

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

Item number: 8/2/7

7 Infantry Brigade

September 1942, Appendices,
part 2 of 3

ALLIED TRANSLATOR & INTERPRETER SECTION

ATIS-29

October 17, 1942

(The Source of this document must be protected)(The entire document is secret)CAPTURED DOCUMENT NO. 89

1. Herewith is the translation in full of a captured Japanese pamphlet which seems to have been generously distributed among the Japanese soldiers now in New Guinea. Attention is called to the date of this remarkable document - November 15, 1941, three weeks before the Pearl Harbour attack. Prisoners of War captured in New Guinea state that this document and another titled "Read this only and the war is won" were issued to them November 27, the day before they sailed to attack Guam.

The writer speaks of the forthcoming campaign as an assured fact. He leaves a blank space in referring to the "attempts of (certain countries) to obstruct" etc. In some of the captured pamphlets the possessors have written in America, Great Britain and the Netherlands".

2. Forwarded for information.

(Sgd) Karl F. BALDWIN,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Co-ordinator.

Translator: GWC/GKR

(Message and Instructions for warriors of the South Seas Detached Forces)

Cover Page

Secret - Not to be communicated outside of Unit.

A Guide for Warriors in the South Seas

Hq of the South Seas Detached Forces
15/11/41

(Cover page contain an imprint of thick palms in a circle)

2a

HORI - SAN - KYO - No 1

(Trans Note: Probably HORII Unit - Staff - Educational - No 1)

Instructions - regarding the attached

"Message to soldiers in the South Seas"

To all units and militarized civilian personnel under my control or command.

This pamphlet, together with the previously distributed "Collection of Imperial Rescripts", to which are annexed "Field Service Instructions" and "Read this only and the War is won" is to be used as material for the practical strengthening of morale in the field.

15/11/41

HORII TOMITARO - Commander, South Seas Force.

3. COMMANDER OF OTAKE NAVAL BARRACKS
(Rear Admiral) FUKUDA CHOSABURO

CHIEF of New Recruit Section and also in charge of education
(Naval Commander) KUGUCHI KAKUSHICHI (?)

No 52 SECTION LEADER
YASURIYU MINORI (?)
(Rigger - Sub-Lt. 1st Class)

No 52 Section

MATSUMURA HIDAKICHI (Rigger-Warrant Officer)

Translator's Note: Here followed a list of Petty Officers mentioned as instructors (not included here)

-
4. 1. Ask for information from the Chief of educational group
2. Superior Officer's name
3. Disinfection of hand. Carrying out of gargling.
-
5. 4. Be strong, honest, plucky, and cheerful.
5. Assume proper posture. Strictness of salute
6. Fix your posture and saluting later.
7. Do your fatigue at double time
8. Carry out your orders properly
9. Members of the sections are to be harmonious
(?)

Points on Meals

Dining room orderlies are to prepare the number individually.
If possible report it to the Chief of the Group (Han)

Points on reporting

To Chief of No. 5 Educational Group (Han)

No. 5 Educational Group (Han) _____ (?)

Meal is ready.

After this sit down at your table

(a) Attention (b) Salute (c) Sit down

-
6. Points on how to get down from Hammock
Lecture by Chief of Section.
Get accustomed to living in barracks (?)
Familiarize yourself with correct Military Rules
Carry out orders given you

Whatever you do put your whole heart in to it and do it to
your utmost effort
Consult your Chief of the education group (Han) when you are
confronted with troubles
Make your actions fast and prompt
Hold out courageously to the bitter end
Be neat
Be observant of public safety.

7. Course in Morals (3 months and half)
- (It is a clean, clear, right and
(straight mind
(
(
((Self sacrifice)
-

8. September 10th 1941

Reveille - 5.00 a.m. Breakfast

Left KURE SHI NAKADORI MATSUSHIGE KAN and entered KURE NAVAL Barracks.
Physical examination, chest trouble, so went to the hospital for X-ray
(photo). It took a long time and when it was through it was after
5.00 o'clock.

I was extremely busy receiving clothes, entering name, and fixing up
things. I ate supper late and we were permitted to go ashore around
6.00 o'clock. With heavy heart, my first night of Navy life passes
on after 13 years of absence. Wonder how father, brother (elder),
wife and children are?

From September 10th to September 22nd - MOBILIZATION. From 22nd the
various jobs within the barracks were divided into three groups. I
was in "OTSU". I was not able to find out my job.

On September 27th, 83 of us were ordered to move to HIROSHIMA KEN,
SAIKI GUN, OTAKE Naval Barracks.

Arrived at OTAKE Naval Barracks; detachment via regular scheduled ship.

This place was still unfinished.

9. I entered the guard Detachment of the No 1 Section, from the 30th.
As a beginner I am perplexed by the daily questions which arise because
I have been away from Naval life for such a long time.

November 8th, 1941

KURE Naval Station No 2 Special Landing Party was organized. I tried
for the enrolment too, but much to my disappointment I was not able to
go over. Half of No 29 the next mobilized group, which entered the
same time as we, went December 10th 1941.

OTAKE Naval Barracks became independent.

"DANCHO" (Corps Commandant) has not arrived yet. "FUJUCHO" (Ass't
Commandant

"TAISA" (Captain) UGAI KEN

December 20th

DANCHO (Corps Commandant) arrives
(Rear Admiral) FUKUDA CHO SABURO

December 8th 1941

Imperial declaration of War on UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and
GREAT BRITAIN.

Due to the call to assemble went to KURE on Sunday, December 7th.

10. Dec. 9th Report on the result of the battle at PEARL HARBOR.

February 3rd 1942

Got transferred to KURE Naval Station No 3 Special Landing Party.
Went overland to KURE immediately.

Various training every day up to February 14th.

3rd Special

Commanding (Commander) AMANO MINORU

(Adjutant) KAIGUN TAI (Lt.) NAGATA HIDES

No. 1 Company Commander - (Spec. Lt.) TAKAMURA SUKAGO

No. 1 Company No 1 Section Leader: (Warrant officer) SATO HIDEKICHI

No. 1 Company Commander: (Warrant Officer) KIYOMIGU MINORU

From February 14 to February 17th. Loading of rations, weapons
and etc. - fatigue duty.

Feb 17th. We were assigned to GOYO MARU and AZUMAZAN MARU.

Boarded ship. Landing Party leaves the port at 8.00 p.m. I am on
the GOYO MARU. Left the port of KURE on February 18th at 7.00 a.m.
Entered

11. Bunge Strait around 2.00 p.m. On the way to TRUK the Southern
Pacific Archipelago.

Feb. 24th at TRUK

Entered the bay at 2.30 p.m.

Feb. 25th at TRUK. Shore leave granted

Training on land every day from Feb. 26th.

March 23rd. Left TRUK early in the morning protected by destroyers
MUTSURI and YAYOI.

Crossed the Equator on March 25th around 1140 p.m.

Docked at RABAU on March 25th at 9.30 a.m.

On March 27th made preparation for living on land. Left the ship on
the 28th and went on shore to live. Baggage etc., fatigue until 30th.

April 1st. Inspection of Barracks (?)

April 4th Air raid by two planes, but not much damage

April 5th Firearm inspection. Went for a walk to RABAU hot springs

12 April 6th.

Our Company left for ADMIRALTY ISLAND to occupy the wireless station.
There was a heavy air raid today. Five enemy planes aimed at the

anchored ship and dropped 3 bombs but did not damage it. You could only say that it was by the grace of Heaven that it wasn't hit.

April 7th. - Entertainers came to the theatre in RABAU to give a programme. We took turns and went to see it. Seems that the UNITED STATES Aircraft tender WAX is operating nearby. One air raid around 10 o'clock a.m.

April 8th - Air raid in the morning and afternoon. TAKAMURA (Company) lands safely. Air raid every day.

April 11th -

TAKAMURA (Company) returned.

April 18th -

Departed at 3.30 a.m. Landing practice on MOKE (?) Island. Bomb burst on KOMAKI MARU during the air raid and it is in flames.

April 22nd.

Practice landing in the face of the enemy using inactive volcano. YOSHIMURA (Company) departs

13 (TULAGI) It is believed that 13 enemy planes from MORESBY flew towards RABAU.

Salary - 22 Yen 10 sen.

April 23rd - Special festival of YASU KUNI JINJA

Air raid in the afternoon, blew up the army ration storehouse. We were dispatched in the rain as a fire guard.

April 24th. - Our operation is finally getting closer; and preparations are extremely busy.

April 25th. - Both GOYO and AZUMA entered port.

April 27 - 28. - Loading fatigue day and night on AZUMA.

April 29th. - The 2nd Company (YOSHIMURA (Company)) etc. left on B(?) ship SHOBI MARU. "OKI-NO-SHIMA" acted as escort. Consolation bags arrived. Received and wrote letters.

Niece was born in OSAKA. Her name is SHIGEKO. It seems both mother and child are doing fine.

May 1st - 2nd. - Loading fatigue on GOYO MARU.

May 3rd. - Boarded GOYO MARU. Total personnel about 250. Changed anchorage around 8.00 p.m. Seems we are going to PORT MORESBY.

14 May 4th. - Went ashore for first official business in RABAU. Air raid at 10.00 a.m. by 6 planes.

Seems that MUTSUKI and AZUMA were sighted by enemy planes.

Departure at 4.00 o'clock p.m. 48 transports, 4th fleet (KANTAI), 8th fleet (KANTAI) left the port stately.

To think that long waited landing in the face of the enemy has come - it makes my heart beat fast.

May 5th - 6th. Enroute to PORT MORESBY. Sighted 1 enemy Aircraft tender, and 5 enemy destroyers but no engagement took place. There was an air raid.

May 7th - Air raid at 6.00 a.m. Two planes dropped bombs but no damage.

At 8.00 a.m. we are in the midst of attacking the enemy's striking force. Air raid at 10.20 a.m.

Over 20 planes start fighting fiercely in the air right over my head. At 11.00 a.m. enemy planes flew away. Intelligence report up to 5.00 p.m. 1 enemy Battleship, 2 heavy cruisers, 3 destroyers, and 2 Aircraft tenders were sunk. One of our aircraft tenders was sunk AOBA was slightly damaged.

It seems that No 4 and No 6 SENTAI (Squadron) are fighting under difficulty.

- 15 Destroyer YUBARI went to rescue. Fierce battle going on 400 sea-miles west from our ship.
- May 8th.- My convoy headed toward RABAU. Order for the opportunity for which we waited given at 11.00 a.m. Air raid at 1.00 p.m. At 3.00 p.m. 5 enemy planes attacked for 32 minutes right over my head and dropped bombs but no damage. Report of success of battle. It is to be called the (Sea) Battle of Coral Sea. Enemy lost 2 battleships, 2 Aircraft tenders, 2 heavy cruisers, 6 destroyers and 89 planes. We lost 1 Aircraft tender and 31 planes, and there was slight damage to 1 light cruiser. No interruption to our voyage.
- May 9th - Entered RABAU BAY. Left port on the 10th.
- May 11th. - Entered the port of LAVERG of NEW IRELAND (Island). GOYO MARU docked at the custom pier at 4.00 p.m. Unloading fatigue.
- ? Fatigue came to halt at 11.00 p.m.
- May 12th -
Fatigue finished at 4.00 p.m.
Entered our billets around 5.00 p.m..
- May 14th. - Inspection of barracks by Commander.
- 16 May 15th - Inspection tour by Commander of No 4 fleet.
Escort ship KASHIMA entered port.
ABUMA entered port. Unloading fatigue.
- May 23rd - Received 13 m.m. Machine gun(s)
- May 24th - Air raid by 1 plane
- May 25th - No 2 Platoon of No 1 Coy went to RABAU on SEIKAI MARU.
- May 27th - Naval Commemoration Day. Review (ceremony) at West Aerodrome. Athletic meet held at the playground. Native dances were lively. There were also canoe rowing boat races by the natives.
- May 28th - Inspection tour by the Commander of YANE (Detachment)
- May 30th - Air raid by 1 plane.
- May 31st - Remains of NORIYAMA SHOI (Sub. Lt. 2nd class) and his subordinates who died in the RABAU battle returned on NANTAKU (?) MARU. Left port at 3.00 p.m.
- June 1st.- Training at West aerodrome.
- 17 June 4th- Our company commander promoted to TOKU TAIL (Special Duty Lt. Sr. grade)
- June 7th- Bayonet practice.

June 8th - 12th. - Pain in the back (loin)

June 18th - Training on self propelled landing craft

June 20th - Air raid

June 22nd - Group training

June 23rd - No 4 Platoon of No 1 Company left for RABAU on NANTAKU MARU
The headquarter and our Platoon are the only machine gun unit left.

July 4th - Quartering Party arrived. No 12.

NISHIBE TOSHIHIKO came with the quartering party. Heard the news of OTAKE after my departure, Seems that SADAMOTO TETSUNOSUKE went to the ALEUTIANS.

July 21st. Practice of landing in the face of the enemy at the custom pier. The rumour that the operation is now at hand is growing stronger, but it's indefinite. It must be the rainy season now because it is always raining.

18. July 22nd - Preparation for inspection of gas mask. Semaphore. Mail ship NANTAKU MARU entered port bringing lots of mail. Received "SUNDAY MAINICHI", "ASAHI weekly" "ALL-YOMI MONO", 1 letter, 2 postcards all dated June 2nd, 11th, 12th, 20th, 24th, and 28th.

Special course in basket ball. In the evening course there were many things to acquire in the night approach march. It ended at 7.15 p.m.

My saving is now 151 Yen.

July 23rd Thursday Cloudy

Answered letters

Gas mask inspection in morning

Company Commander's special Course in volley ball and gymnastics. I had to put the store house in order.

July 24th, Friday. Clear.

Bayonneting in the morning, Special Course in semaphore. Special evening class. Double time. 1 Bottle of beer and 1 pineapple per person. Bought them from the canteen.

July 25th, Saturday. Clear.

General clean up. I had to clean the self propelled landing craft. No special course.

July 26th, Sunday, regular assignment.

19. Today is the day of execution of a "KANAKA" captive who had insulted our dead soldier. Today is younger brother HIYAKUTARO's death-day (MEINICHI) (Translator's note - Anniversary of one's death)

Left at 7.00 a.m. as the member of the detail to the eastern sea shore. Numerous natives were gathered. Sentence was passed and he was to be stabbed to death. Unlike Japanese, he was crying. He assisted in the wireless and showed a certain amount of intelligence but in his final moment is hopeless. As a gratuity received 3 "SHAKU" (Translator's note SHAKU - 15 qts) and 5 "KINSHI". Day ended raining.

July 27th, Monday. Clear.

Inspection of rifle. Cleaned machine gun. Also operated the machine gun during the morning. Special Course in gymnastics. Special Course in the evening. Double time. Coconut grove after Coconut grove and the enemy is far away.

July 28th Tuesday

Platoon training in the morning. As a Patrol exercise went half way to North Cape. Noise of insects and the long shadows of the coconut are standing in row like a sentry. Every day passes with sweat and blood.

The crescent moon rises from the coconut trees and sinks behind the coconut trees. Today again begins in the jungle and ends in coconut trees.

0. Special course in bayonetting.
Special course in Double-time. Evening.

I passed the day in sweat and blood. It may be a stiff training but I don't think the body will hold out.

August 1st. Saturday, Clear. General clean up. Daily task.

From today, as a guard, I am on the first relief as a number one sentry.

"The seed of the dried persimmon made with the hand of my aged mother and father is left in the amulet bag."

"Two shadows dimly approach, instantaneously I become alert with bayonet flashing".

August 2nd. Sunday Clear

Usual Sunday task. During the morning MOKAMI MARU makes bee line for destination. I am in my cabin. Expected to enter port at 9.00 a.m. but delayed till 11.00 a.m.

Today was off duty day but I had to go on duty as it was my turn. During the morning I went as the member of the fatigue but changed place with the first shift

Gratuity articles - 1 Beer, 1 pair socks, 1 handkerchief, 1 letter paper, 1 envelope.

HAYAKAWA took beer to his "KEN" (Prefectural) meeting.

- 21 August 3rd Monday, Clear

Platoon training in the morning.

(Loading and unloading of firearms) NANTAKU MARU entered port. There was mail. Letter from my older brother and a magazine from my younger brother. Older brother is through with planting and he received help from the neighboring group. It seems that there is too much rain and the grain does not dry up. In today's correspondence everything is written in detail. No special course in Volley base or special course in the evening. Motion pictures were shown to everyone. News. No wind so it is hot and I can't bear it. There were two projectors but we had trouble with breaking (film).

August 4th Monday (Sic) Clear

It started to rain around 3.00 o'clock in the morning.

Platoon training.

August 5th Tuesday Clear

There were movies called "Mother of Motherless Home".

August 6th Wednesday Clear

Platoon training. In the afternoon the living quarters were changed.

OHARA TAI (Unit) No 1 and No 3 Sections got together.

No. 4 Section went to the Medical Service Unit.

- 22 August 7th Friday, Clear - rain, rain, rain.

0530 - assembly. Hostile attack on TULAGI by 1 battleship, 1 cruiser, and 15 des troyers.

LETTERBOX

No communication since the message "Will defend to the last man. Many force great".

Our company has taken position in PANAPEI.

August 8th Saturday clear. Rain, rain, rain.

Reveille at 0345. Immediately got ready. Started for PANAPEI at 0630. Air raid at 0745. Departure at 0930. Back to our quarters at 1000. Special Course cleaning of weapons. Special course in the evening. Prepared equipment

August 9th Sunday clear

Reveille at 0345. Stand-by. Platoon training. Success in battle 4 cruises: 1 destroyer, and 11 enemy ships were either sunk or on fire. From the time of the special course to now have worn fatigue clothes of 3rd classification but changed to special peace time uniform. One enemy plane made a hostile attack around 9.30 a.m. Flew toward the west at an elevation of about 6,000.

Received 6 MELJI caramel, "6 SHAKU" of "SAKE", (Translator's note "Shaku" = .15 quarts) 5 KINSHI (cigarettes) as gratuity items.

Special course in the evening was called off.

- 23 It seems that the reason for the formation of the machine gun unit of the KURE 3rd Special landing party was because the YOSHIMOTO CHUTAI (Company) was annihilated. It seems that the YAMADA TAI (Unit) KAGETA TAI (Unit), SAKAMI TAI (Unit) also received heavy damage in TULAGI Island (?)

Success of battle on 8th and 9th. One battle ship was sunk in the SOLOMON Sea Battle.

August 10 Monday Clear.

Got up at 2.00 o'clock to take over the watch duty. Stand by during 3, 4, 5 o'clock. Went to PANAPEI in the morning to repair the position. Special course in semaphore.

During time off I had to go on watch duty. The sentry groups were only for the night so came back. Hostile attack by enemy plane from high altitude as usual. Seems as if it comes to reconnoitre the completion of the aerodrome

Special course in semaphore by the 6th "SENTAI" (Squadron)

AOBA, KINUGASA, FURUTAKA entered port stately at 1520.

Yesterdays and day before yesterdays success in the battle.

1 Battleship, 2 "A" class cruisers of ASTORIA Class (9950), 2 of AUSTRALIA CLASS (9870), 3 of MINNEAPOLIS Class.

- 24 4 destroyers 10 enemy ships

3 "A" class cruisers, 2 destroyers, 1 ship were blown up. 32 fighter planes and 9 bombers were shot down.

Our damage were 7 bombers, 1 "A" class cruiser slightly damaged and 1 "A" class cruiser sunk. (KAKO) No special course in the evening.

August 11th Tuesday clear

Up and stood by from 3.00 to 5.00 o'clock. Started making air raid trenches in the morning. The personnel of the 6th SENTAI (Squadron) came back ashore and related to us in minute details the success of the battle of the 7th and 8th. This time it was a night battle so was more of a bombardment. It seems that it lasted for approximately 30 minutes.

The 6th SENTAI (Squadron) sunk 5 "A" class cruiser and 2 destroyers. Approximately 80 persons died on the KAKO.

It seems that No 2 turret on CHOKAI received a direct hit was destroyed. They were so close that they fought back with machine guns and anti-aircraft

anti-aircraft/

guns. There was no limit to their bravery. Special course in semaphore. No special course in the evening standing-by.

From the Commanding Officer, "Next three days are most important so be on a sharp lookout and don't be caught off guard."

The crew of KAKO were rescued and came ashore. Everybody had only loin cloth on so we couldn't tell who was who but heard a story of bravery. As for the great East Asia it was a great success. It seems that we are going to RABAU on landing craft at 8.20 p.m. Washed up. No uniform just 1 shirt and shoes for M.C.O. and above, but very few were them. My platoon leader went as the leader of the self propelled landing boat.

August 12th Wednesday Clear.

Platoon leader went back to the unit around 2.30 a.m.

Reveille at 0345. Regular task in the morning. First of all instruction by the Company Commander. Regular training by the platoon leader and special course in gymnastics. Today I went to the well to bathe myself. It was very refreshing. Since I did not bathe myself for a long time, dirt came off like a black mud. If there was any hot water it would be 100%, but this is war. It looks like the 1st part of the aerodrome is completed and we are going to move to the 2nd part. During my guard duty due to the crashing noise (9.00 p.m.) I could plainly hear the groaning voice of a soldier of the KAKO who had an operation yesterday. I pray for his quick recovery.

26 August 13th Thursday Clear

Reveille at 0345. Training in the morning by the platoon individually. We could not take the weapons outside everyday. The sweat sweeps through the skin and clothes and it is just like wringing it out. I am the sentry on the No 1 shift. From today I am the lookout sentry for the PANAPEI position. At 1730 the Platoon leader came around for inspection.

August 14th Friday Clear.

Left PANAPEI at 0600 in the morning. Came back. Built air raid trench in the afternoon for the 3rd Special Landing Party Headquarters. Weekly Sunday Newspaper and two letters came together from TAKAKICHI(?).

Built the air raid trenches for the Battalion Headquarters with the No 1 Company Commander as the director. Special Course as usual.

Left the barracks at 1630. Reached PANAPEI at 1645. Look out duty.

August 15th Saturday Clear

Reveille at 0345. Assembly at 0400. Reached A-B position. Ended at 5.00 o'clock.

Left PANAPEI at 5.40 o'clock. Got back to the unit by 6.00 o'clock. Made air raid trenches in the morning. M.C.O. of the guard at PANAPEI in the night

27 August 16th Sunday Clear.

It is almost cold from last night to this morning. A strong chilly wind is blowing. Back to the unit at 600. General clean up in the morning. Cleaned weapons in the morning. Today's rest period was after such a long interval so everyone went to sleep. From noon we are allowed to do our military act or play games.

Received "SAKE" 5 "SHAKU" (15 quarts) 5 "KIMBATO" and 5 caramels as a gratuity. Received one box of "ONSHI" cigarettes (10 in 1 box)

Under the company order KOKURA TAI (Unit) and SATO TAI (Unit) are to interchange places on guard duty. I became the guard on the No 6 shift. Bathed myself for the first time in long time and was able to sleep peacefully.

August 17th Monday. Cloudy. Rain in the afternoon.

Very fierce squall. Up at 0345. Due to the rain we had indoor classes. Two. air raids. The clouds were low. It ~~must~~ have been ideal weather for

weather for/

an air raid because for the first time a bomb paid us a visit, but there was no damage.

Special course. Cleaned the weapons. Bathed in the evening. From tomorrow part of our daily task is to be changed. Two air raids at 1020 and 1350.

28 August 18th Tuesday Clear.

Up at 0345. Morning assembly at 0430. Method of throwing hand grenades taught in the morning. Guard on the third relief.

Air raid at 0925. 3 bombs dropped on the aerodrome. Seems that three engineers were hurt. Received our pay. Deposited 40 YEN. Total is now ¥ 191⁰⁰.

Special course in semaphore. Bought one cider at the canteen.

Our landing party is going to the objective on the destroyer, and baggage will be loaded on the merchant ship. The destination seems to be MORESEY.

August 19th Wednesday Clear.

Up at 0345. Morning assembly. Cleaned up around the barracks. Platoon training in the morning. No 3 Section departed at 6.00 o'clock. Practising of platoon's deployment as skirmishers was so hard that I didn't even want to utter a word.

YAMAMOTO "HEISO" (Warrant Officer) got hurt.

Special Course. Made air raid trenches. (No 4 Sentry) I was put on the first relief of the guard for the outside of my barracks.

August 20th Thursday Rain.

Reveille at 0345. Morning assembly. Cleaned up around the barracks. The Company training was called off due to the rain. Cleaned the rifle. Rifle inspection.

29

Special course in method of rescuing during the morning. It appears that we will participate in the operation very soon. Commander returned from RABAU on the aeroplane. Air raid around 8.40. No damage. No 4 Sentry of the 6th relief.

It seems that we are finally going to enter the operation I would like to see action once anyway. Baggage will be left behind. It is getting exceedingly exciting.

August 21st Friday Rain.

Reveille at 0345 on guard duty until 6.00. Marched along the seashore during the morning. Due to continuous rain we suffered greatly ~~during the morning~~ but everyone was cheerful. At North Cape we got off the road. I hate this because I am full of mud again. It was 9.30 when we got back to our unit. Special Course. Prepared for departure (during the night). Thinking today would be the last day at the canteen I bought, 1 western towel, 1 Japanese towel, 1 loin cloth, 2 canies, 1 apple, 2 mandarin oranges. It amounted about to one "YEN" sixty "SEN".

Received 1 can of pears, 1 "SAIPIS" (?) and milk as a gratuity.

In the evening the entire No 3 Section drank beer and "sake". This may be our last feast together.

30 August 22nd Saturday Rain.

Reveille at 0345. Rain, rain and more rain. I wonder how it could rain so much every day. Cleaning up during the morning. Preparation of weapons. Special Course in semaphore. Special evening Course. Waiting for the opportunity. Changing to landing party third class fatigue clothes. Seven of our planes went to bombard TULAGI.

August 23rd Sunday Cloudy.

Reveille at 0345. Preparation for departure during the morning. Took care of our personal things. It seems that we are finally leaving on a destroyer. It appears that the baggage is going on the "sea going truck" (Kaijo truck). Departure preparation from this morning. At 1230 I went as a worker to the gunnery branch. Received 1 beer, 5 caramels, and 5 "KINBATO" as gratuity. We drank and ate them in the night and everyone was really cheerful.

August 24th Monday Cloudy.

Reveille at 0345. Meal at 430 Platoon training during the morning. It is a march,

31 with ammunition but it is really very difficult. It cannot be carried by two persons facing each other. It is better to be carried individually. There are 180 rounds in the ammunition cases. Attached a cloth on the outside of the feed bag and made a ----- (thing) to put shells in. I did not have any. I loaned my bag to the 4th "TAI" (Unit) (?) for the grenade discharger. It appears that the date for our departure is not very definite. Special course in stabbing with bayonet. Special evening course in method of batching. Received two letters and four newspapers from TAKAKICHI (?) yesterday.

August 25th Tuesday Rain. Cloudy and later clear.

Reveille at 0345. No morning assembly due to the rain. Indoor class. Went on a march with equipment. It was terribly difficult. Special course in semaphore. Everyone received one army type mess tin. Came to PANAPRI position at 630 (?)

August 26th Wednesday Clear.

0530 on telephone duty (?) Back at 600. Platoon training Point (of a guard) training.

32 I became a patrol on the way. It was lots of fun but hardship was greater. Special course in semaphore. Evening meal from the mess tin. Sea food. Was not able to cook very well. Went to PANAPRI. It appears that we are leaving around the 28th. I am dumbfounded because there are so many kinds of training and at the same time they are so strenuous. The dance by the natives under the full moon has a sentiment which cannot be expressed. Today is the 16th day of the "BON" (Festival of the Death) and it must be gay back in the home country.

August 27th Thursday Rain.

From morning the rain continuously pours just like the "SAMIDARE" (Early Summer rain). Heard this morning at 0040 from the Company Commander about our departure. Well, today is the last day in PANAPRI and KAVIENG.

At 0600 returned to the unit. Departure preparation. Loading fatigue. There are many things to do. Had to be careful due to the rain. Finally my opportunity for which I have so long waited has come and I shall be able to display my ability. The first unit left at 3.00 p.m. I am in the second group at 1900. Headquarters has assembled before and left for RABUL. Boarded No 36 Minesweeper from the branch Government Pier. Left KAVIENG at 2100. On the way. Commander, Adjutant, and Company leader gave us "SAKE" on this occasion of leaving this place. Celebrated the "BON" (?).

33 August 28th Friday Clear.

Headed for RABUL. On the way. Was not able to sleep on the open deck due to the rain. 330 rifle cartridges. Rations for 5 days. Cannot move my body. Entered the port of RABUL. No breakfast. The Platoon Leader went ashore to make preliminary arrangements in regard to operations with the Company.

Extract from diary 1 Aug 28.

- 13 -

Loading of Rations Loading of crude oil. Though KURE 5th Special Landing Party succeeded in making the landing in the face of the enemy at RABI, NEW GUINEA, it seems that they were bombed.

There was a rumour that 8 participants on the KIYOKAWA MARU came back.

General assembly at 1520. Company Commander said in effect that we are headed for RABI. Heard of the enemy's condition there. Plan to go to RABI tomorrow night at 2000 (Finally ~~EX~~ I am headed for the place where I have waited so long to go) On the other side there was the unloading party and the KURE 5th Special Landing Party (Approximately six hundred men). We are going to their rescue. Left the port of RABAU at 1550. Going at full speed caused some sickness.

August 29th Saturday Cloudy.

On the way to RABI. When the day dawned all I saw was sea, sea and more sea. I saw two comrade ships (?) on the right side at 0450 (?) Our ship is going slightly to the north at the present time. Everyone is cheerful. Around 0930 when the clouds were in large banks there was an air raid by two planes which dropped bombs.

34 They fell about 50 meters from the ship right near us. Gosh, it was frightful. Thought they went away in a hurry, still I am worried. Rain, rain and more rain caused the machine gun and equipment to get slimely wet. So this is war. There were two air raids at 1030 and 1620 respectively but no damage was inflicted. Entered the port of RABI at 2000. I am in the first wave to make the landing in the face of the enemy. My body was shaking with excitement but we did not encounter even one of the enemy. It is probably 6 "RI" ("RI" = 2.4403 miles) to the aerodrome. It seems that KURE 3rd Special Landing Party, KURE, 5th Special Landing Party and YOKOSUKA 5th Special Landing Party are marching on.

August 30th Sunday Rain.

The rain scarcely stopped. The mud flies, shoes seem to be getting stuck in the mire and the hardship is really beyond description. Equipment is heavy, feet slip and from the wet body warm steam is rising but everyone is marching on trying not to lag behind the other fellow. The jungle is to the right of us after crossing the river. We made an ascent on the trackless path. Here we went into bivouac without tent and got wet under the trees from the dew. Sentry from 2 - 3.30 o'clock (?)

5 At 0630 two enemy planes strafed the debarkation point with machine guns and also dropped bombs. Two enemy planes came back at an interval of every two hours. It is really a lonely feeling.

Assembly and departure in the evening. It has stopped raining since noon but it is still cloudy. Clothes are half dried but our equipment is just as wet as before. Two enemy planes again appeared in the sky overhead at 1500. I don't know why, but I cannot hope to live and see my native land again, yet I want to win this war before I go. I will prove this to you. The enemy plane is fiercely shooting at us. What a dangerous devil. At 1500, theatoon Leader ordered us to have the equipment in readiness.

We are in the midst of co-ordinating the operation with KURE 5th Special Landing Party. Now at this moment I cannot hope to live and return my native land. Dear parents, brothers (older and younger) nieces and nephews don't cry when I am dead. I am going to be the foundation for the future. Well good-bye everyone. If I am able to write in the diary again it will be purely by luck. There is 45 "YEN" 50 "SEN" in my steel helmet. I am using all of the ammunition. I am taking enough (bread, hard-tack) "PAN" for two meals.

TELEPHONE - B 3333

END. of diary

*Translators Note: Already translated and published as a captured document.
Several copies of this pamphlet have been captured in New Guinea.

2b - 3 - 4

Instructions given to the Officers, men and civilian employees under His Majesty the Emperor and under my command, on the occasion of the formation of the South Seas Detached Force and their departure for operations:

In obedience to the orders of His Imperial Majesty, I now take command of your honoured unit as an independent force, and am about to undertake a vital duty. I cannot repress my deep emotion, and I feel keenly the gravity of my responsibility.

I am convinced that the world situation surrounding East Asia faces an unprecedented crisis, and the fate of the Empire hangs in the balance. I believe that all of you, habitually bearing in mind the Imperial Edicts, have obeyed the order of your superiors, and have striven with all your might; however, at this time when your unit has been newly organized and is about to take the field. You are to stress upon yourselves these three great principles with fullest courage:- The strict observance of military discipline; the strengthening of esprit de corps; and the determination to fight to the death for certain victory. Whether you be under the higher commands or under the command of subordinate officers, whether you be officers or militarized civilian personnel, true to the spirit of loyalty, you are to have faith in, and assist, the combined action of the land and sea forces working together as one body; thus you shall do your utmost to utilize the result of your training to display the combined fighting strength of the Detached Force.

You will take care of yourselves, bear in mind my wishes, and upon the opening of hostilities determine to exalt still more the true worth of the Detached Force, swiftly bringing the Holy War to a successful termination, and thereby carrying out the Sacred (Imperial) desires.

These are my instructions.

5

15/11/41

HORII TOMITARO
Commander, South Seas
Detached Force.

6 - 7 - 8

Message to the Warriors in the South Seas

15/11/41 South Seas Detached Force

The purpose of the forthcoming campaign is to exalt to the world the virtues of His Imperial Majesty, the Marshal Commander-in-Chief, and to complete the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere. Our great mission is to shatter at one stroke the attempts of (Translators Note: Blank spaces left here) to obstruct the disposal of the China Affair, and the spreading of the Imperial Way far wide in these territories. For us, the Imperial Forces it would be inexcusable if, through a chance miscalculation or negligence, the Holy War ceased to be truly a holy war, and the glory of the Imperial Throne were marred.

Officers and men shall, needless to say, bear in mind the mission of the Imperial Forces, and while on active service shall regularly recite the Imperial Rescript issued to the Military; the present message to soldiers in the South Seas is now given to the Officers, men and militarized civilian personnel.

personnel/

of our Detached Forces upon whom rests a grave duty, as an exhortation regarding military discipline.

8 - 9 - 10 - 11

1. Do not wantonly kill or injure the civilian population.

In battle, we must overwhelm and destroy the enemy with courage and determination. However, to kill or wound, in the excitement of the moment, those who have thrown down their arms and surrendered is not in accordance with the spirit of our BUSHIDO. In particular, the natives are those whom we must lead in the future, in order to rebuild East Asia. Wantonly to kill or injure unresisting natives is to mar the honour of the Imperial Forces, and is moreover an unworthy act, contrary to our mission. However, needless to say, you must not be deceived by the enemy through misplaced compassion. There should not be one single man among our warriors in the South Seas to stray from the path of loyalty.

2. On no account are looting and outrages upon women permitted.

Although such occurrences have been rare, it is deplorable, that having regard to the honour of the Imperial Forces, men in the flush of victory should wantonly break into houses, and destroy or loot property. In extreme cases, there have even been vicious men who have outraged women. Whether the victims be whites or natives, and whatever may be the cause, this is something which will on no account be permitted in the South Seas Detached Forces. Our Detached Forces shall go forward, strictly maintaining military discipline and respecting public morals in every way, and, bearing in mind the Emperor's desire that the Imperial favour be proclaimed far and wide, every soldier, tempering sternness with mercy, shall strive to make it manifest. Even the sullen population - the women - all must be inspired with the courtesy of our South Seas warriors.

3. Buildings and Materials in enemy territory shall not be set afire without authority

Captured property often suffers from fires and other unexpected disasters. These occur mainly when the enemy is retreating, but cases are not unknown where they have been caused by the occupying forces, either through carelessness, or momentary excitement. Whatever the cause, not only do such actions cause suffering among the civilian population through shortage of materials, and make their eventual pacification difficult, but they seriously interfere with the billeting of our own troops. At all times and places, fires are a social tragedy. Our South Sea Soldiers will show their prowess by endeavouring to anticipate the enemy and prevent him from carrying out such destruction.

4. Be thorough in Security and the Prevention of Espionage.

"Incautiousness is the greatest enemy" is particularly true in safeguarding military secrets. Especially when we consider the coming operations, one word or one action, can have enormous consequences for the whole of our forces. Spies are always near us, and in order to prevent espionage there is nothing better than: "See nothing, say nothing, hear nothing".

A scrap of paper, a casual word of greeting, may have the gravest consequences. This time in particular, as already announced, not even a postcard will be permitted, not only during the course of our operations, but even prior to embarkation. Superiors must be strict in their surveillance, and subordinates must submit to them. They must not be misled by wild rumors. Thus, trusting and cautioning one another, the duty of

duty of/

our South Sea Warriors, at this time is to be true to their country and their homes by safeguarding our secrets.

5. Take care of ammunition and materials - reduce your personal effects.

Our Detached Force will fight independently over a long period, and replenishments from the rear will be extremely difficult. One bullet or one bamboo stick can affect the fighting strength of the whole unit. Owing to the nature of the coming fight, deep thought must be given to the careful preservation and sparing use, not only of arms and ammunition, but of all materials generally. On the other hand, those who appropriate the souvenirs of a strange country and fail to bear in mind the spirit of the soldier who dies and does not return, not only reduce their fighting efficiency, but are liable to fail to distinguish between honest purchase and loot. Therefore the carrying of such articles is strictly forbidden.

This warning and admonition is given so that our South Sea Warriors, who are sworn to loyalty and austerity, can still further exalt their martial spirit.

18 - 19

All of the above is in accordance with the Imperial Rescript. In order that one and all may firmly uphold the moral principles, and display the dignity of the Empire to the world, we have especially given examples simple to understand, yet easy to be violated, so that each may meditate and follow them. Units which thus maintain military discipline, always have success in war. You are all proceeding to the front, in the service of your country. However, if by any chance any one commits a fault or is examined for an offence, not only will he betray the hopes of his family and his community at home, darken their future, and reduce to naught the record of meritorious military service he has built up, his action will tarnish the honour of the forces in other areas, and affect adversely the completion of the holy war. This would indeed be deplorable. Beloved South Sea Warriors, take this to heart.

- 20 Forenoon - loading fatigue. Embark on the Kinai Maru at 2 p.m.
At night craft embarking exercise.
- 21 Forenoon - landing exercise; afternoon - rest; night - (?)
Landing exercise.
There was bombing.
- 22 While on watch, at about 10 o'clock, enemy planes come. It was hit,
but flew away emitting smoke. Our fighters give chase.
- 23 Stand on watch in the forenoon.
4 times during the day and night enemy planes come. During the night
rain. Carry out landing practice.
- 24 Forenoon - deposit clothing bags; afternoon - night operation training.
- 25 Left port at 7 a.m. heading for DABI (RABI)?.
- 26 Cloudy. At sea. From morning always enemy planes. 1 p.m. sing war
songs and then rest. 2.25 several enemy planes dive and we receive
a dozen casualties. To-night, at long last, we will carry out landing
in face of enemy.

ALLIED TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER SECTION

ATIS-19

October 12th, 1942

CAPTURED DOCUMENTS NOS 32-35

1. Forwarded herewith is translation of document believed to have belonged to 2nd Lt. NODA HIDETAKA, probably of the 3rd Battalion, 144th Japanese Infantry.
2. Documents were captured in the MENARI Area of New Guinea about 8 September, 1942.
3. Forwarded for information.

(Sgd) KARL F. BALDWIN,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Coordinator.

(Trans:- ALS/JWB)

Note book No 32Diary

1st August, Saturday

Overcast, occasionally fine.

Last night when the soldiers were chatting together I heard them say that Lt. OGAWA, YUKIO, Commander of No 1 Company, had been killed in action. I told them, with a smile, not to spread rumours but this morning, when I was walking on the North Side of the command group who were reading out the Imperial Rescript, 2nd Lt. HAMAGUCHI confirmed that Lt. OGAWA had been killed.

Being very surprised I hurried to the office and looking at the report found that in the KOKODA area our advance force, who have been engaged in battle with 1200 of the enemy, had suffered unexpectedly heavy casualties.

I appreciate the fact that we shall meet up with various difficulties before reaching MORESBY. Many brave souls have been scattered to the winds and have not seen MORESBY except in their dreams. Alas they have gone, but uncomplainingly, and now we reach on to MORESBY through the spirit of the departed. Surmounting all difficulties we will carry out this great battle unfalteringly and with a strong spirit.

Today the Medical inspection of those weakened by sickness was carried out to determine whether or not they are sufficiently fit for battle. The leaders of our company were present. Many commanders like to take into battle with them as many of their men as possible but, in contrast to this, I myself incline to leave behind many of those who are not really fit. Can it be that I am not sufficiently ruthless? It is a matter regarding which some self examination is necessary. I am worried because I cannot unconcernedly overlook another's troubles and the feeling grows on me that as a commander I am lacking in sincerity. I feel that I am becoming detached from my comrades through insufficient mental discipline.

Diligent people talk of their hopes

Lazy people bemoan their misfortunes.

I will rectify my lack of mental discipline by diligence and industry.

At 1300 hrs had my inoculation with the 4th mixture. On the way back stopped at the Intendence Office and learnt that Intendence Lieutenant TOKURIRA has malaria.

Since yesterday my head has been heavy and my nose stopped up and I feel as though I have a cold.

After the inoculation I thought I would read but couldn't concentrate so I passed the time doing nothing. When a weak man starts thinking and examining his mind at quiet moments he exhausts himself to the point of sickness without accomplishing anything. Why is my faith in myself so incomplete. It was not like that when I left school. That I should now be worried by matters temporal is due to the military environment.

As the great SAIGO said:-

Man is a mere nothing, Heaven is the great opponent.

2nd August, Sunday

Fine

Tomorrow we will have been on the ship 4 days. I hear that we are to leave on the 5th day. (Trans. Note:- Personal philosophy has been largely omitted from the remainder of this diary.)

August 4

Immediately after lunch I went by car to visit BU aerodrome for study. I had a long talk with a Navy Sub-lieutenant, 2nd class, about the Navy Air Forces and also inspected the place for about three hours.

August 7

According to KAWANO and TOYAMA of the Army H.Q., an enemy force of 4 battleships, 1 cruiser, 7 destroyers and 13 transports attacked TULAGI this morning. Our defence force there is only one company (about 200 men) of S.L.P. It seems many of our attack planes and fighters had gone to destroy the enemy. Oh! The enemy has also counter-attacked. What will be the outcome for our troops in TULAGI? In the evening I saw our attack plane return with its tail damaged.....

August 8

At 6:30 A.M. I saw a large formation of our Naval attack planes setting out for bombing. Probably, they are heading for enemy surface force in TULAGI.

August 9

After evening meal, there was an enemy air raid. Presently a formation of 3 Boeing B-17 came from RABAUUL attempting to escape toward the East. Our fighter (s) in pursuit at a height of a few thousand metres looked like eagles. Following this another Boeing B-17 came from West flying towards East. At a point over MINAMI)ZAKI it was probably hit by the air mine(s) (?) released by our fighters. The enemy plane ejecting two columns of white smoke was trying to escape. Its speed was reduced. When they came almost directly over us, the aerial combat became intense and at last the enemy burst into flames. This was, however, extinguished but our fighters persisted and attacked the enemy from the front with tracer bullets causing him to catch fire over BITABAKA. Immediately the plane turned to the left and crashed after having disintegrated in the air.

16th August

Fine.

From about 0830 hrs commenced embarkation. Our company embarked at 0900 hours.

I had a promise from KAWANO that he would come at 0800 hrs. this morning and waited for a long time but he didn't show up.

Today the inside of the vessel was unspeakably hot and humid both during the morning and afternoon. If this goes on for another day I shall be ill.

There was an air raid today but embarkation proceeded according to plan. Everything was finished at 1600 hrs with the commander of the detachment coming on board.

The rain came down and the wind rose and having spent my time on deck in charge of the natives I know I shall catch a cold.

17th August, Monday Cloudy & Rain

Low clouds and high wind. No flying by either our own or enemy planes. Dreadful weather. Spent the whole day inside. The ship must be going south as it is getting hotter.

I hear that 3 officers of the No 1 DAITAI (Battalion --Trans) have been killed in battle and one wounded. The strength of this DAITAI is certainly becoming low.

18th August, Tuesday Fine.

We expected to see enemy planes but unexpectedly none appeared. Our convoy was protected by patrols of fighter aircraft.

From 1400 hrs we were within sight of the island of New Guinea. We entered the anchorage at 1700 hrs and the disembarkation of the company was finished about 1800 hrs. I was in charge of the Billeting Unit and was responsible for looking after the billeting of each company. I left at once for SOPUTA.

For about the first 5 kilometers inland the breeze reminded me of Spring or Autumn at home. The road was very good but later we entered the jungle and the road deteriorated.

19th August, Wednesday Fine

Arrived SOPUTA at 0715 hrs. Although the map shows the distance as 16 kilometers it took us 12 hrs. SOPUTA is surrounded by coconut plantations. We received orders assigning one company under command of the advance occupation unit. We immediately made the necessary preparations. Left SOPUTA by truck and arrived at SAMBO. The advance occupation unit is engaged in battle with about 900 of the enemy.

Left SOPUTA 1930 hrs

Arrived SAMBO 2100 hrs

At SAMBO slept as we were in the open.

20th August, Thursday Cloudy and Rain

Got up at 0200 hrs and left immediately. Apart from our company there were Staff Officers and their staff, also Captain HORIUCHI together with his staff. Started off in the darkness. Had a good rest on the way about 8 kilometers east of PAPAHI. Set off again for PAPAHI about 1500 hrs and arrived there at 1530 hrs. Slept in a small hut nearby.

21st August, Friday Cloudy

Got up at 0300 hrs. Thought we were leaving at 0400 hrs but apparently on the way last night it was decided to leave at 0500 hrs. Left one platoon behind. After having gone about 10 miles we rested. Left again at 1400 hrs. Unspeakably hot and humid. Billet at 1700 hrs.

22nd August, Saturday. Cloudy

Got up at 0400 hrs. Left for KOKODA at 0500 hrs. Feel better than last evening. Little by little as we near KOKODA we start meeting the personnel of one advance unit. Heard that 2nd Lieutenant FUKU-----? had been killed in action I miss Lt KIYAKAWA. Reached a spot just below KOKODA at 1200 hrs Continued the advance for a further 5 kilometers, until we reached some

reached some/

height where we had a long rest. At 1530 hrs escorted Staff Officer TANAKA to No. 1 Battalion HQ.

I hear that the enemy are young, vigorous and brave. Against this enemy we have this terrain also. It will be necessary for us to put forth our utmost endeavour, and uphold the prestige of our Imperial Army.

23rd August, Sunday

At 0800 hrs when we started off from in front of No. 1 Battalion HQ. we could see in the ~~situation the situation where~~ the enemy are billeted.

I don't know whether it is because the No. 1 Battalion have had so many casualties but all ranks of commanders seem to have lost some of their offensive spirit. Left DENEKI at 1400 hrs and returned to my company which received orders to take up a defensive position in KOKODA replacing and Engineer Unit.

I feel strongly that if the enemy adopt guerilla tactics we have no alternative but to adopt similar tactics. I have told Captain HORITA that we must make a desperate attack at the enemy supply lines and billets but he won't listen to me.

24th August, Monday

Collected potatoes in order to economize on rice. Lunch consisted entirely of potatoes. The flavour of the first one was lovely and when we had eaten our fill stories of home circulated freely.

At 1500 hrs received our order from the company commander to occupy a height from which flames and smoke was rising to the west of KOKODA but later the order was cancelled. At 1530 the commander of the Detached Unit passed through KOKODA. The detachment will tomorrow commence a general attack and will surround and annihilate the enemy in the vicinity of ISURAVA. My company will await the arrival of the KOBAYASHI Battalion, who will take over the defence of KOKODA, and then follow the main force. The platoon will, from 0300 hrs take over the duty of colour guard from the SHIBATA platoon of No. 6 company.

25th August, Tuesday

In order to take over the colour guard went to Regimental HQ. where I became exasperated at 2nd Lieutenant SHIBATA'S random chattering. At 0400 hrs Regimental HQ. commenced the advance. Had breakfast at KOKODA. By the time we reached GILA it was after 1000 hrs and after 1500 hrs by the time we got to DENEKI. From there I could hear the resounding sound of guns on both sides which made me think of the fury of the front line.

I am anxious as I believe that the detour of the 2nd Battalion has become known to the enemy. What with anxiety over the fighting the rain and the cold, I didn't sleep all night.

With nightfall the sound of the guns ceased.

26th August, Wednesday

I didn't sleep a wink last night.

The lull of the opposing guns is broken by the sound of grenade throwers and sometimes by the powerful chatter of machine guns.

By 1300 hrs the position of Regimental HQ., had not changed and there was no new development in the situation.

According to news coming in from the 2nd Battalion they are finding the terrain difficult but are pushing on to their objective.

The result of the present operations depends very largely on the extent to which the 2nd Battalion can carry out their task.

At 15:38 our guns all join in together and the attack and advance begins along the whole front.

27th August, Thursday

The 3rd day of the attack. Last night the Regimental HQ. Detachment HQ and various other units were all congregated together in the same place. I inquired whether the platoon was expected to guard all this congregation but was told that it would be sufficient to guard the colours. Started the advance about 0800 hrs. At 1000 arrived at an unnamed height NE of ISURAWA. We spent the night listening to the enemy rifle shots in the near distance. At 1900 hrs the 3rd Battalion expected to carry out an attack along the main pass, but due to a steep ravine and heavy enemy fire two of the company men were killed and the Battalion advanced along the ridge of the hill.

28th August, Friday

The enemy is gradually being out flanked but his resistance is very strong and our casualties great. The outcome of the battle is difficult to foresee. Regimental HQ. has not moved its position.

29th August, Saturday

The attack still continues. The main force of the company is under the command of the Battalion commander and is fighting with energy. 2nd Lieut TSUTSUI and W.O. MATSUYAMA have been killed. Casualties are heavy. Battalion HQ. has not changed its position.

30th August, Sunday

I think today is the anniversary of my father's death. The fighting is increasing in ferocity. Since last night the sound of the battle can be heard in all directions. In the evening the company commander was wounded and sent to the rear. Regimental HQ is still in the same position.

31st August, Monday

I think today is the anniversary of the death of Commander TACHIBAWA (Trans:- Note Here of the Russo-Japanese War)

The Regimental HQ has decided to move forward as the enemy in front has been repulsed by our 1st Battalion. I recommend that since none of our troops could be observed along the road it was too early to move forward but the recommendation was rejected. Unwillingly we pushed forward with No 3 platoon at the head. As expected when we reached the ravine Corporal KOMATSU and 5 men were killed and Corporal YAMAMOTO and 2 men wounded. This incident was most unfortunate as 15 minutes later the last battalion debouched. The regimental HQ started moving forward very slowly shortly after and reached the hill at ISURAWA where there are 3 huts at 1230 hrs. The detachment continued the attack with one regiment as the main and the YASAWA unit as the pursuit party. At 1600 hrs we reached a point 3 kilometres South of ISURAWA and billeted there. We filled our stomachs with potatoes, sugar biscuits etc. which were left by the enemy. Our food supply is quickly diminishing.

1st September, Tuesday

We spent a more comfortable night than we ever had before on account of using the tents left behind by the enemy but gradually it became colder and we could not sleep. The loud voices of men of the YASAWA unit calling out also made it impossible to go to sleep. Got up at 0400 hrs. Set out at 0500 hrs. After advancing about 1 kilometer we stopped to form an order of march. (breakfast) Today also the advance is fairly short. After advancing a few more kilometers had a long rest.

2nd September, Wednesday

The main force of the company arrived. Rest above the point believed to be IORA. The sound of the guns dies down with nightfall.

3rd September, Thursday

The place which we thought was IORA was found to be wrong. We rested at IORA today. We received rations for 2 days.

4th September, Friday

At 1630 hrs we handed over the colour guard to No 7 Company and rejoined the 3rd Battalion.

5th September, Saturday

I think it's about 2 years since I left school. Every body very pleased to find a river flowing South at a point which we thought to be the highest in STANLEY. Long rest at a point of KAGI.

6th September, Sunday

While distributing the food supply left by the enemy at KAGI we suffered a heavy air raid. Intendance Lt TOKUHIRA and Lt. FUJITA were wounded.

7th September, Monday

The village above the ravine was raided from the air (twice before 0900 hrs) Two of the company were killed and one wounded. For the first time I experienced the honor of an air raid. "Death is fate". No good being pessimistic. Advance to Port Moresby believed in final victory.

In one note-book the following entries appear:-

Schedule

Easa to SAMBO	2 days
SAMBO to KOKODA	3 days
KOKODA to MT range	2 days
MT range to Moresby	5 days
Total	12 days.

Advance Guard (No date given)

Regimental HQ

1st Bn

No. 5 Coy?

TA (-1)?

Regimental signallers

Main body

1 Btry (?) mountain artillery

R.A.P.

Mobile W/T

Water purifying sect. (?)

15th Independent engineering unit (?)

Main Body

1st Echelon

Eds HQ

2nd bn less no. 5 Coy (?)

Regimental signallers

TA (-1) ?

Cavalry

1 Btry (?) Mountain artillery

Main body

1 Platoon Engineers

1 R.A.P.

Field Hospital

2nd Echelon:

3rd bn

Regimental signallers

1 Platoon engineers

1 R.A.P.

Mobile W/T

3rd Echelon:

41st Infantry Regiment

Main body

3rd (?) Mountain artillery regt (?)

36th (?) Inf gun detachment of the 144 Inf Rgt

Veterinary

Sept 4.

Advance Guard

2nd Bn

)
)
)
)
)

600 meters

Main Body

Regimental HQ

Regimental signallers

3rd Bn (less 1 Coy.?)

Regimental guns

1 Btry (?) mountain artillery

?

ALLIED TRANSLATOR AND INTERPRETER SECTION

ATIS-7

October 5, 1942

(The Source of this document must be protected)

(The entire document is secret)CAPTURED DOCUMENT NO 54

1. Attached hereto is translation of Note book of one KANEKO MASAO of No 3 Section, 1st Platoon, 1st Company, YANO UNIT, KURE No 3 S.L.P.
2. Document captured at MILNE BAY September 1942.
3. Forwarded for information.

(Sgd) KARL F. BALDWIN,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Coordinator

NOTE BOOK of KANEKO MASAO of
No. 3 SECTION, 1 Pl., 1 COY.,
YANO UNIT, KURE No. 3 S.L.P.

1. KURE NAVAL No 3 Special Landing Party
YANO (detachment) SATO (Unit)
No. 1 Coy. No. 1 Platoon
No. 3 Section

KANEKO MASAO

2. Attached Superior Officer's name and position
Chief of the Navy General Board
NAGANO OSAMI (Admiral)

MINISTER OF NAVY

SHIMADA SHIGETARO (Admiral)

COMMANDER of KURE NAVAL STATION

TOYOTA FUKUTAKE (?) (Admiral)

CHIEF OF STAFF KURE Naval Station

NAKAJIMA TORAHIKO (?) (Rear Admiral)

VICE COMMANDER of OTAKE Naval Barrack

(Naval Captain)

UGAI KEN

A Coy.

22. 9. 42.

SUBJECT. PATROL of 20/21 by. MASOR. PEER. E. and 2 PIs.
REPORT:-

Reveille 0430hrs on 20-9-42. Break, 0500hrs. Embuss
0530hrs and moved to jetty at Gili Gili.

Embarked on lugger WILLOW for AHIOMA at
0630hrs & arrived 1215hrs. Native guides contacted
patrol on arrival and party left at 1330hrs.
for NAGGA NAGGA.

PATROL arrived at NAGGA NAGGA and
disembarked. Lugger returned to AHIOMA.

The N.V area of NAGGA NAGGA was searched. This
was the area where our native guide had
informed us, a tank & 10 Japs had been
seen 7 days prior to 20. 9. 42. Rust foot-
tracks were seen which were definitely seen
but no tank tracks.

Party moved EAST along beach road
to VANDARA searching area & side tracks
enroute. Sufficient evidence was seen to
state confidently that Japs were still in the
area. Hurdly constructed Jap sleeping quarters
were seen, new tracks were also seen showing
use of road in both directions.

Left VANDARA and moved along tracks to
North for approx 1000'. The move led us
tho' many native gardens. This also showed
evidence of use by Japs tho' none were
seen. Natives informed us that 20 Japs were

run at 1400 hrs 19. 9. 42 having ~~gone~~ ^{KIKI.} ~~gone~~ (Food)
We returned East and South by native tracks
to SEAST. WANDAKA. Total area searched
800 by 1,000^x. Still no tank tracks had been

seen. Returned to AHIONA by road searching
tracks enroute but no evidence of Jap
occupation seen East of LIKHOR. Arrived
here at 1745 hrs. Occupied perimeter camp for
the night.

21. 9. 42. Embarked on WILLOW at 0600 hrs.
and arrived at WAGGA WAGGA at 0715 hrs
to salvage two cartons (cans) of 2" mortar
bombs and to make a further search North
of WAGGA WAGGA. During this search MAJOR PEEK
discovered a Jap lying doggo in the scrub.

~~There~~ ^{One} shot from pistol was fired in the
general direction of Jap who made off
with all haste closely followed by
MAJOR PEEK. who fired two more rounds.
One of which may have wounded Jap in left
shoulder.

Returned to beach and taking 6 more men
made a more detailed search North of WAGGA
WAGGA with the following results.

near native hut evidence of recent
enemy occupation (12 hours) also one dead
Jap who appeared to have died of wounds
within last 4 days and had been covered
with a white blanket. In another hut

a skeleton of small stature was seen.
Definite evidence that Japs have access to
tinned foodstuffs, their own and ours.

The area searched was approx 1500⁺ square

Lt Harper & Ross with 5 O.R.s moved
to East WANDALA to inspect the murdered
natives as Lt Ross wished to report on
them. Search parties returned to beach at
0945 hrs embarked & returned to Gili Gili
at 1115 hrs.

Embarked at 1318 hrs on Bn transport
and reached unit lines 1425 hrs.

Recommendations.

It is recommended that a company
move to the area occupying with P.O.s at
WAGGA WAGGA, LILIHU & WANDALA for purpose
of mapping up Japs who apparently occupy
poorly built of these places at night, hoping
no doubt to be picked up or to act as
guides for further (invasion) invasion.

It is estimated the Japanese number is
between 20 and 50. and it would take
approx one week to annihilate these
parties.

Method recommended:— Booby traps
laid using 36 grenades and parties of
two to three men form in ambush in
enemy sleeping positions to deal with them.

as they arrive in at night time.

Ambushes formed along most used tracks, also while company is in this area, all rig cable could be salvaged

If this recommendation be adopted it is recommended that this company be given this task owing to the fact that at least 70% of the company know the tracks & points in this area which are being used by the Japanese

R Taylor Lint
2nd Lt Co. 22. 9. 42.

Bn.

If above recommendation is approved it would be a good training exercise, particularly to the reinforcements & new who rejoined the unit after action.

I realise that the general defence plan may eliminate such a proposal

Recommended
J. H. G.

CO 2/9 Bn

No 13

GSI/RRL/SMC

MOST SECRET

00764

ALLIED LAND FORCES
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

Advanced Headquarters

11 Sep 42

CAPTURED DOCUMENT

NO. 13

Att hereto is a translation of a diary captured at MILNE BAY,
on 3 Sep 42.

2. Fwded for infm.

ROBERT R. LEWIS Maj

for Brigadier
General Staff (Intelligence)

DISTRIBUTION

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DDMI, Army HQ Wellington, NZ	2
DMI, Army HQ, India	3
DMI, Defence HQ, Pretoria, S Africa	3
DMI, Army HQ, Ottawa, Canada	3
Spares	10

RECORD OF CHIEF P.O. ISHIICAPTURED AT MILNE BAY 3/9/42

Page 1 Chief P.O. ISHII

Page 2 Went on duty on Aug 25, 1942
 Reached RABAU Aug 26, 1942
 Left RABAU Sept 1, 1942
 2 "sea going trucks" for transportation purposes
 Speed 8 knots.

R.O. Time of Departure (RO is KAVIENG Tr)
 Clothing and articles carried
 Various military clothing of third classification
 Landing Party equipment (exclusion of gas mask)

Life jacket, socks, loin cloth, daily articles, outer cloth
 to guard against heat, mess kit, bicycle(?) trailer, bicycle,
 1 blanket, mosquito net, substitute mat, (NCO and above
 mosquito net and stretcher).

Page 3 Unit uniform and articles carried at time of departure from
 RR (RABAU).

1. Landing party equipment
2. Ammunition carried on the man (will be decided
separately)
3. 1 shirt
4. 1 loin cloth
5. 2 prs. of socks.

Page 4 Smoke candle

Leading platoon 1OK = 8
 1K = 30

Third platoon	1OK = 3
Third platoon	1K = 7

) will not be
 replaced

Page 5

	HQ		4	41	Aug 20 Present time	
1st Company	(Leading Platoon	3	39	(1 in hospital)	197	
	(1st Platoon	1	50			
	(2nd Platoon	1	46	(1 in hospital)		
	(3rd Platoon	1	56			
2nd Company	(Leading Platoon	3	36		220	
	(1st Platoon	1	30			
	(2nd Platoon	1	30			
	(Amn Platoon	1	45			
	(M.G. Platoon	1	33			
	(Illumination? Pl	1	38			
3rd Company	(Leading Platoon	3	38		123	
	(1st Platoon	1	40			
	(2nd Platoon	1	40			
	Signal (?)	1	15			
	Engineer	1	32			
	Transport	1	48			
	Medical	3	29	Short 20		
	Intendence	4	39			
			758			

Page 7 1 - straw basket 11 restored

Page 8 RABI

M.G. complete
Grenade discharger 2

Leading (Platoon)	3	35
1st "	1	46
3rd "	1	56
	5	137

1. Expect to leave at dusk tomorrow		
2. Pack the essentials for going to RABAU		
3. 1st Company	5	145
2nd "	6	129
3rd "	5	118
Communication Company	1	11
Transport "		9
Engineer	1	10
Medical	3	27
Intendence	2	20

Page 9 1. Ammunition carried on person

Rifle 180

2. Heavy machine gun total 20 12,600

3. Light " " 960 = 480 small box
480 in magazine

4. Grenades 20 (one apiece)

5. Hand Grenade 2 (individually)

6. Remaining items

If everything can be loaded, the whole lot.

If everything cannot be loaded as pre-arranged

16 boxes
360 rounds

Page 10 Patrol Boat

UME MARU

"Seagoing Truck"

Ration (for 9 meals)	1 blanket, substitute mat, change of clothes	2 rapid firing guns
Reserve Ammunition	2 - 7cm guns	
(ammunition to be carried by man al- so tomorrow's supply)	cooking utensils 2 rapid firing guns 4 - 13 mm gun gas mask mess equipment	

Page 11 Grenade discharger
Hand Grenade

80 rounds

144 x 2 = 290 rounds

56

8

1st Platoon	50
Leading Platoon	38
	88

Lt Machine Gun	2520	= 1st platoon
	840	- Leading Platoon

Page 12 Evening of 27th

No. 39 Patrol Boat

Bn (?) HQ	4	41
-----------	---	----

Page 12

(Leading	2	34)	
1 Company (Machine Gun	0	37)	2.
(Company		4)	2. 65 = 67

P.T. Number 36 (Tr Note: PT is a standard abbreviation for)
 (Pigeon Unit. Doubtful if this is)
 (what is meant here)

1 Company (1st Platoon	1	46
(Machine Gun	1	16

R(?)	38 sentries)
(Besides 0	= 8)
1 Company (Machine Gun 0	= 13)

Page 13 Landing Plan

1. Distribution of loading - as per separate sheet
2. Navigation formation, speed -
 (a) navigation formation

No 39 self-propelled Landing Boat	No 1 boat
No 36 self-propelled Landing Boat	No 2 boat

Page 14 Self-propelled Landing Boat - Landing.

1. Matter concerning load
2. Landing outline
 Water depth
3. Assembly directly after landing
4. No firing of gun from self-propelled landing boat
 (Depends on special order)
 Set up light M.G. in place
5. Detailed discrimination upon landing
6. Transport Unit (matter concerning the transport personnel)

Remainder

No 39 (Leading platoons	3	34
(Machine Gun Platoon	0	27
No 36 (1st Platoon	1	46
(Machine Gun Platoons	1	16
No 38 (2nd Platoon	1	54
(Machine Platoon	0	13

- Page 15
7. Method of waiting and dispersal at the time of attack by enemy planes.
 8. Place to be occupied by the Platoon leader
 9. To despatch sentries frequently
 10. To absolutely prevent the extravagant use of ammunition.

Page 16	The first landing	6	184
	UME MARU Landing	0	4
	Non-participants	0	3
		<u>6</u>	<u>191</u>

1st Class Sailor	Kuroki Kumeji)	
" " "	Usabi Masaichi)	
1st Class Engineer	Nagatsuna Kiyoshi)	UME MARU
" " "	Nakano Kiyoharu)	

Page 17 Landing in the face of enemy.
Participants and non-participants

Unit Landing Boat Self-propelled	Leading Platoon	First Platoon	Second Platoon	Third Platoon	TOTAL
No.39 -No.1 Boat	3 - 33			0 - 27	3 - 60
No.36-No.11 Boat		1 - 46		1 - 16	2 - 62
No.38-No,111 Boat	0 - 1 0 - 4	0 - 4	1 - 40	0 - 13	1 - 62
UME MARU			0 4 4		0 - 4
TOTAL	3 - 38	1 - 50	1 - 44	1 - 56	6 -188

Absentees (In hospital at KAVIENG Leading Pl 2nd Class Sailor
Non- (NODA
Participants (In hospital at RABAU 2nd Platoon 1st Class Sailor
(OSHITA
(Sent home 2nd Platoon 1st Class sailor OKAYA
Men on roster list 6 - 191

Page 18 1. Unit counter sign, pass word and answer word KURE SAN or
KURE SAN TOKU
2. To make reconnaissance when loading provisions on boats
3. At the time of landing if there is no opposition from the
enemy do not leave the emergency ration on the shore, but as
far as possible place it without camouflage, in the
advanced position of each unit.

1. At the time of landing, if the opposition is weak, don't leave
the lifeboat on the shore, but put it in the vicinity of 200
metres from the beach and cover it.

Page 19 With regard to distribution and covering of rations and ammunition
have all personnel help in its completion

Page 20 Aug 27 1800 Left KAVIENG
No. 39 self-propelled Landing Boat
After 1800 Left KAVIENG
No. 38 self-propelled Landing Boat
No. 36 self-propelled Landing Boat
Aug 28 0450 Reached RABAU
Aug 28 1800 Left RABAU
Aug 29 2030 Reached RABI Landed
No opposition. Made connection with "KURE GO TOKU"
(KURE 5th Special Landing Unit). Concentration of
unit.
2330 Marched with precaution toward aerodrome

ORDER

HAYASHI	Detachment
KOMURA	Unit
MARUYAMA	"
MAKIMURA	"

YOKOSUKA 5th Special Landing party.

Halt for night in jungle about 3 sea miles in. Rained all night. Got wet from top of the head like a drenched rat.

Aug 30 Daylight
Still raining

Heard the droning of enemy aircraft as anticipated.

Later - One then two planes flew very low as if to search for us. We did not stir. Watched the enemy planes' movement. Heard a sound indicating a bombing in the vicinity of the disembarkation point, and also 2 rounds of sweeping fire of the machine gun and two rounds of rifle shot.

(damage unknown)

After that one - two planes came flying now and then, but did not drop any bomb nor was there any sweeping fire of machine gun.

As we feared our hiding place was discovered, but hiding place of one part of our supplies which was in the vicinity of the disembarkation place was not discovered.

The following extracts are taken to show the intensity of the training from the 22 May 42 at GUAM until the landing at MILNE BAY.

CAPTURED DOCUMENT No 16

Diary of person unknown, probably a member of KURE No 5
SPECIAL LANDING PARTY.

GUAM

22/5

- 22 May 3 o'clock get up. Exercise for landing operations. Swim 50 metres fully armed and equipped in Coral reef sea. 7 o'clock breakfast.?..... From 5.30 p.m. again practice landing operations fully armed. 10.30 The canteen opens. Fine weather. Hard put for change of clothes. Fine. Hot. GUAM.
- 23 During forenoon practice for collapsible pontoon. Very hot! Leave GUAM 12 o'clock and guarding against enemy planes and submarines enter SAIPAN 12 o'clock at night. Watch 6 to 8. Get up at 11 o'clock at night and practice landing operations.
- 24 12 get up and practice landing operations. 5 a.m. practice for attacking enemy following landing operations. Saw SAIPAN for the first time and practice war exercise. 1 p.m. get back to the ship. From 3 p.m. undergo pontoon training.
- 25 3 a.m. get up; landing practice. 4 o'clock landed and took up battle positions. 6 o'clock the first fight ended near swamps. Breakfast. From about 8 o'clock do 2nd attack and defence exercises and then sea bathing. After bathing return to ship. From 3 o'clock cleaning of arms and equipment. Beyond words how busy we are bathing every day fully equipped. Since formation of unit only 3 hours sleep per day.
- 26 300 Practice for joining collapsible pontoon on large motor-craft astern. 800 taken into Mitsu-umi Unit and loading fatigue till 2000. On the KAMIKAWA MARU. Arrange at first 4 mine sweeper craft, but altered.
- 27 400 arranged to carry out loading from mine sweeper craft to the KAMIKAWA, but 4 left the port, so did not carry it out. 1200. Carry out (loading) on the KAMIKAWA MARU. Took back and loaded remaining water drums on our ship.
- 28 0400. Get up and prepare for embarkation on the KAMIKAWA MARU. 1000. Embark on the KAMIKAWA MARU fully equipped. 1800. Before sailing, all take post. No inspection, sleep, cool. Embarked on the KAMIKAWA MARU.
- 30 0030 get up. All take post. Forenoon overhaul weapons. Rest till 1500. Platoon cmd tells us about the operation. Thus:- Our plan is to land at SANTOS
300m - 2000. Enemy's strength unknown.
The Chitose will land Eastern Island (?) Cable wireless, seaplane base. Expected to complete operations in three days. Planned to land at 12 o'clock on the 4th. Hayashi, Yasuda, Miwa units will carry out landing operations at Midway one day after. Fairly strong defensive measures have been taken. We, one platoon, will change the colour on world map. How grand! This voyage is unprecedented.
At night we undertake practice for engaging aeroplanes. Splash and spout of water rise sky high and the warlike thrills are beyond description
- 29 0300 get up and all take rest. No work in the forenoon. Afternoon weapon overhauling. Canteen opens. The convoy appears majestic in the bright moonlight and there is no atmosphere of war.
- 31 0300 get up and take post. 0700 get ready aeroplanes. The noise of the engine is impressive. Rubber-boat setting up and motor engine handling exercise. Afternoon - hand-grenade discharger and LMG handling.
- 1 Jun 0245 get up. Forenoon-practice flame thrower. Afternoon practice hand-grenade throwing.
- 2 0015 get up. Forenoon practice hand-flag signalling. Afternoon; skill-at-arms and march at the double. Fine weather.

3 Jun 0145 get up, and all take post. 0800 air raid alarm and we all take post, but nothing come in sight. 1400 air raid again. 7 enemy planes come. Our former ship, the Argentina Maru, attacked. They emptied all the bombs, but no damage to our side. Evening - all take post. 1800 Yoshimoto goes to the lavatory and gets hurt. I am sorry for him. Unit comdr gives us talk re our landing operations of tomorrow.

1920 Attend to Yoshimoto. Fairly?..... Tomorrow at long last at 22 o'clock, it is arranged to take large size motorcraft. Pray for good fortune of war. The weather is fine and the sea is calm. Pack things to get ready for landing operations. Distribution of ammunition.

4 130 all get up and eat. 27

5 0130 take post. 0400 enemy planes come. 0420 all clear. 0730 Equipment inspection. Bath; physical exercise; evening meal. 1400 Daytime 0830

It was intended to land 0000, but the plan of operations changed. Was it because of our fighting strength or something like that? We turn for somewhere with the convoy. Landing put off for some short time. 2300 Divisional Petty Officer Kakimoto breathes his last.

From here is described how the convoy was deflected to KISKA, describing intense cold for which they were not prepared, and several bombing raids.

3 Jul 0100 By midday clears up, no cloud in the sky, the first fine day since coming North. After midday meal 08.45, as we took launches to go ashore for land operation training, 4 bombs drop near the Kimikawa Maru. 5 enemy planes come. Mai 7. Then for one hour our ships are bombed. In all 45 bombs - near the Kamikawa Maru 15. No damage on our ship. One killed and 3 wounded on the Kimikawa Maru.

It seems that the enemy aimed at Kamikawa Maru, the biggest of the convoy. On account of the intensity, ships commence to move, Gun fire from all ships terrific. Our ship fires 108 rounds from the 12 cm AA gun. Landing unit personnel work as ammunition hands, but only a few worked. The rest hid themselves somewhere. I was ready to die with the ship. Think of the village shrine and gods! Others may have had the same attitude of mind. It was 1 hr 25 minutes from 0850 to 1015. 1200 leave port and start for somewhere. After an hour's cruise visibility become nil by fog. It becomes night. Our convoy now consists of the Kamikawa, Kimikawa, Fujisan Maru (s) Wakaba, Ikazuchi, Hokaze, Shekaze, and Umikaze. (x destroyers? Translator's note)

4 0300 Rain. At sea. I hear that the 2nd Combined Special Landing party will be disbanded and I expect I shall come under control of the Hayashi unit. Feel ill because of the cold. Both body and mind tired out.

In fine spirits; please do not worry; received baptism of fire many a time.

5 Fine. Training before noon; rest in the afternoon.

6 Fine. Training in main unit before noon; rest in the afternoon.

7 Fine. In the forenoon while we were preparing for ball firing we hear that our troops at Tulagi are in danger. So we, No 5 Sasebo special landing unit, part of No 3 and No 5 Kure special landing units in order to set out to support them spend the afternoon loading ammunition and goods. Left port 5 p.m. The Tsugaru minelayer.

8 During forenoon ammunition served out. Rifle 200 (?), LMG 800 (?), grenades (?) 30, revolver 45. But in the afternoon a signal to say that aid is not required, and we return to RABAUL. In the afternoon the ammunition is returned.

10 p.m. The Wayo Maru on board of which was the Sasebo No 5 Special landing unit which was acting with us was sunk by a submarine. I heard a loud noise and understand there were approx a total of 600 on board and that 150 (?) were saved. I understand she was spotted because she was sending light signals.

We at once despatch rescue boats and at 2.30 a.m. enter port.

9 Fine. 4.30 leave port and search for the enemy. 8 a.m. arrive at where the Wayo Maru was sunk. Derbris floating, pitiful to see feel sympathy for the killed. 2 o'clock enter port and prepare tents. During night we have 4 air raids. Towards dawn one Boeing plane (of the enemy) disintegrates in the air and falls. We clap our hands and rejoice. Night raids register hits in the aerodrome and the crude oil burns.

17 Forenoon - training; Afternoon - make the boat ship-shape.

18 Forenoon - training; Afternoon - night operation training.

19 All day - loading fatigue.

DOCUMENT NO. 16

Diary of person unknown probably a member of
KURE No. 5 SPECIAL Landing Party

NOTE:-

On the rear fly-leaf is a rough sketch of GUAM showing the entrance through the reef, GREEN Islet, SAND Islet, with the following legend:-

SAND ISLAND
Width 300 metres
Length 2000 "
Seaplane base
6th July

Page 1.

Chief Commander	(Naval) Taisa	Ōta Minoru
Commander	" Chusa	Hayashi Shoji
Coy Comdr	" Chui	Fujimura Muro-o
Platoon Comdr	" Hei-sōchō	Fujikawa Ken-ichi

Page 2.
29/4

Alteration of Posting

- 27 Inspection of Allotted ships. Blood test (?) 10.
- 30 Landing party organised at the Marine Corps
1 company, 3 platoon, 4 section.
- 4/5 Organisation of the 5th Special. Received eqpt for landing parties.
- 2,3,4/5 Training every day.
- 4 Clothing completed
- 5 Night operation training at GONARA MURA.
Come back 2 p.m. on the 6th.
- 6 All-night leave.
- 7 Loading of fighting eqpt. ARGENTINA MARU. Rain
- 8 Loading fatigue till 10 p.m. without eating the evening meal. 12.30 Come ashore.
- 9 Training.
- 10 Overnight leave for half the ship's personnel from 9 a.m.
- 11 After inspection of the section, ballfiring, grenade discharger
.....? 5? ballfiring carried out. Pistol.
- 13 Exercise till 2 p.m. 1st coy only.
- 14 4 hrs in the afternoon ashore, 6 o'clock, embarkation
- 15 7 a.m. set sail. Calm sea, fine weather.
Instructions etc. re landing operations by comdr.
- 16 Cloudy. Calm voyage. Training for disposition & post taking.
First aid lecture as additional course.
- 17 Fine. Rains off and on, Sea calm. 5.30 get up. Undergo
various training.
About 1.40 ship reported in sight and all feel taut. About
4.11 something like a submarine seen, it was reported?
..... Canteen opens - beer, cakes! Hot! like the summer
in JAPAN.
- 18 Fine.
5.30 get up; calm voyage: Forenoon. Weapon inspection
training and talk on gasmask. Afternoon, after sand rubbing
the deck take bath, but water insufficient. Temperature is
about July or August of JAPAN. Stand on watch 10 to 12.
- 19 5 a.m. get up. 7 o'clock, submarine reported and all take post
More danger lurking now. During night change direction again
0400 double watch kept.

Page 3

- IX 20 Changing the original plan of entering SAIPAN. 11 a.m. proceed for GUAM passing SAIPAN on the side. Afternoon, wait in readiness.
- 21 Fine. Experience a characteristic squall. Past 10 o'clock enter (GUAM) Omiya Island (4 - 6 watch) Gaze on South Sea scenery. Coconut trees!
- 22 3 o'clock get up. Exercise for landing operations. Swim 50 metres fully armed and equipped in Coral reef sea. 7 o'clock breakfast.?..... From 5.30 p.m. again practise landing operations fully armed. 10.30 The canteen opens Fine weather. Hard put for change of clothes.
- Fine. Hot. GUAM
- 23 During forenoon practise for collapsible pontoon. Very hot! Leave GUAM 12 o'clock and guarding against enemy planes & submarines enter SAIPAN 12 o'clock at night.

Page 4

- Watch 6 to 8. Get up at 11 o'clock at night and practise landing operations.
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- ✓ 28 0400. Got up and prepare for embarkation on the KAMIKAWA MARU. 1000. Embark on the KAMIKAWA MARU fully equipped. 1800. Before sailing, all take post. No inspection, sleep, cool. Embarked on the Kamikawa Maru.

Page 5

- 30 0030 get up. All take post. Forenoon overhaul weapons. Rest till 1500. Platoon comdr tells us about the operation. Thus:- Out plan is to land at SANTOS 300^m - 2000. Enemy's strength unknown.

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Page 6.

- ✓ 3. 0145 get up, and all take post. 0800 air raid alarm and we all take post, but nothing comes in sight. 1400 air raid again. 7 enemy planes come. Our former ship, the Argentina Maru, attacked. They emptied all the bombs, but no damage to our side. Evening - all take post. 1800 Yoshimoto goes to the lavatory and gets hurt. I am sorry for him. Unit comdr gives us talk re our landing operations of tomorrow.

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Attend to Yoshimoto. Fairly? Tomorrow at long last at 22 o'clock, it is arranged to take large size motorcraft. Pray for good fortune of war. The weather is fine and the sea is calm. Pack things to get ready for landing operations. Distribution of ammunition.

- ✓ 4. 130 all get up and eat. 27
- ✓ 5. 0130 take post. 0400 enemy planes come. 0420 all clear. 0730 Equipment inspection. Bath; physical exercise; evening meal. 1400 Daytime 0830
It was intended to land 0000, but the plan of operations changed. Was it because of our fighting strength or something like that? We turn for somewhere with the convoy. Landing put off for some short time.

2300 Divisional Petty Officer Kakimoto breathes his last. X

Page 7

6. 0215 get up. Where are we going? 0515
Petty Officer Kakimoto buried at sea. Miserable!
Restore ammunition. No work in the afternoon.
7. 1.50 All take post. After meal, get ready to leave ship. Afternoon - rest. We expect to go on a destroyer but cannot locate it and remain on board.
Chased by enemy plane-carrier. We turn west at full speed. Our plane carrier Oka ? was by enemy. (Tr. note: probably refers to AKAGI. Writer has probably deliberately left out the word "sunk".
8. 200 Mai (Zuru ?) landing units succeed in landing at KJSKA in the North. Where is our convoy heading for? I understand that it is looking for our ship. Hear that enemy plane-carrier that has been looking for us is now 60 miles behind.
9. 200 Again landing Units prepare to disembark. ?
Although submarine searched singly could not find it. Because Kamikawa Maru was late for the northern operation, preparations were cancelled and we all headed for the north.
(Tr Note:- difficult to determine meaning of 8 and 9)
10. 220 no posting. 1100 enemy submarines seen. All take post. Dropped depth-charges. Cold increases. No clothing. Given winter clothing and blanket.
11. 300 No work in the forenoon. Cold increases. Change from protection from heat to protection from cold. Very rough. Northern sea is also grand.
12. 240 Rough sea from yesterday becomes worse and some are seasick. It gets as cold as February in Japan. The sea was rough the whole day.

Page 8.

13. 240 The sea a little calmer than yesterday. The temperature falls all the time. This watch on North is harder than the service in the South. 140, enemy planes in sight but we receive no damage.
14. 215 On watch duty. Cold increases. Towards evening take out from store necessary articles for landing.
15. 115 (13-15 on watch) Rain, see island(s) for the first time. Snow everywhere. It is colder than winter in Japan. 1300 enemy planes come and drop bombs 150 metres ahead of our ship. First baptismal gift! not a tame affair! Afternoon, landed all things necessary.

Rain ceasing, load them on large size motor craft. No tree on the island. Evening 4 Englishmen come to surrender with a white flag. The sight is pathetic.

16. 0130 Rain. Dig air raid shelter on Kiska Island. Expected to leave port at 1800 but this was cancelled.
17. 0130 Rain. Forenoon - cleaning of arms. Afternoon no work.
18. 2303, 0130 leave port and take stock of things needed for land operations 16-18, watch. Where are we going? 12-15 anchor off Attu Island. 17, landed as member of landing unit. No trees in sight. See 2 houses. Show traces of being inhabited till recently. Looks a weather observatory. Fired hand-grenade discharger, and the grenade will not burst. 1800 return to ship.
19. 0100 Rain. It seems enemy planes came over Kiska and dropped bombs on our warship but not much damage was caused. Downed 2 enemy planes.
20. 0160 Tent drying. A plane flew to Kiska but was forced to land on ~~xxx~~ water on the way.

Page 9.

21. 0030. 0060 proceed to where the plane made forced landing. 0120 arrive there to tow her by a large size motor craft. The plane was damaged and rescue the crew which was unhurt.
22. 0100 Start back from the scene and enter --port and replenish from the crude oil tanker. Kimikawa Maru's plane dropped and sunk.
23. 0100 Rough sea, no work.
24. Rough sea, no work.
25. 0100 Splendidly fine weather. See the sun all day for the first time since came North.
26. 0100 Twice all hands take post. Plane fatigue many times. Obtain ration from the Tōkō Maru, about 200 tons.
27. 0100 Write home for the first time since left Kure. Fatigue for obtaining fresh water.
28. 0100 Rain and rough sea; no work.
29. 0100 Rain stops; still high waves; stay all day in the ship.
30. 0200 Fine. Fresh water fatigue began but there being still very big swell the water boat sinks. Work in the sea-water chills feet and catch cold. Salvage the machinery on the fresh water boat and the hull abandoned.

1. 0200 Cloudy; no work all day.
2. 0200 Cloudy; high waves; same as yesterday.
3. 0100 By midday clears up, no cloud in the sky, the first fine day since coming North. After mid-day meal 08.45, as we took launches to go ashore for land operation training, 4 bombs drop near the Kimikawa Maru. 5 enemy planes come. Mai 7. Then for one hour our ships are bombed. In all 45 bombs - Near the Kamikawa Maru 15. No damage on our ship. One killed and 3 wounded on the Kimikawa Maru.

Page 10.

It seems that the enemy aimed at Kamikawa Maru, the biggest of the convoy. On account of the intensity, ships commence to move. Gun fire from all ships terrific. Our ship fires 108 rounds from the 12 cm AA guns. Landing unit personnel work as ammunition hands, but only a few worked. The rest hid themselves somewhere. I was ready to die with the ship. Think of the village shrine and gods! Others may have had the same attitude of mind. It was 1 hr 25 minutes from 0850 to 1015. 1200 leave port and start for somewhere. After an hour's cruise visibility becomes nil by fog. It becomes night. Our convoy now consists of the Kamikawa, Kimikawa, Fujisan Maru(s) Wakaba, Ikazuchi, Hōkaze, Sheekaze, and Umikaze. (x Destroyers? Translator's note)

4. 0300 Rain. At sea. I hear that the 2nd Combined Special landing party will be disbanded and I expect I shall come under control of the Hayashi unit. Feel ill because of the cold. Both body and mind tired out.

Page 11.

In fine spirits; please do not worry; received baptism of fire many a time.

Page 12.

5. Fine. Training before noon; rest in the afternoon.
6. Fine. Training in Main unit before noon; rest in the afternoon.
7. Fine. In the forenoon while we were preparing for ballfiring we hear that our troops at Tulagi are in danger. So we, No 5 Sasebo special landing unit, part of No 3 and No 5 Kure special landing units in order to set out to support them spend the afternoon loading ammunition and goods.
Left port 5 p.m. The Tsugaru minelayer.
8. During forenoon ammunition served out.
Rifle 200 (?), LMG 300 (?), grenades (?) 30, revolver 45.
But in the afternoon a signal to say that aid is not required, and we return to RABAU. In the afternoon the ammunition is returned.
10 p.m. The Wayo Maru on board of which was the Sasebo No 5 Special landing unit which was acting with us was sunk by a submarine. I heard a loud noise and understand there were approx a total of 600 on board and that 150 (?) were saved. I understand she was spotted because she was sending light signals.
We at once despatch rescue boats and at 2.30 a.m. enter port.
9. Fine 4.30 leave port and search for the enemy. 8 a.m. arrive at where the Wayo Maru was sunk. Derbris floating, pitiful to see feel sympathy for the killed. 2 O'clock enter port and prepare tents. During night we have 4 air raids. Towards dawn one B6mering plane (of the enemy) disintegrates in the air and falls. We clap our hands and rejoice. Night raids register hits in the aerodrome and the crude oil tank burns.

Page 13.

17. Forenoon - training; Afternoon - make the boat ship-shape.
18. Forenoon - training; Afternoon - night operation training.
19. All day - loading fatigue.
20. Forenoon - loading fatigue. Embark on the Kinai Maru at 2 p.m. At night craft embarking exercise.
21. Forenoon - landing exercise; Afternoon - rest; Night - (?) landing exercise.
There was bombing.
22. While on watch, at about 10 O'clock, enemy planes come. It was hit, but flew away emitting smoke. Our fighters give chase.

Page 14.

23. Stand on watch in the forenoon.
4 times during day and night enemy planes come. During the night, rain. Carry out landing practice.
24. Forenoon - deposit clothing bags; Afternoon - night operation training.
25. Left port at 7 a.m. heading for DABI (RABI ?)
26. Cloudy. At sea. From morning always enemy planes. 1 p.m. sing war songs and then rest. 2.25 several enemy planes dive and we receive a dozen casualties. Tonight, at long last, we will carry out landing in face of enemy.

CSI/RRL/EAH

M 73

MOST SECRET

00899

ALLIED LAND FORCES
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

M 84

Advanced Headquarters.

13 Sept 42

CAPTURED DOCUMENT
NO. 17

Att. hereto is a translation of a document dated 17 Aug 42 captured at Milne Bay about 3 Sep 42. It is an order issued by the Comdr of YOKOSUKA No 3 Special Landing Force in connection with operations against LUNGA (GUADALCANAL).

2.

Fwded for infm.

I file
Comm ✓
9
25 ✓
61

(Sgd) Robert R. LEWIS Maj.

for Brigadier,
General Staff (Intelligence).

SHIRATO - Chief Petty Officer.

No 1 Order for the No 5 Special Landing Unit of
YOKOSUKA Naval Station.

At Sea - 17th August 1942.

9
33

YOSHITATSU YASUDA Commander of No 5 Special Landing Unit.

Orders for landing unit.

There are enemy forces of unknown strength in the vicinity of LUNGA cape of GUADALCANAL island.

The present condition of our landing unit and pioneer unit in the island is still unknown other than the fact that a few members of the landing unit are in observation posts on the island.

Approximately 100 men belonging to TAKAHASHI Expeditionary Force of this unit who embarked in a destroyer on the 15th are rapidly proceeding to GUADALCANAL island from RABAU as a connecting unit.

PAGE II

A raiding party of about 900 men belonging to IKKI army detachment who embarked on six destroyers are now hurrying to GUADALCANAL Island and are expected to make a landing on the western coast of TAIJU Cape on the night of the 18th. The main force of IKKI army detachment who embarked on two transports are proceeding to the same island under the protection of JINTSU patrol boat(s) and are expected to join this unit at a later time. CHOKAI and No 6 Division will support this operation and base air unit(s) will co-operate with the reinforcement unit(s).

2. The landing unit will make a landing on the 22nd of August on the Western Coast of TAIJU cape (or on the Western coast of LUNGA cape according to how far the raiding party has advanced, and also according to the situation of the enemy) and rapidly advance in the direction of the aerodrome of LUNGA cape and achieve the object of rescuing our troops by destroying the enemy by co-operating with the army.

PAGE III

3. Landing plans are set out on a separate sheet.

4. The leader of No 2 company will immediately after landing post No 1 platoon to patrol the vicinity of the point of landing at the same time send an officer patrol consisting of one section to which will be attached a member (carpenter) of an engineering unit headed by the commander of the leading platoon and they are to search and report on the roads in the rear of the landing party.

The patrol will advance about 5 kilometres unless there is a special order.

5. The leader of the signal unit is to establish as soon as possible a temporary wireless station in the neighbourhood of the point of landing.

6. The remaining units are to carry out expeditiously in accordance with a separate order the landing of military stores.

7. A special order relating to the commencement of the advance will be given.

Each platoon at the time of the advance is to carry a collapsible boat for crossing rivers.

PAGE IV

8. The undermentioned are to remain in the neighbourhood of the point of landing and are to guard the temporary wireless station and the stores which have been landed:-

The head of the transport unit who will be in charge of the guard, -
transport unit, one section of No. 2 company members of the temporary wireless stations, the crew of the large sized powered landing boat(s) and crew of tank unit(s).

9. The pass word is YAMA (mountain) KAWA (river) and during the night each member wears a white sash across the shoulder.

10. I will land in the first landing and generally will remain in the vicinity of the landing point.

PAGE V

Secret - The annexure to No. 1 Order for No. 5 Special Landing Unit of YOKOSUKA Naval Station Plan of Landing.

1. Subdivision of the landing and the small craft to be employed.

Number	Unit	Large sized powered landing boat to be used	Remarks
No. 1	Landing Units Headquarters (less tank unit), a part of the signal unit (5) a part of the engineering unit (5) medical unit.	No. 9	According to the conditions large sized powered patrol boat(s) can be used.
	No 2 Coy less No 3 platoon	No. 10 No 11(KINRYU MARU)	
No. 2	Tank Unit, No 2 Coy, No 3 Platoon the Major part of the signal unit (8) the major part of the engineering unit (11) transport unit, pay unit.	Suitable	

Reference - The time of landing the tank unit will be indicated in the plan of landing of ammunition stores. The time of the second landing of the others will be indicated by the commander of the unloading operations from the ship according to the progress of the work. The chief gunnery officer will land after the completion of the unloading operations from the ship(s).

PAGE VI

2. The landing points

The first plan - on the Western coast TAIWU cape (the western side of the TASIMBOKO river mouth and the eastern side of the landing point of the main force of the IKKI detachment).

The second plan the western coast of LUNGA cape.

Unless specially ordered adopt the first plan.

3. Method of landing

The first landing will leave the ship in accordance with orders and advance in line abreast formation on the commander's landing boat and will execute the landing suitably. According to circumstances the landing boats may set out one after the other.

In the second landing, land boats will act suitably.

The signaller attached to the unit headquarters will for the purpose of indicating the landing point during night time will have ready three dim red lights.

4. Others (A) Rations for two meals (breakfast and lunch) will be carried.

3.

PAGE VII

B. The members of guard and patrol are to wear boots and those unloading the ships are to wear 'TABI'

C. Anti-mosquito equipment to be carried.

5. Calendar

Month	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moon rise (set)	Age of moon	High Tide	Low Tide
Aug	21	0427	1619	1126	9	1025 2125	0340 1510
Aug	22	0427	1617	1225 (0022)	10	1130 2235	0440 1615
Aug	23	0426	1619	1324 (0122)	11	1225 2330	0530 1705

Reference

Refer to the plan of unloading military stores.

THE END

CAPTURED DOCUMENT

No 20

Page 1

Five points to reflect on

Have you ever been irrational to sincerity?
Have you ever been ashamed of your deeds or words?
Has your spirit ever flagged?
Have you ever regretted about your efforts?
Have you ever been lazy?

END

Page 2

Tr. Note: (Five characters, possibly names untranslatable)

Page 3

May 15th Commander in Chief addressed us before embarkation. Completed embarkation before noon, immediately left mother port and headed for OO.

May 16th Put personal equipment away. In spite of my long sea experience, the way the submarine chasers navigate on patrol seems strange.

May 19th Entered port of SAIPAN. Received new weapons. Rifles, smoke cylinders, rifle grenade discharger, bombs etc, gas detectors, because of light machine gun disposition there is nothing

May 20th Left port of SAIPAN

Page 4

May 22nd We expect to act jointly with army IKKI detachment.

May 23rd We return to SAIPAN - to assemble. Immediately our Hands turn out (1 a.m.) opposed landing operations (2nd Company 3rd Platoon) were not carried out as there were no landing craft which were used in transporting arm units.

May 24th No change today. 12 o'clock all hands turn out we were to carry out landing operations. However, as a platoon of an army unit had to be transported, this was not done. There is not much to do and I feel despondent.

May 25th The same training as before. Always the platoon remains on the ship. It is very disappointing. Army units have at last come back. We shall train lowering the large sized powered boats. Tomorrow we shall load necessary goods for the army.

May 26th Army expedition cancelled.

May 27th Tomorrow at last we shall leave the port. Goodbye SAIPAN and GUAM Islands. The climate is hotter than expected.

May 28th Left our ship at 1 a.m. this morning for landing and craft exercise. Left port in the afternoon. The leader of YASUDA unit gave an address on instructions. Great will power will decide the fate of the landing, so, great care and self discipline is necessary.

Page 5

May 29th The crown of victory always remains on our heads. Let us destroy, let us subdue the strong enemy.

May 30th Four pairs of socks were provided from the clothing store today. Five heavy cruisers are on the starboard horizon. The destroyer squadron as protecting vessel JINTSU as flagship.

May 31st At 2 p.m. we practice taking up our stations. Officers above the rank of warrant officer had table practice. Rest in the afternoon. I taught the auxiliary gunner the necessary points in machine gun disposition training, which was held the other day.

Midway Operations: Looking back since the formation of the unit we had training after training. The second combined special landing unit embarked on BRAZIL MARU and left port immediately and arrived at SAIPAN after constant patrol against enemy submarines. However we were watched by the enemy submarines so left GUAM Island, where we stayed for several days and left again for SAIPAN. We carried out combined landing exercise together with KURE unit, Army

NABETANI detachment which came following us. We stood by for an opportunity. On the 28th we left port for Midway with increased belief that the crown of victory will always stay above our heads. I hear that unfortunately the AKIZUDORI which had been carrying out protection duties from OKOSUKA was hit by a torpedo.

- Page 6 June 1st After receiving information on what points to occupy we sharpen our bayonets and swords and I heard that none of our recon planes which set out on duty have returned. Probably the offence is very strong.
- June 2nd Practice taking up our stations.
- June 3rd Preparations for opposed landing.
- June 4th We are approaching Midway. It appears that an enemy patrol flying boat spotted our convoy and returned to the base. Later we were attacked by an enemy formation of six bombers but sustained no damage.
- June 5th According to reports a strong enemy striking force consisting of over a dozen aircraft carriers five cruisers and eight destroyers which left HAWAII port with the object of attacking our convoy clashed with the forward line of our destroyers, and are now engaged in heavy fighting. The convoy protection unit led by JINTSU has set out to assist them. Our convoy is heading for safety. The landing which was expected to be carried out tomorrow will be postponed indefinitely.
- June 7th We are at present withdrawing maintaining a strict guard against enemy carriers and submarines. I hear that enemy carrier(s) is/are at a point three hundred sea miles away from here. No 2 destroyer flotilla, number two group (?) are at present fighting against attacking planes and sea planes. I understand that submarine EOO has sunk enemy carrier(s).
- Page 7 June 10th The army IKKI detachment has already left the command and is operating separately. The same applies to the pioneer unit. Since yesterday the convoy has been acting independently.
- June 11th Field anti-aircraft gun and mountain and quick firing gun units have received instructions to join the northern unit and are expected to go to YOKOSUKA after embarking on ARUZENCHINA MARU (after entering GUAM port).
- Page 8 June 16th Field A.A. and mountain gun units will embark ARUZENCHINA MARU and leave today. Because of athletic foot I was unable to attend an exercise on land this morning, and had a rest on the ship.
- June 17th Preparations for trans shipping, GUAM Island (on land). In the morning I was to go ashore but on account of the athletic foot remained on the ship.
- Page 9 June 25th BURA-JIRU leaves the port. I like the life on land better than ship life which is restricted. It is freer outside and there is a breeze. I went for a walk.
- Page 10 MEMO Land operations exercise during July at OMIYA Island (GUAM).
- Page 11 Aug 22nd Preparation for landing on GUADALCANAL the sea is calm the weather is good. There was a squall.
- Aug 23rd Preparation for unloading. We were spotted by an enemy air fleet they came flying skimming over the sea to torpedo us.
- Aug 24th Preparing our equipment. We oiled the machine guns and constructed rafts by sewing bags together. In the afternoon an enemy recon plane circled around our unit.
- Aug 25th Preparations for unloading in face of the enemy. We expected to carry this out this evening with the object of rescuing our men in GUADALCANAL. However, while my attention

was distracted by our protecting cruiser TATSUTA receiving a direct hit on the second gun during the enemy air raid at six o'clock, two enemy planes which appeared over KINRYU MARU nose dived releasing three bombs all of which hit the forward NCO's mess rooms, causing fire many casualties amongst crew and the members of the landing unit. Orders were issued to tranship immediately. We constructed a raft and embarked on number one minesweeper headed for RABAU.

Aug 26th Headed for RABAU having embarked on Number One minesweeper. I brought only personal equipment, money pouch and two fountain pens. KINRYU MARU was sunk by a torpedo from our own destroyer. Fine today, no enemy raid.

Aug 27th Arrived at RABAU of NEW BRITAIN early in the morning. After breakfast we checked the shortage of landing equipment and ammunition and completed our information. We expect to depart tomorrow, eight men and the second in command will remain behind.

Aug 28th Completed embarkation on the destroyer MURAKUMO commenced advance to the very front line with the view of occupying RABAU. Destroyer squadron and minesweeper(s) headed by flagship TENRYU.

Page 12 Aug 29th Succeeded in landing on RABAU at about 8 o'clock. Advanced approximately 2.7 miles towards the aerodrome and entered a jungle at about 3 o'clock.

Aug 30th Enemy air patrol is very effective and we are unable to advance during the daytime we sleep during the day in the jungle and march during the night. We expect to make an attack today.

MEMO - My diary up to the 25th of Aug my note book etc., were left on KINJU MARU and were lost in the sea together with my kitbag. The only things left are those I possess now.

Page 13

(Figures of some calculation)

MIYAMOTO	13	ammunition store,	6 rounds
KURIBAYASHI	13	ammunition store,	
TERAZAKA	16	" "	4 rounds
INNONO	16	" "	
GUNNER	14	" "	
ARAKAWA	--		

Page 14 38 yen 95 yen

TOKYO city

TANAKA SHOHEI

Elder brother of TAKUMA

Page 15

YOKOSUKA Naval Station No.5 Special,
YASUDA Unit, YOSHIYOKA Unit, NITTO Unit

No. One Section
HAIYASHI HEIJI

No. Two Combined Special landing party.

Page 16

KAWASAKI City KOSUGI GOTEN MACHI 2 ----- 86,
Number 100 Bank NAKAHARA Branch Office.

00966

ALLIED LAND FORCES
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

Advanced Headquarters

17 Sep 42.

CAPTURED DOCUMENTNo 20

Att hereto is a translation of a note book captured
in the MILNE BAY area about 3 Sep 42.

Fwded for infm.

(Sgd) Robert R. LEWIS Maj,
for Brigadier,
General Staff (Intelligence)

DISTRIBUTIONNO OF COPIES

GSI, HQ, First Aust Army	1
GSI, HQ, Second Aust Army	1
GSI, HQ, NG Force	3
GSI, HQ, NT Force	2
GSI, HQ, III Aust Corps	1
Aust Spec Wireless Gp	1
No 51 Spec Wireless Sec	1
No 55 Spec Wireless Sec	1
BGS (O), Adv LHQ	1
BGS (I), " "	1
G (O) " "	1
GSI (a) " "	3
G (SD) " "	2
CSDIC " "	2
G-2, GHQ, SWPA	3
DNI, Melbourne	2
Combat Int Officer, SWP Force, GHQ	2
D of I, AAF, HQ, Eval Sec c/o GHQ, SWPA	2
DMI, War Office, London	3
AMLO, London	3
DMI, Army HQ, India	3
GSI, Command HQ, Ceylon	2
DMI, Army HQ, Ottawa, Canada	3
DDMI, Defence HQ, Pretoria, S. Africa	3
DDMI, Army HQ, Wellington, NZ	3
Spares	10

Page 1 Secret

Order No made by KURE No 3
Special Landing Party.

Aug 27 42 RABAU No 39 Patrol Boat.

ORDER OF KURE NO 3 SPECIAL LANDING PARTY

1. Enemy situation and condition of our forces.

(a) Enemy situation.

About 1000 of enemy have fortified the position strongly in the vicinity of RABI aerodrome and are resisting stubbornly.

(b) Condition of our Forces.

(i) KURE No 5 Special Landing Party (2 companies) has landed on the eastern shore of RABI and is attacking the enemy from south of the aerodrome.

(ii) SASSEBO No 5 Special Landing Party (one company) has landed at TAUPOTA north of RABI, and are attacking the aerodrome from the north.

Page 2 2. Our landing party will land of RABI, and support our expeditionary unit (?) in occupying the aerodrome.

3. Plan for landing is given on the attached sheet.

Page 3 Landing operation in the face of the enemy.

1. Clothing

- (a) Military clothing under classification No III
Wrapping leggings, boots.
- (b) Established identification markings
- (c) Others besides the above are as already established.

2. Field Weapons.

- (a) Individually carried articles.
 - (i) Weapons and ammunition carried on the person
 - (ii) Pocket knife, bamboo pole (or stick), matches, writing materials, gloves, tying ropes, name tags, flashlights, hand grenades, gas masks, life jackets.
- (b) Special articles to be carried
Wire cutters, bullet proof jackets, small pick, small mattocks, megaphones, signalling pistol and its ammunition, No 2 Emergency kits.

Page 4 3. (c) To be carried by every unit.

Life boat compass, bicycle trailer, bicycles, smoke candles, rockets, glossary of native vocabulary, proclamation (3 copies each), billeting markers, signal panels, ensigns of 3 widths (2 pieces), tea kettles, candles, ensigns, chalks, black cloth for light control. Rations for 2 meals and a few hard biscuits.

CHART SHOWING AMMUNITION TO BE CARRIED BY MEN

Classification Unit	Personnel	Rifle	L.M.G.	Heavy Grenade Discharger	H.M.G.	Pistol	
HQ Platoon	33 (+ 0)	32 180	1 120			1	
No 1 Platoon	50 (+4)	47 180	3 120	4		3	
No 2 Platoon	45 (-1)	42 180	3 120	4			
No 3 Platoon	56 (+0)	36 180			4 12,600 (21)	20	Ammunition Unit 22 men (20) No 5.6 8 (8)
Company Staff	6 (+4)	6 180					
TOTAL	190 (+ 7)						

Company HQ	2	2	} 97	No 2 Platoon	1	45	} 99
HQ Platoon	1	32		No 3 Platoon	1	43	
No 1 Platoon	1	46		HQ " (Signal)		1	
No 3 Platoon		8		Other		8	
		5					
	4	93			2	97	

HQ	(IK 30
Platoon Smoke Candle	(ICK 8
No 3	(LOK 3
Platoon Smoke Candle	(IK 7

ALLIED LAND FORCES
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREAAdvanced Headquarters
19 Sep 42.

01097

CAPTURED DOCUMENT NO 26

Hereunder is translation of Document captured in MILNE BAY Area about
3 Sep 42.

(Sgd)

Robert R LEWIS Maj,
for Brigadier,
General Staff (Intelligence)

Distribution as for Captured Document No 23.

Add:-

Staff Officer, Navy Intelligence, COIC
C-3, GHQ, SWPA.NOTE-BOOK OF LEADING SEAMAN SHIBAYAMA KIKUJI
YASUDA UNIT, NO 2 PLATOON, NO 4 SECTION

Page (1)

YOKOHAMA 508 NAMAMUGI CHO
Mr. Watanabe KiyoshiTOKYO, YODOBASHI KU, KASHIWAGI CHO
4th chome 979
Mr. Honda Kunimitsu (?)YOKOHAMA TSURUMI KU
NAMAMUGI CHO NO. 508
Telephone No. TSURUMI 4525
Watanabe Kiyoshi

Page (2)

Aerial Look out
Daytime 7 to 11
Night 11:30 to 1:30

Page (3)

May 15th Wed. Clear
Departure from YOKOSUKA
Left port promptly at 0 hour.
Training. ? saddle seat (?)May 16th Thursday Clear
Training during the voyage. saddle seat (?)May 17th Friday Clear-rain
Still sailing
Whales-sharksMay 18th Saturday Clear
Still sailing

Page (4)

May 19th Sunday. Clear. Up at 2 o'clock.
Docked at SAIPAN at 2 o'clock.
It was immediately dangerous so started for GUAM
around 3 o'clock.May 20th Monday. Clear. Up at 2 o'clock.
Docked at GUAM at 0 hour.
Many miscellaneous jobs. Heard there were about 20,000
natives on GUAM island.

May 21st Tuesday. Clear. Occasional rains. Up at 2 o'clock
Practised landing on island of GAUM.
Washed off with water the dirt of the home country.
Made the children of the natives pick coconuts

May 22nd Wednesday. Rain stopped in the morning.
Got up at 4 o'clock. Cleaned rifles and machine guns
and did other miscellaneous duties in the morning.

May 23rd Thursday. Clear. Up at 4 o'clock.
Miscellaneous duties in the morning.
Started for SAIPAN at one o'clock P.M.
Left the port of GUAM and docked at SAIPAN at night.

May 24th Friday. Clear. Up at 12 o'clock (at night)
SAIPAN. Landing practice.

May 25th Saturday
SAIPAN Landing practice

Page (5) May 26th. Sunday. Clear. Up at 12 o'clock.
Landing practice during morning and afternoon.
Bathed myself with fresh water.

May 27th. Monday. Clear. Up at 4 o'clock.

Page (6) June 2nd. Sunday. Clear.
June 3rd. Monday. Clear
June 4th. Tuesday. Clear
Day off from morning.
Washed 22 days dirt off my body.
(Was resting comfortably when suddenly two enemy planes
appeared around 3 o'clock and dropped bombs)

Page (7) August 12th. Monday.
Loaded KINRYU MARU at GUAM Island.

August 13th. Tuesday.
Load KINRYU MARU

August 14th. Wednesday.
Departure.

Page (8) August 25th. Sunday. Clear.
KINRYU MARU sinks around 6 o'clock.
Rescued by Minesweeper Number 2.

August 26th. Monday.
KINRYU MARU was sunk by 5 enemy planes.

August 27th. Tuesday. Clear
Docked at RABAU at 3 o'clock.
Left YASUDA unit and joined YOSHIOKA unit.

Page (9) August
4th)
5th) 2 yen 50 sen
6th) 3 nights
7th)
8th) Total 18 yen

9th)
10th)
11th) AZUMA
12th)
13th) 2 yen 50 sen
14th)
15th) Total 20 yen
16th)

Page (10) August NAGAIKE
19th
20th
21st
22nd
23rd
24th
25th
26th
27th
28th

Page (11) KANAGAWA KEN, MIURA GUN
URAGA CHO, KUSAJI SATO (?) 387
MISS YAMASHITA FUSA

SHIZUOKA KEN NUMAZU SHI, NISHINOJO 101
C/o NAKANO ZENGORO,
Miss NAKANO NOU

Page (12) Dear Sir:
I really have no reason for such negligence. I read
your letter immediately and wish to express my gratitude
to you. I heard you were leaving. When will it be?
I am worried. (don't worry) Take care of yourself.

Page (13) Left KAMIYAMA yesterday and arrived at TAKASAKI on the
4:40 by automobile.
Left TAKASAKI on the 5:55 P.M. train, and at 10:30 P.M.
arrived safely at school. I am on duty so please do not
worry. Take care of yourself and my best regards to
everyone. Goodbye.

Page (14) Dear Sir:
Long negligence since my last correspondence.....
Dear Sir:
I have been negligent since my last correspondence.

Page (15) KANAGAWA KEN, MIURA GUN, URAGA CHO KUSAJI SATO (?) 387
Miss YAMASHITA FUSA
Mr. YAMASHITA ICHITARO

Page (16) GUNMA KEN, TANO GUN, SHIN CHO
Mr. SHIBAYAMA SABURO.

Page (17) GUNMA KEN USUMIZU GUN, SATOMI MURA, Courthouse
of SATOMI Village.
GUNMA KEN USUMIZU GUN, SATOMI MURA, KAMI SATOMI
HOGO ZATO.
Mr. SHIBAYAMA GIYOTARO

SHIBAYAMA SHOHEI

GUNMA KEN GUNMA GUN. SHITSUDA CHO
KAMI SHITSUDA section (OGIKUBO)

TOKYO SHI, YODOBASHI KU, KASHIWAGA CHO, 979, 4 CHOME
HONDA KUNIMITSU

Page (18) GUNMA KEN, KITAKANYAKU GUN
ONO MURA, WARABI
KUBO KUMASHICHI

GUNMA KEN, USU SATO MI MURA, 8 CHOME
TOMIZAWA, EITARO

GUNMA KEN, USUMIZU GUN, SATOMI MURA
KAMI SATOMI KAMIYAMA District Director (?)

GUNMA KEN, USUMIZU GUN, SATOMI MURA
Chief of Police (?)

Page (19)

GUNMA KEN, GUNMA GUN,
KURAGA CHO. JOSHU YAUURA
SHINMOTO MATSUTARO

GUNMA KEN, USUMIZU GUN,
HIGASHI YOKONO MURA, Shrine of SAGI.
SHIMADA HISAKICHI

GUNMA KEN, KITAKANYAKU GUN
ONO MURA? WARABI
KUBO KUMASHICHI.

YOKOHAMA, NAMAMUCI 508
Mr. WATANABE KIYOSHI

GUNMA KEN, Gunma GUN,
SHITSUDA CHO, KAMISHITSUDA
HIGUCHI KURAKICHI
NAOJIRO

Page (20)

No 2 Platoon
No 4 Section

List (A)

Number	553
Section	3
Table	37
Living quarters section	4-1
Grade	Leading seaman
Name	SHIBAYAMA KIKUJI

ALLIED LAND FORCES
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA

Advanced Headquarters
25 Sep 42.

CAPTURED DOCUMENT ✓

No. 29

Att hereto is a translation of 2nd Combined Special Landing Party, Secret Instruction No 4. 1 Jul 42.

Fwd for info.

(Sgd) Robert R. LEWIS Maj,
for Brigadier,
General Staff (Intelligence).

Strictly Confidential.

2nd Combined Special Landing Party, Secret Instruction
No. 4 1st July 1942.

Ota Minoru, Commander of the 2nd. Combined Special Landing Party.

Instructions regarding the incorporation of the
YOKOSUKA 5th Special Landing Party
and KURE 5th Special Landing Party
into the South Seas Unit.

Since the organization of the 2nd Combined Special Landing Party on the 1st May last, you have each of you become complementary to the other and with unbending spirit have not only progressed in your training but have stored up resolution in your hearts. While ascending the road to glory you have cultivated patience and, here in this place, unite and go forward with two fold preparedness. Every one of you, should the occasion arise, will glorify that skill and spirit which has been founded on unremitting zeal in training and will harbour no doubts in realising the brilliant rays of valour. Each of you, spirited and with no thought of self, and now united as the South Seas Unit, is about to take up an important task and will complete that task with the utmost endeavour and self-confidence, even against insuperable odds.

1st Class Stoker SHIMOKAWA of KURE No 3 S.L.P., Company 2nd Platoon.

DIARY

(Owners name not stated, but may be "SHIMOKAWA Stoker 1st Class" KURE No 3, No 1 Company, No 2 Platoon.)

7th August. - Left RABAUH HARBOUR

9th August. - Returned to RABAUH HARBOUR

28th August - ---- 4 O'clock, left HARBOUR.

RABI Aerodrome.

First landing at RABI in the face of the enemy -- half strength of the 1st and 3rd Companies at 8 PM., 29th August. Advanced in the rain. While on way, it was decided to wait in the jungle until 9 PM., on the 30th. We lay down in the rain to sleep. Our bodies drenched like wet rats.

30th August - Enemy planes came and bombed us from daybreak. We hid in the jungle all day. Enemy planes attacked us in turns -- about 3 aircraft at a time. They strafed us with MG fire 30/40 times. (Fire flies in the dark jungle). We advanced in the evening. Raining hard. The road is a mass of mud. I've heard of "Mud and Soldiers" (trans. note:- ASHIHRI HINO'S famous book)-- this must be it, and there are so many rivers, there isn't a dry spot on our bodies. It's too dark to make anything out, but there are a lot of dead soldiers lying around, and they stink. About 3 AM., we came to where the enemy is located. We were ordered to advance, and we went to the left. By now there was heavy fire from the enemy, but we men in the ranks could not tell whether it was the enemy or our own men. In the meantime, a red signal went up and fell to the right of where we were, when heavy MG volleys started, and trench mortars and grenade throwers went into action, and there didn't seem to be any place where we could put ourselves. Nevertheless we advanced, but we were like rats in a bag and men were falling all round. I thought we were going to be wiped out, when we were told to withdraw for the time being, and we retreated. Men who had to take the wounded along were crawling in the mud -- the road was full of soldiers. Everybody worked his hardest, as we didn't want our line of retreat to be cut off. The day began to break -- now it'll be air raids. So that we could hide in the jungle if the enemy planes came, we went back to the place where we had been. Leaving our wounded there, we went to pick up more -- some were not in yet. We went three times to look, but as the enemy might come we couldn't go back. Some of our heavy MG's came along, so I went with them. On the way, we met some of the enemy and wiped them out, and thinking my friends had probably been killed in action, I came back. Back to sleep in the jungle in the rain. Wonder if it will be rain again tomorrow.

1st Sep.

In the morning there was an enemy attack, and we went to our stations. The enemy attacked with trench mortars, heavy MG's and planes. There are few of us left and we have no arms, and we are counter-attacked many times during the day. We stick it out, lying in the mud all day. A tragic order comes that those of us who are left are to carry out a night attack from about 4 O'clock. So it's back into that trap. Unconsciously I gripped my sword hard. I looked hard at the faces of my comrades. I looked at the photograph of my children too, and put it in my pocket. Wait for us, Comrades who have fallen! Soon we shall be fighting our last fight to avenge you, and all of us together, singing a battle song, will march to KUDAN (trans note:- Shrine to the war dead, on KUDAN HILL, TOKYO-) Before we started, a telegram came from HQ at RABAUH saying "Give up such desperate action. What can you do with 250 men"-- So we live another day. Soon after we went to our patrol line, there was another night attack. The rain is coming down harder than ever. I think, "Call this a battle. If only the weather were good."

2nd Sep.

As usual, we hear the sound of guns. Another enemy attack. This morning we got a ration of biscuit. We have hardly eaten anything since we landed, but now our bellies have filled out again. We change the position of our patrols and go to our stations. It looks like good weather today.

(END OF DIARY)

TRANSLATION OF JAPANESE DOCUMENT TAKEN AT KEPPEL POINT

5 Sep 42

2nd Oct.

Commander

Adjutant Sir.

1. During landing operations at an unnamed bay in the Southwest corner of GOODENOUGH ISLAND on the 25th at 1040 we were raided by 10 enemy fighters for a period of 45 minutes, during which time all landing craft were set on fire and destroyed. A great deal of weapons, W/T equipment, food supplies etc., which were in the boats, were lost and 8 persons killed.

1st class Marine	Ishibashi, Hajima	HQ Pl.
2nd " "	Matsunaka, Yukio	No 2 Pl No 2 Coy.
1st " Intendance	Mori, Tadao	Intendance
2nd " Marine	Shigeo	No 2 Pl No 2 Coy.
1st " "	Yoshino, choo	" "
3rd " Sgt	Yanagida	" "
1st " Marine	Yano	M.G. Pl, No 2 Coy.
2nd " "	Inoue	No 3 Pl, No 2 Coy.

Five were seriously wounded (including the M.O.) and one slightly wounded.

2. Apart from that, more than 300 persons of sound body are active in the vicinity. Since the 29th food has been entirely exhausted and we are starving of hunger with such things as potatoes and pumpkin.
3. In all of that, we may be discovered by friendly planes, patrols are being stationed in the vicinity of the place of disaster (Remnants of the landing craft can be clearly seen) and preparation is taking place for the displaying of the SUN FLAG.
(Hinomaru, Japanese national Flag).
4. In regard to rescue, I make the following requests to 18 S;
(i) 1 destroyer protected by planes to approach to the vicinity of the entrance to the bay.
(ii) Until then, to drop supplies of food at the position marked on the following Map.

5. To come in landing craft without the protection of friendly fighter planes is dangerous.
6. All medical supplies have been burnt. For the treatment of wounded, we have collected together all No 2 First Aid Kits carried by each man. Although there has been rigorous economy there is a shortage of quinine, and the Medical Administration to all personnel has been temporarily suspended. Medical treatment is being prepared for the time when there will be a number of patients.

7. Fortunately, apart from those suffering from Diarrhoea, all are well; however, our period of endurance will be limited to the first ten days of October.
8. Persons who have their boots burnt, persons who have had their clothing burnt, and persons who have lost their weapons will as much as possible endeavour to reach BUNA and if this is not successful it will be difficult to display any fighting strength.
9. The formalities concerning those killed in battle needs attention.
10. Messengers who have crossed by canoe earnestly request to remain at BUNA.
11. If only we had weapons and ammunition should not be afraid in the face of 200 or 300 of the enemy. I consider this place is safe; for the natives are not hostile, and more over the enemy should not have a force capable of being landed here.
12. While not being unduly concerned at the position in the RABI, TAULAGI and MORESBY areas we request information, if any.
13. All sea nets have been burnt.
14. Those killed in battle have been cremated.
15. Generally speaking, the weather in this locality is bad, and there is plenty of rain. If the fighter planes do not fly at less than 500 metres they will not discover the landing craft.
16. On account of there being no Miso and Sheyu (two kinds of Japanese sauces) nor any other kind seasoning we are using the sea water. There is also an acute shortage of matches. For the time being we are contented ourselves with making a special list of food that we are desirous of having.
17. The condition of the wounded is entered on a special sheet.

Special List.

Rice	945 Kg	Sugar	15 Kg
Barley	315 Kg	Salt	5 Kg
Dried Vegetables	200 Kg	Dried Boni	to small quantity
Miso (Sause)	30 Kg	" Bread	4 Boxes
Shoyn (sause)	40 Kg	Matches	
Tobacco			

66-----

Condition of casualties of 25th Aug.
Six persons at present receiving Medical Treatment.

(Sgd) W.J. SPARMOL Lieut.
Translator, N.G.F.

ALLIED TRANSLATOR & INTERPRETER SECTION

ATIs-25

October 19, 1942.

(the Source of this document must be protected)

(The entire document is secret)

CAPTURED DOCUMENT NO 58

1. Attached hereto translation of part of note book of INETSUGU, HIDEO, member of YANO UNIT, KURE No 3, S.L.P.
2. Captured at Milne Bay early in September 1942.
3. Forwarded for information.

(Sgd)

KARL F. BAIDWIN,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Co-ordinator.

Translator: HO/GKR

Page 25:

Shirei Kan Dai Tai Cho (Bn Hq Commander) Chusa (Commander) YANO MINORU
Shirei Fukukan (Adjutant) Taii (Lt.) NAGATA YUKIO
Dai Tai Zuki (Bn attached) Chief Warrant Officer HAITO YASUICHI
Dai Shiki (Bn-command) Chief Warrant Officer SASAKI MASUHIITO

No 1 Company

No. 1

Chutai Cho (Coy cmder) Tokumu chui (Sp Service Sub-Lt 1st class)
TAKAMURA, SAKANORI
Chutai Zuki (Coy attached) Chief Warrant Officer ISHII, YASUICHI
Shiki Shotai Cho Hq platoon Cmdr Chief Warrant Officer SHIMZU, MINORU
No 2 Chu (company) Chief Warrant Officer MURANAKA, NORIJI
No 2 Chutai (company) FUKIMOTO, KATSUYOSHI
No 2 Chutai (company) TAKEUCHI, NOBORU
4 (1) SATOW, HIDEYOSHI
5 (2) YAMADA, SHIGEO
6 (3) KAGEYOSHI, HIDEO

Page 26

No 2 Chutai cho (Coy Cmdr) Tokumu Chui (Special Service Sub-Lt. 1st cl) MARUYAMA, MASATAKA
No 3 Chutai cho (Coy Cmdr) Tokumu Chui (Special Service Sub-Lt. 1st cl) YOSHIMOTO, SHOKICHI
No 4 Chutai cho (Coy Cmdr) Tokumu Chui (Special Service Sub-Lt. 1st cl) MAKIMURA, DATSUTARO

A postal savings pass-book

HIROSHIMA Savings Branch Bureau

KU to TO 22153

KURE Naval Barracks No 8 Buntai (squad) INETSUGU, HIDEO.

Page 27

South latitude 4½ degrees

RABAU NEW BRITAIN IS. (BISMARCK ARCHIPELAGO)

6th March

Reveille 4:00 A.M.

The morning worship

Even before we deployed 2 enemy planes raided us and reconnoitred the skies of RABAU.

Our anti-aircraft guns fired fiercely, but due to the high altitude, our shells were unable to reach the enemy planes.

Finished breakfast

Wearing the land-warfare equipment, formed up at the Chusai Hombu (Coy Hq) by 6 o'clock.

6:30, proceed to No 1 pier.

Each unit boarded the boats. At this place, was a German prisoner of the British Army. He had a very good solid physique, man of 62 years of age. At a glance, appears merely 50 years old. (prior to the war, he had this coconut plantation.) This person was correspondent of the Nippon News, and is an interpreter.

Page 28 MANUS ISLAND OF THE ADMIRALTY (c) I

Disembarkation point (LORENGAU)

Due to certain conditions the HONTAI (main force) waited for 2 persons who had to be taken with them. After a while 2 people came but the Germans did not bring their luggage. While we waited for them to bring their luggage, a Hontai (flight) of 2 or 3 aeroplanes came to attack. Because of their flying so low, everyone thought they were our planes. They dropped 13 bombs, which were aimed at the ships on the outskirts of the harbour, but fortunately the whole lot dropped into the nearby sea. It was very fortunate for us not to have suffered any injury. Our A/A battery, after observing the bombs drop, for the first time realized they were the enemy, and were unable to shoot down any planes. All of us gritted our teeth.

Embarked on KIYOUNI MARU at 7:00 O'clock.

At 7:40, left port for objective point protected by 3 destroyers.

East longitude 147 degrees

South latitude 2 degrees

in the direction of ADMIRALTY (c) ISLAND to capture the enemy's air force base wireless station. All of us are overflowing with high-spirits.

Page 30

April 8

Entered port 4:30 A.M. All members got up 3:30

Breakfast immediately. Received 8 rounds per grenade discharger.

Everyone carried 180 rounds of rifle ammunition and accessories of 23 (?) tobacco 15(?), and a bayonet. debarked at LORENGAU 5:30 with much equipment. At the piers were land mines buried by the enemy. One exploded when some soldiers stepped on one, causing one casualty. The enemy themselves set fire to the wireless station and hospital and fled. There is a river on the left side of the pier. The pier was set afire at the waters edge. Burning fiercely, it obstructed the path of our troops.

Page 31

At the aerodrome, there were no signs of the enemy, they having already fled. After a short rest, made our way through the jungle for 1½ RI and reached the native village.

We landed with the bombing protection of our aeroplanes, and among those who remained from fleeing was presumably one person and only one German missionary. Upon seeing the natives, we felt relieved when they had no hostile feeling toward us. When we whistled once loudly, numerous natives, one after another came from here and there. We ordered them to get coconuts, papayas, mandarins, and so forth and in return, offered them tobacco to quench their thirst (Trans. note: to satisfy their desire for smoking)

There is a native girl about 16 years old, who is too gentle to be a pure native. Since she knows good etiquette, she must be a half-breed of a Japanese father. A plump and refined girl. She came to our side when we were resting and ordered the natives to have various things brought to us. She is probably staying at the German's home.

Page 33

April 8

Her father has a cafe business in OSAKA and ANAGASAKI. This interpreter and her father are companions, and she also seems to be very capable at interpreting. She took pictures in 5 or 6 different poses for us. 5 P.M. returned to warship.

Page 34

April 5

Landed 5 A.M. to drive out the remaining enemy. Then we made our way on and on through dark jungle territory, but no enemy. Finally, there were no roads, making it impossible to advance.

We retreated along the river, and since there was no enemy, we fruitlessly returned to the wireless station.

Returned to warship, 11:30.

After returning to the warship, the natives came to the side of the ship in two canoes and exchanged fish, coconuts etc, for tobacco. About 4 O'clock, I brought this girl we (met) the other day in the boat to this warship. I wonder if her sister is in RABAU or does she want to go to RABAU?

Page 35

Left port at 5 and headed for RABAU.

The ADMIRALTY (c) which our army took (the main island MANUS is as large as the AWAJI Island)(length about 40 miles and 15 miles wide).

Aside from this, there are many other islands. All these are Japan's possessions. And, probably these can be said to be the results of this great war.

Page 36

April 10

Yesterday's talk about war and Japan proper, stories about parents, wife etc. during the tiresome sea voyage, was comforting. Various stories were told one after another, and it was lively and cheerful within the ship. Also celebrated because of no casualties. Wasn't able to sleep until 11:30 O'clock. (lowering of hammocks for all members is 7 O'clock)

Page 37

April 11

After breakfast. Prepared to disembark about 8 O'clock. Ahead to starboard, smoke of a volcano and the silhouette of the island can be seen from the entrance of RABAUH harbour. I can just visualize the faces of each member of the Home-guard detachment before my eyes. A black spot was seen astern and was thought to be an enemy and the gun crew was notified. We felt relieved when the gun crew saw through the telescope that it was our aircraft tender and destroyers.

Finished kitchen duty at 10 O'clock.

Reached Pier No 1 at 11 O'clock for debarkation.

We were all deeply impressed when the detachment commander met us.

Then we returned to camp.

After being honored by a reception from the Home-guard platoon commander and members, we returned to our own platoon.

The remaining home-guard members had obtained some of the scarce water and I was so happy, I could cry.

Page 38

I came home and finished supper.

In front of a tobacco tray outside of the tent, we listened to the Home-guard member's horrible story. Enemy planes had attacked every day, since our departure. Just yesterday, about 20 persons were killed from bombing. They were mostly conscripted engineer members.

Page 39

April 12

Today, enemy planes attacked from morning, but with the protection of planes from our aircraft carriers, 3 of the enemy planes were shot down.

April 13

Today no enemy planes came.

Afternoon, went to see _____?

During the sightseeing, we asked a soldier, and he said "Fifteen planes came during noon meal today. Our planes met them and downed 6 planes. The remaining enemy planes retreated".

Page 40

April 16

Platoon on duty.

April 17

Everyone set out to cut timber, to be used in preparation for an opposed landing.

No 3 company's No 1 platoon commander is going to effect a landing in face of the enemy with Sgt Mjr HIGASHI'S (comes from Gifu Shi) weak troops. This, I suppose is called the old unsteady detachment. What can these wavering fellows do?

I wonder if he is thinking of using these fellows in a deep place. The company commander said harshly, "Maybe it is best to practice swimming." Towards evening, platoon commander gave a careful instructional talk pertaining to a prearranged opposed-landing for tomorrow.

Page 41

April 18

All members reveille at 3:30 A.M.

Immediately, everyone left for departing preparation, but 13 persons from our No 4 Buntai (section) and No 1 Buntai (section) were left behind. I was one among them. However, this couldn't be helped. From 8:30 A.M. till 11:00 A.M., I stood guard at No 6 post. About 10:30, there was an air attack by enemy planes. They appeared from direction of the volcano. (? city extreme south). Today, as the whole sky over the city was clouded by ashes, it was not until the planes were nearly above the city that we were able to see. They went by in a straight line towards the west. On account of this, we thought the enemy planes

Fix No 1
Raid down

enemy planes/

Page 42 had gone, but in about 15 minutes, they returned again from the west, dropped bombs and strafed us with machine gun fire. Our A/A guns and machine guns fired fiercely but were unable to score. 3 planes pursued them and disappeared in the volcanic smoke. After that, looking toward the west pier (directly west from No 6 post), a cloud of dark black smoke was rising. The blaze looked dreadful. Looking carefully at the blaze, the mast of a ship could be seen directly in front. So, I knew, for the first time, that the ship (navy transport ship) was hit by a bomb. (KONAKI MARU 8500 tons).

In a little while, the truck with the casualties came to my post and inquired the way to the hospital. Seems as though there were many casualties. After returning to the tent, listened to stories from each sentry who had returned. The ship arrived yesterday loaded with many bombs and ammunition and was to be unloaded this morning. About 11, the entire ship was wrapped in flames. The ammunition exploded violently, and it was dangerous to even approach the vicinity of the ship. The ships that were near, all changed their anchorage. Since it would not do to leave it a target for enemy aircraft, the patrol ships and cruisers which were staying in the harbour fired upon the burning ship to sink it, but the projectiles could not hit below the water line because of the proximity.

The noise in the darkness caused by the explosion of the projectiles hitting and the rise of flames sky high made a gruesome scene. Even after all the members had prepared for bed, there was noise and vibration that seemed to crumble heaven and earth. Perhaps this was the explosion of the ship's magazine. After the No 1 and 6 emergency units were organized, and when the No 1 unit was going out for the first time, then it was believed that the aerodrome at the south was bombed. For the first time, the mighty force of the bomb was known. At this place, there are, it is believed, approximately 9000 prisoners captured.

The troops that went out to combat came back at 4 o'clock. Everyone looked at the conflagration and guessed it was due to bombs, and observed it very cautiously.

Page 45 They [Trans. Note: "Allied prisoners"] must all be very happy after seeing today's bombings. Among them probably there were some who clapped their hands. All the members of my unit who heard this, talked mutually that it was better to kill them off one after another. YOSHIHARA and MOCHIYOSHI of the same No 4 section were especially angered. However, if we changed places and were in their position, we might also be happy as they. I guess it is natural to be happy. And yet, knowing that the prisoners were happy (clap hands), I presume it is natural to say "Finish them off".

Page 46 (Note on side of book) The stern of the ship exploded and sunk. Just the tip part of the ship remained above the water. A little after 7 o'clock, there was a great reverberation. Probably the big bombs which were loaded on the stern exploded all at once. Immediately platoons No 2, No 3, No 4 had an assembly line-up of the emergency unit members. We fell in immediately and climbed into the cars in groups. It appeared that the fire from the ship's conflagration spread to the warehouse which was on the right bank. Upon going there, we saw that the burning fragments from the explosion flew to the warehouse. All at once, it was gravely serious, because there were many provisions and ammunition within, and all around the vicinity there were "mountains" of all kinds of oil. The ammunition exploded repeatedly (?), and the oil flared up, and it was a sea of flames.

Page 47 The crude oil that surged up from the hold spread on the sea surface and burned furiously. Furthermore, the wind fanned the flames. The disastrous scene was gruesome and indescribable. Many times, I have seen pictures in the news of bombed and exploding oil tanks but to actually see it, is a horror utterly beyond imagination. The No 4 Coy's A/A position and camps were also bombed.

Page 48 April 19 I inquired. In the No 4 Coy, 2 met instant death, one was badly wounded and over ten had light wounds. During the morning and afternoon, was received from going out to "Hangan" (half watch), so I refrained from going out. Just as I was thinking of gaining some much needed sleep of last night, I was asked to go on fatigue for No 4 Coy, so I hopped on the vehicle and hurried to No 4 Coy. At the place, one of the barracks

was blown in half. The soldiers carried their government issue articles personal belongings and various kinds of weapons and arms to the material storeroom and arranged them in order. When I went to the destroyed place, the trees and leaves were in fragments. Below was a big pool of blood, 1 shaku 5 sun in diameter.

Page 49

There was really a great amount of blood. One of the soldiers told me that this was the blood from 2 dead soldiers. All the soldiers faces expressed memories of their friends. Their faces were pathetic. The concrete and slate that was used for floors and the walls between the tree stumps was shattered and reduced to powder. Among the debris were the soldier's personal belongings and clothing which were torn to shreds and scattered all over. Really should I say it's pathetic, or it is better to say gruesome? No, these words cannot express, near enough, the feeling.

Page 50

The company commander and platoon commander gave orders, one after another. However, it seems as though everyone's face had forgotten how to smile. From No 1 Coy came half of the members, and also from No 3 Coy, there were numerous soldiers in the emergency fatigue. For a while, each one seemed to have forgotten the work and without a word just looked at the scene. After being scolded by the platoon commander they started to work silently. It was the work of cleaning up the debris. Even those who were injured worked.

Page 51

The badly wounded were said to have died. One came from YAMAGUCHI KEN, one from GIFU KEN, and one from NARA KEN, totalling 3 persons. From fragments, one was injured in the head, one on the buttocks, and one in the stomach. 2 died instantly. One barely lived on the way to the hospital and died. Without a doubt, life is beyond determination. Thus, it is probably quite regretful to die now without killing even one enemy. They probably did not die happily. This also is fate.

Page 52

The comrades arranged their belongings. Even though it was very hard to assemble the scattered things, every strip of cloth was precious gathered because they belonged to the deceased persons. In the explosion, one had his stomach ripped open (he lived in the 2nd story of the barrack). His dead body was found at the lowest place on the ground outside the barrack. One had his head smashed in, and blood was spurted out. One had all the flesh from his buttocks off. He was immediately sent to the hospital on a car, but he lived only for the duration of the trip.

Page 53

April 22,
2:15 A.M. Reveille for all members
2:45 A.M. Line-up formation
About 3:10 Left for No 1 pier
5 self-propelled landing boats departed for vicinity of old volcanic mountain. Opposed landing practice.
No 2 company OTSU GUN (B force)
My own No 1 Buntai (section)
No 2 Company 1 Bu (section) } KO GUN (A force)
No 3,4 company 1 Bu (unit) }

When the self-propelled landing boats touched the shore, we jumped immediately into about 3 feet of water.
Had prepared for swimming and debarked.
Destroyed the wire entanglement. In advancing through the darkness, our section was separated from the platoon. The liaison was cut off. Our section went on a independent maneuver.
Maneuvers such as these are often conducted whenever there are enemies. This was the previous instruction given by the unit commander. All of us strongly felt this necessity.

Page 54

April 23
About 10:00 A.M. enemy planes attacked (2 planes)
At No 5 pier, the army warehouse nearby was directly hit by a bomb. There was considerable damage and destruction. One section from our unit dispatched, being an emergency unit.

April 24
Similar to the time of the 22nd, there was conducted an imaginary enemy opposed landing maneuver. Today, we did it idealistically and used a grenade discharger in ranging fire (fired common shells, and high-burst shells)

Page 55

April 25-28

Intensive drills in the art of bayoneting, in march, and regular daily training. At this time I injured my stomach, which became gradually worse.

April 29

Emperor's Birthday.

Today, in the South Seas, we can't celebrate his birthday, but someone should remember it (?).

The brave men, who participated in the beginning of the incident, were presented with medals.

Tomorrow they go to participate in the SOLOMON BATTLE.

The soldiers will see them off.

It is a great strain to all to think that, among these present, there will probably be some whom we will never meet again. I felt quite distressed for some reason or other. Upon returning to camp, there were given to us, the much yearned-for comfort goods from JAPAN proper.

Page 56

In our platoon of 47 men, there were 38 comfort bags. It was divided among each of the sections, and where some were lacking, one bag was divided among two persons. In looking at the contents within, we imagined all kinds of thoughts of the days (Trans note: in Japan). Also, various individuals received mail, and so there was lots of noise and hilarity. In the evening HATAYAMA (?) of No 4 section got a crazy and suffered greatly, so he was immediately sent to the hospital accompanied by 2 persons. The men of No 4 company, who were wounded by a bomb, included 4 subordinates and a platoon commander, are recovering.

Page 57

To my relatives at home: I write a letter which may or may not be my last.

April 30

In service to the memory of soldiers at YASUKUNI Shrine, all the members lined up in front of the battalion headquarters with full land equipment. Also there was given out recommendations for promotions.

Went to see No 2 company Bekko (separate or special unit) leave for battle on AZUMA SAN MARU.

May 2

By making the No 1 company and No 3 platoon a part of this battle, they left to capture one small island.

All of our company went to see them off. At once, even the most stalwart were tense. Upon looking at their faces, all of us felt that no words would come out from our lips.

Returned to camp and prepared for embarking.

Packed personal belongings and bedding equipment.

Page 58

May 3

At 11:30 A.M., assembled at the company headquarters armed with land-warfare equipment.

12:00 o'clock, formed at battalion headquarters.

Received instructions from YANO Butai (unit)

1:00 o'clock. Sailed from No 1 pier. Each outfit divided up and boarded the self-propelled landing boats, then onto the GOYO MARU (?)

5:00 P.M. left the port of RABAU.

Saw the volcano smoke of RABAU for the last time.

The No 6 destroyer squadron and one aircraft-carrier convoyed 22 transport ships (over 5,000 tons) and headed toward the objective.

Page 59

May 5

After the AZUMASAN MARU disposed of the landing party members, a report of an attack by 50 enemy planes (20 bombers among them) while unloading ammunition and disembarking, with about 40 casualties, was received by our boat. There were various stories, and we all felt concerned about our comrades. Our lives are so uncertain that we don't know when we'll die.

May 6

Instructions by the commander.

All gathered up their luggage.

Received life-saving bag.

According to the signal of the H.Q. commander, the AZUMASAN MARU is to follow after our ship if there is any delay or trouble.

Page 60

8:00 A.M. This big ship appeared beside our ship.

About 11:00 o'clock, there was a report that 1 enemy aircraft carrier, one cruiser and 5 destroyers were in the path of our convoy route.

After an engagement, one enemy seaplane was downed to a forced landing and the crew of one Taii (Capt), one Chmi (Lt.) one Shofi (Lt) were

made prisoners. Then we opened the equipment of the enemy and found out that there were about 5,000 soldiers at our objective.

Page 61 May 7

8:30 Reveille for all members

No 3 Disposition

The combat members of the anti-aircraft and all members were disposed and prepared for enemy air attack.

7:00 A.M. There was an air raid. They probably were only reconnoitering us and flew by. We anticipated that there would be a second raid without any doubt (Trans. note: of several attacks)

Sure enough, about 10:15 A.M., enemy planes came to attack.

Our anti-aircraft guns fired furiously. On this ship, there was no place to take to shelter. I am just able to avoid the bomb fragments and the sweeping of machine gun fire.

Remained in the hold of the ship wearing a steel helmet.

If there be the disaster of a direct-hit by a bomb on our ship, there is just one small boat for the entire force. (trans. note: in any case)

Page 62 We, the machine gun unit, what are we for? We are in the hold just praying that our side won't sustain any damage. It was rumored that one of our aircraft carriers and 1 cruiser was sunk. Being fortunate and "dema" (?), prayed that it was just a rumor. Before this there was a report (7 A.M.) that our mobile unit discovered the enemy's mobile unit, and were in midst of a battle.

1:00 P.M.

When we heard that 1 enemy warship was sunk, we all shouted "Banzai".

It was a result of our No 4 fleet.

I shaved the whiskers I had since I was in RABOUL. My face is now presentable to YASUKUNI Shrine (sic)

Page 63 May 8

3:30 A.M. Awoke

Encountered the 4th enemy attack, but no loss was sustained.

7:30 A.M.

Within the two days, yesterday and today, the report of the summary of the battle by our fleet was, 2 enemy warships, 2 cruisers, 2 aircraft carriers and 6 other boats were defeated. In other words, it was major defeat. All shouted "Banzai".

May 9-10

Similar to yesterday prepared for enemy attack and recalled the No 2 disposition to Rabaul.

At 4:00 P.M., entered port.

From AZUMASAN MARU, leaving the gunners behind, we took passage on the boat.

Following morning at 2 o'clock, left port for OO.

There wasn't even one of our sailors (?)

The AZUMASAN MARU was to return for repairs.

Page 64

May 11

KAVIENG, the MAIZURU of the NEW IRELAND ISLANDS, was the territory occupied by the MIYATA Unit.

4:00 o'clock

At the same time, while entering port, carried out work of unloading all the weapons and provisions.

By 10 P.M., my entire body was "dog-tired".

May 12

Got up at 3 A.M. today

Morning and afternoon, continued work of unloading.

About 5 P.M., there was allocation of the place of camp on land.

The land was indeed quiet and restful.

Page 65

May 12

Equipping of camp interior and method for making air defense shelter.

May 14

Completion of the air defense shelter.

May 15

Each platoon of No 1 company substituted for guard duty.

At this place, the natives became quite familiar with the Japanese.

They understood a little of the Japanese language. Meaning is made

understandable by means of half English and the native language.

We exchanged tobacco for papaya, bananas and other things they brought

Page 66

May 24

Today is Sunday.

Was given the much-awaited for permission to go fishing. Had bought fishing tackle before leaving TRUK harbour, and waited till now to use it. In the platoon there were 4 or 5 persons, and also in the No 2

platoon, there were many persons who prepared their fishing tackle. There were many men who asked for a fishing line, so without recourse I had to divide the fishing line which I had obtained before leaving RABAUl harbor.

After the noon meal, we picked up a lot of soldier-crabs on the sea-shore. After supper, went fishing on No 1 pier.

Page 67 1 foot long chi (?) and 1 sea bream. - Caught these 30 minutes before all the members prepared their bedding.

About 7:00 P.M., caught a fish again which was about 6 inches. The long cherished desire was at once fulfilled. I broiled the fish in salt and gave the larger one to the platoon commander. The platoon commander was also satisfied.

Page 68 The HQ platoon commander, No 3 platoon commander of No 4 Company, and our platoon commander HAWAHASHI and HAYAKAWA who went with us, did not catch one fish. NAKAMURA caught 7 or 8 fish about 2 inches long. Our platoon's YOSHIMURA broiled the fish in salt, and it tasted better than I expected. Since the No 2 platoon is leaving for RABAUl, our platoon received 2 A/A M.G. From tomorrow, I am a member of the machine gunners, and attached to one gun with 4 other men. From 4 A.M. to 4 P.M., we will be on duty with one person staying on for 1 1/2 hours.

Page 69 May 25

In the morning was quarters inspection.

1:30 P.M. The No 2 platoon finally departed.

KOMINAMI and SHIMIZU left. Mutually, we encouraged each other to keep ourselves well and do our duty.

May 26

Today at the HQ's SANTOKU BUTAI, we are going to have a moving picture to entertain the natives of this island and non-members.

Immediately after breakfast, went out a fatigue party.

Completed the preparation.

The assembling of all the natives of the island was done by the civil administration section.

Page 70 By dusk, there countless numbers of natives gathered. Some even came from far-off RABAUl.

About 8:30 P.M., the picture show started, but due to insufficient electric power, the specially-arranged talkie was indistinct and could not be understood at all. We remarked, that this was to us, as the Japanese explanations on the screen was to the natives.

Page 71 May 27

Today is the day for donation in commemoration of our Navy.

With our war supplies, there was also beer.

Each one got drunk and probably could lift "metoru" (sic) (?).

In this way, all the members frolicked, and their mental state was just like that of a child. To say what pleasure is, it is just eating and drinking.

Therefore it was the first time since the SANTOKU (No 3 Special) that the noon meal was ignored. The natives danced about in the athletic meet. They were very happy with one "kanaka" tobacco, and those who lost control of themselves, participated elsewhere. There were also those who went here and there getting close to 10 cigarettes. The natives were happy more so because when they worked in numbers, they probably received just one "kanaka" cigarette. The soldiers had a "tug-o-war" with the natives. Although the brawny natives were stronger than us, we won because they never had done this sort of thing before and were not organized.

Page 73 Drank beer with the evening meal, and went fishing. About this time, HASHIDA of HASHI (?) GUN, and YOSHIMURA of OSAKA, and I talked about home and presumed that they were praying for the soldier's success in war. Probably, they are worrying and worrying thinking of us being exposed to the shells night and day. Since arriving in KAVIENG, I haven't sent even one letter home. Tomorrow, must write home, by all means.

Page 74 We could call it an athletic meet of the natives, or call it the Navy's commemoration day. Undoubtedly, this will be one life-long remembrance.

May 31

Today, I received a long awaited-for letter from the mainland. Whatever one may say, there isn't anything that makes me so happy as to receive news from home. From the home of KITA'S I received letters from HANAOKO, SHIGEO and HISUE. I was thinking of sending letters, and it has been long overdue, but, today, after supper, I am going to write.

Page 75 May 1 (Trans. Note: date of entry is questionable) (writer probably skipped about)

This coming 13th, there is to be a tournament of bayonet exercises, in which our platoon commander is the officer in charge. So, we are in a fix. We are put into training with seriousness. Even this is to provide for our own good, so I did it with a stiff upper lip. However, a sad thing about it is that I am a machine gunner, and up till now, I never had a wooden gun in my hands. I just got excited and my hands and body does not move about freely. In the first place, I don't know where to thrust or how to defend from a thrust, so I cannot help it. However probably if I keep on, I might be able to learn a little.

Page 76 May 2

From 8:30 A.M. till 9:30, I practiced fervently on bayonet practice I seem to understand it a little more. Whatever I do I don't want to be defeated by anyone.
Training everyday.

Page 77 May 7

To the bayonet tournament with in the company.
From our platoon, even the persons on duty were relieved and took part. I am pitted against seaman 1st class YAMANAKA of No 4 company. In the beginning, I was able to get in one blow, but lost out in the end. At the end of the first engagement, remained unbeaten. Was winning till the third blow, but on the fourth blow, I was beaten by the foe. It was miserable. From our platoon, stoker 1st class SHIMODA won 5 blows. The points obtained by platoons.

No 1	Hq platoon
No 2	No 1 platoon
No 3	No 4 platoon

Page 78 Our platoon finished at the bottom, but considering we didn't have any skilled persons, made a good result.

May 10

Today, company's opposing athletes were selected.
From our section, stoker 1st class BABA, stoker 1st class MINAMIYUJI, in a single tournament, platoon HGO's, petty officer SUZUKI HICHIGORO. From the other platoon are, seaman 1st class KAWAI, TAKEMOTO, CHIYOHARA SUZUKI SABURO, petty officer 3rd class NAKAI, Stoker 1st class. Those other than the contestants practiced with real rifles.

Page 79 My chest hurts. I keep a stiff upper lip for a good battle.

News

Reconnoitering the north side of our country, two American aircraft carriers (in vicinity of Aleutian Islands) (GUAM ?) were sunk in a battle with us. Our loss was 1 aircraft carrier, and a few planes.

Page 80 May 13

Before opening of the inter-company bayonet tournament, lined up in front of the camp at 8:30 and sent the contestants off. In the first line are those who received medals. 7 got the Order of the Golden Kite, and over 10 received the Imperial Order of White Paulownia flower. The second row were the contestants. The third row others. The company as a whole was 1st class.

Page 81 May 15

Went to aerodrome on eastern HAVIENG.
Commenced action and conducted maneuver against the Hq platoon. Those members connected with anti-aircraft were strictly cautioned.

May 16

Self-propelled landing boat drill.
Today, why am I so sleepless, even after 9:30 I cannot sleep. I think of one thing after another, about home, the children, the farm, the work I did formerly and could not sleep until about 11:40 o'clock.

Page 82 May 18

From today, half of the machine gunners take turns. Those not on duty help in sweeping and cleaning the self-propelled landing boats. We, the machine gunners, service the machine gun parts.

May 22

Prepared for tomorrow's inspection
After reveille, there was a emergency call, and following this, there was a quick movement of the main force for positional warfare.

Page 83 May 24

Our company's No 4 platoon is dispatched to RABAU and from there it is expected to go to some land for subjugation.

May 26

Billeting party (1000) persons and those attached (400 persons) came.

June 6

Bonus (10%)

Received separate family allowance (67 yen altogether)

Continued the various training drills.

Page 84 August 7

The dawn of the 7th from TULAGI THERE was a wireless that our forces were fighting desperately to the last man against a great enemy force and that they are praying for success. After that there was no report. There was an emergency call for our unit also.

Finished breakfast hurriedly.

Constructed a position on the east coast of PANAPEI.

August 8

Our company hurried to yesterday's position three times.

After leaving company Hq. it was 20 minutes before the disposition was done. During lunch, the first report came in from the SUIJO KOKU TAI (Seaplane corp?)

Page 85 August 8

Two heavy cruisers, 4 light cruisers, 15 or 16 destroyers, 40 transports ships 2 aircraft carriers.

After evening dinner, report from SUIJO BUZAI (Seaplane unit), damaged 1 heavy cruiser, 2 light cruisers, 4 destroyers and 10 transport ships. Greatly damaged 1 heavy cruiser and 5 or 6 others.

August 9

Morning 1040. Report from our aeroplane that one enemy warship was progressing at speed of 12 knots and that we are to penetrate at 180 degrees (?)

Wired that we penetrate.

3:30 P.M. (?) a report came of the sinking of an enemy warship.

2:00 P.M. The combined battle up till today:

1 American warship, over 7 KO (A) ? cruisers, and 4 destroyers, and 11 transports were sunk.

There was a report that our unit, the YAMADA unit and the KURE GOTOBU (No 5 special) set out in 2 ships. One boat was sunk before it had time to leave. We were engaged, and could hardly control ourselves.

Page 87 August 10

3:00 P.M. about 3 of our cruisers entered the harbor. (No 6 Flagship entered RABAU) 2 enemy submarines were sunk by our submarine chaser.

August 11

From afternoon (?)

Upon observing the debarkation of the old crew members, most of them just had on 1 piece of loin cloth. Their eyes were bloodshot from crude oil and their bodies were black from oil. It was pitiful.

Page 88 August 16

An Imperial gift of tobacco was presented.

All the soldiers who received it replied with reverent humble gratitude. Furthermore, today, I received 2 air-mail postcards.

Everybody realized the nearness of sailing. There were various stories.

Page 89 August 18

An enemy plane, Boeing 4 motor, type 17, raided KAVIENG.

Dropped 3 bombs in vicinity of the aerodromes, and five persons of the billeting party received light and heavy injuries.

Today, there was a ceremony for the completion of the first stages of the aerodrome. They must have come to bomb it, thinking it was completed.

August 20

NARUTO MARU (?) entered the port. They brought the air staffs from the various naval stations.

About 4:30 P.M., the selected members for the self-propelled landing boat went to work.

Air staff members and ground staff rode together with many young soldiers, started work at 4:30

Page 90 This evening worked the whole night through.

At 5:30, relief members came to take over. Upon returning to camp, there was talk of departing, which was ever nearing. There was conversation about packs, ammunition and carrying articles. We are happily waiting for the time to come.

Page 91 August 22

We completed the preparations for departure.

Waited for orders to come.

August 26

Each unit prepared for battle.

Had final trench practice.

Afternoon, war news - There was a report that our fleet's ICHIGO KAN (No 1 fleet) and MUTSU and others defeated one enemy aircraft carrier and over 10 cruisers and destroyers.

August 27

Orders for departure came.

You write it down (?)

Rifle ammunition 210 rounds, grenade discharger 8 rounds.

Page 92 (I am worried about whether I can march with the entire weight about 14 (?)

August 28

Each tai (unit) loaded food, provisions, and ammunition.

At 5 P.M. leading units departed.

Our platoon did loading work until the end, and at 7 P.M., we formed in front of our camp with land-warfare equipment.

Our platoon started the march to the Shicho (?) pier.

Instruction by the No 2 company commander and a talk about prearrangements for action.

Boarded a self-propelled landing boat. Each unit boarded the patrol boat in groups.

Left port at 9 P.M. (3 patrol boats and 2 transport ships.)

Page 93 August 28

Entered RABAU 9 A.M. Received orders from commander YAHIRO.

After refueling our ship, we left port at 4 P.M.

Everybody is brimming over with vigor. The anticipation of entering another harbor again was mixed with high emotions.

Our platoon commander gave instructions on the place to be attacked and on the preliminary action.

Page 94 Convoyed by cruisers and with 3 destroyers at the lead.

During the night, the ships pitched heavily at full speed.

Prearrangements for landing the following day at 8 P.M. were made.

August 29

At about 2 P.M., an enemy plane came. He paid us a visit by dropping 3 bombs at our cruiser, but did not score. Our ship also fought back with machine guns.

Entered port about 9 o'clock.

At about 11 o'clock, commenced to board self-propelled landing boats in groups for landing.

11:30 completed the landing.

Page 95 Although it is a moonlight night, it is darkened by clouds. From within the darkness, the soldiers of KURE GOTOBU (No 5 special) and billetting members came out and scared us. It has been four days since both parties have landed, and according to what some of the wounded said, they could not eat one mouthful because the food provisions had been bombed by the enemy. The badly wounded were placed in tents. At 12 o'clock, went on the march. On the way, there were two places where there was a corpse.

Page 96 August 30

Marched until 3 A.M., and entered the jungle. There was continuous bombing until 5 P.M. while it rained. The enemy planes came and strafed us with machine gun fire.

ALLIED TRANSLATOR & INTERPRETER SECTION

ATIS-17

October 12, 1942

CAPTURED DOCUMENT NO 59

1. Attached hereto are translations of 2 short documents found in leather bag belonging to Warrant Officer KUNATSU of Naval YASUDA Unit, No 2 Coy.
2. Document captured at Milne Bay early in September, 1942.
3. Forwarded for information.

(Sgd) KARL F. BALDWIN,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Coordinator.

(Trans:- JS/JWB)

Document A:-

Report form

Naval YASUDA Unit, No 2 Coy. officer
(YOKOSUKA No 5)

Page 1.

	2
H.Q.	26
1	40
2	39
3	41
M.C.	30
Engineer	5
Medical	7
Signal	5
Paymaster	5
	<u>200</u>

Page 2.

YOSHIOKA Unit commander's report.
Number of men participated in the battle 200
Men absent 9 (M.C. & Ammunition 7)
(Engineers 2)

These men however, were attached to the ammunition unit and were delayed because of transporting ammunition. They did not arrive during the operations but it is believed that they may have joined some other unit.

Seriously wounded	Nil
Lightly wounded	Unknown
Killed	Unknown

Page 3.

		No.1	No.2	Total	YAYOI
H.Q. Platoon	40	37	1	38	4
No. 1 "	47	46	1	47	224
No. 2 "	51	47 (2)		47	226
No. 3 "	48	39	8	47	
M.G. "	60	51 (2)	6	57	
Landing boat		8			
No. 1 Coy			4		
Attached to the Coy			2		
		228	21		6 men ?

One man from
large patrol
landing craft
went instead

Document B:-

Page 1. Battle report YASUDA unit, No. 2 Coy 1942

	I	II	M.G.
Headquarter platoon	37	0	1
1	4		

Page 2.

No. 17 cabled order from outer South-Sea Unit
(3070 NANYO BUTAI) Aug. 27, 1942
Placed under command of KURE No. 3 S.L.P. Commander

Page 3. Aug. 30th 6:30

At about 0600. a patrol plane came over the unloading point and from
0630 strafed the vicinity several times. At 0645 it withdrew.

Page 4.

Our company received a volley from M.G. and guns when we advanced
about 200 meters from the point where the road branches into three's,
marching in several columns. However, we did not respond to it.

WAR DIARY

CAPTURED DOCUMENT No 61.

Record Tablet HQ. Platoon, No 3 Company. YUKIMOTO, Petty Officer 3rd Class,
KURE No 3 S.L.P.

Aug. 27 (Thursday) Cloudy.

1845 Preparation for setting out to the front.

1915 Form ranks in front of H.Q.

1935 Departed from H.Q.

No 2 Company Commander (No 36 boat) above N.C.O. 6,
N.C.O. and men 102.

No 3 Company Commander (No 38 boat)

-2045 Departed from KAVIENG for RABAU.

	Men	Officers
Passengers abroad No 38 boat:-		
No 3 Platoon of No 1 Company	13	Officer
No 2 Platoon of No 2 Company	30	1
No 4	32	1
HQ. Platoon of No 3 Company	36	3
Communication Unit	3	
Engineer Unit	4	1
Transport Unit	4	
Intendance Unit	3	
Medical Unit	9	1
Total	134	8

Aug. 28 (Friday). Clear

0645 Put in port at RABAU.

Transshipment and loading of rations and arms.

1600 Departed for RABI.

Aug. 29 (Saturday). Clear.

1400 Detected an enemy plane at E

1445 Enemy drops bombs

2155 Debarkation and landing in three groups.

2205 Second landing completed. Unloading of rations.

pm. 1145 Preparation for departure.

am. 0100 Arrived at RABI

0230 Bivouac

Aug. 30 (Sunday)

0630 Bombardment by enemy plane.

0730 Bombardment by enemy plane.

Repeated bombardment by enemy plane.

pm. 440 To S.L.P. HQ. No 3 Company No changes.

500 From HQ. form rank along the road with equipment.

No 3 Company totals 97 men.

630 Start off toward RABI aerodrome for general attack.

Took wrong road and stayed behind at RABI with No 3 Company,
No 2 Company and attached units.

Aug. 31 (Monday)

0200 Heard gun shot towards the aerodrome.

0230 Remaining troops formed ranks in front of the camp and departed.

0400 Start on way back.

1215 Advanced toward road 300 metres to the front where over 10 enemy
snipers appeared.

1220 No 2 platoon took up on the coast line and No 1 Platoon along
the road.

pm. 315 From No 1 Platoon to No 3 Company Commander. Enemy only numbers
approximately 20 men, but due to effective arms there are
casualties, request immediate reinforcement.

No 1 platoon casualties.

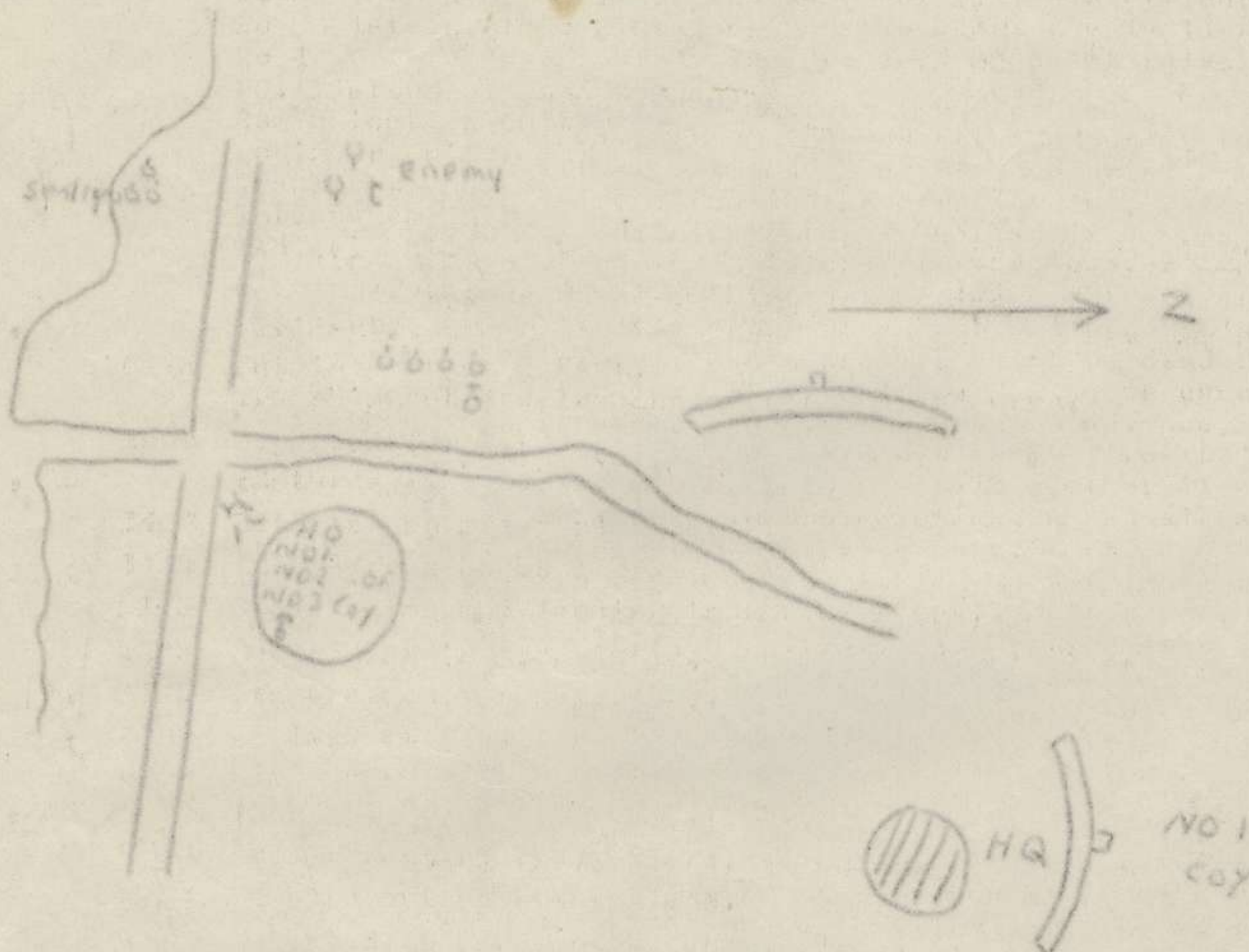
YONEDA and KATO Seaman 2nd Class. Both with a piercing
bullet wound on wrist.

Evening. Evacuation of No 1 Platoon from RABI.

Sep. 1 (Tuesday). Cloudy.

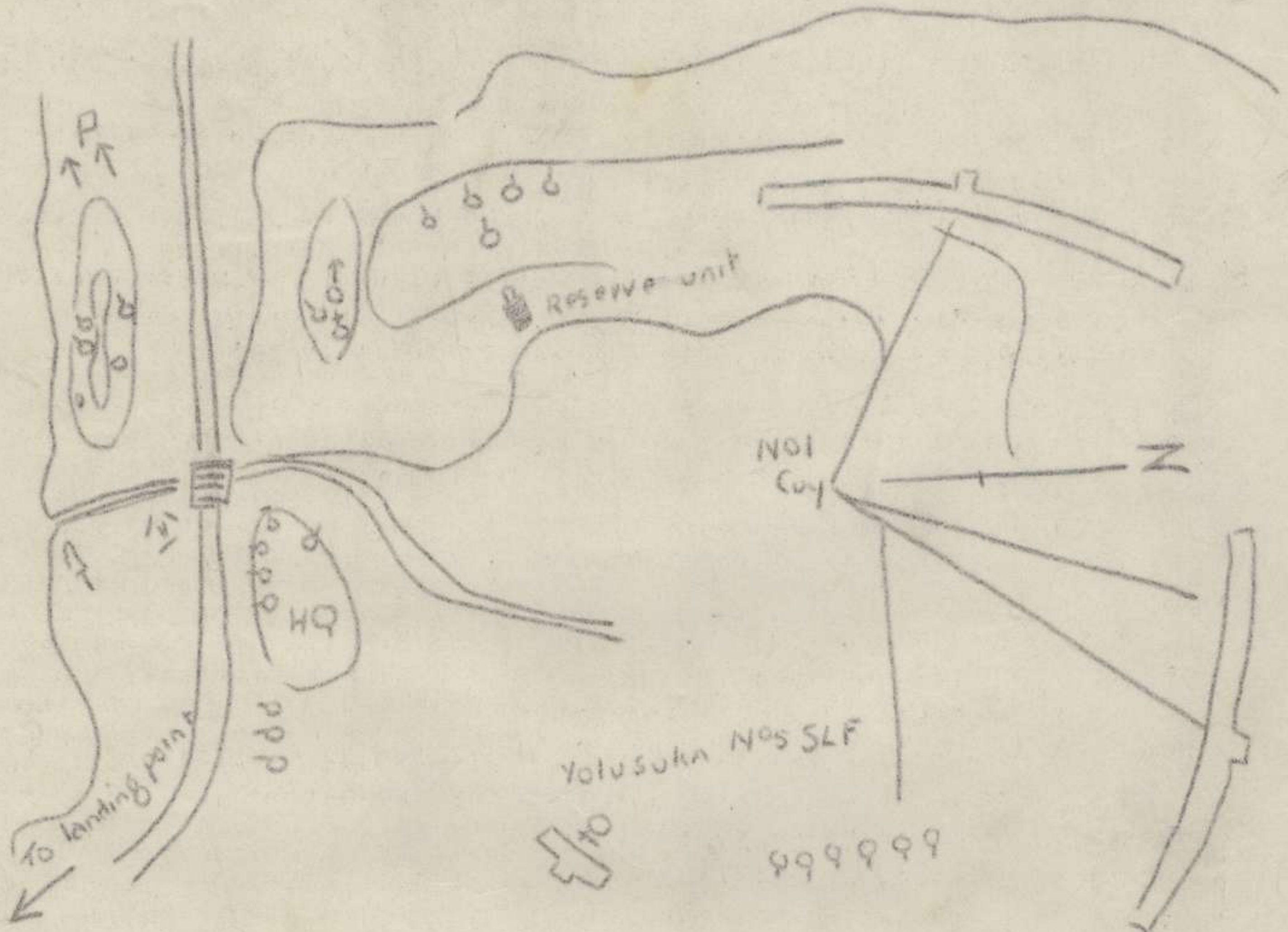
Early Morn. Heard rifle shots toward the west.

Sep. 1 0500 To S.L.P. HQ. Report of battle casualties (2 men)
 0610 Enemy attack from the shore lines and from the west, seemingly using machine guns.
 0605 Have taken up positions.
 No 2 Company to the front.
 No 1 Company shore line.
 No 3 Company center.
 0750 From No 1 Company Commander. There is fear of a drive by means of "guerilla" warfare from above the camp of No 1 Company.
 Tactical Formation at 7.30 am. on September 1st.



0800 No 3 Company Officers dispatched to Yokosuka.
 No 5 S.L.P. accompanying prisoner(s)
 0825 From MATSUISHI Petty Officer 1st Class to No 3 Company Commander.
 Enemy and our situation unknown. Conditions of Company Commander and below not known due to having been swept by machine gun fire.
 0835 To MORI W.O. From No 3 Company Commander.
 Report enemy situation.
 0900 Runner from Adjutant: Do not fire indiscriminately, our position will be revealed.
 0900 To Adjutant : Enemy position obscure due to aircraft.
 0900 To No 2 Platoon Commander: Enemy has not been sighted do not fire indiscriminately.
 0910 From Adjutant : Submit sketches.
 1037 To Adjutant : Sketches of lowland submitted.
 1037 No 1 Patrol : Went out to reconnoitre the situation to the front.
 1040 An enemy trench mortar fell at the point 100 metre behind No 3 H.Q.
 1055 To Adjutant : Have advanced 100 metres to the right front.

1100 KURIBAYSHI of No 2 Platoon and OSHIMA Warrant Officer were wounded by trench mortar shell.
KURIBAYSHI (killed in action)
IWATA, 3toker 1st Class attached to No 1 platoon wounded.
KATO, SAKANO.
Frontal Defensive Disposition Sketch No 3 Company.



1150 From Commander: Tonight SASEBO No 5 Special, will advance to the foot of the mountain north west of the aerodrome. Nights will be carried out (cancelled)

1230 Sent out to reconnoitre thickets to the west of the camp. (No 1 Patrol)

pm. 310 A detached unit of No 2 company set out. Reconnoitre situation and returned to unit. Through the night heard rifle and gun shots.

Sep 2 0600 From Commander: Report condition.
615 To Commander : Reported on conditions.
0845 From No 2 of No 2 Company to No 3 Company Commander: In the vicinity of the tents which were occupied last night, numerous rifle shots were heard.
0930 From No 2 Platoon leader: 3 enemy patrols appeared at the point 300 metres front of sentry group. We are on the look out for them. Heard two successive rifle shots.
0931 To Commander : Repeated the above.

Sep 1 6 P.M. Supply column and 28 working men returned to the main unit.

1005 From No 2 Squad: A ship was sighted at the mouth of the bay. Whether friendly or enemy unknown.
1005 To Commander : Reported above.
1115 From Sentry Post: Enemy war ship cruising in harbour seems as if transport ship has started opposed landing.
1115 To Commander : Reported above.

210 Heard rifle shots to the front.

355 From Sentry Two ships docked at a place 7800 metres to the
 Group front of sentry group and departed.

355 To Commander : The above report.

440 From Commander: Enemy has landed at the communication base.
 (in writing).