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

1/3/3
ARMY

First Army General (Staff Duties) (First Army G (SD))

June 1942

1/3/3-003/

MONTH ...JUN.....

YEAR ...1942.....

WAR DIARY.

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY.

SECRET

BRANCH:...G(SD).....

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS 0001 hrs 1 Jun 42 to 2400 hrs 7 Jun 42	Ref to APPENDICES	COMMENTS
TOOWOOMBA	6 Jun	1045 hrs. Col C C F SPRY G1(SD) returned to from inspection of First Aust Army Schools in NSW.		
	7 Jun	0315 hrs. Col C C F SPRY G1(SD) departed from TOOWOOMBA to move by air from BRISBANE to MELBOURNE. He is to attend a conference on the reduction of eqpt and tpt for jungle warfare at Allied Land Forces HQ on 8 Jul.		

Appendices att.

G(O)

8 Jun 42.

H.K. Dudley Hall for Col
GS

MONTH ...JUN.....

YEAR ..1942.....

WAR DIARY

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY

SECRET

BRANCH..... G(SD)

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	Ref to APPENDICES	COMMENTS
TOOWOOMBA	11 Jun	0001 hrs 8 Jun 42 to 2400 hrs 14 Jun 42 1330 hrs Col C C F SPRY G 1(SD) returned from conference at LHQ (Aust)		

G(SO)
15 Jun 42

K.W. Spry Col
GS

MONTH JUN

YEAR 1942

WAR DIARY

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY

SECRET

BRANCH G(SD)

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	Ref to APPENDICES	COMMENTS
		0001 hrs 15 Jun 42 to 2400 hrs 21 Jun 42		
		NIL		

H.K. Dudley Lt Col
for Col
GS

SECRET

MONTH JUL

YEAR 42

WAR DIARY

HQ FIRST AUST ARMY

BRANCH G(SD)

PLACE	DATE	SUMMARY OF EVENTS	Ref to APPENDICES	COMMENTS
		0001 hrs 22 Jun 42 to 2400 hrs 28 Jun 42		
		N I L		

G(SD).
1 Jul 42

Col
GS

SECRET

Subject: O of B First Aust Army

HQ First Aust Army
1 Jun 42
G(SD) 495

GHQ (Aust)

Copy to:

BRA	LO	S & T
CSO	DA & QMG	Medical
MGGS	A	Ord
G(O)	AMS	Pro
G(I)	Q	Postal
G(CW)	CE	File
		War Diary (2)

1. Copies Nos 38 - 40 of new O of B First Aust Army are forwarded with covering letter G(SD)481 of 31 May.

2. Only units and formations allotted by O of B Allied Land Forces have been incl; but certain transfers have been made, and for ease of ref these are set out at Appx 'A'.

3. Att as Appx 'B' is a schedule showing units which it is requested be added to or deleted from O of B First Aust Army.

4. Early consideration of these amendments would be appreciated.

Lt-Gen.
Cgmd First Aust Army.

Appx 'A'
Issued with G(SD)495
of 1 Jan 42.

List of Transfers within O of B First Aust Army
(vide O of B Allied Land Forces)

Units	Transferred FROM	Transferred TO
3 AL Sec	First Aust Army	1 Aust Corps
8 AL Sec	" " "	2 Aust Corps
2 Fd Censorship Unit	" " "	2 Aust Corps
3 Fd Censorship Unit	" " "	1 Aust Corps
E Coy HQ Gd Bn	" " "	1 Aust Corps
11 CCS	" " "	1 Aust Corps
1 Mob Laundry & Fwd Decn Unit	" " "	5 Aust Div
102 Mob Bath Unit	" " "	5 Aust Div
1 Salv Unit	" " "	5 Aust Div
2/2 CCS	1 Aust Corps	First Aust Army
7 Dental Unit AIF	" " "	(First Aust Army (temporarily (under comd 1 Aust Corps)
9 Dental Unit AIF	" " "	(First Aust Army (temporarily (under comd 1 Aust Corps)
203 Dental Unit	" " "	(First Aust Army (temporarily (under comd 5 Aust Div)
204 Dental Unit	" " "	(First Aust Army (temporarily (under comd 5 Aust Div)
209 Dental Unit	" " "	(First Aust Army (temporarily (under comd 1 Aust Corps)
211 Dental Unit	" " "	(First Aust Army (temporarily (under comd 5 Aust Div)
6 Mob Laundry & Fwd Decn Unit	" " "	3 Aust Div
7 Aust Div Mob Laundry & Fwd Decn Unit	" " "	7 Aust Div
7 Aust Div Mob Bath Unit	" " "	7 Aust Div
107 Mob Bath Unit	" " "	3 Aust Div
7 Aust Div Salv Unit	" " "	7 Aust Div
8 Salv Unit	" " "	3 Aust Div
215 Dental Unit	2 Aust Corps	
219 Dental Unit	" " "	(
220 Dental Unit	" " "	(
222 Dental Unit	" " "	(
223 Dental Unit	" " "	(First Aust Army
228 Dental Unit	" " "	((temporarily under comd
233 Dental Unit	" " "	(2 Aust Corps)
238 Dental Unit	" " "	(
322 Dental Unit	" " "	(
323 Dental Unit	" " "	(

Units Temporarily under Comd

Unit	Parent Formation	Temporarily under comd.
14 Grn Bn	First Aust Army	5 Aust Div
A Fd Security Sec	" " "	5 Aust Div
5 Fd Hyg Sec	" " "	5 Aust Div
6 CCS	" " "	5 Aust Div
A Sec 8 MAC	" " "	5 Aust Div
7 Aust Div Sec Reception Camp	1 Aust Corps	7 Aust Div

Appx 'B'
Issued with G(SD) 495
of 1 Jun 42.

Additions recommended to O of B First Aust Army

Unit	Remarks
HQ First Aust Army	
Engr	
HQ RAE First Aust Army	Already formed
One LAD	For 58 Corps Fd Pk Coy
First Aust Army Camflg Tng Unit	
Sigs	
1 Hy Regt Sig Sec	
Medical	
Two Adv Depots Medical Stores	To be formed from sub depots at TOOWOOMBA and CHARTERS TOWERS
Thirty two Dental Units	On basis of eight per div
One Base Depot Dental Stores	
Two Adv Depots Dental Stores	
Pay	
Comd Pay Office	Already formed
Fd Cash Office	For 1 Aust Mot Div
5 Aust Div	
Engr	
5 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit	
HQ 1 Aust Corps	
Sigs	
4 Med Regt Sig Sec	
3 Aust Div	
Engr	
3 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit	
HQ 2 Aust Corps	
Engr	
One LAD	For 60 Corps Fd Pk Coy
2 Aust Corps Camflg Tng Unit	
Sigs	
25 A Fd Regt Sig Sec	
26 A Fd Regt Sig Sec	
3 Med Regt Sig Sec	
Medical	
One Fd Amb	To be Corps Fd Amb
Ord	
One Mob Laundry & Fwd Decn Unit	

Unit	Remarks
Pay	
One Corps Fd Cash Office	
One Fd Cash Office	
Misc	
One Salv Unit	
1 Aust Div	
Engr	
1 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit	
2 Aust Div	
Engr	
2 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit	
10 Aust Div	
Arty	
HQ RAA 10 Aust Div	
Engr	
HQ RAE 10 Aust Div	
One LAD	For 57 Fd Pk Coy
10 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit	

Delations recommended (Units NOT required)
from O of B First Aust Army

Unit	Remarks
HQ First Aust Army	
Engr	
1 Bomb Disposal Coy	
2 Bomb Disposal Coy	
3 Bomb Disposal Coy	
Medical	
1 Mob Hyg & Bact Lab	
3 Mob Hyg & Bact Lab	
7 Anti Malarial Control	

SECRET

Subject: SIG COMN - NAVAL, LAND and AIR FORCES - SW PACIFIC AREA.

HQ First Aust Army
5 Jun 42
G(SD) 560

1 Aust Corps - (23) (1 for 2 AS Control Sigs)
2 Aust Corps - (19) (1 for 4 AS Control Sigs)
5 Aust Div - (4)
NSW L of C Area -(2) (for 1 Aust AA Bde)

Copy to:

BRA	DA & QMG	Medical
CSO (8)	A	Ord
RAAF	AMS	Pro
MGGS	Legal	Postal
G(O)	Q	Salvage
G(SD)	CE	File (2)
G(I)	Camp	War Diary (2) ✓
G(Cw)	Chaplains	
LO	S & T	
Svy		

Ref our G(SD)316 of 18 May 42 (not to formations under Comd).

Att is LHQ(Aust) SM9454 amending SM8407 of 11 May 42.

Lt Col
H K Dudley for Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

SECRET.

ALLIED LAND FORCES IN THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC AREA
(Chief of the General Staff)

S.M. 9454

L.H.Q.
30 May. 42.

SIGNAL COMMUNICATION - NAVAL, LAND AND AIR FORCES S.W. PACIFIC AREA

The attached amendments to S.M. 8407 dated 11th May, 1942 will come into effect immediately on receipt of this instruction.

2. Care will be taken to ensure a careful and prompt distribution of all copies forwarded.

Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

DISTRIBUTION

First Army (30)
Second Army (30)
3 Corps (24)
N.T. Force (10)
N.G. Force (6)
Q'land L. of C. Area (9)
N.S.W. " " " (12)
Vic. " " " (10)
S.A. " " " (6)
W.A. " " " (6)
Tasmania Force (6)
C.-in-C. (1)
C.G.S. (9)
L.G.A. (1)
A.G. (4)
Q.M.G. (4)
M.G.O. (5)
Security Service (1)
War Diary (2)
File (1)
Spare (5)

SECRET

AMENDMENTS

1. Delete para 4 of attachment to S.I. 8407. Changes in the cryptographic systems have been notified in S.I. 9431 of 30th May, 1942, which has a restricted distribution.

2. Delete para. 6 of attachment to S.I. 8407 and substitute :-

6. OPERATION PROCEDURES. The following operating procedures and frequencies will govern reconnaissance aircraft when engaged in missions listed below :

a. Frequencies.

(1) For reporting purposes :-

Day (2100 to 0900) G.M.T. 6530, 6555, 6285
Night (0900 to 2100) G.M.T. 3925, 5465, 3330.

If a dawn frequency is required the last night freqency will be used. To avoid enemy interference (jamming) the above frequencies will be changed in the order given.

(2) For "homing" purposes:-

Primary: 356 Kcs.
Alternate: 420 Kcs.

b. Procedure Governing Air Force Reconnaissance Missions.

(1) Reconnaissance aircraft, when engaged in the missions described in paragraph 6 a, above, will upon discovering an enemy target at sea :-

(a) Transmit the vital sighting reports in the self-evident Code (S.P.02377) giving the positions in Lettered Coordinates from (S.P.02274), using due care to give all of the information as laid down in (S.P.02377). One of the frequencies as laid down in paragraph 6 a will be used for this purpose.

(2) Authentication for "Sighting Reports" will be established by adding the radio character "fraction bar" or "slant" (i.e., -..-.) followed by a three character authentication group consisting of any two alternate letters from the authentication word for the day (current authentication words will be promulgated at regular intervals), plus one of the first three characters of the last group of the text.

(3) The Air Force ground station to which the "Sighting Report" is transmitted will, in all cases, repeat the entire message in acknowledgment, thus affording the stations of other elements the opportunity to receive, verify and act upon the report.

(4) An attack force will, immediately upon receipt of initial MO's, take a bearing to prevent deception or confusion by other MO's that may subsequently be sent.

Subject: CORRESPONDENCE

HQ First Aust Army
6 Jun 42
G(SD) 567

1 Aust Corps	G(I)	Camp
2 Aust Corps	G(CW)	Chaplains
5 Aust Div	LO	S & T
BRA	Svy	Medical
CSO	CE	Ord
RAAF	DA & QMG	Pro
GOC-in-C	A	Postal
MGGS	AMS	Pay
G(O)	Legal	War Diary ✓
G(SD)	Q	File

Ref First Aust Army G(SD) 198 of 9 May 42.

1. The following addendum will be inserted after sub para 5(d):-

"5(e) - When duplicating on both sides of paper the printing will be set out as in a book, so that the matter can be read by turning over the pages in the normal way."

2. This is necessary to enable papers to be read after insertion in files, without the necessity of turning the file upside down each time, to read what is printed on the back of each page.

SD

Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

Subject: ORDERLY OFFR - HQ FIRST AUST ARMY

HQ First Aust Army
7 Jun 42
G(SD) 590

BRA	G(I)	CE	
HQ RAE	G(CW)	Camp	
First Aust	LO	S & T	
Army Tps	Svy	Medical	
CSO	DA & QMG	Ord	
GOC-in-C	A	Pro	File (2)
MGGS	AMS	Postal	War Diary (2)
G(O)	Legal	Salvage	Sig Office
G(SD)	Q	Canteen	Amenities offr

ROSTER:-

Week commencing	12 Jun 42	Lieut V H DANIEL
	19 Jun 42	Capt J Z HUIE
	26 Jun 42	Capt F G MYERS
	3 Jul 42	Lieut M RYAN
	10 Jul 42	Lieut F COYLE
	17 Jul 42	Lieut T H RING
	24 Jul 42	Capt E BATES
	31 Jul 42	Capt F V COLEMAN
	7 Aug 42	Capt L H TOWNEND

H.K. Darley Lt Col for Col
GS

Subject: FIRST AUST ARMY TNG INSTN No.5

Realism in Tng

HQ First Aust Army
8 Jun 42
G(SD) 547

1 Aust Corps (1)
2 Aust Corps (20)
5 Aust Div (5)
LHQ (AUST) (For infm)
Copy to:

BRA	G(I)
CSO	DA & QMG (3)
GOC-in-C	CE
MGGS	War Diary (2)
G(O)	Spare (20)
G(SD)	

1. Of recent years much research has been devoted to the elimination of unnecessary noise in industry and this has had a beneficial effect on the majority of employees. Notwithstanding this elimination of noise, if a man has become habited to any recurring noise (as illustrated by the factory employee) he will flinch at the unexpected noise (such as the slamming of a door).

The German, realising the importance of this, developed his "war of nerves" as instanced in their dive bombers fitted with screamers, screaming bombs, delayed action bombs and shells, booby traps, flame throwers etc. No one who experienced FRANCE, GREECE, CRETE or TOBRUK will deny the effectiveness of this form of attack on nerves.

However, the least affected were gnrs and sprs. The reason is that the former were accustomed to noise by their guns and the latter by their continual association with explosives, mines, booby traps etc.

The inf man, after months of tng in weapons and manoeuvres, is still a stranger to the sound of bombs, shells, or demolitions. Little wonder is it that he should be bewildered by the sudden eruption of the noises of war and under these circumstances he cannot fight at his best.

2. The conclusion to be drawn from the foregoing, therefore, is that the inf man must complete his tng with exercises and under such conditions that he becomes accustomed to noise and is capable of accommodating himself to all the tricks of the enemy.

3. Att as Appx 'A' are drawings of "Assault - Grenade, Jungle, and Obstacle Courses." Appx 'B' explains the objects of each course and the method of exercising tps on them.

4. Every inf bde is to immediately construct at least one of these "Assault Course Schools" within its area. The object of the present phase of tng will be to pass every sub unit of MG, inf or pnr bns through the "School".

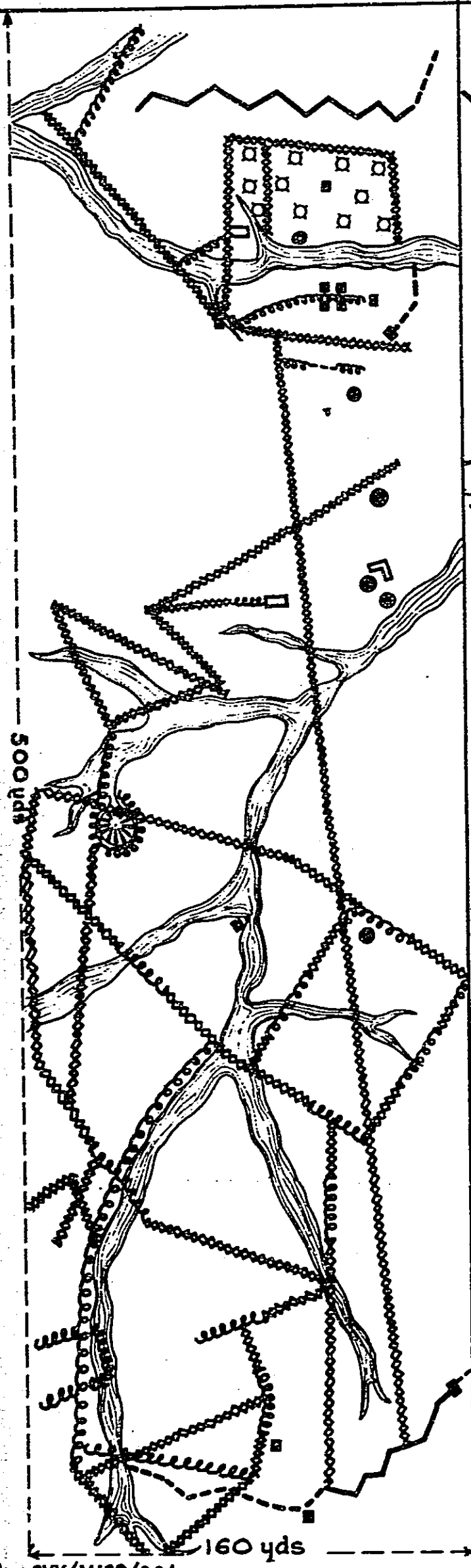
5. It is suggested that a permanent "controller" of the School, who could guide junior comds in the type of exercise to be carried out, arrange the co-operation of aircraft and engrs for explosives etc, would be of great assistance.

6. These courses if properly prepared and carried out with initiative, imagination and energy will provide an essential background in the soldier's tng, accustom him to actual battle conditions before meeting the enemy for the first time, test the junior leader in his powers of leadership, control and comd and in general be an invaluable climax to his tng before attempting unit and formation exercises.

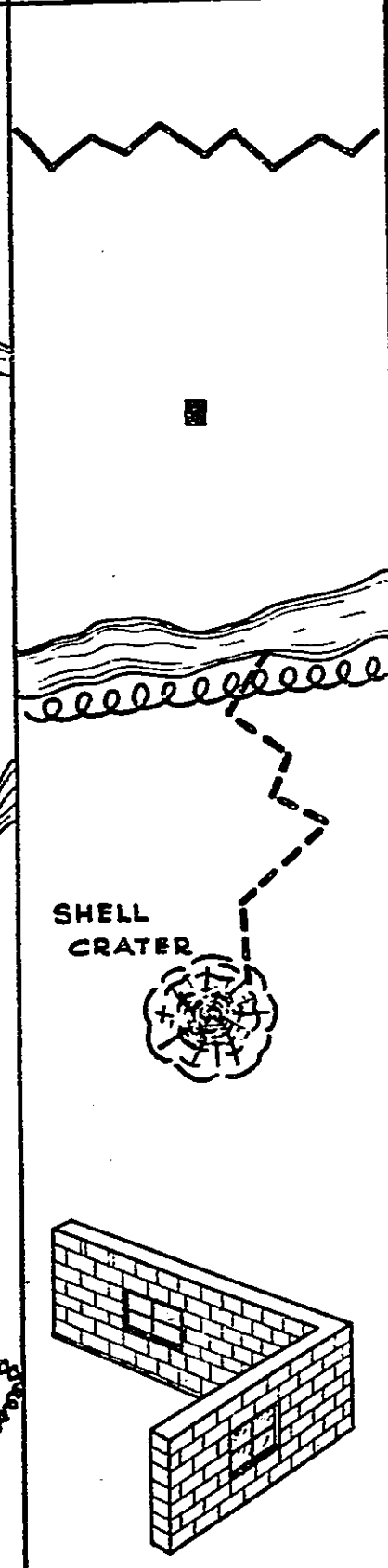
7. Sufficient tng amn should be retained from entitlements to enable realistic conditions to be produced on the final assault course.

H H Berryman
Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

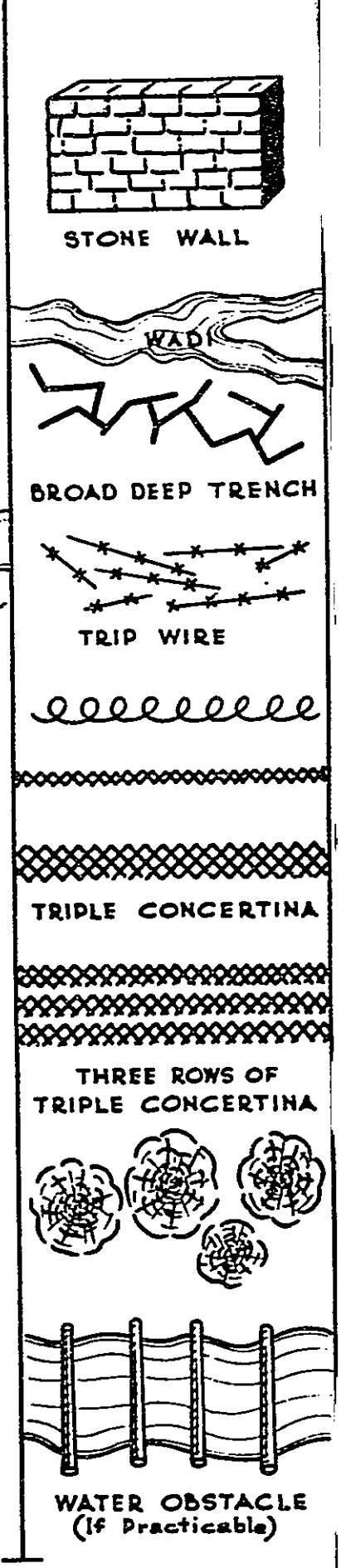
ASSAULT COURSE



GRENADE COURSE



OBSTACLE COURSE



NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

LEGEND

- DOUBLE APRON
- CONCERTINA
- STONE WALL
- WEAPON PIT
- TRENCH
- CRAWL TRENCH
- CRATER

Grenade and obstacle courses are both included in the assault course area.

SVY/MISC/024

APPX 'B'
Issued with G(SD) 547
Of 8 Jun 42.

THE ASSAULT COURSE SCHOOL.

1. GENERAL

An area is essential for the realistic tng of the inf soldier, where, without undue loss of time, both weapon tng and assault tactics can be taught. The size of this tng area should be about 500 by 500 yards.

The ground itself should be equipped with ruins of walls, parts of buildings, trenches, tank traps, dummy anti-tank minefields, suspended sand bags, clumps of trees and bushes, and a jungle area. A hilly and broken piece of ground with natural obstacles will add greatly to the value of the site.

The area selected should be divided into four parts:-

(a) The Obstacle Course.
(b) The Grenade Area
(c) The Jungle Course
(d) The Assault Course (also used for fd works course).

The sequence of tng which each man undergoes in the separate areas, is described below. It is intended that firstly each man is put through the obstacle course, the grenade area, the jungle, and the fd works course, with the ultimate objective of carrying out a complete exercise in the assault-course, combining all the lessons learnt in the earlier courses.

2. THE OBSTACLE COURSE.

(a) The obstacle course should be used chiefly for tng of a sports nature, but tps must be fully clothed, armed and equipped. The soldier is taught to overcome all kinds of obstacles, such as crossing ditches and scaling walls with ladders. Daring can be developed by teaching men to jump down from high walls. The site can be used to train tps to make short rushes over planks and poles thrown across water obstacles.

Here the soldier is taught wire crushing which is a particularly effective and easy exercise. It is one in which the soldier does not harm himself and which has a high physcological effect, because it demonstrates so effectively, the fact that obstacles, when attacked with resolution and method, are not as effective as they appear.

This course is invaluable for teaching the co-operation of inf and engrs by means of the bangalore torpedo and fougasse. It will also serve to teach men to assist one another, to acquire the team spirit and to instil in them determination to overcome any obstacle they may encounter.

The type of obstacles encountered is as follows:-

(a) Stone Wall.
(b) Wadis and broad, deep trench systems.
(c) Trip Wires with dummy booby traps att.
(d) Single Wire Concertinas.
(e) Double Apron Fence.
(f) Triple Dannert Fence .
(g) Three lines of Triple Dannert Fences (to be overcome by crushing).
(h) Artificial craters.
(i) Water obstacles.

(b) WIRE CRUSHING

The object of wire crushing is to provide a means whereby tps are enabled to overcome obstacles of this nature with the facilities at their immediate disposal. It cannot be over emphasised that the key to success in this novel method of attack is the determination displayed by the individuals forming part of the assault party.

The suggested method to be adopted is as follows:-

(1) The assault party, making full use of the available cover, should approach within 20 yds of the wire. From this point the gap-makers, usually working in pairs, make a determined rush at the wire, and by leaping high, endeavour to fall on the fence, rather than throw themselves at it.

(2) The body must be allowed to fall limply as flexing of the muscles will almost invariably result in injury to the man or damage to clothing.

(3) The pairs of gap-makers will follow in accordance with the size of the obstacle, each pair successively passing through the previous ones and so making a laneway through the wire.

(4) During the fall, the face and eyes are protected by the posn of the hands and rifle, which are held in front of the face.

(5) The gap-makers must fall at the same time and should not be more than 2 yds apart.

Selection of the easist places to break through is largely a matter of experience but, in the case of fences constructed with screw or light wooden pickets, the most successful method is to force an opening adjacent to the picket and, during the fall, push the picket away with the hand. In the event of fences constructed with angle iron or strong wooden pickets, it is easier to make the gap between each set of pickets, and cut the top strand of wire.

The procedure to be adopted for double apron fences, varies inasmuch as the first 2 men must be equipped with wire cutters, with which one man cuts the diagonal wire on his side, front apron and top fence wire, the second man cuts the diagonal wire of the rear apron on his side and centre fence wire. Both men then throw themselves on the wire, whilst the remainder then pass through the gap so made.

The dress of the assault party is normally battle order with wiring gloves. If gloves are not available, protection may be afforded to the hands by wrapping them in a towel or cloth.

The following times may be taken as a guide for the period required to afford an opening in the type of fences shown, and for a sec to pass through, but will naturally vary according to stage of tng reached by the tps engaged.

Double apron (screw picket and angle iron)	sec	15 secs
Triple Dannert	sec	12 secs
Combination Dannert and double apron with 8 yards depth		
	sec	40 secs
	pl	1 min40 secs

After the sec or pl passes through the fence, the gap-makers follow, those at the "back" i.e. our own side of the wire, moving first.

Wire, particularly dannert, usually springs up after the gap has been made and the gap does NOT remain open.

TACTICAL POSSIBILITIES

Since the method requires no apparatus, it provides a chance of surprise. No body of tps need feel "held up" and hopeless because of a little wire in front of them. This gives men a great feeling of superiority.

On the other hand, throwing oneself at wire should not be taken too light-heartedly.

Select a place which is not covered by fire - if possible. Very often there are little strips of dead ground. Since the method is silent, the uncovered wire in dead ground, even if it is thicker wire, offers the best chance.

As the assault party must get to within 20 yds, a covered approach is advisable. Covering fire and particularly smoke will be necessary if the ground does not lend itself to complete surprise. The greatest success will be obtained by speed and surprise. Therefore, the approach must be stealthy and the passage must be quick, and once the other side, tps must be led clear of the wire as quickly as possible.

3. THE GRENADE AREA

The grenade area is to facilitate tng in those weapons with which the inf soldier is armed - Bren Gun, TSMG, A Tk Rifle, No.68 Grenade, ST Grenade, No.36 Grenade.

Particular attention should be paid to teaching the use of hand grenades and Thompson Sub Machine guns in fighting at close quarters. Men must be taught to throw grenades from any posn when fighting at close quarters and tng must be concentrated on obtaining a good aim from the greatest possible range.

Tng in grenade throwing is designed to meet a variety of problems. Examples of those are throwing grenades with a high trajectory over walls or throwing them out of trenches or from tank traps.

Moving dummy tanks, or derelict vehs, should be incl amongst other tgts in the area, and the use of the discharger cup for grenades - as well as throwing, will be practised.

A section at a time, working as a team, can be used.

4. THE FD WORKS COURSE.

(a) The fd works course is intended to make the soldier familiar with and capable of handling, anti tank and anti personnel mines, booby traps, Bangalore torpedoes, fougasses, incendiary bombs and fire proofing cream etc. Here the arming, laying and disarming of mine and booby traps by day and night under realistic conditions can be combined with the technical instn necessary in this type of tng.
For instance, a pl could be given the task of attacking a certain objective in the assault area, actually manned by an "enemy." Before the final assault took place it would be necessary for a sec to crawl silently fwd, clear a gap through a minefield, clear the enemy wire of booby traps in order to insert a Bangalore torpedo, actually blow the gap and then the assault takes place with the pl passing through the gaps made. If the enemy hears or sees the activity along its wire then it opens with blank amn etc.

(b) Details of types of allied and enemy mines and booby traps likely to be encountered in this theatre will be issued under separate cover, together with a description and methods of handling Bangalore torpedoes, fougasses etc.

5. THE JUNGLE COURSE.

As there is every possibility of our tps having to fight in close jungle it is considered that secs and pls should be put through exercises in a jungle course.

This area, if possible, should be natural close jungle, with some high feature in it and a rd or track passing through.

Many valuable exercises can be carried out in this course with a little imagination and preparation, as for example -

(i) Pl gets held up, by a represented enemy, as it advances along rd. One sec is left to contain the enemy locality and remainder of pl are pushed out into the jungle to try and outflank the enemy posn, establish its strength, and if practicable attack the locality.
Object: To practice pl in direction finding in jungle, small fight ing patrols, maintenance of control, quiet movement, etc.

(ii) Laying of ambushes and how to deal with them (incl snipers in trees)
Object: To give junior leaders experience in best formation to adopt in advancing through close country and best methods to overcome such enemy tactics.

(iii) Rd blocks.
Object: To teach tps how to utilize local materials to the best effect and how to prepare camouflaged posns covering blocks.

(iv) Two fighting patrols are released from different sides of area to patrol jungle and engage enemy patrols suspected in locality.
Object: Train junior leaders to control an action in this type of country, practice firing round trees with LMG, standing posn with rifles, etc.

6. THE ASSAULT COURSE.

The assault course is intended to provide a physical test, to accustom the soldier to noise, to give him an opportunity of convincing himself after his individual tng in all weapons, grenades, etc. and in overcoming obstacles, of the utility of this tng by applying it in definite exercises. A target which suddenly appears, or a dummy, or exploding gunpowder and hessian bombs, will give a man the impression of battle and will cause him to act, not mechanically but independently and on his own initiative.

He must be taught to advance in a determined manner under the most adverse conditions of ground, obstacles etc., and in face of other unexpected opposition. At the same time his senses are attuned to some of the normal noises of battle.

7. These effects can be achieved by pl attacks with the actual use of 2" and 3" mortar amn (both HE and smoke) to support the attack, brens and TSMGs actually firing and engrs blowing charges at previously laid points (from which men can be diverted by wire) to produce the same effect as arty support. RAAF planes will be available to co-operate as both enemy planes dive bombing and machine gunning the tps and/or friendly planes giving support. Engrs, signals, stretcher bearers, carriers etc. can all be incl in the exercise.

8. A portion of the assault course should be close jungle - either natural or constructed.

9. The assault course therefore serves to train the individual soldier and the sec and pl, ...

The existence of an assault course also makes it possible to study battle tactics from every angle - a great advantage in tng men, and one that lightens the work of the instructor.

The complete course is valuable for tng in all types of patrol, both by day and night and particularly in fighting patrol work, which teaches leadership, self reliance, team work, the value of preparation and planning, the importance of outwitting the enemy and overcoming his obstacles and devices.

Full use of the defensive system should be made to carry out trench manning exercises for periods of at least 18 hours. Reliefs can also be practised.

10. This course will complete the soldiers sub unit tng and make him battle conscious and eager for his first engagement when he will have confidence in his own powers, his leader, and in the weapons that support him.

Subject: INDIVIDUAL TNG OF OFFRS

HQ First Aust Army
8 Jun 42
G(SD) 603

BRA	LO	Medical
CSO	Svy	Ord
RAAF	CE	Pro
GOC-in-C	DA & QMG	Postal
MGGS	A	Pay
G(O)	AMS	War Diary (2)
G(SD)	Legal	File (2)
G(I)	Q	
G(CW)	Camp	
	S & T	

Ref First Aust Army Tng Instn No.1

1. Para 13, INDIVIDUAL TNG OF OFFRS, sub-para d(iii) states that all Staff Offrs of and below GI, or equivalent appointment, must be able to drive a carrier.

2. Arrangements have been made with GI 1 MD Tng School, CABARLAH for offrs of HQ First Aust Army to receive driving instn in the above. It is proposed that 6 offrs from this HQ should proceed to CABARLAH during the afternoons of two successive days, Mondays to Saturdays incl.

3. Appended is a suggested roster of offrs for attendance. Any offr who is already qualified to drive a carrier will notify G(SD).

4. Tpt will report at Billet 2 at 1400 hrs daily, except Sundays, for movement of 6 offrs concerned to CABARLAH.

5. Any offr unable to attend on a specific day, will arrange for his place to be taken by another offr who has not received instn to that date and will take that offrs place in the roster.

HK Dudley Lt-Col
for Col
GS

10/11 Jun 42

Maj	H M AITCHISON	- GSO 3 (Sigs)
Capt	E BATES	- SOMS
Capt	A C BLUNDELL	- DADOS (O)
Capt	B W BRAIN	- DAC Salvage
Capt	K N CARMICHAEL	- SORE (BD)
Lt-Col	B M CARRUTHERS	- AD Hyg

12/13 Jun 42

Maj	C R BLOMFIELD	- DADMS
Lieut	J CAMPBELL	- AIA(Ord)
Maj	N L CARTER	- GSO 3 (CW)
Capt	D R CHESTERMAN	- IORE
Capt	F COYLE	- SC (Sigs)
Lt-Col	C O MANT	- LSO

15/16 Jun 42

Col	F O CHILTON	- GSO I (Ops)
Col	J S DAVIS	- CO (Sigs)
Capt	F V COLEMAN	- Ord Offr
Capt	C B DUNLOP	- S & T
Maj	F R EVANS	- DADA
Lt-Col	T H FOOTE	- GSO 2 (Engr)

17/18 Jun 42.

Maj	C J FLETCHER	- AD Posts
Capt	C F FLINT	- SORE (Personnel)
Lt-Col	G N YOUNG	- ADMS
Capt	A E FORSTER	- DAPM
Maj	S A FLETCHER	- SORE (Wks)
Lt-Col	A G FENTON	- ADPR

19/20 Jun 42

Maj	S B CANN	- GSO 3 (Cam)
Lieut	V DANIEL	- Ord Offr
Capt	C H RALPH	- SORE (Stores)
Lieut	E B HAYDOCK	- SC (A)
Lieut	L W HAWLEY	- SORE (Rds and Bridges)
Capt	K W HILTON	- DADS

22/23 Jun 42

Maj	E H WILSON	- GSO 3 I(bcx)
Lieut	N D KING	-
Capt	H B HUTTON	- 1 (a2)
Capt	J T HARVIE	- DADPR
Maj	R N IRWIN	- GSO 3 (O) (Fd Arty)
Col	C A JILLETT	- DPOME

24/25 Jun 42

Capt	R W JEREMY	- DADOS (E)
Lt-Col	F E KEIL	- GSO 2 (SD)
Capt	A F KURRLE	- SO Svy
Maj	K W LAWRENCE	- DADS
Col	S F LEGGE	- AQMG
Maj	R R LEWIS	- GSO 3 I(a)

26/27 Jun 42

Col	A E McCAUSLAND	- DCE (Wks)
Capt	J A MacLEOD	- I (a1)
Maj	L LUXTON	- DAQMG
Capt	H F LOVETT	- G 3 (Sigs)
Maj	J O McCUTCHEON	- DADT
Capt	J M MULHOLLAND	- SORE (Water E & M)

29/30 Jun 42

Maj A T McLEAN	- DA QMG
Lt-Col J H PILCHER	- GSO 2 (Ops)
Capt A J MARSHALL	- I (t2)
Lt-Col NEWTON	- AMS
Capt E L NAGLE	- ADOS (E)
Lieut B BOOTHBY	- G 3 (SD)

1/2 Jul 42

Lt-Col G H O'BRIEN	- GSO 2 (Fd Arty)
Col C C F SPRY	- G 1 (SD)
Lt-Col H K OXLEY	- GSO 2 (SD)
Col K A WILLS	- GSO 1 (Int)
Maj J N MILLS	- LPO (S & T)
Lt-Col J W HARRISON	- GSO 2 (Ops)

3/4 Jul 42

Lt-Col B J O'LOUGHLIN	- AAG
Maj F S OLDHAM	- DADOS (O)
Capt G M ROGERS	- I (x)
Lieut N RYAN	- SC AMS
Maj L C T SEDGWICK	- GSO 3 (SD Arty)
Lt-Col J W H SKINNER	- ADMS (D)

6/7 Jul 42

Capt J W REYNOLDS	- DADOS (S)
Lieut T H RING	- Ord Offr
Maj A T SMITH	- GSO 3 I (t)
Lt-Col C L SOUTHWELL	- GSO 2 (Sigs)
Maj D B O'CALLAGHAN	- ADOS (O)
Maj J S SUNTER	- DAMS

8/9 Jul 42

Lt-Col L K SHAVE	- GSO 2 (I)
Lt-Col M A SYMMOTT	- ADST
Col C A STINSON	- DDOS
Lieut A H TAYLOR	- G 3 (SD)
Maj H WARD	- DAAG
Lieut F S WHITEHOUSE	- Geologist

10 Jul 42

Capt T W PAIN	- GSO 3 (Sigs)
Capt C H WILSON	- ADC to GOC-in-C
Capt E S EYERS	- PA to GOC-in-C
Capt F G MYERS	- Legal Offr

10/11 Jun 42

Maj	H H AITCHISON	- GSO 3 (Sigs)
Capt	E BATES	- SOMS
Capt	A C BLUNDELL	- DADOS (O)
Capt	B W BRAIN	- DAC Salvage
Capt	K N CARMICHAEL	- SORE (BD)
Lt-Col	B M CARRUTHERS	- AD Myg

12/13 Jun 42

Maj	C R BLOMFIELD	- DADMS
Lieut	J CAMPBELL	- AIA(Ord)
Maj	N L CARTER	- GSO 3(CW)
Capt	D R CHESTERMAN	- IORE
Capt	F COYLE	- SC (Sigs)
Lt-Col	C O MANT	- LSO

15/16 Jun 42

Col	F O CHILTON	- GSO I (Ops)
Col	J S DAVIS	- CO (Sigs)
Capt	F V COLEMAN	- Ord Offr
Capt	C B DUNLOP	- S & T
Maj	F R EVANS	- DADA
Lt-Col	T H FOOTE	- GSO 2 (Engr)

17/18 Jun 42.

Maj	C J FLETCHER	- AD Posts
Capt	C F FLINT	- SORE (Personnel)
Lt-Col	G N YOUNG	- ADMS
Capt	A E FORSTER	- DAPM
Maj	S A FLETCHER	- SORE (Wks)
Lt-Col	A G FENTON	- ADPR

19/20 Jun 42

Maj	S B CANN	- GSO 3 (Cam)
Lieut	V DANIEL	- Ord Offr
Capt	C H RALPH	- SORE (Stores)
Lieut	E B HAYDOCK	- SC (A)
Lieut	L W HAWLEY	- SORE (Rds and Bridges)
Capt	K W HILTON	- DADS

22/23 Jun 42

Maj	E H WILSON	- GSO 3 I(bcx)
Lieut	N D KING	-
Capt	H B HUTTON	- 1 (a2)
Capt	J T HARVIE	- DADPR
Maj	R N IRWIN	- GSO 3 (C) (Fd Arty)
Col	C A JILLETT	- DPOME

24/25 Jun 42

Capt	R W JEREMY	- DADOS (E)
Lt-Col	F E KEIL	- GSO 2 (SD)
Capt	A F KURRLE	- S.O Svy
Maj	K W LAWRENCE	- DADS
Col	S F LEGGE	- AQMG
Maj	R R LEWIS	- GSO 3 I(a)

26/27 Jun 42

Col	A E McCAUSLAND	- DCE (Wks)
Capt	J A MacLEOD	- I (a1)
Maj	L LUXTON	- DAQMG
Capt	H F LOVETT	- G 3 (Sigs)
Maj	J O McCUTCHEON	- DADT
Capt	J M MULHOLLAND	- SORE (Water E & M)

29/30 Jun 42

Maj A T McLEAN	- DAQMG
Lt-Col J H PILCHER	- GSO 2 (Ops)
Capt A J MARSHALL	- I (t2)
Lt-Col NEWTON	- AMS
Capt E L NAGLE	- ADOS (E)
Lieut B BOOTHBY	- G 3 (SD)

1/2 Jul 42

Lt-Col G H O'BRIEN	- GSO 2 (Fd Arty)
Col C C F SPRY	- G 1 (SD)
Lt-Col H K OXLEY	- GSO 2 (SD)
Col K A WILLS	- GSO 1 (Int)
Maj J N MILLS	- LPO (S & T)
Lt-Col J W HARRISON	- GSO 2 (Ops)

3/4 Jul 42

Lt-Col B J O'LOUGHLIN	- AAG
Maj F S OLDHAM	- DADOS (O)
Capt G M ROGERS	- I (x)
Lieut N RYAN	- SC AMS
Maj L C T SEDGWICK	- GSO 3 (SD Arty)
Lt-Col J W H SKINNER	- ADMS (D)

6/7 Jul 42

Capt J W REYNOLDS	- DADOS (e)
Lieut T H RING	- Ord Offr
Maj A T SMITH	- GSO 3 I (t)
Lt-Col C L SOUTHWELL	- GSO 2 (Sigs)
Maj D B O'CALLAGHAN	- ADOS (O)
Maj J S SUNTER	- DAMS

8/9 Jul 42

Lt-Col L K SHAVE	- GSO 2 (I)
Lt-Col M A SYNNOTT	- ADST
Col C A STINSON	- DDOS
Lieut A H TAYLOR	- G 3 (SD)
Maj H WARD	- DAAG
Lieut F S WHITEHOUSE	- Geologist

10 Jul 42

Capt T W PAIN	- GSO 3 (Sigs)
Capt C H WILSON	- ADC to GOC-in-C
Capt E S EYERS	- PA to GOC-in-C
Capt F G MYERS	- Legal Offr

SECRET.

Subject: Distribution Lists

HQ First Aust Army
/O Jun 42
G(SD) 637

1 Aust Corps	MGGS	Q	
2 Aust Corps	G(O)	Camp	
5 Aust Div	G(SD)	Chaplains	
BRA	G(I)	S & T	
HQ RAE	G(CW)	Medical	
First Aust	LO	Ord	
Army Tps	Svy	Pro	
CSO	CE	Postal	
NORFOLK IS Inf Det	DA & QMG	Pay	
Frt Comd THURSDAY IS	A	ADPR	
RAAF	AMS	War Diary	Copy to:
GCC-in-C	Legal	File	LHQ (Aust)

1. Att as Appx "A" is a copy of distribution lists which are forwarded for infm.

2. These lists will be used by HQ First Aust Army forthwith.

3. The meaning will follow the letter wherever the letter is used to indicate the distribution:

e.g. List "B"
(Branches and formations only.)

F H Berryman Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

SECRET

Appx 'A'
Issued under cover
G(SD)637 of 10 Jun 42.

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Serial No.	Detail	Lists "A" (Branches etc of First Aust Army only)	"B" (Branches and formations only)	"C" (Branches and formations down to and incl Inf Bdes)	"D" (Branches and units down to Inf Bn or independent units)
1	1 Aust Corps	-	1	35	175
2	2 Aust Corps	-	1	50	250
3	5 Aust Div	-	1	15	75
4	BRA	1	1	1	2
5	HQ RAR First Aust Army Tps	-	1	1	9
6	CSO	2	2	2	2
7	NORFOLK IS Inf Det	-	1	1	1
8	Frt Comd THURSDAY IS	-	1	1	1
9	1 AL Sec AIF	-	-	1	1
10	1 AL Sec	-	-	1	1
11	9 AL Sec	-	-	1	1
12	1 Fd Censorship Sec	-	-	1	1
13	6 Fd " "	-	-	1	1
14	First Aust Army PR Unit	-	-	1	1
15	RAAF	1	1	1	1
16	GOC in C	1	1	1	1
17	MGGS	1	1	1	1
18	G(O)	1	1	1	1
19	G(SD)	1	1	1	1
20	G(I)	1	1	1	1
21	G(CW)	1	1	1	1
22	LO	1	1	1	1
23	Svy	1	1	1	5
24	CE	1	1	1	1
25	DA & QMG	1	1	1	1
26	A	1	1	1	1
27	AMS	1	1	1	1
28	Legal	1	1	1	1
29	Q	1	1	1	1
30	Camp	1	1	1	1
31	Chaplains	1	1	1	5
32	S & T	1	1	1	16
33	Medical	1	1	1	17
34	Ord	1	1	12	12
35	Pro	1	1	1	2
36	Postal	2	2	2	2
37	Pay	1	1	1	1
38	ADPR	1	1	1	1
39	War Diary	2	2	2	2
40	File	2	2	2	2
	For information				
41	LHQ (Aust)				
42	Second Aust Army				
43	3 Aust Corps				
44	6 Aust Div				
45	NG Force				
46	QUEENSLAND L of C Area				
47	NSW L of C Area				
48	Vic L of C Area				
49	SA L of C Area				
50	TAS L of C Area				
51	WA L of C Area				

Serial No.	Detail
52	NT L of C Area
53	NG L of C Area
54	HQ RAAF Aust
55	HQ RAAF N E Area
56	HQ RAAF E Area
57	AEF Base BRISBANE
58	AEF Base SYDNEY
59	AEF Base TOWNSVILLE
60	1 MD Tng School
61	ECTS Senior Offrs School
62	No.1 ECTS
63	No.2 ECTS
64	ECTS MT School
65	ECTS Fd Engr Gp
66	ECTS Arty Wing
67	First Aust Army Sig School
68	ECTS Hyg & Sanitation Wing
69	ECTS FSS Wing

Subject: Aircraft Recognition

HQ First Aust Army
12 Jun 42
G(SD)663

1 Aust Corps
2 Aust Corps
5 Aust Div
LHQ (Aust) (for infm)

Copy to:

ERA	DA & QMG
HQ RAE	A
First Aust Army Tps	AMS
	Legal
CSO	Q
RAAF	CE
GOC in C	Camp
MGGS	S & T
G(O)	Medical
G(SD)	Ord
G(I)	Pro
G(CW)	Postal
LO	Salvage
Svy	War Diary (2)

1. A pocket sized pamphlet has been produced to assist in aircraft recognition.

This pamphlet will be issued under separate cover to formations as under :-

1 Aust Corps	-	12000 copies (5000 already delivered to 7 Aust Div)
2 Aust Corps	-	16000 copies
5 Aust Div	-	5000 copies
A Tps	-	2000 copies

2. To assist instn in the use of this card a copy of instns for use will be issued with every ten copies of the recognition pamphlet.

Maj-Gen.
GS First Aust Army.

Subject: Junior Staff School - First Aust Army.

HQ First Aust Army
13 Jun 42
G(SD) 675

1 Aust Corps
2 Aust Corps
5 Aust Div
NSW L of C Area
QUEENSLAND L of C Area
LHQ (Aust) (for infm)
First Aust Army Junior Tactical School

Copy to:

BRA	A
HQ RAE	AMS
First Aust Army Tps	Q
	CE
CSO	S & T
GOC-in-C	Medical
G(O)	Ord
G(SD)	Postal
G(I)	File (2)
DA & QMG	War Diary (2) ✓

1. The First Aust Army Junior Staff School is being formed with the object of tng offrs for 3rd grade and Staff Captains appointments. Elementary staff duties and adm will be taught whilst combined ops will be introduced with the primary object of exercising students in the staff duties and adm involved. The course will be of nine weeks' duration and the first course will commence on 29 Jun 42.

2. Att as Appx 'A' is an outline syllabus.

3. In selecting students formations will ensure that candidates possess, in addition to the usual attributes of a staff offr, the following qualifications:-

(a) Regtl experience as a commissioned offr.

(b) Physical fitness.

(c) Proficiency in all small arms tng up to the standard of TOETS. Students will be tested in all small arms and failure to qualify will be considered a serious matter.

(d) Ability to drive all types of MT, a carrier and a MC.

(e) A thorough knowledge of map reading.

4. Normally instn will be given to 54 students in each course, but owing to a shortage of instrs, the first course will be confined to 32 students. The provisional allotment of these vacancies is as follows:-

USAFIA	4	(batmen 2)
1 Aust Corps	9	(batmen 3)
2 Aust Corps	11	(batmen 3)
5 Aust Div	4	(batmen 1)
NSW L of C Area	2	(batmen 1)
QUEENSLAND L of C Area	2	(batmen 1)

5. Instrs have been provided as follows:-

HQ First Aust Army

CI - Lt-Col W T ROBERTSON MC
Maj E ARUNDEL
Capt K C C LAHEY

1 Aust Corps

-Capt C L DURANT

2 Aust Corps

- Maj C W WATT

6. Sufficient copies of the Joining Instns are att for distribution down to bdes and equivalent formations.

J H Berryman Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

APPX 'A'
Issued with G(SD) 675
of 15 Jun 42

FIRST AUST ARMY JUNIOR STAFF SCHOOL

SUMMARY OF SUBJECTS

1. Staff Duties

The Staff
Military Writing
Organization of an Inf Div
Message Writing
Duties of the Staff - Generally
Office Organization - Part I - Generally
Part II - In the Fd
Organization of the Services
Liaison
HQ Inf Bde - Part I Organization
Part II Duties of Bde Staff
Part III Movement of Bde HQ
Part IV Layout of Bde HQ in the Fd
Part V Organization of Offices and Production of OOs.
Recce Reports
Maps, Diagrams, Sketches, Traces and Tables
Appreciations
HQ Inf Div - Part I Organization
Part II Duties of the Staff
Part III Office Routine and Procedure
Part IV Comms
Part V Infm and Ciphers
Part VI Preparation of OOs
Part VII Movement
Part VIII Protection
Part IX Interior Economy
Orders
R/T Procedure
Op Instns
Movement by Rd
Rd and Rail Staff Tables
Traffic Control
Intercomm within a Fd Force with particular ref to a Div
Movement by Air
Movement by Sea
Preparation of Tng Programmes - SD aspects

2. Administration

General Principles of Adm
Organization of AASC - General
Organization of Div AASC
Supplies
Amn
POL and Baggage
Functions of AAOC
Functions of AAMC
Organization of Medical Services in the Fd with particular ref to a Div
Evacuation of Material
Reinfts, X List, etc.
Animal Tpt
Systems of Maintenance of a Force in the Fd
War Diary, Burials and Decorations
Courts of Inquiry
Framing of Charges
Preparation and Submission of Applications for Courts Martial

3. Arms

Principles of War
The Inf Bn - Part I Organization
Part II Employment, Comd Control and Deployment
Part III Organization MG Bn
Arty - Part I General Characteristics and Eqpt
Part II Organization of a Fd Regt.
Part III Organization of A Tk, Med and Svy Regts
Part IV Organization of AA Regts.
Engrs- Part 1 Organization
Part II Crossing Obstacles, Eqpt
Part III River Crossing
Part IV Demolitions
Cav - Part I Organization of Div Cav Regt and Recce Bn.
Part II Employment of Recce Bn
Part III Organization Mot Div, Bde and Regt
Part IV Employment of Mot Regt
Tanks - Part I Outline Organization of the Armd Div and Characteristics of eqpt.
Part II Organization and Employment of Army Tk Bns
Air - Organization and employment of the AC Sqn
Air co-operation, Functions of AIL Secs
Direct Air Support

4. Intell

Organization of Intell in War
Organization of Intell in Units and Bdes
Organization of Intell in Div and Corps
Jap Army - Organization
Jap Tactics.

5. Combined Ops

General Introduction to Combined Ops
The Navy, Organization, Employment and Types of Craft
The Air Force - Its limitations and powers of co-operation in combined ops
Army Aspects of Opposed Landings
Landing Craft
Special Factors Affecting Appreciation of Combined Ops
Landing Tables
The Landing
Orders as applicable to Combined Ops
Intercomm in Combined Ops
Beach Organization and Maintenance

6. General

Organization of the American Army
Organization of First Aust Army and its relation with L of C
Lessons from this War
Tree Climbing

FIRST AUST ARMY JUNIOR STAFF SCHOOL

SUMMARY OF EXERCISES

1. Full Day Exercise - Outdoor.

Recce Report - Rd Recce
Recce and Layout of an Inf Bde HQ Area
Recce and Layout of a Bde Gp "B" Ech Area
Recce and Layout of an Adv Div HQ
R/T Procedure
Adm Layout of a Div on Defence
TOETs Rifle, LMG, Pistol, Sub-MG and Carrier driving
Beach Organization
Layout of a Div Beach
Div HQ - Battle Exercise.
Crossing rough unknown country by day.

2. Full Day Exercise - Indoor

Rd and Rail Staff Table for a Div
Move by Air
Preparation of a Trng Program for an Inf Bn.
Landing Tables for Bde Gp

3. Half Day Exercise

Appreciations (3)
Orders (5)
R/T Procedure (2)
Liaison
Graph of Rd Move
Movement Orders
Bde HQ Manning Table
Rd and Rail move of an Inf Bde Gp
Loading Tables for an Inf Bn with Pack Tpt
Maintenance of an Independent Bde Gp
Planning of an Amn Res
"A day at Bde HQ"
Crossing rough unknown country by night.
Tree climbing

4. Short Exercise

Letters (12)
Messages (6)
Precis (2)
Framing Charges
Application for Court Martial

JOINING INSTNS - FIRST AUST ARMY JUNIOR STAFF SCHOOL

1. LOCATION -

Marist Brothers College, ASHGROVE, BRISBANE.

2. OBJECT -

To train offrs for 3rd Grade and Staff Capts appointments.

3. REPORTING -

(a) Students will report to the Adjt of the School on the day prior to the commencement of the Course. Students coming from NSW will travel by SYDNEY-BRISBANE via KYOGLE train, arriving BRISBANE 1430 hrs on the day prior to the commencement of the Course. This train will be met by tpt.

(b) Formations will issue single warrants for fwd journey only.

4. NOMINAL ROLLS -

Nominal rolls will be forwarded to reach HQ First Aust Army not later than ten (10) days prior to the commencement of the Course.

5. BATMEN -

Batmen will be brought by students on the scale of one per three students.

Detailed allotment will be issued in conjunction with allotment of vacancies.

6. CLOTHING, EQPT and BOOKS -

Students will bring the following to the School:-

Clothing: Uniform - service dress and summer dress.
Hats - Khaki fur.

Eqpt: Full web eqpt, offrs pattern.
Steel helmet and respirator.
Binoculars
Compass
Chinagraph pencils.

Books: FSR Vols I and II
FSPB, all pamphlets
MTP 23 complete

SECRET

Subject: O of B First Aust Army
Amendment No 1.

HQ First Aust Army
/5 Jun 42
G(SD) 713

1 Aust Corps (3)	DA & QMG	
2 Aust Corps (3)	A	
5 Aust Div (2)	AMS	
Queensland L of C Area	Q	
NSW L of C Area	CE	
BRA	S & T	Copy
CSO	Medical	LHQ (AUST) (3)
MGGS	Ord (2)	
G(O)	Pro	
G(I)	Postal	
G(CW)	File (7)	
LO	War Diary (2)	

Ref my G(SD) 481 of 31 May 42.

GENERAL

1. Insert the prefix "2/" in front of the designation number of all AIF units.

2. Insert "Aust" in the designation of all units (both AIF and AMF).

First Aust Army Tps

3. Serial No 56 - 2/1 MAC AIF - delete.

4. " No 57 - 2 MAC - delete.

5. Insert the following units and remarks:-

SERIAL NO	UNIT	REMARKS
86	"2/49 Aust Dental Unit" AIF	Temporarily under comd 5 Aust Div
87	"2/51 Aust Dental Unit" AIF	Temporarily under comd 1 Aust Corps
88	"2/53 Aust Dental Unit" AIF	
89	"2/55 Aust Dental Unit" AIF	
90	"261 Aust Dental Unit"	Temporarily under comd 5 Aust Div
91	"367 Aust Dental Unit"	
92	"368 Aust Dental Unit"	Temporarily under comd 1 Aust Corps
93	"369 Aust Dental Unit"	

First Aust Army Schools

6. Delete page 4 and substitute new page 4 att.

5 Aust Div

7. Under "Under Comd 5 Aust Div", insert

2/49 Aust Dental Unit"	AIF	Army Tps
"261 Aust Dental Unit"		Army Tps
"367 Aust Dental Unit"		Army Tps.

1 Aust Corps Tps

8. Insert the following:-

SERIAL	UNIT	REMARKS
20	"21 Aust A Fd Coy"	
55	"2/1 Aust MAC"	AIF

Under Comd

2/51 Aust Dental Unit"	AIF	Army Tps
2/53 Aust Dental Unit"	AIF	Army Tps
2/55 Aust Dental Unit"	AIF	Army Tps
'/368 Aust Dental Unit"		Army Tps

1 Aust Corps Tps (Contd).

"369 Aust Dental Unit Army Tps

1 Aust Mot Bde Gp

9. Insert "Serial 8 - 1 Aust Lt Fd Amb".

2 Aust Corps Tps

10. Serial No 20 (21 A Fd Coy) - delete.

11. Serial No 33 - Insert "2 Aust MAC".

1 Aust Mot Div

12. Serial No 37 (1 Aust Lt Fd Amb) - delete

2 Aust Div

13. Delete the following:-

SERIAL NO	UNIT	REMARKS
15	"14 Aust Fd Coy"	
28	"HQ 14 Aust Inf Bde (255 LAD)"	
29	"14 Aust Inf Bde Def Pl"	
30	"3 Aust Inf Bn"	
31	"36 Aust Inf Bn"	
32	"55 Aust Inf Bn"	
39	"14 Aust Fd Amb"	
9	"14 Aust Fd Regt"	

14. Serial No 44 - 2 Aust Div Pro Coy
add "(less det)".

Maj-Gen.
GS First Aust Army.

FIRST AUST ARMY SCHOOLS

Serial No.	Unit	Location.	Formed from
1	First Aust Army Junior Staff School	ASHGROVE Q'LD	
2	First Aust Army Junior Tactical School	ROSEBERRY NSW	ECTS Senior Offrs School
3	First Aust Army School of Arty	WARWICK FARM NSW	ECTS Arty Wing
4	First Aust Army School of Engrs	LIVERPOOL NSW	ECTS (Fd Engr Group)
	(a) Fd Engr Wing (b) Bomb disposal Wing		(a) Fd Engr Wing (b) Bomb disposal Wing
	(c) Camflg Wing (d) A/Gas Wing		(c) Camflg Wing (d) A/Gas Wing
5	First Aust Army School of Sigs		Not yet formed
6	No 1 First Aust Army School (Weapon Tng)	STUDLEY PARK NARELLAN NSW	No 1 ECTS
	(a) MMG Wing (b) Inf Wing		(a) MMG Wing (b) Inf Wing
7	No 2 First Aust Army School (General)	COWRA NSW	No 2 ECTS
	(a) Clerical Wing (b) Inf Wing (c) Intell Wing (d) MR & FS Wing		(a) Clerical Wing (b) Inf Wing (c) Intell Wing (d) MR & FS Wing
8	No 3 First Aust Army School (General)	CABARLAH	1 MD Tng School
	(a) Offrs & potential offrs Wing (b) Sec leaders Wing		(a) Offrs & potential offrs Wing (b) Sec leaders Wing
	(c) MMG Wing (d) D & M Wing (e) AASC Wing (f) A/Gas Wing		(c) MMG Wing (d) D & M Wing (e) AASC Wing (f) A/Gas Wing
9	First Aust Army MT School	GLENFIELD NSW	ECTS MT School
	(a) MC Wing (b) Carrier Wing (c) MT Wing		(a) MC Wing (b) Carrier Wing (c) MT Wing
10	First Aust Army School of Hyg & Sanitation	CLOVELLY NSW	ECTS Hgy & Sanitation Wing.

WD

Subject: First Aust Army Junior Staff School.

HQ First-Aust Army
15 Jun 42
G(SD) 720

List A (Branches etc of First Aust Army only)

Copy to:
First Aust Army Junior Staff School

Ref G(SD) 675 of 13 Jun 42.

1. In order that students at the First Aust Army Junior Staff School may be kept up to date with current development in organization etc, it would be appreciated if branches etc were to incl this tng est on distribution lists where applicable.

2. To avoid duplication, such copies should NOT be sent direct to First Aust Army Junior Staff School but should be forwarded to G(SD) for co-ordination and despatch.

GS WK Daley Lt Col for Col

SUBJECT - USE OF PMG FACILITIES

HQ First Aust Army
15 Jun 42
G(SD) 724

1 Aust Corps
2 Aust Corps
5 Aust Div

Copy to:

BRA	Svy	Medical
HQ RAE	DA & QMG	Ord
First Aust	A	Pro
Army Tps	AMS	Postal
CSO	Legal	Salvage
G(O)	Q	Canteen
G(I)	CE	War Diary (2)
G(CW)	Camp	
LO	S & T	

1. It is reported that personnel in the fd forces are demanding services from Post Offices to which they are not rightfully entitled.

2. In one instance a soldier demanded the use of a Post Office telephone and insisted on remaining in the Postmaster's office while awaiting the call.

Instances have also been reported where tps have been indiscriminately teeing in to trunk lines and endeavouring to make calls.

3. Such actions on the part of tps are serious breaches of regulations and disciplinary action must be taken against offenders when reported.

4. It is realised that the present heavy demands on comms call for co-operation rather than hindrance on the part of the forces. The PMG are extremely helpful and co-operative and continued breaches by members of the forces will ultimately result in lack of confidence by the civil populace.

5. The CSO Army, CSO L of C or offrs of their staff acting for them, are the only authorities who should approach PMG reps in capital cities. CSOs of Corps may deal direct with CSO L of C in order to expedite requirements but must inform CSO Army of demands for final approval and co-ordination. CSOs of Corps may interview local PMG personnel to obtain data of existing facilities in their area.

6. It is requested that addressees take the necessary action to bring this matter to the notice of all ranks.

I/C Berryman Brig
GS First Aust Army

W D

Subject: Visits - Staff HQ First Aust Army

HQ First Aust Army
19 Jun 42
G(SD) 775

List A (Branches and services of First Aust Army only)

1. An instance has occurred of the head of a service and his deputy both being away simultaneously. During their absence a senior staff offr of their service visited this HQ.

2. In future it will be taken as a general principle that, unless the urgency of the situation demands it, the head of a branch or service and his deputy will not both be absent from this HQ at the same time.

H.K Dudley Lt-Col
GS for Col

Subject: Itineraries

HQ First Aust Army
19 Jun 42
G(SD) 788

Distribution List 'A' (branches etc of First Aust Army only)

It is requested that an itinerary for all offrs who are visiting other areas be submitted to G(SD) for the infm of the GOC in C.

HK Parkey Lt Col
for Col
GS

Subject: TNG HQ FIRST AUST ARMY PERSONNEL

HQ First Aust Army
24 Jun 42
G(SD) 824

List A (Branches and Staff of First Aust Army only)

Ref G(SD) 655 of 12 Jun 42.

1. Tng of HQ First Aust Army personnel will commence on Monday 21 Jun 42.

2. The hours of tng are as follows :-

0900 to 1200 hrs
1400 to 1700 hrs daily except Sundays.

3. The allocation of personnel to Coys and Pls and times of parading have been detailed in First Aust Army RO No 38 of 19 Jun 42.

4. One Lieut and 2 Sgts have been obtained from 2/10 and 2/9 Aust Inf Bns respectively for instructional purposes.

The tng for the month will be squad drill, to improve bearing and discipline, and individual small arms tng. It is intended that all personnel be brought to a standard in small arms tng to enable practices to be carried out on the open range.

5. To enable full benefit to be obtained, it is requested that heads of branches and services ensure that the personnel detailed for tng, parade at all times ordered.

6. Offrs will not parade.

[illegible] Lt-Col
GS for Col

SECRET

Subject O of B FIRST AUST ARMY
AMENDMENT No.2

HQ First Aust Army
22 Jun 42
G(SD) 837

1 Aust Corps (3)
2 Aust Corps (3)
5 Aust Div (2)
QUEENSLAND L of C Area
NSW L of C Area

BRA
CSO
MGGS
G(O)
G(I)
G(CW)
LO

DA & QMG
A
AMS
Q
CE
S & T
Medical
Ord (2)
Pro
Postal
File (7)
War Diary (2)

Copies to:
LHQ (Aust) (5)
First Aust Army Junior Staff School

Ref my G(SD)481 of 31 May 42 and G(SD)713 of 15 Jun 42.

GENERAL

1. Amend "GHQ" wherever appearing to "LHQ".

INDEX

2. Insert the following line after First Aust Army Schools
"THURSDAY IS ..... 4 a 4 b."

FIRST AUST ARMY TPS

3. Serial No.7 9 Aust AL Sec - delete
4. Serial No.31 insert "First Aust Army Camflg Tng Unit".
5. Serial No.32 insert "1 Aust Fd Svy Coy"
6. Serial No.33 insert "2 Aust Fd Svy Coy"
7. Serial No.35 "Sigs First Aust Army AIF" - delete
8. Insert the following units:-

SERIAL NO.	UNIT	REMARKS
36	HQ Sigs First Aust Army	
37	HQ 1 Coy Sigs First Aust Army	
38	11 Aust Line Sec	
38a	12 Aust Line Sec	
38b	13 Aust Line Sec	
38c	14 Aust Line Sec	
38d	HQ 3 Coy Sigs First Aust Army	
38e	10 Aust Telegraph Operating Sec	
38f	11 Aust Telegraph Operating Sec	
38g	12 Aust Telegraph Operating Sec	
38h	13 Aust Telegraph Operating Sec	
38i	10 Aust Wireless Sec	
38j	11 Aust Wireless Sec	
38k	12 Aust Wireless Sec	
38l	7 Aust DR Sec	
38m	8 Aust DR Sec	
38n	4 Aust Technical Maintenance Sec	
38o	4 Aust Line Maintenance Sec	

9. Insert Serial No 94 "2/1 Aust Mob Operating Unit"

THURSDAY IS.

10. Insert new pages 4a and 4b att.

5 AUST DIV

11. Insert Serial No 5a "6 Aust AS Control" and in Remarks Coln opposite insert "formed from HQ 1 Aust AS Control and 1 Aust AS

Control Sigs."

12. Insert Serial No 5b "9 Aust AL Sec."
13. Insert Serial No 16a "5 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit."

1 AUST CORPS

14. Under "under Comd" delete "AIF" in remarks Coln opposite 209 Aust Dental Unit.

3 AUST DIV

15. Insert Serial No 16a "3 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit."

2 AUST CORPS

16. Insert serial No 22a "2 Aust Corps Camflg Tng Unit".

1 AUST MOT DIV (less 1 Aust Mot Bde Gp and 3 Aust Mot Bde Gp)

17. Insert serial No.23a "1 Aust Mot Div Camflg Tng Unit"
18. Insert after Serial No 54 "Pay
Serial No 54a "1 Aust Mot Div Fd Cash Office less Det."

1 AUST DIV

19. Insert Serial No 20a "1 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit"
20. Serial No 24 - delete "7 Aust Grn Bn" and substitute "18 Aust Grn Bn".

2 AUST DIV

21. Insert Serial No 16a "2 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit".
22. Serial No 17. Amend "Sigs 2 Aust Div (224 LAD) to "Sigs 2 Aust Div (less 14 Aust Inf Bde Sec) (224 LAD).
23. Serial No 25 "4 Aust Inf Bn" - delete.

10 AUST DIV

24. Insert Serial No 17a "10 Aust Div Camflg Tng Unit."
25. Serial No 28 insert "4 Aust Inf Bn."

H H Berryman Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

THURSDAY ISLAND

Serial No.	Unit	Remarks
1		
2		
3		
4	ARTY A Tp 18 Aust A Tk Bty	AIF
5		
6		
7	INF THURSDAY ISLAND Inf Det	
8	TORRES STRAIT Inf	
9	AASC Details AASC	
10	MEDICAL THURSDAY ISLAND Camp Hosp (30 beds)	
11	213 Dental Unit	
12		
13	ORD THURSDAY ISLAND Ord Wkshop	
14		
15	PRO THURSDAY ISLAND Pro Sec	
16	LABOUR THURSDAY ISLAND Labour Coy	
	UNDER COMD A Bty 104 (US) CA (AA) Bn B Bty 104 (US) CA (AA) Bn	

4 (b)

THURSDAY ISLAND

FIXED DEFENCES

Serial No.	Unit	Remarks
	ARTY	
1	HQ THURSDAY ISLAND Fixed Defences	
2	GOODE Bty	
3	MILLMAN Bty	
4		
5		
6		
	ENGRS	
7	Frt Engrs	
	SIGS	
8	Frt Sigs	
	MEDICAL	
9	10 Frt Coy AAMC	

SECURITY

SUBJECT: INSTNS FOR PREPARATION AND SECURITY OF SIG MESSAGES.

HQ First Aust Army
24 Jun 42
G(SD) 866

List-"B"
(Branches and
formations only)

1. In order to assist offrs to prepare messages for despatch the following instns are issued:-

GENERAL

2. General instns in sig procedure are contained in FSPB Pamphlet No.2 (Orders and Intercomn).

(a) Messages which can be sent IN CLEAR BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT WIRELESS will be signed in the left hand signature space of Army Form C2128 (Mar 42). (The words "Except Wireless" will be added if using an obsolescent form).

(b) No message will be sent in clear by wireless, except in an operational emergency when it is considered essential to sacrifice security for speed.

(c) If a message is signed in the right hand space the Sig Master will use his discretion as to whether it is to be enciphered or NOT, consistent with the security of the means of transmission.

(d) Messages which MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER irrespective of the means of transmission will be signed in the right hand signature space, and the words "in cipher" written in the originator's instn space.

(e) The text of messages which must not be seen by anyone (except offrs in Registries and Cipher personnel) between the office of origin and the office of addressee will be commenced with the words MOST SECRET. These messages will be signed in the right hand signature space and will be delivered in sealed envelopes marked MOST SECRET as follows:-

(i) One copy direct to ciphers.
(ii) Remaining copies to the registry offr for filing and/or distribution within the HQ.

(f) The text of messages which must not be seen by anyone (except offrs in Registries and Offrs in Cipher Office)between the office of origin and the office of the addressee will be commenced with the word "NODECO" and will be signed in the right hand signature space. These messages will be delivered in sealed envelopes marked NODECO as follows:-

(i) One copy direct to cipher offr.
(ii) Remaining copies to the registry offr for filing and/or distribution within the HQ.

"NODECO" messages must be signed by an offr holding the appointment of G 1 (or equivalent) or above.

(g) All MOST SECRET AND NODECO messages, and warning orders for movement and movement orders transmitted by sigs will always be sent in cipher. The words "in cipher" will be written in the originator's

instn space, vide para (d). This does not apply to movement orders for personnel proceeding to schools, leave and similar movements.

NOTE ref para (d) and (e) above, in HQs where an offr is not provided for the registry, the offr originating the message will be responsible for despatching the sig direct to the cipher office and the safe custody of the file copy.

SECURITY

3. (a) Warning or other sig messages ordering a movement or preparation for movement will not contain any ref to destination. A para "Destination(s) follow" may be incl. These messages will be signed in the right hand signature space.

(b) Messages as in (a) above will be followed by a message giving destination(s) of units. These will be sent "MOST SECRET" or "NODECO" at the discretion of the originator.

4. The originator of a message which is signed in the right hand signature space will ensure that the original and all copies are stamped SECRET in the top right hand corner.

5. The words SECRET or CONFIDENTIAL will NOT appear in the originator's instn space.

S.H.Berryman
Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

War Diary

SECRET

Subject: DISTRIBUTION LISTS

HQ First Aust Army
24 Jun 42
G(SD) 860

List "B"
(Branches and formations only)

Copy to:
LHQ (Aust)

Ref my G(SD)637 of 10 Jun 42.

The following amendments to Appx "A" issued under cover of my G(SD)637 of 10 Jun 42 are promulgated:-

1. Serial No.9 -
Amend designation "1 AL Sec AIF" to "2/1 Aust AL Sec."

2. Serial No.10 -
Amend designation "1 AL Sec" to "1 Aust AL Sec."

3. Serial No.11 -
Delete "9 AL Sec."

4. Serial No.12 -
Amend designation "1 Fd Censorship Sec" to "1 Aust Fd Censorship Sec."

5. Serial No.13 -
Amend designation "6 Fd Censorship Sec" to "6 Aust Fd Censorship Sec."

6. Serial No.19 -
Delete G(SD) and insert G(I).

7. Serial No.20 -
Delete G(I) and insert G(SD).

8. Insert "Serial No.36a as follows:-

		Lists			
Serial No.	Detail	"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"
36a	Salvage	1	1	1	1

9. Delete Serial Nos.60 to 69 incl as follows:-
"1 MD Tng School
ECTS Senior Offrs School
No.1 ECTS
No.2 ECTS
ECTS MT School
ECTS Fd Engr Gp
ECTS Arty Wing
First Aust Army Sig School
ECTS Hyg & Sanitation Wing
ECTS FSS Wing. "
and substitute -
"Serial No.60 First Aust Army Junior Staff School
" " 61 " " " " Tactical School
" " 62 " " " School of Arty
" " 63 " " " " " Engrs
" " 64 " " " " "Sigs
" " 65 No.1 First Aust Army School (Weapon Tng)
" " 66 No.2 " " " " (General)
" " 67 No.3 " " " " (General)
" " 68 First Aust Army MT School
" " 69 First Aust Army School of Hyg & Sanitation

Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

WAR DIARY

Subject: FIRST AUST ARMY TNG INSTN No.6

HQ First Aust Army
26 Jun 42
G(SD) 873

List C
(Branches and formations
down to and incl Inf Bdes)
First Aust Army Junior Staff School

Less Serials (42-45, 48-59)

GENERAL

1. In order to reduce correspondence and to obviate the issue of large numbers of tng instns covering different subjects, it is proposed to issue periodically (approx each fortnight) a tng instn to cover points arising during that period. Special tng instns however, will continue to be issued as and when required.

CONSERVATION OF RUBBER

2. In view of the limited quantities of rubber now available to the Allies throughout the world, it is most essential that every effort be made to conserve motor tyres.

3. Formations will therefore ensure the following:-

(a) that the use of MT etc is reduced to a minimum consistent with tng and operational requirements.

(b) that a minimum of vehs in units to be in operation at any one time and that such vehs be changed periodically to ensure even wear throughout the unit.

4. Attention is drawn to "Mechanization Circular No 315 of 17 Apr 42."

HYGIENE

5. The syllabus of all First Aust Army Schools will be amended to incl the following three lectures each of 40 minutes duration:-

(a) Importance of hygiene and its application in the fd.

(b) Anti-fly and anti-mosquito measures.

(c) Water control in the fd.

6. DMS First Aust Army will arrange for lecturers to visit all schools on dates requested by them.

BUSHFIRE CONTROL (extract of an E Comd Intell Instn dated 9 Dec 41)

7. (a) How Fires Burn

A knowledge of the characteristic ways in which bushfires burn is of assistance in planning methods of control.

In brief, if there is little or no wind the fire spreads out more or less evenly from the starting point and the conflagration area is circular.

If, as is more normal, there is some wind the fire becomes pear shaped and travels faster and spreads more widely down wind. In this case the fire has three distinct parts:-

(i) The Head Fire, which travels down wind. It is the most active, rapidly moving and destructive portion.

(ii) The Side Fires, which spread more slowly and more amenable to control.

(iii) The Tail Fire, whose speed back into the wind is retarded with increasing wind velocity.

If the fire is large enough, the prevailing wind is likely to be supplemented by "induced winds" caused by the heat of the fire; the hot air over the fire rises and cooler air flows in to replace it. This can give rise to quite strong wind currents and in the case of major fires it has an important effect in fanning the flames. The tendency is for the induced winds to blow inwards from the flanks towards the centre of the fire; this is taken advantage of in "burning back" as described later, but in general the induced winds make control far more difficult.

A further characteristic is that fires travel faster, and burn more fiercely, uphill; the flames being fanned by the natural up draught.

(b) Fire Fighting.

The main means of combating fires are as follows:-

(i) Beating. Leather beaters are most effective; they consist of a flap of leather approx 9" x 12" att to a handle; a second type is made from up to 24 leather thongs about 2' long and att to a handle 4' long. Green branches, bags, etc., are effective as make-shifts.

(ii) The beating should always be directed at the extreme edge of the fire and towards the burned area so that sparks are not spread on to unburned ground.

(iii) Clearing a line free from vegetation: Rakes (12 and 16 tooth) are the most efficient tool in forest country. Hoes are preferable in scrub and undergrowth. Brush-hooks are most suitable in very dense undergrowth. Axes are also useful in some circumstances. Shovels can also be used for clearing light scrub.

(iv) Use of Water. Where practicable, water is the most effective means of extinguishing a fire. It can be applied by knapsack spray, hand-pump, power-spray or even by use of buckets. The knapsack spray is the most suitable, and one man so equipped can extinguish quite a severe scrub fire as fast as he can walk. (He must be assisted, of course, by "moppers up" and water carriers). Water is particularly valuable in "mopping up" as described later.

(v) Smothering. Fires can be smothered by earth or sand thrown on to fire by long handled shovels. If the soil is soft this method is very effective.

In actual fire-fighting the time factor is of utmost importance, as fires which could easily be extinguished in the early stages are likely to grow in intensity very rapidly.

A quick recce to determine the extent and head of the fire, and any topographical features such as tracks, swamps, clearings or burn-out areas, which would assist control, should be the first step.

Then, once the plan of attack has been decided, it should be carried out as rapidly as possible.

It is always preferable to attack a fire from the front in order to control the head fire, otherwise this is continually increasing in volume and intensity. So that if it is possible to beat or otherwise fight at close quarters, the head fire should always be attacked first.

If the head fire is too intense to approach within beating distance, attempts should be made to est a cleared line in front by raking or by use of a track or other feature. In most cases the cleared line will not be wide enough to be relied on entirely and it will have to be covered by sufficient men to prevent the fire crossing. Since fires have a tendency to "leap by means of sparks which may be carried considerable distances in strong winds, some provision for "defence in depth" is also advisable. At the same time the flanks of the fire, which are usually more approachable, should be beaten at close quarters in order to narrow down the fire area.

If the magnitude of the fire is such that work at or near it is impossible and it is spreading rapidly, back-firing from existing or improvised lines in order to provide a burnt-out area wide enough to stop the intense fire, should be resorted to. This involves going in advance of the head fire and lighting a line and allowing it to burn back into the main fire; at the same time the fire must be prevented from crossing the cleared line.

The back fires should be lit close to the line and allowed to burn back into the wind. If a large area is to be lit, touches made from a tight roll of hessian about 6" by 10" tacked on to a handle 6' long are very effective. They should be soaked in a 50/50 mixture of kerosene and sump oil and will keep alight for up to 1 hr.

The in-draught of the induced wind from the fire may assist the burning back, but in most cases the ordinary wind will be stronger and the tendency will be for the back-fire to travel down wind and cross the cleared line. This must be prevented by having sufficient men to extinguish any outbreaks across the line. Rakes and hoes are the best tools for this work, while axes, shovels and beaters are also useful.

Once the back-fire has burned back a little distance from the cleared line, the burnt area can be widened more rapidly by re-lighting some distance up wind. This allows the back-fire to travel down wind until it reaches the burnt area which is wide enough to stop a freshly lighted fire.

(c) Mopping up

When the spread of a fire has been controlled by beating or a cleared line has been est, the work should be completed by "mopping up", i.e., putting out all burning matter within about a chain of the edge and felling smouldering trees beyond that distance which might throw sparks.

Water should be used if available, either by means of hand, pumps, knapsack sprays, or thrown from buckets. Earth thrown from shovels is also effective.

After the edge of the fire is out, it should be patrolled until safe.

(d) Night Fighting.

Fires are much easier to control at night time, particularly during the late night or early morning hrs when the lower temparature and wind velocity and increased humidity reduce the fire intensity.

Advantage can often be taken of this fact in combating large fires which cannot be fought at close quarters during the day, or in burning back on to a cleared line.

(e) Diverting Fires.

During operations, it might be necessary to divert fires from a military zone, without extinguishing them. This can be done by flank attacks by a small number of men as compared with those necessary to extinguish the fire. It has the disadvantage, however, that a change in wind might drive the fire back, and in general, it would be unwise to divert a fire if the means exist to suppress it entirely.

(f) Preliminary Safeguards.

Bush-fire risk can be reduced considerably if precautions are taken prior to the danger period. These incl clearing of fire-breaks and early burning-off.

Fire-breaks reduce the risk by providing cleared lines which may be used for preventing any fires crossing from one sector to another. Their use for military purposes is restricted to some extent by their effect on concealment from air or ground observation, as they may act as pointers to the buildings or posns they are protecting. This can be best overcome by constructing them in relation to a general scheme of camflg in which they are made to simulate roads or tracks.

A road grader or wide cutting plough is the best implement for making fire breaks, but if unavailable, it should not be difficult to improvise a scraper to haul behind an army veh. Breaks can also be constructed by hand withhoes, rakes, etc.

Early burning-off is even more effective in reducing fire risk, but unfortunately, it has a very detrimental effect on concealment. So that the quandary is whether to burn off an area, thus making it much safer from fire risk, but more exposed to observation, or to leave the posn unburned and well concealed, knowing that it might become untenable during operations.

Each case must be decided on its merits but certain general principles apply.

(i) The aim should be to reduce the inflammable undergrowth and forest litter, etc., while at the same time retaining the top growth for concealment. Where this is possible, areas surrounding buildings, dumps, gun posns, etc., should be burnt early in the season. If burning is impracticable, it is sometimes possible to use sheep or cattle to reduce undergrowth or ground vegetation.

(ii) Any bad hazards, such as thick clumps of scrub or timber adjacent to, and on the North or West of, important posns, should be burnt off early, if they do not effect the general scheme of concealment.

(iii) Where possible, fire-breaks or cleared lines should be widened by burning.

If burning-off is to be carried out, it is essential to take proper precautions to prevent the fires getting out of control. Night firing should be resorted to if necessary.

8. Arising out of the above, the following suggestions are put fwd:-

(a) That further consideration should be given to the tactical use of bush fires as a weapon.

(b) That consideration should be given to the organization, est and tng of fire fighting piquets for fire-fighting in the fd during possible ops. Such tng to extend to a considerable proportion of fighting tps.

(c) That consideration should be given to the advisability of co-operation with bushfire brigades in order to provide civilian fire fighting units during operations. Since there are very few bdes in coastal districts this would entail the formations of new Bdes.

(d) That during the "danger" period, weather forecasts of probable bushfire "risk" should be promulgated.

BATTLE PRACTICES

9. It is desirable that tps have the experience of being under our own arty fire before they go into action for the first time.

10. In a proportion of advanced exercises therefore, formations will carry out the exercise using live amn from all SAS and from arty.

11. Consideration of amn required for these exercises should be given when allotting grants of tng amn to lower formations.

TNG of PNR PLS of INF BNS.

12. All members of pnr pls must be trained in gas detection. They must also be thoroughly trained in decn and in particular in improvising pathways over decontaminated ground. Pnr pls will be trained, in addition, in the handling of offensive gas weapons, to provide against the eventuality when this type of warfare may be introduced.

F.H. Berryman Maj-Gen
GS First Aust Army

War Diary

MESSAGE FORM

Copy to:
Branches
and Services

To 1 AUST CORPS & AUST DIV rptd TOOWOOMBA STATIONERY DEPOT

From FIRST AUST ARMY SD 1030 27

Large numbers of requisitions for Publications being sent direct by formations and units to TOOWOOMBA Stationery depot (.) Depot has been instructed to take no action on these requisitions (.) G(SD)579 of 6 Jun refers (.) all requests to be submitted by formations to HQ First Aust Army

AS WRITTEN (except wireless)	IN CIPHER	Originator's instns	T.O.O. 1140
Lt-Col			T.H.I.
			T.O.R.

WD

Subject: Priority Prefixes

HQ First Aust Army
27 Jun 42
G(SD) 889

List B (Branches and formations only)
plus Serials all incl 60 - 69

The att Sig Technical Instn No 82 of 17 Jun 42 has been issued through sig channels on the basis of one copy for each sig offr.

Maj-Gen.
GS First Aust Army.

ALLIED LAND FORCES IN S.W. PACIFIC AREA.

L.H.Q.
17 Jun, 42.

SM 1022.

Signal Technical Instruction No. 82.

PRIORITY PREFIXES.

1. To achieve uniformity with the American Forces, the following changes to priority prefixes will be brought into force throughout the A.M.F., to take effect from 0001 1 July, 42.

Priority	Existing Prefix	New Prefix
Immediate	P	O ii P
Important	D	P

2. No change will be made to the prefixes for :-

Most immediate
Emergency Air Attack
Emergency Operations.

3. As from 0001 hrs. 8th July, 1942 a deferred category for messages will be introduced.

This will rank below ordinary non-priority service traffic but not before private paid traffic.

Originators will write "Deferred" in the originators instruction space in the message to indicate that the message may be deferred.

The procedure signal "D" will be used to indicate this category.

4. Attached as Appendix "A" is the revised priority schedule in order of priority, to be used in service messages with their meaning.

5. Amendments to existing manuals will be issued in due course.

? ? Major-General.
Signal Officer-in-Chief.

DISTRIBUTION:

CSO First Aust Army	300	CSO W.A. L of C Area	80
CSO Second AuattArmy	100	CSO Tas L of C Area	25
CSO 3 Aust Corps	80	Sigs LHQ	40
CSO N.T. Force	80	Sigs 1 Aust Armd Div	40
CSO QLD L of C Area	80	Sigs N.G. Force	20
CSO NSW L of C Area	100	Sigs LHQ Spec Wireless	15
CSO Vic L of C Area	100	LHQ School of Sigs	20
CSO S.A. L of C Area	80	AIF School of Sigs	20
		AIF Sig Tng Bn	20
		RMC	10

Copy for Information to C.G.S.
D.M.T.

APPX 'A'

PRIORITY SCHEDULE

CATEGORY	PREFIX	INDICATION AND EMPLOYMENT
i	O ii U	Most immediate. For messages of vital urgency.
	O ii A	Emergency Air Attack
	O	Emergency Operations.
ii	O ii P ii AS	Immediate Air Support
	O ii P	Immediate
	O ii P iiMet	Meteor immediate
iii	P	Important. Messages in connection with the working of the sig system
iv	-	Ordinary service messages with no indication of priority.
v	D	For messages which may be deferred until higher category traffic is cleared.
vi	-	Private messages when routine orders authorize the transmission of such messages.

Subject: OPENING FIRST AUST ARMY JUNIOR STAFF SCHOOL - 29 Jun 42
MARIST BROTHERS COLLEGE
ASHGROVE, BRISBANE.

HQ First Aust Army
27 Jun 42
G(SD) 890

MGGS

Copy to:-
PA GOC-in-C
A
Q
War Diary (2) ✓

1. The following are the arrangements for the opening of the Junior Staff School:-

(a) 0915 - 0930 - Opening address by GOC-in-C First Aust Army.

(b) 0945 - 1015 - Lecture - The staff, by MGGS First Aust Army.

2. The above times were confirmed with CI First Aust Army Junior Staff School on evening 27/28 Jun 42.

Lt Col (CF Army)
GS