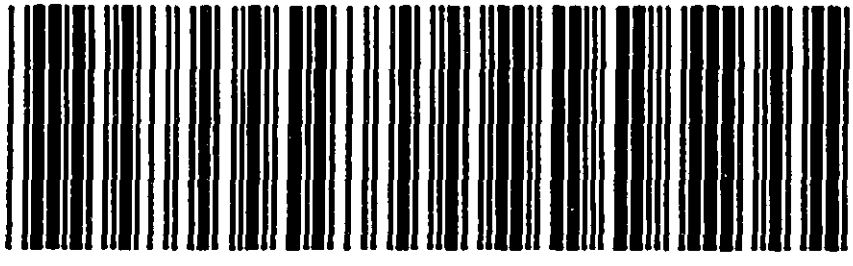
AWM52

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

1/14/1
AIR LIAISON

1 Air Liaison Group (1 AL Grp)

December 1943, part 1



1/14/1-0071

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

n. 1000 *Unit* 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP. *Date and Time.—From* 1 DEC 45. *To* 31 DEC 45.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			WAR DIARY APPENDICES.	
			No. 1. War Diary 1 Aust Cond AL Section.	
			No. 2. " " 2 " " " "	
			No. 3. " " 3 " " " "	
			No. 4. " " 4 " " " "	
			No. 5. AAF W5008.	
			No. 6. AAF W5009.	
			No. 7. Bomber Com A2 Periodic Report.	
			No. 8. Fighter Cond A2 " "	

FEB 27 1946

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP. *Date and Time.—From* 1 DEC 43. *To* 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			WAR DIARY FOR DECEMBER.	
			Details of strikes in support of ground operations appear in War Diaries of Comd and Sqn Air Liaison Sections. Following is outline of principal activities at HQ 1 Aust Air Liaison Group attached to HQ Advanced Echelon Fifth Air Force.	
PORT MORESBY	1 DEC.		Signal requesting opinion on availability and suitability of NX 35 Major LONDON and NX 77399 Major BOARD to be instructors in Air Liaison at US Army School at MISSISSIPPI. USA. Recommended as suitable and available.	
			To report to DSD. LHQ Forthwith - Arranged air transport for GOC, CGS, PA 1 OR LAB, FINSCHHAFEN.	
			Signal indicates agreement of LHQ to proposal to make available new Air Liaison Sections to cover Air Force expansion.	

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

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

R. 1600

Unit 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP. *Date and Time.—From* 1 DEC 45. *To* 31 DEC 45.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	2 DEC.		Signal from 7 Aust Div re strafing of own troops in RAMU VALLEY by P40s. Investigations show that pilots mistook location owing to bad weather. Appropriate action taken by Air Force Comd in area.	
	3 DEC.		Majors LONDON AND WOARD terminated duties with this unit to proceed to U.S.A. as instructors at RTS School for ALS MISSISSIPPI, U.S.A.	
			Arranged for reinforcements 9 Aust Div to be moved MORESBY - DOLODURA by air 5 or 7 Dec.	
			Exchange of army - air information about units moving into FINSCHHAFEN.	
	4 DEC.		Lieut PANTON ex 2/5 Aust Fd Regt arrived and was posted as ALO to 922 & 925 Med Bomb Sqns.	
	5 DEC.		Arranged aircraft for CGS to MADEDA.	

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 211
(adapted).

N. 1000

Unit 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP. *Date and Time.—From* 1 DEC 43. *To* 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	5 DEC.		Further exchange of unit movement plans and plans for develop-	
			ment of areas.	
	8 DEC.		SEPIK AREA - report of Jap strengthening.	
			Request bombing 3 areas.	
			Question of the strike again delayed pending availability of	
			airplanes involved in other commitments and question of with-	
			drawal developed later in month with result that strike was	
			never undertaken.	
			Message received from 7 Aust Div giving details of Jap thrust	
			to MUSAWAI in RAMU VALLEY and requesting air effort.	
	9 DEC.		Task Force airplanes dive bombed Jap positions in RAMU VALLEY	
			Meantime General WHITEHEAD discussed with CO targets in	
			LOGADJIM area and it was arranged that Air Force would attack	
			LOGADJIM Rd. bridges 7 & 8 daily with a Squadron of heavy	

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

Unit 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP. Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43. To 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	9 DEC.		bombers until bridges were knocked out and would strike daily	
			with a group of medium bombers at dumps and personnel areas	
			in the coastal area of the road.	
			If weather prevented attacking specified targets secondary	
			targets in the area would be attacked.	
	10 DEC.		Arranged for CAVALIER to go to SEPIK on special mission.	
			Information that VX 39043 Capt. J.R.W. LEECH was on way to	
			join this unit as ALO.	
	12 DEC.		Arranged for air transport of 300 reinforcements 9 Aust Div	
			over a period from MORESBY to DOBODURA.	
	17 DEC.		Arranged transport for GOC in C NGF to Mainland.	
	18 DEC.		Arranged fighter protection for visit to forward areas by	
			C in C.	

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

n. 1000

Unit 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP. *Date and Time.—From* 1 DEC 43. *To* 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY.	20 DEC.		NX 26320 Lieut. HUXLEY on 2/9 Aust Army Fd Regt. arrived and was posted as ALO to 3 Photo Sqn to replace Capt. J.A. CHASE-LING who has been attached to 5212 Recce Wing.	
	25 DEC.		Inquired re possibility of air move of 18 Bde to relieve 25 Bde of 7 Aust Div. Answer: Could be done only by setting aside present commitments.	
	"		Obtained agreement to removal of protective platoon from RADAR station at SALAMAUA.	
			Details of air operations directly or indirectly affecting land operations are given in APPX A (bombing and strafing recce and air photography) and APPX B (fighter activities).	

APPENDIX "A"
WAR DIARY 1-31 DEC 43

INDIRECT SUPPORT MISSIONS by 35 FIGHTER GROUP Dec 43.

MISSION.	DATE.	
No.4	6	Led in by Boomerangs 8-P39s divebombed and straffed BOGADJIM RD. Direct hits on BRIDGE 4, and on road between BRIDGES 5 and 6. Road Straffed.
10	7	While on recce 4-P39s straffed tents and huts in vicinity of SCHARNHORST PT.
4	9	Boomerangs led in 8-P39s on bombing-straffing strike on BOGADJIM RD. Dump area straffed. Bombing fair only.
10	14	9-P39s straffed opportunity targets along coast from FINSCHHAFEN. One 74 ft barge, 3 villages, and possible camp area straffed.
11	18	8-P39s bombed and straffed area CAPE KING WILLIAM - NUZEN, including Supply Dump and probable barge hide-out near SANGA RIVER.
3	19	While on escort mission 4-P39s straffed barges and beach WALINGAI area.
9	19	4-P39s straffed and set on fire 6 camouflaged barges in the WALINGAI area.
8	20	8-P39s straffed gun position, 2 beached barges, huts and tracks in WALINGAI area.
10	22	8-P39s straffed 2 barges at BONGA (SINGORKAI area) and straffed all villages from KONSTANTIN HBR to GALI. Large grass hut destroyed at BILIAU.
9	24	2-P47s straffed barges at ALEXISHAFEN, 4-P47s straffed camp area and buildings SOUTH of the area.
6	25	8-P47s straffed 2 barges at SIO.
13	27	11-P39s bombed and straffed suspected gun position in BLUCHER PT area. Strike reported by ground troops to be successful.
7	28	8-P47s straffed stationary submarine in area SOUTH of NAMBARIWA.

APPENDIX "B"
WD. DEC 43

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit....40 Sqn., AUST., A.L. SECTION. *Date and Time.—From*....30th Nov.43 (2400 hours) *To*..31 Dec.43. (2359 hrs)

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	Dec, 1.43.	-	Normal Squadron operational duties.	-
"	" 3.43	1430.	Conference of A.L.O. at F.A.T.F.	-
"	" 4.43.	0730.-1105	Flew with lead bombardier on mission to BOGADJIM BRIDGES turned back by weather.) Bombed TEKIATA POINT.	
"	" 5.43.	-	Normal Squadron operational duties.	-
"	" 6.43.	0730-1910	Flew with lead bombardieron mission to SONI RIVER and SANGA RIVER.	9 Aust Div reported concussion felt 4,000 yds from target.
"	" 7-10.	-	Normal Squadron duties.	-
"	" 10	0800-1130	Flew with lead bombardier on mission to YOKOPI, bombing accurate.	
"	" 11	0700-0900	Flew on mission to destroy bridges 7 and 8 on BOGADJIM ROAD. Turned back by weather. (Major O'Gilvie flew with Sqdn.)	
"	" 12	1400-1530	Special meeting at F.A.T.F. of A.L.O'S. Major O'Gilvie, Command A.L.O.	-
			MAJOR BAILACH (6th Army Liason) and Capt. Herring.	
"	" 13-21	-	Normal Squadron operational duties.	-
"	" 22	1000.	Duties. Squadron moved to NADZAB.	-
NADZAB	" 23-28	-	Normal Squadron operational duties.	-
"	" 29	-	Flew with Squadron on mission to Madang. Bombing was excellent.	"
"	" 30	0730-0855	Flew with lead bombardier on mission to BILI BILI.	
"	" 31	0845-1115	Flew with Squadron on mission to YAULA . Bombing was excellent.	Alternative targets succ... on Gp's Log.

D. 161 3.42. 1578.

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

Signed ..... 1st Lt., A.L.O.
40 Sqdn., AUST., A.L. SECTION.

APPENDIX "C"
WO DEC 43.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 42 Aust Sqn Air Liaison Section Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 43 To 19 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	1 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on mission to BORGEN BAY. Bombing partly successful.	Mission No. 334 AA
	2 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on successful bombing mission to LAKUNA vicinity	" " 335 AA
3 Dec.	Accompanied Sqn on fairly successful mission to CAPE GLOUCESTER. A.L.Os meeting.			" " 336 BB
	5 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on unsuccessful mission to BOADJIM ROAD (bridges 7 & 8)	" " 338 BB
	6 to 8 Dec.		Sqn doing training and maintenance.	
	9 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on mission to HUBIKA. Bombing only partly successful.	" " 342 BB
	10 Dec 43		" " " " " YAKOPI; 50% successful strike. ALO's meeting.	" " 343 AA
	11 Dec 43		" " " unsuccessful mission to HUBIKA. No bombs in target.	" " 344 BB
	12 & 13 Dec		Preparing maps etc. for operations in NEW BRITAIN.	
	14 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on mission to TASMATA drome. Bombing inaccurate.	" " 347 CC
	15 Dec 43		Sqn remained on alert till late afternoon. (No mission)	
	16 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on mission to SIO. One of the Sqns ~~made~~ most successful strikes. ALO's meeting.	" " 349 BB
	18 Dec 43		Sqn on mission to Cape GLOUCESTER drome. Packing up to move.	" " 351 BB
	19 Dec 43		Moved by air with 42nd Sqn to NADZAB and occupied new camp site.	

Allan Staley Capt
OC 42 Aust Sqn AL Sec

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

Unit 42 Aust Sqn Air Liaison Section Date and Time.—From 20 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
NADZAB	20 Dec 43		Sqn on mission to ALEXISHAVEN. Target overcast, no bombs dropped. Reported to Capt G. Ashton of Second Air Task Force.	Mission No. 353 A2
	21 Dec 43		Sqn made two missions to ALEXISHAVEN. Neither mission completely successfull. Maximum of four hits on No. 2 strip.	" " 354 A2 " 354 B2
	22 Dec 43		Unsuccessful mission to ALEXISHAVEN, runway missed. [illegible]	" " 355 A2
	23 Dec 43		Another unsuccessful mission to ALEXISHAVEN.	" " 356 A2
	25 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on successful mission to ALEXISHAVEN	" " 358 A2
	26 Dec 43		Sqn remained on alert till late afternoon. Mission cancelled on a/c weather.	
	27 Dec 43		Very satisfactory mission to ERIMA plantation.	" " 360 A2
	28 Dec 43		Sqn on mission to MADANG. Hit only one end of strip.	" " 361 A2
	29 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on mission to MADANG in morning. Strip successfully bombed. Second mission to same target not quite so successful.	" " 362 A2 " " 362 B2
	30 Dec 43		Target well covered by Sqn on two missions to BILI BILI	" " 363 A2 " 363 B2
	31 Dec 43		Accompanied Sqn on a most successful mission to YAULA. " second mission to BILI BILI: Bombing approx 50% successful	" " 364 A2 " " 364 B2

Allan Staley Capt.

cc
42 Aust Sqn HQ See

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit I6 AUST. SQN. A.L. SECTION
I AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP

Date and Time.—From 1 DEC.'43 To 31 DEC.'43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY.	13	AM	NX5568 Cpl. Coomber R.H. marched out to I AUST. COMMAND A.L. SECTION. ~~NX118006 Pte. Avery K.W. marched out on 24 days home leave to the mainland.~~	
PORT MORESBY	26	AM	9 B25 DI's of 7I SQN. and 9 B25 CI's of 405 SQN. attacked targets between DORF POINT and CAPE GLOUCESTER (NEW BRITAIN) in support of amphibious landing by units of the U.S. 6 Army. Results satisfactory.	
PORT MORESBY	27	AM	9 B25 DI's of 7I SQN. and 9 B25 CI's of 405 SQN. attacked a village 2½ miles south of GLOCHER POINT (HUON PENINSULA) in direct support of 9 AUST. DIV. Results satisfactory.	

Flight Lieutenant Capt. A.L. Section
A.C. In Charge

Appendix D

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Unit.....20 Sqn A.L. Sec..... *Date and Time.—From*.....1 Dec 43.....*To*.....31 Dec 43.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
New Guinea.	1.12.43.	1000/L	Capt Connor to I(a) N.G.F.	
" "	5.12.43.	0930/L	Capt Connor to see Capt Craig. To A.N.G.A.U. for information on Escape Routes of NewGuinea.	
" "	7.12.43.	1145/L	Capt Connor with Capt McGregor visited G Branch A.N.G.A.U. Both officers witnessed Supply Dropping Test at Murray Barracks.	
" "	8.12.43.	1000/L	Col. Barfanger & Capt Douglas visit Capt Connor. Officers were shown how Group S-2 and 498 Sqn S-2 work in connection with an A.L.O.	
" "	11.12.43.	1600/L	Capt Connor to see Capt Craig V Bom Com.	
" "	14.12.43.	0530/L	Capt Connor flew with 498 Sqn on search mission No347-L for Capt Kissare and crew of a crashed B25 in Sepik area. Returned from mission 0830/L.	
" "	15.12.43.	1430/L	Capt Connor to see Maj Small 5 A.F.	
" "	17.12.43.	0830/L	Capt Connor attended A.L.O meeting at V Bom Com. Capt Connor to A.N.G.A.U.	
" "	22.12.43.	0900/L	Capt Connor to Dobodura as A.L.O for 345 Bomb Group while missions are taking place from that theatre.	
" "	23.12.43.	0800/L	Cpl Hannell to carry on with Routine duties until Capt Connor returns from Dobodura.	

20 Sqn A.L. Sec.
A. C. Hannell Cpl.
for Lt SB Connor

Appendix 'E'
Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

W. 1CDM 2/42

Unit 26 AUST. SQN A.L. SEC. ~~1 AUST A.L. GROUP A.L.F.~~ Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43 To 31 DEC 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LALOKI PORT MORESBY	1		13 Officers of 25 and 26 Light Photo Sqn. (F5's) 6 Photo Group arrive at 8 Photo Sqn.	
	2 - 3		Routine.	
	4		~~Cpl. DALE L.F.C. marched out from 8 Photo Sqn. Commenced duties with 1 AUST. A.L. Group. (Temporily)~~ HQ.	
	5		1/F4 Crashed at HOOD POINT while on local flight. F/O CROSS R.L. (Pilot)	
			of 6 Photo Group was Killed.	
	6		1/F5 Photographed BOMPOP DROME and NAMATANAI for the first time.	
	7		B26 assigned to 8 Photo Sqn. on first Mission over CAPE GLOUCESTER.	
	8 - 13		Routine	
	14		Lieut. HUXLEY W. marched in and commenced duties as 8 Photo Sqn. as A.L.O.	
	15		Routine.	
	16		Capt. CHASELING A.L.O. 8 Photo Sqn. Lectured 18 Bde. Intelligence.	
	17		Gnr. CLAIR A. Commenced duties with 26 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec.	
	18		Routine.	
	19		1/F5 Photographed MANUS ISLAND for the first time.	

(Continued

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

W. 1CON 2/42

Unit 26 Aust. Sqn. A.L. Sec. 1 Aust A. L. Group A.I.F. *Date and Time.—From* 1 DEC 43 *To* 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LALOKI PORT MORESBY	20		Experimental Flight of Oblique Photos from BELLY & TANK of P/38. (Successful)	
	21 -23		Routine.	
	~~24~~		~~Flight Officer DORE Promoted to Commission Officer, 2/nd Lieut.~~	
	25		Routine	
	26		At 0550L B/17 (5 Photo Sqn.) Crashed after take off from ~~MOMBY~~ SCHIMMER DROME	
			Casualties, 4 Killed and 13 Injured.	
	27 - 31		Routine.	

J Blackley Capt
Lieut.
A.L.O. ~~5 PHOTO SQN.~~
5212 Wing

Original.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

Unit 33 Aust.Sqn.A.L.Sec. I Aust.A. *Date and Time.—From* I.I2.43 *To* 3I.I2.43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
New Guinea	I.I2.43	I830-I930	Capt.Mullis to Group, attend briefing.	
" "	2.I2.43	0600	Capt.Mullis assists in breifing for strike against BORGEN BAY.	
		I345	" " " " interrogation of Crews on return from Mission.	
" "	3.I2.43	I200	Capt.Mullis to ANGAU,(MORESBY)I830hrs attended Group briefing.	
" "	4.I2.43	07I5	" " assists in briefing for strike against REIN BAY.	
		I345	" " " " interrogation of crews on return from Mission.	
" "	5.I2.43	I000	Capt. Mullis to N.G.F. to see G Air.	Bombed/
" "	6.I2.43	07I5	Capt.Mullis assists in briefing for strike against BORGEN BAY,Secondary target/ ARAWE I.	
		I300	" " " " interrogation, I830-I930 hrs attended GP.briefing.	
" "	7.I2.43	0700	" " " " briefing for strike against KOKOPO area BORGEN BAY.	
		I230	" " " " interrogation.	
" "	8.I2.43	I400	" " to N.G.F. to see G Air,I830-I930 attended Group briefing.	
" "	9.I2.43	07I0	" " assists in briefing for strikeagainst Coastal Areas from CAPE RAOULT to MAKATI. I330hrs assist in interrogation, I830-I930hrs attended Gp. briefing.	
" "	I0.I2.43	0700	Capt.Mullis assists in briefing for strike against CAPE RAOULT/ Area.09I5 Strike called	
" "		I400	" " to V Bomb Comd. I800-I930hrs to Group briefing.	
" "	II.I2.43	06I5	" " assists in briefing for strike against BOGADJIM Rd.A/P did not reach target	
		I830-I930	" " attended Group briefing. owing to Weather.	
" "	I2.I2.43	0645	" " assists in briefing for strike against BOGADJIM Rd.0900 Mission cancelled.	
		I830	" " attended Group briefing.	
" "	I3.I2.43	07I5	" " assists in briefing for strike against GASMATA Area.I550hrs assist in interr.	
		I830-I930	" " to Group briefing.	
" "	I4.I2.43	0645	" " assist in briefing for strike against ARAWE Is. Area. 07I0 hrs Capt.Mullis met General Morshead before departure to Mainland. I200hrs Capt.Mullis assists in interrogation of crews. I600 hrs flight echelon left for DOBODURA.	
" "	I5.I2.43	III5	Capt.Mullis assists/ in interrogation of crews on return from ARAWE Mission.	
" "	I6.I2.43	I330	" " to N.G.F.	
" "	I7.I2.43	0900	" " " A.L.O!s meeting at V Bomb Comd. I830-I930 to Group briefing.	
" "	I8.I2.43	0645	" " assist in briefing for strike against BORGEN BAY. II50 assist in interrogation	
		I900-2000	" " to Group briefing.	
" "	I9.I2.43	0645	" " assist in briefing for strike against CAPE GLOUCESTER.II30 assist in interr.	
" "	20.I2.43	06I5	" " " " " " " " BORGEN BAY. I500hrs " " " I6I5 hrs to Group briefing.	

Original.

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118 (adapted.)

Unit 33 Aust.Sqn.A.L.Sec. I Aust.A. *Date and Time.—From* I-I2-43 *To* 3I-I2-43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
New Guinea	2I.I2.43	0630	Capt.Mullis assists in briefing for strike against BORGEN BAY.	
		II50	" " " " Interr. I830 hrs to Group briefing.	
" "	22.I2.43	0600	" " " " briefing for WEWAK-BORAM strike. 0900hrs to N.G.F. to see G Air.	
		I220	" " " " interr.(This Sqn to date has dropped 38000 Japanese and 5500 Native leaflets.)	
" "	23.I2.43	0800	" " with Capt. Neueschwander took off in search for missing A/C located Capt. Kilroy and crew near DUMPU. ~~Landed DUMPU I000hrs. Arranged rescue patrol with 63 Air 7 Div.~~ Landed DOBODURA I500hrs. I600hrs to F.A.T.F. with Maj.Fain, contacted Capt. Stevens.	
		I900	Capt. Mullis assists in briefing for GLOUCESTER strike.	
" "	24.I2.43	0900	" " " " interr. I500hrs to 2 Aust Corps H.Q.	
		I600	" " " " briefing for GLOUCESTER strike.	
" "	25.I2.43	0900	" " " " interr. I400hrs to F.A.T.F. for briefing on 'D' day OPS.	
		I900	" " " " briefing for landing support mission.	
" "	26.I2.43	I000	" " " " interr. I200hrs assist briefing for ground support mission,	
		I800	" " " " "	
" "	27.I2.43		Routine Duties.	
" "	28.I2.43	I900	Capt.Mullis attended Group briefing for support strike CAPE GLOUCESTER.	
" "	29.I2.43	0700	" " assists in briefing for above strike, II00hrs assist in interr.	
" "		I800	" " " " " " HANSA BAY strike.	
" "	30.I2.43		" " " " " " ground support mission GLOUCESTER. assist in interr.	
" "	3I.I2.43	I500	" " to F.A.T.F. for briefing for SAIDOR landing.	

A.H. Smith
.....Capt.
33 Aust.Sqn.A.L. Sec.

731—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

APPENDIX 'C'
Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

34 AUST SQUADRON SECTION
*Unit*1.AUST.AIR.LIAISON.GROUP..... *Date and Time—From*..301800/L.NOV.43.....*To*.311800/L.DEC.43.....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
SCHNIDER	9 Dec	1300	A.L.O. returned to Squadron ex duty Mainland.	Lt
	16 Dec	1400	Suggestion to Far Eastern Liaison Office re use of information from captured documents such as enemy unit locations, names of commanding officers etc., as means of propaganda against the Japanese troops.	Lt
	19 Dec	0900	A.L.O. accompanied Squadron Courier plane to LAE, NADZAB, FINSCHHAFEN, DOBADURA, explained the battle for SATELBERG to air crew from the ground at FINSCHHAFEN.	Lt
	26 Dec	1500	Major Kidd, 2/2 Aust Pnr Bn visited Squadron and gave details of ground force operations in the MAPS VALLEY, discussed results of Allied Air Strikes in the area; details of patrols and terrain KESAWAI to KUMBARUM.	Lt
			On 18 Dec 43 Pte. K.A. Karmber joined the Section as Batman-driver.	
			Lt Igoe CH For Capt J.M.C. Stevens A.L.O. 34 Sqn Section	

406 — N.G.P.S. — 7/43/103M.

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118
(adapted)

Unit: 36 Aust Sqn Sect ~~I&I AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP~~ *Date and Time.—From.* 1-12-1943 *To.* 31-12-1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORSBY	19 Dec43.		W.X. 115 Lieut D.H. PANTON took over as AIR LIAISON OFFICER of 822 and	
			823 Bomb Sqn. (2)	
	3 31 Dec43.		One plane from each Sqn left for ~~NEW~~ BRITAIN on successful supply	
			dropping mission.	
			LIEUT.	
			O.C. 36 AUST SQN SECT	

724—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form [illegible]2118 (adapted.)

Unit. 39 AUST. SQN. A.L. SEC. 1 AUST. A. H. GROUP A.I.F. *Date and Time.—From* 14 DEC 43 *To* 31 DEC 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
LAIOKI PORT MORESBY	14		Lieut. HUXLEY W. J. Attached for instruction to 26 A. L. Sec.	
	14 - 16		Routine	
	17		Gnr. CLAIR A. Marched in and commenced duties as Driver. ~~A L/S Crashed approx. 20 miles from strip vicinity Laioki River.~~ Capt. LEONHEARET of 8 Photo Sqn. & Lieut MULLER OF 5 Photo Group Killed. Lieut HUXLEY W.J. accompied party in rescue ~~attempt~~ attempt down the LAIOKI RIVER.	
	18 - 19		Routine.	
	20		Experimental Flight of Oblique Photos from BELLY TANK of P/38 (Successful)	
	21 - 24		Routine.	
	25		Capt CHASELING J. A. Commenced duties at 52/12 WING H.Q. Lieut HUXLEY W. J. sent L/Cpl. Poole R.A.C. and Gnr. CLAIR A. commenced duties as 39 Sqn. A.L. Section, attached 8 Photo Sqn.	
	26		At 0559L B17 (8 Photo Sqn.) Crashed after take off from SCHWIMMER DROME (4 Killed 13 Injured).	
	27 - 29		Routine.	
	30		Lieut ~~KEE~~ 8 Photo Sqn. whilst on Photo Mission to NEW BRITAIN did not return to Base.	
	31		Routine.	

Lieut.
A.L.O. 8 PHOTO SQN.

731—N.G. Press Unit—10/43—10m.

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

Sheet 1.

Army Form C 2118
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

1 AUST COMD AL SEC.

Unit 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP AIF. Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43 To 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	2 Dec 43	1000	Major D.G.BOARD relinquished position of ALO 1 Aust Comd AL Sec and marched out to ALOS SCHOOL, MISSISSIPPI USA.	
PORT MORESBY (Att V Bomber Command HQ)	3 Dec 43	1230	Capt D.R. CRAIG reached in as ALO 5 Bomber Command and OC 1 Aust Comd AL Sec.	
	4 Dec 43	1950	Arranged courier to transport Lt-Gen Sir L MORSHEAD and Maj-Gen NORTHCOTE from LAE at 050930. (38 B/G - B25).	
	5 Dec 43	1415	Capt COFFILL 1 Aust Air Maintenance Coy advised parachutes not opening in supply drops from B25. Arranged local test for Tuesday afternoon 7 Dec.	
		1545	Arranged courier to MAREBA for Maj-Gen NORTHCOTE and staff for 060830. (B24 - 321 Sqn).	
	6 Dec 43	0900	Prepared strategical situation map in conjunction with Bomcom A2 Report.	
		1000	Lieut EGLINTON RANVR AIB advised that all future supply drops including CATALINAS would be executed by Bomcom MORESBY AREA.	
	7 Dec 43	1100	Lt-Col BARRINGER LHQ discussed organisation of Bomber Command with ALO. Both visited 8 Photo Recce Sqn for same purpose.	
		1700	Layout of Jap base at NALBARIA given to A-2 as secondary target for tomorrows strike. Target photos annotated for distribution to Sqns.	
	8 Dec 43	1500	Capt KRAUSE HQ 5 AF called with specimen of Strat Map of local strike areas printed on silk for air crews. To be available for prompt issue. Detail very satisfactory. Relevant Circular prepared by A-2 for distribution to Sqns.	
		2215	Request from G (Air) NGF for Lt-Col BARRINGER to attend interrogation. Arranged for tomorrow with ALO 90 Bomb Group.	
		2235	Arrangement allotment of CATILINA for usual weekly maintenance of ANGAU patrols SEPIK Area for 090600. Earlier advice requested from NGF if possible. ANGAU to brief Crew.	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~ Sheet No 2.

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

W. 16094 3/42 *Unit* 1 Aust Comd AL Sec. 1 Aust Air Liaison Group AIF. *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 43 *To* 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY	9 Dec 43	0800	AAB 83 Record of Service Books received from NGF and distributed to Son Sects.	
(Att V Bomber Command HQ)		0900	90 Bomb Group strike cancelled. LT-Col BARRINGER advised to attend interrogation at 345 Bomb Group.	
		1000	BC 555 Aust Lt AA Bty request AA co-operation tests with medium bombers on their gun positions. Low level attacks and evasive action. Arranged with Bomcom A-3 and 498 Son allotted on first training day.	
		1400	ALO's conference cancelled due to occupation of ALO's on duty.	
		1800	ALO visited 1 Aust Air Maintenance to arrange for distribution of parachute supply container to each Sqn for emergency rescue purposes. Air Maintenance to secure permission from DADOS NGF.	
	10 Dec 43	0800	498 Sqn available for AA Co-operation BC 555 Bty. ALO 498 Sqn, & Fighter Sector and Navy advised. Take-off 1400 hrs. BC to brief flight of 6.	
		0830	Jap pressure in RAU VALLEY and vicinity JANTOAT. Air support Mission arranged BOGADJIM RD Area.	
		0900	Air Support mission cancelled.	
		1130	ALO summoned to conference with CO AL Group at HQ 5 AF re daily strike on BOGADJIM RD Area. Primary and secondary targets selected. Target information and photos prepared in conjunction with A-2 Bomcom.	
		1830	Sqn ALO's convened for final information on projected strikes and secondary targets.	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted)

H. 1600

Unit 1 Aust Comd AL Sec. 1 Aust Air Liaison Group AIF. Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY. (Att V Bomber Command HQ)	10 Dec 43	2000	Unable to procure reliable altitudes for targets BOGADJIM RD Area. MGF (TA) altitudes at variance with those reported by 4 A C Sqn. This is most serious and frequent disability in areas beyond registration by our Arty and where accurate maps are not available. The calculations section of Photo Recco Sqn produces appropriate figures which appear to be ignored. ~~Figures produced by them will be compared with results of tomorrow's strike~~ which is based on altitude reported by reconnaissance aircraft.	
	11 Dec 43		Routine Duties.	
	12 Dec 43		Lieut W HUXLEY sent to Section prior to posting as ALO. Instructed in organization and duties.	
			ALO inspected AL Section 38 Bomb Group.	
	13 Dec 43		Arranged courier to SYDNEY for GEN MORSHEAD.	
			QX31178 Sgt MCDONNELL J H marched out to MURRAY BARRACKS for onward movement AR Leave. Relieved by NX5568 Cpl COOLBER R H detached from 16 Aust Sqn AL Sec.	
	14 Dec 43	1000	Request from AIB for (1) Supply drop (1 'Chute) on LONG IS. Arranged with 90 Group on VITIAZ STRAITS recco. (2) CATALINA drop on NEW BRITAIN. Take-off 141615 - VP 11 Sqn, allotted by V Bomcom. (3) 10 'Chute supply drop on NEW BRITAIN on 16 Dec 43. 500 Sqn (B25) allotted by V BomCom.	
		2200	Request from G (AIR) MGF for courier for Maj-Gen EGGLESTON to DOBADURA 151200. 38 Group (B25) allotted.	
	15 Dec 43		Request from ANGAU for CATALINAS to evacuate patrols from SEPIK Area. 8 day schedule arranged with Sqn VP 11.	
	16 Dec 43		ALO inspected AL Sec 90 Bomb Group.	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118 (adapted)

N. 1000

Unit 1 AUST COMD AL SEC. 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP AIF. Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43 To 31 DEC 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY (Att V Bomber Command).	17 Dec 43	0900	Conference ALO's 1 Aust AL Command at V Bom Comd. Addressed by Capt GRIMES A-3 on "RESCUE ARRANGEMENTS FOR STRANDED CREWS". ALO's discussed (1) Secondary Targets (2) Pamphlet Dropping (3) War Diary (4) Operations. Talk by Capt CRAIG on "RESCUE PROCEDURE".	
	18 Dec 43		Routine Duties.	
	19 Dec 43		Routine Duties.	
	20 Dec 43		ACF Xmas Hampers distributed by NGF. HQ 1 Aust AL Group advised that Capt J.W.Stevens to take over Command Sec ALO 3 Air Task Force. Capt MULLIS (33 Sec) to become ALO 499 Sqn in addition to 501 Sqn on Capt STEVENS' departure.	
	21 Dec 43		HQ AL Group proposed transfer of Clerk from Capt STEVENS' Section to go to another ALO on Capt STEVENS' departure. Sqn to which Section is attached requested his continued assignment. Arranged with CO AL Group to allow Clerk to remain under supervision of another ALO in Group until allotment of new ALO to Sqn. It is considered advisable that clerks be appointed to Sqns where vacancies occur, under the supervision of an experienced ALO so that the Section will be on working basis when the new ALO becomes available.	
	25 Dec 43		Arranged courier for Lt-Gen Sir LESLIE MORSHEAD GOC 2 AUST CORPS from SYDNEY to MORESBY.	
	26 Dec 43	1500	Successful landing at CAPE GLOUCESTER by US MARINES. Arranged for current information for situation maps from 6 Army Liaison Officer via Target Data Sec V Bom Comd.	

WAR DIARY ~~of INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2. (adapted.)

Sheet No 5.

H. 1008 2/42

Unit 1 AUST COLD AL SEC. 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP AIF. Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43 To 31 DEC 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY (Att V Bomber Command HQ).	27 Dec 43	2200	AIB request supply drop CAPE ORFORD Area. Arranged with A2 and allotted to 38 Group. ALO instructed on dropping details. A2 requested secondary target for tomorrow's strike. Suggestion HARDENBURG PT adopted. At 2200 hrs AF Bombline phoned through by ALO 5 AF starting at CAPE KING WILLIAM - ahead of secondary target. Where the quick advance of our troops brings them in close proximity of the AF Bombline, it is desirable to receive any necessary alteration by 1500 hrs daily so as to co-ordinate strike for following day.	DC.
	28 Dec 43		ALO escorted AIB and FELO patrol officers and SEPIK Natives on tour of local airfields for native propoganda purposes.	
	30 Dec 43		Discussed provision of early information of results of FATF strikes from DOBUDURA with G" (AIR) NGF. Suggested by phone via ALO ~~5 AF~~. FATF	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

SHEET NO 6.

Army Form C. 21.3 (adapted,)

M. 1008 2/42

1 AUST COMD AL SEC

Unit 1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP AIF. *Date and Time.—From* 1 DEC 43 *To* 31 DEC 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
PORT MORESBY (Att to V Bomber Command HQ)	~~31 Dec 43~~		1 Aust Comd AL Sec Operations Log (Air Co-operation Missions) and Sqn Sections War Diaries attached as Appendices:-	
			Appendix "A" 1 Aust Comd AL Sec Operations Log.	
			"B" 12 Aust Sqn AL Sec War Diary DEC and duplicate NOV.	
			"C" 16 " " " " " "	
			"D" 20 " " " " " "	
			"E" 26 " " " " " "	
			~~"F" 33~~ " " " " " "	
			"G" 34 " " " " " "	
			"H" 36 " " " DEC.	
			"I" 39 " " " "	

Capt.,
OC 1 Aust Comd AL Sec.,
1 Aust Air Liaison Group AIF.

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

27 Aust Sqn A.L. Lee

Unit 1 Aust Air Liaison Gp AIF. Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43 To 31 DEC 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Goodenough	1 Dec 43 to 31 Dec 43		Liaison duties maintained at 71 Wing, RAAF Strip Operations with Nos 6: 8: 75: 77 and 100 Squadrons. All briefings and interrogations attended. Arranged for regular supply dropping to N.G.F. Air Warning Wireless Co's island outposts.	

Capt.

A.L.O. 27 Aust Sqn A.L. Section

201—N.G.F.P.S.—5/43/10m.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

22 Aust. Com. A.L. Section,

M. 1000 2/43

Unit 1 Aust Air Liaison Group A.A.F. Date and Time.—From 1st December 1943 To 31st December 1943.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Kiriwina	5/12/43		SX18875 Cpl. L.R. Zurick, arrived from Goodenough, on transfer from 2 Aust Command A.L. Section.	
			During Month Section was instrumental in having Native Propaganda Leaflets dropped extensively in New Britain.	

L.R. Zurick Cpl.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II. and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Erase heading not required).

2 Aust Comd A.L.Section Army Form C. 2118.
Unit 1 Aust Air Liaison Group AIF.

Month and Year Dec 43 — Commanding Officer Maj.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
GOODENOUGH ISLAND.	5 Dec.		SX18875 Cpl DURICK.S. transferred to 22 Aust Sqn A.L. Section.	
	8 "		NX139035 Sgt.KERR W.R. Returned ex leave.	
	9/10 "		Capt Clarke called on Capt COOLIE at ALAMO Force.	
	11 "		Capt CLARKE proceeded to 22 Aust Sqn AL Section to advise Capt HODGSON of future operations.	
	13 "		NX107756 Maj HARPER.W.H. returned ex rec leave.	
	15 "		Maj HARPER to ALAMO Force HQ.	
	16 "		NX34078 Lieut. ANDERSON H.R. of 13 Aust Sqn AL Section joined his Sqn in area at KIRIWINA.	
	18 "		Maj HARPER proceeded to KIRIWINA.	
	19 2		" " returned ex KIRIWINA	
	20 "		" " to ALAMO force HQ and arranged for full distribution of Intelligence.	
	22 "		Maj HARPER reported to O.C 1 Aust Air Liaison Group and G AIR HQr.	
	23 "		" " returned to Section ex PORT MORESBY.	
	30 "		NX38444 Capt CLARKE K.P. proceeded to PORT MORESBY.	
	31 "		Maj. HARPER proceeded to NADZAB	

J Harper Maj

(8062) Wt 38171/1838 500m 11/43 BPL 61/6436 Forms C2118/22

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

a. 1666 Unit 10 ~~Aust~~ ~~Sqn~~ AL Sec Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 45 To 31 Dec 45

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	5 Dec		Meeting of No. 5 Comd Sec AIO's at HQ FIRST AIR TASK FORCE.	Ross Anderson Lieut
DOBODURA	12 Dec		Do.	Ross Anderson Lieut
DOBODURA-MERIVIRA	16 Dec		Section moved with 34 Squadron RAAF to MERIVIRA. Visited Capt R. HODGSON, AIO 78 WING RAAF, and discussed the question of obtaining information from the 6th American Army concerning operations in NEW BRITAIN, and the difficulties of carrying out the duties of AIO on this Island with no Army HQ in the Island to use.	Ross Anderson Lieut
MERIVIRA	18 Dec		Visited by Major A.MILLER, O.C. No.2 AUST SOUND AIR INTEROGATION UNIT.	Ross Anderson Lieut

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C 2118
(adapted.)

Unit 1 Aust Comd Air Liaison Section 1 Aust Air Liaison Group AIF Date and Time.—From 1-Dec-43 To 22-Dec-43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
NADZAB	1 Dec		Routine	GGR
"	2 "		Cpl.PEAT, who was with 35 Fighter Group during absence on leave of Capt.EXCELL, himself departed on leave.	GGR
"	3 " - 7		Routine	GGR
"	8 "		Lt.Col.FLEMING visited NADZAB on way to GUSAP.	GGR
"	9 - 18		Routine	GGR
"	19 "		C in C passed through NADZAB on way to visit 7 Aust Div at DUMPU. Capt.ASHTON accompanied Col.CRABB Commanding Officer 2nd Air Task Force to meet the C in C. A straffing mission was arranged with fighters in co-ordination with Boomerangs of 4 AC Sqn details being as follow:- The Tac/R pilots dropped their morning reccennaisance report on 9 Div HQ and returned to NADZAB. After interrogation the ALO rang ALO SATF suggesting a strike, which was arranged. Before the mission took off a signal was received by 4 AC Sqn from 9 Aust Div asking could a strike be arranged on the same targets. This request had been anticipated. The targets were enemy stores and defence positions and were engaged by 7-P39s and 2 Boomerangs. 2nd Medium Bomb Sqn (22 Bomb Gp) arrived NADZAB.	GGR
"	20 "		CAPT.STALEY ALO 2nd Sqn reported to ALO SATF.	GGR
"	21 "		Routine.	GGR
"	22 "		Lieut.MERTON ALO arrived with 408 Sqn (22 Bomb Gp). Major BRYANT (Liaison Officier from 6th US ARMY) arrived at HQ SATF.	GGR

G G Rescow Capt

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 4 Aust Comd AL Sec. 1 Aust AL Gp. AIF. Date and Time.—From 22 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
NADZAB	22 Dec		Lieut.MERTON reported to AIC SATF.	GGA
"	24 "		Routine.	GGA
"	25 "		Capt.ASHTON attended briefing of Fighter Sqn Intelligance Offrs for ~~CAPE GLOUCESTER operation 26 Dec. Fighter cover was the only participation~~ by this Task Force in the Air programme.	GGA
"	26 "		Routine.	GGA
"	27 "		Capt.ASHTON visited 1 Aust AL Gp HQ at MORESBY. Was advised that AL Sec SATF would in future be designated as 4 Aust Comd AL Sec.	GGA Appendix "A".
"	28 "		Routine.	GGA ~~List of Indirect Air~~ Support Missions carried out by 35 Fighter Group in 7 and 9 Div areas.
"	29 "		Capt.ASHTON returned to NADZAB.	GGA
"	30 "		Capt.ASHTON visited HQ LAE BASE SUB AREA to discuss administrative matters. Was informed that all administrative matters could in future be handled through Area Comdt NADZAB.	GGA Appendix "B" ~~War Diary 4D Aust Sqn AL~~ Section.
"	31 "		Capt.WATT G3 (Air) 7 Aust Div visited SATF.	GGA Appendix "C"
			The following Air Force Sqns and ALO's are at present in the area.	War Diary 42 Aust Sqn AL Section.

GUSAP.

HQ TAIF 43 Aust Sqn AL Sec. Capt.K.MCBLETT

~~7 Fighter Sqn~~) ~~49 Fighter Group~~
8 " ") 21 Aust Sqn AL Sec Capt.H.S.COGHILL
9 " ")

312 Fit/DB Gp. No ALO

NADZAB.

HQ SATF 4 Aust Comd AL Sec. Capt.G.G.ASHTON
408 Med Bomb Sqn 4D Aust Sqn AL Sec. Lieut. MERTON
22 " " " 42 " " " " Capt.A.W.STALEY

39 Fighter Sqn) 35 Fighter Group
40th " ") (No ALO)
41st " ")
36th " " (under Comd)

GGA

G G Ashton Capt.
OC 4 Aust Command AL Section.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 31 Aust Sqn A.L. Sec / 1 Aust Air Liaison Group — Date and Time.—From MONTH OF DECEMBER 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
[redacted]	Dec 1 to 8		A.L.O. liaised with 9 Aust Div H.Q., 20 Bde, 24 Bde and 26 Bde.	
FINSCHHAFEN			The forward areas were visited including SATTELBERG and NORTH HILL, where the most advantageous view can be obtained of the surrounding country. The difficulties of contacting 9 Div are numerous as all travelling has to be done by barge. The journey takes approx 3 hours. Arrangements were made with CAPT GARNSEY, G 11 (Air) 9 Div, to drop mail, reports etc. on 348 Fighter Group area from a Piper Cub A/C attached to 9 Aust Div. This worked satisfactorily for approx 1 week but with the change of the ground situation, and 9 Divisional H.Q. moving forward, the system became unsatisfactory. With the completion of the strip it is hoped that a Courier Service may be used for communications between here and Port Moresby.	
	Dec 9 - 11		Work proceeding in new camp area.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit _____ Date and Time.—From _____ To _____

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FINSCHHAFEN	Dec 12		A.L.O. returned to Port Moresby and reported to Lt. Col. ROWLAND, Commanding Officer 348 Fighter Group, on the development of the new camp. A.L.O. also contacted N.G.F. and Lt. Col. FLEMING, Commanding Officer 1 Aust A.L. Group.	
	Dec 13 to 15		348 Fighter Group H.Q., 340, 341, 342 Sqn prepared to move to Finschhafen.	
	Dec 16		348 Fighter Group arrived Finschhafen.	
	Dec 17 to 28		Routine liaison duties. S2 offices set up at Group H.Q. and at each Sqn and planes operating with great success from strip.	
	Dec 29		Capt GJEDSTED and Capt HASTINGS liaissed with 9 Div, returning to Dreger Harbour on 30 Dec. Communications between A.L.Os. and G III (Air) were arranged satisfactorily - sitreps will be picked up by P.T. Boats under arrangement with 9 Aust Div and A.L.O. will collect sitreps from P.T. Boats H.Q. Similarly, an Information Summary covering all operations will be forwarded to 9 Aust Div by the same means.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted)

Unit ..... Date and Time.—From ..... To .....

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FINSCHHAFEN	Dec 29 cont.		The difficulties of contacting 9 Aust Div are becoming more difficult; roads are practically impassable and the distance between the H.Q. 9 Div and this HQ.(Finsch) is becoming too great. To reach Div H.Q. a jeep was loaded onto a barge and taken to Finsch Harbour, and from there to Wandokai, the remainder of the trip, was completed by road. The actual time taken in travelling from this H.Q. to 9 Aust Div was 7 hrs 20 Mins.	
	Dec 30		ALO visited 2 Aust Corps H.Q. Routine liaison duties.	
	Dec 31		Routine liaison duties.	
			Reested Capt ALO LIAISON OFFICER	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

Unit: 4 Aust Comd Sec 1 Aust AL Group. A. I. F.

Date and Time.—From: 1 Dec 43. To: 31 Dec 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
V Fighter Command. Port Moresby.	From 1/12/43 to			
	20/12 /43.		A.L.O. duties carried out by Capt Hastings, A.L.O. of 14 A.L. Sqn.	
			Activities of this period, will be covered by War Diary of Capt Hastings.	
	22/12/43.		Maj Lovett carried out duties of A.L.O. from H.Q. 5 AIR FORCE.	
	23/12/43.		Cpl Wicks posted to 4 Command Aust A.L. Section.	
	24/12/43 to 30/12/43.		Normal activities of A.L. section.	
	31/12/43.		Cpl Manyweather marched out of Section, posted to A.L. Section attached to TATF.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit SS 43 A I SEC T A T F — Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 43 To 4 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP	1		Routine duties. Talked to several offrs of the 6 MG BN on general	R.T.
			Ground situation. Met 6 I.O's attached to 312 Bomb Group - this	R.T.
			Group expected to operate this area. They will use P 40 N's.	R.T.
	2		Routine duties. Further report from WANTOAT passed to 7 AUST DIV.	R.T.
	3		3 I.O's from 312 Bomb Group briefed at length on Ground Activity.	R.T.
			Freshly arrived from U.S.A so gave them the Story from the BUNA	R.T.
			campaign and bringing them up step by step to present current	R.T.
			activities.	R.T.
	3		Briefing T A T F for dive bombing mission on Bridges BOGADJIM RD - 2	R.T.
			a/c from 4 TAC/R SQN to lead in strike. Routine duties.	R.S.
	4		Dive bomb mission successful - wrecked Bridge Number (3) - phoned	R.S.
			results G III AIR (7 AUST DIV).	R.S.
			Signal from A.W.W. at WANTOAT - 15 JAPS reported at KOGOBIN.	R.S.
			Routine duties.	R.S.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

n. 1000 *Unit* SS 43 AL SEC T A T F *Date and Time.—From* 4 Dec 43 *To* 9 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	5		Unsuccessfully tried to get a " get - together "	R.S.
			of: - C.O., - Group C.O., Son F.L's and 4 A.C. to discuss	R.S.
			ways and means of improving our efforts on BOGADJIM ROAD.	R.S.
				R.S.
			Letter from CAPT LANE - we are now responsible for	R.S.
			co - ordination and control of A.L.O's in T A T F area	R.S.
			as required by A.L.O. S A T F.	R.S.
				R.S.
	9		T A T F provided two (2) dive bomb missions in KESAWAI area -	R.S.
			lead in by 4 A.C. - highly successful.	R.S.
				R.S.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit SS 43 AL SEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 9 Dec 43 To 11 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	10			
			area. Briefed pilot of L 5 who is taking W.O. CAVALERI (ANCAU) to	B.S.
			WANTOAT.	A.F.
			Phone message from A.W.... Sub Area Control concerning U.S. Airman found	R.J.
			in vicinity MATAHAUSA - passed message to TATF.	R.J.
			In close contact with DIV on telephone these days - plenty of information	R.J.
			swapped.	R.J.
			Cooked up strike with ops for first light on 12th - Target KISA village	R.J.
			area. 4 A.C. to lead into target. G III AIR DIV informed, and warned to	R.J.
			advise us of latest troop movement. Briefing at Group to-morrow	R.J.
			afternoon.	R.J.
	11		Briefed HQ on latest Ground Situation 7 and 9 DIVS. Arranged to have	R.J.
			P.B. IRIAP now at KALAPIT flown to WANTOAT in L 5. Briefing of 8th SQN	R.J.
			for dive bomb mission KISA village - first light to-morrow.	R.J.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

Unit SS 43 AL SEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 11 Dec 43 To 13 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	12		Dive bomb mission partly successful. JAPS used white puffs of smoke to decoy our planes away from target area.	R.T.
			GUSAP bombed by 9 HELENS - NO warning.	R.T.
			ENEMY losses: 2 HELENS and 1 OSCAR(at MADANG) - definite.	R.T.
			OUR losses: 2 P-40's belly landed. 1 pilot (CAPT BENNER) hospital.	R.T.
			1 pilot also, slightly wounded. 3 small fuel dumps, and the Q.M. fuel dump hit.	R.T.
			Pattern bombing used: White flare from leading a/c - signal.	R.T.
			40 bombs - fell among 8th SQN P-40's - [illegible] none damaged.	R.T.
	13		Emergency call from 7 AUST DIV. for air Support. Despite having committments C.O. TATF agreeable - 12 P-40's from 7th SQN bombed up and alerted. TAC/R revealled NO movement seen in village where suspected concentration of Enemy attacking force was located. Therefore NO bombing target for 7th SQN who had been standing by for one and a half hours.	R.T.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit SS 43 AL SEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 13 Dec 43 To 17 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	13		Conclusions:	R.T.
			1. Action of DIV in requesting Emergency action with indefinite target	R.T.
			information is open to criticism.	R.T.
			(a) Especially as they were aware of [illegible] possible Special Committments	R.T.
			assigned to this Task Force.	R.T.
			(b) It is logical for Air Force to expect that ground forces in such an	R.T.
			emergency will be in contact with the Enemy; therefore information	R.T.
			regarding his dispositions, reasonably detailed, accurate and	R.T.
			reliable.	R.T.
	14		A.A.B's 83 arrived - COGHILL (CAPT) received copies. CAPT ASHTON to be	R.S.
			notified.	R.T.
	16		Preparing for close Air Support strike on " SHAGGY RIDGE".	R.T.
	17		Wrote to ALO SATF - Requisition for Maps.	R.S.
			Arranged for MAJOR THOMPSON and MAJOR OLIVER to attend Ground Situation	R.S.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit SS 43 AL SEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 17 Dec 43 To 27 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	17		Conference at 21 AUST INF BDE - re "SHAGGY RIDGE" Strike - 1000 hours	S.S.
			No. 2 Strip DULPU to-morrow.	R.J.
	18		LT-COL. A.P.FLEMING arriving to-morrow.	R.J.
	19		LT-COL. A.P.FLEMING arrived. This AL SEC being transferred to 312th Group.	R.J.
			Briefing for Practice Operations on "SHAGGY RIDGE".	R.J.
	20		LT-COL. A.P.FLEMING returned to MORESBY.	R.J.
			Practice Operations "SHAGGY RIDGE" - most successful.	R.J.
	23		Briefed entire 386 SQN also 312 Group H.Q. on General Ground Situation.	R.J.
	24		Visit from GENERAL VASEY (G.O.C 7 AUST DIV).	R.J.
			Received Christamas Hampers from A.C.F. for all A.L. personnel TATF area.	R.J.
	25		Final planning (received by Safe-hand) from DIV on "SHAGGY RIDGE" operations.	R.S
	26		Briefing "SHAGGY RIDGE" operations.	R.J.
			Crew crashed B-25 arrived 25 AUST INF BDE H.Q. Left DULPU in C-47 1700 hours.	R.S
	27		"SHAGGY RIDGE" Strike. Planes took off at 0730L. Strike took place	R.J.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

H. 1000

Unit SS 43 AL SEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 27 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
CUSAP TATF HQ	30	1400	CAPT NOBLETT evacuated 9th PORTABLE HOSPITAL.	A.T.
			Diagnosis - Malaria.	A.T.
			VX55363. Cpl. R.L. Thomas.	
			for	
			K.E. NOBLETT CAPT	
			O.C. 43 AL Sec.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

41st. Aust. Sqn. AIR Liaison Sect. attached - 33 Bomb Sqn. (M)

Unit 32 Bomb Group (M) *Date and Time.—From* 1st. December 1943 *To* 31st December, 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Daboduro	1/12/43		Mission No. 334AA to Borneo Bay. Captain Catton visited Squadron.	
"	2/12/43		Routine duties. Squadron engaged on Maintenance and training. Captain Catton visited squadron.	
"	3/12/43		Mission No. 336BB. Bomb supplies CAPE GLOUCESTER Area. Captain Catton visited Squadron.	
"	4/12/43		Mission to bomb bridges on Bogadjim Road. Weather prevented a/c. from reaching target. At discretion of C.O. 33 Sqn. MADA VILLAGE was bombed. Captain Catton visited squadron.	
"	5/12/43		Weather Recco. Routine duties. Captain Catton visited Squadron.	
	6/12/43		Routine duties. Captain Catton visited squadron.	
"	7/12/43		Weather Recco. Captain Catton visited Squadron. Briefing at Group Hqs. for mission to MALAHA.	
"	8/12/43		Mission to bomb supply dumps East of Malaga. Captain Catton visited Sqn.	
"	9/12/43		Routine duties. Captain Catton visited Squadron. Briefing at Group Hqs.	

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~.

Army Form C. (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

61st. Aust. Sqn. Air Liaison Sect.
Attached 33 Bomb Sqn. (1)

Unit 82 Bomb Group (M) *Date and Time.—From* 1st. December 1943 *To* 31st. December 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Dobodura	9/12/43		for mission to bridges on MADANG ROAD.	
"	10/12/43		Mission to bomb bridges Nos 7 & 8 on MADANG - GAP. Bridges very difficult	
			to locate and hit as they are overhung by hutting also.	
			Lieut. Moran returned from Compassionate leave and attended Group Hdq.	
			to obtain briefing for a mission to bomb Boroldim Road.	
"	11/12/43		Lieut Moran briefed crews for mission to Boroldim Road, and flew on mission	
			Aircraft were forced to turn back due to weather.	
"	12/12/43		Nil activity. Routine Duties.	
"	13/12/43		Routine duties. Pte Johnstone discharged from Hospital resumed duties.	
			Lieut. Moran attended Group Hdq. to obtain brie [illegible] for mission to CAT'ATA.	
"	14/12/43		Lieut. Moran briefed crews for mission to Gasmata, and flew on mission	
			and assisted in interception. A.L.O.s meeting U.S.A.A.F. L.O.s from 6 U.S. Army	
			AIR FORCE [illegible] detailed outline plans for invasion of NEW	
			to-morrow morning. Targets and traces attached as Appendix A.	See Appendix A

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~.

(Erase heading not required.)

Army Form C. (adapted.)

1st Aust. Sqn. Air Liaison Sect. Attached 38 Bomb Sqn. (M)

Unit 38 Bomb Group (M) *Date and Time.—From* 1 December 1943 *To* 31 December 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Dobodura	16/12/43		Routine Duties.	
"	18/12/43		Lieut Moran briefed crews for a supply drop to the troops who had landed on Arawe.	
"	17/12/43		Nil activity. Routine duties. Attended Group Hdq. to obtain briefing for Mission to Cape Gloucester.	
"	18/12/43		Lieut. Moran briefed crews for mission to CAPE GLOUCESTER. Flew on mission and assisted in interrogation. Attended Group Hdq. to obtain briefing for Mission to MADANG.	
"	19/12/43		A red letter day. Mission to MADANG in the morning and one in afternoon to CAPE GLOUCESTER. Lieut. Moran briefed crews for both missions and assisted in interrogation.	
"	20/12/43		Lieut Moran briefed crews for a mission to HOEMA and assisted in interrogation.	
"	21/12/43		Routine Duties. Lieut Moran addressed 2nd Bn. 7th Marines on air support.	

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~.

Army Form C (adapted.)

41st. Aust. Sqn. Air Liaison Sect. (Erase heading not required.)
38 Bomb Sqn. (M)
Unit 22 Bomb Group (M) *Date and Time.—From* 1st. December 1943 *To* 31st. December, 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Dobodura	23/12/43		Lieut. Moran again addressed 2nd Bn. 7th Marines, quoting types of support given to 7th and 9th Aust. Divs during the SALAMAUA, LAE, FINSCHHAFEN, RAMU VALLEY & SAMEI R.D campaigns. Method of marking targets etc. Marines most enthusiastic as on GUADALCANAL there were insufficient a/c. to render much close support.	
"	33/12/43		Lieut. Moran briefed crews for a mission to FINSCHHAFEN, and assisted in interrogation. Capt. Potter attached to 19th Bomb Sqn left on furlough & Lieut Moran took over A.L.O's duties.	
"	34/12/43		Weather Recce. Lieut. Moran briefed crews for mission to SAMSAG and and assisted in interrogation.	
"	35/12/43		Lieut. Moran briefed crews for mission to Mt. TAWGI. A.L.O's meeting A.L.O.'s from United States Marine Corps and U.S. Navy gave A.L.O's a detailed outline of plans for the invasion of APS GLOUCESTER tomorrow morning. Maps and targets traces have been in Lieut. Morans possession	

By Authority: L. F. Johnston, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C (adapted)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 41st. Aust. Sqn. Air Liaison Sect. Attached 33 Bomb Sqn (M) Date and Time.—From 1st. December 1943 To 31st December, 1943

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, etc.
Pobedume	26/12/43		for some time. These are attached as Appendix B.	See Appendix B
"	26/12/43		U.S.N.C. landed CAPE [illegible]. Squadron Communication officer had radio tuned to strike frequency and an interesting morning was spent listening to control station on U.S.A.C. "[illegible]" controlling air support and directing fighter sweeps against hostile a/c. in the area. The crowd gathered was reminiscent of a peace time broadcast of the MELBOURNE CUP. This "hot news" was immediately placed on the Bulletin Board to keep combat personnel constantly briefed.	
"	27/12/43		Lieut Horan briefed crews for mission to MADANG-[illegible] and assisted in interrogation.	
"	28/12/43		Nil activity. Routine duties.	
"	29/12/43		Lieut. Horan briefed crews for mission to CAPE [illegible] and assisted in interrogation. This mission was a co-ordinated strike in close support of of the Marines, Lieut. Horan had addressed before the invasion. The	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit 41st. Aust Sqn. Air Liaison Sect. 33 Bomb Sqn. (M) 22 Bomb Group (M)

Date and Time.—From 1st. December 1943 To 31st. December 1943.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Dobodura	29/12/43		distance from Bomb line to target was about 300 yards and not 1 bomb fell short. The strike pulverised enemy opposition to the advance of the Marines and was really instrumental in assisting the capture of the airstrips two days later. The marines of course were delighted with the success of this air arm used as "flying artillery." Trace attached as Appendix C.	See Appendix C
"	30/12/43		Weather Recco. Engaged in routine duties.	
"	31/12/43		Lieut. Horan briefed crews for mission to BOGADJIM and assisted in interrogation.	
			P Horan Lieut.	
			O/C 41 Aust Sqn A.L Sect	

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Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

20 Asst Sqn A.L. Det-att 8 Sqn

Unit 1 Asst at L.S.P. I. of G.G. Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 43 To 6 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Valona	1 Dec		7 aircraft to Bengasi, Derna, Tobruk Bay, New Britain on large search.	
Hobadura	2		Normal routine duties.	
Hobadura	3		11 aircraft bombed and strafed track Gandokai to Wasaweng & north.	
			Meeting of A.L.O's at 3 Comd Sec re routine matters.	
Hobadura	4		6 a/c on photo mission to New Britain returned to base from no visibility on account of weather.	
Hobadura	5		Capt Bowden to a Corps H.Q. Battle room.	
			Sqn maintenance and training.	
Hobadura	6		9 a/c gave close support to 9 Div north of Kamiagida.	
			Mt. Owing to previous malfunction of bomb release mechanism, Capt Bowden recommended that bombing dump should be aimed over the sea. This proved	W Bowden Capt

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

30 Aust Sqn & 1 L. Sec-attd 2 Sqn
Unit 1 Aust A.L. Sqn Bgt G.H.Q. Date and Time.—From 6 Dec 43 To 12 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Ubadawa	Dec 6 (cont)		wire as 6 bombs fell out when doors were opened.	
Ubadawa	7 Dec		Routine Duties	
Ubadawa	8 "		6 ops on Large search drawn area clear Britain. Nil sightings. Section Jeep sent to workshops for new engine and general repairs. This is most inconvenient as the Sqn is short of transport. Repairs will take one week.	
Ubadawa	9 "		Routine duties	
Ubadawa	10 "		Routine duties. Meeting of A.L.Cs at F.H.Q.	
Ubadawa	11 "		Routine duties.	
Ubadawa	12 "		Routine duties. Special meeting of A.L.Cs at F.H.Q. to discuss the possible future role of squadrons in the Base Area. The meeting was addressed by Major Bell Brewster	

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

30 Asst Agrs/ 2nd Ind. Cont.

Unit 1 Coy of 1st Sqdn

Date and Time.—From 12 Dec 43 To 14 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Gobadura	12 Dec		Balloon - Cgistry of 2 Asst Cmpo and Major Ballock of U.S. 6th Army and Capt Herring U.S.A.A.C.	
Gobadura	13 Dec		12 aircraft mission to dump area at Gaumana. Target not located. Five squadrons took part, which is generally considered too many for targets which are difficult to locate. 4 P38 R's of 82 Recce Sqn on Barge search & fortification Pt. to Lio. Capt Saunders attended Comp briefing for mission to Akawe.	
Gobadura	14 Dec		12 Heads of this squadron on bombing and strafing mission to plantation dump. 1st mission aircraft returned and mission was repeated after two hours for re loading bombs etc. 4 P38 R's repeated barge search.	

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

30 Amst Air Liaison Sec.

Unit 1 Amst et L. Sqn 239 Wing Date and Time.—From 15 Dec 43 To 19 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Dobadura	15 Dec		8 Sqn on alert for possible ground targets in Aust Britain area. Capt Bowden arranged with Lt Hellman GD of 22 Sqn that a messenger would call at 8 Sqn each day about 1400 to pick up distribution for 22 Sqn and that squadron Sergeant would keep the situation map under Lt Abbs Bowden's supervision.	
Dobadura	16 Dec		8 Sqn again alerted for ground targets of opportunity	
Dobadura	17 "		Sec Sqn returned from Wokchops. Meeting at Group of all et L.O.'s	
Dobadura	18 "		8 Sqn again alerted for ground attack on mission to Ramu (I)	
Dobadura	19 "		9 aircraft of 8 Sqn on mission to area.	

Capt Bowden

201—N.G.F.P.S.—5/43/10m.

Army Form W.2118
(adapted)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

50 Aust A. L. Sec.

Unit 1 Aust A. Lt. Gp. R.A.A.F. Date and Time.—From 20 Dec 43 To 23 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Gobadura	20 Dec		9 Sqn 6 aircraft provision Straus area. 82 Sqn on mission also.	
			82 Sqn a/c conducted barge search in Dio area.	
			Capt Bowden to G.H.Q. on general business.	
Gobadura	21 "		82 Sqn conducted barge search Bongen Bay to Cape Ready. 8 Sqn supported 9 Aust Div in Wandokai area.	
Gobadura	22 "		8 Sqn bombed and strafed targets Cape Gloucester area.	
			82 Recce Sqn on barge search Bongen Bay to Ruin Bay.	
Gobadura	23 "		8 Sqn 6 a/c on barge search Alexishafen to Saumen.	

Capt

203—N.G.F.P.S.—5/43/10m.

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

39 Fleet A. A. Sec.

Unit 1 Fleet A. A. Sqn. R.A.F. Date and Time.—From 24 Nov 43 To 29 Nov 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Dobadura	24 Nov		8 Spfr ic ofs to targets 14A + 14B Cape Gloucester	
			Meeting of all A.A. O's at Group.	
Dobadura	25 "		Group meeting for A.A. O's	
			8 Spfr 8 aircraft to D.S. ref Cape Gloucester 723935 Strait	
Dobadura	26 "		8 Spfr 12 aircraft for ground support to Cape Gloucester with alternate as bomb and strafe Target Ridge.	
Dobadura	27 "		8 Spfr 12 aircraft to Bomb + Strafe area vic. Talangai	
Dobadura	28 "		8 Spfr 10 aircraft to attack Ridge 659944 along track north to 656966 ref Gloucester Aidrome	
Dobadura	29 "		Capt Bowden to D.A.F.D. re attempt to obtain more information re New Britain operations. Not very successful. Capt	

201—N.G.P.S.—5/43/10m.

Army Form C.2118
(adapted)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

30 Aust Sqn A.L. Sect.

Unit 1 Aust A.L. Gp - Fd P.P. Date and Time.—From 30 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Dobadura	30 Dec		8 Sqn ofs to Strafe track area and patrol Ls gun positions via Sagsag.	
Dobadura	31 Dec		Meeting at P.A.P.P. for all A.L.Os.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C 2118 (adapted)

H. 1004

Unit 28 Aust. Sqdn. A.L. Section, c/o 43rd Bomb Group 5 AF. Date and Time.—From 1st December To 10th December, 1943. Page 1.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
New Guinea	1/12/43	A.M.	Lieut. Stokoe visited 65th Squadron conferring with Squadron Commander concerning Dobodura move.	
		P.M.	Major Board telephoned re transportation for Brig. Rogers of N.G.F. HQ. Later, arrangements being cancelled.	Nil
" "	2/12043	A.M.	Lieut. Stokoe telephoned G.Air, N.G.F. regarding bombline.	
		P.M.	Lieut. Stokoe visited Major Board at Bom Com.	
			Major Jack accompanied Lieut. Stokoe to 18th Bde HQ regarding crash of A/C on 25th No.	Nil
" "	3/12/43	A.M.	Lieut. Stokoe visited N.G.F. HQ conferring with Major Williams and Capt. Lane. Pte. Barnes issued with Rifle and bayonet prior to Dobodura move.	
		P.M.	Lt. Stokoe attended briefing by Group C.O. on Gloucester strike.	Nil
" "	4/12/43	A.M.	Lieut. Stokoe advised by phone that leave draft had been temporarily postponed. Advice to follow.	
		P.M.	Capt. Lane visited section.	Nil
" "	5/12/43	A.M.	Capt. Timms of 345th Bomb Group telephoned re Section's vehicle. Cpl. Ellis received Table and Office equipment issued to section by Capt. Lane.	
		P.M.	Lieut. Stokoe visited N.G.F. HQ conferring with Major Williams and visiting I(X) and I(T).	Nil

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 28 Aust. Sqdn. A.L. Section, c/o 43rd Bomb Gp. 5 AF

Date and Time.—From 1st December To 10th December, 1943

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
New Guinea	6/12/43	A.M.	Lieut. Stokoe visited 64th Squadron conferring with Capt. May-Wilkie.	
		P.M.	Lieut. Stokoe visited H.Q.G.F. HQ (IX and IT)	Nil
" "	7/12/43	A.M.	Lieut. Stokoe attended briefing by Group C.O. on Gloucester strike. Lieut. Stokoe finalised arrangements regarding Section's move to Dobodura. Capt. May-Wilkie to move with and handle Group.	
		P.M.	Lieut. Stokoe conferred with Capt. Lane regarding leave and section's move to Dobodura. Arranged that Lieut. Stokoe NOT go with Section, and to remain awaiting movement.	Nil
" "	8/12/43		Lieut. Stokoe and Capt. May-Wilkie attended briefing by Group C.O. Routine Duties.	Nil
" "	9/12/43		Routine Duties.	Nil
" "	10/12/43		Section moved to Dobodura.	Nil

May-Wilkie Capt for

OC. 28 Aust Sqdn A.L. Section - AAF

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C.2118 (adapted)

Unit 37 Aust. Sqdn. A.L. Section c/o 43rd Bomb Group, 5 A.F. *Date and Time.—From* 1st December *To* 31st December, 1943.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
New Guinea	1/12/43		37 Aust. Sqdn. A.L. Section commenced duty with 64th Squadron 43rd Bomb Group (Heavy). O.C. ~~W~~ X 6317, Capt. D.G. Mey-Wilkie.	
" "	2/12/43 to 9/12/43	. . .	Routine Operational duties.	
" "	10/12/43	A.M.	Section moved to Dobodura and took over Liaison duties of 43rd Bomb Group (64th, 65th and 403rd Squadrons).	
" "	11/12/43		Routine Operational duties	
" "	12/12/43	P.M.	Conference of A.L.O's at F.A.I.S. conducted by Major Ballagh, Intelligence Officer 6th Army. Proposed operations in New Britain and New Guinea (North of Lae) discussed. A.L.O's to work with 6th Army on same basis as arranged with 2 Aust Corps. Major Ballagh informed A.L.O's of American Army's appreciation of the Liaison duties that were being carried out.	
" "	13/12/43 to 14/12/43		Routine operational duties.	

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 37 Aust. Sqdn. A.L. Section c/o 43rd Bomb Group, 5 AF Date and Time.—From 1st December To 31st December, 1943.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
New Guinea	15/12/43	A.M.	Sgt. Snow of F.A.L.O., interviewed Capt. Mey-Wilkie and Major Jack regarding dropping of propaganda leaflets.	
" "	17/12/43 to 24/12/43		Routine operational duties.	
" "	25/12/43	P.M.	Conference of A.L.O's at F.A.I.F. conducted by Major Ballagh. Landing operations in the Cape Gloucester Area scheduled for 26th December were discussed, and an explanation of how the Arawe and Gloucester operations were to fit into the general plan was also given. The Naval Liaison Officer summarised the naval activities in connection with the Gloucester operations and explained the composition of the landing force.	
" "	26/12/43 to 31/12/43		Routine operational duties.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit 24 AUST. SQN. A.L. SEC., C/- 89 BOMB SQN. Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43 To 12 DEC. 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	1	2359	Nine plane mission to BORGEN BAY.	HAP
"	2	"	Nil activity.	HAP
"	3	"	Capt. BRADDOCK attended A.L.O's. conference at F.A.T.F.	HAP
"	4	"	Twelve plane mission to WONDOKAI - BLUCHER PT., also strafe NORTH bank mouth SANGA RIV.	HAP
"	5	"	Six plane mission to mouth of TUNOM Riv. area.	HAP
"	6	"	Nil activity.	HAP
"	7	"	Eleven plane mission to WONDOKAI and NUZEN.	HAP
"	8	"	Nil activity.	HAP
"	9	"	"	HAP
"	10	"	Capt. BRADDOCK attended A.L.O's. conference at F.A.T.F.	HAP
"	11	"	Nil activity.	HAP
"	12	"	Capt. BRADDOCK attended special A.L.O.'s. conference at F.A.T.F., where Maj. BALLANGH U.S. ARMY, and Maj. OGILVIE gave detailed U.S and AUST. ground sit.	HAP
			At conference Capt. BRADDOCK allotted temporarily 380 BOMB GP. as well as 89 BOMB SQN.	HAP

H.A. Braddock

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 24 AUST. SQN A.L.SEC., C/- 89 BOMB SQN. Date and Time.—From 12 DEC. 43. To 24 DEC. 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	13	2359	Twelve plane mission to BOGADJIM RD. Capt. BRADDOCK visited Capt. BURKE 380 BOMB GP. and discussed posn. remaps for ground sit. and ARMY liason.	H.H.B.
"	14	"	Two missions to CAPE MERKUS. Capt. BRADDOCK VISITED 380 BOMB GP.	H.H.B.
"	15	"	Capt. BRADDOCK visited Capt SPEIGHT G2.11 AUST. DIV.	H.H.B.
"	16	"	Six plane mission to ARAWE. Capt BRADDOCK visited CAPT. HARLAND G3. AIR 2 AUST. CORPS. He also visited Capt. STEPHENS F.A.T.F. re 380 BOMB SQN.	H.H.B.
"	17	"	Capt. BRADDOCK attended A.L.O.'s. conference at FATF.	H.H.B.
"	18	"	Nil activity.	H.H.B.
"	19	"	Twelve plane mission to SIALUM area.	H.H.B.
"	20	"	Twelve plane mission to SIGUL and FULIE Rivs.	H.H.B.
"	21	"	Thirteen plane mission to SAG SAG.	H.H.B.
"	22	"	Eleven plane mission to Targets, 13, 13B, 14A, 14B, and 14C. CAPE GLOUCESTER.	H.H.B.
"	22	"	Thirteen plane mission to Target 13A. CAPE GLOUCESTER.	H.H.B.
"	23	"	Twelve plane mission to SIC, SIALUM and SCHOENHORST Pt.	H.H.B.
"	24	"	Twelve plane mission to Target 14 B, CAPE GLOUCESTER. Eleven plane mission to SIO area.	H.H.B.

H.H. Braddock

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
(Erase heading not required)

24 AUST. SQN. A.L.SEC.

Unit: C/F.89 BOMB SQN. Date and Time - From 25 DEC.43 To 31 DEC.43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diagrams, etc.
DOBODURA.	25	2359	Ten plane mission to Target 14B, CAPE GLOUCESTER. Nine plane mission to ARAWE.	WAP
"	26	"	Twelve plane mission to HILL 660, CAPE GLOUCESTER.	WAP
"	27	"	Twelve plane mission to CAPE GLOUCESTER.	WAP
"	28	"	Nil activity.	WAP
"	29	"	"	WAP
"	30	"	Twelve plane mission to CAPE GLOUCESTER. Capt. BRADDOCK visited Capt. STEPHENS re infm. for lecture to offrs. H.Q. 11 AUST. DIV.	WAP
"	31	"	Thirteen plane mission to ALAIDO Vill. area. (EAST coast BOEGEN BAY)	WAP

W.A. Braddock

SECRET

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

HQ, 475 FIGHTER GROUP
431
432 Squadrons
433
80

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

29 Aust Sqn A.L. Section
Unit 1 Aust A.L. Group.

Date and Time.—From 1 Dec. 43 To 31 Dec. 43

Place	Date 1943	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	1-4 Dec		Routine activities. Escort to bombers giving direct support to 9 Aust Division. Cover for Allied shipping Finschafen area. No interception	
	5 Dec		Escort bombers striking dumps, bridges etc along Bogadjim Road. No interception.	
	6 Dec		Routine activities.	
	7-12 Dec		Escort to bombers giving direct support to 9 Aust Div. Routine patrols, over Allied shipping at Finschafen. No interception. On 12th briefed at FATF by 6th Army US Liaison Officer for forthcoming New Britain activities. Also spoke with Capt. Foley, 1 Marine Div Liaison officer at FATF. From today onwards ALOs will carry out liaison duties between 6th US Army and Air Corps units to which we are presently attached.	
			Covered B-25s to Bogadjim Road, striking at bridges etc in support of 7 Aust Division. Day long patrols over allied shipping at Finschafen. No interception. Landing made by units of US 6th Army at Arawe. All squadrons of group covered landing and continued patrols throughout the day. No interception. Made Contact with 418 Night Fighter Squadron and made arrangements to assist their S-2 (Capt. Holsten) with the ground situation escape routes etc as from today. Main missions in future for this squadron	
	13-15 Dec		to be "Night Intruder" attacks against enemy barge traffic. Routine patrols.	
	16-17 Dec		Patrols over Arawe. Interception of D/Bs on 16 Dec attacking ground forces	
	18-21 Dec		and shipping - 10 a/c destroyed. Interception again on 18 Dec over Arawe. Driven off before they could reach our beachhead. Interception again on 21 Dec - 10 aircraft destroyed.	
	22-24 Dec.	Nor	Normal routine patrols. Visit on 24 Dec. by Lt.Col Denniston G.1. Air - NEF.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

HQ. 475 FIGHTER GROUP
431
432 Squadrons
433
80

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

Unit 29 Aust Sqn A.L. Section. 1 Aust A.L. Group.

Date and Time.—From 1 Dec. 43 To 31 Dec. 43

Place	Date 1943	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	25 Dec		Briefing of ALOs at FATF for Backhander operations. Full details given. Briefed Groupand Sqn I.O.s and outlined ground plan along with escape plan.	
	26 Dec		All Squ adrons covered backhander operations throughout the day. 22 enemy aircraft were destroyed by group on days operations.	
	27-29 Dec		Patrol activities only - Gloucester area. On 29 Dec delivered discourse on ground situation, barge activities and escape routes in New Guinea and New Britain areas to all pilots of 418 Night Fighter Squadron. 29 Dec- alteration in procedure as from today in passing on mission reports to G Air, 2 Aust Corps.	
	30-31 Dec		Normal patrols and bomber escorts.	

Fred Percival CAPT.
29 Aust Sqn A.L. Section.
31 December, 1943.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

SECRET

Unit 16 Aust.Sqn.A.L.Sec Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	1-2		Normal Operational Duties.	
	3	1430	Meeting of A.L.O's at F.A.T.F.. Operational and administrative matters discussed.	
	4	1700	Lieut. Anderson A.L.O. 24 Sqn. visited 13 Sqn. and met pilots. It was suggested by some of the pilots that Lieut. Anderson should bring some of the 24 Sqn. pilots to 13 Sqn. to ~~xxxxxx~~ exchange ideas on subjects relating to the Air Force.	
	5-6		Normal Operational Duties.	
	7	1700	As arranged on Dec 4, A.L.O's and some of the pilots 24 Sqn. visited 13 Sqn.	
	8		Normal Operational Duties.	
	9	0800	Cap t.Turner after visiting 90 Sqn., visited 2 Aust.Corps and 11 Aust.Div..	
	10	1430	Meeting of ALO's at F.A.T.F.	
	11-14		Normal Operational Duties.	
	15	0710	Close support missiod at ARAWE Landing. A feature of this mission was the method of using radio by which the ground troops gave the target directly to the aircraft using an ASP reference. The target was attacked 5 minutes after the message was received by the flight leaders.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

SECRET

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit 18 Aust.Sqn.A.L.Sec Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	16		Normal Operational Duties.	
	17	1420	Meeting of A.L.O's at F.A.T.F.	
	18-24		Normal Operational Duties.	
	25	1400	Meeting of A.L.O's at F.A.T.F.. Maj.Ballagh,Capt.Foley and Capt.Herring gave information on the CAPE GLOUCESTER Landing.	
	26 - 30		Normal Operational Duties.	
	31	1430	Meeting of A.L.O's at F.A.T.F.	

(H.J.LOUREIN) Capt. A.L.O.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit 3 AUST COMD AL SECTION. Date and Time.—From 1 DEC 43 To 12 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	1 Dec		Capt Bawden and Capt Percival visited for discussion on Ops.	
"	2 Dec		Capt Staley and Lt Merton visited for discussion on support targets.	
"	3 Dec		ALO's conference discussion on Operations and future Targets.	
"	4 Dec		Normal operational duties.	
"	5 Dec		Major Balfour Ogilvie, G Air 2 Aust Corp, visited for discussion on suitable targets ground support.	
"	6 Dec		Capt Stephens visited Intelligence and G Air 2 Aust Corp for discussion general Intelligence and enemy capabilieties.	
"	7 Dec		Mjr Ogilvie and Capt Quinn visited for discussion on Air Support targets.	
"	8 Dec		Capt Stephens visited Intelligence 2 Aust Corp for general Intelligence information and enemy OOB.	
"	9 Dec		Capt Percival, Capt Staley and Lt Merton visited for general discussion.	
"	10 Dec		ALO's conference general discussion.	
"	11 Dec		Normal operational duties.	
"	12 Dec		Mjr Ballard, Liaison Officer 6th Army, Capt Foley, Liaison Officer Marine Corp, addressed special ALO's conference, Mjr Ogilvie attended, on future operations 6th Army and Marine Corp in New Britain also discussed distribution of information to keep Sqns informed Army movements in New Britain, co-operation of ALO's greatly appreciated by 6th Army and Marine Corp.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted.)

Unit 3 AUST COMD AL SECTION. *Date and Time.—From* 13 DEC 43 *To* 25 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	13 DEC		Capt Stephens had discussion with Mjr Ballard, Liaison Officer 6th Army, and Capt Foley, Liaison Officer Marine Corp, on Army movement to be distributed to ALO's and future Ops.	
"	14 Dec		Capt Percival, Capt Staley, Capt Wilkie, Capt Braddock, Lt Merton Lt Moran visited for discussion on operations and future targetes.	
"	15 Dec		Very busy day in collecting and passing information on todays Army operation also planning Air Support strikes.	
"	16 Dec		Capts Staley, Percival, Braddock and Lt Merton visited.	
"	17 Dec		Normal operational duties.	
"	18 Dec		Capt Harland, G 111 Air 2 Aust Corp, visited with information for strike in support of 9 Aust Div.	
"	19 Dec		Capt Staley, ALO 2 Sqn, with personnel moved with Sqn to SATF area.	
"	20 Dec		Capts Catton and Wilkie visited. Lt Merton, ALO 408 Sqn, and personnel moved with Sqn to SATF area.	
"	21 Dec		Capt Harland and Capt Quinn visited for discussion on A S targets.	
"	22 Dec		Capts Percival, Wilkie and Dunning visited.	
"	23 Dec		Normal operational duties.	
"	24 Dec		Normal operational duties.	
"	25 Dec		Arrangements made with 2 Aust Corp for Wireless set and personnel to be attached to Comd Sec to facilitate messages on Army Mvt and support targets.	

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

n. 1000 *Unit* 5 AUST COLD AL SECTION. *Date and Time.—From* 26 DEC 43 *To* 31 DEC 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOBODURA	26 Dec		Capts Mullis, Timms, Connors and Braddock visited for general discussion	
"	27 Dec		Capt Connors visited for information as to probable barge hideouts north coast New Britain.	
"	28 Dec		Capts Percival, Bawden, Turner, Wilkie, Braddock and Lt Horan visited. Wireless set and personnel from 2 Aust Corp attached to Comd Sec.	
"	29 Dec		Normal operational duties.	
"	30 Dec		Contact established with 2 Aust Corp by wireless, mission reports passed and sitreps received.	
"	31 Dec		Capts Mullis, Connors, Braddock and Lt Horan visited.	

Capt.

WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

W. 1004 2/49

Unit 19 AUSA AL SQDRON *Date and Time.—From* 1 DECEMBER 45 *To* 31 DECEMBER 45

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
DOSODURA	1 - 3 DEC	-	Normal operational duties.	AHS
"	9 DEC	0830 - 0840	9 A-20's bombed and strafed coastal track MARITZA RIVER to "A" ROAD	Support of 9 AUSA DIV.
			WITH 36x500lb bombs and 5,400 rds .50 Cal ammo.	AHS
"	10 - 17 DEC	-	Normal operational duties.	AHS
"	13 DEC	0845 - 0910	12 A-20's bombed and strafed wooded area 500yds SOUTH of VELIKI RAT with	Support 9 AUSA DIV.
			48x250lb bombs and 12,960rds .50 Cal.	AHS
"	19 - 20 DEC		Normal operational duties. Air support 6 U.S. Army.	AHS
"	21 DEC	1230	Lieut Saunders returned from leave.	AHS
"	22 DEC	0915 - 0947	12 A-20's bombed and strafed railway one mile NORTH of KUKUS with	Support 9 AUSA DIV.
			48x250lb bombs and 15,552rds .50 Cal.	AHS
"	23 - 24 DEC	-	Normal operational duties. Air support 6 U.S. Army.	AHS
"	25 DEC	-	Conference R.A.F. & U.S. Army liaison officer re operational order for	
			19TH SQUADRON operations.	AHS
"	26 DEC	-	Visit by 11 AUSA DIV liaison officer.	AHS
"	27 - 31 DEC	-	Normal operational duties. Air support 6 U.S. Army.	AHS.

P.H. Saunders Lieut
19 AUSA AL SQDRON.

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted)

W. 1004 *Unit* ALO.,19 Bomb Sqn attached USAAF. *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 43 *To* 31 Dec 43.

Place	Date	~~Hour~~	Summary of Events and Information	~~Remarks and references to Appendices~~
	23		Mission No.356KK - Bombs dumps and dispersal areas between strips at ALEXISHAFEN. 9 B26s over target at 1120L from 8,300 to 9,600 ft. All bombs fell in target area. Large fire was observed in centre of area between both strips; believed gas dump. 2/3 a/c destroyed on ground; possible T/E bombers. Further results obscured by smoke and debris. 13½ tons - 27 x 1,000 lb inst demo bombs dropped. Photos were taken. Sightings - 6/8 fighters and one T/E bomber on No. 2 strip; 2 single seater fighters on No.1 strip and 3 T/E bombers SE end of No. 1 strip. 3 barges on beach at AGO and 3 on beach south of river S of AGO. Barge at mouth GORI River near BOGADJIM. U/I vessel reported off BUNSEN Pt(SE of SAIDOR); thought to be reef. 2 fires inland from SIO. Villages with tents therein 6 miles inland from ALEXISHAFEN. ~~AA encountered accurate to inaccurate. One a/c returned to base shortly after take off due to prop trouble.~~ 3 bombs returned to base. Capt Catton,ALO.,departed on furlough. Visit to Stationery Dept.,Buna,to collect stationery previously requisitioned for. Briefing at 22nd Group re mission to SAG SAG on 24 Dec. Lt.Horan visited Sqn.
	24		Mission No.357KK - Strike target No.15 -(SAG SAG). 8 B26s over target 1053L at from 4300 to 4600 ft. 41 x 500 lb bombs in target area. One bomb hung up and returned to base. Bombs explosions only were observed. 10½ tons dropped. Photos taken. Sightings - Fire two miles inland from DORF POINT. 2 huts in clearing 2500 yds N of GRASS POINT. Capt Stephens,ALO.,FATF,phoned re collecting goods at BUNA. Trip made. Capt Horan visited Sqn.
	25		~~Readiness for mission. Mission 358HH - Targets at SILIWATI POINT. Planes took off 1243L. 8 B26s over target at from 3,000 to 4400 ft. Target cloud covered. Bombs dropped approx in target area. Unable to determine accuracy. 12 tons bombs dropped. Photos taken. Sightings - 16/20 barges in ROTTOCK BAY beached along S shore. 7 barges on point opposite NATAMO.~~ Jeep taken to LAD for inspection. ALO's weekly meeting at FATF. Capr Horan visited Sqn.
	26		Readiness from 0700 to 1600 hrs. Cancelled. Adjusting maps re landings at CAPE GLOUCESTER.
	27		~~Mission 360DD - Bomb W half dispersal area and strip MADANG. 10 B26s over target 0904-0923L. 9000-9900 ft. Bombs dropped in vicinity of target area. Observation obscured by intervening clouds. 13½ tons dropped. Photos taken. Sightings - smoke from dispersal area. Large fire S from dispersal area. AA intense,heavy,accurate 4 a/c sustaining hits.~~ One a/c landed NADZAB on return due gasoline trouble. Lieut Horan visited Sqn.
	28		Readiness for mission - later cancelled. Routine ALO duties. Assisting Sqn I.O. Lieut Horan visited Sqn.
	29		Mission 362FF - Bomb targets Gloucester Airdrom area. 9 B26s over target at 290908L. 50 bombs observed to fall in target area. Bomb bursts, dust and dirt observed as result of bombing. 13½ tons dropped. Photos taken. Nil enemy sightings. Adjusting maps in accordance with situation. Lieut Horan visited Sqn.
	30		Sqn released for Maintenance and training. Nil activity. Contacted ALO.,Capt Stephens re general situation. ~~Lieut Horan visited Sqn.~~
	31		Mission 364EE - Bomb target at BOGADJIM PLANTATION. 9 B26s over target at 0937 - 0945L at from 4900 to 6400 ft. 34 bombs fell in target area; 8 fell within 100 yds S of target boundary; 12 fell 500 to 700 yds outside. Large high column of smoke observed from round centre of target. 13½ tons bombs dropped. Sightings - Large fires and smoke from MADANG and ALEXISHAFEN areas. Lieut Horan visited Sqn. Routine ALO's duties.

R.L.Horan Lieut for
W.J.Catton Capt

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted)

Unit ALO, 19 Bomb Sqn attached USAAF *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 43 *To* 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	~~Hour~~	Summary of Events and Information	~~Remarks and references Appendices Enclosures~~
	12		Mission No. 335AA . Strike supply dump area YOKOPI support 7 Aust Div Units. A/c alerted 0700 hrs but were put on 1 hour readiness due to bad weather and front developing to the West. Alo contacted ANGAU H.Q. and Camp Commandant 11 Aust Div H.Q. Meeting of ALOs, FATF at 1400L to discuss activities etc.	
	13		Contacted 33 Sqn, Lieut Horan, re Record of Service books. Contacted ADC for Sqn PX. Sqn alerted for strike on YOKOPI village area supply dumps etc. Weather intervened and the Sqn did not take off. TAB inoculations at 2/11 Aust. Briefing at 22 Group H.Q. for mission.	
	14		Mission No. 347CC. Strike runways at GASMATA. 9 B26s were over the target area at 9000 ft. Bombing runs were made from East to West and all bombs fell on runways and along the edge. Bombing was considered excellent. 13½ tons of bombs were dropped . Photos taken. Nil interception . AA was accurate, medium and heavy. Units were firing from the timbered area on N coast of AVAHAIN Island and two positions at the east end of runway. Weather - heavy front developing towards FINSCHHAFEN. Clear over target area. Contacted ALO., FATF and G2 2 Aust Corps and ALO, 408 and 2 Sqns re general information.	
	15		Squadron alerted for possible ground support mission. Nil activity . Assisting Sqn I.O. with Intelligence summaries and target photographs. Lecture by an American Officer from FATF on escape routes and living off the jungle etc. Attended by all air crew personnel. Capt Butterworth and Capt Webb, AA Battery Officers from BUNA, contacted ALO re general information and to discuss AA with Sqn Officers.	
	16		Briefing for mission at 22 Group H.Q. Allied landings ARAWE Islands. Adjusting maps and information Bulletins. Mission No. 347BB . 9 B26s . Strike store dumps and personnel areas in support ground forces KALANO Harbour. Over target at 1120 hrs at 4500 ft. Bombs observed to fall in target area. 12 fell short in the water just to East of the target area. Bomb explosions, dust and grey smoke were observed but results could not be assessed through timber. Barge sightings reported to 2 Aust Corps . Nil opposition. Arranging maps etc. Securing photographs.	
	17		Sqn engaged on maintenance and training. Nil activity. Contacted Air Force G.H., G 3 Air, 2 Aust Corps, ALO 408 Sqn. Capt Stephens, ALO, FATF; ALOs of 90, 13, 8, 89 and 33 Sqns . Delivery of ALO Bulletins etc. Contacted DAGMG 11 Aust Div re building material. Talk to all personnel on current army information. ALOs weekly meeting .	
	18		Mission No. 551BB 12 B26s to strike store dumps and dispersal areas CAPE GLOUCESTER. Bombing from 10,000 ft. A total of 66 bombs fell in the target area; 6 fell in the clearing to right of the target with no apparent results. Bomb explosions and dust were observed but actual damage could not be assessed through thick timber. A small fire was started on Eastern edge of target. 72 x 500 lb inst demo or 18 tons of bombs were dropped. Barges were observed West of CAPE BUSHING and in the river in the vicinity of GASMATA. No opposition. Briefing at 22 Group for 2 mission - one to MADANG and 1 to CAPE GLOUCESTER on 19/12/43.	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit ALO.,19 Bomb Sqn attached USAAF *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 43 *To* 31 Dec 43.

Place	Date	~~Hour~~	Summary of Events and Information	~~Remarks and references to Appendices~~
	19		Mission No. 352FF to strike runway at MADANG. 7 B26s were over target at 9800 ft at 0932/L. All bombs fell to the right and left of the target with no direct hits recorded on the runway. 408 and 33 Sqns got a number of hits on runway. 10 tons of bombs were dropped. Two luggers were observed West of BELIAU Island and two T/E bombers on the strip. AA was accurate,approx 75 bursts fired at our a/c,one,sustaining a hit in oil feed line,had to land at MADZAB for repairs. One a/c returned to base at 0952 with fuel pump trouble. All bombs returned. Contacted ALO., Capt Stephens, FATF. Mission No.352HH Strike supply and store dump area CAPE GLOUCESTER. 9 B26s were over the target at ~~9500 ft at 1607/L. 36 bombs were definitely observed to fall in the target area. 18 bombs fell to the left and right~~ of the target and over and short. Bomb explosions and dust were observed but damage could not be estimated as cloud base was below 5000 ft and bombs fell in thick timbered area. 13 tons or 53 x 500 lb inst demo were dropped. Briefing at 22 Group for Mission to BLUCHER POINT area on 20/12/43.	
	20		Yellow alert 0400L hrs. Briefing at 0445. Alert for take off at 0600 for mission No.353JJ. Strike store dumps in wooded area East of village - Ref WALINGAI Photo Map 1/20,000 - 165142, 5 B26s were over the target area at 0920/L at 2800 ft. A total of 21 bombs were definitely observed to fall in the target area. 6 bombs fell over and three bombs fell short ~~with nil apparent results. Bomb explosions,dust and white smoke were observed in the target area. A large explosion~~ and a fire were observed in the centre of the target as the a/c left the area. 7½ tons of bombs were dropped. No photos were taken as cameras were not put in a/c prior to take off. Barges were sighted at the following ref points - 185118, 165142, 181134, 181126. Weather - clear over target area. ALO contacted Capt Stephens, ALO, FATF. Talk to all combat crew personnel on current Army situation,escape routes etc.	
	21		Sqn alerted for possible ground support mission. Stand by from 0700L to 1600L. Capt Braddock, 89 Sqn,contacted ALO to discuss mission reports etc. Rearranging New Britain maps. Talk to all combat crew personnel. Assisting IO. ~~General Liaison duties. Went to CRO Bay with engineering officer in connection with a/c top turrets for fitting to~~ LCMs and LCIs for AA personnel.	
	22		Mission No.355PP. 8 B26s - strike targets-Ref HUBIKA photo Map - 118164 to 123163 to 123161 to 117162. Second target diggings and bunkers WANDOKAI Village. 7 B26s were over target area at 0908/L to 0917/L at 4500 ft. Both targets were accurately bombed although results were not observed other than bomb explosions and dust. A large explosion was caused 300 yds west of No.1 target and black smoke was observed. Three bombs were dropped by one a/c in this position. A large explosion and white smoke were observed in No. 2 target area. 10½ tons of bombs were dropped. Photos were taken. ~~1 a/c returned due to failure of retractable undercarriage. 6 x 500 lb bombs were returned to base.~~ Contacted ALO Capt Stephens, FATF, Assisting Sqn IO with general target information. Talk to combat crew personnel on current Army situation.	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

W. 1004 *Unit* ALO., 19 Bomb Sqn attached USAAF *Date and Time.—From.* 1 Dec 43 *To* 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendices
	1		Mission No.334AA 8 B26s Bomb stores and supply dumps BORGEN BAY. A/c were over target at 0909L. Altitude 5000 ft. All bombs were observed to fall in target area. Bomb explosions, dust and smoke (greyish white) were observed to cover target area. 10½ tons bombs dropped and photos taken of bombing runs. Nil opposition. Sightings included two small bridges close to the mouth of river in target area. ALO contacted I.O. 11 Aust Div, 33 Sqn re reports, missions etc. Maps, charts and general information were discussed with I.O., 63 Sqn. Briefing for mission at 22 Group H.Q. 0930	
	2		Mission No.335AA 10 B26s bombed stores and personnel in Cocoanut Grove 1 M N KAMLAGIDU Pt. Altitude 3500 ft. ~~Two flights released bombs on first run and 3rd flight released bombs on second run. All bombs fell in target area.~~ 1 a/c released Bombing was considered accurate. A salvo of bombs on KAMLAGIDU Point. All bombs were observed to fall in thick timber (Bombardier mistook target area). Dust and smoke from bomb explosions were observed but actual damage could not be observed. 15 tons of bombs were dropped. Photos were taken of all bombing runs. Sightings included three trucks on red dust road in square 1513 (Ref LAKONA Photo Map 1 : 20,000). A flash, thought to be artillery fire, observed 177122. ~~6 to 6 possible barges in shore in Bay N of KAMLAGIDU Point. As third flight made second run over target area, what~~ appeared to be AA fire was observed to be coming from the track south of KATIKA Village. Nil opposition. Contacted G 2 Air 2 Corps and CO 24 Sqn. Maps etc brought up in line with current information for 33 and 63 Sqns.	
	3		Briefing for mission No.336BB. 7 B26s from 19 Sqn and 10 B25s from 33 Sqn bombed stores and personnel CAPE GLOUCESTER. Both Sqns reported bombing accurate. Bomb explosions, dust and smoke completely covered the target area making an accurate estimate of resultant damage difficult to assess. 9 tons bombs were dropped by the B26s and 15 tons of bombs were dropped by the B25s. Photos were taken of all bombing runs/ Sightings included previously known AA positions ~~located 653951 (Ref CAPE GLOUCESTER 1" = 1 M).~~ 1 medium position located 654961. Opposition AA slight, medium & heavy generally reported inaccurate. Interrogation of crews. Contacted 2/11 AGH re Lieut Horan's Driver. Adjusting files 33 ~~ALOs meeting at FATF. General discussion on week's activities and projected moves etc.~~	
	4		Mission No.337BB for 33 Sqn. Briefing etc. 10 B25s over target at 1000/L at altitude 4000 ft. Bomb bridges BOGADJIM area. 9 B25s were over the target. Bridges were not bombed due to heavy cumulus clouds over the whole target area. A secondary target was selected at the CO 33 Sqn and bombs were dropped on NANDA Village which had some short time before been straffed by 1 Sqn of A20s. Buildings were reported as still burning as a/c approached the target. All bombs observed to fall in target area and a large column of black smoke was seen to rise from the wooded area adjacent to the village. 12 tons Bombs were dropped and photos taken of all bombing runs. 2 barges observed SINGORKAI; 2 barges observed S of SIO ~~1 B25 returned due to engine trouble. Nil opposition.~~	
	5		Mission No.338BB conducted by 19 Sqn. 8 B26s were over target at 1038/L at 6500 ft. Task was to bomb Bridges 7 & 8 BOGADJIM Road. Bombs were observed to fall in the vicinity of both bridges and along the road and in thick timber E and W of the target. No direct hits were observed. One flight of a/c dropped bombs on No. 6 Bridge which received two direct hits, completely demolishing the bridge. Villages appeared well used and many new buildings were observed in BUA-AK Village E of MIMDJIM R. AA was encountered from BOGADJIM Pln. All crews reported this inaccurate and below. Two a/c landed at LAE due to fuel shortage. Phamplots were dropped over target area contacted ALO., FATF. ALO 89 Sqn, Capt Braddock contacted ALO., 19 Sqn & Contacting I.O. of 33 and 63 Sqns.	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY~~

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted)

W. 1008 *Unit* ALO., 19 Bomb Sqn attached USAAF. *Date and Time.—From* 1 Dec 43 *To* 31 Dec 43.

Place	Date	~~Hour~~	Summary of Events and Information	~~Remarks and references~~
	6		Sqn engaged on M & T. Nil activity. Meeting of all air crew personnel to discuss current information. Contacted ALO, 89 Sqn, Air Force QM, Sqn IOs of 33 and 63 Sqns. Bringing up to date situation maps. Contacted HQ RAA 11 Div re information. A/c that landed at LAE on previous day returned to base. No further sightings to report.	
	7		Sqn engaged on M & T. Nil activity. Talk to all air crew personnel on current ground situation. 33 Sqn conducted mission No.337 BB. Bomb bridges 7/8 BOGADJIM Rd area. 9 B25s were over target area at 1000L at 3500 to 4500 ft. A/c were unable to locate target area and proceeded to NANDA Village and dropped bombs on village and supply dump areas. Bombs were observed ~~to fall in target area and in timber to S and E of area. Explosions and fires were observed.~~ 12 tons bombs dropped. Nil opposition. 1 a/c returned because of engine trouble. ALO contacted IOs 33 and 63 Sqns. Bringing up to date maps and to generally discuss situation. Briefing 22 Group for mission to WANDOKAI Village.	
	8		Mission No.341BB. 10 B26s strike store dumps and supplies River bed just east of WANDOKAI Village. Target was bombed from 1800 ft at 1129/L. Target was extremely hard to locate through heavy cloud which forced a/c to bomb from very low altitude in extremely bumpy conditions rendering accurate bombing difficult. Bombs were observed to fall in what appeared to be the target area but a definite assessment of the damage could not be made. 15 tons of bombs dropped. 5 to 6 possible barges ~~observed heading North East of Bonga Village. One crashed Jap bomber observed 107167 Ref Map MOSIMA 1/20000.~~ Opposition Nil. ALO contacted ALO, FATF and ALO, 89 Sqn. Exchange of information. Contacted HQ, RAA, 11 Div re Drogue towing for AA at BUWA and ORO Bay. Contacted ANGAU re work for Sqn. 33 Sqn conducted mission 341BB. Strike bivouac area and supply dumps in ravine 1500 yds East of KALASA. 11 B25s were over target at 5500 ft at 1105/L. 50% of bombs in target area remainder inkumai clearing on either side of target. 13 tons of bombs were dropped. Nil opposition. Weather clear cloud base 7000 ft.	
	9		Sqn engaged on maintenance and training, Nil activity. Talks to air crew personnel. Contacted 22 Group HQ. Distribution ~~of summaries to 33 and 63 Sqns. Contacted Air Force QM with officers from Sqn. ALO, 24 Sqn contacted ALO re repairs to~~ vehicle. IO, 11 Div visited Sqn arranging transportation for 11 Div officers.	
	10		Mission No.343BB. 7 B26s and 12 B25s bombed bridges 7/8 BOGADJIM Road area. A total of 23 tons of bombs were dropped from 5000 to 6000 ft. Nil hits were recorded on bridges., Bombs falling within 50 ft of bridges. All told a/c made 5 bombing runs. AA was encountered by all a/c and was reported as accurate and intense, 4 a/c sustaining hits. Nil injury to personnel. 1 B26 returning with engine trouble encountered AA fire from ~~xxxxxxx~~ own guns when proceeding South over LAE. Pamphlets were dropped over target area. ALOs weekly meeting FATF to discuss week's activities and general information. ~~Briefing 22 Gp ALO for mission FORTIFICATION POINT area.~~	
	11		Mission No.334BB for 19 Sqn. Strike bivouac area FORTIFICATION POINT. 8 B26s over target 0843/L at 4000 ft. All bombs in target area. Bombing considered excellent. Bomb explosions and grey smoke visible for 10 minutes after bombing. Flashes were observed coming from centre of target immediately after bombing. 12 tons bombs dropped. Hits were reported in target area. Nil opposition. Clouds 7000 ft visibility unlimited. 33 Sqn conducted mission 343BB to BOGADJIM area. 12 a/c took off but were unable to break through front developing over LAE - SALAMAUA area. Mission incomplete. All bombs returned weather reported as extremely heavy from zero to 18000 ft with heavy rain. ALO contacted 33 and 63 sqns and ALO 89 sqn Airforce QM re equipment etc. Arranging use of concrete mixer for Sqn for 11 Div Camp Comd. Contacting ANGAU re native labour.	

WAR DIARY
11 SECTION 1 AUST. AIR LIAISON
90 BOMB GROUP DOBODURA

DATE	EVENT &

DIARY UP TO DEC14TH DESTROYED BY ERROR AMONG WASTE PAPER

DEC 14 CONTACTED COL. FLEMING WITH A SUGGESTION TO ESTABLISH A RESCUE PATROL SOUTH OF THE SEPIK RIVER, TO COVER AREA WHERE SEVERAL A/P AND CREWS HAVE ALREADY BEEN LOST.
15 DISCUSSED SAME WITH GROUP COMMANDER AND GROUP S-2 WHO WERE IN FAVOUR OF ESTABLISHING SUCH A PROJECT, AND WOULD TAKE MATTER UP WITH V.B.C.
16 0530/L BREISEDD320TH CREW FOR SUPPLY DROP TO LONG IS.
CAPT DUNNING ACCOMPANIED MISSION, WHICH WAS ALSO ARMED RECCO WEST BISMARCK SEA. DDOP SUCCESSFUL. PHOTOS TAKEN AND DISTRIBUTED TO AIB.
17 ROUTINE DUTIES.
18 LECTURED TO NEW CREWS AT 328SQDN.
19 ROUTINE DUTIES. LECTURED NEW CREWS AT 319SQDN.
WARNED OF MOVE TO NEW LOCATION. G-AIR COULD NOT OBTAIN VEHICLE FOR SECTION.
20 PREPARATION FOR MOVEMENT OF SECTION WITH 90 GROUP.
21 ROUTINE DUTIES. MOVED WITH 90 GROUP TO DOBODURA BY AIR TRANSPORT. WITHOUT VEHICLE FOR SECTION.
22 ROUTINE DUTIES. SET UP OFFICE WITH 400SQDN. INTELL.
23 ROUTINE DUTIES.
24 ROUTINE DUTIES.
[redacted] ROUTINE DUTIES. [redacted]
25 ALO CONFERENCE AT FATF RECIEVED TRACE OF LANDING OPERATION PLAN FOR GLOUCESTER TO TAKE PLACE NEXT DAY.
26 GROUP BRIEFING FOR AIR STRIKE AT GLOUCESTER. CAPT DUNNING ACCOMPANIED 400SQDN ON MISSION.
27 SET UP OFFICE AT GROUP INTELLIGENCE HQ. ROUTINE DUTIES.
28 ROUTINE DUTIES. APPROACHED 11 DIV.RE VEHICLE FOR SECTION.
29 ROUTINE DUTIES.
30 DO
31 DO

T.H. Dunning CAPT
5955
O.C. 11 SECTION
1 AUST AIR LIAISON GROUP
A.I.F.

WAR DIARY

Aust. AIR LIASON GROUP
DEC 1943

APPENDIX (A)

Nov 24

PRACTICE SHOOT B 25 G.

1. G III AIR 7 AUST DIV submitted two targets on 'SHAGGY RIDGE' feature. Ref maps PAIPA - KUMBARUM 1: 25,000. Area 682646 to 685640.

2. Definite approaches for the A/C were laid down by DIV to take care of shorts and overs.

3. Latest positions of forward troops obtained and R T A of A/C given.

4. R/T between forward troops and aircraft were arranged in case of emergency.

5. Results of shoot unsatisfactory due to dud ammunition - 6 A P shells fired and 5 H E - unable to observe results.

6. Shoot to be repeated at future date when it is hoped that the full possibilities of this type of A/C, giving close support to ground troops can be properly gauged

K Bracon.
Capt

OPERATIONS LOG - DECEMBER 1943.

DATE. 27 Dec 43.

MISSION NO. 360 D.

UNIT. 71 SQN.

TYPE A/C. B 25D-1s.

NO A/C. 9.

TARGET. KANOMI.

RESULTS. 72x300 lb 8/11 sec delay demo bombs were dropped at the target. Majority of bombs hit immediate target vicinity although 8 of 10 bombs fell short about 1500 yards. 1 bomb apparently hung up and fell about 1500 yards beyond the target. Several blue and grey smoke fires were started among kunai grass and wooded areas. Bombing was excellent. Area was strafed with 12800 x .50 cal and 225 x .30 cal. 3 bundles of Jap propoganda leaflets were dropped on the target. Photos were taken of the attack.

DATE. 27 Dec 43.

MISSION NO. 360 D.

UNIT. 405 SQN

TYPE A/C. B-25C-1s.

NO A/C. 9.

TARGET. KANOMI.

RESULTS/ 63x300 lb 8/11 sec delay demo bombs were dropped on a heading of 330 degrees in elements of 3 airplanes. Grass fires were started in the target. Bombing was excellent. Target was strafed with 9240 x .50 cal and 100 x .30 cal. Bombs from 1 airplane fell in trees 1 mile west of the designated target. 3 bundles of Jap propoganda leaflets w[illegible] dropped over the target. Photos were taken of the attack.

.....Capt.,
OC 1 Aust Comd AL Sec.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit SS 43 AL SEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 1 Dec 43 To 4 Dec 43

K E Hamlet.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP	1		Routine duties. Talked to several offrs of the 6 MG BN on	KEH
			general Ground situation. Met 6 I.O's attached to 312 Bomb	KEH
			Group - this Group expected to operate this area.They will use	KEH
			P 40 M's.	KEH
	2		Routine duties.Further report from WANTOAT passed to 7 AUST DIV.	KEH
			3 I.O's from 312 Bomb Group briefed at length on Ground Activity.	KEH
			Freshly arrived from USA so gave them the story from BUNA cam-	KEH
			paign - bringing them up step by step to present activities.	KEH
	3		Briefing TATF for dive bombing mission on Bridges BOGADJIM RD-	KEH
			2 a/c from 4 TAC/R SQN to lead in strike. Routine duties.	KEH
	4		Dive bomb mission successful - wrecked Bridge Number (3) -	KEH
			phoned results G III AIR (7 AUST DIV)	KEH
			Signal from A.W.W. at WONTOAT - 15 JAPS reported at NOGOBIN	KEH
			Routine duties.	KEH

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted,)

Unit SS 43 AL SEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 4 Dec 43 To 11 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	9		T A T F provided two (2) dive bomb missions in KESAWAI area -	KER
			lead in by 4 A.C. - highly successful	KER
	10		Briefed pilot of L 5 who is taking W.O.CAVALERI (ANGAU) to WANTOAT	KER
			Arranged strike with ops for first light on 12th - target KISA village	KER
			area. 4 A.C. to lead into target. G III AIR DIV informed, and warned	KER
			to advise us of latest troop movement.	KER
	11		Briefed HQ on latest Ground Situation 7 and 9 DIVS. Arranged to have	KER
			P.B. IRIAP now at KIAPIT flown to WANTOAT in L 5. Briefing of 6th Sqn	KER
			for dive bomb mission KISA village.- first light to-morrow	KER
	12		Dive bomb mission partly successful. Japs used white puffs of smoke	KER
			to decoy our planes away from target area.	KER
			Our losses: 2 P-40's belly landed. 1 pilot (CAPT BENNER) hospital.	KER
			1 pilot also, slightly wounded. 3 small fuel dumps, and the QM fuel	KER
			dump hit.	KER

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118 (adapted).

Unit SS 43 ALSEC T A T F Date and Time.—From 12 Dec 43 To 30 Dec 43

K & Nacca

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	12		Pattern bombing used : White flare from leading a/c - signal.	KER
			40 bombs fell among 8th SQN P-40's.	KER
	14		AAB's 83 arrived;CAPT COGHILL received copies.CAPT ASHTON	KER
			to be notified.	KER
	16		Preparing for close Air Support strike on " SHAGGY RIDGE."	KER
	17		Arranged for MAJOR THOMPSON and MAJOR OLIVER to attend Ground	KER
			Situation Conference at 21 AUST INF BDE - re "SHAGGY RIDGE"	KER
			Strike - 1000 hours No. 2 Strip DUMPU to-morrow.	KER
	19		Briefing for Practice Operations on "SHAGGY RIDGE"	KER
	20		Practice Operations "SHAGGY RIDGE " - most successful.	KER
	23		Briefing entire 386 SQN also 312 Group HQ on General Ground	KER
			Situation.	KER
	24		Visit from GENERAL VASEY (GOC 7 AUST DIV)	KER.
	25		Final planning (received by safe-hand) from DIV on "SHAGGY RIDGE"	KER

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

Unit SS 43 AL SEC TATF Date and Time.—From 25 Dec 43 To 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
GUSAP - TATF HQ	26		Briefing "SHAGGY RIDGE" operations.	KBR
			Crew crashed B-25 arrived 25 AUST INF BDE HQ. Left DUMPU	KBR
			in C-47 1700 hours.	KBR
	27		"SHAGGY RIDGE" Strike. Planes took off at 0730L. Strike	KBR
			completely successful. Ground troops gained their objective.	KBR

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

14 Aust Sqn A L Sec

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 1 Aust Air Liaison Group *Date and Time.—From* 0001 hrs 1 Dec 43 *To* 2359 hrs 31 Dec 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information
Moresby	2 Dec		ALO took up temporary duty as ALO Fighter Comd in addition to present duties.
	4		ALO took Maj Tuttle (V Fighter Comd Intelligence) to meet G II (AE) NGF
	9	2200	ALO briefed pilots of 35th Sqn on escape routes in the BOGADJIM Rd area in preparation for mission the following day.
	12		80th Sqn moved to DOBODURA
	20		Group HQ, 35th and 36th Sqns alerted for move to FINSCHHAFEN. ALO relieved of temporary duty at V Fighter Comd
	22		35th Sqn moved to FINSCHHAFEN. Cpl Wicks, relieving Cpl King attached to ALO V Fighter Comd
	23		Sec moved with Group HQ to FINSCHHAFEN by air. ALO visited ALO 348th Fighter Group and attended operations conference at 348th in evening; subject - air cover for Gloucester landing.
	25		ALO accompanied Catalina on rescue patrol ARAWE area during period 35th Sqn patrolled ARAWE
	26		ALO accompanied Catalina on rescue patrol while 35th and 80t Sqns patrolled CAPE GLOUCESTER area. Group destroyed 4½ of 57 enemy aircraft shot down.
	27 ~~28~~ 28		ALO visited HQ 6th Army in regard to intelligence liaison. ALO accompanied Capt Gjedsted (ALO 348th Gp) to Adv HQ 9 Aust Div at WANDOKAI.
	~~29~~ 29		Visited Naval Officer In Charge at LANGEMAK BAY.
	30		36th Sqn arrived FINSCHHAFEN

Brian Hastings

(Brian Hastings) Capt O C