/20		2100 "
	20/21		0430 "

Nelson
V.N. NELSON Capt.
IO 26 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

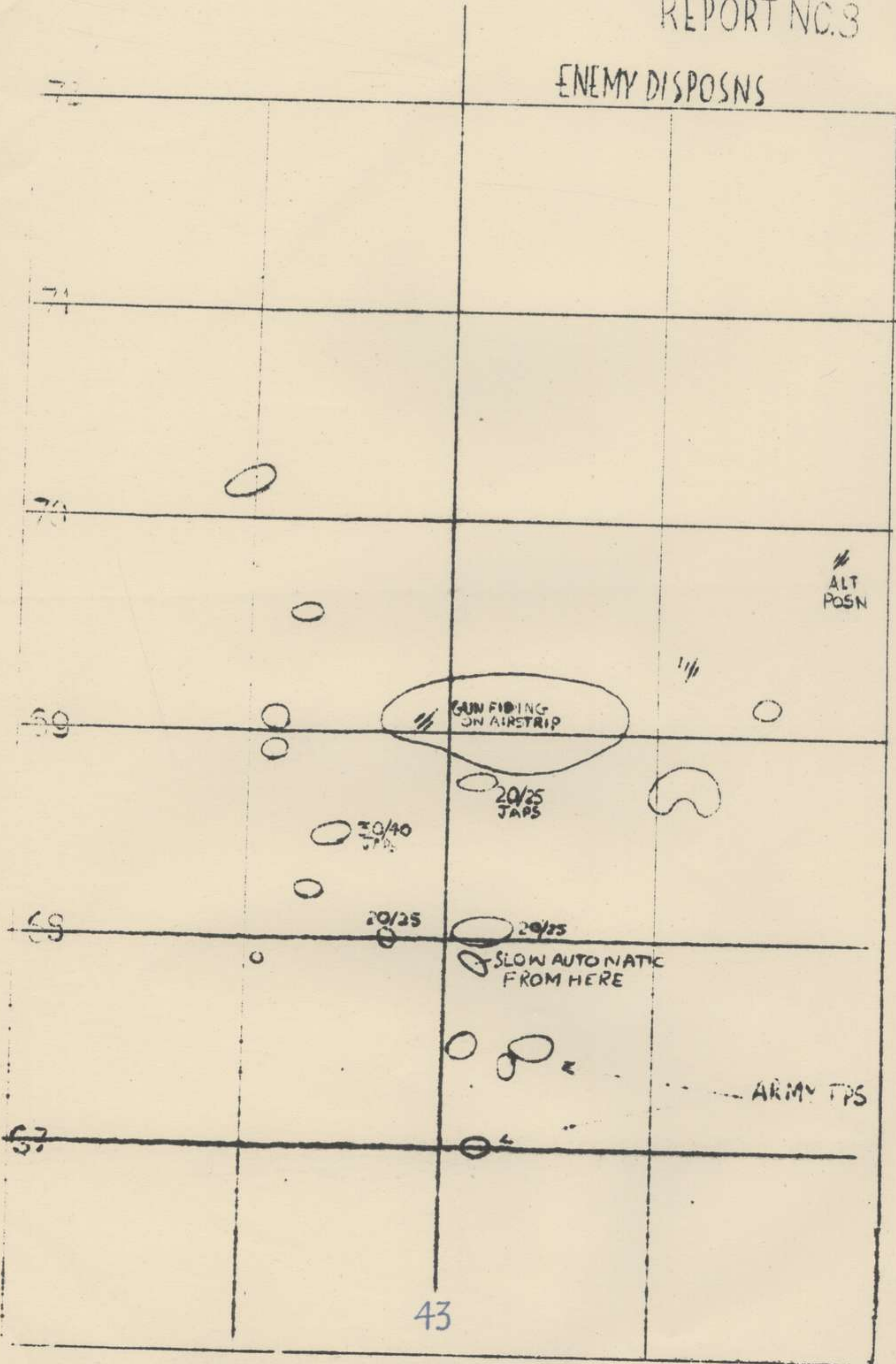
9 Aust Div

List "B"

SECRET

APPX "A" TO 26 BDE INT
REPORT NO. 3

ENEMY DISPOSNS



SECRET

APPENDIX "B" to 26 JUSE INF BCS INTEREP NO. 8

Document Captured TARAKAN Area 21 May 45
at map ref 391743.

Loose leaf handwritten sheet captured from dead Jap.
Full translation as follows :-

- "1. At 1000 hrs proceeded downstream along river and arrived at TANKU (presumably refers to oil tank).
2. At 1030 hrs crossed the river again and cut the telephone lines. Two small enemy type cars approached. At (time illegible) while going down stream, came a cross barracks. Enemy had much washing hanging. At 1700 hrs proceeded back and cut the telephone wires at some place."

On the back of this sheet was a rough sketch of the road in vic DJOGATA OILFIELD.

DOCUMENT captured TARAKAN area 19 May 45.

This handwritten sheet showing strength of 1 Coy 2 Guard Force (undated) is believed to be Coy strength prior to our landing :

Full translation -

Comd Pl	WO	YAMAMOTO	and	35 men.
1 "	Ens	FUKUTOMI	"	47 "
2 "	"	MIYASO	"	47 "
3 "	"	KANEAKI	"	47 "
4 "	WO	SUGIMOTO	"	47 "
Gun Unit	Ens	TAKAHASHI	"	47 "
NG Pl	"	MYOGA	"	47 "

Total				317 men
Coy Comd	Lt(jg)	YOSHIMIZU		
		and staff		8 "

Grand Total				325 men

26 ABST INF BDA LITREP NO 9.

(From initm to 221800I)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

See (a) SITREPS
(b) Operations Report.

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

See Appx A att

3. ENEMY INTENTIONS.

The determined resistance from FREDA, MARGY and SUSIE features and the continued strengthening of these defts, indicates his intention to hold in these areas. Two tracks to FURDURANU posn still remain as sup routes to these posns. While sup are ample, it is unlikely that enemy will make further withdrawals unless forced from these strong points. The loss of FREDA would seriously jeopardise the posns SOUTH of this feature as line for sup and withdrawal would be severed.

4. ENEMY METHODS.

During night 21/22 day enemy was more active on 2/27 Bn sector. Enemy attacked pl posn at 423601 but were repulsed. To support attack arty (believed 75mm) and mortar fire was used. Of 12 rds of arty fired, 4 were duds.

A novel ruse was employed against one pl. The enemy moved as close as possible to the pl area and threw clay balls into the posn, probably in an attempt to draw our fire and disclose the location of weapon posns.

Sounds of digging and chopping came from MARGY area during the night. The enemy's def of this feature has been stubborn, and with additional defts it would appear that he intends to contest this ground to the last.

At first light 22 day, smoke was observed in the deep re-entrant below MARGY. Smoke resembled our 2" mortar type and drifted towards kn where enemy bunkers on WEST side MARGY 423604 providing effective screen for approx 10 min. It is believed that the screen was employed to hide mov of sup parties as enemy have been observed carrying gun and sup to bunkers. On these occasions enemy was effectively engaged by our fire. This morning, a search of area 415684, where mov was heard during night 21/22 day, revealed one cylindrical mine (depth charge) with 4 flying pig mines (The Hook) and exploder attached. Thick rubber cables, freshly greased at joints led up the feature. Location of this mine illustrates deep infiltration tactics employed.

In approx same area 8 nights previously, a sea mine was located with a 75mm shell fired by electric det as a charge to det mine. The shell was normal type with plug taken from fuse and electric det substituted for normal flash cap and firing train.

5. ENEMY CASUALTIES.

For 24 hrs to 221800I	Counted dead	1st additional	PT
	12	15	-
		Killed	

6. ENEMY EPT CAPTURED.

- 1 - G
- 1 Browning (US)
- 2 Medical Kits

7. HOSTILE SHELLING.

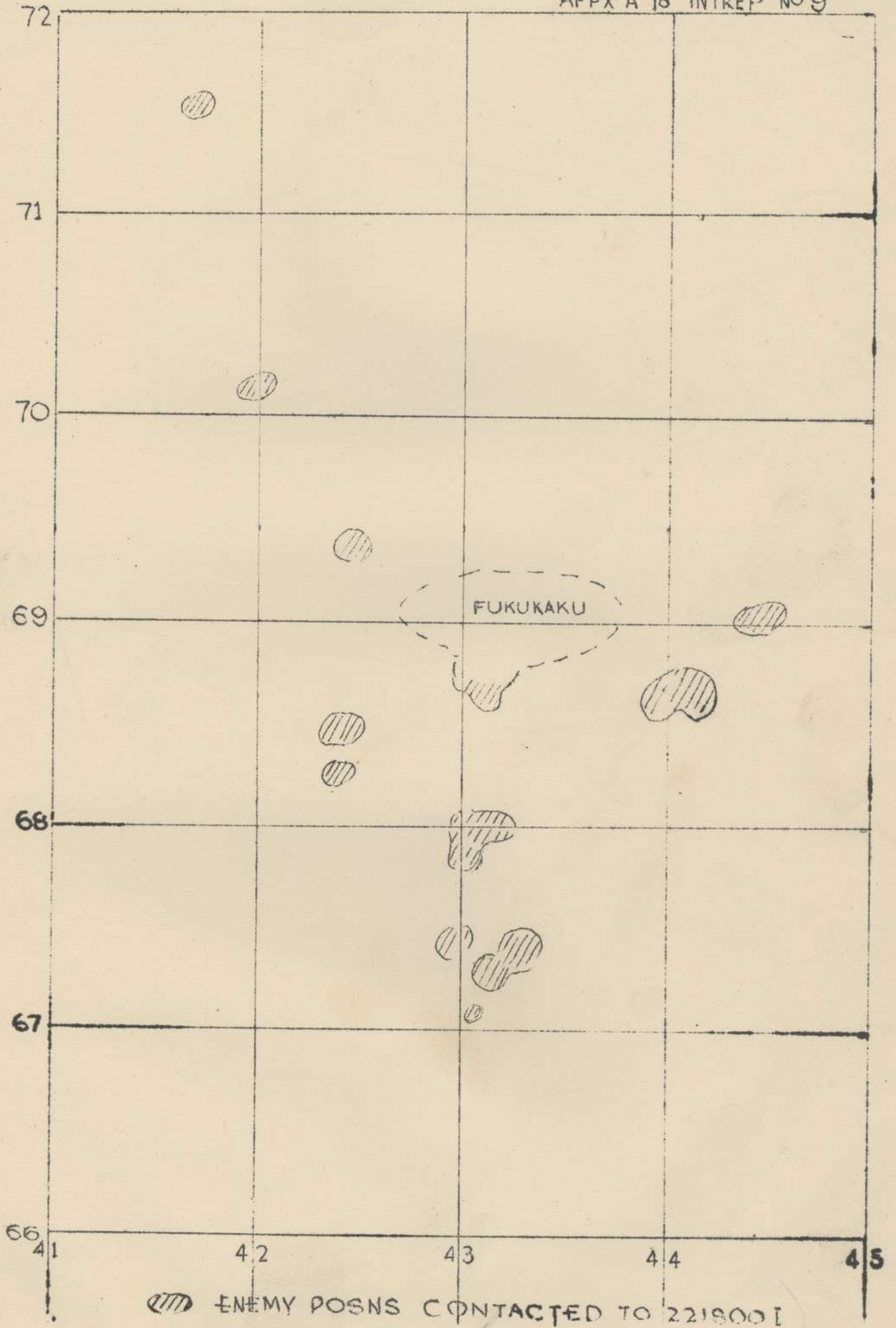
<u>Time</u>	<u>No rds</u>	<u>Area shelled</u>	<u>Type of gun</u>
212145I	7	423688	
212720I	1	423688	
220030I	12	423681	75mm
220430I	2	423688	or
220630I	3	423688	70mm

Enemy arty fire continues to be inaccurate, NO cas resulting.

Nelson Capt.
(V.N. NELSON)
IO. HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution:
9 Div
List B

SECRET
APPX A To INTREP No 9



APPENDIX

to 26 Aust Inf Bde Int Report
No 9Extr. etc from documents captured TARAKAN area 21 May 45.
Diary on loose note-book sheets dated 30 Apr and 18 May 4530 Apr - clear

At 2130 hrs received message by telephone at TANKAN HILL that 300 enemy landed, (presumably SABAN) There is NO indication of tanks being involved in landing. Strict security is needed. Sentry group of pl ldr KAYAMA and 4 men will place sentries in front of KURI position between TAKAHASHI Sec, and in front of warehouse. At about 0900 hrs today the enemy intended landing on TANKAN Hill with 8 tanks but were repulsed by 6 IGS and Uta Arty. At 2:00 hrs, destroyed the barracks.

1 May 45 - cloudy

At 0700 commenced landing on TANKAN Hill. At 0700 Navy soldiers and Jap civilians proceeded to Hill 105 and came under direct command of commander. At 0900 AMATA section was sent to KURI posn. KIMURA sec withdrew to KURI posn. At 0900 hrs one sec of KOSUDA Pl was despatched to the fork of NEGITAN Road to guard the posn. At 1500 hrs TAKAHASHI pl at NEGITAN returned to the Coy. At 1500 hrs KAROENGAN Special Unit, 2/Lt TSUJIMURA with 36 men while on its way to FUKUKAKU posn, stopped over. At 2400hrs WO MIKI came to liaison.

2 May 45 - clear

TAKAHASHI Pl (less HMG) left at 0200hrs by orders of Bn Comd and returned to NEGITAN. At 0400hrs 2/Lt TSUJIMURA departed for FUKUKAKU posn. At 1600hrs Cpl ARAI and Sup Pte OKADA came to liaison. At 1700hrs Cpl KAYAMA and 4 men departed to TANK Hill for infiltration purposes. Sup Pte MATSUMI departed on patrol to AMPATTO and returned at 2400hrs with no change. The enemy have not yet advanced to AMPATTO.

3 May 45 - clear

The enemy intentions seem to advance into RADAN. Sup Pte HAKABEHA and 2 men departed to AMPATTO as an infiltration patrol. At 2400hrs 1/Pte KURI came for liaison duties.

5 May 45 - clear

WO KARUFANI with 2 rifle sec and one HMG Sec advanced to AMPATTO as a commando unit. At 1300hrs the enemy re-appeared and caused 4 casualties.

6 May 45 - clear

2 sec commanded by 1/Lt KOSUDA less casualty squad, left at 0900 hrs for the designated place. Commando unit commanded by WO KARUFANI was at AMPATTO Pt between the hours of 1000 and 1300. Estimated enemy strength 70 men.

Battle results - enemy cas 20 men

Captured - 1 semi automatic rifle, 100 rds IAG
4mm, 100 rifle amm, 300 rds IAG amm.

7 May 45 - clear

Captured posn East of ALAMO Hill

8 May 45 - clear

Coy departed for 102 Hill according to operation order.

9 May 45 - clear

Arrived at 102 Hill. TAKAHASHI Pl upon arrival at SEIBADA Pl immediately was despatched to IAIKOHARA Unit (probably Navy KOHARA Unit) and moved to area of POLPO MURU at 1400 hrs. 5 cas resulted from this action.

16 May 45 - cloudy

Coy attacked the enemy on the left feature. 1/Lt KOSUDA and his 1st Pl was annihilated.

26 AUST INF BDE INT REPORT NO. 10

(From Infm to 231800I)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

- See (a) SITRAPS
(b) OPERATIONAL REPORT.

2. ENEMY DISPOSALS.

See Appx "A" att.

3. WEAPONS.

It is believed now that the enemy has at least two arty pieces :

- 1 - 70mm Bn Gun
- 1 - 75mm Mtn Gun

4. ENEMY CAS

<u>Counted dead</u>	<u>Additional estimated killed</u>	<u>FW</u>
27	10	-

5. CAPTURED EQUIP.

- 1 - JUKI HMG.
- 1 - LEWIS Type MG. (destroyed)

6. ENEMY TACTICS.

Infiltration tactics were repeated again during night 22/23 May. One party of eight armed with 75mm fused shells, Dutch grenades, rifles and spears, attempted to infiltrate into 2/4 Cav (Cdo) Sqn Tac HQ posn at 443664. The attack failed, and enemy withdrew with one killed, and leaving behind the 75mm shells.

Location of the gun which has been daily shelling the airfd was pinpointed by Arty R. Enemy gun was seen firing from 43536917 between 0915I and 1920I. It was noticed on a track 10 ft wide and in line with the airfd. Pilot and observer believed gun to be on rails, possibly leading into a tunnel. The enemy usually fires the gun when our own mortars and arty are in action, thus concealing noise and flash.

7. ENEMY METHODS.

A tunnel captured by 2/23 Bn at ref 421685 was well constructed, 6 ft wide, 5 to 6 ft high, with hy timber lining on sides and roof. It was L shaped, running straight into the feature for 75 ft, and then turning left for 30 ft. A 2 ft gauge rail carrying a small tumbling conveyor ran into the tunnel to the bend. The mouth of the tunnel was protected by a hy timber apron which provided excellent camouflage for the entrance.

Capt found in the tunnel included :

- (a) Medical capt and stores
- (b) Marine uniforms and clothing.
- (c) Linen and bedding
- (d) SA amm
- (e) One Dutch 75mm and four 50mm shells prepared as booby traps.

26 AUST INF BDE INTREP NO. 10.

Page 2.

ENEMY METHODS (Cont).

Posns vacated by the enemy along SNAG'S TRACK NW of SUSIE consisted of numerous foxholes and well-constructed diggings, with 18" to 24" head cover. Although by mortar fire over a number of days had been concentrated on these posns, many of the diggings were intact.

During the night, and again by day, telephone lines were cut. Small parties on two occasions attempted to ambush our carrying parties. The enemy now realise the length of our supply lines from the main arteries and is attempting to sever these routes.

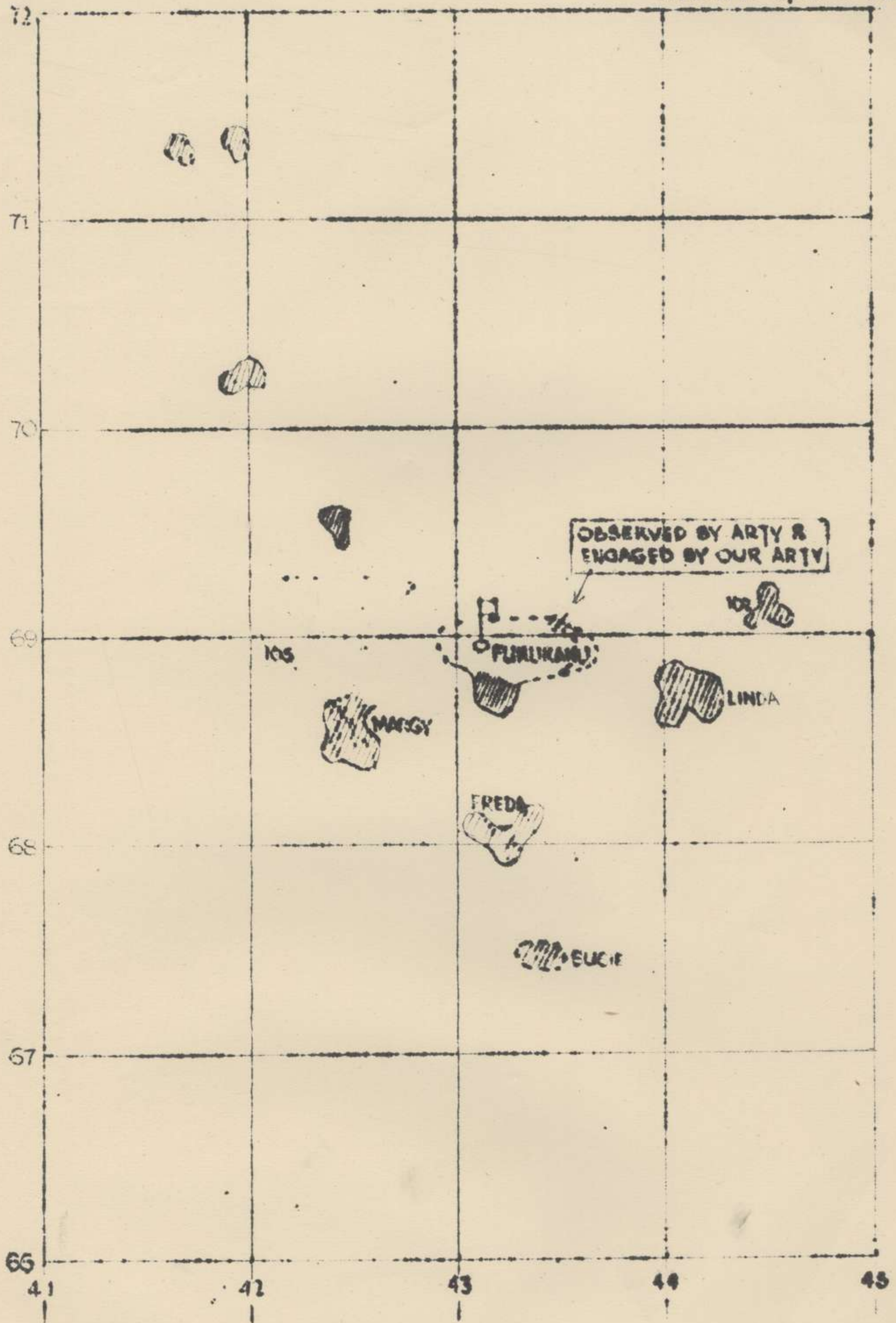
TRANSLATION from loose note taken from body of W.O. (SNLP) killed on booby trap in front of B Coy 2/48 Bn at 230700I :-

"From Coy C.O. to W.O. TAKEKAMI (undated)

Upon the arrival of Lt (jg) MIZUTA with 20 men of the infiltration unit, W.O. TAKEKAMI will take his subordinates of 20 men to carry a night attack against the enemy in front of HILL 102. Ten men from 3 pl are expected to join the above unit."

V. Nelson Cspt
(V.N. NELSON)
I.O. 26 Aust Inf Bde

SECRET
APPX A to INTREP NO 10



WD

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
24 May 45.

26 AUST INF BDE INTREP NO. 11

(From Infm to 241800I)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY
See (a) SITREP
(b) Operational Report.
2. ENEMY DISPOSNS.
See Trace Appx "A".
3. ENEMY STRENGTHS.

PW captured 24 May (See Preliminary Interrogation Report att) stated that approx 900 Japanese remained on the island, comprising 500 Naval and 400 Army tps, disposed as follows :

Track FUKURAKU - DJOEATA	:	200-300 (NAVAL AND ARMY)
HQ FUKURAKU area	:	200 HQ tps.
102 FEATURE	:	150 (NAVAL)
SOUTH of FUKURAKU	:	200 (NAVAL AND ARMY)

It is considered that these figures are over estimated, and it is doubtful if PW would have access to cas lists. He was also vague regarding other details.

Estimated strength on 1 May 45

Combat tps	1750
Civilians	350
Total	2100

Casualties to 241800I

Counted dead	614
Est additional killed	138
PW	13
Est additional ineffectives	660

Effective tps to
241800I

~~1395~~
1425
675
~~735~~

4. ENEMY INTENTIONS
With our continued pressure on FREDA and by casualties resulting the enemy has been forced to withdraw from his southern posns to strengthen his defs directly protecting Ridge through 105 and 102 features.
During the past week the posns on track from DJOEATA oilfds. to FUKURAKU have been reinforced to protect our threat from the north. The 102 feature is strongly held to protect his left flank. The enemy realises he must hold this vital ground as its capture would mean loss of food and amn dumps and the collapse of his last natural line of defence.
5. ENEMY METHODS
The enemy has now been seriously "hurt" and he finds it necessary to come out to attack our posns. This, he does usually at night.
Tactics employed against our posns on AGNES during night 23/24 were similar to a previous attack on FREDA. During moonlight hours the enemy creeps forward as close as possible to our posns under cover of noise from MG fire along ridge.

5 ENEMY METHODS (Cont)

He then waits, detecting any movement or noise including fire from our tps so as to locate our gun posns. When the moon has set, he opens fire on the known posns whilst tps armed with fused 75mm shells come in from the flanks and hurl the "grenades" at close quarters.

6. CAPTURED EQUIPMENT

Type 92 HMG (JUKI) (destroyed)
50mm Type 89 GD (Knee mortar)

7. PW

PW's captured during 24hrs to 241800L

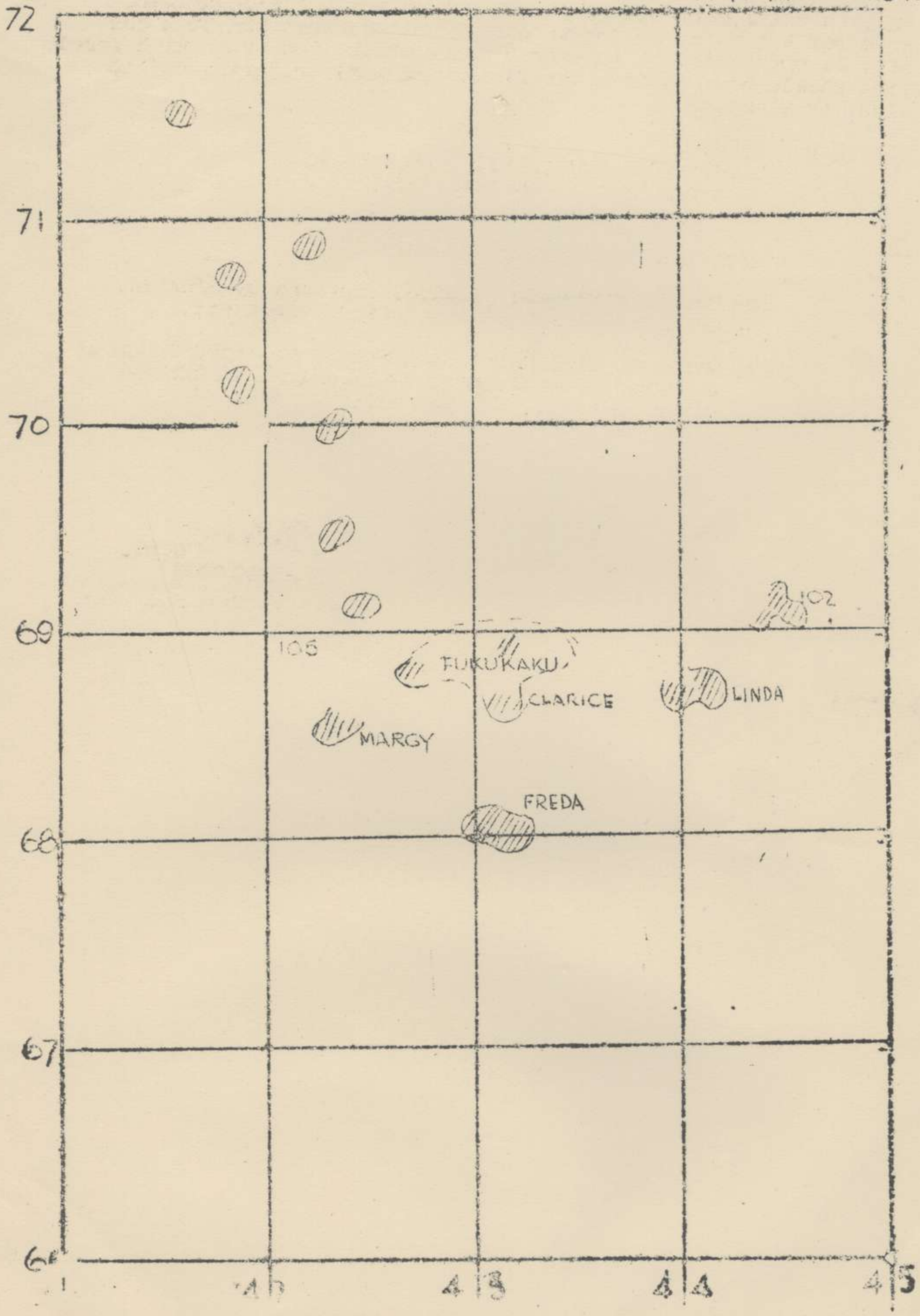
(a) One PW seriously wounded, captured by 2/24 Bn.
See Preliminary Interrogation Report att.

(b) Three PW (101 Naval Fuel Depot) deserted 1 May 45
captured by natives on small island in SESAJAP
River estuary. NOT yet interrogated.

Nelson Capt.
(V.N. NELSON)
IO, HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution:
9 Div
List B.

SECRET
APPX A TO INTREP NO 11



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83/184

HQ 26 AUST INF BDE

ATIS Detachment

24 May 45

P. PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION - NO. 14

1. Personal Details:

Name:	AKAZAWA, Kemetaro
PW No:	JA - T 14
Rank:	Pte 1 Cl
Unit:	TAKEDA Unit
Where captured:	near BEECH Feature, TARAKAN
When Captured:	24 May 45
By whom:	2/24 Bn
Civil occupation:	Farmer

2. History

PW arrived in TARAKAN in Dec 44 and was assigned to the TAKEDA Construction Unit. In April 29 this unit became a combat unit as part of the TOKOI Force. During the operations his unit was located in the FURUKANU Position doing labour work and carrying ammunition from a dump near 105 feature back to the position. On night 22 May, he left with another man for the dump but on the way came under mortar fire and retreated into the jungle. They became lost and wandered all next day and night until they came to an Australian post near BEECH feature, where his companion was killed and he wounded in the stomach and taken prisoner.

Interrogators note: When interrogated PW was in a very weak state and could hardly talk. As a result of this his interrogation had to be brief but his information is thought to be fairly reliable.

3. Unit

The TAKEDA Unit commanded by 1st Lt TAKEDA. This unit was independent until 29 April when it became combatant and came under TOKOI Force (374 IIB) Strength of unit 80.

4. TROOPS IN AREA

PW stated that there were approx 900 troops left in TARAKAN, of which, 400 were Army and the rest Navy.

CONFIDENTIAL

2

These two arms were combined into one force under Naval command. The HQ was located in FUKUKAKU with approx 200 troops. The other troops were divided into the following areas:

Approx 2/300 Army and Navy along track from FUKUKAKU to
DJOMATA Oilfields.

" 300 Army and Navy spread in area below FUKUKAKU

" 150 Navy in area between 102 feature and FUKUKAKU

5. FUKUKAKU Position

The 200 troops in this area consisted mostly of HQ Staff. Main HQ was situated in a tunnel 40 m long, the only one known to PW in this area. There were 2 Bn guns (70 mm) in the HQ, one of which was destroyed by aerial bombardment about 10 days ago, killing 7 and wounding 3 men. To his knowledge these guns were not mounted on rails.

6. Casualties

Number of casualties were very high but PW did not know to what extent. In his unit which did not take part in any fighting 10 men were killed by aerial and ground bombardment up to 22 May.

7. Fire bombs

PW stated that Napalm bombs were feared among troops and had caused many casualties. He heard of an instance about a week ago when 40 to 50 men in a closely concentrated group were burned to death by these bombs. This took place in an area below FUKUKAKU.

8. Medical

There was a CCS in FUKUKAKU which cared for wounded personnel and under charge of Naval NCOs. PW stated that men killed on the front lines were hastily buried and sometimes only covered with dirt.

9. Supplies.

He estimated the supplies in FUKUKAKU to last for 2 months more, and thought that ammunition was still less.

10. Surrender leaflets

PW had read our propaganda leaflets that their contents were probably true. He also thought that this was the opinion of others who had read them. When asked why he did not surrender as directed he stated that he did not like coming in alone for fear of being killed, but would have done so if more men were with him. He did not know what the opinion of officers were in regard to leaflets.

11. Oilfields

He stated that all the equipment used in the oilfields were destroyed by Allied air attacks prior to the landing and did not believe that any of it was hidden.

J. J. J. J. Lt
ATIS Detachment

JMC/ptb

Distribution

Ho 26 Aust Inf Bde
GSI 1 Aust Corps
1 Aust Corps ATIS Adv Ech
File

WD.

26 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BATTAL INTERPRET No 13.

(From infm to 261800I)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

See (a) SITREP
(b) Operational Report.

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

See Trace Appx A.

3. ENEMY STRENGTH.

Estimated strength 1 May 45.

Combat tps	1750	
Civilians	<u>350</u>	2100

Casualties to 261800I

Counted dead	652	
Est additional killed	153	
PW	13	
Est additional ineffectives	<u>682</u>	<u>1500</u>

Effective tps to 261800I 600

Disposed as follows

FUKUKAKU	100
FUKUKAKU-DJOMATA	150
NELLY-102 feature to LINDA	200
CLARICE - MARGY	150

4. ENEMY MOVEMENT FROM CAPE DJOMATA.

A patrol to CAPE DJOMATA report NO enemy in occupation. On LOYAL feature, 12 concrete pill boxes were found with quantities of 75mm amn. The barracks at approx 374796 appeared to have been vacated about a week ago. In the same area 2x75mm guns (type not stated) were found complete with sights and amn. A railway line in good condition runs for 400 yds along the coast in the barracks area. NO details of installations are yet available. At 374788 three pill boxes and a number of rifles were found.

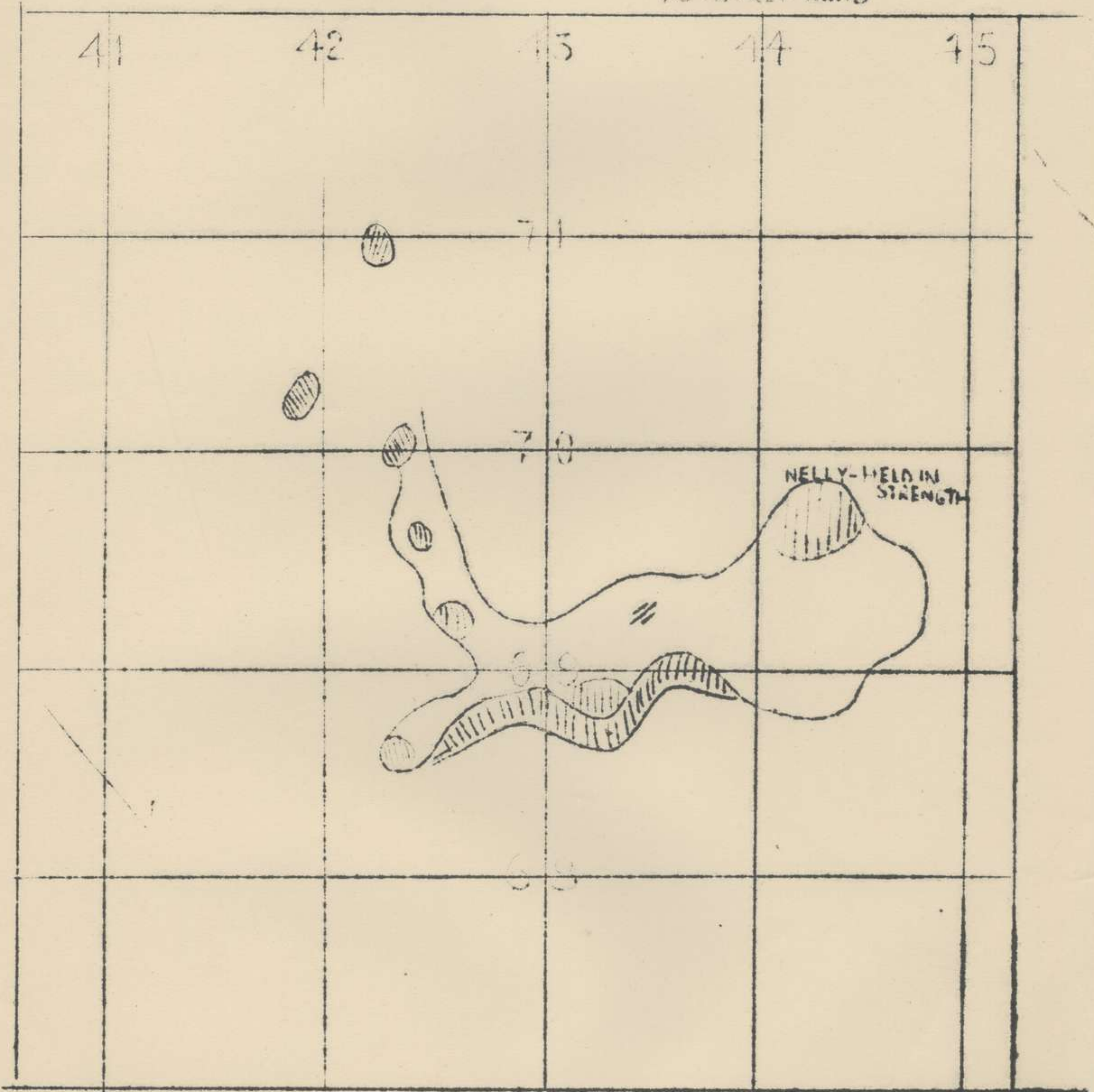
It is considered that the garrison left to rejoin the main force about a week ago as patrols have seen enemy tracks leading SOUTH from CAPE DJOMATA. This was confirmed by natives picked up in this area.

Nelson
Capt
(V.N. NELSON)
IO, HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution:
9 Aust Div
List B

ENEMY DISPOSNS.
REF TARA KAN 1'25000

SECRET
APPX A
TO INTREP NO. 13



SECRET

Appx B to LITREP No13.

DOCUMENTS CAPTURED TARAKAN 24 MAY 45

1. ~~Loose~~ handwritten sheet pertaining to an order sent from the enemy comd to the 2nd GUARD UNIT (KATBI) adted 9 May 45.

"Enemy patrols have secretly infiltrated through the FUKUKAKU perimeter. It will be the duty of each unit comd to co-ordinate the sentry posns and at the same time carry out a strict guard within their assigned sectors."

NOTE. This order was probably issued to counteract extensive patrolling in the SNAGGS track area at that time.

!

2. One name card,

"This identification :

SEIDAIAN MP C.O.

MP 1st LIEUT IYUCHI , Manasuki."

WD

SECRET

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
27 May 45.

26 AUST INF BDE INTREP NO. 14

(From Infm to 271800I)

ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

See (a) SITREPS
(b) Operational Reports.

2. ENEMY DISPOSNS

See Appx "A" att.

3. ENEMY DEFENCES.

MARGY AREA. The enemy has been persistently adding to his defs in this area. As a result of our arty and mortar fire during the day, some of his defs are demolished, and each night sounds of chopping and digging are heard as he repairs his defs and digs new posns.

The enemy also has strong defs on the EASTERN side of MARGY covering the approaches from FREDA.

4. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY.

At 2045 hrs night 26/27 May, 6-8 Japanese aircraft approached TARAKAN from the SOUTH.

One aircraft dropped 6 bombs in the PAMOESIAN RIVER swamps whilst being accurately engaged by our searchlights and A/A. Approx 10 minutes later, one aircraft flew over the airstrip area, and was engaged by SL and AA. This aircraft dropped NO bombs.

5. ENEMY CASUALTIES (for 24 hrs ending 271800I)

<u>Counted Dead</u>	<u>Estimated additional killed</u>	<u>PW</u>
13	2	-

6. ENEMY MOVEMENT.

At 1200I today, a native fisherman reported having seen three Japs in a native canoe off CAPE KARIS. When observed by the native, the three Japs paddled ashore and moved into the undergrowth.

It is considered that movement inland in this area is impossible owing to the impassable swamps, and it is likely that the enemy will wait until dark in an attempt to escape SOUTH.

Att is interrogation report of escaped NMI soldier from FUKUKAKU area.

(V. N. MELSON)

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde.

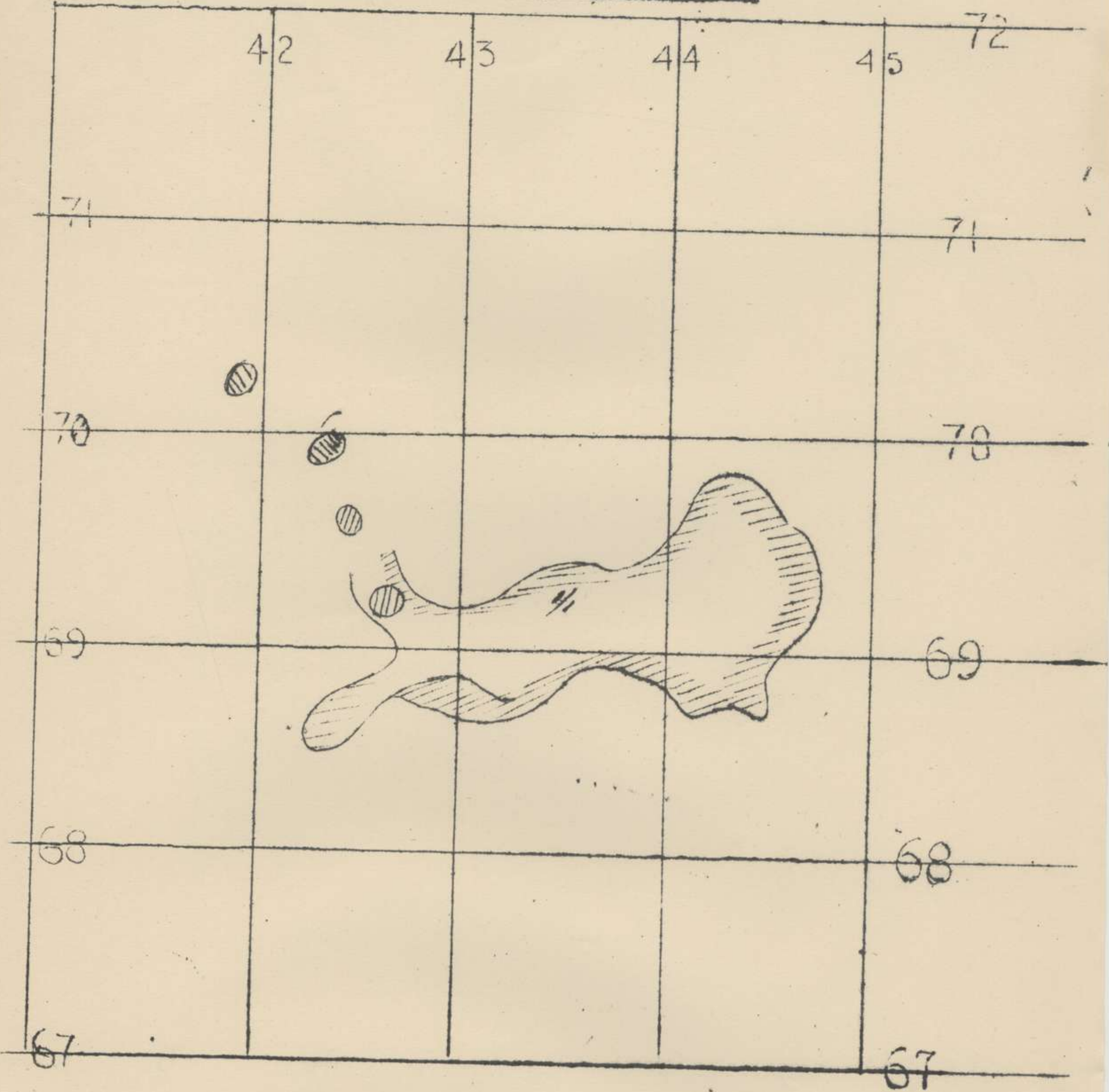
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SECRET

APPX A
TO INTREP NO 14

REF TARAKAN 1/25000.

ENEMY DISPOSNS



APPENDIX "B" TO 26 ADST INE BDE INTREP NO. 14.

PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT OF ESCAPED NEI SOLDIER FROM
FUKUKAKU POSN.

Name : JATIMIN
Rank : Pte.
Captured by :
Japs : Jan 42.

At 1700I today, the above NEI PW from FUKUKAKU area was picked up at 412698 by our tps.

He stated that a hospital is situated in HQ area at approx 433693, in which there are at present 400 wounded. Gas are received at the rate of 20 to 30 a day.

A PW camp is also in the HQ area, in which are held 250 Indonesian PWs who were formerly in the NEI Army. They are used to carry rations to the fwd tps each morning.

The HQ area is almost empty, only 30 tps remaining in the area. There are also 7 offrs.

The def of the NORTHERN area WEST of NELLY is entrusted to civilians armed with Dutch rifles. Informant thinks that the Naval Force is nearly wiped out, and that the remaining tps are mostly Army pers. Three guns remain in the area, probably one 75mm and two 70 mm from the description given.

Informant was engaged in carrying rations to tps in vic of POKER. Ration strength was 118. He escaped during the bombardment of POKER at about 1430I. No enemy were killed in this morning's attack, but during the attack in the afternoon, 10 Japs were killed, and two of the ration carriers.

A further interrogation of this native is being carried out.

EXTRACTS FROM DOCUMENTS CAPTURED TARAKAN 26 MAY 45.

Loose handwritten sheet dated from 16 to 18 May 45.

Full translation :

16 May - 1330 hrs, left Transport Unit posn. In the evening, adv to vic of this road.

17 May - About 0200 hrs, crossed road under cover of rain. Adv towards the beach at night, but due to difficulty in walking, could not reach SIMPAN TIGA. On the way while withdrawing, saw enemy tents near some barracks. Went into the forest to wait for nightfall.

May 18. About 0200 hrs, blew up the edge of the tent area, and expecting daybreak, crossed road and returned to Transport Unit posn. No ops in entire group.

APPENDIX "B": TO 26 AUST INF BDE INTREP NO. 14 (Contd.)

Extracts from loose handwritten diary dating from 1 Jan to 29 Apr 45. :

26 Apr - At midnight heard a report that an enemy convoy was heading NORTH.

27 Apr - Heard from a runner that a convoy of 13 was proceeding SOUTH to AMAL. Runner reported a boat approaching the shore. Presumably they are the Navy making the final withdrawals from BUNYU.

28 Apr - At 1000 hrs, 3 or 4 ships appeared heading SOUTH. 1130 hrs, warships started bombardment of mainland and TARAKAN. It is difficult to understand where they intend to land. It is not clear whether the bombardment is a threat or preparation for a landing.

29 Apr - 5 or 6 shells were fired on AMAL. Western shore received severe bombardment. 9 minesweepers went into KAROENGAN.

30 Apr - About noon, AMAL sector received a bombardment for an hour.

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde.
28 May 45.

26 AUST INF BDE INTREP NO. 15

(from infm to 281800I)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

See (r) ENEMY DEFS
(b) Operational Reports

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

See Appx "A" att.

3. ENEMY DEFS

Enemy defs on FREDA - See Appx "B" on Restricted Distribution.

4. ENEMY O.O.B.

A handwritten sheet was captured by D Coy 2/23 Bn at 422687. The document, which is an order from the Coy Comd of the 2 NAVAL GUARD FORCE, is dated 18 May 45, and addressed to the OC 3 pl, whose name is IKUSHITA. The Comd of 3 pl was formerly ENSIGN KANZAKI who was reported killed in action in documents captured previously.

Prior to 1 May, the strength of 3 pl was 1 offr and 42 ORs. On 10 May a PW reported the strength as 30. It appears that the Comd pl, a pl att to HQ whose usual role is protection of HQ, has taken over the remnants of 3 pl, and is fighting in MARGY area.

This pl originally consisted of ENSIGN TAKASAGO and 48 ORs armed with 1 HMG, 3 LMG and 40 rifles. It is not known whether this pl has been previously committed in the fwd posns, but if not the total strength of the two pls under comd TAKASAGO on 18 May would be 50-60 men.

A translation of the document is att as Appx "B".

5. ENEMY ACTIVITY CAPE DJOEATA AREA.

From captured documents, the Japanese defs of DJOEATA on 1 May 45 consisted of:

2 Pl of Guard Unit	42
Sec of MG Pl	14
Pl Flat Trajectory 75mm guns	37

Total 93

with the following weapons:

2	LMGs
2	HMGs
4	75mm guns.

Escaped NEI PW recaptured on 24 May by patrol, stated that there were approx 30 tps in the DJOEATA area, but they were evincing to the SOUTH. He believed the Jap whom he was accompanying to be one of the last to leave CAPE DJOEATA. (NOTE: The Jap was killed at 381788).

A 2/4 Coy (Cdo) Sen patrol to DJOEATA on 26 May found the defs deserted but practically intact. On following day recon was made on LOYAL feature, and it was found that the enemy were in posn in a pillbox with at least one LMG and two rifles.

It is considered that the arty bombardment, the bombing and finally the by naval bombardment on 23 May caused the Japs to withdraw SOUTH from the danger area leaving defs intact, intending to return to destroy the installations and food dump.

26 AUST INF BDE INTREP NO. 15

Page 2.

ENEMY CASUALTIES (for 24 hrs ending 281800I)

<u>Counted Dead</u>	<u>Estimated additional killed</u>	<u>PW</u>
7	2	1

Nelson

Capt

(V.N. NELSON)

LO 26 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

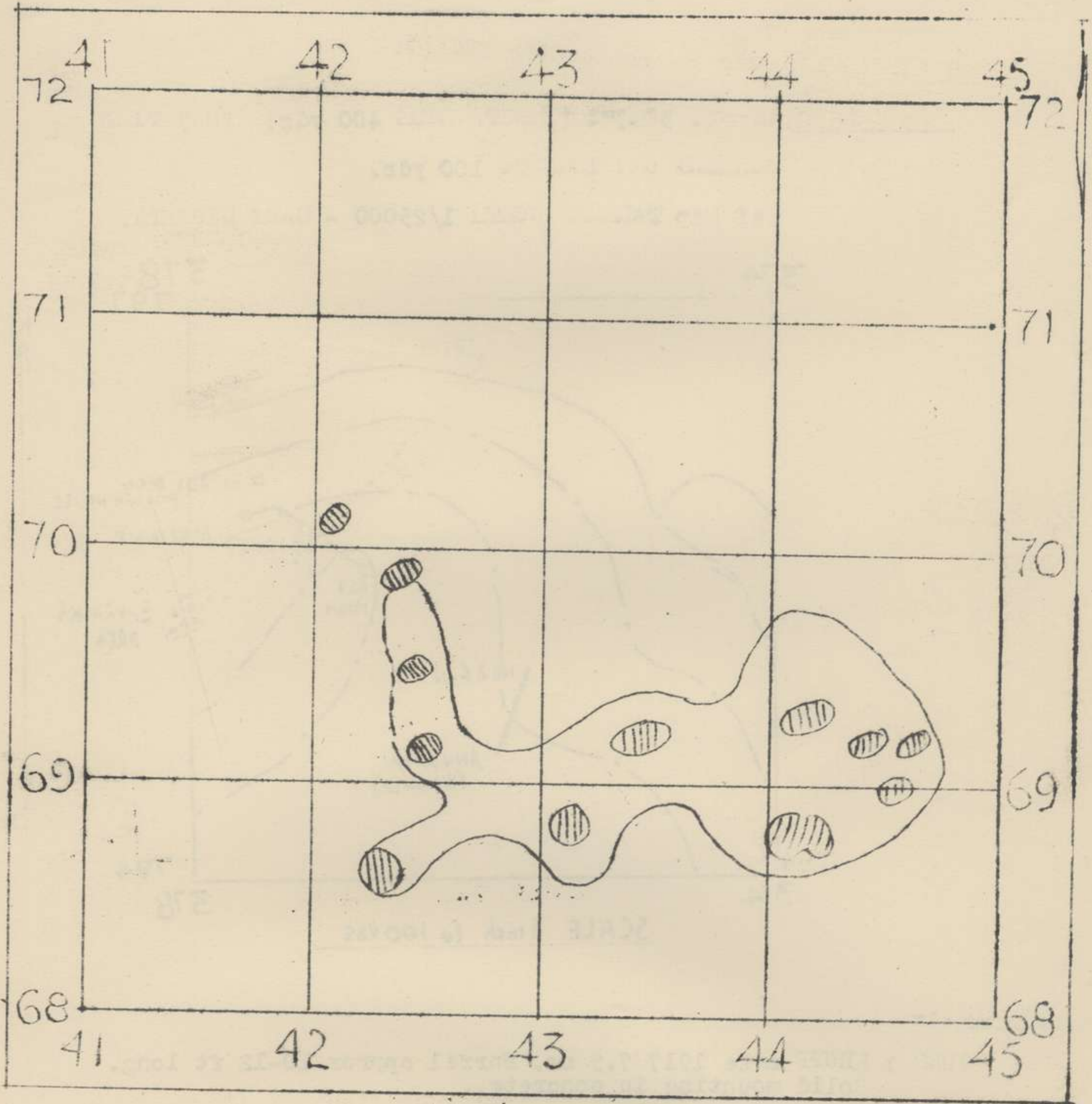
List B

9 Aust Div.

ENEMY DISPOSNS.

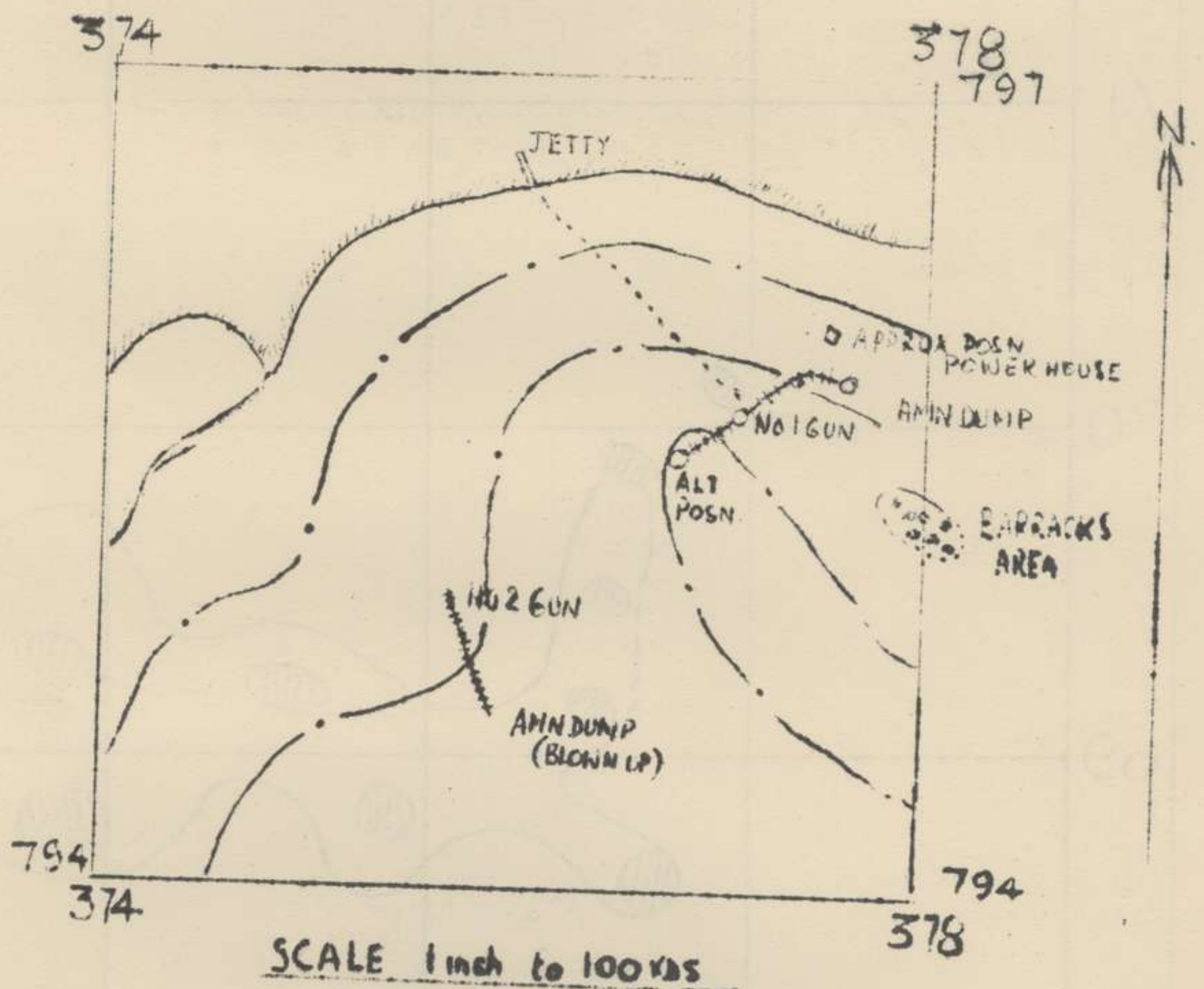
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APPX "A" TO INTREP NO 15
REF TARAKAN 1/25000



REFUGED BY 30. 37.70+ (LENGTH SIDE 400 yds) TO 7 TIMES
SHELLS ONE LINE TO 100 yds.

Ref Map TARAKAN NORTH 1/25000 - CAPE DJOEATA.



DETAILS :-

GUNS : KRUPP make 1917 7.5 cm. Barrel approx 10-12 ft long.
Solid mounting in concrete.

EMPLACEMENTS : Four. 2 with guns. Remaining 2 NOT used with guns for
some time. Construction - reinforced concrete.

RAIL LINES : Used for bringing up amm to guns, and in case of No 1
gun for change to alternate posn.

SHELLS : No 1 gun - 77 shells; No 2 gun 68 shells; alt. posn 63 shel
Dump 567 shells. TOTAL in area 775.

DEISEL engine - KROMHOUT, Amsterdam, Type 2ERI PK44
- 480. Engine in good condition.

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Appx C to 26 Aust Inf Bde Intrep No 15

Document captured by D coy 2/23 Bn at 422687

Loose hand-written sheet pertaining to an order from Coy Comd to 3 pl Comd IKUMIYA, dated 18 May 45.

1. The remaining men of the 3rd pl will fight to the last man at their present posn.
2. The remainder of 3 pl will come under comd of the Comd pl leader.
3. Construct the posns firmly.
4. Take precautionary measures against the enemy situated in the front and rear, and especially on the right flank against possible enemy penetration.
5. Make a minute investigation of men, capt and ann and report to Comd pl leader.
6. Leading Seaman (flying) IBM, and leading seaman (air maintenance) CHIRABAYASHI were sent to FUKUKAKU.

WD
SECRET

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
29 May 45.

26 AUST INF BDE INT REPORT NO. 16

(From Infm to 291800I)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

See (a) SITREP
(b) Operational Report

2. ENEMY DISPOSNS.

No change.

3. ENEMY DEFENCES - MARGY FEATURE.

This feature is strongly held by the enemy, who has conducted its defence stubbornly, and has resisted all efforts to dislodge him.

The ridge on which the main defs are situated is about 400 yds long, and runs from 422686 SE to 425682. The highest point of the feature is in the center of the ridge, and from it a track runs down to meet SNAG'S TRACK at 420684, 150 yds below the ELBOW.

The ridge is narrow, about 20-30 ft wide on top, and it is considered likely that the enemy has dug tunnels right through the ridge so that if under bombardment he can retire to the reverse slope. This is borne out by the fact that on one occasion when a pillbox received a direct hit from a captured 75mm gun firing from vic the ELBOW, light was seen through the posn.

The enemy is using JUKIS, LMGs, grenade dischargers and rifles in the def on this feature, and all approaches are covered by fire.

An attack by our tps from 105 feature SE down the ridge at 422687 was stopped by intense fire, deployment being difficult owing to the narrow approaches and the precipitous nature of the country.

No reports of mortars being used by the enemy were received until night 28/29 May, when the enemy fired 5 mortar bombs, believed 81mm, one of which put the captured 75mm used by our arty temporarily out of action.

A sketch of this area is att as Appx "B".

ENEMY MOVEMENT FROM TARAKAN.

During the last week, there have been several instances of enemy tps attempting to escape from TARAKAN to the mainland.

On 24 May, 3 Japs from 101 Naval Fuel Depot were picked up by natives between TARAKAN and the mainland, and handed over to our tps on SADAU IS. They stated that they had deserted after the preliminary bombardment of TARAKAN, and made their way to CAPE DJOEATA area where they found some AUSTRALIAN rations, and set off in a canoe for the mainland.

They met some natives who, pretending to take them to the mainland, landed them on SADAU IS.

On 27 May a native fisherman reported seeing 3 Japs near the shore on KARIS IS., who beached their canoe and ran into the undergrowth near CAPE KARIS when sighted.

On 28 May, two dead Japs were found in the water off PAJAU IS. near a canoe. They had been killed by natives. The two wore Naval insignia, but documents in the canoe indicated the presence of Army personnel.

As there were many crocodile tracks in the area, it is considered possible that the body of a third Jap had been taken by crocodiles.

5. ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

Captured equipment in CAPE DJOLEATA area includes -

- 1 - .50 Browning
- 2 - 75mm C.D. guns (Krupp 17 Dutch defs, previously reported in INTREREP 13 as Types unknown).
- 1 - Diesel Generating Unit (probably 50 kw rating).

Destroyed by engs -

- 22 Dutch mines and fuses.
- 88 Shell cases 75mm fused as grenades.
- 10 " " 105mm " " " "
- 124 75mm Shell grenades.
- Sundry fuses and boosters.

DJOLEATA ROAD.

- 4 - yardstick mines and box of fuses.
- 100 rds SAA (.256)
- Box of sundry fuses.

6. ENEMY CASUALTIES (for 24 hrs to 291800I)

<u>Counted dead</u>	<u>Estimated additional killed</u>	<u>PW</u>
9	4	3

7. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY

(a) During night 28/29 May three enemy aircraft were engaged by our SL and AA. The (JAPANESE) came over in single runs at the following times -
 2240 hrs
 2303 hrs
 2244 hrs

On runs one and three the AC came in on the level but when fired upon turned away taking evasive action.
 On run two when engaged, the AC dived steeply and took evasive action. It is believed that this AC was damaged by our AA.
 On the first run only, bombs were dropped, four falling in area of DISTRICT I.

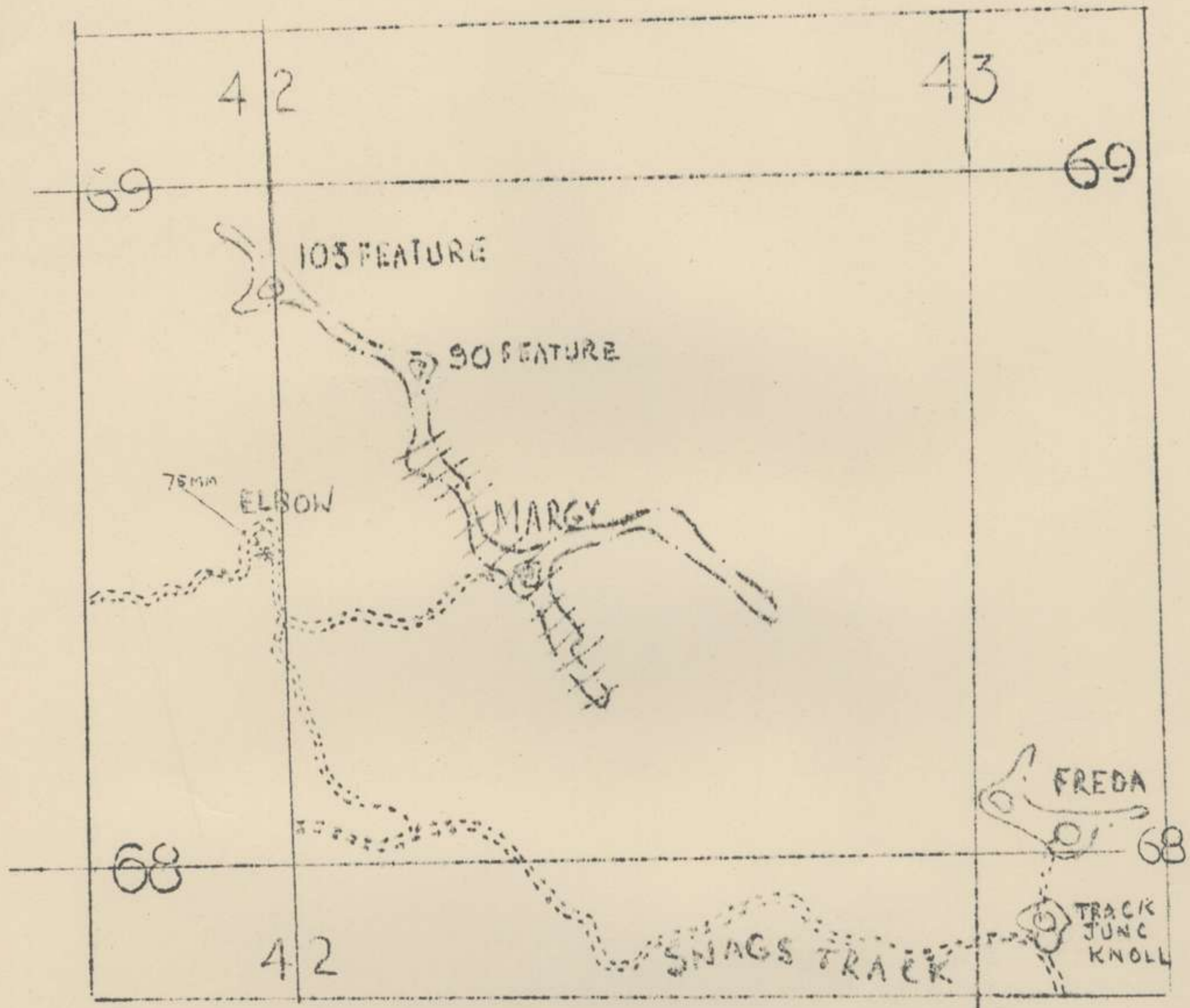
(b) At 291715 I one AC was sighted flying at between 14500 and 16000 ft and engaged by AA. No bombs were dropped.

DISTRIBUTION

Mellon... Capt
 (V. N. NELSON)
 HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

APPX B TO INTREP NO 16.

ENEMY DEFS ON MARGY - 2918001



REF MT ADI SPECIAL 1/10000

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HQ. 26 AUST. INF. BDE.

86/183

ATIS DETACHMENT

29 May '45

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS - TRANSLATION REPORT No. 20.

BATCH No. 311

Documents captured TARAKAN area 28 May '45

Item 1

Loose handwritten sheet dated 16 May '45,

Full translation:

1. Killed while on sentry duty by straffing enemy planes:
One man (TN name illegible)
1. Injured while on sentry duty by straffing enemy planes: Two men.
1. Killed while on patrol duty by straffing enemy planes: 1 man.
1. Wounded while on patrol duty by straffing enemy planes: 1 man.

By 3 Sec NCO TAKAHASHI, Kazumasa, to NAGATA Unit comdr.

Item 2

Loose sheet of handwritten diary, dated 17 May to 20 May '45, captured at 419702. (owner not stated)

Full translation:

- 17 May - At 1300 hrs, 4th Unit took over No. 10 posn.
At 1400 hrs despatched 4 men to construct No. 8 posn.
At 2300hrs, the above men returned to their posn.
- 18 May - At 0730 hrs despatched 3 men to construct No. 8 posn.
(Security) 2 men were sent out to inspect the repairs on TAKOBBO track. (TN Sic)
At 1630 hrs, 4 men were selected from the Constr Unit to form an infiltration drawn swords unit!
- 19 May - At 0800 hrs, despatched 2 men to construct No. 8 posn.
At 0900 hrs, 3 men of the infiltration sec from the Constr Unit returned to their posn. (because 1 man became lost)
At 1530 hrs, Lt (jg) YAMASHITA came for an inspection. ISHII will be the observer at No. 9 posn.
- 20 May - At 0800 hrs, 3 men were sent out for fatigue duties. (At TAKOBBO)
At 0900 hrs, Lt (jg) YAMASHITA and WO AKIYAMA came to inspect No. 8 posn.
At 1300 hrs, went to the HQ at FUKUKAKU to fetch some oil. Returned at 1530 hrs.
From 1400 hrs, strict security will be carried out.
At 1900 hrs, went to aid the observation at No. 9 posn.

JMC/

W. Akiyama
Lt.

CONFIDENTIAL

83/300

Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde
AFIS Detachment

29 May 45

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 19

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

PW No:	JA-T 19
Name:	NIDO, Ben
Rank:	Civilian
Unit:	None
Where captured:	Island off Cape Djoeata
When captured:	28 May 45
By whom:	Natives
Civil occupation:	Mechanic

2. HISTORY

PW was born in SURUBAYA, but claimed to have a Saipanese father, and a Javnese mother. He went to Tokyo at the age of 5 and returned to Java, he worked for the Naval 101 Guard Unit as a motor mechanic. He was transferred to the 101 Fuel Depot at Tarakan in Sep 43 and worked as an engine driver till March 44. He returned to SURUBAYA with PW No. 20 on EBISU Maru to transport rice back for the 101 Fuel Depot. This ship was approx 90 ft long and made of steel. It carried a crew of 15 men. On 24 May 45 they departed from SURABAYA and after travelling via BALIKAPAN where they stopped one night. They proceeded after having motor trouble in the vicinity of SAMARINDA, and they were sunk off the coast of BUNYU Is on the night of the 26th by an unidentified plane. PW and another seaman drifted to BUNYU on a log and then to a small island across from CAPE DJOEATA and were captured by natives.

NOTE: PW claimed that none of the crew knew of the landing on TARAKAN when they left SURUBAYA on 24 May. At BALIKAPAN, only the captain went ashore, but if he is told of the landing, he did not convey this information to the crew.

3. COMMENT

During the interrogation PW contradicted his own statements several times and is believed to be lying. His Malay was poor although he had lived in SURUBAYA most of his life, but his Japanese was exceptionally good for a native. Further interrogation is recommended.

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 20

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

PW No:	JA-T 20
Name:	RAI, Ku
Rank:	Civilian
Unit:	
Where captured:	Island off Cape Djoeata
When captured:	28 May 45
By whom:	Natives
Civil occupation:	Farmer.

CONFIDENTIAL

(2)

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 20

2. HISTORY

PW was born in Formosa of a Chinese father and Filipino mother. He was called in the middle of 44 and reported to KARENKO. He was sent to SURABAYA as a labourer and had been assigned to a ship as crew member. He had made one trip to Tarakan and upon returning to SURABAYA had met PW No. 19 and his statements concerning their travel and capture agree.

COMMENT: PW did not know Japanese very well, not being able to read or write characters at all. His answers were not clear and so very little was gained from the interrogation. Further interrogation is recommended.

Infel...
01/3 AMES Detachment

Distribution:

H- 26 Aust Inf Bde
GSI 1 Aust Corps
1 Aust Corps AFIS Adv Ech
File

JMC/ptb

W.P.

SECRET

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
30 May 45.

26 AUST INF BDE INT REPORT NO. 17

(From Infm to 3018001)

1. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

See (a) SITREP
(b) Operational Report.

2. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY.

Enemy planes were again over the area during the night 29/30 May. Similar tactics were employed as on previous raids, except that several flares were dropped by enemy aircraft on this occasion. AG flew in singly at a height of approx 12000 ft.

6 bombs were dropped in TARAKAN town area. :

4 bombs fell in PAMOESIAN SWAMP.
1 bomb fell at ref 456645.
1 bomb fell at ref 468648.

No damage or cas resulted.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

A long range patrol from our posns at 421713 to ESSIE feature discovered considerable enemy activity, between ESSIE and enemy HQ area. In the vic of 443707, patrol found tracks of approx 12 men leading in direction of ESSIE. By marks found on trees at shoulder height, it is assumed that they were a carrying party.

One Jap was killed at 443707, and 6 were sighted at 423713, one of whom was killed. It is believed that the enemy is preparing, or has defs on ESSIE.

A native, who was captured by our tps in vic 425713, stated that he and 41 other natives had been employed for 5 days digging defs in an area which he could not identify, but which was NORTH of HQ area.

He stated that he walked WESTWARD from this area, and it is possible that these natives were employed in ESSIE area. The natives were guarded by 14 Japanese.

4. ENEMY CAS.

Total enemy cas to 3018001 -

<u>Counted dead</u>	<u>Estimated additional killed</u>	<u>IW</u>
699	151	23

Preliminary interrogation reports 21, 22 and 23 are att to this INTREP.

(2)

5. CAPTURED EQPT.

- 2 - 75 mm C.D. Guns (destroyed) (DUTCH defs)
- 135 - 75 mm shells
- 25 - DUTCH mines
- 1 - Yardstick mine
- 12 - 50 kg DUTCH bombs.

6. ENEMY EQPT.

Japanese yardstick anti-vehicular mine.

The enemy has been known to convert this mine to anti-personnel mine by a simple adjustment of the fuse. (See Appx "B")

Nelson Capt

(V.N. NELSON)

IO 26 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

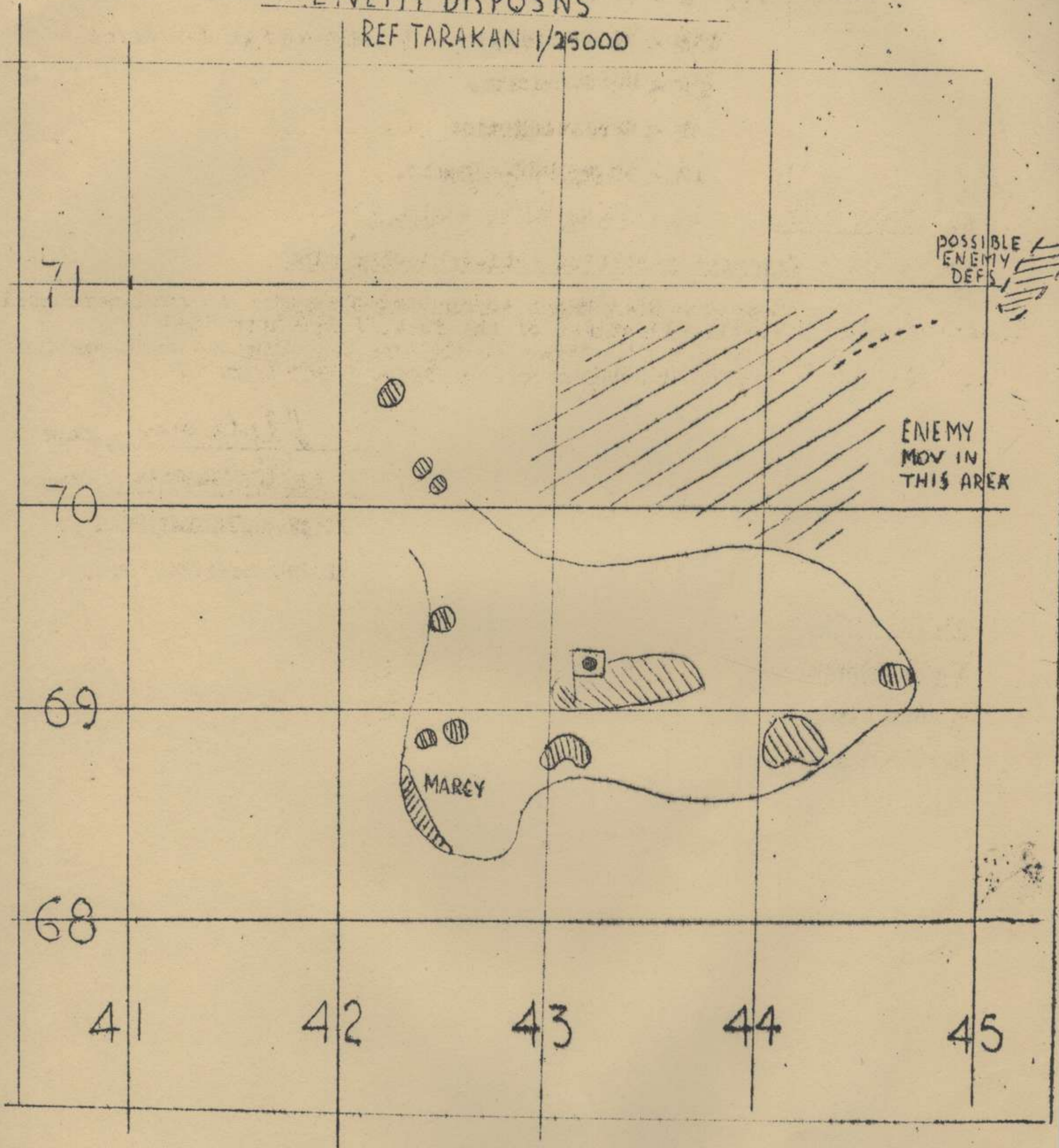
- 1 Aust Corps
- 9 Aust Div
- List "B"

SECRET

APPX "A" TO INT REP
NO 17

ENEMY DISPOSNS

REF TARAKAN 1/25000



J.M. 1914 T. REBORICE MINE - V.L. 1914 MINE.

Action of fuse.

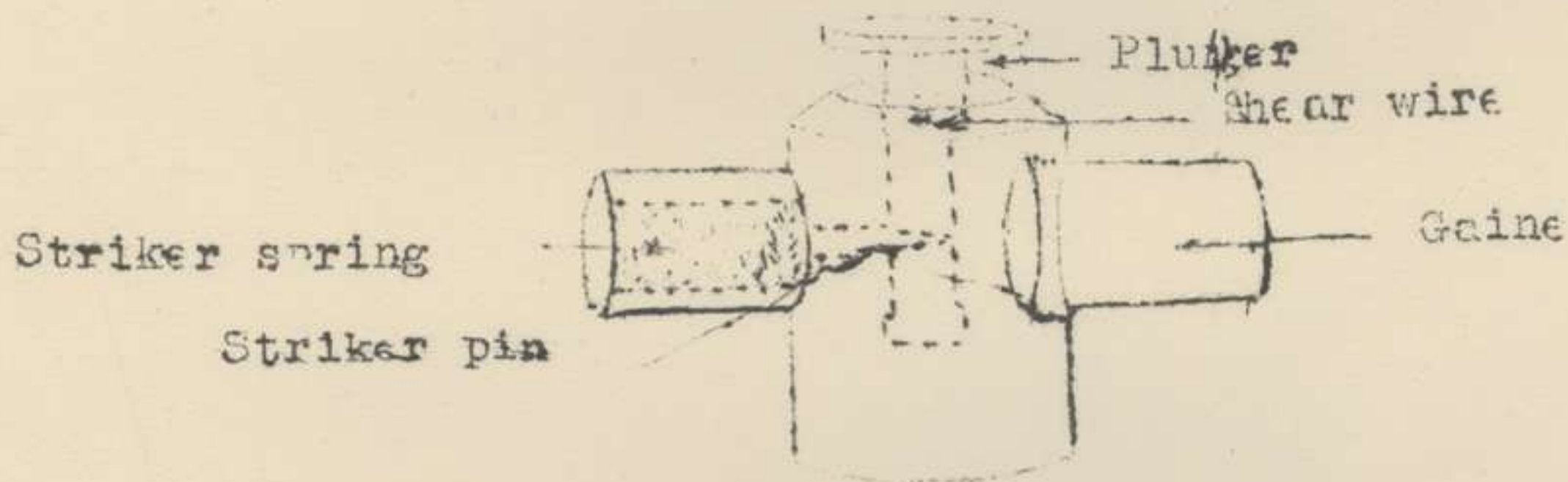
Normal action takes a pressure of 336 lbs to cut shear wire forcing plunger down, and thus allowing striker to pass through larger recess and detonating charge.

However, if shear wire is removed, tension on striker pin will hold plunger up, and then any slight pressure will detonate charge - making mine safe - ~~safe~~.

Personnel delousing this mine should treat it very carefully making sure NO pressure is exerted on fuse until it is ascertained whether shear wire is still in place.

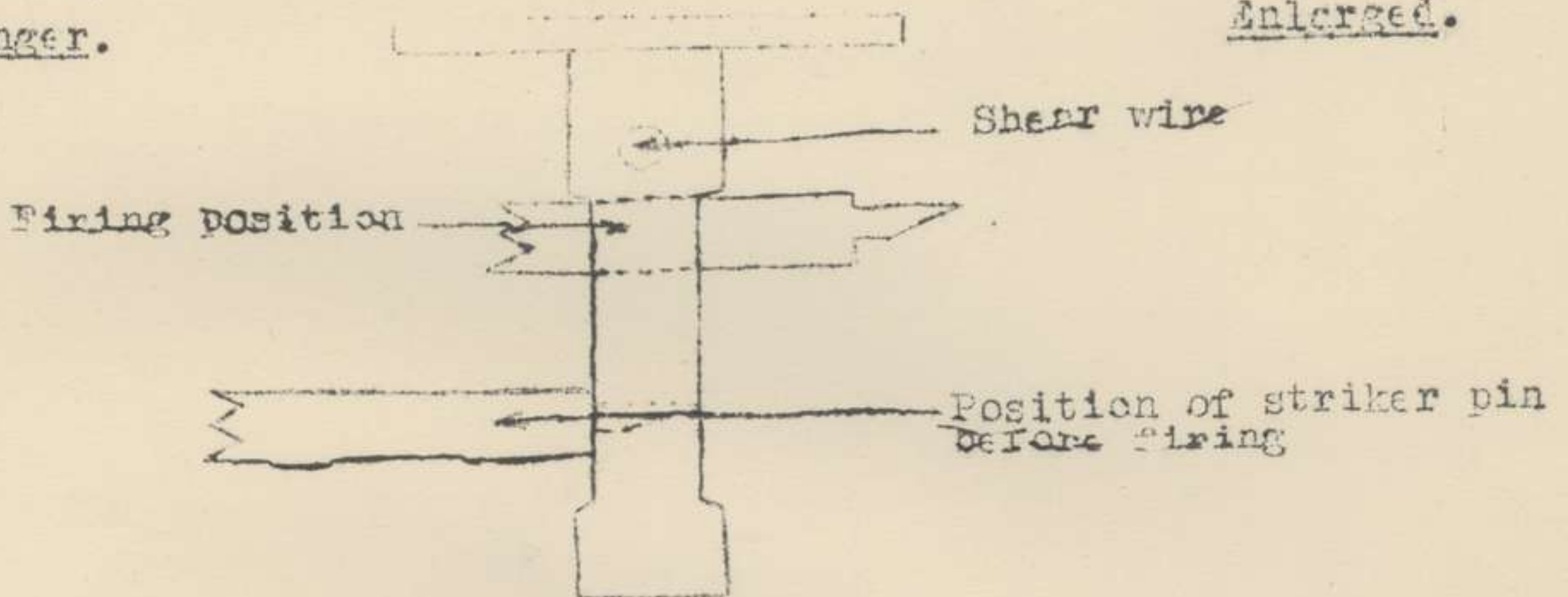
The fuse.

Normal size.

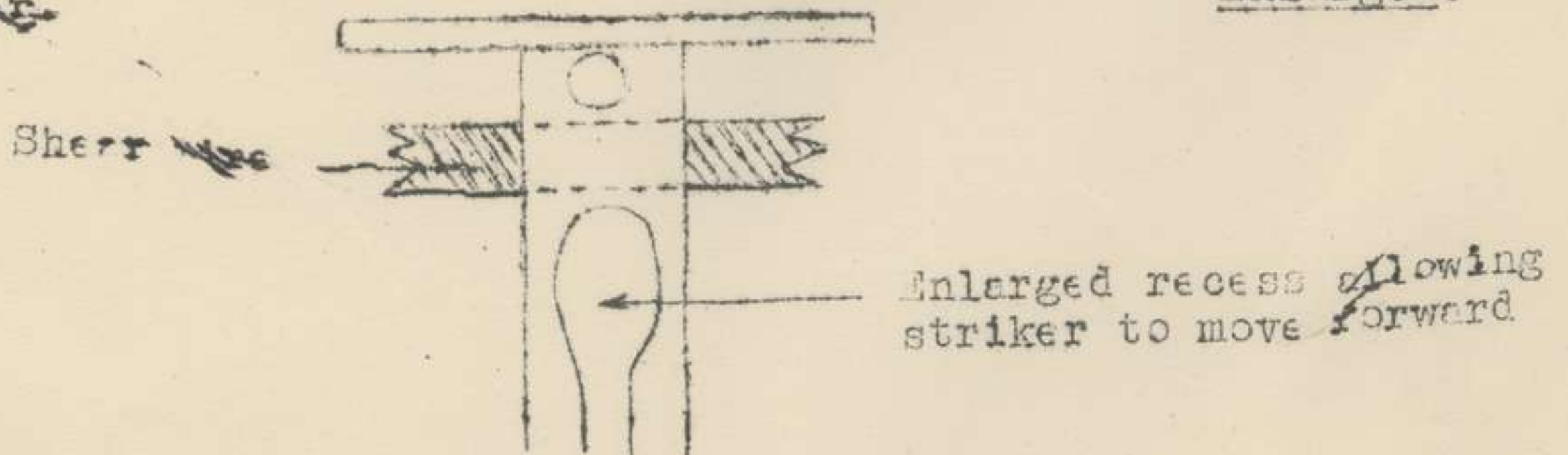


Plunger.

Enlarged.



Enlarged.



Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde
AFLS Detachment

30 May 45

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 21

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:	YAMASHITA, Jutaro
Rank:	1/01 PO
PW No:	JA-T 21
Where captured:	On TIBI Is
When captured:	28 May 45
By Whom:	Natives

2. HISTORY

PW was inducted on 10 Jan 41 into Kure Naval Barracks and left Kure in Nov 41 and arrived at Palau Island. He took part in landings of Mindanao aboard the seaplane tender MIZUNO and later returned to PALAU to take part in the landing of TARAKAN on Jan 42. He has been here ever since.

PW was sent out on a mission from Hill 105 13 days ago to patrol by force our mortar positions. PW and one other man left by way of Djoete oil fields down the BENGAWAN River to the coast and along the coast to the western tip of the airfield. It took him 6 days and on his way met 3 other army personnel who joined him. After finding no mortar positions PW and 4 others proceeded up to the mouth of Bengawan River where they made a raft and attempted to cross to S. DEU Island, where he claims he heard mortar fire, but because of current conditions drifted to an island Southwest of Sadau. On the way, the raft broke in two and 2 men (one army and one navy) drifted south, and whose fate he does not know. He and two others then got hold of a native phrow and proceeded to TIBI Is where one army soldier died and where he was captured by natives. The other soldier got away. PW was then brought to Naval Fuel jetty on Tarakan by the natives and taken over by the Australians.

3. UNIT

2 Guard Unit. Original str 600 fighting tps and 400 civilians
CO Comdr. KAHARU
MO Lt Comdr. YAMAGATA (also English translator)
PW was in the Ho Pl of 1 Coy SNLP. His comd was Ens. KONJI

4. CASUALTIES

PW estimates about 30 casualties were caused by periodical bombing by our planes before invasion. He estimates about 140/150 casualties to navy personnel up to the time he left and most casualties were caused by mortar. There were 13 casualties in his platoon of 25 men.

CONFIDENTIAL

(2)

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 21

5. SUPPLIES

He thinks there are 3 months supply of rations and large quantities of ammunitions and medical supplies at FUKUKAKU position.

6. ALLIED PRISONERS OF WAR

Two or three months ago European PsW on this island was sent to BALIKPAPAN.

7. OIL PRODUCTION

2 Guard Unit Commander was in overall charge, and a Lt (sg) was in direct charge of all oil production. PW did not know what happened to the oil machinery.

J. M. Dulata Lt
Off/c ATIS Detachment

TMM/ptb

Distribution:

Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde
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83/

Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde
ATIS Detachment

30 May 45

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 22

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

PW No:	JA-T 22
Name:	SAITO, Matsunojo
Rank:	Superior Pte.
Unit:	TOKOI Force Hq
Where Captured:	Island adjoining TIBI Is.
When captured:	29 May 45
By whom:	Natives
Civil occupation:	Constructor

2. HISTORY

PW arrived in Tarakan in Dec 44 and was assigned to 4 Coy of TOKOI Force. He was later transferred to the Hq in Mar 45 when the unit was reorganized.

On 18 May 45 PW and two other men received orders from Hq to go out on an infiltration attack against vehicles on the Anzac Highway between the airfield and Djoeata oilfield. The three men in charge of a pl started out that night, with 1 weeks rations and moved north. They reached the TSUJIMURA pl (Naval) near Djoeata oilfield where they were told that the enemy were keeping a very close picket on the right of the highway so their new plan was to approach it from the left. They circled the oilfield and walked in the direction of Cape Djoeata coming out on the coast near the cape. They built a raft with intentions to drift down the coast of Tarakan and then to head inland towards the highway. While building the raft, the cpl hurt his leg and was unable to walk. They put him on the raft and set out, but unfortunately the current was going in the other direction and they finally drifted to the island next to TIBI.

They came upon a fish trap where about 20 natives were eating and were asked to join them. While eating, the natives attacked and overpowered them, but PW did not know what happened to the cpl as he was knocked unconscious.

3. UNIT

TOKOI Force Hq. (located in tunnel below 105)

CO Major TOKOI, Tadao
offrs attached to HQ

1/Lt MIYAJI

1/Lt IZUTSU

2/Lt WATANABE

2/Lt KURONUMA (went to Tawa in mid Apr 45)

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 22

Cove and locations til 18 May 45

- 1 Coy 1/Lt KUDAKI previously at AMAL. Moved to below Hill 102 on 13 May
2 Coy 1/Lt EBIHARA previously on SNAGS Track with Naval tps
3 Coy 1/Lt NAGASAKA previously in POMPO AIRU vicinity.
4 Coy 1/Lt IZABAKI Retreated from BUTCH to posn below 105
Hq Arty Coy 1/Lt MATSUMOTO Movements same as 1 Coy

Strength of entire force before landing was approx 700 incl 36 men in the HQ.

4. CASUALTIES to 18 May

There were 50/60 wounded personnel at the MDS at 105 feature. PW heard that 2 Coy had suffered the most casualties in the force. In the Hq, 7/8 were killed in infiltration expeditions and about 7 by aerial bombardment. Had not seen any fire bombs.

5. CAPE DJOEATA

PW's party had not met any troops here although they were close to the gun positions.

6. SUPPLIES

Estimated ample food supplies to last 2 more months. No shortage of ammunition.

7. SURRENDER LEAFLETS

Had picked up a leaflet showing pictures of Jap PW in a concentration camp but did not believe any of the written text and thought that this was the opinion of others. Did not believe that any kind of propoganda would induce the Japs to surrender as they were determined to fight to the end.

8. OIL PRODUCTION

All oil production was supervised by Naval officers. PW heard that what machinery was left in Tarakan before landing was destroyed by Naval tps by blowing them up with charges. Much of the machinery was destroyed by allied air attacks. He did not believe that any of it was hidden.

J. M. Dalonta
O/C ATIS Detachment Lt

JMC/pbb

Distribution:
No 26 Aust Inf Brig
GSI 1 Aust Corps
1 Aust Corps ATIS Adv Ech
File

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300/

Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde
AFIS Detachment

30 May 45

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 23

1. PERSONAL HISTORY

PW No:	JA-T 23
Name:	MATSUI, Susumu
Rank:	Superior Private
Unit:	TOKOI Force Hq
Where captured:	Island opp. Cape Djoeta
When captured:	29 May 45
By whom:	Natives
Civil occupation:	Real estate office manager

2. HISTORY

PW was inducted into W6 Force in Tokyo, April 42 and received his training there. In June 44 he sailed from Tokyo with the YAMADA Force. On the way his ship was hit by a torpedo in a submarine attack and the unit commander along with one-third of the unit was lost. The remainder reached Manila and were inducted into the TOKOI Force.

They arrived at Tarakan in the middle of Dec 44. The headquarters was located at RADAN at the time of landing and when the barrage commenced they left for a position on Hill 105 where the PW stayed until the 18th. His duties there were to guard food and ammunition supplies. On the 18th he and 3 men were designated as infiltration forces and proceeded northward. In the hills near Djoeta they encountered the TSUJIMURA Pl and were told that it would be hazardous to proceed further to the West as the enemy had been sighted on the road there. The 3 men then changed their original plan and went northward but became lost and after one week of walking in swamps and vine covered terrain came out on the beach near Cape Djoeta. On the 26th they made a raft and after waiting for night shoved off with the intentions of landing near the airfield. Due to the tide they were unsuccessful and again drifted back to this island. The next night (27th) they tried again but were drifting to the North again on the morning of the 28th when they sighted a sand bar with 2 soldiers and 2 Jap civilians, who were trying to reach the mainland on a raft.

They spent the day on the sand bar and that night they took one of the soldiers who was sick with them and the four proceeded to the mainland. While they were eating with about 20 natives, the natives suddenly hit them over the head and when they regained consciousness they were on a prau, tied very securely. They were brought to Tarakan by the natives. The soldier they had picked up on the sand bar had gone into the hills but PW did not know the fate of Cpl MURAMATSU who was injured in the leg while building a raft, but believes him dead.

PW PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORT No. 23

3. TOKOI FORCE

PW stated that the following offrs were in HQ:

Major TOKOI, Taduo	Force CO
1/Lt IZUTSU	Adjutant
1/Lt MIYAJI	Education
1/Lt DAIDO	Intendance
2/Lt WATANABE	Equipment
2/Lt KURONUMA	Had gone to Tawno and not returned.

Locations of Coys at time of landing:

1 Coy CO	UDAKI, 1/Lt	AMAL
2 Coy CO	MATSUMOTO, 1/Lt	Tank Hill
3 Coy CO	did not know	Pompo Airu
4 Coy CO	NAGASAKA, 1/Lt	Near airfield
MG Coy	MATSUMOTO, 1/Lt	Amal
MDS	TAKENAKA, Capt	Hill 105

4. CASUALTIES

The following casualties were estimated by the PW out of Hq. 3 killed and 3 hurt in trying infiltration tactics. 5 killed and 8 wounded by one mortar shell. This was up to the time the PW had left the position at 105. He heard that the other coy's had suffered heavy casualties.

5. REPORTS OF LANDING

Heard from rumours about 3 or 4 days before our landing that there may be one but did not know til the ships came into the harbor that the enemy would land here.

6. MINES

The shells and land mines along the trails and roads were put in mostly by Naval supervision, and the army did not have much to do with them.

7. PROPAGANDA LEAFLETS

The PW had seen only the ones which were in Malay. He stated, that he believed that they would not bring the combat troops out of their positions but may have some effect upon the civilians.

8. SECURITY

PW stated that all records were handled by the officers at the time of movement to the position on 105. He stated that much of the documents were burned.

PTB/

Distribution:

Hq 26 Aust Inf Bde
GSI 1 Aust Corps
1 Aust Corps ATLS Adv Ech
File

J. M. Dalton Lt
OIC ATLS DETACHMENT

WAR

DIARY

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

BY

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

In the Field

6 May 45

The following message has been received from C-in-C AMF :-

"Warmest congratulations on successful operation which leads AIF again from Australian territory to foreign territory held by common enemy (.) Please convey appreciation to Maj-Gen WOOTTEN, Brig WHITEHEAD and all concerned in operation under their direction."

H. J. KATEKAR
(H. J. KATEKAR) Maj.
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution List "B"

War Diary

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: not to be communicated, either directly or :
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: authorised to receive it. :

ROUTINE ORDERS
PART I
BY

Serial..... B1/45
Nos..... 1/9

BRIG D.A. WHITEHEAD CBE DSO MC ED COMMANDING 1st BRIG ONE FORCE

In the Field

7 May 45

GENERAL STAFF

1. TOWN OF TARAKAN -- RESTRICTIONS ON ENTRY

- (a) For the purposes of this Order, the whole of the built-up area EAST of the 44 NORTHING GRID (ref map TARAKAN SOUTH SPECIAL 1/25000) will be known as "the town of TARAKAN".
- (b) No personnel of any rank or nationality whatever, except formed bodies of troops moving under the instructions of this HQ will be permitted to enter the town of TARAKAN, either on foot or in a vehicle without a permit in the proper form. Guards are being posted to enforce this.
- (c) Permit may be obtained only by personal application to this HQ.
- (d) No material of any kind, either civilian property or captured material may be removed from the town of TARAKAN except by instructions from this HQ. In the case of civilian property every application will be accompanied by a certificate signed by a NICA official, either that the owner of the property cannot be traced or that the property belongs to the person named therein, and stating the value of the property and an undertaking by the unit concerned to pay for any loss or damage due to the taking or use of the property.

2. SECURITY

- (a) PW captured at TARAKAN 3 May 45 stated that the enemy knew before the landing that Australian troops would invade TARAKAN from MOROTAI. He stated that P Day was to be 29 Apr and listed the number of ships which were to take part in the invasion.

Breaches of security at MOROTAI were prevalent, and troops will be warned of the seriousness of preventing our intentions from reaching the enemy. Some natives are known to be collaborating with the enemy at TARAKAN. Therefore, all care must be exercised, and security regulations as per 30s must be rigidly enforced.

(b) Censorship

Until authority is received from higher formation, the following censorship instructions will apply in this area.

No reference will be made to operations, names of ports, local countries, airfields, movement, duration or course of journey, identity of other troops in area, or number of troops in area. Troops will NOT state they are in action.

R. Blackburn Capt
for
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde.

ADJUTANT AND QUARTERMASTER GENERALS STAFF3. TREATMENT OF CIVILIANS

A large number of houses belong to civilians who, for military reasons, have been compelled to reside in the civilian compound. Every consideration will be given to these people, and their property must not be interfered with in any manner.

4. CIVILIAN PROPERTY

It has been reported that furniture and other property has been removed without permission from private dwellings. All such property will be returned forthwith in the same condition as when removed. No further property of any description will be removed except as provided in para 1 (d). If buildings are occupied, furniture etc may be used by units, but must remain in the building when it is vacated.

5. REFUGEES

All the area EAST of 44 NORTHING GRID has been allotted to NICA and all refugees will be moved there as soon as possible. No civilians will be permitted outside this area except working parties and bodies of persons with passes and under command of a NICA representative.

6. NATIVE LABOUR

(a) All demands for native labour will be addressed to this HQ NOT later than 1800 hrs the previous evening. Unless in exceptional circumstances, no labour will be provided except for clearing areas, constructional work, carrying stores, or similar work. It will not be attached to a military unit or provided for domestic purposes.

(b) The unit receiving an allotment of labour is responsible for picking up and returning the natives, providing a guide if necessary, and drawing rations from NICA. Under no circumstances will Australian rations be given to natives. Units will provide containers for cooking meals (dixies or four-gallon ration tins are suitable). Portion of the labour party will provide cooks.

7. HYGIENE

A Hygiene Pamphlet is being distributed separately down to sections and equivalent sub-units. The utmost publicity will be given to the contents of this Pamphlet, and COs will ensure that full hygiene precautions are observed by all ranks at all times.

8. RETURNS

(a) Units are reminded that in the event of casualties, in addition to AF W.3006 Casualty Returns must be submitted to 2 Aust Adv 2 Ech to enable advice to be forwarded to next-of-kin without delay.

(b) Copies of AFW.3008, AFW.3009, Casualty Returns etc, are NOT required by this HQ except from units permanently under command 26 Aust Inf Bde.

(c) "Malarial Atebrin Ack" must reach this HQ NOT later than 2000 hrs daily.

.... /9.

9. POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS

(a) As from 1 May 45, the following prices apply for the sale of Postage Stamps etc :-

Stamps

1d	=	2½ cents	} equals 6 Guilders to £A1.
3d	=	7½ cents	
6d	=	15 cents	
9d	=	22½ cents	
1/-	=	30 cents	

1d and 3d stamps will be sold in multiple of 2 only.

Postal Notes

5/-	=	1.52 guilders	} equals 6.08 guilders to £A1.
10/-	=	3.04 guilders	
£1	=	6.08 guilders	

Air Mail Letter Cards 17½ cents each.

(b) FPO 036 will open in 2/30 Aust Sup Depot Pl area 9 May 45.

J.O. Giddes
 (J.O. GIDDLES) Capt.
 DAA&CMG OBOE ONE FORCE.

Distribution : List "B"

7 May 45

VISIT OF C-IN-C AMF

1. The Commander-in-Chief Australian Military Forces (General Sir Thomas A. Blaney) will visit TARAKAN 8 May 45.
2. The following itinerary will be adopted as far as conditions permit :-

Time	Event	Action
0830-0840	Arrive Northern Pier from Flying Boat.	Met by Bde Comd and Comd 2 Aust Beach Group. Visit old Dutch Naval Barracks. Meet Bde Staff.
0845	Arrive Bde HQ	Breakfast at Bde HQ.
0930	Depart Bde HQ. Move to airfield.	Visit YMCA. Inspect wrecked Matilda tank and view PENINGAI-BAROE and oil defence ditches. Inspect DP gun in tunnel.
1005	Arrive Tac HQ 2/24 Aust Inf Bn	Meet CO and Staff.
1020	Move to Auster Strip	Gp Capt ARTHUR Meet and Staff TAF RAAF and Flt Offr of Auster Craft.
1030	Move to Earth-testing Plant	Meet Gp Capt ROONEY 61 ACW and Staff. Inspect Strip.
1045	Move to 14 Bty 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.	Meet CO 2/7 Aust Fd Regt and Staff and Bty Comd.
1055	Move to C Sqn 2/9 Aust Armd Regt.	Meet Tp Ldr.
1100	Move to Tac HQ 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.	Meet CO and Staff.
1115	Depart 2/23 Aust Inf Bn	Move via ANZAC HIGHWAY.
1130	Arrive 2/11 Aust Fd Amb	Inspect MDS.
1140	Depart 2/11 Aust Fd Amb	Move via COLLINS HIGHWAY.
1145	Arrive Tac HQ 2/48 Aust Inf Bn	Meet CO and Staff on road.
1200	Depart 2/48 Aust Inf Bn	Move past Bde HQ new site on left of road and TAF RAAF on right of road.
1205	Arrive 2/3 Aust Fd Baking Pl	Meet OC MASC units.
1210	Depart 2/3 Aust Fd Baking Pl	Move through built up area to TARAKAN hill and through portion of oil fields area.
1225	Arrive 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	Via GLENELG HIGHWAY. Meet CO (or 2 i/c) and Staff on rd near Bn HQ.

(2)

Time	Event	Action
1235	Depart 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	Move to North end of old Auster Strip.
1245	Arrive North end of Auster Strip.	Meet Comd 2 Aust Beach Gp and Staff and CO 2/2 Aust Pnr Bn. View general beach area.
1255	Arrive southern pier	Meet CRE 1 Aust Corps Tps RAE.
1300	Arrive end of southern pier.	Lunch on board USS AKA TITANIA.
1340	Depart TITANIA	Move via ANZAC HIGHWAY to Northern pier.
1355	Arrive Northern Pier.	
1400	Embark small craft for Flying Boat.	

3. 9 Aust Div Pro Coy will provide Traffic Control and 1 Provost outrider to precede C-in-C Jeeps.
4. The visit of the C-in-C is not of a ceremonial nature and troops will carry out normal duties. Special care will be taken to ensure correct compliments are paid.

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

Distribution : List "B" plus PA to C-in-C.

S. D. R.

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it :

Serial..... B2/45
Nos..... 10/18

ROUTINE ORDERS

PART I

BY

BRIG D.A. WHITEHEAD CBE DSO MC ED COMMANDING OBOE ONE FORCE

In the Field

8 May 45

GENERAL STAFF

10. CENSORSHIP

- (a) Personnel may now state that they have been in action.
- (b) Only First Person Singular may be used in description of any action.
- (c) No ref will be made to units taking part or numbers of tps in the operation.
- (d) No mention will be made of shipping movement or names of places en route from AUSTRALIA to and incl Staging Area.
- (e) No ref will be made to number or type of ships operating.
- (f) Personnel may describe local conditions.
- (g) Personnel may mention incidents or describe anything on the island of a non military nature.
- (h) Tps may state that they have landed on TARAKAN island, but any mention of operations since the landing must refer only to personal experiences.
- (i) "TARAKAN TIMES" newsheet will not be transmitted by post as it refers to units taking part.

11. SENERIES - CHALLENGING - IDENTIFICATION

- (a) While it is essential to prevent any enemy infiltration, a uniform system of protection by sentries will be adopted to eliminate any possibility of accidental shooting.
- (b) The correct "Halt" challenge will be given by sentries. The person challenged will reply with the password. If the password is forgotten the person challenged will immediately speak and identify himself as quickly as possible. In any case, a sentry will not fire until he is certain that the person approaching is hostile.
- (c) Unit comds will ensure that all ranks are advised of the daily password.
- (d) This instruction will be rigidly enforced, and any case of accidental shooting will be severely dealt with.

12. CORRIGENDA

Ref Routine Order 1 paras 1(a) and 5, for NORTHING read NORTH SOUTH.

H. J. Katekar
(H. J. KATEKAR) Maj.
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde.

ADJUTANT AND QUARTERMASTER GENERALS STAFF

13. WATER CANS

All water cans issued from Beach Group sup pt will be returned to that pt (Dutch Naval Barracks at Northern Pier) by 1800 hrs 9 May 45. COs will ensure that this action is effected by the time stated, as these cans are urgently required for future operations.

14. DRESS

Approval has been given for personnel to remove shirts during daylight between 30 mins after sunrise and 30 mins before sunset. This approval is given subject to strict observance of the normal malarial precautions of shirts and gaiters on and sleeves rolled down between sunset and sunrise.

15. CANTEENS

(a) Aust Army Canteens Service (AACS) will open an issue point on ANZAC HIGHWAY at 415645 (TARAKAN SPECIAL 1/25000) on 9 May 45.

(b) Hours of Trading

0830-1600 hrs daily excl Sundays. On Sundays the issue point will be closed for purposes of stocktaking.

(c) Drawing days

Units of 26 Aust Inf Bde Group	-	Wed and Sat
2 Aust Beach Group	}	- Mon and Thu
1 Aust Corps Tps		
Base Sub Area Tps		
US and NEI Forces		
TAF RAAF and ACW	-	Tue and Fri

Units may draw canteen supplies on one day only.

(d) Strengths

Units will submit a signed copy of AFW.3809 before canteen stores will be issued.

(e) Payment

NEI currency will be used. Credit may be given in special circumstances for forward tps.

16. GRAVEL PITS

Gravel is very short on the island and all pits are reserved for Royal Australian Engineer Units and 61 Airfield Construction Wing (RAAF). Units requiring gravel will first obtain approval from CRE 1 Aust Corps Tps.

17. REINFORCEMENTS

Units will NOT request reinforcements direct from Dets of 2 Ech. Reinforcements are supplied on priorities laid down by LHQ from information received on Field Returns.

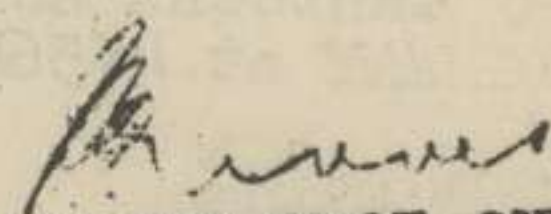
18. SUPPLIES

(a) With effect from 10 May 45, units of 26 Aust Inf Bde Group and RAAF will draw from "26 Bde Sup Pt" on COLLINS HIGHWAY at 429654.

....(b)

(3)

- (b) Units will submit an AF W.3809 daily when drawing rations. These will be signed by an offr, and where possible, the CO. Without this form, rations will not be issued.
- (c) Supply Pts close at 1500 hrs daily and supplies will not be issued after that time.
- (d) Half issue fresh bread will commence on 10 May 45.


DAA&QMG OBOE ONE FORCE. Capt.

Distribution : List "B"

~~SECRET~~

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
GO/112A/51
9 May 45

1070

26 AUST INF BDE GS INSTR 1
SECTORS OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR
MOPPING UP AND SECURITY

1. Under separate cover each unit will be issued with a marked map or sketch trace showing sectors of Responsibility for Mopping Up and Security.

2. The present allotment of units to Sectors will be as follows :-

(a)	ABLE SECTOR	-	not allotted
(b)	BAKER SECTOR	-	2/3 Aust Pnr Bn
(c)	CHARLIE SECTOR	-	N&I Coy
(d)	DOG SECTOR	-	2/48 Aust Inf Bn
(e)	EASY SECTOR	-	2 Aust Beach Gp
(f)	FOX SECTOR	-	2/23 Aust Inf Bn
(g)	GEORGE SECTOR	-	2/24 Aust Inf Bn

3. It is noted that other units may be given tasks within any of these sectors, in which case HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde will coordinate the allotment of tasks.

4. At present 2/4 Aust Cdo Bn is carrying out a specific task in DOG SECTOR and D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn is sharing with 2 Aust Beach Gp the responsibility for the def of EASY SECTOR.

5. The unit given the responsibility for a sector will carry out the tasks of destroying all enemy tps within their sector. Also the protection of all installations in the area.

6. Each unit will patrol only within the limits of its sector unless given specific instrs by this HQ.

7. The task of mopping up will include the regular patrolling of the whole area within each sector and the thorough searching out of any enemy likely to be lurking in tunnels, caves, strong posts or buildings.

8. Each unit will advise this HQ by 2100I proposed patrols for the following day.

H J KATEKAR
(H J KATEKAR) Maj.
RM 26 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION :
LIST B

39
GEORGE

70

70

ABLE



FOX

DOG

BAKER

Ref map TARAKAN 1:50,000

AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY.
for Mopping-up & Security.

EASY

CHARLIE

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM : 26 INF BDE

122340I

TO : List B

G0119 (.) restricted (.) all units will submit to this HQ by 131900I a
location state shewing location of HQ of each addressee and att unit (.)
in future units will notify this HQ immediately any change of location

If liable to etc

Maj McArthur

Maj

RESTRICTED

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

War diary

Serial..... B3/45
Nos..... 19/30

ROUTINE ORDERS
PART I
BY

BRIG D.A. WHITEHEAD CBE DSO MC ED COMMANDING OBOE ONE FORCE

In the Field

12 May 45

19. HONOURS AND AWARDS

Attention is directed to GRC A.281/44 para 12 regarding the procedure to be adopted in submitting recommendations for honours and awards. Army Form W.3121 will be used, and five copies submitted to this HQ. Units are advised to contact this HQ before typing citations in order that the form of the citation may be checked and thus obviate re-typing. Supplies of AF W.3121 are in short supply on the island. The "Honour or Reward" column will be completed in pencil.

20. MARSDEN MAT

It has been reported that units are removing Marsden Mat from the airfield. This material is required for the construction of the airstrip, and disciplinary action will be taken against any person found removing same.

21. PETROLEUM PRODUCING ETC EQUIPMENT

GHQ have directed that all equipment and materials for producing, processing or storing oil on TARAKAN island is to be returned intact, and not used for any other purpose

22. SPEED LIMITS

The maximum speed on TARAKAN island will be -

- Earth and metal surface roads - 20 mph
- Tarmac or seabed roads - 25 mph

Provost are instructed to enforce these speed limits.

23. TRAFFIC CIRCUITS

The one-way right-hand (clockwise) traffic circuit COLLINS HIGHWAY - GLENELG HIGHWAY - ANZAC HIGHWAY previously ordered, applies to all vehicles except jeeps, engineer vehicles carrying sand, and ambulances. All other vehicles, including jeeps with trailers, will proceed via the right-hand circuit only. Under wet conditions, from time to time, the main beach road (ANZAC HIGHWAY) will be restricted to westward traffic only.

24. WATER CANS

Force RO 13 of 3 May 45 has not been complied with completely by all units. ALL water cans issued on this island except those for which units have received special authority to retain, WILL be returned to the Supply Pt at the old Dutch Naval Barracks as soon as possible, and not later than 1200 hrs 14 May 45. Should any cans still be outstanding at that date, a special party will be detailed to search EVERY unit's lines. The offr found responsible for the custody of any tins found will be suitable dealt with.

25. CIVILIAN AND CAPTURED PROPERTY

There still appears to be doubt in the minds of some individuals regarding materials found on the island. No individual or unit is entitled to any captured enemy or civilian property. However, permission can be obtained at this HQ for the use and retention of property for bona fide purposes.

26. DJOEATA TOWN

DJOEATA TOWN is OUT OF BOUNDS to all ranks NOT operationally engaged there. Other persons may be admitted on production of a pass issued by this HQ.

27. NICA LABOUR COMPOUND

NICA labour compound is now situated at District VI. Units are reminded that all requests for labour must be submitted to this HQ by 1800 hrs daily, and that native labour is NOT available for washing of clothes, tending fires, and other domestic purposes.

28. ORDNANCE STORES

All demands for Ord Stores will be submitted to Ord Offr 26 Aust Inf Bde at this HQ.

29. VICTORY IN EUROPE

The Commander-in-Chief, in celebration of the victory in Europe, has directed -

- (a) that all ranks have a day's holiday. This will be granted on authority this HQ at a date to be advised.
- (b) that all ranks -
 - (i) be given one bottle of beer free;
 - (ii) be authorised to buy an additional bottle of beer to the ration of two bottles.

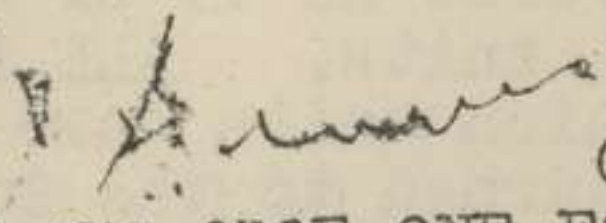
4 bottles of beer per man are being shipped from MOROTAI, and will be distributed through AACS under arrangements this HQ on arrival.

30. MOBILE CINEMA

Mobile Cinema is expected in the area in a few days. Places and times of screenings will be notified. Movement to and from the cinema will be by foot or MT, but motor vehicles will NOT be permitted to remain in the area of the screening.

31. GARBAGE DUMP

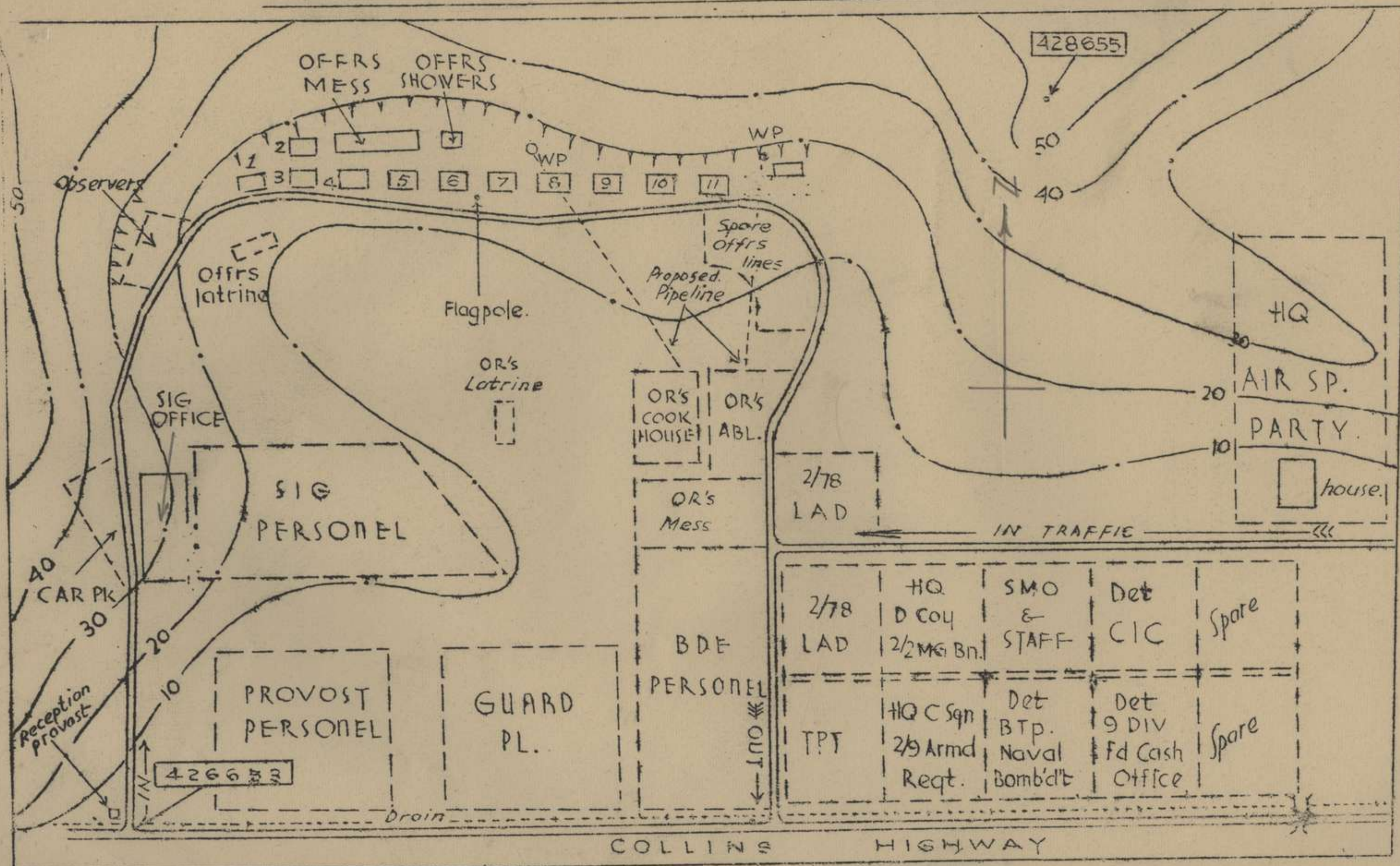
A Garbage (trash) Dump has been established at 446652 (TARAKAN SPECIAL 1/25,000). Debris from camp sites will be cleared to this point. All tins deposited will be crushed before dumping. No deposits will be made of unincinerated materials.


Capt.
DAACQMG OBOE ONE FORCE.

Distribution : List "B"

WD

PROPOSED HQ AREA... Ref Map TARAKAN SPECIAL 1:25000



LEGEND

- ① Observers
- ② ATIS & APIU
- ③ I.O.
- ④ Brig
- ⑤ BM
- ⑥ Ord Rm
- ⑦ S.C.
- ⑧ Col Agneu.
- ⑨ " " Sigs
- ⑩ Kitchen (offrs and sergeants)
- ⑪ Sgts Mess.

YARDS 100 50 0 100 YARDS

SCALE 3 inches = 100 yds.

TARAKAN TIME

No 9 Saturday 12 May, 1945

FLAME THROWER SHIFTS JAPS

After the quietest night since the landing, our patrols yesterday continued their work of probing and pinpointing enemy defences. One patrol of 2/24 Bn quickly cleared enemy from a spur NE of the airstrip when they employed a flame-thrower.

Another 2/24 patrol moving along the main road to the oilfields was ambushed by about 10 Japs but withdrew without casualties. A fighting patrol to the same area could not find any enemy.

This battalion is preparing to isolate and destroy an enemy position which has been holding up their advance to Sesanip.

JAP BOX SCORE

To 2100 hrs last night the score stood:

Counted dead ...	373
Estimated additional dead ...	66
Prisoners ...	5

On the central sector, the 2/48 Bn also patrolled actively. One party moving from Sykes Hill to Butch killed two Japs, wounded one. They attempted to encircle another group of 10 but came under heavy fire and had to withdraw.

The two companies of 2/3 Pnr Bn which have been trying to push along John's Track were relieved yesterday. The enemy is holding very strong defensive positions astride the track to Anal.

On the south the N.E.I. Coy cleared the Karoengan area. They found sawmills at Karoengan completely destroyed by the Japs.

2/23 Bn were engaged in reconnaissance patrols in their sector.

Naval bombardment was called down yesterday morning on enemy position in

U-Boats Surrender

LONDON The U-boat, the greatest, most persistent menace to the British Empire in this war, now is flying the black flag of surrender.

Six gave themselves up at British ports Thursday, and others, flying a white ensign over the black swastika flag, are coming in from all directions, with RAF Coastal Command planes keeping an eye on them.

Another surrender to the Royal Navy has been the German U-boat fleet which preyed on our shipping in the North Sea.

STABLE WHEAT PRICE

Minister for Commerce Scully told the House of Representatives the International Wheat Agreement proposed a maximum and minimum price, with a difference of no more than 2/6 a bushel.

Prices in the past fluctuated between 1/6 and 9/6, between poverty and prosperity.

The International Agreement, when signed, would give greater stability to the wheat grower.

Burma Star

The King has approved the award of a new decoration, the Burma Star, to the South East Asia Command.

The Sesanip oilfields area. The artillery also shelled targets of opportunity, and last night laid down harassing fire on the enemy.

Engineers neutralised 140 more mines yesterday and reported one of the two jetties at Peningki at the mouth of the Pamoesian River in good condition. It is 950 ft long.

MARINES 1000 YDS FROM NAHA

GUAM - The great frontal assault by the American troops on Okinawa against formidable Jap defences covering the capital, Naha, is eating its way slowly forward under a hail of naval and artillery shells, and bombing by carrier and land-based planes.

Spearheads of the 1 Marine Div have crossed the Apa River north of Naha, on the west coast, and were last reported within 1,000 yards of the capital.

Bitter hand-to-hand fighting is raging right across Okinawa.

A powerful battle fleet of battleships, cruisers and destroyers has been pounding the Japanese for a week, and

SANK 2,000,000 TONS

MANILA - Gen MacArthur announced yesterday that his bombers in the past 12 months have sunk nearly two million tons of Jap shipping.

are now firing a shattering barrage in direct support.

They were attacked twice on Thursday by Jap planes, at least six of which were destroyed. Two U.S. vessels were damaged.

Surabaya Bombed

MANILA - Gen MacArthur's long range bombers made a strong attack on Surabaya, naval base in eastern Java.

Yesterday's communique reported the sinking or damaging of 16 more ships in this theatre.

On Mindanao American forces are reducing Jap strong points one by one from their newly won bridgehead across a river west of Davao.

Five road and rail bridges were knocked out in French Indo-China. A Paris message reports a French Expeditionary Force for Indo-China.

RUSSIANS USE TANKS AGAINST NAZI POCKETS IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

LONDON - The Russians have sent powerful mobile tank, motor cycle and dive-bomber striking forces to smash German pockets in Czecho-Slovakia still defying the unconditional surrender order.

Marshal Koniev, whose troops liberated Prague, has arrived in the city. So has President Benes, after an absence of seven years.

On the southern side of Czecho-Slovakia British Eighth Army troops have made contact with Russians 15 miles south of Graz.

Gen Patton's Third Army are 50 miles east of Berchtesgaden, running down a rumour that Gestapo chief Himmler is in hiding in the Radstadter mountains in Austria.

He and a party of S.S. men were reported at the village of Mountendorf, then moved to another hide-out.

The Swedish Radio reports 1,500 Russians on the big Danish island of Bornholm, between Sweden and the German Baltic coast. The Russian Commander promised to withdraw as soon as the German garrison was removed.

British and American troops have been flown in to Stavanger, in Norway, to help disarm the Germans. The ofoten Is have been cleared.

Crown Prince Olaf and several Norwegian Cabinet ministers are leaving for Norway.

Britain's part in keeping resistance going in Norway has been revealed in part. Patriots in the Oslo sea alone, they parachuted 2,000 rifles, 1,000 Sten guns, 120 Brens and 120 light machine guns.

Allied prisoners are being flown back to Britain and 80,000 have already reached this country. The British Government has sent a special message of

thanks to Gen Eisenhower for his treatment of released British P.W.

A token force of British and American troops is being made ready to go to Berlin when arrangements are made with the Russians

Gen. G's Order

In a special Order of the Day, the Commander-in-Chief, Gen Sir Thomas Blancy stated:

"The war in Europe ended this morning. The people of the Allied Nations lift their voices in gladness and thanksgiving wherever they may be. Our armies have won complete victory over German tyranny. Our Allied effort will be concentrated now on the last enemy of civilisation -- the Japanese. He has been defeated time and time again and now our hosts are assembling to his complete destruction. I send greeting and congratulations first to all those of the A.L.E. who fought in Europe and the Middle East. They took a full share of the strain in the hardest early days and helped to lay the foundation of victory. Second, I send greeting and congratulations to all ranks of the Australian Army. Again, they took a full share of the early strain against the Japanese, and again their efforts are bearing them on to final victory. We tender a tribute of comradeship to those who will never return and we vow ourselves anew in their name to compass the final destruction of civilisation's last enemy, the Japanese.

UNCIO MOVES

SAN FRANCISCO - The big Four yesterday approved a British amendment to the Dumbarton Oaks plan which will widen the powers of the International Security Council.

The Council will have power to recommend action to settle a dispute and the recommendation may not be vetoed by any great power involved in the dispute.

Australia was one of four countries which supported a request by the World Trade Union Congress for a seat at the discussions of the Conference. The rest, more than 40 nations, refused the request pointing out only governmental bodies were represented at San Francisco, and the Trade Union Congress was not only not governmental, but may come into conflict with governments.

Plans for an International Military Court to try war criminals are being discussed here.

B-29s HIT AGAIN

WAM - A large force of B-29s returned to the homeland island of Honshu yesterday to bomb a big aircraft plant. A smaller force continued the daily offensive on Kyushu airfields.

It is revealed 75 per cent of the Hiro aircraft factory has been demolished and 30 per cent of the Machikawa plant near Tokyo.

RESISTANCE STIFFENS

RANGOON - British forces in Burma are coming up against stiffening resistance as they press the Japs out of the country. There was heavy fighting in village on the lower Irrawaddy before they were cleared.

To the north our men are mopping up pocketed Japs, or cutting their lines of retreat across the Shan Hills to Thailand. Troops pushing along the Arakan coast have captured a small port and others have made advances towards Rangoon.



DAILY NEWS SHEET

A U S T R A L I A N M I L I T A R Y F O R C E S

Saturday, May 12th, 1945

GS (INTELLIGENCE) ADV. LHQ

B 29's BOMB JAPAN AGAIN

GUAM : The all out bombing attack on Japan is continuing. Two large fleets of Super-Fortresses yesterday attacked industrial objectives in the city of Kobe and airfields on Kyushu, southernmost of Japan's home island.

Superfortress crews describe the big strike on oil storage centres and refineries as a "Super-fort picnic". A dense column of smoke, a quarter of a mile through rose 15,000 feet and a solid mass of flame leaped 1000 feet.

PEACE RUMOURS

LONDON : Commenting on persistent reports of Japanese peace overtures, London authorities state categorically that they have no knowledge of any Japanese peace feelers.

PLANNING

LONDON - Aerial warfare in the Pacific on a far greater scale than in Europe was envisaged yesterday by the U.S. 8th Air Force commander, Lt-Gen Doolittle, who commanded the first air raid on Tokio. He said 2,000 Superforts would be in use before long in the Pacific if Japan continued to resist. "Our basic strategy will be to weaken the enemy from the air to enable occupation of Japan by ground forces." He said that Flying Fortresses in the Pacific would play the role of medium bombers.

Meanwhile, American Army Supply chief, Lt-Gen. Somervell, declared that many British troopships and more than 400 British charter ships would transport American troops to the Pacific war zones. Amongst the famous British lines to be used will be the "Queen Mary", "Queen Elizabeth", and "Acquitania".

Another source stated that 3,000,000 American troops could be moved from Europe within the next nine months.

WAR CRIMINALS

LONDON - A big man hunt is on for Heinrich Himmler, Nazi arch-criminal and chief of the notorious Gestapo. The American Seventh Army is chasing a rumor that Himmler is holding out in the mountains of Austria.

Meanwhile Konrad Henlein, Nazi Sudetenland leader who hastened the Munich crisis in 1938, has committed suicide.

The hunt is also on for Lord Haw Haw. Latest news of him is that he left Hamburg by car the day before the British entered the city. Watch is being kept to ensure that he does not escape.

MORE NAZIS SURRENDER

LONDON: - All German garrisons in the Dodecanese Islands, numbering about 20,000 men, have surrendered to the Allies. They include garrisons of Rhodes, Milos, Neros, Cos, and various groups of small Aegean Islands.

The remnants of a Nazi wolf pack of E boats yesterday queued up off the south east coast of England, awaiting their turn to be led into anchorage. The surrender of U Boats continues without incident.

General von Falkenhorst, C-in-C German forces in Norway, has surrendered. He said that the German General Staff always knew that Germany could not win the war. Germany would never rise again to wage another war. It would take 100 years to repair Germany to the point where she was in 1940.

PRISONERS

LONDON - There are now more than 5,000,000 Nazi prisoners in Germany alone, stated a report. Working parties of German PW who will be used in thousands to speed up British housing projects, are expected to be on the sites next week. They will be paid rates laid down at the Geneva convention - three farthings an hour for unskilled men and three halfpence an hour for skilled labour.

2000 Australian PW have been received in Eastbourne Rehabilitation Centre,

• AUSTRALIAN NEWS •

CANBERRA: Air Commodore A.H. Cobby, CBE, DSO, DFC and two bars, George Medal, is relinquishing duty as Air Officer commanding the First Tactical Air Force RAAF, MOROTAI. He will be replaced by Air Commodore F.W. Scherger, DSO, AFC, who has been acting air member for personnel at Air HQ.

CANBERRA: It is expected that the Prime Minister, Mr. Curtin, will be able to leave hospital next week. Ministers expect that he will be at the Prime Minister's lodge for several weeks before returning to work.

SYDNEY : The three weeks old strike of waterside dockworkers, which is holding up repairs to Fleet units and has lost £20,000 in wages, may be settled on Monday. A mass meeting of strikers will then consider a proposal to resume work in the interests of the British Navy and the war effort. The strike arose from the dismissal of a shop delegate at Mort's Dock by the Balmain executive of the Iron Worker's Union.

CANBERRA: Prevention by the Speaker, Mr. Roosevelt, from referring to the Waterside strike now before the Court, resulted in the Opposition in the House of Representatives yesterday assisting in an attack on the Government for "failure to maintain the war effort and protection on the waterfront."

CANBERRA: It would not be possible to relax petrol rationing in Australia because of the end of the war in Europe, it was officially stated today. The shipping shortage is likely to continue and existing stocks should not warrant the release of more petrol for civilians. Demands on shipping for other essential world needs would continue to be sought. It is unlikely that Australian stocks could be supplemented to any great extent for some time.

SYDNEY : 18 persons were injured, two of them seriously, when a double decker bus crashed into a telegraph pole in Parramatta Road, Summer Hill yesterday. Two passengers had to be freed by crowbars after they had been pinned to their seats by twisted wreckage.

FOOTBALL AND RACING RESULTS WILL BE FEATURED IN TOMORROW'S EDITION.

TARAKAN TIMES

No 13

WEDNESDAY, 16 May, 1945

BATTLE FOR AIR MASTERY Equipment Adequate

Navy At Okinawa Fighting Land-Based Enemy For Superiority Over Home Islands

WASHINGTON - Secretary of the Navy Forrestal in an interview yesterday said, "The Navy is fighting Japanese land-based air forces for the superiority of the air over the Japanese home islands."

He did not confirm or deny the persistent enemy reports that 168 American carrier planes Monday swept airfields on Kyushu, most southerly homelands island of Japan.

But Mr Forrestal did warn that Japan may use her submarine fleet to attack Allied supply lines. While the Jap Navy was now only a medium-sized task force, she still had an effective submarine fleet. So far the Japs had used it mainly for scouting and transportation.

The Navy Secretary secured approval from Congress of a \$25,000,000,000 appropriation for Navy.

STRATEGIC GAINS IN GRM OKINAWA BATTLES

The main weight of the American assault on Okinawa is now being directed against Shuri, fortress town on the southern half of the front. American Marines are still pinned down in the northern suburbs of Naha, the capital, but it has been so completely devastated by the terrific bombardment from land, sea and sky that it is no longer an important objective.

At Shuri, the veteran 1st Marine Div, and 77th Inf Div are the assault troops. The Marines are now 1,000 yards NW of Shuri, while the 77th have fought their way to a height which dominates Shuri, less than a mile away.

Below Shuri, the 338th Regt of 96 Div stormed a conical peak which formed the eastern anchor of the Jap line. Other troops are now on Yonabaru airfield.

A further 46 Japanese planes were shot down in air battles over Okinawa and the Pacific Fleet on Sunday and Monday. One U.S. major warship, 2 light ones, were reported hit by Admiral Nimitz.

MR EDEN RETURNING

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden called on President Truman Monday on his way back to London from San Francisco.

CANBERRA - Sir Leslie Morshead, 1 Aust Corps Commander, had reported to the Government that equipment of the AIF for the Tarakan landing was adequate, the Acting Prime Minister, Mr Chifley, told the House yesterday.

No Australian army was ever so well equipped, and he was more than satisfied with the work of the troops.

Heavy equipment used at Tarakan, Sir Leslie's report stated, was essentially the same as that used by the Americans.

Shipping was adequate for the task, comparing favourably with that provided for an American task force of the same size engaged in a similar operation.

Mr Chifley added that he had received a message from Gen MacArthur regarding the criticism allegedly made by an American naval observer.

The Vice-Admiral concerned had sent a message saying the statements attributed to him were not correct, Gen MacArthur stated.

Helen Hill Was A Fortress

A dawn patrol to Helen Hill yesterday found it unoccupied, and later other patrols radiating from it discovered that the enemy had hastily evacuated his strong defensive positions on Sadie Hill and astride John's Track to the east.

The capture of Helen and Sadie hills provided an example of the effectiveness of our intense and accurate air, naval, artillery and mortar bombardment, as well as the tenacity and determination of the attacking infantry, who had previously penetrated and over-run many of the posts.

Viewed today, the enemy defensive positions looked impregnable, being perfectly sited for mutual support in depth along the whole line of a horseshoe-shaped razor-back ridge. Approaches for our troops were limited to the very top of the 60 to 75 degree ridge wide enough to take one man only.

Yet the whole of this area had been completely smashed by bombs and shells, the trees standing scarr-ed and stripped of leaves and branches. Above all this were the tell-tale signs of burnt and scorched foliage, testifying to the searing, demoralising effect of the Napalm fire bombs.

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WASHINGTON - Secretary of the Navy Forrestal in an interview yesterday said, "The Navy is fighting Japanese land-based air forces for the superiority of the air over the Japanese home islands."

He did not confirm or deny the persistent enemy reports that 668 American carrier planes Monday swept airfields on Kyushu, most southerly home-land island of Japan.

But Mr Forrestal did warn that Japan may use her submarine fleet to attack Allied supply lines. While the Jap Navy was now only a medium-sized task force, she still had an effective submarine fleet. So far the Japs had used it mainly for scouting and transportation.

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(Turn to page 2 Col 1)

Japs From Helen Now On Daisy

ATTACK ON AGNES HILL COST ENEMY 8 KILLED

The Japanese who were driven from Helen Hill by Napalm flame bombs moved north onto Daisy Hill. A strong air strike failed to move them on yesterday.

A force of Liberators and Mitchells, originally intended for Helen Hill, were diverted to Daisy, and dropped approximately 200 250-lb bombs fairly in the target area.

Subsequent patrols to Daisy found the feature still occupied, with Nips digging in. They withdrew to enable artillery and mortar concentrations to be laid down. During the night harassing fire by arty, mortars and MGs was maintained.

Another patrol, from Dorry, moved east to the foothills without locating and north-south Jap tracks.

During yesterday afternoon, about 30 Japanese approached our troops on Agnes Hill. They charged up the hill in a very noisy attack, shrieking and jabbering, but were easily repulsed, with 8 counted dead and 2 more probables.

On the other side of Snag's Track, a company moving to Ostrich Hill contacted a party of Japs killing seven. They came under MG fire from an enemy strong point at the NE end of the feature. Efforts to encircle it failed, as did an ineffectual enemy counter-attack with grenades.

One of our platoons operating in the Elbow area came under direct fire from a 75mm gun, on Margy. The gun was subjected at once to intense arty and mortar fire, but the Elbow is still under fire from the southern slopes of Trig 105.

UNIT NAMES BARRED

For security reasons the names of units will not be mentioned in future in the "Tarakan Times" reports. Place names will be in their normal code.

BIG THREE MAY MEET SOON

LONDON - Both President Truman and Mr Churchill expressed hopes yesterday of an early meeting of themselves and Stalin.

The President admitted it had been discussed by him with Mr Eden Monday.

More and more points of friction are arising in liberated Europe. The Russians, for instance, are annoyed at the apparently goof treatment by the Allies of certain Germans, including Goering and Doenitz.

Britain and America take a serious view of the occupation of Trieste by Tito, and have jointly ordered the Yugoslavs to withdraw immediately.

Tito has also claimed the Austrian province of Carinthia.

A visit by the Regent of Greece to Rhodes has focussed attention on the Dodecanese, at present under British military government.

RAAF RESIGNATIONS

CANBERRA - Air Minister Drakeford stated yesterday in the House of Representatives that the resignations of a number of officers of the First Tactical Air Force had been returned to them, on Air Board's order, for re-submission in proper form. Latest advice was that the officers did not intend to go further with their resignations.

MACARTHUR CAPTURES BALEYTE PASS AFTER HARD FIGHT

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To the NE, the 43rd Div is advancing for the final assault on Ipo Dam, source of much of Manila's water supply.

The entire north coast of Mindanao has been cleared by U.S. troops and guerillas.

6th Div Attack Inland

AITAPU - Three 6th Div columns are striking inland from Wewak to attack strong enemy concentrations. They have advanced three miles, and at last report were attacking in the Sauri Valley.

In the past few days strong Jap forces have gathered in the inland area. It is believed he is getting up supplies and preparing to attack the Australians.

The three Australian forces are almost within call of each other.

BURMA MOPPING UP

SEAC - Jap forces in Burma, cut off in pockets, are trying to escape between the Irrawaddy delta and the coast. A large MT dump NE of Pegu has been captured.

SCORE BOARD

- Melbourne League:
- S. Melbourne 83 d Geelong 67
 - Collingwood 101 d Hawthorn 63
 - Carlton 84 d Fitzroy 77
 - Essendon 156 d St Kilda 101
 - Richmond 85 d Melbourne 65
 - N. Melbourne 2d Footscray 79
 - South Melbourne (16 pts) are undefeated League leaders.
 - Todd (Wms town) kicked 20 goals against Oakleigh, making 57 for him in five matches.
- Sydney Rugby League:
- Newtown 18 d N. Sydney 10
 - Bankstown 17 d S. Sydney 13
 - E. Subs 25 d Balmain 12
 - W. Subs 28 d St George 12.

Japs From Helen Now On Daisy

ATTACK ON AGNES HILL COS. ENEMY 8 KILLED

The Japanese who were driven from Helen Hill by Napalm flame bombs moved north onto Daisy Hill. A strong air strike failed to move them on yesterday.

A force of Liberators and Mitchells, originally intended for Helen Hill, were diverted to Daisy, and dropped approximately 200 250-lb bombs fairly in the target area.

Subsequent patrols to Daisy found the feature still occupied, with Nips digging in. They withdrew to enable artillery and mortar concentrations to be laid down. During the night harassing fire by arty, mortars and flares was maintained.

Another patrol, from Dorry, moved east to the foothills without locating any north-south Jap tracks.

During yesterday afternoon, about 30 Japanese approached our troops on Agnes Hill. They charged up the hill in a very noisy attack, shrieking and jabbering, but were easily repulsed, with 3 counted dead and 2 more probables.

On the other side of Snag's Track a company moving to Ostrich Hill contacted a party of Japs, killing seven. They came under MG fire from an enemy strong point at the NE end of the feature. Efforts to encircle it failed, as did an ineffectual enemy counter-attack with grenades.

One of our platoon operating in the Abow area came under direct fire from a 75mm gun, on Margy. The gun was subjected at once to intense arty and mortar fire, but the Elbow is still under fire from the southern slopes of Trig 10.

UNIT NAMES BARRED

For security reasons the names of units will not be mentioned in future in the "Tarakan Times" reports. Place names will be in the normal code.

BIG THREE MAY MEET SOON

LONDON - Both President Truman and Mr Churchill expressed hopes yesterday of an early meeting of themselves and Stalin. The President admitted it had been discussed by him with Mr Eden Monday.

More and more points of friction are arising in liberated Europe. The Russians, for instance, are annoyed at the apparently good treatment by the Allies of certain Germans, including Goering and Doenitz.

Britain and America take a serious view of the occupation of Trieste by Tito, and have jointly ordered the Yugoslavs to withdraw immediately.

Tito has also claimed the Austrian province of Carinthia.

A visit by the Regent of Greece to Rhodes has focussed attention on the Dodecanese, at present under British military government.

RAAF RESIGNATIONS

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WD

26 AUST INF BDE DISTRIBUTION LIST

to 1800I 13 MAY 45

Serial	Unit	List A (Coys etc)	List B (Units)	List C (Revsits)
1	2/23 Aust Inf Bn ✓	6	1	5
2	2/24 Aust Inf Bn ✓	6	1	5
3	2/43 Aust Inf Bn ✓	6	1	5
4	2/4 Aust Udo Sqn ✓	1	1	4
5	2/7 Aust Fd Regt ✓	4	1	4
6	53 Aust Comp AA Regt ✓	2	1	2
7	det B Aust Bombardment Tp	1	1	1
8	HQ RAE 1 Aust Corps Tps ✓	3	2	3
9	2/13 Aust Fd Coy ✓	1	1	2
10	One pl Docks Operating Coy	1	1	1
11	C Sqn 2/9 Aust Armd Regt ✓	1	1	2
12	Sen AASC Offr (Maj W PERRY) c/o 1 Aust Air Maint Coy	5	5	5
13	SMO (Lt-Col MORGAN) 2/12 Aust Fd Amb	2	2	2
14	110 Aust CCS ✓	1	1	1
15	2/11 Aust Fd Amb ✓	1	1	1
16	2/12 Aust Fd Amb	1	1	1
17	2/123 Aust Ord Fd Pk	1	} 1	1
18	2/123 Aust Bde Wksp	1		1
19	2/78 Aust LAD	1	1	1
20	2 Aust Beach Gp <i>HO Base sub area</i>	30	6	20
21	2/3 Aust Pnr Bn ✓	6	1	5
22	D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn ✓	1	1	2
23	det HQ 22 Aust L of C Sigs	1	1	1
24	det 9 Aust Div Fd Cash Office	1	1	1
25	det 9 Aust Div Salvage Unit ✓	1	1	1
26	Adv HQ 1 TAF RAAF ✓	4	4	4
27	61 Airfd Constr Wing (RAAF)	3	3	3
28	16 A O P Flt ✓	1	1	1
29	det Public Relations (Maj PALMER)	1	1	1
30	B Det 9 Aust Div AACS	1	1	1
31	Air Sp Party (Maj DERHAM)	4	4	10
32	1 Boat Coy 583 EB & S Regt ✓	1	1	1
33	US Naval Port Directorate	1	1	1
34	det CIC ✓	1	1	1
35	NICA ✓	1	1	2
36	2 Coy 1 NEI Inf Bn ✓	1	1	1
37	Comd	1	1	-
38	BM	1	1	1
39	DAA & QMG	7	3	3
40	Bde TO	1	-	-
41	Sig Offr	1	1	1
42	3 Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy	1	1	1

...../43

19.
file 2
WD 2
MV 3
OC 1
15- 2
24

(2)

43	4 Pl A Coy 2/1 Aust Gd Regt	1	1	1
44	Camp	1	1	2
45	Observer (Maj RIDLEY)	1	1	1
46	File	2	2	2
47	War Diary	2	2	2

Subject : GENERAL DUTIES

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde

AG/111/132

14 May 45

1. The labour available for essential gen duties on this HQ is very limited. This is due to the fact that the majority of the personnel are specialists and cannot be spared from their normal specialist tasks. A close study of the personnel and their duties discloses that the total number of personnel available for gen duties is 22 - made up from 12 batmen and 10 ORs from 4 Pl 2/1 Aust Guard Regt.
2. The 10 personnel from the Gd Pl are to be made available to the Camp Comdt from 0830 hrs to 1700 hrs daily.
3. To ensure that offrs are NOT handicapped by the partial loss of batmen's services, a roster will be drawn up weekly and a copy handed to each offr. Batmen will be available to offrs either during the morning or the afternoon according to the roster. Batmen will report to CSM at either 0830 or 1330 hrs. The following is the roster for period 13 May to 19 May incl :-

0830 hrs to 1200 hrs

Pte	JACOBI	N.A.
Pte	SHUTE	C.
Pte	SHARPLES	C.E.
Pte	WRIGHT	A.
Pte	JINKINS	M.J.
Pte	McDONALD	A.C.W.

1330 hrs to 1700 hrs

Pte	SLEEP	E.M.
Pte	POULTON	G.E.
Pte	LOVERIDGE	H.F.
Pte	MOORE	F.T.
Pte	HALL	J.
Pte	WILLIAMS	T.C.

4. In order to increase the numbers of gen duties, offrs in charge of sub units are requested to assist in this regard by informing Camp Comdt or his rep when any person under their comd could be made available, however short the time, to assist in the daily maint of the camp HQ area. If this cooperation is forthcoming, many of the existing anomalies can be overcome satisfactorily.

H. J. KATEKAR
(H. J. KATEKAR) Maj.
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution :

Maj H. J. KATEKAR	Lt P. W. R. DAW
Capt J. O. GEDDES	Lt A. C. DOUGLAS
Capt A. H. B. HEYMANSON	Lt R. W. HESLOP
Capt J. D. HONEYSETT	Lt K. J. JENKINS
Capt A. G. LIVINGSTON	Lt W. H. NICHOLAS
Capt V. N. NELSON	Lt E. E. OAKES
Capt A. J. PROSSER	Lt J. W. RUNGE
Capt M. D. WRIGHT	Lt K. W. STEVENS
Lt R. ANTHONY	File
Lt C. J. COX	

SIXTH DIV TAKES WEWAK

LANDING PRECEDES FINAL ASSAULT ON JAP BASE FROM TWO SIDES

GERMANY'S FATE

AITAPE - The Sixth Australian Division has captured Wewak. They have cleared the peninsula and seized the airstrip, and latest reports are that the remnants of the Jap garrison have been driven halfway across the shoreline of Wewak harbour.

Tanks, flame-throwers, and artillery, together with powerful naval bombardment, supported the infantry.

The final assault on Wewak began on Thursday, when one force attacked Wewak peninsula from the west, capturing two thirds of it. They used flame-throwers, and had artillery support.

Friday morning another force stormed ashore in an amphibious landing east of Cape Mann, to the east of Wewak. The two forces were then reported moving to a junction near the airstrip, which is now in our hands.

British and Australian warships supported the operation. They included the British cruiser Newfoundland, HMAS Hobart, and Arunta, Warramunga, Colac, Dubbo, and a number of other light naval craft.

The 6th Division is under command Major-Gen Stevens, and the two brigades in the operation were commanded by Brigadiers Noten and Martin, it has been announced in Australia.

On Thursday and Friday nearly 200 Japanese were killed to every Australian lost, and there have been mass surrenders by the Japanese. In one group a Japanese Lt-Col and four other officers gave themselves up.

The enemy facing the 6th Div are elements of the 20, 41 and 51 Jap Divs, once part of the Japanese Eighteenth Army. The success by the Australians means the remainder of the enemy are completely isolated from the rest of the world. A big concentration of Japs is known to be in the interior, east of Maprik, where another 6th Div brigade is patrolling and mortaring extensively.

On Bougainville, Australian troops now control the fords over the Hongorai R. They are preparing for the final drive to eliminate the enemy from southern Bougainville, and are clearing enemy pockets along the north bank of the river.

Allied planes are giving strong support.

LONDON - The people of Germany, men, women and children, became prisoners when Germany surrendered unconditionally. They will remain prisoners for as long as the Allies occupy Germany.

That, in brief, is the attitude of the Allies. The people of Germany heard last night on Flensburg Radio what is to be their fate. The Nazi Party, and all its decrees, is dissolved. It and its branches, such as the Hitler Youth, are declared illegal. The notorious fuhrer law, setting up a dictatorship of Germany, is gone, and also the Ministry of Propaganda.

No German may cross the frontiers of his country, nor may he broadcast. A curfew is to be imposed from 10pm to well after dawn in the morning, and all cinemas and theatres have been ordered closed. Military tribunals are being set up to replace the German courts. English is to be the official language.

Some of the 6,000,000 prisoners in Allied hands are to be released for essential work.

AUSTRALIA

Lost 15,000,000 Sheep!

SYDNEY - The present drought has caused the loss of 15,000,000 sheep in Australia, and nearly 100 million bushels of wheat. It has cut heavily into the nation's fruit crops, wheat, oats, barley and grain sorghum.

Commonwealth officers trying to estimate the effects of the drought, say that the three biggest droughts we have had, in 1902, 1914 and 1944/45 cost the country £300,000,000.

The normal wheat crop of 140,000,000 bushels is down to 50 million bushels. Little barley or oats has been grown, and millions of apples and citrus fruits have been lost - estimated at 20,000 tons, or one third of the nation's fruit production.

There have been light falls of rain in northern New South Wales and the Riverina, and in the Mallee with general falls of up to one inch in the Wimmera. Good rains have fallen in southern Victoria.

ATTACK ON HELEN HILL FAILS N.E.I REACH SOUTHERN TIP

A further attack by the 2/3 Pnr Bn to capture the Helen feature, which dominates Johns Track to Amal, proved unsuccessful yesterday. The assaulting company gained a false crest, but heavy fire from Jap machine guns on their flanks prevented them from reaching the top of the main hill.

The enemy appears well equipped in this area, and well dug in. Some bunkers have been barricaded with bags of rice. Another company of the Pioneers moved north, intending to drive down on the Jap positions from the track which runs north and south, but could not locate the track.

We suffered some casualties in yesterday's attack, but enemy casualties are not known.

The N.E.I. Coy, using landing craft, crossed the mouth of the Karoengan River and landed at the Cape Pasir jetty, at the southern tip of the island. Four searchlights there had been demolished, but one generator was in order. No enemy were seen.

Tokyo Reports Big Carrier Raid

GUAM - Tokyo Radio is reporting a heavy strike by 600 carrier aircraft from a task force off Kyushu Is, but Ad Nimitz has not yet confirmed this.

Last week-end a fleet cruised along the Ryuku chain, and in operations there and off Okinawa our naval guns and carrier planes shot down 165 enemy aircraft.

Of these 55 were destroyed off and over Okinawa.

On Okinawa Marines are fighting in the residential suburbs of Naha against fanatical resistance.

Del Monte Captured

MANILA - American troops who landed on the north coast of Mindanao have driven 15 miles inland to capture the Del Monte airfield.

Troops advancing from the south have seized an airfield less than 40 miles from Del Monte.

West of Davao U.S. troops have repulsed more Jap counter-attacks.

At Cape Batoo, further east, enemy 6-in and 75mm shells were found, but no guns.

Elsewhere on the front our patrols continued active. A troop of 2/4 Cdo Sqn was engaged by Japs on Susia Hill and withdrew.

The long-range patrols of 2/48 Bn from Dorry and Esme Hills contacted each other. A strong block has been placed on the Jap track near Dorry.

A platoon from 2/24 Bn occupied high ground on the south-western end of Crazy Ridge after tanks had destroyed enemy posts. The enemy counter-attacked vainly.

During the day 16 Jap dead were counted, and an estimated 16 more killed, making the progressive totals 409 counted dead, 84 probables.

Four prisoners held by natives on Noenocken Is since they were wrecked there were brought in by PT boat yesterday.

Inquiry Into R.A.A.F. Allegations

CANBERRA - Minister for Air Drakeford announced yesterday that Mr J.V. Barry, KC, has been appointed Commissioner to inquire and report on the alleged submission of resignations by certain Air Force officers in forward areas. He will also probe allegations of unauthorised trading by certain officers, and allegations by Group-Capt C.R. Caldwell against certain senior officers.

CHURCHILL WARNS OF DANGERS

LONDON - Mr Churchill, in a victory speech to the nation last night, referred to British tasks still to be done in Europe, and in the war against Japan.

In Europe, he said, "we must make sure that the causes for which we fought - democracy, and liberation - are not distorted from their true meaning as we know them. If the laws of justice should not prevail, and if totalitarian or police governments take the place of the German dictators, the war will have been fought in vain."

He also warned that the new world organisation being set up in San Francisco must not become "a shield for the strong and a mockery for the weak."

Talking of the Pacific war, Mr Churchill said we had received horrible injuries from Japan, and we were bound by the ties of honour and of our liabilities to the United States to fight at the other end of the world.

"We must remember too", he went on, "that Australia, Canada and New Zealand were vitally threatened by Japan. They came quickly to our aid, and Britain has no choice but to go now to their aid."

Reviewing the war against Britain herself, Mr Churchill revealed that only 40 to 50 squadrons of RAF fighters had beaten the Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain, odds of 7 and 8 to 1.

He referred in biting terms to the De Valera government of Eire and its aid to the Germans, and told how Britain very nearly had to come to "close quarters" with Eire.

FIRE BOMBS ON JAPAN

Record Force of 500 Super-Fortresses Drop 3,500 Tons on Nagoya

GUAM - More than 500 Super Fortresses struck their heaviest blow yet against Japan yesterday, when they sent down half a million fire bombs on Nagoya, third city of the enemy. The giant bombers dropped a total of 3,500 tons over an area of nine square miles.

Nagoya has a population of 1,400,000 and possesses large aircraft plants, the main target yesterday, steel works, an arsenal, a tank arsenal, and hydro-electric works.

More than 5,500 U.S. airmen took part in the attack, which was the first fire raid made in daylight. The B-29s flew in at medium altitude. A record for the number of planes, tonnage, the attack lasted one and a half hours, and compares with the strongest air assaults which helped to reduce Germany to unconditional surrender.

TOKYO REPORTS BIG CARRIER STRIKE

Tokyo Radio again yesterday reported a big carrier air strike against home islands of Japan. In the morning they said carrier planes, estimated between 600 and 900, were attacking airfields on Ryushu, most southerly island.

Later they said the planes were attacking targets on Ryushu, Honshu and Shikoku islands. The American aircraft were coming from three big task forces each including two to three carriers, and three battleships.

6th Div Clears Wewak

Wewak - The 6th Division has cleared the entire Wewak harbour area. One force east of Wewak is closing on Boran airstrip. On Saturday less than two miles separated the two forces of Australians.

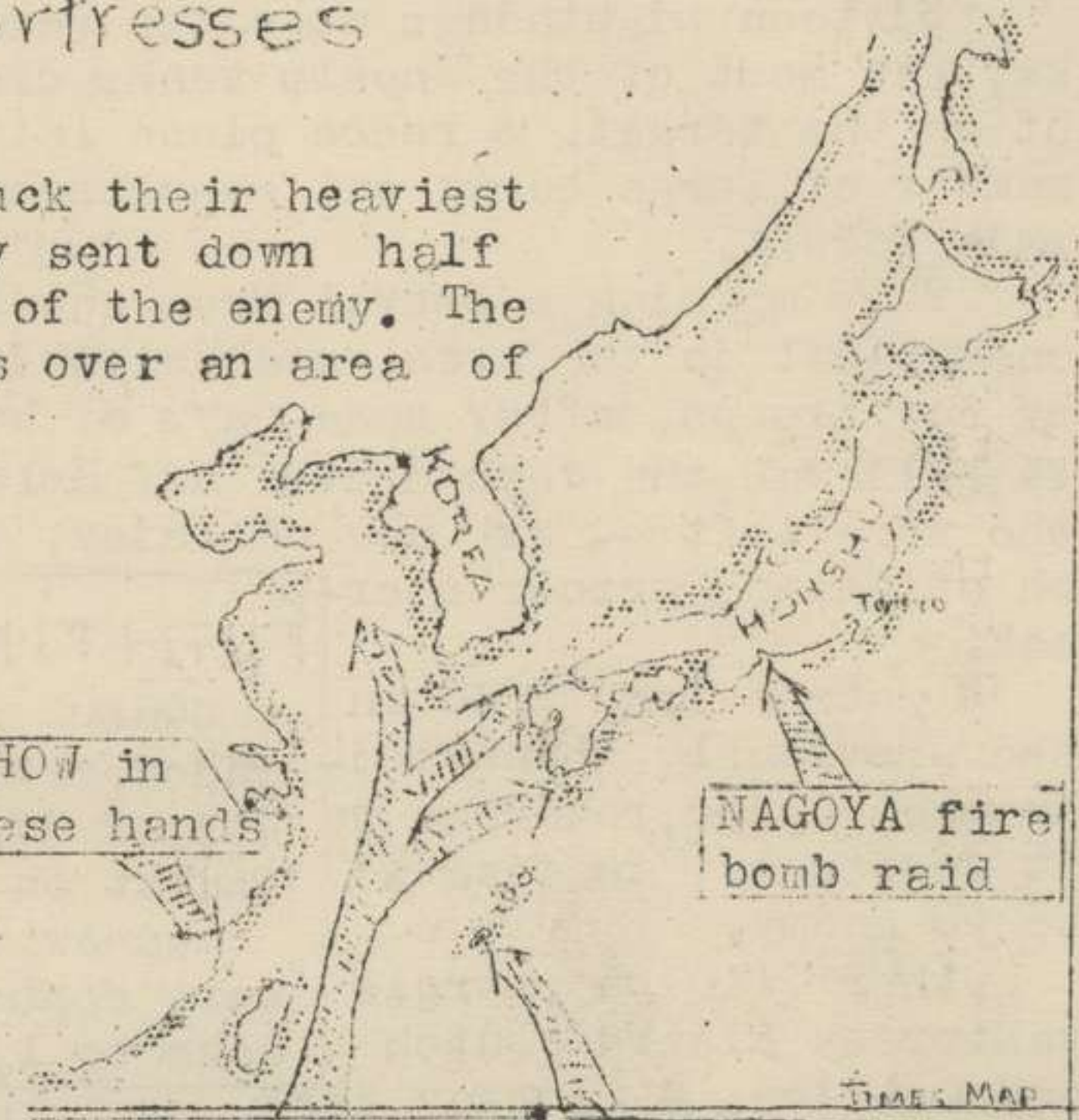
Gen Sir Thomas Blaney has sent congratulations to Maj Gen J.E. Stevens, GOC 6 Div, and to all officers and men, on the success of their operation at Wewak. The Division's splendid actions during the present campaign were worthy of its great history, he said.

RAAF IN VICTORIA

Rain is still falling over northern Victoria, it is good rains in the upper, central and western districts. Only light rain, up to a half inch fell in the S.W. Riverina.

RAAF Beauforts flew 300 sorties in support of the ground troops.

Douglas transports dropped 50,000 lbs of equipment in one day.



AIR STRIKES on shipping

OKINAWA battle for NAHA

Grim Battle

GUAM - U.S. troops on Okinawa are being heavily shelled as they push slowly into Naha, the capital. Marines are battling towards the last water barrier on the west, while other troops NE of Naha edged forward a third of a mile.

The Japs Sunday made a futile effort to land behind the American lines. Naval and land guns broke it up, prevented a landing. Land mines and buried artillery shells are slowing our troops.

Chinese fighting in Foochow Streets

CHUNGKING - Chinese troops are fighting in the streets of Foochow, port on the China coast opposite Formosa, and 500 miles from Okinawa.

They have captured an airfield south of the city. Further up the coast they have liberated a town in Chekiang province, and driven the Japs north.

In Central China a Japanese drive on an American air base was halted, broken, and Chinese troops are now pushing forward under a Fourteenth Air Force umbrella.

Enemy Driven From Helen Hill By Aerial Flame Attack

Following unsuccessful attempts by the 2/3 Pnr Bn to shift a strong force of Japs firmly established on Helen Hill, the feature and its companion, Sadie Hill, were swept by shellfire and then blasted by Napalm flame bombs.

Sixteen Lightnings made the aerial flame strike, and most of the Napalm tanks dropped fell right on the target. A recon plane later reported a number of large burnt out areas scarring the thick rain forest.

This morning a patrol from the Pnr Bn found no enemy left in the area, and Helen is now occupied by our troops, after some days of hard fighting. It is believed the Japs driven off Helen -- or those who were left -- are now on Daisy, which lies north of Helen, across a creek.

A patrol from 2/48 Bn had previously found Daisy unoccupied, returned to it yesterday to find 15 to 20 enemy.

Other 2/48 Bn patrols yesterday cleared Butch and Ostrich. A company is now on Ostrich Hill, which overlooks Snag's Track from the south.

To the north, the 2/24 Bn successfully ambushed a large party of Japs. A company had occupied the feature south of the Elbow in Snag's Track, and they observed a party of 25 Japs moving NW. They notified another company, which had a tank with it, and an ambush was set.

They killed 14 without loss to themselves. These with others killed yesterday, brought the number of counted dead to 430.

Another 2/24 Bn company has found a stubborn pocket at the south-eastern end of the Djoeata oilfield, estimated thirty strong. A tank is helping to shift them.

British troops have captured a village on the Pegu-Martaban railway in Burma against heavy resistance. Mopping up continues in the Irrawaddy valley and along the Mandalay-Rangoon railway. B24s smashed a bridge on the Bangkok-Singapore railway

MINDANAO PROGRESS

MANILA - American troops on northern Mindanao have captured Del Monte airfield. They have pushed on two miles towards another American force pushing north on the highway.

Scattered Jap resistance is being met SW of Davao, and to the north-west the Americans have made gains. The enemy in this sector is using rockets, heavy mortars, and artillery.

American troops have captured \$1,000,000 worth of Jap aircraft and plane parts on Mindanao, where the enemy had a network of staging bases.

FIGHTING ENDED IN EUROPE

LONDON - Fighting on the European fronts virtually ended yesterday with the mopping up of the last pockets of diehard Nazi troops in Czecho-Slovakia. They fought on for five days after the surrender.

Moscow announced this morning that 170,000 prisoners were captured yesterday, bringing the total for five days to 1,250,000, including 107 generals.

Electricity Strike In Sydney Now

SYDNEY -- Sydney has its troubles too. An electricity strike is the latest. Nearly 600 employees of Bunnerong power station have been on strike for some days. A mass meeting yesterday decided to call on the remainder to come out too.

Many suburbs were without light and power last night, and County Council officials are appealing for less use of electricity.

LESS RACEHORSES IN VIC

MELBOURNE - The VRC and Victorian Government have agreed to cut racehorses in training to 359, nearly 1,000 fewer than normally owing to fodder shortage. One-year-olds, 2-year-olds, 3-year-olds placed in city and suburban meetings, 4-year-olds who have won £200 since Aug 1, 5-year-olds winners of £400, and aged horses which have won £1,000, will be allowed to train.

Prague Radio reports the arrest of Dr Hacha, puppet premier of the country under the Nazis, and several Ministers.

NEW EUROPEAN PROBLEMS

One new seat of trouble, and possibly a second, has arisen in Europe. Marshal Tito claims Trieste, Italian city on the Adriatic, for Yugoslavia. He had earlier claimed its capture, but was sharply told by the Allies that New Zealand troops liberated it.

Britain and America have informed Tito that Trieste will remain under Allied control until its future has been decided at the Peace Conference.

Austria is the potential. A provisional government, established when the Russians took Vienna, has proclaimed its independence. Moscow announced the formation of this government three weeks ago, but so far neither Britain nor America have recognised it.

So far 34 of the estimated 50 to 70 U-boats at sea when Germany surrendered have given themselves up on both sides of the Atlantic, 10 of them in United Kingdom ports.

War Diary (2)

SECRET

Subject : DISTRIBUTION LIST

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
GO/113A/59
13 May 45

Distribution
List B

1. Herewith 26 Aust Inf Bde Distribution List to 1800I 13 May 45.
2. Please destroy Distribution List 1 forwarded under cover of GO/113A/43 of 6 May 45.

H. J. Katekar
(H J KATEKAR) Maj
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde

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16	2/12 Aust Fd Amb	1	1	1
17	2/123 Aust Ord Fd Bk	1	} 1	1
18	2/123 Aust Bde Wksp	1		1
19	2/78 Aust LAD	1	1	1
20	2 Aust Beach Gp	30	6	20
21	2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	6	1	5
22	D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	1	1	2
23	det HQ 22 Aust L of C Sigs	1	1	1
24	det 9 Aust Div Fd Cash Office	1	1	1
25	det 9 Aust Div Salvage Unit	1	1	1
26	Adv HQ 1 TAF RAAF	4	4	4
27	61 Airfd Constr Wing (RAAF)	3	3	3
28	16 A O P Flt	1	1	1
29	det Public Relations (Maj PALMER)	1	1	1
30	B Det 9 Aust Div AACS	1	1	1
31	Air Sp Party (Maj DERHAM)	4	4	10
32	1 Boat Coy 533 EB & S Regt	1	1	1
33	US Naval Port Directorate	1	1	1
34	det CIC	1	1	1
35	NICA	1	1	2
36	2 Coy 1 NEI Inf Bn	1	1	1
37	Cmd	1	1	-
38	HM	1	1	1
39	DAA & QMG	7	3	3
40	Bde TO	1	-	-
41	Sig Offr	1	1	1
42	8 Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy	1	1	1

...../43

(2)

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44	Camp	1	1	2
45	Observer (Maj RIDLEY)	1	1	1
46	File	2	2	2
47	War Diary	2	2	2

RESTRICTED

:The information contained in this docu-:
:ment is not to be communicated, either :
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: it :

Serial ...B2/45.

ROUTINE ORDERS

Nos.....46/60.

PART I

BY

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

In the Field

13 May 45.

46. ROUTINE

Reveille	* 0630
Breakfast	0730
Parade	0815
Lunch	1230
Evening Meal	1730
Parade	1845

47. DISCIPLINE

In operations discipline means the difference between success and failure.

Bde HQ and attached personnel are expected to and must set an example to all units.

Field conditions will NOT be accepted as a reason for slackness, untidiness and poor bearing.

Other ranks will salute offrs at all times and stand to attention whilst being addressed by an offr.

An improvement in discipline will be effected immediately.

48. CENSORSHIP

- (a) Personnel may now state that they have been in action.
- (b) Only First Person Singular may be used in description of any action.
- (c) No ref will be made to units taking part or numbers of tps in the operation.
- (d) No mention will be made of shipping movement or names of places en route from AUSTRALIA to and incl Staging Area.
- (e) No ref will be made to number or type of ships operating.
- (f) Personnel may describe local conditions.
- (g) Personnel may mention incidents or describe anything on the island of a non military nature.
- (h) Tps may state that they have landed on TARAKAN island, but any mention of operations since the landing must refer only to personal experiences.
- (i) "TARAKAN TIMES" news sheet will not be transmitted by post as it refers to units taking part.

49. SECURITY(a) Outer perimeter defts

- (i) 4 Pl A Coy 2/1 Aust Gd Regt in conjunction with one pl D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn is responsible for the outer perimeter def of the HQ area.
- (ii) Comd - Capt TIPPET OC D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn will coordinate these defts.
- (iii) The tps as mentioned in sub sub para (i) above will 'stand to' at their posts at 0645 and 1830hrs. 'Stand down' will be 30 mins after 'stand to'.
- (iv) During daylight hrs short receç and mopping up patrols will be carried out to a radius of 300yds of the HQ area.
- (v) Def posns will be dug and camouflaged with fcs of fire cleared and a continuous wire obstacle constructed in front of posns.

(b) Inlying Picquet

- (a) Camp will provide inlying one man roving picquets, from 1900hrs to 0630hrs daily.
 - (i) From Observers hut to SCS office.
 - (ii) From the ORs cookhouse to tpt lines.
- (b) An NCO will be detailed daily to supervise the changing of reliefs.

(c) Passwords

The PASSWORD for the next 24hrs will be notified to the tps at the evening parade.

50. BOUNDS

Except in the course of their duties tps are NOT permitted to enter the following areas:-

- (a) TARAKAN town EAST of NORTH SOUTH grid line
- (b) DJOEATA town and oilfcs.
- (c) Offrs lines incl cookhouse latrines and showers.
- (d) WPs in the offrs lines area.

51. COMD

- (a) Capt A.J. PROSSER is responsible for the internal adm of the HQ.
- (b) Lt P.W.R. DAW is appointed Camp Comd.

52. MALARIAL CONTROL

- (a) One atebirin tablet will continue to be taken daily by all ranks. Other ranks will take atebirin under the supervision of an offr at the 0815hrs parade.
- (b) Mosquito repellent will be applied to all exposed parts of the body every three hrs between 1900hrs and 0700hrs daily. Personnel need NOT apply repellent when under a mosquito net.

53. TYPHUS

Betty Mite Lotion will be applied to clothes every Sunday.

54. HYGIENE

- (a) Accn areas will be cleared and cleaned as soon as possible.
- (b) Areas of responsibility for cleanliness will be allotted and notified to sub units.
- (c) Tps will NOT urinate on the ground but use the receptacles provided.
- (d) All tins will be burned and crushed before burying.

55. WATER

- (a) Drinking water will be drawn only from the 5000gal tank in rear of ORs kitchen. No other water will be used for drinking purposes.
- (b) Until such time as shower noses are available, tps will draw water for all washing purposes from the shower taps.
- (c) If care is exercised there is ample water for both drinking and washing purposes. Only sufficient water will be drawn at any one time to meet immediate requirements. The allotment of washing water is 2 gals per man per day.

56. PAY

- (a) Pay will be at fortnightly periods. The next pay day will be Wednesday 16 May 45.
- (b) All pay books will be left with the Pay Cpl (COMS Store) by 0900hrs on the day preceding each pay day. The amount of money required will be inserted, in even guilders, on the next line of the debit side of the book.

57. CANTEEN

- (a) Lt R.W. HESLOP is appointed OIC Unit Canteen and only personnel nominated by him will work in the canteen.

- (b) Trading hrs as follows:-

0830 to 0900
1115 to 1215
1300 to 1330
1600 to 1715
1800 to 1900

- (c) Credit will NOT be given.

58. DRESS

- (a) Personnel will keep their clothes as clean as possible at all times.
- (b) Tps may remove their shirts from 0730hrs to 1830hrs daily.
- (c) Gaiters will be worn at all times.

59. OFFRS CONFERENCE

A conference of all offrs will be held in the BMs office each morning at 0745hrs.

60. MUTILATED TELE CABLES

- (a) It has been reported that tele cables are being mutilated by personnel cutting lengths out of lines already laid.
- (b) The gravity of this offence cannot be over emphasised and in future NO lines will be cut unless permission is first obtained from this HQ.
- (c) The practice of using existing tele lines as clothes lines is to cease.

A. J. ...
Maj
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution :

- Comd
- BM
- BM(L)
- IO
- SC
- Camp (3)
- Bde TO
- Sigs
- BAECO
- Hygiene Offr
- Bde Ord Offr
- 2/78 Aust LAD
- 3 & 4 Sec 9 Div Pro Coy
- 4 Pl 2/1 Aust Guard Regt
- Education offr.
- C Sqn 2/9 Aust Armd Regt
- D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn
- Det B Tp Naval Bombardment Gp
- Det 9 Aust Div Cash Office
- Air Sp Party
- Det CIC
- File
- War Diary

WD

26 AUST INF BDE DISTRIBUTION LIST

to 18001 13 MAY 45

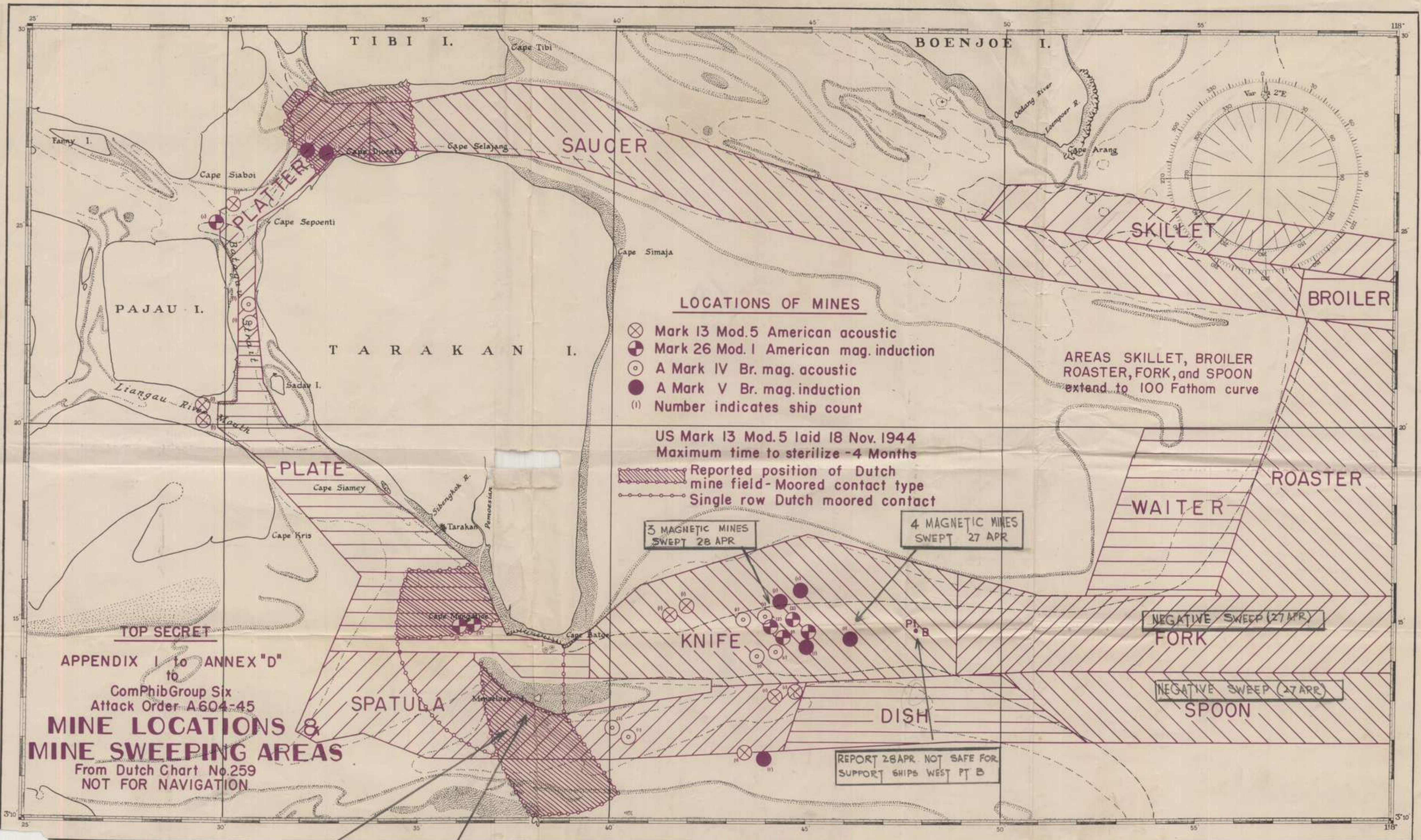
Serial	Unit	List A (Coys etc)	List B (Units)	List C (Revsits)
1	2/23 Aust Inf Bn	6	1	5
2	2/24 Aust Inf Bn	6	1	5
3	2/43 Aust Inf Bn	6	1	5
4	2/4 Aust Wic Sqn	1	1	4
5	2/7 Aust Fd Regt	4	1	4
6	53 Aust Comp AA Regt	2	1	2
7	det B Aust Bombardment Tp	1	1	1
8	HQ RAE 1 Aust Corps, Tps	3	2	3
9	2/13 Aust Fd Coy	1	1	2
10	One pl Docks Operating Coy	1	1	1
11	C Sqn 2/9 Aust Armd Regt	1	1	2
12	Sen AASC Offr (Maj W PERRY) c/o 1 Aust Air Maint Coy	5	5	5
13	SMO (Lt-Col MORGAN) 2/12 Aust Fd Amb	2	2	2
14	110 Aust CCS	1	1	1
15	2/11 Aust Fd Amb	1	1	1
16	2/12 Aust Fd Amb	1	1	1
17	2/123 Aust Ord Fd Pk	1	} 1	1
18	2/123 Aust Bde Wksp	1		1
19	2/78 Aust LAD	1	1	1
20	2 Aust Beach Gp	30	6	20
21	2/3 Aust Pnr Bn	6	1	5
22	D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	1	1	2
23	det HQ 22 Aust L of C Sigs	1	1	1
24	det 9 Aust Div Fd Cash Office	1	1	1
25	det 9 Aust Div Salvage Unit	1	1	1
26	Adv HQ 1 TAF RAAF	4	4	4
27	61 Airfd Constr Wing (RAAF)	3	3	3
28	16 A O P Flt	1	1	1
29	det Public Relations (Maj PALMER)	1	1	1
30	B Det 9 Aust Div AACS	1	1	1
31	Air Sp Party (Maj DERHAM)	4	4	10
32	1 Boat Coy 583 EB & S Regt	1	1	1
33	US Naval Port Directorate	1	1	1
34	det CIC	1	1	1
35	NICA	1	1	2
36	2 Coy 1 NEI Inf Bn	1	1	1
37	Comd	1	1	-
38	EM	1	1	1
39	DAA & QMG	7	3	3
40	Bde TO	1	-	-
41	Sig Offr	1	1	1
42	3 Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy	1	1	1

...../43

(2)

43	4 Pl A Coy 2/1 Aust Gd Regt	1	1	1
44	Camp	1	1	2
45	Observer (Maj RIDLEY)	1	1	1
46	File	2	2	2
47	War Diary	2	2	2

MINE FD. SWEEPS



WA
TACTICAL DATA

Enemy Tactics and Methods :

The informants assisting with this report have given as many details as possible about locations of tunnels - layouts of tunnels and other data appertaining to the tunneling system of Tarakan Island. They have had to rely on memory only but during the entire interrogation have shown a desire to give accurate information. Locations of tunnels have been marked with ink circles - within red circles on the map Tarakan Island South (Special). Entrances of the tunnels have been placed in the exact positions.

- TUNNEL 1 Constructed in March 1945
Pierces Hill (Goenoeng Lingkas)
Length 70M
Width 2 M base 1.60 M ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape Straight line
Earth above ceiling 13 M
Constructed by coolies of Jap Company "101". Approximate number of coolies employed 30. Supervised by informants SOEMARMO and LANTOE. Time of construction 20 days.
- TUNNEL 2 Constructed in March 1945
Pierces hill near Lingkas Road
Total length 30 M
Width 2 M base 1.60 ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape V Form Entrances West and South
Earth above ceiling 8 M
Constructed by coolies of Jap Company "101". Approximate number of coolies employed 30. Supervised by informant SOEMARMO. Time of construction 7 days.
- TUNNEL 3 Constructed in January 1945
Pierces hill near Lingkas Road
Total length approx 50 M
Width 2 M base 1.60 M ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape Straight-line
Earth above tunnel ceiling : not measured
Constructed by internees. Approximate number employed 30.
Time of construction 1 month. Inf GEROENGAN supplied details.
- TUNNEL 4 Constructed in January 1945
Pierces hill (Goenoeng Sibengkok)
Length 50 M
Width 2 M base 1.60 M ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape M Form Entrances NW and NE
Earth above tunnel ceiling : approx 15 M
Constructed by internees. approx number employed 15. Time of construction 1 1/2 months. Infs LANTOE and GEROENGAN.
- TUNNEL 5 Constructed in Dec 1944
In hill Goenoeng Lingkas
Length 50 M
Width 1.30 M base 1.30 M ceiling
Height 1.60 M
Shape U Form Entrances NE
Earth above tunnel ceiling : 8 M
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 16.
Time of construction 2 weeks. Inf PANGAUW - supervisor.
Two shifts of eight men worked 6 hours per day.
- TUNNEL 6 Constructed in Dec 1944
Near Military Hospital - in hill
Length 20 M
Width 2 M base 1.60 M ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape Straight line. Entrance North
Earth above ceiling 10 M
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 15.
Time of construction approx 2 weeks. Inf LANTOE.

- TUNNEL 7 Constructed in months Oct - Nov 1944
Pierces hill near Picture Show
Length 190 M
Width 2 M base - ceiling 1.60 M
Height 2 M
Shape T Form Top of T 147 M - leg of T 43 M
Earth above ceiling 17 M
Entrances NW - NE - SE
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 50.
Time of construction 1 month. Inf SOEMARMO and PANGAUW supervised.
- TUNNEL 8 Constructed Nov 1944
Opposite Office District 3. Pierces Hill
Length 90 M
Width 2 M base - 1.60 ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape Straight line entrances E and W
Earth above ceiling 15 M
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 30.
Time of construction 1 month. Inf LANTOR.
- TUNNEL 9 Constructed Sep 1944
Behind Head Office BPM. Pierces hill
Length 101 M
Width 2 M base - 1.60 M ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape T Form Length Top of T 68 M leg 83 M
Entrances NW - SW - SE
Earth above ceiling 18 M
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 50.
Time of construction 1 month. Inf SOEMARMO supervised.
- TUNNEL 10 Constructed Nov - Dec 1944
Kampoeng Ladang - Pierces hill
Length 104 M
Width 2 M base - 1.60 ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape L Form Leg of L 91 M base of L 14 M
Entrances NW and NE
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 50.
Time of construction 1 mont. Supervised by PANGAUW.
- TUNNEL 11 Constructed Oct 1944
On former 7th Battalion location. Pierces hill
Length 150 M
Width 2 M base - 1.60 M ceiling
Height 2 M
Shape Straight line entrances NW and SE
Earth above ceiling 23 M
Constructed by internees. Approx number employed 50.
Time of construction 3 weeks. Inf GEROENGAN worked here.
- TUNNEL 12 Constructed Nov 1944
Opposite 7th Battalion location. Pierces hill
Length 60 M
Width 2 M base - 1.60 M ceiling
Shape Straight line entrances W and E
Earth above ceiling 8 M
Constructed by internees. Approx number employed 25.
Time of construction 20 days. Inf GEROENGAN worked there.
- TUNNEL 13 Constructed Nov 1944
Location Kampoeng Baroe. Pierces hill
Length 60 M
Width 2 M base - 1.60 M ceiling
Shape Straight line entrances NW and SE
Earth above ceiling 12 M
Constructed by internees. Approx number employed 20.
Time of construction 18 days. Inf GEROENGAN worked there.

TUNNEL 14 Constructed Nov 1944
Location Goenoeng Kampoeng Baroe. Pierces Hill
Length 30 M
Width 2 M base 1.60 M ceiling
Shape Straight line Entrances NW and S^W
Earth above ceiling 8 M
Constructed by internees. Approx number employed 15.
Time of construction 3 weeks. Inf GERROENGAN supplied details.
His friend worked there.

TUNNEL 15 Constructed Dec 1944 - Jan 1945
Location behind BPM Hospital Pierces Hill
Length 146 M
Width 2 M base 1.60 M ceiling
Shape Straight line Entrances E and W
Earth above ceiling 30M
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 30.
Time of construction 2 months. Supervisor PANGAUW

TUNNEL 16 Constructed Jan 1945
Location District 1 In hill
Length 21 M
Width 2 M base 1.60 M ceiling
Shape boomerang Entrances NE and S
Earth above ceiling 7 M
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 15.
Time of construction 4 days. Supervisor PANGAUW

TUNNEL 17 Only location known to informants

TUNNELS Constructed Mar 1945
18 & 19 Location North SESANIP - 100 M North of Bore 176
Length SW tunnel 57 M
NE tunnel 55 M
Pierce hill
Width 2 M base 1.60 ceiling
Shape Straight line Entrances NW and S^W
Earth above ceiling 12 M
Distance between tunnels approx 30 M. They run parallel.
Constructed by coolies "101". Approx number employed 100
men. Time of construction 26 days. Supervised by infs
SOEMARMO and LANBON.
All informants confirm statemtn of inf SOEMARMO that Japs
will use this posn as la st def. They intend to make
this location their HQ.

TARAKAN, 8 May 1945

RESTRICTED

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HQ 26 AUST INF BDE
ROUTINE ORDERS
PART I
BY

Serial... B3/45
Nos..... 61/65

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

In the Field

17 May '45

61. WATER

Tps are now permitted to have one shower daily.

62. MESSING

As from breakfast 17 May, an additional serving point will be in operation. Sub units will be required to supply four men daily to report to the cookhouse 10 mins before each meal and perform the duties of mess orderlies. A roster has been prepared and further details will be advised to sub units by a separate instruction.

63. POSTAL

Sub units NOT in possession of a unit censor stamp are requested to hand in mail to the postal NCO NOT later than 0830 hrs daily.

64. MALARIA

All huts and tents are to be sprayed with malarial daily.

65. AMENDMENTS

The following amendments to ROs Serial B2/45 of 13 May 45 are notified :

Para 46 - ROUTINE - Parade, for 0815 read 0830 hrs.

Para 49 - SECURITY - (iii), for 1830 hrs read 1900 hrs.
(b)(a), for 1900 hrs read 2100 hrs.
(c), for evening parade read lunch parade.

Para 52 - MALARIAL CONTROL - (a), for 0815 read 0830 hrs.
(b), for three hrs read two hrs.

Para 57 - CANTEEN - (b), for 1715 hrs read 1700 hrs.

Para 59 - OFFRS CONFERENCE - for 0745 hrs read 0815 hrs.

H. J. Katekar
(H. J. KATEKAR) Maj.
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde.

SECRET

HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde
I 4A/42
24 May 45.

SUBJECT - ADDITIONAL CODE NAMES.

The following ADDITIONAL CODE NAMES will be used on TARAKAN SOUTH maps, to come into effect immediately :-

GALAH	43206742	MAMIE	43386762
MACKS	43226703	HAIGS	43866728
TUBBY	43606705	CSSIE	44106698

DISTRIBUTION

List "B".

H. J. KATEKAR Maj

(H. J. KATEKAR)
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde.