

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

Item number: 8/2/7

7 Infantry Brigade
January - February 1943

SECRET.

WAR DIARY.

OF

7 AUST INF BDE

FROM 0900 HOURS 1 JAN 43

TO 0900 HOURS 1 FEB 43.

(VOLUME 2 PART 1)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7 AUST INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan 43 To 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY.	1 Jan.	0900	7 Aust Inf Bde Location Statement	Appx 1.
		0940	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys cutting grass in fwd def areas E Coy erecting Pill boxes. Pnr Pl erecting searchlight towers. 17 Pl D Coy south coast standing patrol relieved by 16 Pl. H.Q. at GIBARA with seas at WAGA and ELIBOLBOLELI.	
	2 Jan	0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties to Bde.	
		0930	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Development of defences.	
		2008	MAIWARA and KALOHI beginning to rise and breaking banks in 8 Pl area.	
	3 Jan	0930	Sand table test at H.Q 7 Bde all offrs of 9 and 61 Bns and supporting arms attended.	
		1030	Report received of fall of BUNA.	
	£	1200	9 Bn malaria returns smallest since Oct.	
	4 Jan	0900	N.C.O. cadre commenced 9 and 61 Bns.	
		1100	Air support test report attached	Appx 2
	x	1200	Air recce of 7 Bde area defences. Map attached. Report.	Appx 3.
		1330	Jap recce medium Bomber shot down over GOODENOUGH IS.	
		1600	Survey by Intelligence section 61 Bn of WEHURIA CK mouth to TURNBULL FIELD and newly pegged positions of routes 5 and 12 completed.	
	5 Jan.	1200	61 Bn standing patrol at MAPC taken over from 2/6 Bn L/T comm est with B.H.Q.	
			Fd return of offrs W 3008	Appx 4
		1347	Bde Comd inspected road work North and East TURNBULL FIELD.	
	6 Jan	1200	Padre Coupe late detached to 2/9 Bn during operations BUNA Area returned to 9 Bn.	
		1435	Bde Comd inspected A/Tk gun positions WEHURIA FORD damaged by Bn operations.	
		2250	Sightings GASMATA 2 Cruisers 4 Destroyers 4 Tpts 1515 hrs heading West.	
	7 Jan	0900	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys clearing fwd defences and wiring. 61 Bn Coy dispositions. Developing Sec posts. Dedication service MILNE BAY cemetary attended by reps 7 Bde	

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Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY.	Jan 7	1200	Lieut Viney and Swan returned to 9 Bn from Camouflage School Port Moresby.	
		1205	Instruction to Hanson Force to return 101 W/T set and operators to 'J' Sec Sigs 7 Bde first opportunity.	
		2215	9 Bn report Corvette off LAU LAU IS using Searchlight.	
Jan 8	Jan 8	0900	Coy dispositions 9 Bn. Coys clearing fwd defences.	
			" " 61 Bn. Developing of Sec Posts.	
		1315	Maj Sutch Adm Comd 9 Bn reported to Bde Comd results of Air Recce of Bn Defences. Report attached.	Appx 5.
			List of awards to 7 Bde personnel for bravery during action Aug - Sep 42. Attached.	Appx 6.
		1945	H.Q. Coy 61 Bn report flare direction RABI. B and C Coys report sound of explosion in same direction.	
		2030	Guard supplied to N.O.I.C. from 7 Bde Provost Corps for protection naval stores.	
Jan 9.	Jan 9.	0900	61 Bn patrol to foothills to investigate flare. Will report to 1600 hrs.	
		0900	Sand table test for senior offrs at 7 Bde H.Q.	
		1155	61 Bn reported plane crashed in Bay. R.A.A.F. launch to rescue.	
		1900	Lt-Col Meldrum Adm Comd 7 Bde. Maj Wiles adm Comd 61 Bn.	
		2145	Brig Fields Adm Comd 11 Aust Div.	
		0015	9 Bn reported explosion in direction WAGA South. Patrol reported Beaufort Bomber had crashed in ranges. Report attached.	Appx 7.
Jan 10.	Jan 10.	0900	61 Bn M.M.G. School and N.C.O. cadre at RABI. Free for all Compass exercise for N.C.O. cadre.	
		0930	9 Bn Church parades and make and mend.	
		1400	AIR RAID 1430 ALL CLEAR 1445.	
		1950	Advance party 17 Bde left MILNE BAY 1500 hrs.	
		0800	9 Bn report MAIWARA and KALOHI rose 5 Ft and 2ft 6 ins respectively flooded 8 Pl A Coy area to depth 18 ins.	
Jan 11.	Jan 11.	0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys clearing fwd areas.	
		0930	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Range practice for H.Q. and D Coys. MAPO patrol relieved. Recce of MAPO WEHURIA Area by I.O.	

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Unit 7 AUSTR INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan 43, 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY.	11 Jan.	1110	9 and 61 Bns will each supply 1 Sgt instructor capable of running N.C.O. Cadre for A.A.D.C. - 9 Bn Sgt half day - daily for one month - 61 Bn Sgt four days weekly for one month. Names to xxxx H.Q. 7 Bde 1800 hrs L/12.	
		1225	H.Q. Coy 2/6 Bn moved out of area at 0700 hrs	
		1540	Nomination to attend N.G.F. Junior Leaders Course 7, 17 Jan. QX38034 A/Cpl C. Crowley R.F. 9 Bn - Q16785 A/Cpl Swanson R. 9 Bn Q28423 A/Cpl Sanberg R.T. 61 Bn.	
		1945	Remainder 2/6 Bn vacated area 1500 hrs.	
		1945	HAGITA Bridge opened for two way traffic.	
	12 Jan	0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys working on road repair and weapon pits.	
			61 Bn Coy dispositions. Developing defences.	
		1200	7 Bde R.O. Serial No 2/43.	Appx 8
		1215	U.S. H.Q. laying land line through 9 Bn area from LADAVA MISSION to WAGA SOUTH.	
		2025	29 Bde H.Q. - 'L' sec Sigs arrived 1500 hrs. Located HAGITA House also 42 Bn 15 Bn and adv party 47 Bn.	
	13 Jan	0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys working in fwd defences.	
			61 Bn Coy dispositions. Developing defences.	
		1005	H.Q. 17 Bde and 2/7 Bn moved out MILNE BAY 0845 hrs.	
		1010	Minerfield 'G' ref M.B. Prov No 2 Q23979 pegs laid for 20 mines provision for 9 mines on road field completed.	
		1545	Col Cameron and Maj Miller No3 observer Unit to be accomodated at 7 Bde H.Q.	
	14 Jan	0900	2/16 Fd Coy commenced work on new portion of Route 12.	
		0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys clearing fwd defences.	
			61 Bn Coy dispositions. Developing wiring.	
		1115	Capt Mellick Capt Strass Capt Dickson 5 Aust Div conducted through area to RABI by L.O.3. 7 Bde.	
		1115	Capt O'Dell - O.C. A Coy 7 M.G. Bn reported this H.Q. for instructions re disposal of his guns.	
		1200	Brig Field resumed comd 7 Bde. Lt-Col Meldrum resumed comd 61 Bn.	

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Unit 7 AUST INF BDE

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan 43 to 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY.	14 Jan	1200	Adj and I.O. 61 Bn recce of course of WEHURIA CK in preparation for Offrs tewt.	
		4 Bty 101 1300	A/Tk Regt nominations for N.C.O.'s Arty and A/Tk course No 17 Puckapunyal 8 Feb;— Q 9250 Sgt Brennan L.T. — QX 40724 Sgt Clarke J.J.	
	15 Jan	0800 2/16	Fd Coy vacated area 0800 hrs . 61 Bn to patrol area.	
		0900	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Range practice by 'D' Coy . Remainder of Coys defence works.	
		0930	Col Cameron G.S.O.I. Tas Force and Capt Millard L.H.Q. School Bonegilla were conducted over A Coy 9 Bn area By Maj Sutch A/C.O. to enable them to inspect conditions encountered in Jungle Warfare.	
		1000	R.A.A.F. party guided to AHIOMA by 61 Bn.	
		1200	7 Bde tutorial discussion (Serial 3)	Appx 9
		1903	15 Bn moved out of temporary Camp Route 10 7 Bde area.	
	16 Jan	0930	G.O.C 5 Aust Div - Brig Monaghan 29 Bde and Brig Field 7 Bde conducted over 9 Bn area By Maj Sutch.	
		0930	61 Bn Offrs tewt in Plateau area.	
		0900	Location Statement	Appx 10.
		0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys clearing fwd defences. 61 Bn Coy dispositions. Developing defences.	
		1200	Fd Return of Offrs W 3008.	Appx 11.
		2050	MAIWARA flooded 8 Pl Area 9 Bn .	
		2305	AIR RAID RAB. → ALL CLEAR 2345.	
	17 Jan	0900	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Church parade make and mend. 61 Bn Coy dispositions. N.C.O. cadre fireall weapons at RABI.	
		1235	AIR RAID RAB. - ALL CLEAR 1334 Report attached.	Appx 12 A
		1415	Op Instn No 16 77	APPX 12 A
	18 Jan	0005	AIR RAID RAB. - ALL CLEAR 0045.	
		0500	AIR RAID RAB. - ALL CLEAR 0530.	
		0900	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys on maintenance def works. 61 Bn Coy dispositions. Developing defences.	
		1200	AIR RAID RAB. - ALL CLEAR 1225.	
		13 00	G.S.O.I. 5 Aust Div inspected 9 Bn area.	
		1600	61 Bn at MAPO relieved. Lt-Col Davidson C.O. 42 Bn inspected area.	

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MILNE BAY.	18 Jan	2000	Hand over to A Coy 7 M.G. Bn of M.M.G. positions in 61 Bn area complete.	
		2020	18 Pdr Beach Def guns have been withdrawn and replaced by 25 Pdrs.	
	19 Jan	2101	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR.	
		0402	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR 0417.	
	20 Jan	0915	G.O.C. met by Maj Sutchat Junc Routes 1 and 3.	
		0915	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All Coys working on defences E Coy erecting pill boxes in LADAVA MISSION area.	
			61 Bn Coy dispositions. Developing defences.	
		0915	Disposition A Coy 7 M.G. Bn. Map attached.	Appx 13.
		0900	B.M. conducting 2 Offrs Observer Unit over 61 Bn area.	
		1200	7 Bde R.O. serial 3/43.	Appx 14.
21 Jan		1205	5 Aust Div instruction all sub-machine guns Thompson- amn and associate stores, will be withdrawn immediately from 7 Bde. Sub-machine -Owen- first line amn and associate stores will be released as follows:-Bde H.Q. 4 - Sig Sec 2 - L.A.D. 1 each Inf Bn 84.	
		1400	Lt-col Sandover 2/11 Bn and Maj Bowie No 2 Aust Corps inspected 9 Bn area.	
		1400	2 I/C 42 Bn inspected 61 Bn area.	
		2125	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR 2335.	
	0900		9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys on road repairs of routes 3 and 9.	
			61 Bn Coy dispositions. Clearing fields of fire.	
		1125	Vacancies for school M.I. commencing 1 Mar Brisbane. (a) photographic interpretation Wing 2 Weeks - Nil. (b) F.S.S. wing for Offrs and Senior N.C.O's 2 Weeks - nil. (c) Junior Intelligence wing to train Offrs and Potential Offrs as Bn and Bde I.O's 2 Weeks - Nil. 1 Offr and 1 N.C.O.	
	22 Jan	0930	G.O.C visited 61 Bn Defence positions. 42 Bn patrol passed through 61 Bn area to search for JAP amn reported to have been in area. Nil report.	
		0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys working in respective areas. 61 Bn coy dispositions. Coys on defence works and completing wiring.	

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Unit 7 AUST INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Jan 45, 0900 hrs 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	22 Jan	0930	Col Sheehan G.I. and Capt Jackson B.M.L. 7 Bde conducted over 9 Bn area.	
		1200	7 Bde Location statement and reports proforma.	Appx 15.
		1200	AIR RAID report screed.	Appx 16
		1240	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR 1315	
		2120	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR 2140	
	23 Jan	0002	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR 0110	
		0515	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR 0545	
		0900	9 Bn coy dispositions.. All coys working in respective areas.	
		1005	61 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys defence works. A/A Pl completing wiring north 'B' Coy.	
			1030	Lieut D.C.C. McIntyre appointed as unit Gas Offr 61 Bn in lieu Capt Tremlow.
		1200	Fd return of Offrs W 3008	Appx 17
24 Jan	0900	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Church parade - make and mend		
	1520	Bde Comd inspected defences in area.		
25 Jan	0310	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR. 0347.		
	0910	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All coys working in respective areas. 61 Bn coy dispositions. Wiring completed.		
	1415	Warning order of relief 7 Bde by 29 Bde.	Appx 18.	
	1800	61 Bn patrol at MAPO relieved.		
26 Jan	0900	Confefence of C.O. of units 7 Bde at 7 Bde H.Q. Allocation of new areas for units 7 Bde. 9 Bn to take over area vacated by 15 Bn - 61 Bn to take over area vacated by 47 Bn.		
	0940	9 Bn coy dispositions. All coys completing wiring in respective areas. Intelligence Sec completing maps of area.		
	1000	Brig Monaghan, Maj Rice and L.O.1 29 Bde visited Comd 7 Bde.		
	1020	61 Bn coy dispositions. All coys working on defences and preparing to move. C.O. and Adj recce new area.		
	1145	Rear H.Q. 25 Bn allotted area on Route 7 in 61 Bn area.		
	1200	29 Bde recce of this area completed.		
	1600	7 Bde O. I. No 17.	Appx 19.	
	1630	7 Bde Intelligence summary No 5	Appx 20.	

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Unit 7. AUST. INF. BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Jan 43 to 0900 hrs. 1 Feb 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	
MILNE BAY	27 Jan	0900	Adv party 7 Bde left to establish Adv H.Q. at HAGITA HOUSE 983993.		
		0923	Adv H.Q. established 0920		
		1100	Minefield 'A' checked by Capt Cusack 24 Fd Coy.		
		1110	Relief 'D' Coy 9 Bn and WAGA patrol relieved.		
		1130	Adv party all coys 61 Bn now in position.		
		1155	All tps 4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt reported to Bty H.Q. at 1130 hrs.		
		1400	O.I. No 18		
		1600	9 Bn move completed by 1500 hrs.	Appx 21.	
		1800	H.Q. C Coy 61 Bn delayed by water logged condition of road. Request boat from water tpt Sec to tpt 'C' Coy from RABI otherwise move completed by 1700 hrs.		
		28 Jan	0800	61 Bn coy dispositions. All coys less 'C' coy working in respective areas. Map attached.	Appx 22
			0900	9 Bn coy dispositions. All coys working in respective areas. Map attached.	Appx 23.
			1231	4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt dispositions. Bty H.Q. B.C and D Tp 022007 A Tp 981991.	
			1300	Extract from 29 Bde OpI. No 11	Appx 24.
1400	Recce of Maps by I.O. and I personnel completed.				
1450	G.O.C. visited 9 and 61 Bn areas.				
1510	C Coy 61 Bn with attached M.G. Pl and Mortar Det in Position 1230hrs.				
1520	'D' Tp 4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt attached to 29 Bde from 1600hrs.				
29 Jan	0845		9 Bn coy dispositions. 'C' Coy weapon tng remainder coys supplying working parties.		
	1158		61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys clearing areas.		
30 Jan	1200	61 Bn survey map of MAPO Plateau rest camp area completed.			
	0830	9 Bn coy dispositions. All coys tng in respective areas.			
	0948	Report of 24 Fd Coy of mines in vacated area. All fields examined and found in good order. Of selection of 16 mines only 2 failed to explode.			
	1002	61 Bn coy dispositions. Duty Bn supplying working parties remainder on weapon tng.			
	1200	Fd return of Offrs. W 3008	Appx 25.		

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Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Jan. To 0900 hrs. 1 Feb. 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY.	30 Jan	1759	AIR RAID - ALL CLEAR 1816.	
	31 Jan	0845	9 Bn coy dispositions. Church parade - duty Bn supplying working parties.	
	1 Feb	0830	Malaria return for Jan 43.	Appx 26
	x 4 Jan	1200	7 Bde R.O. serial 1/43	Appx 27

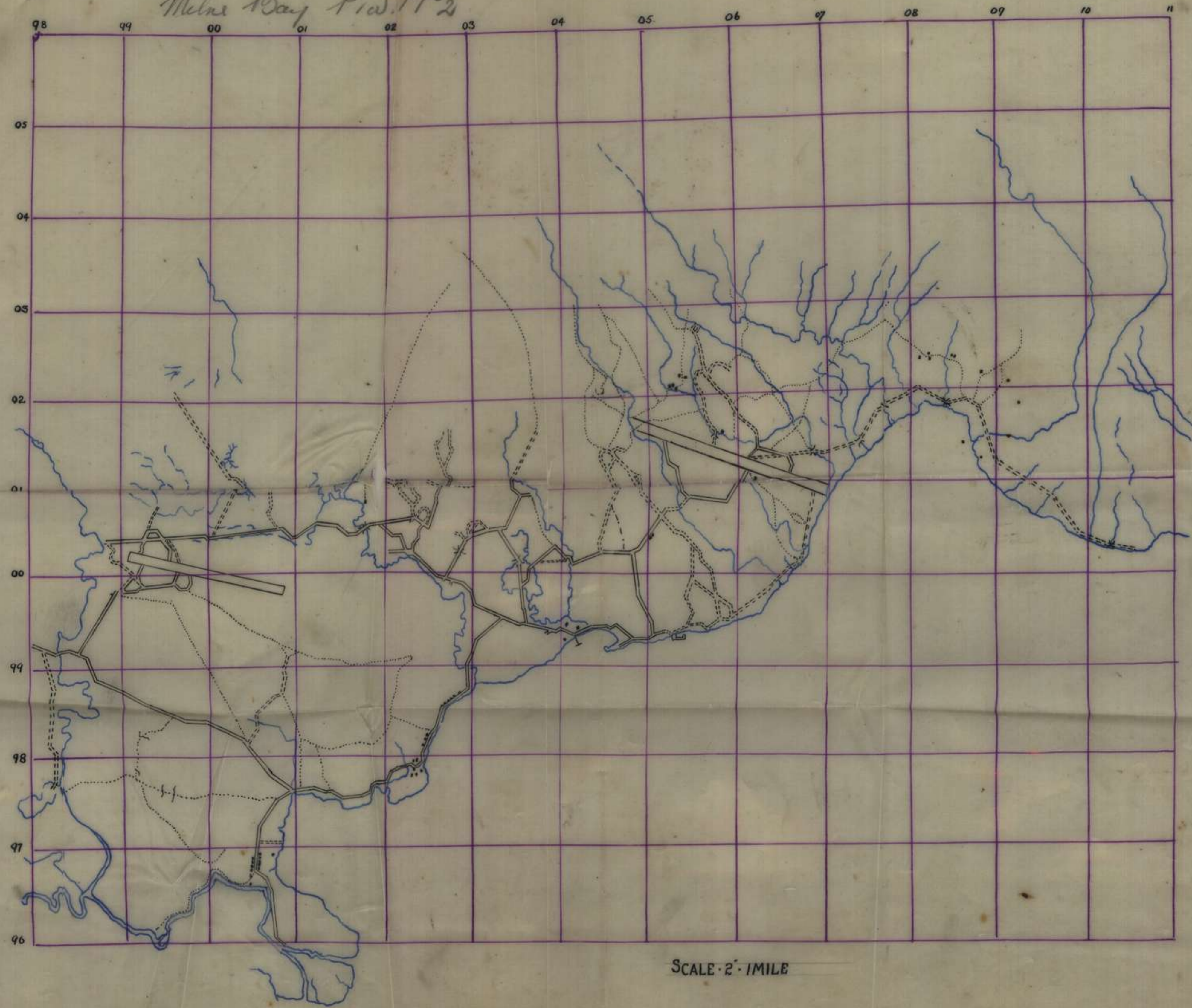
LOCATION STATEMENT 7 Aust Inf Bde.

as at 2359 hrs L/31 Dec
 Ref Map MILNE BAY (Prov) 2 Nd ed. - 2" to 1 mile.

UNIT	LOCATION	MAP REF
H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.	Route 10	027008
241 L.A.D.	" 10	026007
9 Aust Inf Bn.	" 3	004984
HQ Coy.	" 3	004984
A Coy	" 9	993966
b Coy	" 3	999984
C Coy	" 3	024983
D Coy	" 9	006972
E Coy	" 3	003982
1 Sec 10 Pl	ELIBOLEBOIELI	989922
17 Pl HQ & 1 Sec	Gibara	0L2905
1 Sec	GOMODODO	055896
1 Sec	WAGA	083893
D Coy 2/1 Pnr Bn.	Route 3	033993
61 Aust Inf Bn. HQ	Route 6	053005
HQ Coy	" 6	053003
A Coy.	South No 3 Strip.	066007
B Coy	" "	070015
C Coy	" "	085019
D Coy	Route 6	055004
E Coy	" 6	052006
1 Sec	KB	107004
2/16 Fd Coy		059016
4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt.		
Bty HQ	Route 11	022007
A Tp HQ	" 3	981991
Gun A 1	" 3	983993
" A 2	" 3	004983
" A 3	" 1	986993
" A 4	" 3	992988
B Tp HQ	" 3	004984
Gun B 2	" 9	005967
" B 2	" 9	009978
" B 3	" 9	008977
" B 4	" 9	006971
C Tp HQ	" 11	022007
Gun C 1	" 3	029989
" C 2	" 2	035999
" C 3	" 1	039994
" C 4	" 1	032997
D Tp HQ.	" 11	022007
Gun D 1	" 1	026003
" D 2	" 2	036005
" D 3	" 1	016003
" D 4	" 11	022007 (Reserve)
3 Bty 2/1 A/Tk Regt.		
Bty HQ	Route 10	031009
I Tp HQ	Rabi Rd.	070013
Gun I 1	" "	088018
" I 2	" "	082020
" I 3	" "	073015
" I 4	" "	066013
K Tp HQ	Route 12	044014
Gun K 1	" 12	045002
" K 2	" 12	046016
" K 3	" 5	053008
" K 4	No 3 Strip	048018
L Tp HQ	Route 2	047002
Gun L 1	" 5	053007
" L 2	Dispersal Bay	058003
" L 3	Route 2	048003
" L 4	" 2	048998

11799

Milne Bay Prov. 1702



SCALE 2" = 1 MILE

SECRET

Copy No 21

2 Jan 42

Prepared by B M (L)

7 AUST INF BDEAIR SUPPORT TEST.Use of Smoke Generators No. 3 Mk III(Ref Map MILNE BAY (Prov) 2nd Edit - 2" - 1 ml)1. GENERAL

Test will take place vicinity ARGONI CK (082017 - 075027) on 4 Jan 42 at 1100 hrs, under direction Brig J Field.

2. OBJECT

(a) To test practicability of using smoke generators to indicate to supporting A/c line of F D Ls, when tps are fighting in thick jungle country.

(b) To test air to ground R/T comms.

3. TPS TAKING PART

C Coy 61 Bn will provide 4 NCOs and 10 men, 1 NCO having knowledge of use of 2" Mortar.

Enemy will NOT be represented.

A/c will observe under arrangement 100 Sqn R A A F.

4. OBSERVERS

Wing-Comd Balmer R A A F

Maj H J Wiles, 61 Bn.

Capt W J E Jackson Bde H Q.

Reports will be furnished H Q 7 Bde by 1600 hrs 4 Jan, stating results of observation.

5. ASSEMBLY

Observers from 7 Bde will report to A L O GURNEY FIELD at 0930 hrs 4 Jan.

Tps will be in posn at intervals of 100 yds from incl mouth and along WESTERN bank of ARGONI CK to point 075027 by 1045 hrs.

NCO with 2" Mortar and parachute flares, will report to Lieut Blackburn of 7 Bde at mouth of Ck (082017) at 1030 hrs.

6. ADM

S C 7 Bde will arrange for 20 rnds Ballistite, 20 Smoke Generators No 8 Mk III and one 2" Mortar with six parachute flares, for use of NCO at mouth of ck, to be delivered to O C' C' Coy 61 Bn at RABI during afternoon of 3 Jan.

61 Bn will arrange for 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 9th man to carry 3 rnds of ballistite for relaying of signal to light generators.

Capt A J Harlen, Sig Offr 7 Bde, will arrange for equipment for test (b).

NOTE

Generator is ignited by simply piercing mica plug with bayonet and lighting wick with match.

7. TEST

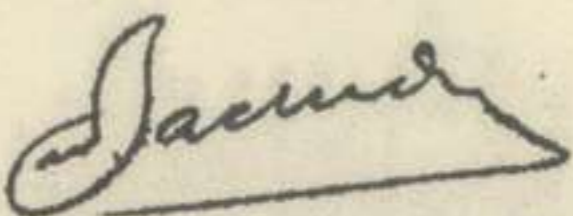
(a) Time	Action by tps.	Action by A/c	Remarks
1100	Parachute flare to be fired from mouth of ck - bearing 149°G-maximum elevation.	Fly from WEST to EAST - will photograph area.	NO SMOKE WILL BE USED.
upon firing of two shots from rifle	Ignite ONE Generator each. Fire another flare from mouth of ck.	Fly from WEST - EAST - will again photograph area.	Lieut Blackburn will order firing of ballistite.
THREE minutes later	Ignite second generator.	As decided by observers.	At least some men will carry watches for timing of second generator.

(b) Capt -

generator/

(b) Capt A J Harlen, Bde H Q will arrange R/T test and carry this out independently according to plans made by him with R A A F.

NOTE Frequency allowed by RAAF 6065 K Cs - Call signs as arranged.


Capt,
for B M, 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No	1	-	2	100 Sqn R A A F
			3	A L O (Capt Clark)
	4	-	6	61 Bn
	7	-	8	11 Aust Div
			9	Comd
	10	-	11	B M
			12	S C
	13	-	15	Staff
	16	-	17	War Diary
			18	File
	19	-	25	Spare.

4 Jan 43.

REPORT ON 7 AUST INF BDE AIR SUPPORT TEST4 JAN 43

Test was carried out between 1100 hrs and 1130 hrs 4 Jan.

Type of Plane : Beaufort Bomber
 Pilot : P/O MERCER R.A.A.F.
 Crew : Pilot, Observer, Wireless Operators (2)
 Independent Observers : Maj PERN 11 Aust Div.
 Maj WILES 61 Bn.
 Capt JACKSON Bde H.Q.

Altitude : 5000', 3000', 100'
 Speed : 140 - 150 ~~max~~ knots per hour

Result Test (a) - Marking line of F.D.L's by smoke generators.

Questions answered by pilot upon return to drome :

1. Q. Were parachute flares plainly visible - one at 1100 hrs, one at 1103 hrs ?
 A. Saw first flare clearly but not second. Was probably moving away from area when second went up.
2. Q. Did smoke clearly indicate line of F.D.L's to A/C ?
 A. Yes - could see points of origin of smoke - two on beach tended to mask others.
3. Q. How long was it before smoke commenced to spread ?
 A. Columns of smoke were good for about 2 mins before spreading.
4. Q. Was any difference noticed between smoke from beach and smoke from hills ?
 A. Very little difference.
5. Q. Was method used suitable for defining bomb-lines ?
 A. Yes - smoke was prominent - probably visible up to 20 miles - point of origin was clear - could guarantee accuracy up to 100 yds either side of line indicated.

Result of independent observation :

- Plane decided to cross area along line of Ck from mouth to source.
- 1045-1100 - Circled area several times to height of 5000'. Found to be too much cloud near hills. Dropped to 3000'-3100'. Made run for photograph but camera did not work. Circled for another run.
- 1100 - Parachute flare sighted at mouth of Ck. A/C made run and took photograph. Flare bright yellow light - trail of smoke.
- 1101 - Smoke commenced to rise from generators. Rose well above trees - visible right and left flanks.
- 1102 - Smoke now sighted from left centre.
- 1103 - Smoke now complete along line. Although smoke spread point of origin were distinct and at least nine points counted.
- 1110 - Smoke still quite visible.
 A/C dropped to 700' and finally 100'
- 1115 - Smoke still visible.

General Comments :

Test considered satisfactory.

Although smoke drifted, definite columns could be seen issuing from trees and origin was so distinct that pilot could have accurately strafed line.

A/C kept circling and running along line for fresh photographs.

Smoke was released from EASTERN and WESTERN banks at mouth. Tended at first to make line appear wider until points of generation were determined.

Smoke from near beach drifted more than that near hills but line still definite.

Smoke was visible at 5000', 3000', even from 3 to 4 miles off. Almost certain that it would be visible from many miles further.

Amendments : To be read after "Speed"

Wind : Light breeze from SOUTH

Weather : Fine and warm.

General visibility during flight was good, except near hills where cloud was hanging at just under 4000'.

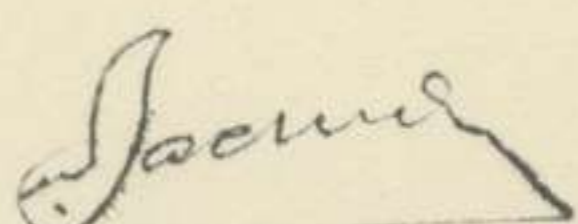
Result Test (b) - Air to Ground Comms by 108 Set.

Questions to pilot :

Q. Where was plane when com ceased with 108 Set ?

A. Over LALAVA IS - Alt. 4000 - 5000'.

Report by Capt Harlen, who conducted test from ground is att.


Capt.
for Bde Maj 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No	1 - 2	11 Aust Div.
	3	61 Bn.
	4 - 5	2 A/S Control
	6	A.L.O. (Capt CLARK)
	7 - 8	100 Sqn R.A.A.F.
	9	Wing Comd RAE
	10	Comd.
	11	File
	12 -16	Spare

R/T COMM TO BEAUFORT BOMBER

1. Test : R/T Comm to Beaufort Bomber.

2. Position

- (a) Ground station on foreshore vicinity mouth ARGONI CK.
- (b) On track through coconut plantation - medium jungle surrounding with palms forming cover overhead.

3. Result of Test

Set switched on at 1053 hrs on frequency 6060 K/Cs, communication established immediately.

Continuous communication maintained until conclusion of test identifying ground signals.

Set then moved to position toward RABI Road and this is as described in Part b of Para 2. Aircraft called and reply was answered immediately. Position at this time of Aircraft was over LALAVA IS. Distance approx 4 miles airline.

Strength of signals, to aircraft R 4, to ground station R 5.

During the whole of the test the position of aircraft did not affect communication although great volume was heard on ground when aircraft was flying side on to ground station.

~~X/XXXXXXTRAININGXXXXXX~~

W. Campbell
Capt.
'J' Sec Sigs.

WJ/WEM (7/1)

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde,
7 Jan 43.

SECRET M 120

Subject : 7 BDE AIR SUPPORT TEST - 4 Jan 43

11 Aust Div
61 Aust Inf Bn
2 A/S Control
A.L.O. (Capt CLARK)
100 Sqn R.A.A.F.
Wing Comd RAE

Ref Results of Test issued 6 Jan, the following amendments and additions are made:

Amendments:

Speed of A/C. : Delete "m.p.h." - substitute "knots"

Report by Capt Harlen : - delete ref to trailing aerial.

Addendum:

Sheet No 1 - After "speed", add

Wind : Light breeze from south

Weather : Fine and warm.

(Signed) W. Jackson Capt.
for Bde Maj 7 Aust Inf Bde.

GENERAL OBSERVATION ON DEFENSIVE AREA 7 Aust Inf Bde

Appx 3.

MADE FROM BEAUFORT BOMBER 4 JAN 43
Ref Map Milne Bay (Prov) No 2.

SQUARE 0901

GAMA-RIVER clear and wide - easily identified from air - runs between steep hills - very little water.

SQUARES 0801 + 0802.

Tents at RABI visible at 5000ft - clearings on hills to north very decided and some tents visible on spurs. Small creeks not seen at 5000 ft, difficult even at 3000, unless indicated.

SQUARES 0701-0702

DUALA CK not clear - much overhung by trees. A Few light coloured tents visible area B Coy 61 Bn. RABI Rd quite distinct.

SQUARE 0600

Can see very little of defences, except at end of Strip.

SQUARE 0601

Strip and dispersal bays also A/A pits very clear at 5000 ft. Few light tents near POIN CK crossing.

SQUARE 0602

Nil - Except clearings left edge.

SQUARES 0599-0699

Much activity vicinity LYLE WHARF. Defences along beach not visible in most cases, except A/A positions and 18 Pdr emplacements. Tents well concealed by large trees and darkened canvas.

SQUARE 0500

Dispersal bays and planes would be easy targets at high altitude. WEHURIA CK clearly identifiable. Ford and new bridge good targets.

SQUARES 0501-0502

A/A defences around drome. Tents STEPHENS HOUSE and PLATEAU areas stand out well - field works plateau area not visible unless is known where to search. Open trenches easy to see - camflg coverpits difficult.

SQUARES 0498-0499-0400

Defences difficult to pick up LAU LAU IS, except A/A positions and odd tents eastern end. Very open PONTOON WHARF area. Route 2 shows stores dumps - could not see bomb dumps. Few scattered light coloured tents visible - U.S. Khaki tents clear.

SQUARE 0401

Many tents visible amongst trees.

ROUTE 1.

Very distinct all way. Factory, Old Canteen, Houses, all show up at high altitude and from a distance. Mass of tents scattered amongst trees - all clear to eye.

Nol House Area

Bridges, roads, surrounding tents and vehicles easy to see. Could not pick up 7 Bde H.Q.

GURNEY FIELD.

Most prominent - tents, A/A Pits, roads, planes.

KALCHI CK.

KALOHI CK

Good line to follow from air.
New Bridge at ford stands out.

LADAVA MISSION

Buildings very plain - tents more obscure defence work not clear.
New clearing for radio detection unit very clear - fallen trees should be removed.

MAIWARA RIVER.

River good mark - clearings appear to be natural grassy area between edge of timber and banks.

GENERAL COMMENTS.

CMFLG.

Plantations offer no cover for tents other than the dark green U.S.A. Types. Apart from colour for overhead observation, openings are not as prominent as the ends of our oblong types. Khaki tents are visible from miles away.

Flashes from new iron and undarkened iron also visible from 5-6 miles away and of a certainty would be seen from a much greater distance, dependant on condition of sun.

From distance of 6 miles and altitude of 5000ft plantations could be seen to be dotted with numerous tents in all directions.

Pits and trenches covered with camflgd wire netting most difficult to pick up unless exact locations known prior to search.

Open field works prominent, and when rain water stood in these, sky and light was reflected glaringly.

Cleared areas obvious where fallen trees allowed to remain - where trees entirely removed they appeared to be normal grassy clearings.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.

Principal rivers and KALOHI CK stand out clearly from air and are easy marks or lines for identification by A/C.

Jungle tracks are not visible.

Bay is by no means as negotiable to draft, particularly with crews new to these waters, as it would appear from land.

Long unbroken lines of reef are to be seen up and down both sides of bay, joined by numerous smaller branches to various points of land, islands and below surface coral formations

LAULAU IS has protecting spur of coral jutting out from eastern end for some distance, making approach difficult. The islands of MAIWARA River are surrounded by a maze of coral making navigation in that area extremely hazardous.

As object of flight was not thorough examination of area details are rather sketchy a detailed air recce would without doubt provide means by which defences could be dealt with section by section until maximum concealment obtained.

W. Jackson Capt
B.M.L. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

Serial No. 2/43

WE Ref. A.M.F.
11/2/3

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

WE 12 + 60

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde (Unit)

9 Jan 1943

WE 5 + 12

(ATTN)

PART A—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
BRIGADIERS	1 *	1	
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	2	1	1
Captains	5	4	2
Lieutenants	4	4	1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	12	2	4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Capt	McTINNES R.D.	H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde	8.1.43	from "X" List

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank	Name and Initials	Corps	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers Posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Lt-col T/Bri	TX 2002	Field	Ball. Comd	yes	
Capt T/Bri	Q 15602	Mahoney	F.M.	"	
Lieut. T/Bri	Q X 40875	Somerfield	AISC TO	"	
"	Q X 34430	Jackson	W.O.E.	B.M. (L)	
"	Q 21972	Marrison	T.W.	S.C. (L)	
"	Q 21661	McInnes	R.O.	L.O. 1	
Lieut (P)	Q X 40836	Radford	D.P.	L.O. 2	
"	Q X 40881	Blackburne	S.J.	L.O. 3	
"	Q 18645	Burkham	C.W.	T.O.	No att. HQ 11 Aust Div
"	Q X 38334	Wood	L.A.	Am. O.	yes

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Date of attachment	Nature of attachment	allowed by WE - yes or No
Lieut T/Capt	Q 44289	Helson	Ca	AASC	DASCO	yes
Lieut (P)	Q 112877	Cook	R.M.	AAMC	By O	"
Chaplain	Q X 40347	Coupe	C.C.C.	A.A.C.H.D.	att. 9 Bn	"
"	Q 123369	Rosenzweig	J.M.		25 Bn	"

Q 123505 James G
 H.Q. 7 Aust Bde (Unit)
 9 Jan 1943 (Date of Despatch)
 Somerville 61 Bn (Signature of Commander)
 11 Aust Div. (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving)
 Capt Staff Capt

Copy No 14

AMENDMENT TO 7 AUST INF BDE R.O. No 69/43

Time of mounting of dutes in sub-paras (a), (b), (c) and (d) is altered to read "0800 hrs" in accordance with CAMP TIME TABLE published in 7 Aust Inf Bde R.O. 63/43 of 28 Mar 43.

DISTRIBUTION as per R.Os.

NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated, either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

Copy No 14

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

by

BRIGADIER JOHN FIELD COMMANDING
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Date 31 Mar 43

"G"

69. DUTY ROSTERS(a) Fd Officer Mounting 0830 hrs

Apr 1	Capt J.L. KELLY	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 2	Capt E.G. WHITE	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 3	Capt D.G. HENDERSON	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 4	Capt C.R.K. McDONALD	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 5	Capt J.H. WOODROFFE	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 6	Capt J.H. FOSTER	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 7	Capt N. JUST	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 8	Capt W. ROBINSON	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 9	Capt E.M. TWEMLOW	61 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 10	Capt A.T. BEECH	9 Aust Inf Bn

(b) Guard Mounting 0830 hrs

Apr 1	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 2	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 3	61 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 4	7 Bde Def Pl
Apr 5	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 6	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 7	61 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 8	HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde & Sig Sec.
Apr 9	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 10	25 Aust Inf Bn

(c) Camp S.M. Mounting 0830 hrs

Apr 1	W.O.II W.H. BOARDMAN	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 2	W.O.II W. HART	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 3	W.O.II C. CROSSLEY	61 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 4	W.O.II S.W. BLACK	7 Bde Def Pl
Apr 5	W.O.II W. BLUNT	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 6	W.O.II W. KNOWLES	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 7	W.O.II A.E. BATSON	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 8	W.O.II B.H. WHITE	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 9	W.O.II W.H. BOARDMAN	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 10	W.O.II W. HART	25 Aust Inf Bn

(d) Duty Bugler Mounting 0830 hrs

Apr 1	61 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 2	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 3	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 4	61 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 5	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 6	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 7	61 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 8	9 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 9	25 Aust Inf Bn
Apr 10	61 Aust Inf Bn

for *Major*
Major
for Bde Maj 7 Aust Inf Bde

"A & Q"

70. MALARIA CONTROL (Ref 11 Aust Div Adm Instn No 4 of 10 Feb 43.)

Ref para 12 - Sub-paras (b) and (c) are cancelled and the following substituted :-

"(b) From 1830 hrs to 0630 hrs all ranks when not under mosquito nets will wear slacks with boots and anklets web, gaiters S.D. or puttees short and long sleeved shirts buttoned at the wrist. The front of the shirt must be fastened up to the neck but the collar band may be left unfastened. Mosquito repellent is to be applied to exposed portions of the body from 1830 hrs to 0630 hrs.

Reveille will not be before 0630 hrs unless ordered by the C.O. for special reasons.

(c) No swimming or bathing must take place between 1830 hrs and 0630 hrs."

Para 14 is cancelled and the following substituted:-

"Troops in PORT MORESBY area will take 1 tablet of ATEBRIN (O. 1G) on MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS with the evening meal. (This includes units in Base Area, Koitaki and Donadabu).

Troops in all other areas will take 1 tablet of ATEBRIN on six days a week (excluding SUNDAYS) with the evening meal."

The above regulations operate as from 28 Mar 43.

71. DISPOSAL OF PERSONAL EQUIPMENT OF CASUALTIES (GRO 0232/43)

1. Personnel evacuated from units to Fd Ambs etc.

(a) Clothing, necessaries, helmets and respirators will accompany the man to a Fd Amb and during the whole period he is away from his unit.

(b) Web equipment and arms will be sent with the man to the Fd Amb and withdrawn before passing M.D.S.

(c) Ammunition on personal issue will be removed from the man's possession, before leaving R.A.P.

2. Personnel in Standing Camps evacuated to Camp Hospitals and General Hospitals.

Clothing, necessaries, helmets and respirators will accompany the man. Personnel evacuated to a camp hospital will leave their web equipment and arms with unit Q.M. Arms and equipment of personnel evacuated to general hospitals will be returned to the nearest ordnance depot.

72. CASUALTY RETURNS - RENDITION OF

to N.G.F. R.O. 102/43.

Attention of units is directed

73. OBSOLETE DOCUMENTS.

Attention of units is directed to GRO A216/43.

74. TRANSPORTATION TO AUSTRALIA OF WIVES, WIDOWS AND CHILDREN OF MEMBERS OF THE FORCES WHO MARRIED DURING THE PERIOD OF THEIR ACTIVE SERVICE OUTSIDE AUSTRALIA.

1. The Commonwealth Government has decided -

(a) that no further action will be taken by it towards arranging

passages for the abovementioned persons until after the conclusion of the war;

- (b) that the Repatriation Commission shall continue to have discretionary power to consider applications from any eligible persons who arrive in Australia under their own arrangements and who later claim refunds, and to refund to them the equivalent of the normal third-class fare:

Provided that, if circumstances arise which in the opinion of the Minister for Repatriation render it imperative that this policy should be temporarily waived, the Minister may authorise such action as may be deemed expedient to meet the situation.

- 2. Commanding Officers will inform all applicants for transportation of the above decisions.
- 3. No authority has been given by the Minister in pursuance of the proviso to paragraph 1 hereof but any such authority that may be given will be notified in General Routine Orders.

(To be published in unit routine orders.)

J. W. Mackinnon, Capt
for Lieut
A/Staff Capt 7 Aust Inf Bde

NOTICES

RESULTS OF 7 AUST INF BDE ATHLETIC CARNIVAL

First Place	25 Aust Inf Bn
Second Place	9 Aust Inf Bn
Third Place	25 Aust Coy A.S.C.
Fourth Place	61 Aust Inf Bn
Fifth Place	24 Aust Fd Coy R.A.E.
Sixth Place	11 Aust Fd Amb
Seventh Place	H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

RESULTS OF 7 AUST INF BDE RIFLE SHOOT

First Place	H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde	143 points
Second Place	25 Aust Inf Bn	142 "
Third Place	25 Aust Coy A.S.C.	141 "
Fourth Place	9 Aust Inf Bn	140 "
Fifth Place	61 Aust Inf Bn	129 "
Sixth Place	11 Aust Fd Amb	54 "

LOST PROPERTY

A Form F.S. the property of 61 Aust Inf Bn and marked with War Office Serial No 46106 and unit colours Brown over Buff over Brown, was removed from 61 Bn area after concert on night 27 Mar 43.

It is requested that the holder of this form will return it to 61 Bn H.Q.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No 1	9 Aust Inf Bn	Copy No 9	Comd
2	25 Aust Inf Bn	10	B.M.
3	61 Aust Inf Bn	11	S.C.
4	11 Aust Fd Amb	12	Staff
5	'J' Sec Sigs	13	Camp Comdt
6	Def pl	14 - 15	War Diary
7	241 Aust L.A.D.	16	File
8	11 Aust Div	17 - 22	Spare

43.5-37

XXXXXXXXXXXXX 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.
SXXXXX 11 Jan. 43

Subject.- REPORT - AERIAL RECCE 9 BN. AREA 8 JAN. 43.

7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Herewith report on aerial recce of 9 Aust. Inf. Bn. area made on 8 Jan. 43.

Time - 0900 to 1030 hrs.
Height - 500' to 6000'.
Weather - Fine; cloudy but clear.

The recce held over the battalion area revealed as follows :-

Bn.H.Q. Area : Many tents, more particularly the Salvation Army tent, are in need of camflg and the EPIP tents, which have a light green fly, require a considerable amount of camflg, as they are easily distinguishable, even at 6000 ft.

The track leading into Bn.H.Q. is very easily distinguishable and is more so on account of the two-way exit. Bays which have been cut in for transport over Route 3 are distinguishable by their dark colour against the brown colouring of Route 3. Route 16, on account of its numerous bends and irregular shape is not as easily distinguishable, but swathes recently cut by the 17 Bde. show up brown. It is suggested that these swathes be cut in a more irregular pattern so as to give the idea of a native garden clearing.

A Coy. Area : The clearing around the Maiwara River appears more of a grassy slope because on the southern bank of the river the fallen timber has been overgrown with grass. When this grass is cleared away it will also be necessary to get rid of the logs and other patches which have recently been cut. The swathes cut by the 18 Bde. are too ~~irregular~~ irregular and it is suggested that these be made more irregular in form, once again to give the idea of a native garden. Field works were hard to distinguish in this area, even at a low altitude, with the exception of one mortar pit which is now being attended to.

B Coy. Area : Here, the grass is fairly high, not having been re-cleared, and works and wiring were not distinguishable.

C Coy. Area : Although a flight at 500 ft. was done over this area, it was hard to distinguish any of the field works, with the exception of beachlights situated near the Ladava Jetty, and this matter is now receiving attention.

The heavy A/A position to the north of C Coy. area is a good landmark and is more so now that the additional clearing has been done and here irregularity of the shape of the clearing should be attended to. The clearing recently undertaken by U.S. personnel will required

more attention, and the logs fallen in the area should be removed without delay, more especially those which have fallen into the water, as it obviously points out that there are troops or field works in this vicinity.

D Coy. Area : Field works, section posts and communication trenches in this area were not distinguishable, with the exception of the recently erected pillboxes on the shore of Gabagabuna Bay. These had not been quite completed and no cmflg. had been undertaken. A flight out over the bay at a low altitude showed that the heads of the pillboxes need attention as they tend to make the pillboxes show up still more so. The regularity of line of these pillboxes will have to be broken considerably and some natural foliage planted in order to successfully cmflg. them.

Route 9 in this area shows that considerable traffic goes down this road as far as D Coy. H.Q. The road beyond this area shows very little wear. This points out the necessity that traffic will have to be directed beyond the H.Q. as it will soon be realised that the building where the transport stops is a H.Q. of some nature.

Some of the clearings done by the battalion in this area require attention, more especially the triangular clearing of jungle in 17 Pl. area by again altering the shape of the clearing to one of more irregular design than at present being carried out. The tracks in this area between the various section posts and Coy. H.Q. were particularly checked and were hard to distinguish, even at 1000 ft and were not depicted at all from 6000 ft.

General : It was noticed that sandbags used in field works, after being in use for some time, were bleached and could be easily distinguished when placed in a somewhat open position. This is very noticeable in the A/A position to the north-west of Gurney Field, and it will be necessary to cover them with foliage or to encourage a natural growth over the sandbags to prevent them being visible from the air and so immediately indicating to the enemy that they were defensive works of some nature.

A coconut plantation is not good cmflg as a flight over Div.H.Q. showed that the tents were easily discernible at 6000 ft., more particularly the khaki-coloured U.S. tents, as the majority of these were without cmflg. of any description.

The flight brought to the notice of coy. comds. matters requiring attention in their respective areas, and a lot of the work necessary has already been undertaken, and it is suggested that in the very near future coy. comds. be again permitted to fly over the area, and if possible, each coy. comd. be accompanied by his pl. comds.


.....Major
Adm. Comd. 9 Aust. Inf. Bn.

HONOURS & AWARDS @ 7 AUST INF BDE.

Appx 6

<u>UNIT.</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AWARD</u>
9 Aust Inf Bn	QX38058	Cpl	Andrew Charles IRWIN	Military Medal
9 Aust Inf Bn	Q 15775	Pte	Lionel Franz BAUMANN	Military Medal
25 Aust Inf Bn	Q 22853	Lieut	Aubrey John SCHINDLER	Military Cross
25 Aust Inf Bn	Q 22003	Sgt	Stanley David STEELE	Military Medal
Q5 Aust Inf Bn	Q 22716	Sgt	Joffre James LUDLOW	Military Medal
25 Aust Inf Bn	QX35164	Cpl	John Cameron WARREN	Military Medal
61 Aust Inf Bn	Q 27624	Capt	Charles Henry BICKS	Distinguished Service Order.

Date Recommendation passed fwd.
Received Passed

Brigade _____

Division _____

Corps _____

Army _____

7 Aust Inf Bde., MILNE FORCE, N.G. Forces.

Schedule No.	UNIT.	Regtl. No.	Rank & Name (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which recommended. (Date & place of Action must be stated)	Recommended By	Honour or Award	To be left blank.
	25 Aust Inf Bn.	22003	Sgt STEELE Stanley David	<p>Date and Place;- On the morning of 28 Aug 42 at MILNE BAY in a posn about KAINAKO VILLAGE, north east of No. 3 aeroplane runway.</p> <p>Sgt Steele's conduct was exemplary. He displayed considerable coolness and bravery, and exercised control over his small Pl of 16 men in occupying and holding a posn from which he inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy for a period between 0500 and 0800 hrs. His action held up the enemy advance across the aerodrome enabling the defences across the 'drome to be considerably strengthened. His forethought in cutting a field of fire and dispositions of his Bren guns was good. His firm stand in view of local penetration of the enemy in flanking localities stamps his work as outstanding particularly in view of the fact that he sustained no casualties, having provided for all round protection in the jungle.</p> <p>By his conduct, his fire discipline, and his control and organisation of amm supply for Bren guns he was a splendid example to his men, and is worthy for his distinguished conduct.</p>	(Signed) Lt-Col C.O., 25 Aust Inf Bn. 10 Sep 42	D.C.M. immediate.	

Date Recommendation passed fwd.
 Received _____ Passed _____

Brigade. _____

Division _____

Corps _____

Army _____

7 Aust Inf Bde., MILNE FORCE N.G. FORCE.

Schedule No.	Unit	Regtl. No.	Rank & Name (Christian names must be stated.)	Action for which recommended. (Date and place of Action must be stated).	Recommended By	Honour or Award	To be left blank.
	25 Aust Inf Bn.	Q 22900	Cpl WARREN John Cameron	<p>Date and Place;- On the afternoon of 26 Aug 42 at MILNE BAY east of K.B. Mission.</p> <p>In an attack east of K.B. Mission Cpl Warren displayed considerable initiative in advancing by forcibly attacking the enemy with his section to prevent the encirclement of No 13 Pl commanded by Sgt Steele who was on his right. During the advance Cpl Warren saw Sgt Steele's Pl being surrounded, Steele having advanced ahead of the other Pls. Without waiting for orders from his Pl Comdhe immediately ordered his section to advance, and although blown down the creek bank by the concussion of an enemy grenade, Warren urged his section on and quickly rejoined them, following through his attack with hand grenades. Although suffering from a Mortar shrapnel wound on the back of the head he continued to control his section and released No 13 Pl. Later his section was cut off but he successfully fought his way out and returned to his coy during the night.</p> <p>Cpl Warren's action showed his excellent control and grim determination when confronted with a situation calling for a quick decision and initiative. When asked by his neighbouring Pl what was happening he replied, "I do not know, but No 9 sec of 14 Pl is advancing", and immediately gave the order, "No 9 Sec Advance!"</p> <p>His action is deserving of special recognition.</p>	(signed) E.S. Miles Lt-Col C.O., 25 Aust Inf Bn. 10 Sep 42	M.M. immediate	

Date Recommendation Passed Fwd.

Received Passed

Brigade _____

Division _____

Corps _____

Army _____

7 Aust Inf Bde., MILNE FORCE. N.G. FORCE.

Schedule No.	Unit.	Regtl No.	Rank & Name (Christian names must be stated).	Action for which recommended. (Date and Place of action must be stated).	Recommended By	Honour or Award.	To be left blank.
	25 Aust Inf Bn.	Q 22716	Sgt. LUDLOW Joffre James.	<p>Date and Place;- On the morning of 28 Aug 42 at MILNE BAY in a posn about KAINAKO VILLAGE, north east of No3 aerodrome runway. Sgt Ludlow displayed considerable initiative and control over his men, apart from his personal example of bravery. He made a firm stand with the use of grenades and Bren Gun in conjunction with Sgt Steele's Pl to stem the enemy advance over the aerodrome runway. His Pl of approx. 16 men was forced back after endeavouring to protect an A/Tk crew, and he sought a position by which he could successfully take a stand against the greater numbers of the enemy who were advancing. He joined Sgt Steele at a clearing on the edge of the jungle disposed his men with all round protection, and personally disposed of an enemy Machine gun crew of three and a Mortar crew of five with hand grenades. His grim determination to destroy the enemy in the early morning darkness from 0500 hrs onwards was a fitting example to his men whom he held, despite local penetration of the enemy in adjacent localities, and successfully carried on in conjunction with Sgt Steele until the posn in front was established, when he led his men out, not having suffered a casualty.</p> <p>The destruction of the enemy in an open clearing by hand grenades and Bren guns was a big factor in preventing the enemy organising for an attack across the drome before dawn.</p> <p>Sgt Ludlow is of an unassuming nature, has a high sense of duty, and instilled confidence in his men by his exemplary conduct in the face of a large numbers of the enemy, and is worthy of recognition for his distinguished conduct.</p>	(signed) E.S.Miles Lt-Col C.O., 25 Aust Inf Bn.	D.C.M. immediate.	

Date Recommendation Passed Fwd.
 Received Passed
 Brigade _____
 Division _____
 Corps _____
 Army _____

7 Aust Inf Bde., MILNE FORCE N.G. FORCE.

Schedule No	Unit.	Regtl No.	Name & Rank (Christian names must be stated)	Action for which recommended (Date and Place of action must be stated).	Recommended By.	Honour or Award	To be left blank
	25 Aust Inf Bn	Q22853	Lieut SCHINDLER Aubrey John	<p>Date and Place;- On 30/31 Aug 42 at MILNE BAY on No aerodrome runway. Lieut Schindler, Mortar offr, rendered distinguished service in action in organising and personally conducting Mortar fire of two Mortar detachments during the forming up of enemy on positions preparatory to attack. Lieut Schindler's action resulted in heavy casualties to the enemy, it being estimated that some 162 dead were found in the area where his mortar bombs were successfully placed.</p> <p>The previous day Lieut Schindler advanced some 3000 yards forward of our F.D.Ls to put out of action two enemy tanks which had been abandoned by their crews, and was suffering with raw feet, the result of days of walking in the mud and water and his section in carrying on and effectively placing his Mortar fire on the concentrated groups of enemy, was an inspiration to all personnel holding the front line along the runway.</p> <p>He organised the forward O.P. and had it manned by Lieut K.A. Acreman of 4 Bty A/Tk, whose excellent fire orders made complete co-operation and greatly assisted in the destruction of a large number of the enemy. Lieut Schindler showed outstanding initiative in placing his mortars, protecting his Mortar crews, co-ordinating both Mortars and co-operating with an improvised F.O.O. and the C.O. at battle H.Q. Concentrations of enemy were entirely dealt with by Mortar fire with devastating effect, for a period of about three hours before dawn. The enemy was seen to line up on three occasions for attack, all of which were frustrated by effective Mortar fire. It is strongly recommended that Lieut Schindler's outstanding services be given recognition.</p>	(signed) E.S. Miles Lt-Col C.O., 25 Aust Inf Bn.	M.C. immediate	

PLANE CRASH. At 0015 hrs on Sunday, 10 Jan a hy explosion accompanied by a vivid flash of light, was heard from the approximate direction of WAGA WAGA(SOUTH) .

Immediate contact was made with the WAGA patrol , who reported that a Beaufort Bomber had crashed in the ranges behind WAGA on a Magnetic bearing of 177 dg.

At 0730 hrs a patrol lead by Lieut Whyatt, O/C GIBARA patrol, set out to search for the plane. Natives guided them to the scene of the crash which was about 100ft below the summit of the 3500ft range south of WAGA.

The plane had apparently flown head into the side of the range, which at this point is extremely steep and covered with jungle; caught on fire; and exploded a torpedo bomb, the tail of which was discovered some distance from the plane.

Within a quarter of a mile in radius of the scene of the crash, the patrol discovered the remains of 3 bodies and the fragments of the plane.

One machine gun and several of amm were salvaged from the wreck.

The patrol buried the remains of the crew, and then set out on the two and a half hour climb down to WAGA WAGA.

(Signed) S.G. Platz. Lieut.
 I.O. 9 Aust Inf Bn.

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

Serial 2/43.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

LIEUT-COL A. MELDRUM ADM COMD
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Date 12 Jan 43.

"G"

15. UNAUTHORISED INTERFERENCE WITH EQUIPMENT.

Several cases have occurred recently where minor defects in technical equipment have been converted into major defects by unskilled attempts at repair by unauthorised personnel. In particular clocks and watches which should have been repairable have had to be condemned as unserviceable because unskilled tampering has aggravated the original damage or caused further breakage of sound parts.

As spare parts for certain instruments, particularly clocks and watches, are almost unobtainable, such tampering results in loss of equipment.

Previous orders forbidding the repair of technical equipment of all kinds by unauthorised personnel will be strictly enforced.

(To be repeated in Unit Routine Orders)

Jacobs Capt
Major,
Brigade Major 7 Aust Inf Bde.

'A & Q'

16. COURTS MARTIAL.

MINUTE OF PUBLICATION.- A D.C.M. was held at H.Q. New Guinea Force, on 21 Dec 42 for the trial of QX2062 Spr BUNCE, B.E. AIF 2 Docks Op Coy R.A.E.

The accused was convicted of the offence of - AA Sec 41, Committing a civil offence, that is to say, stealing, in that he, at PORT MORESBY on 22 Oct 42, stole seventy-one (71) packets of cigarettes the property of the U.S. Army.

Sentence:- To undergo detention for six (6) months.

The accused was 59 days in close arrest awaiting trial.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 24 Dec 42 and promulgated to the accused in the Field on 29 Dec 1942.

(This Minute will be repeated in all Unit R.Os)

MINUTE OF PUBLICATION.- A D.C.M. was held at H.Q. New Guinea Force on 21 Dec 42 for the trial of N85857 Bdr WARNER J.D., 32 Aust Hy A.A. Bty., Aust A.A.Gp.

The accused was convicted of the offence of - A.A. Sec 40, W.O.A.S. Neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that he, in the Field, at or about H3 gun site on 7 Nov 42, at or about 2120 hrs., so negligently handled a T.S.M.G. as to cause it to discharge, thereby injuring the big toe of his right foot.

Sentence; To be reduced to the ranks and to be fined the sum of £20.

The accused had not been in arrest awaiting trial.

The finding and sentence were duly confirmed on 24 Dec 42 and promulgated to the accused in the Field on 29 Dec 1942.

(This Minute will be repeated in all Unit R.Os)

17. RIFLES NO 1 MK 3 AND MK 3 STAR - REMOVAL OF STOCK (NGF Order 614)

The practice of removing the fore-end portion of the stock of the RIFLE No 1 MK 3, or MK 3 (STAR) between the trigger guard and the outer band results in completely destroying the accuracy of the rifle. This practice will cease forthwith. Units comds will take disciplinary action in all cases of this nature detected in future.

(To be repeated in Unit Routine Orders)

18. CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT - INCLUSION IN PARCELS ADDRESSED TO CIVILIANS. (NGF ORDER 616)

(a) Personnel are forbidden to include equipment or other articles comprising personal issues in parcels forwarded to civilian addresses.

(b) Franking officers will pay particular attention to this order as any breach will lead to the removal of the articles from parcels by Base Censorship and the subsequent debit therefore against the soldier.

19. ORDNANCE STORES - COLLECTION OF.

Attention of units is directed to 11 Aust Div R.O. No 26.

20. SUPPRESSIVE QUININE.

Attention is directed to 11 Aust Div R.O. No 19.

As from 11 Jan the taking of two (2) tablets daily of Quinine Sulphate as a suppressive measure will cease.

Suppressive treatment will be continued by taking one (1) tablet of Atebrin daily after the evening meal for six days of the week.

J. H. Mathison
for Staff Captain 7 Aust Inf Bde. Capt,

DISTRIBUTION.

- 1. 9 Aust Inf Bn
- 2. 25 Aust Inf Bn
- 3. 61 Aust Inf Bn
- 4. 4 Bty 101 Aust A.Tk Regt
- 5. 3 Bty 2/1 Aust A.Tk Regt
- 6. A.A.D.C.
- 7. 24 Aust Fd Coy
- 8. 'D' Coy 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn.
- 9-11. USASOS (Col Burns) pass to 43 Eng and Port Det
- 12. Comd
- 13-14. Staff
- 15. 'J' Sec Sigs
- 16. 241 Aust L.A.D.
- 17. H.Q. 11 Aust Div
- 18. C.Q. M.S.
- 19. Tpt Sgt
- 20. File
- 21-22. War Diary.

IV. RIFLES NO 1 MK 3 AND MK 3 STAR - REMOVAL OF STOCK (NGF ORDER 616)

The practice of removing the fore-end portion of the stock of the RIFLE NO 1 MK 3, or MK 3 (STAR) between the trigger guard and the outer band results in completely destroying the accuracy of the rifle. This practice will cease forthwith. Units found to be guilty of this practice will be dealt with accordingly. (To be repeated in Unit Routine Orders)

15 Jan 43

H.Q. 7 AUST INF BDE TUTORIAL DISCUSSIONS

(Serial 3)

To all Offrs H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

Tutorial discussions will be continued on Tuesday and Thursday evenings of each week, beginning 19 Jan 43, at 1930 hrs.

2. All offrs except Duty Offr will attend.

3. List of subjects and discussion leaders is set out below. Value of discussions largely depends on thorough preparation of material by all in advance.

4. SYLLABUS

Ser	Date	Subject	Leader	Ref
1	Jan. 19	Combined Ops I	B.M. (L)	} "Combined Ops for Unit Ccmds"
2	21	Combined Ops II	"	
3	26	Combined Ops III	"	
4	28	Preparation of TEWT	B.M.	A.T.M.14 (para 19)
5	Feb. 2	JAP tactics at HONG KONG	I.O.	A.T.M.14 (Appx A)
6	4	Suggestions for unit tng	Lt RADFORD	A.T.M.14 (para 17)
7	9	C.W. in JAP Army	Lt BLACKBURN	"JAP Army : Notes on C.W." March 1942
8	11	Responsibility	Capt. MATHISON	A.T.M.16 (pp 34 et seq)
9	16	Hardening the body	Hyg Offr	A.T.M.16 (Appx B)
10	18	Observation Tng	Lt WOOD	A.T.M.16 (Appx L)
11	23	R.A.O.C. lessons from M.E.	Lt KREBS	A.T.M.16 (Appx T)
12	25	S.A. fire against A/C and Tks.	Lt RADFORD	A.T.Ms 14 and 16

J. Mahoney Maj.
Maj 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No.	1	Ccmd.
	2 - 3	B.M.
	4 - 15	Staff (one per offr)
	16	5 Aust Div (for infm)
	17 - 18	War Diary
	19 - 20	File

A/px 10

Appx 10
LOCATION STATEMENT - 7 AUST INF BDE.

as at 2359 hrs 15 Jan 43.

Ref Map MILNE BAY (prov) 2nd ed - 2" to 1 ml.

UNIT	LOCATION	MAP REF.
H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde	Route 10	027008
241 L.A.D.	" 10	026007
9 Aust Inf Bn.	" 3	004984
HQ Coy	" 3	004984
A Coy	" 9	993966
B Coy	" 3	999984
C Coy	" 3	024983
D Coy	" 9	006972
E Coy	" 3	003982
1 Sec 10 Pl	ELTBOLEBOLELI	989922
17 Pl HQ & 1 Sec	GIBARA	012905
1 Sec	GOMOBODO	055896
1 Sec	WAGA	083893
D Coy 2/1 Pnr Bn	Route 3	033933
61 Aust Inf Bn	Route 6	053005
HQ Coy	Route 6	053003
A Coy	South No 3 Strip	066007
B Coy	" " " "	070015
C Coy	" " " "	085019
D Coy	Route 6	055004
E Coy	" 6	052006
1 Sec	K.B.	107004
1 Sec	MAPO	027041
2/16 Fd Coy		059016
4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt		
Bty HQ	Route 11	022007
A Tp HQ	" 3	981991
Gun A 1	" 3	983993
" A 2	" 3	004983
" A 3	" 1	986993
" A 4	" 3	992988
B Tp HQ	" 3	004984
Gun B 1	" 9	005967
" B 2	" 9	009978
" B 3	" 9	008977
" B 4	" 9	006971
C Tp HQ	" 11	022007
Gun C 1	" 3	029989
" C 2	" 2	035999
" C 3	" 1	039994
" C 4	" 1	032997
D Tp HQ	" 11	022007
Gun D 1	" 1	026003
" D 2	" 2	036005
" D 3	" 1	016003
" D 4	" 11	022007 (Reserve)
3 Bty 2/1 A/Tk Regt.		
Bty HQ	Route 10	031009
I Tp HQ	RABI RD	070013
Gun I 1	" "	088018
" I 2	" "	082020
" I 3	" "	073015
" I 4	" "	066013
K TP HQ	Route 12	044014
Gun K 1	" 12	045002
" K 2	" 12	046016
" K 3	" 5	053008
" K 4	No 3 Strip	048018
L TPHQ	Route 2	047002
Gun L 1	" 5	053007
" L 2	Dispersal Bay	058003
" L 3	Route 2	048003
" L 4	" 2	048998

Serial No. 3

W.E. Ref A.M.F.
11/2/3

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

16 Jan 1943

W.E. 12 + 60

W.E. (att.) 5 + 12

HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde. (Unit)

PART A—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
BRIGADIERS	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		1
Captains	4	1	2
Lieutenants	5	2	1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	11	3	4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut.	KREBS AA	HQ 11 Aust Div	15.1.43	Taken on strength from HQ 11 Aust Div as a staff capt.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank	Name and Initials	Corps	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers Posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Lieut-col T/Bn	TX2002	Field	Bde Comd	yes	
Capt T/Mat	Q15602	Mahoney	P.M		
Lieut T/Capt	QX34430	Conroyville	A/SC TO	No	attd HQ 5 Aust Div
"	QX34430	Jackson	P.M (L)	yes	
"	Q31972	Mathison	SC (L)	"	
"	Q31661	McInnes	A/IT O	"	
Lieut	QX40880	Kelby	A/SC	"	
"	QX40836	Radford	L.O.2	"	
"	QX40881	Blakburne	L.O.3	"	
"	Q18645	Swainson	T.O	No	attd Qld L of C school
"	QX38334	Wood	Amv B	yes	of M.I

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Date of attachment	Nature of attachment	Allowed by
Lieut. T/Capt	Q44289	Helson CA	AASC		AASCO	NE - yes or no
Lieut (P)	Q12277	Cook RM	AA MC		attd	
Chaplain	QX40347	Campbell CFC	AA CH D		attd 9 Bn	
"	Q123369	Roshokyan PM	"		25 Bn	
"	Q123505	James G	"		attd 6/8 Bn	

H.Q. of Aust Int Bde

(Unit) _____ (Signature of Commander) A Staff Capt
5 Aust Div.

(Date of Despatch) _____ (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving)

Kand 10

17 JAN 43

XXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXHeadquarters.
61 Aust. Inf. Bn.
AUSTRALIA.SUBJECT- REPORT ON AIR RAID - 1245hrs 17/1/43.GENERAL-

Twenty-three Mitsubishi Special Sally type twin engined single tailed. Over-head cover approx. 14 Zeros. Dropped approx. 50 Anti-personal and incendiary bombs (250 lb) crater 3 feet wide 13" deep. Height of planes 15-20 thousand feet. Direction of approach from Cape Peason to Dawson Is to Milne Bay.

61 Bn.

A Coy approx. 15 bombs in area. No casualties. 3 tents destroyed, section wiring damaged, will be repaired by night-fall. 1 M.M.G. damaged, 1 vehicle damaged slightly.

E Coy H.Q. - 2 bombs. Truck damaged (1 ton). Tents slightly damaged also R.A.P. and 100 gallon tank destroyed. No casualties.

Communications interrupted with all coys except H.Q. and E.

80 U.S. Fighter Sqn.

Total loss, 1 P.39, 2 petrol wagons, 1 Amb. badly damaged
1 Jeep badly damaged, 1 petrol dump,
1 am. dump.

12 planes escorting Douglas to Moresby. 9 Planes took air against raiders. Claim two Zeros or bombers probably shot down, planes seen spirally to ground over mts. in N direction.

TURNBULL AERODROME.

Matting damaged in several places. 43 U.S. Engrs report strip and Dispersal Bays completely repaired by night-fall.

6 SQN R.A.A.F.

1 Lockheed Hudson completely destroyed. 2 badly holed. U.S. for some time. 10 U.S. until inspection. 2 tents in biv area destroyed by bombs. No casualties save a few minor injuries. Report bombing as of the pattern type.

2/1 A/TK.

No casualties, Hole in petrol tank of truck. Guns untouched.

104 A/A.

2 casualties treated for shock. 1 .50 had water-jacket damaged. Gun sit. immediately east of Wekuria Ford on left of road.

43 U.S. Engrs.

No casualties. 1 lorry prev. U.S. destroyed. Water-point out of action. 20 tents damaged. 4 or 5 boxes of dynamite blew up from dump.

(2)

403 BOMB. SQN. U.S.

3 B17
1 B24 --- completely destroyed.

Several bombs in biv. area.

1 tractor
2 Jeeps
1 Truck light
1 Trailer DESTROYED.
20 Tents.

Mess Hut. damaged.

2 petrol dumps burnt out.

Notifying all tps not to touch bomb fragments as they contain substance which will aggravate skin disease.

235 BTY Lt A/A.

Nothing to report.

2/9 A/LIASON SEC.

1 truck (1 ton)
1 M/Cycle BADLY DAMAGED.

[Handwritten signature]

Lieut.

I.O., 61 Aust. Inf. Bn.

17/1/43.

Passed to G 3I

*1855 hrs 17 JAN
RD McGinnis
[Signature]*

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No of Groups GR.

Serial No. OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 01 bn, A coy 7 HQ bn, rptd 9 bn 5 sust div

FROM 7 bde

Originator's Number 0761

Date 17

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

7 bde	07	instn	number	16	5
.	A coy	7 HQ bn	under	00:1	10
7 bde	14	Jan	.	A coy	15
to	be	disposed	one	pl	20
LAULAU Is	posts	01	02	one	25
pl	beach	07	015	one	30
pl	WHUNIA	08	011	02	35
.	01 bn	1810	pl	LAULAU Is	40
to	be	disposed	by	C O	45
01	bn	on	suitable	tasks	50
one	of	which	will	be	55
post	038	.	launch	arranged	60
for	approx	1830	hrs	S C	65
7	bde	will	advise	units	70
definite	particulars	when	available	.	75
movt	will	be	completed	by	80
1600	hrs	17	Jan	.	85
C O	A coy	7	HQ	bn	90
will make	HQ	with	HQ	7	95
bde	.	ack			100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS: (EXCEPT WIRELESS)

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE [Signature]

SIGNATURE

IMMEDIATE

1810

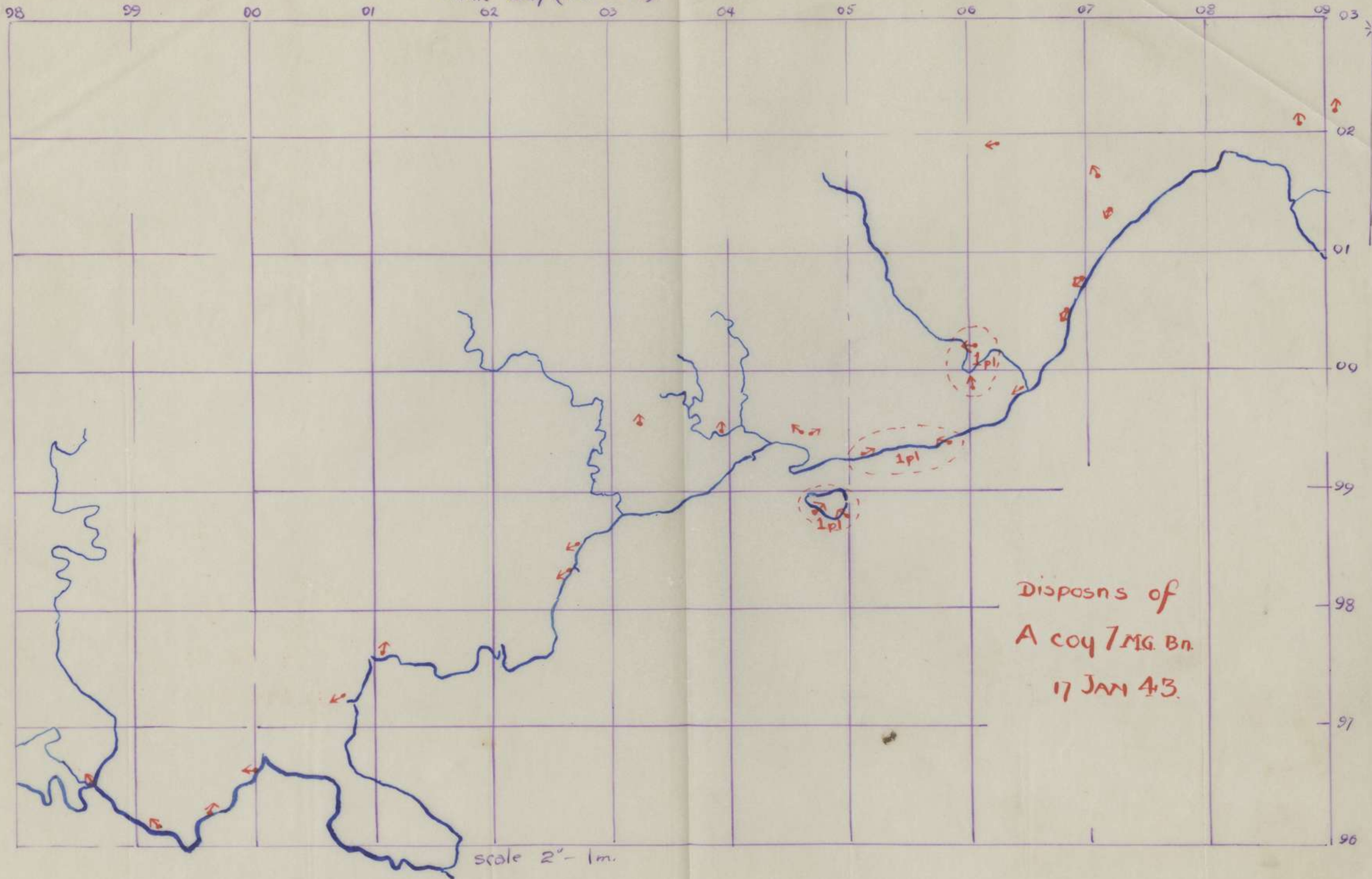
T.H.I.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

Milne Bay (Prov N° 2)



*War Diary**15*
April 14

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by
BRIGADIER JOHN FIELD COMMANDING
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No. *22*

Date 20 Jan 43.

"G"

21. COMMAND.

H.Q. 5 Aust Div took over command from H.Q. 11 Aust Div on 12 Jan 43,

All orders and instructions issued by H.Q. 11 Aust Div and H.Q. Milne Force will be taken into use by units under command of 5 Aust Div where applicable unless specific orders to the contrary are issued.

Ad Krebs Lieut
Major,
Brigade Major 7 Aust Inf Bde.

"A & Q"

22. DRESS. (5 AUST DIV R.O. 428)

All tps will wear shirts and long trousers with gaiters at all times. An exception may be made to the wearing of shirts if tps are engaged in heavy manual labour, but immediately after completion of the work, shirts must be again donned.

Offrs and N.C.Os are to ensure that this instruction is strictly adhered to.

23. CANOPY COVERS FOR VEHICLES.

Attention of units is directed to 5 Aust Div R.O. No 429.

Returns will be submitted to this H.Q. NOT later than 1200 hrs 21 Jan 43.

24. TESTING OF DRIVERS M.T.

Testing Officer for potential drivers of M.T. in Bde H.Q., is Lieut H.C.G. Rogers O.C. 241 Aust L.A.D.

25. RADIOS - PLAYING OF.

Playing of radios in Bde H.Q. Area after 2215 hrs is strictly forbidden. Disciplinary action will be taken against offenders.

Ad Krebs Lieut,
A/Staff Captain 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION.

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. 9 Aust Inf Bn | 13. Comd. |
| 2. 25 Aust Inf Bn | 14-15. Staff. |
| 3. 61 Aust Inf Bn | 16. 'J' Sec Sigs |
| 4. 4 Bty 101 Aust A/Tk Regt | 17. H.Q. 5 Aust Div |
| 5. 3 Bty 2/1 Aust A/Tk Regt | 18. 241 L.A.D. |
| 6. A.A.D.C. | 19. C.Q.M.S. |
| 7. 24 Aust Fd Coy. | 20. Tpt Sgt. |
| 8. A Coy 7 Aust Machine Gun Bn | 21. File |
| 9. D Coy 2/1 Aust Pnr Bn | 22-23. War Diary. |
| 10-12. USASOS (Col Burns) pass to
43 Engrs and Port Det. | |

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

22 Jan 43.

Subject : LOCATION STATEMENTS AND LOCATION REPORTS

1. (a) Location statements will be compiled to reach this H.Q. by 1800 hrs on the 15th and the last day of each month.
- (b) Statements will be set out as per attached Appendix "A" and will include all units and sub-units under command.
2. Changes of location will be notified by message immediately they occur.
3. In the column headed "Communications", appropriate remarks will be inserted, e.g.
 - (a) Line through Bde, Bn, etc. Switch.
 - (b) Wireless
 - (c) D.R.L.S.

J. Mahoney Maj.
Bde Maj. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No	1	9 Bn
	2	61 Bn
	3	4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt
	4	3 Bty 2/1 A.Tk Regt
	5	'A' Coy 7 Aust M.G. Bn
	6	File
	7 - 8	War Diary

LOCATION STATEMENT OF

As at 1800 hrs.....43

UNIT	UNIT VEHICLE NO	LOCATION (Map Ref)	REF MAP	COMM.	REMARKS

.....

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

22 Jan 43.

Subject : AIR RAIDS

In order to obtain uniform descriptions of air raids, the following definition of an air raid and system of reporting will be adopted.

2. The definition of an air raid will be that no raid takes place unless our ground or air forces in close proximity to the area are attacked. Thus, if an enemy strike force approaches and does not attack, but is engaged by A.A. fire a raid has not taken place.

3. Information required is as follows:-

(a) Immediately after sighting

- (i) Number, type, formation, height of enemy aircraft, and direction of travel.
- (ii) Accurate bearing, distance and identification of crashed aircraft.

(b) On conclusion of raid

- (i) Number of casualties to personnel.
- (ii) Approx number and type of bombs dropped in area.
- (iii) Extent of damage.

4. Where information can NOT be passed due to interrupted line communication, written reports will be forwarded by quickest means available.

5. All telephone messages will be confirmed by reports as soon as possible.

J. Mahoney
Maj.
For Bde Maj. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

- | | | |
|---------|-------|-------------------------|
| Copy No | 1 | 9 Bn. |
| | 2 | 61 Bn. |
| | 3 | 3 Bty 2/1 A.Tk Regt. |
| | 4 | 4 Bty 101 A.Tk Regt. |
| | 5 | 'A' Coy 7 Aust M.G. Bn. |
| | 6 | File |
| | 7 - 8 | War Diary. |

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

23 Jan 1943

Serial No. 4
WE Ref AMF 11/2/3
WE 12+60
WE (attd) 5+12

HQ of Aust Inf Bde (Unit)

PART A—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
BRIGADIERS	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		1
Captains	4	1	2
Lieutenants	5	2	1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	11	3	4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank	Name and Initials	Corps	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers Posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
St.-col. T/Ingr	TX2002	Zell	Appointment	yes	
Capt. T/Ingr	Q15602	Wahony	SM	"	
Lieut. T/Ingr	QX34430	Wahony	SC TO	No	att. HQ 5 Aust. Div.
"	QX34430	Wahony	SM (L)	yes	
"	Q31972	Wahony	L01	"	
"	Q21661	Wahony	A170	"	
Lieut.	QX40830	Krebs	A150	"	
"	QX40836	Raddford	L02	"	
"	QX40881	Blackburne	L03	"	
"	Q18645	Wahony	T.O	No	att. HQ 5 Aust. Div. School of M.I.
"	QX38334	Wahony	SM	yes	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Date of attachment	Nature of attachment	allowed by
Lieut. T/Capt	Q44289	Helson	CA	AASC	BASCO	WE - yes
Lieut (P)	Q112877	Cook	Rim	AAAC	Regt	"
Chaplan	QX40347	Coupe	CC	AACD	att. 9 B.	"
"	Q123369	Rosenberger	SM	"	" 25 "	"
"	Q123505	James	"	"	" 61 "	"

(Unit) *H.Q. 7 Aust. Inf. Bde*

(Signature of Commander) *A. Staff Capt*

(Date of Despatch) *23 Jan 1943*

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving) *5 Aust. Div.*

ARMY FORM C 2130
(ADAPTED, LARGE)
(PAGE OF 100)
(RE-PRINTED FEBRUARY, 1942)-M.P.C.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

NO. OF GROUPS
GR.

SERIAL NO.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO 'J' Sec sigs; 241 L.A.D.; rd postal unit 68; 9 bn; 61 bn; 4 bty 101 A. Tk
rptd 5 div; 25 bn rear details; 24 rd coy; 2/5 rd regt; 'A' Coy 7 M.M. Bn

FROM 7 inf bde
ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER: 0 764
DATE: 25
IN REPLY TO NUMBER:

(WRITE HORIZONTALLY)

SECRET	.	WARNING	ORDER	.	5
29	bde	will	relieve	7	10
bde	.	bn	7	bde	15
will	occupy	those	vacated	15	20
bn	47	bn	and	take	25
over	def	GURNEY	FIELD	.	30
A	coy	7	MM	bn	35
under	comd	29	bde	.	40
rece	to	be	completed	1800	45
hrs	26	jan	.	no	50
movt	tps	before	0900	hrs	55
27	jan	area	to	be	60
occupied	by	1800	hrs	relief	65
to	take be	complete	by	1800	70
hrs	27	jan	.	29	75
bde	take	over	all	maps	80
etc	.	ann	and	supplies	85
move	with	units	.	instn	90
re	tentage	issued	later	.	95
coms	to	remain	and	be	100
handed	over	.	infn	additional	105
tpt	required	7	bde	by	110
0900	hrs	26	jan	.	115
allocation	bn	areas	to	follow	120
.	ACK				125
					130

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT WIRELESS)

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: IMMEDIATE

TIME OF ORIGIN: 1415

SIGNATURE: * Originator may delete "except" and insert "including"

SIGNATURE: (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

T.H.I.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

26 Jan 43

NO CHANGE FROM VERBAL ORDERS7 BDE OP. INSTN No 17
(Relief by 29 Bde)

Ref Map MILNE BAY (Prov) 2nd Edit - 2" to 1 ml.

INFM.

1. (a) 29 Aust Inf Bde and att tps are relieving 7 Aust Inf Bde in role of fwd bde. 15 Bn is relieving 9 Bn; 42 Bn is relieving 61 Bn. Areas occupied by C Coy 9 Bn and D Coy 2/1 Pnr Bn are to be occupied by D Coy 2/1 Pnr Bn and 32 Employment Coy when ordered by 5 Aust Div.

(b) Cease under comd 7 Bde 1800 L/27:

'A' Coy 7 M.M. Bn.

(c) In support 29 Bde:

2/5 Fd Regt less dets.

RELIEF BY 29 BDE.

2. (a) 7 Bde and att tps will take over Div Res Role from 29 Bde, incl def GURNEY FIELD.

(b) Separate Op instn will be issued.

MOVT. OF TPS.

3. (a) 9 Bn to area at present occupied by 15 Bn, vicinity 983991
61 Bn to area at present occupied by 47 Bn, vicinity
002006 (Route 7).

4 Bty 101 A.Tk will withdraw guns excl A Tp to area Bty H.Q.

(b) Adm dets att 7 Bde will take over posns at present occupied by corresponding dets of 29 Bde.

9 Bn will allow space for 7 Bde Tpt in area opposite
MAGITA HOUSE.

(c) 25 Bn Rear Details will move to suitable area to be allotted by 61 Bn on Route 7.

(d) Def GURNEY FIELD will be taken over by one Coy 61 Bn, and Coy allotted this task will move directly to that posn, the relief to be completed by time laid down in Warning Order.

TIME AND DATE.

4. (a) As set out in Warning Order.

(b) Tps will remain in Bn areas until relieving tps take over, and C.O.'s and Coy Comds will NOT leave until certificates in terms para 6 are completed and countersigned by both C.O.'s in duplicate.

ADM.

5. (a) Amn.
1st and 2nd line, also 7 days WUR will continue to be held in unit localities.

All units holdings will be moved as instructed in Warning Order.

9 Bn will withdraw amn previously supplied D Coy 2/1 Aust Pioneer Bn.

(b) Supplies.

1. Rations held by units will move with units.

2. Seven days Res will continue to be held.

3. B.A.S.C.O. will arrange to delay drawing of rations by units as may be required 27 Jan.

(c) P.O.L.

1. Seven days requirements will be held in unit areas.

2. Present stocks on hand will move with units.

3. Replenishment will be made, when required, from D.I.D. at FACTORY.

- (d) Recovery.
241 L.A.D. will continue to service 7 Bde vehs from new location 974993
- (e) Medical.
7 Bde will evacuate to A Coy 11 Fd Amb at 980990
- (f) Water Points.
7 Bde will use W.Ps at HAGITA BR and WEST end GURNEY FD.
- (g) Traffic Control.
D.A.P.M. is arranging control during move.
- (h) Additional Tpt.
Is being arranged in terms of Units requests.
- (i) Tentage and Accommodation Stores
Units will arrive at mutual arrangement for exchange of these items.

INTERCOMN.

6. (a) Bde H.Q. will remain on Route 10 until relief complete and will then move to HAGITA HOUSE 983993.

(b) Progress reports re relief are required from units and att sub-units 27 Jan.

(c) Certificates in following terms are to be submitted to 7 Bde at HAGITA HOUSE by 1900 hrs 27 Jan:

"The biv areas and sec posts, Bn H.Q. and sub-unit H.Q. areas have been left clean, tidy, and in good order. Essential stores and comn systems have been handed over in good order and condition.

..... Outgoing Comd.

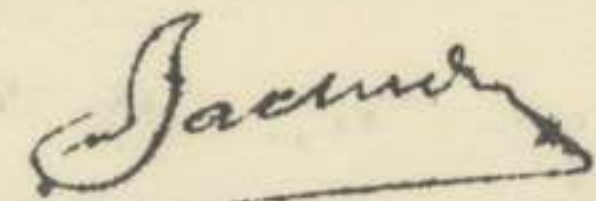
..... Incoming Comd."

{One copy to Bde H.Q., one copy to Relieving Comd}

(d) Sig lines will remain down and units will move out only with W.E. of phones and instruments.

ACK.

Signed at.....¹⁶⁰⁰hrs
Issued through Sigs.

 Capt.
for Bde Maj 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

- Copy No 1 9 Bn
- 2 61 Bn
- 3-4 25 Bn Rear Details
- 5 4 Bty 101 A.Tk
- 6 'J' Sec Sigs
- 7 241 L.A.D.
- 8 Fd Postal Unit 68
- 9 Comd

- Copy No 10 - 11 B.M,
- 12 S.C.
- 13 - 15 Staff
- 16 5 Aust Div (for infm)
- 17 29 Bde
- 18 2/5 Fd Regt
- 19 A Coy 7 M.G. Bn.
- 20 - 21 War Diary
- 22 File
- 23 - 25 Spare

Compiled from information in H.Q. N.G.F. Summary No 5¹⁰⁵ from 1200 hrs 13 Jan 43 to 1200 hrs 20 Jan 43.

OPERATIONS.

OWN.

During the week continual pressure has been maintained against the enemy in the TARAKENA area and successful operations in the SANANANDA area have resulted in the annihilation of practically all the enemy forces in that area.

BUNA AREA.

Some progress has been made by U.S. Troops against strongly defended positions on the narrow tongue of land leading North west from TARAKENA. An encircling movement through swamp was carried out by strong patrols but encountered heavy machine gun fire and were held up. Arty and mortar concentrations have been brought down on these posts with some effect.

On Jan 18 one of these bunkers was captured and 37 MM guns were brought up to assist the attack on the remainder. Our line, which is held by a force of 1 Bn and 1 Coy, now runs from a point 550 yds West of the mouth of the KONOMBI River, South of the river itself. 48 Japs have been killed in this area.

SANANANDA.AREA.

In spite of the water-logged condition of the SANANANDA area continued pressure was maintained on the enemy after our attack on 12 Jan. Our troops closed in around the enemy in the South road block and by 14 Jan there were indications that the enemy was withdrawing from the forward area. Orders were given to close in around the position to prevent further escapes. This operation was successful and the enemy destroyed. Some small parties managed to escape Northwards.

An Aust Bn supported by tanks was left in this area to mop up and an Aust Bde was sent North along the KILLERTON track. The plan was for two Bns to move to the coast to then exploit along the coast to the East and the track to the South. The other Bn was to move East along the track to the rd junc at 208289. At the same time it was decided to send a U.S. Bn from the KILLERTON track Eastwards to disposition on the North of the road block thus cutting off the enemy's retreat.

At 0900 hrs on 16 Jan the attack against the road block by U.S. troops commenced. Heavy arty and mortar concentrations were brought down on the enemy positions and his resistance was smashed. Enemy pockets were surrounded and the perimeter of the main road block broken. The enemy position was now reduced to a number of small strong posts completely surrounded by our troops. Meanwhile the Australians had reached the coast and had turned East and South. Slight opposition had been encountered during their advance but this was overcome and the advance continued with all speed.

On 17 Jan a further attack was made against pockets remaining in the road block area and some were liquidated. CAPE KILLERTON was occupied and later in the day WYE PT was attacked and captured. Forward elements of the Bn moving South from the coast reached the road junction at 208283 closely followed by the Bn moving from the West. Contact was made by this Bn with a Coy of U.S. troops who had moved North to this area by a route approx 300 yds West of the M T road. This Bn then turned North East and advanced parallel to the M T road towards SANANANDA. By 1150 hrs on 18 Jan SANANANDA VILLAGE had been captured and at 1350 hrs the PT was reported clear of the enemy. Two Coys were immediately sent Eastwards towards GIRUWA mopping up odd enemy parties en route.

The Bn which was moving down the Coastal track from KILLERTON had encountered pill boxes and organised resistance in depth but some progress was made and their advance continued to 206301 where they are now held up by what appears to be the main enemy defensive position.

The Bn advancing North along the M T road reached 211288 where they were held up by MG posts to their front and left flanks. To overcome these positions a Coy from the Bn in SANANANDA was sent South along the M T road and an attack made from the North and South. Two posts were overcome and then our troops closed in on the remaining enemy pocket 211288. The two Bns met on the West side of the road and cleared it of Japs then mopping up continued on the

East side near the above pocket.

Continual pressure had been maintained on the remaining posts in the road block area and by 19 Jan enemy resistance was reported as being confined to a position running from 191268 to 194268. Later this line was cleared and enemy resistance in this area is now believed to be confined to three strong posts at 190270, 194270, 191265. Each post is being attacked in turn with support of heavy concentrations of arty and mortar fire. U.S troops have entered the perimeter of the position at 194270 and the attack is still in progress.

A highlight of the week's operations has been the number of encounters between small parties of the escaping enemy and our I of C troops. These small parties have been wandering over the whole area in an attempt to avoid our troops and escape Westwards. Signallers, Supply dump guards and ration carrying parties have all had successful encounters and have a number of Japs to their credit.

The enemy is now confined to four acres. The first, the strip between TARAKENA and GIRUWA, second the coastal strip between 212296 and 206301, third the area bridge 213289, and lastly the M T road between 268195 and 205280.

GONA AREA. Activities in this area have been confined to offensive patrolling to the North towards the KUMUSI and to the South in order to cut off the enemy withdrawal Westwards.

On the afternoon of 16 Jan an Aust reconce patrol operating in the vicinity of DANAWATUTA engaged a party of 200 well armed Japs moving West. Slight casualties were inflicted.

Another encounter with the enemy occurred at EURORIBADI. A small patrol of 13 persons entered the village and found 30 Japs chopping down trees and eating coconuts. The patrol attacked, killed 3 and wounded 3 and withdrew.

During the week 39 Japs have been killed in this area.

SALAMAUA - MUBO AREA. The attack on MUBO was continued until first light 14 Jan when it was decided to withdraw to the saddle area because of the danger of the enemy outflanking movement from KOMIATUM. During 13 Jan heavy casualties were inflicted on the Japs and 116 bodies were counted on GARRISON HILL 1000 yds NW of MUBO.

On night 13/14 Jan a party was sent out to raid GARRISON HILL. The enemy H.Q., W/T hut, stores and huts were destroyed before withdrawing.

Jap reinforcements were brought up from KOMIATUM and our troops withdrew to the saddle area where defensive positions had been prepared.

One Aust Bn has been flown to reinforce our troops at WAU, and have taken up defensive position covering the North and East entrances into BULOLO VALLEY.

LAND ENEMY.

SANANANDA AREA. The enemy tactics in the SANANANDA area have been purely defensive during the period, showing a tendency to effect an escape through to NW area beyond GONA. The enemy is however firmly dug in and has fought tenaciously from strong posts holding up our advance. Generally these strong posts are more stoutly built and better camouflaged than those at BUNA.

During 15 Jan our patrols located enemy positions, also two LMG groups and a five ton hoist about 3/400 yds up North branch of KANOMBI CK. The hoist was probably used for hauling heavy equipment across the creek when they moved from GIRUWA to BUNA.

Organised enemy resistance in the area south of the road block ceased on 14 Jan and about 200 Japs are believed to have escaped Northwards from this area on night 13/14 Jan. On 15 Jan 30 Japs were surprised at EURORIBADI VILLAGE (sq 0630). This party probably escaped from SANANANDA area.

AMBOGA - KUMUSI - MAMBARE AREAS. Patrols reported recently dug enemy positions when they penetrated two miles West of AMBOGA on 13 Jan. These positions had not been occupied for about four days. Some unservicable enemy equipment was seen and indications were that the enemy had moved NW from AMBOGA. Tac/R reported new corduroy on track 500 yds NW AMBOGA mouth. 20 Jap graves and some unburied Jap dead were seen at DANAWATUTA.

Patrols located small quantity of Jap arms and amm at

DANAWATUTA on 15 Jan but no prepared positions. On 16 Jan our patrol contacted 200 Japs armed and moving North along the coast in vicinity of DANAWATUTA and on 18 Jan patrols reported large numbers of Japs heavily armed with MGs in the BIRI-SENANI area (about 4 miles West of DANAWATUTA).

Reports from a reliable source state that the enemy is maintaining continuous patrols KURENADA and BAKUMBARI and an MG post is located in coconut grove 1,000yds South of the KUMUSI mouth. The enemy is also reported to be repairing barges in KURENADA CK.

Reliable reports from KUMUSI area states that Japs who, landed in this area and moved up the KUMUSI, moved back again and were being evacuated by launch in the direction of SALAMAUA.

About 100 Japs are reported to occupy KURENADA Village at night. By day they camp in the bush 400 yds West of the village of KURENADA No 2. Reliable sources state that evacuations are still being carried out nightly by barge.

LAE.
Formations.

Infm resume No 4 (revised) LAE has been issued to

Interpretations of photos taken on Jan 13 reveals extensive defences along the coastline beginning just East of LAE runway, past VOCO point, to a point 750 yds East of the harbour where there is a concentration of bunkers, slit trenches and possibly new gun positions. Additional supply dumps have been established immediately East of VOCO PT and another is being developed about 300 yds East of the harbour north of the road intersection.

Our A/C are experiencing much more intense A/A from LAE area and at least one new A/A Bty of 5 MGs is situated just North of the high pier beside the MARKHAM road. This links up with the recent identification of 22 A/A unit (Bn) in LAE area since convoy arrived on 7/8 Jan.

SALAMAUA.

Aerial photos of SALAMAUA show no marked changes but work has been progressing on the ridge overlooking the isthmus, where the crest of the ridge has been cleared and what appears to be barricades constructed to protect possible heavy gun emplacements.

FINSCHAFEN.

A reliable report on 16 Jan states that HELDSBACH is not occupied by the enemy and that the majority of Japs are concentrated in FINSCHAFEN. Natives of HELDSBACH seem friendly to us although some natives from nearby villages warned our patrol that due to Jap strength it had become necessary to co-operate with the enemy, and our patrols were asked to leave the area.

On 18 Jan it was reported that the Japs had guns sited at KALIOBA, SALANHAUA and MALIOBA (all in vicinity of FINSCHAFEN). A patrol of Japs set out overland for KALASA (35 miles NW of FINSCHAFEN) allegedly to buy food. However, a possible landing site exists at KALASA on a table land about 600' elevation and is the only one in the vicinity.

MADANG.

Much activity and construction work was reported in progress by recce A/C on 15 Jan and patrols state there is a pontoon bridge across the GAGOL River 10/12 miles upstream.

A report from a reliable source states that Jap patrols are active in BOGADJIM and vicinity and as far inland as URIGINA. (35 miles SW of MADANG).

On 18 Jan patrols were reported to be approaching BAGASIN (30 miles NSW of MADANG). LMG and defences have been established at ALEXISHAFEN and NOBANOB and a reliable report states houses were burned at ALEXISHAFEN.

Three parties of Japs left AMELE (10 miles SW of MADANG) for BAGASIN (25 miles SW of MADANG), thus approaching the RAMU VALLEY from a new direction.

(b) SEA.

ENEMY.

NEW IRELAND.

NEW BRITAIN.

Recce showed 91 vessels of all descriptions including 48 Merchant ships on 11 Jan. 12 barges were seen on the deck of one 6,000 ton ship, 14 on one 4,000 ton ship and 10 on one 3000 ton ship and a further 100 barges were dispersed around the harbour.

SOLOMONS.

BUIN-FAISI. Shipping concentrated in this area has not altered during the week, the total remaining at about 15 vessels of which five were destroyers and the remainder included at least four cargo vessels.

Considerable destroyer movement has been noted in the NEW GEORGIA and GUADALCANAL areas and around YSABEL ISLAND. The most activity took place on 14/15 Jan when 22 destroyers were reported moving in the area.

At 0030 L/15 two vessels were observed burning off CAPE ESPERANCE (GUADALCANAL) and were followed for 65 miles. They still continued to burn and were proceeding at about 20 knots.

Submarines continued to be active in the SOLOMONS and sightings indicate that these are so placed as to form a screen round the area.

BUKA PASSAGE was not used to any extent and only one vessel was reported in the harbour up to 15 Jan. 1 destroyer and 1 lt cruiser arrived on the night of 15/16 Jan and departed the same night.

NEW BRITAIN. Various naval sightings were made around NEW BRITAIN during the period but these appeared to be normal maintenance with the exception of a sighting at 0030 L/20 when a convoy of five ships was seen 40 miles North of WEWAK. Composition was given as 2 tpts 1 lt cruiser and 2 u/i vessels.

Submarines have continued to be active - sightings were:-

12 Jan	1	15 miles	East of Cape ARCHWAY (GAZELLEPEN)
13 Jan	1	95 "	NNE CAPE GLOUSTER (NEW BRITAIN)
" "	1	37 "	SE JAQUINOT BAY "
" "	1	90 "	SSE " " "
" "	1	62 "	NE X E of KIRIWINA IS (TROBRIAND GP)
" "	1	80 "	N X W of ROSSEL IS (LOUISADES)
" "	1	35 "	West of MORESBY
15 Jan	1	140 "	E X N of LIHIR IS (COAST OF NEW IRELAND)
" "	1	100 "	NE of " " " " "

In the NEW GUINEA area a destroyer was sighted at 0159 L/14 Jan 65 miles NE of CAPE WARD HUNT course West and subs have been sighted again in area of CAPE WARD HUNT and MAMBARE mouth.

SMALL COASTAL CRAFT ACTIVITY. The enemy activity of this nature continued throughout the week particularly in the coastal areas from KUMUSI to LAE. Extensive use appears to be made of pinnacles, barges and native canoes.

On night of 16/17 Jan 3 barges attempted to land rice at SANANANDA but our arty engaged and some rice was destroyed. And on night 17/18 Jan our PT boats contacted and destroyed 3 barges South of DOUGLAS Harbour (CAPE WARD HUNT AREA).

NW SECTOR. Two cargo vessels of 5 to 6,000 tons were in KOEPANG hbr on 14 Jan and a medium tanker was observed off the South coast of BOETANG IS. One destroyer was observed 40 miles North of MOA IS (IETI GROUP). On 15 Jan one destroyer and two tpts were sighted off BORLA (CORAM IS).

(c) AIR.
OWN.

Air operations have covered a somewhat wider area during the past week although the number of strikes has not been as great as for the preceding period. Armed reces have gone deep into enemy territory and harassed installations at WEWAK. CAPE GLOUCESTER AND GASMATA.

The army co-operation sqdn has maintained its daily programme of tactical and arty recce throughout the period and has taken a number of photographs of the forward areas to assist ground operations.

ENEMY.

NEW BRITAIN. Our recce A/C while over GASMATA on 13 Jan was attacked by 6 Zekes 2 of which were destroyed and one probably destroyed. Two Bettys were observed taking off from GASMATA drome and was the first indication since Oct that this drome is being used for Bombers.

Recce A/C over CAPE GLOUCESTER On 17 Jan report strip has been widened to 3 times its original width and appears serviceable.

NEW GUINEA.

PORT MORESBY. Raid No 98 at 2249 L/15 when 1 bomber, probably NELL dropped 6 bombs SE of WARDS drome no damage no casualties resulted.

LAE - SALAMAUA. Activity has been taking place on the MALAHANG strip. It appeared servicable and there were odd patches of blue metal strengthening the surface. Activity was also apparent in the dispersal area. Photographs taken on the 15 Jan show that 3 SSFs have made forced landings on the KUNAI strip NE of MALAHANG plantation.

On 18 Jan at 1400 four enemy tpt planes (escorted by 6 Zekes) landed on the LAE drome and took off ten minutes later.

NE NEW GUINEA.

FINSCHAFEN. Recce of 18 Jan shows two bomb craters on the runway not filled in and the strip appeared unused.

MADANG.

On 18 Jan our A/C encountered light A/A fire from the aerodrome area. On 14 Jan it was observed that trees had been cleared off West end of runway, presumably to facilitate landing and taking off, as the strip runs ENE. Much activity and construction work was reported to be in progress on 15 Jan.

WEWAK.

Light A/A fire was met by our A/C which was over the area on 13 Jan. Photos taken on Jan 6 disclosed 7 fighter blast-bays under construction and brush cleared around the strip. Four possible A/A positions were observed at the South West end of the runway. Aircraft in flight at 0930 L/20 reported 22 fighters on the strip and 3 taking off.

EQUIPMENT.

(i) JAPANESE TELEPHONE.

The following description of the telephone found BUNA area 8 Jan has been received from the forward area:-

Built into a lacquered box with a clear lacquered aluminium lid, size approx 4½" by 6½" by 10½". The construction, workmanship and finish of which is excellent. The telephone itself incorporates both magneto and buzzer calling devices, somewhat similar to our F phone. A small switch with fuses and lightning arrestors attached is available for quick mounting on the line terminals and 2 switching or bridging devices are available for testing quickly the condition of the generator or the bell.

box:-

The following tools and spares are carried in the

- 1 small screwdriver
- 1 " spanner
- spare microphone capsule
- " fuse wire and mica for protective device.

The whole is carried in a composition water proof bag. Practical test could not be carried out as both microphone capsules appeared to be faulty.

(ii) PORTABLE CABLE LAYING APPARATUS.

The following is a description of a Japanese portable layer found BUNA area 7 Jan.

The apparatus is of solid construction made of pressed metal and leather straps for carrying on chest and back. Where the frame touches the body, it consists of rows of strings. This lessens the discomfort of the weight pressing against the body under tropical conditions.

This cable layer is evidently designed for use by troops in forward areas. It is normally carried on the back allowing free use of the hands. This factor would greatly simplify the difficulty of carrying through jungle country. The apparatus may also be carried on the chest for "reeling in", for which purpose a handle is fitted.



GENERAL.
CAPTURED ENEMY EQUIPMENT.

Advice has been received from ADV LHQ that the following policy will now apply for the handling of captured equipment

Labels for attachment to items of captured equipment will be amended forthwith to include the following:- "When no longer required by GS (INT) forward to", and if so desired, the name and address of the person nominated by the finder will be inserted. When-ever possible items of equipment will be forwarded to the address shown. Labels attached by units to individual items of equipment will not be detached at HQ, but be forwarded intact to GSI NCF. Supplies of new labels will be available shortly.

It is felt that considerable improvement in the surrendering of captured equipment from forward troops will result when it is learned they can nominate the recipient to whom such items may be passed when examination is completed.

(Repeat in all intelligence summaries.)

OTHER FRONTS.

BURMA. Operations in this sector are still confined to patrol activity and as yet no large scale action has been taken.

ARAKAN AREA. Resistance was encountered by our carrier patrol at DOMBAIK (21 miles NW of AKYAB) on the 6 Jan and fighting continued until dark with casualties being sustained by both sides. By 11 Jan DOMBAIK was almost surrounded by our troops but the enemy was resisting strongly in spite of many casualties.

RATHEDAUNG AREA. TEMPLE HILL, one mile North of RATHEDAUNG has been captured and consolidated by our troops.

CHIN HILLS. A Bn of enemy in KALEMYO are reported to be demolishing bridges and constructing road blocks between KALEMYO and TAMU, 70 miles North of KALEMYO. Wired defences are around INDAINGGYI, 5 miles NE of KALEMYO.

CHINDWIN AREA. An allied patrol encountered a party of Japanese and Burmans estimated 2 PIs at DATHEWEGYAU, 14 miles NW of MAWLAIK. The enemy possibly came from MAWLAIK as 400 Japanese were reported there late in Dec.

MYITKYINA AREA. A strong enemy force was fired on by KACHIN levies at NZOPZUP, 32 miles North of MYITKYINA, on 4 Jan casualties were claimed. The Japanese advance was later reported to have been halted in position South of NZOPZUP. Enemy patrols have been reported at WARINKAWNG, 5 miles North of NZOPZUP, which may indicate a forward move in this area.

CENSORSHIP. A letter bearing a blue "opened by censor" sticker has been intercepted by censorship.

These stickers are for use only by field censorship secs and should on no account be used by units.

[Handwritten Signature] Capt.
I.O. H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.
26 Jan 43.

27 Jan 43

7 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 18
(Role of div res)

INFM

1. (a) 29 Aust Inf Bde is relieving 7 Aust Inf Bde in role of fwd Bde as at 1800 L/27.

(b) In support res Bde:-

C Sqn 2/6 Aust Armd Regt.
One Sec 10 Bty 2/5 Aust Fd Regt.

INTENTION

2. 7 Aust Inf Bde less 25 Aust Inf Bn will assume role of div Res.

METHOD

3. Inter-bde bndy (for operational purposes only) all incl 29 Aust Inf Bde GIBARA 0190 - junc MAIWARA R. and KALOHI CK 986965 - KALOHI CK 987985 - route 3 at 989998 - route 1 at 023002 - along-route 10 to 025008 - MAPO 028041.

TASKS OF DIV RES

4. (a) Counter-attack in any direction especially against landing effected in MILNE BAY.

(b) Protection against incursions via routes MULLINS HARBOUR - DUABO - BALAGA, and WEDAU - EAVORI - BALAGA - and all tracks leading in across STIRLING RANGE West of incl track TAUPOTA - WOPIE - MAPO - route 8.

(c) Protection of GURNEY aerodrome.

(d) Provision of task forces for special ops as may be required.

5. GENERAL DEF POLICY

(a) The whole area occupied by 5 Aust Div is to be regarded as one locality, organized for all round defence.

(b) Within this general area, every allied unit and sub-unit including all administrative units and Air Force ground staffs, will be organized in defended localities for all round defence. Such localities will be wired and provision made for storing food, water and ammunition sufficient for seven days.

(c) The basis of the defence will however be the MAINTENANCE OF THE OFFENSIVE SPIRIT AND OFFENSIVE ACTION. Units will be disposed for prompt counter attack and be prepared to operate speedily in any direction within the space of their tasks. Prior recce by all concerned and rehearsal of probable roles is essential. Defended localities are to be regarded primarily as bases from which mobile, offensive, operations can be initiated, and within which units can reorganize and replenish ammunition and supplies.

(d) A determination never to surrender, but to fight to the last, will be inculcated in all ranks.

(e) The principles laid down in ATM's Nos 10 and 11 for defence against JAP tactics will be followed.

Attention is specially directed to ATM No 11, Chap X and to the following:

(i) Physical fitness, and need for training in jungle conditions.

(ii) Depth in defence, especially in defence along tracks or roads in close country.

(iii) Importance of patrolling, especially to flank where country permits.

(iv) Paramount importance of aggressive action.

6. DEF OF GURNEY AERODROME

(a) 61 Aust Inf Bn will dispose one rifle coy with one pl M.M.G's and two dets mortars (in addition to RAAF local def weapons already sited) for perimeter def of GURNEY aerodrome.

(b) Aerodrome defs will be continuously manned and tps will stand to one hr before dark and first light.

(c) Lieut-Col A. Meldrum, 61 Aust Inf Bn, will be responsible for coordination of A.A., Engineer and Allied Air Force Units in def of GURNEY aerodrome. In event of attack senior inf offr at GURNEY aerodrome will assume comd of all tps in area.

(d) Sketch showing def arrangements at GURNEY aerodrome and allocation of tps will be submitted to this H.Q. by 1800 L/28.

7. PARATPS

Arrangements for def against paratps now in force (MILNEFORCE O.I. No 5) will continue.

8. PATROLLING

(a) Responsibility for patrolling is:-

(i) 9 Aust Inf Bn: all tracks between both incl track MULLINS HARBOUR - DUABO - BALAGA, track WEDAU - EAVORI - BALAGA.

(ii) 61 Aust Inf Bn: all tracks over STIRLING RANGE between excl track WEDAU - EAVORI - BALAGA, and incl track TAUPOTA - WOPIE - MAPO - route 8.

(b) Units will coordinate patrolling with neighbouring units of 29 Aust Inf Bde.

9. RECCE

(a) Units will continue active recce of areas traversed by tracks allotted to them in para 8.

(b) C.O's will complete recce and make outline plans for all counter-attack roles set out in 7 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No 12 para 6.

ADM

10. No change from 7 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No 17.

INTERCOMN.

11. Bde H.Q. closes route 10 1200 hrs L/27 and opens HAGITA HOUSE same time.

ACK.

Signed at...1400...hrs
Issued by L.O.

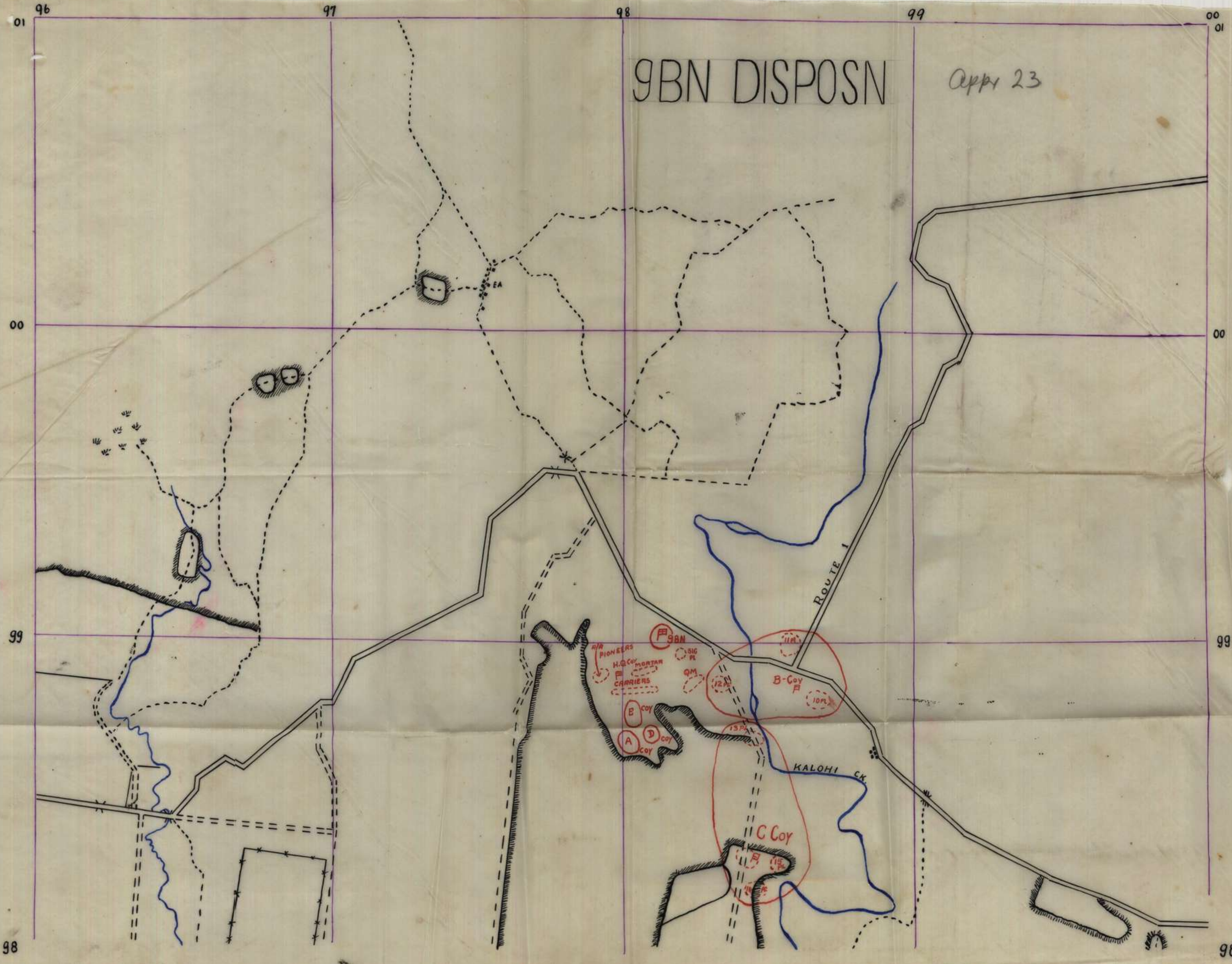
DP. Radford Lieut.
for Bde Maj 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

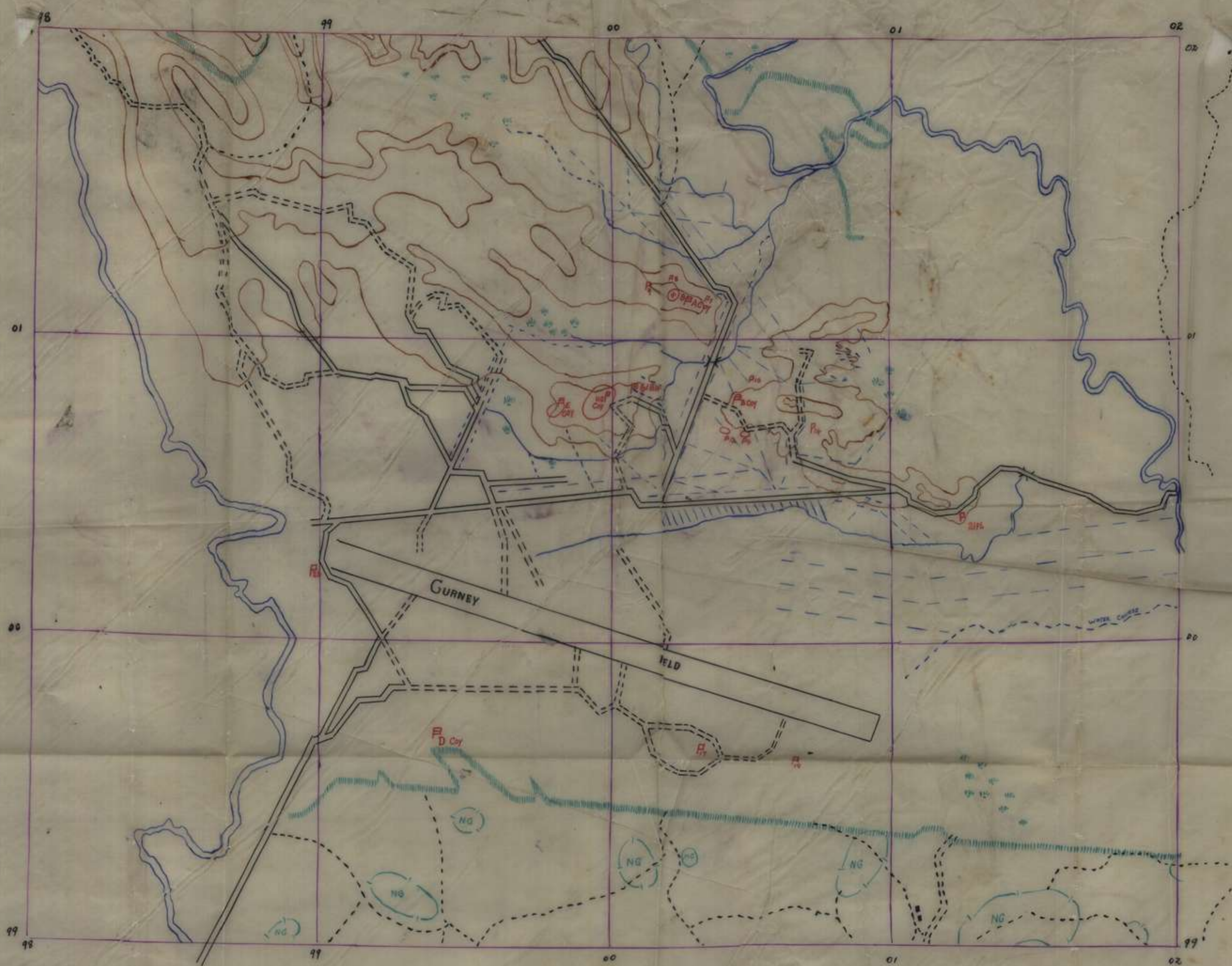
Copy No	1	9 Bn	Copy No	10	5 Aust Div for infm.
	2	25 Bn for infm (by letter)		11	29 Aust Inf Bde "
	3	61 Bn		12	C.R.A. "
	4	2/5 Fd Regt		13	A.A.D.C. "
	5	4 Bty 101 A.Tk Regt		14	Ops, GURNEY Aerodrome
	6	Comd		15-16	War Diary
	7-8	B.M.		17-18	File
	9	Staff		19-20	Spare

9BN DISPOSN

Appy 23



CIPPI 22



61BN DISP0SN

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS

Ref 7 Aust Inf Bde Op Instn No 18.

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

28 Jan 43.

Subject : EXTRACT FROM 29 Aust Inf Bde OP INSTN NO 11

9 Aust Inf Bn.
61 Aust Inf Bn.

For infm, extract from 29 Aust Inf Bde Op.
Instn No 11, fwd herewith.

"PATROLS

1. Units as under will maintain constant patrols on routes as shown. For example, patrol DUABA MISSION - MULLENS HARBOUR mentioned below will be relieved each three days as the total trip occupies six days.

15 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) ROAD GIBARA - WAGA WAGA SOUTH
(b) ROAD DUABA MISSION - MULLENS HARBOUR to move out by Southern Route and return on Northern Route.

42 Aust Inf Bn

- (c) ROAD KB MISSION - AHIOMA

47 Aust Inf Bn

- (d) TRACKS, as far west as inter-bde boundary, to North over STIRLING RANGE.

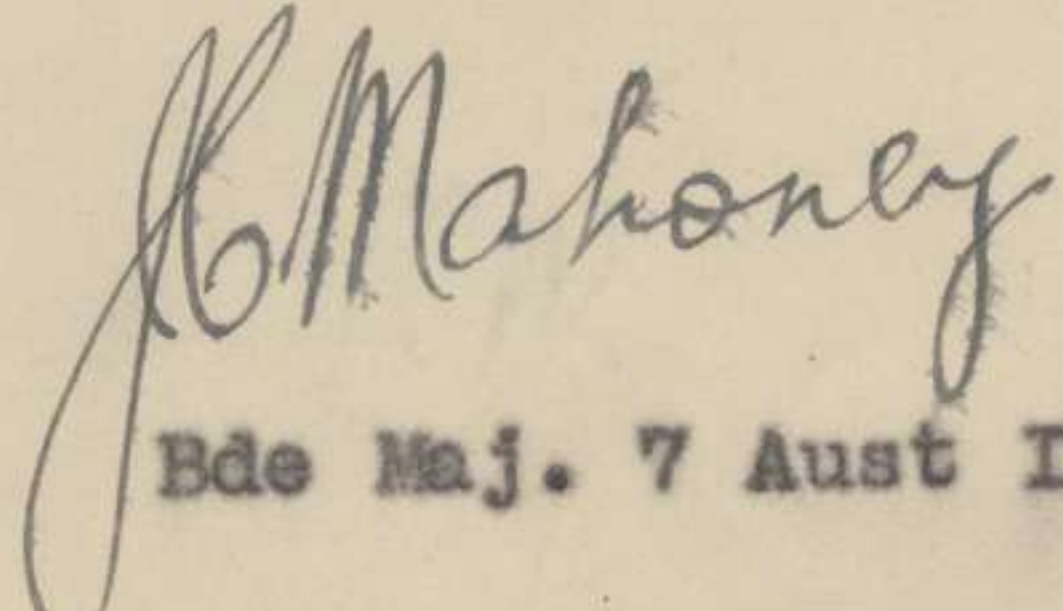
2. Units as under will maintain standing patrols as shown

47 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) Point 985044
(b) MAPO

42 Aust Inf Bn

- (c) KB MISSION "


Maj.
Bde Maj. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted)
(Page 1)

Serial No 5
WE R/ AMF
11/2/3
WE 12+60
WE (ATTN) 5+12

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

30 Jan 1943

HR 7 (Infantry) Bde (Unit)

PART A—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
BRIGADIERS WE 1 *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors WE 2	1		1
Captains WE 5	3	1	3
Lieutenants WE 4	4	1	1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals WE 12	9	2	5

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
	Capt SOMERVILLE			

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Capt	SOMERVILLE TN		11.1.43	TO HR 5 (Infantry) Bde
Supt	TURBAYNE CA		11.2.43	TO BR 1 (AC) 5 (Infantry) Bde

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank	Name and Initials	Corps	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

Apk 27

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

Serial 1/43.

Copy No. 2/

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by
BRIGADIER JOHN FIELD COMMANDING
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Date 4 Jan 43.

"G"

1. LOCATION STATEMENTS AND LOCATION REPORTS. (11 Div R.O.1)

The above statements and reports compiled as instructed will be forwarded to reach this H.Q. NOT later than 0800 hrs the following day.

2. AIR SAFE HAND AND E.L.S.

Attention of units is drawn to 11 Aust Div R.O. No 2 of 2 Jan 43.

3. DECLARED AREA - AIR FORCE BOMBING RANGE.

Attention of units is drawn to 11 Aust Div R.O. No 3 of 2 Jan 43.

4. ORDERS RE BOMB LOCATION AND DISPOSAL.

Attention of units is drawn to 11 Aust Div R.O. No 4 of 2 Jan 43.

J. Mahoney
Major,
Brigade Major 7 Aust Inf Bde.

"A & Q"

5. ADOPTION OF MILNE FORCE ROUTINE ORDERS.

All MILNE FORCE R.Os up to and including Serial No 57 of the 19 Dec 42, shall apply to 11 Aust Div and all units under its command, and shall have the same force and effect if they had been issued as 11 AUST DIV Routine Orders.

6. TRAFFIC CONTROL.

813 M.P. Coy (U.S. Forces) and 11 Aust Div Provost Coy are jointly responsible for control of all traffic in the Milne Bay Area.

7. ACCOMMODATION OF NATIVES.

Instances have come to notice where natives have been permitted to share quarters with the tps. Action will be taken by Unit Commanders to ensure that this practice shall cease. Any natives who are employed in or around a camp shall be accommodated in native camps or otherwise by direction of ANGAU.

8. PAY PERSONNEL.

Units will arrange for other personnel to be conversant with the duties of Unit Pay Sgt in order that such duties may be carried out in the event of the Pay Sgt becoming a casualty.

9. BATHING - AREA WEHURIA BRIDGE.

All troops are prohibited from bathing in the WEHURIA CK for a distance of two(2) miles above the water point at WEHURIA BRIDGE. Map Ref. MILNE BAY PROVISIONAL 053007.

10. CONDEMNATION OF RATIONS.

Attention of units is drawn to 11 Aust Div R.O. No 13 of 2 Jan 43.

11. RETURNABLE CONTAINERS.

Units are requested to co-operate with D.I.Ds and return such containers as drums and strong cases, in order that sufficient

suitable containers in which to pack unit supplies are available. The position is such, that stocks on hand are being fast depleted.

12. GRENADE HAND NO.69 Mk.1(BAKELITE)

A number of these grenades have been returned from Units with the detonators inserted upside down. This is most serious as a high percentage of blinds will occur if the grenade is incorrectly armed.

Enquiries have also shown that personnel are in many instances not conversant with the correct method of throwing.

Following is the correct method of preparing and throwing:-

To prepare the grenade: Remove the base plug and insert the detonator (which is issued separately) open end toward the striker. Replace the base plug and screw it well home. This is most important as a loose detonator may prove dangerous, although the rubber support on the base plug provides a safety factor.

To throw: Remove the safety cap which covers the tape and lead weight. The grenade is then ready for throwing. Whilst it is in the air the tape will unwind and withdraw the safety pin.

The tape weight and pin must not be removed before throwing or a premature will result.

13. POWERS OF SENTRIES AND GUARDS. (G.R.O. 682)

1. Regulation 8A of the National Security (General) Regulations (Statutory Rules 1942, No 374) provides that, without derogating from or restricting the existing powers or rights of sentries and guards, a military sentry or guard stationed or posted at, on, in, or in the neighbourhood or vicinity of, any prohibited place, protected area, controlled area or any premises used by the Commonwealth, or used for Defence purposes or for essential services, or any vehicle, vessel or aircraft used by the Commonwealth, or any enclosed wharf or picking-up place, or any merchant vessel lying in port, or any road, pathway or waterway, specified in an order by the Minister, which passes through or near a prohibited place or work of defence, may be armed, and may -

(1) Use his weapons against or otherwise attack, any person who, in disregard of a warning given by a sentry or guard, approaches, enters, leaves, or passes over, or in the vicinity or neighbourhood of, or attempts to approach, enter, leave or pass over or in the vicinity or neighbourhood of, that place, area, premises, vehicle, vessel, aircraft, wharf, picking up place, road, pathway, or waterway, or who, after being arrested for so doing, escapes: and

(11) Use his weapons against, or otherwise attack, any person attacking him or who is reasonably suspected of being about to attack him.

2. There are, however, certain principles which must guide all sentries and guards in the execution of their duty as such, and in the exercise of the right to resort to arms.

3. These principles are:-

(a) Sentries and guards will be ordered to take any action required to ensure the safety of their posts or to defeat the activities of enemy, or suspected enemy, agents.

(b) If necessary, they will fire upon, or otherwise attack, any persons threatening the safety of their posts or engaging in hostile actions.

(c) Before firing upon any person, the sentry or guard will, except in an urgent case of self defence, challenge that person to "Halt". If that person does not halt the sentry should challenge him again with "Halt or I fire". If he does not halt and no other means are available for stopping him - as for example, by calling on the rest of the guard - it is the duty of the sentry to shoot.

(d) The sentry will use his intelligence and sense of responsibility in choosing whether he will shoot or not, and he must be careful not to allow any suspected person to approach so close that he may be rushed and overpowered.

(e) Guards of enemy prisoners of war. An enemy prisoner of war attempting to escape may be fired upon, but a previous summons to surrender will be given if possible.

(f) Guards of members of the Forces in custody. The use of weapons to prevent the escape of the prisoner (other than an enemy and except as provided in para 1 (1)) is unlawful unless -

(i) the prisoner has committed a felony and cannot otherwise be re-arrested ; or

(ii) it is necessary for self defence and no more force is used than is reasonable in the circumstances.

The offences which constitute a felony are indicated on Pages 146-151 of the M.M.L. (Australian Edition).

(g) If a prisoner resorts to violence force may be met by force to the extent reasonably necessary, and the escort may call for help from passers-by.

4. General. This order will be repeated in all Unit Routine Orders. Orders for guards and sentries will be framed in conformity with the above and guards and sentries will be suitably instructed as to their powers and duties.

14. DANGEROUS ENCLOSURES IN PARCELS FORWARDED BY POST (GRO 687)

A fire aboard a ship carrying valuable supplies, including explosives, was caused recently by spontaneous combustion of wax matches included in mails for Army personnel.

All members of the Forces will be instructed to request their relatives and friends not to forward wax matches or charged petrol lighters to them through the post. The dangers as stated above will be explained to troops.

Franking officers will delete any request for wax matches or charged petrol lighters from letters.

(To be repeated in all Unit R.Os.)

J. W. Mackison Capt,
Staff Captain 7 Aust Inf Bde.
(hs)

DISTRIBUTION.

1. 9 Aust Inf Bn
2. 25 Aust Inf Bn
3. 61 Aust Inf Bn
4. 4 Bty 101 Aust A.Tk Regt
5. 3 Bty 2/1 Aust A.Tk Regt
6. A.A.D.C.
7. 24 Aust Fd Coy
8. 'D' Coy 2/1 Pnr Bn
- 9-11. USASOS (Col Burns) pass to
43 Engrs and Port Det.
12. Comd.
- 13-14. Staff
15. 'J' Sec Sigs
16. 241 Aust L.A.D.
17. H.Q. 11 Aust Div
18. C.Q.M.S.
19. Tpt Sgt.
20. File
- 21-22. War Diary.

13 MAY 1943

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted,)

(Erase heading not required).

Addition to 7 Aust Inf Bde War Diary Vol 2 part 2.

H. 1804

Unit

7 AUST INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0325 hrs 17 Feb 43 1100 hrs Feb 24 1943.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	17 Feb	0325	5 Div Warning order to 7 Aust Inf Bde re Movement to MORESBY.	Appx 1.
		0810	Request advice whether 25 Bn included in Movement.	
		0900	7 Bde Warning Order to Units re Movement.	Appx 2.
	18 Feb.	0900	Movement Directive No 90 relief of 7 Bde by 4 Bde	Appx 3.
		1830	Warning Order for withdrawal PORLOCK Harbour Garrison to MILNE BAY	Appx 4.
	19 Feb	1500	Warning Order for Withdrawal WANIGELA Garrison to MILNE BAY	Appx 5.
	22 Feb	1830	5 Aust Div Adm Order No 20 (re Movement 7 Bde)	Appx 6.
	24 Feb	1100	5 Aust Div Adm Order No 20 (Amendment No 1)	Appx 7.

J. Mahoney
Bde. Major, 7 Aust. Inf. Bde.

MESSAGE FORM

Appy 1
Serial No

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.	IN	No. of Groups GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

7 aust inf bde rae sigs aasc rptd aq adms

FROM	5 aust div	Originator's Number 0317	Date 16	In Reply to Number
------	------------	-----------------------------	------------	--------------------

MOST SECRET (.)	warning order (.)	following	units	will move
to	MORESBY	at	date	(.)
7 aust	inf bde	incl	sec	and
LAD (.)	24	fd coy	25 coy	AASC
(.)	11	fd amb	dets	pay
and	post (.)	advise	vide	GRO
G104	(.)	ack	<i>0715</i>	<i>4/17</i>

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.	IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER. <i>Alambanus Capt</i> SIGNED <i>for the day</i>	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY <i>LO</i>	TIME OF ORIGIN <i>2315</i>
---	---	--	-------------------------------

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.H.I.
T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *App 2*
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

To enter War Diary

No. of Groups
GR.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO *9 bn 61 bn*

FROM *7 bde*

Originator's Number Date In Reply to Number

0 326 17

MOST	SECRET	OFFR	ONLY	WARNING	ORDER
<i>send details</i>	<i>expect immediately vide</i>	<i>move this GRO</i>	<i>early H.Q.</i>	<i>date three</i>	<i>copies</i>
			<i>G 104</i>	<i>1942</i>	<i>ack</i>

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS:

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT **IN CYPHER**

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED *Maj L O*
(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.D.30

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

T.O.R.

War Diary

Appx 3

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY SERVICES OF SUPPLY
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

57

A.P.O. 501
17 February 43.
SECRET
Auth GSCG
Init
Date 17 Feb 43

GSC 370.5

Subject: Movement Directive No. 90.

To : Commanding General, Base Section 3.
Commanding General, U.S. Advanced Base, N.G.

1. a. Pursuant to authority contained in Troop Movement Directive No. 43 General Headquarters, S.W.P.A., dated 14 February 43, and upon the request of the Commander, Allied Land Forces, the Commanding General, Base Section 3, will lend the necessary assistance for the movement of the Organization listed as Serial 1 below, from Brisbane, Queensland, to Fall River, on transportation to be made available: -

b. Pursuant to authority contained in Troop Movement Directive No. 43, General Headquarters, S.W.P.A., dated 14 February 43, and upon the request of the Commander, Allied Land Forces, the Commanding General, U.S. Advanced Base, New Guinea, will lend the necessary assistance for the movement of the Organization listed as Serial 2 below, from Fall River to Maple, on transportation to be made available: -

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Approximate Strength</u>
1	4th Aust Inf Brig Group (less Artillery)	N-6	2996
2	7th Aust Inf Brig Group (less Artillery)	N-6	2200

2. a. Organizational equipment, as determined by the Commander, Allied Land Forces, will accompany the troops.

b. Thirty (30) days supplies will be taken by Serial 1.

c. Serial 2 will be limited to maintenance supplies for the journey.

d. Troops being moved will be available to assist in the loading and unloading of ships and in the dispersal of supplies at destination.

3. Ships used in transporting Serial 1 will also be used in transporting Serial 2.

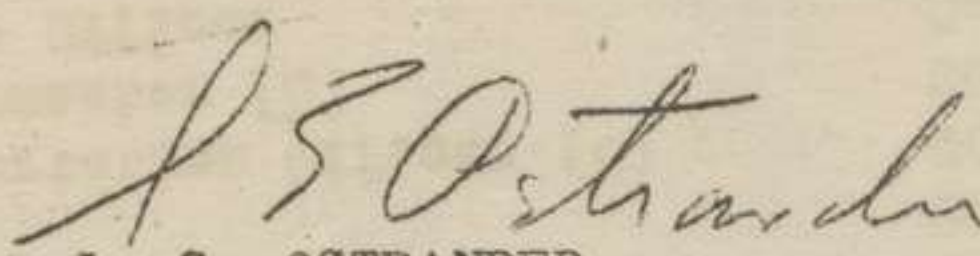
4. The Commanding General, Base Section 3, and the Commanding General, U.S. Advanced Base, New Guinea, will lend the necessary assistance in coordinating all portions of these movements with the Chief Transportation Officer U.S.A.S.O.S., S.W.P.A., and representatives of the Commander, Allied Land Forces.

5. The Commanding General, Base Section 3, and the Commanding General, U.S. Advanced Base, New Guinea, are authorized to obligate the proper allotment numbers to effect these movements.

By command of Major General MARSHALL:

C. C. ALEXANDER,
Brigadier General,
Acting Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:


L. S. OSTRANDER,
Brigadier General,
Adjutant General.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

COPIES TO:

Commander in Chief, S.W.P.A. (7)
G-1
G-2
G-3 (4)
G-4
Chief Transportation Officer (8)
Chief Quartermaster (4)
Chief Finance Officer
Chief Signal Officer
Chief Ordnance Officer
Chief Engineer
Chief Surgeon
Postal Officer

Chief Chemical Officer
AG-Statistical Section
AG-Rec
AG-MR
2nd MRU, APO 923
CG-Base Section 3 (7)
CG-US Advanced Base, N.G. (3)
Commander, Allied Air Forces (2)
Commander, Allied Land Forces (2)
Commander, Allied Naval Forces (2)
Commander, New Guinea Forces
H.-4th Aust Inf Brig Gp
H.-7th Aust Inf Brig Gp
CO-Base Section 2 (10)

S E C R E T

7 AUST INF BDE GROUP

Mount en - M.B.

Total Strength

UNIT	OFFRS.	O.Rs.
H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde	11	48
7 Aust Inf Bde Defence Pl	1	31
J Section Signals	1	30
241 Aust L.A.D.	3	11
9 Aust Inf Bn	27	476
25 " " "	31	479
61 " " "	22	427
24 Aust Fd Coy	6	173
25 Aust Coy A.A.S.C.	10	324
11 Aust Fd Amb	10	205
Bde Sec 5 Aust Div Pro	-	11
Dets Postal & Cash Office <i>(INCL BDE.H.Q.)</i>	-	4

&

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. *app 4*

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN COPY.

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO HANSOM rptd AQ COSC=

FROM 5 AUST DIV

Originator's Number 0 342

Date 18

In Reply to Number

MOST	SECRET	(.)	Warning	ORDER	(.)
PORLOCK	HARBOUR	grn	will	be	withdrawn
earliest	to	MILNE	BAY	under	arrangements
5	aust	div	with	COSC	(.)
details	follow		<i>fcm</i>		
COPY to 7 AUST INF BDE.		from G			

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CYPHER.

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1800

SIGNED (Sgd) D.G Rice

IMPORTANT

T.H.I.

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

To Enter War Diary - then despatch *Appx 5*

MESSAGE FORM

TO HATFORCE AQ COSC rptd 7 AUST INF BDE

FROM 5 AUST DIV 0354 19

MOST SECRET (.) warning order (.)
WANIGELA gtn will be withdrawn earliest
to MILNE BAY under arrangements
5 AUST DIV with COSC (.)

details follow

R. Hill maj

IMPORTANT

TOO
THE
TCR

1430

This message may be sent as WRITTEN by any means except wireless

If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER

J.F.
1530 hrs

Appx 16
HQ 5 Aust Div

22 Feb 43

Q. 23/12/-

Copy No ...6...

5 AUST DIV ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No 20

1. (a) 7 Aust Inf Bde Gp will move from MILNE BAY to PORT MORESBY by sea. Units moving are given hereunder:-

HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde
7 Aust Inf Bde D and E Pl
"J" Sec Sigs 5 Aust Div
241 LAD
9 Aust Inf Bn
25 Aust Inf Bn
61 Aust Inf Bn
24 Aust Fd Coy
25 Coy AASC
11 Aust Fd Amb
Bde Sec 5 Aust Div Provost Coy
Dets Postal, and
Dets Cash Office.

Return voyers >

1

9

9

9

3

6

3

40

- (b) The following units will be under 48 hours to move as from 0800 hrs on 23 Feb, and will be prepared to embark on s.s. BOTH under arrangements 9 Aust Movt Control Gp.

Offrs O/R's

Adv HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde	5	24
Adv Party "J" Sec Sigs 5 Aust Div	1	15
Adv Party 241 LAD	-	2
Adv Party 9 Aust Inf Bn	2	13
Adv Party 25 Aust Inf Bn	2	13
61 Aust Inf Bn	22	427
Adv Party 24 Aust Fd Coy	1	10
Adv Party 25 Coy AASC	1	8
HQ Coy 11 Aust Fd Amb	3	60
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	37	572
	<hr/>	<hr/>

- (c) Remaining units and personnel will be placed under 72 hrs notice to move as from 0800 hrs on 23 Feb.

(d) Details of Movement, Embarkation times etc will be issued later.

2. SHIP'S STAFF. 7 Aust Inf Bde will be prepared to appoint a ship's staff consisting of the following:- OC Tps, Adj't, QM, O/R Sgt and 6 orderlies.

3. SUPPLIES.

(a) Personnel will embark carrying one day's Emergency Rations and one day's dehydrated Emergency Rations.

(b) Three day's rations will be carried under unit arrangements.

(c) Surplus rations will be returned to BSD's under arrangements CASC 5 Aust Div.

(d) Seven days' supply of atebtrin will be carried. Attention is directed to 5 Aust Div R/O No 508 of 21 Feb 43 regarding the return of quinine held.

23/2/43

3. (a) All ranks will be issued with Water Sterilization Outfits. These will be used when an emergency exists, and in accordance with GRO No 420 of 25 Sep 42.
4. AMMUNITION.
 - (a) Units will ~~move with first line ammunition only.~~ All surplus ammunition will be returned to 10 AOD under arrangements ADOS 5 Aust Div.
 - (b) Units will retain second line ammunition in unit areas, until they are placed on 24 hrs notice to move. On this order being received second line ammunition will be returned.
5. EQUIPMENT and CLOTHING.
 - (a) Personnel will move with Equipment and Clothing now on issue and units may carry a 5 per cent reserve.
 - (b) HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde will ensure that all personnel move with mosquito nets, and Anti-malarial Cream. These articles must be carried on the man to be ready for immediate use on disembarkation.
 - (c) Kit Bags and other personnel effects will be carried on the man.
 - (d) All surplus clothing and equipment now held will be returned to 4 AOD under arrangements ADOS 5 Aust Div.
6. STORES and UNIT EQUIPMENT, and VEHICLES.
 - (a) Units will move with WE unit equipment only.
 - (b) All surplus equipment to WE will be returned to 4 AOD under arrangements ADOS 5 Aust Div.
 - (c) Vehicles will not be taken. Unit vehicles now on charge will be transferred to 4 AOD. Transfer will be made on Form G52 (duplicate).
7. TENTAGE and ACCOMMODATION STORES.
 - (a) Units will move without tentage.
 - (b) All accommodation stores in excess of WE will be returned to 4 AOD under arrangements ADOS 5 Aust Div.
8. MARKING OF UNIT EQUIPMENT, STORES and BAGGAGE. All unit equipment, stores and baggage will be marked with unit War Office Serial No and distinguishing coloured lines as laid down in Appendix v "Administrative Instruction for Expeditionary Force proceeding from the MIDDLE EAST".
9. EMBARKATION DOCUMENTS. Nominal rolls in quadruplicate and T51 (Strength Return) in sextuplicate will be submitted to 9 Aust Movement Control Gp for the first flight by 1200 hrs on Wednesday 24 Feb together with Dreyage Invoices for unit equipment and stores to be shipped with first flight. Ref 5 Aust Div Administrative Order No 18. *seven copies*
four copies
10. LIFEBELTS. Movement Control will ensure that sufficient lifebelts are available for issue one to each man individually on embarkation.

11. SECURITY. The necessity of maintaining the strictest secrecy in connection with movement must be impressed on all concerned.

Signed at:- 1745 hrs.

[Signature]
Lt.-Col
AA & QMG, 5 AUST Div

Issued through Sigs:

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War Diary

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HQ 5 Aust Div
24 Feb 43
Copy No 6

SECRET.

5 AUST D IV ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO 20

Amendment No 1

Para 1 (a):

1. Units mentioned therein will come under comd 7 Aust Inf Bde at a date to be advised later.

To enable the administrative arrangements to be carried out and co-ordinated 7 Aust Inf Bde will issue the necessary administrative orders for the whole of the units mentioned in sub para (7) (a).

2. Para 4 - AMN:

Delete Sub para 4 (a). Insert the following.

Units will move with ammunition for all weapons held/as per ^{in accordance with this} respective WEs "Table of weapons and ammunition Rounds - column on man or with gun."

3. STORES, UNIT EQPT & VEHS:

Sub para 6 (a) is cancelled.

Insert -

6 (a) (i) Units will move with all present holdings of the undermentioned controlled stores, in addition Rifles Owen SMG and pistols. Mortars, Brens etc will be returned to Ord.

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Item</u>
507	Rifles Boyes .55
533	Mags Bren 30 rd
559	Wallets Bren
894	Binoculars, Prismatic No 2 Mk II
898	Boards Map Comd
989	Compasses, Pris Liquid Mk III
997	Stereoscopes Uni lenses attachment
987	Compasses Magnetic pocket Mk VI
1011	Tapes measuring Steel 100' Mk II & Tp
1014	Watches GS
501	Dischargers Grenade Rifle
548	Rules Slide MG
550	Sights night back VMG
551	" " fore VMG
575	Ord ML 2" Mortar
1209	Boxes terminal sy, office
1213	Frames D & P wire sets
1214	Fullerphones Mk IV
1219	Superposing Units 5 transform
1179	Lighting sets complete 5 KVA 240V
1206	Apparatus cable laying No 3
1221	Switchboards UC 10 line
1240	Wireless Sets No 11 (Aust)
1231	Charging sets 12V 300 Watt

6 (a) (ii) 7 Aust Inf Bde Gp will move with the following holdings of controlled stores:-

532	Lamps Army 30 only
547	Posts Zero MG Mk I 18 only
1224	Telephone Sets Mk V 40 only

9 bn 10
25 bn 10
6 bn 10
6 per bn
Sig app clbot

HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde will arrange allocation of these stores to units.

6 (a) (iii) All other controlled stores will be returned to 4 AOD under arrangements ADOS 5 Aust Div.

4. Para 7 - Tentage and Accomodation Stores is cancelled.

Insert new para 7.

(a) 11 Aust Fd Amb will move with all heavy tentage and stretchers. All other tentage will be returned.

(b) (i) All units will move with the undermentioned stores ONLY as per WE.

(ii) Personal anti-gas equipment.

(iii) Section C1 and C2 Armourers Boxes and components.

(iv) Section F all Tools IMG

(v) Section J1 Stores Tents Marquee Single, Marquee Double.

(vi) Section J2 - Tables FS, Cookers portable, Hydra burners and stoves.

(vii) Section K - Lamps hurricane, Stretchers for Amb, Stoves primus, Lights Tilley for offices and mess.

No additional issues will be made to units to bring scales up to WE if shortage exists in any of the above items.

(c) 7 Aust Inf Bde Gp will move with Stoves Soyer, less 40, on WE.

Withdrawals of stoves from various units to bring holdings to WE less 40 for Bde Gp will be arranged by 7 Aust Inf Bde.

Stoves withdrawn will be returned to 4 AOD under arrangements ADOS 5 Aust Div.

[Signature]
Lt.-Col
A.A. & J.M.G. 5 Aust Div

Signed at 1005 hrs

Issued through Sigs 5 Aust Div.

Distribution:- as per 5 Aust Div Adm Order No 20 of 22 Feb 43.

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WAR DIARY
OF
7 AUST INF BDE

FROM 0900 HOURS 1 FEB 43
TO 0900 HOURS 1 MAR 43.

(VOLUME 2 PART 2)

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7 AUST INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900hrs 1 Feb 43 to 0900 hrs 1 Mar 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	1 Feb.	0900	Location statement	Appx 1
"		0900	9 Bn coy dispositions. Coy tng in own area and supplying working party.	
		1042	61 Bn Coy movements. Duty Bn. Sec 19 Pl moving from Coy H.Q. to head GURNEY FIELD.	
		1040	B.M. accompanied by I.O. left for MAPO.	
		1400	Bde Comd left with G.O.C. on recce of north shore of Bay.	
		2022	I.O. to report to Capt Clarke at strip ops at 0730 2 Feb 43 for observation of detached unit.	
	2 Feb	0100	C tp 4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt responsible preparation and maintenance Tp positions at western end TURNBULL FIELD work will be carried out under direction 29 Bde. Tp will be made available as required for work. Positions will not be occupied.	
		0835	Coy dispositions 9 Bn. Coys supplying working parties Pontoon Wharf - Gurney Field Water point - Bulk Canteen. Balance Personnel tng own area.	
		1014	61 Bn Coy movements. Coys on def works.	
		1200	7 Bde R.O. dated 1 Feb 43.	Appx 2.
	3 Feb.	0830	9 Bn Coy dispositions. A and D Coys shifting to new areas movt complete 1500 hrs. Balce coys tng own areas.	
		0912	61 Bn Coy movements. All working parties.	
		0916	L.H.Q. Tactical School nominations:- Unit comds course. Maj Sutch Q15601 9 Bn. " " " " Wiles Q27608 61 Bn. Sub Unit Comds course. Capt C.G.E. Holloway QX 40830 9 Bn. " " " " " J.T. Graham Q21736 61 Bn. " " " " " Lfeut L.W. Stanley Q27642 61 Bn.	
		1400	7 Bde R.O. dated 3 Feb 43.	Appx 3.
	4 Feb.	0830	Col Turner and Col Cullen arrived 0830 hrs and with I.O. 7 Bde preceeded by boat to WANADALA. <i>OBSERVER UNIT</i>	
		0835	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All Coys supplying working parties.	
		0902	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys on def works.	

J.B. Mahoney

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7 AUST INF BDE

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43 to 0900 hrs 1 Mar 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	4 Feb.	1400	Col Cullen and Maj Cormack arrived 1400 hrs and with Capt Mathison proceeded to 61 Bn H.Q.	
		2248	N.G.F. Tng centre jnr leaders course 7 previously postponed in my 0105 of 25 Jan now commences 8 Feb. Vacancies unchanged Advise immediately any amendments to nom rolls, previously submitted. Students report school 1200L/7.	
	5 Feb.	0845	Adj 61 Bn instructed to use what wire he requires to complete GURNEY FIELD wiring.	
		0900	B.M. inspected Plateau Area.	
		0900	D Coy 9 Bn conducted range practice on WAIGANI range on morning of 5 Feb.	
	6 Feb.	1120	61 Bn coy dispositions. Coys on working parties.	
		0840	9 Bn coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties.	
		0920	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys on def works.	
		1200	Fd return of Offrs. to 6/2/43.	Appx 4
		1600	Maj Bicks reporting adm comd 9 Bn until retn Lt-Col Matthews.	
	7 Feb.	2315	Capt Jackson and Batman also Capt Holloway to proceed to LYLE Wharf reporting to movement control enroute. <i>Embarking for school</i>	
		0855	9 Bn church parade 0900 hrs remainder on day make and mend.	
		0900	Maj A.J.W. Sutch adm comd of the Bn left on 7 Feb by plane for Aust to attend unit comd school.	
	8 Feb.	0845	9 Bn coy dispositions. Coys on working parties.	
		1005	61 Bn coy dispositions. Coys on def works.	
1200		7 Bde intelligence summary no 6.	Appx5.	
1600		Two pls of the Bn opposed one another in a game fully described in para. 11, A.T.M. No 18. It was held at 1600 hrs and was attended by the G.O.C., 5 Aust Div., Major-General Milford, Brig. J. Field and B.M. and the C.Os, and Adjts of 61 and 9 Aust Inf Bns respectively. The competing pls entered into the game with great spirit.		
			<i>Jb. Mahoney</i>	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7 AUST INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43 to 0900 hrs 1 Mar 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	8 Feb	2200	Ref A/4/1 of 11 Jan personnel to be moved forthwith to 1st Aust Army Weapon Tng School for duty as instructors for 6 mths.	
	9 Feb	0930	9 Bn Coy Dispositions. All coys in own areas engaged on bull-ring tng.	
		0940	61 Bn Coy Dispositions. Coys on working parties.	
		2030	Warning Order (ref 5 Div Adm Instn No 17)	To 9 Bn by L.O.III
		2121	Received copy one 5 Div Adm Order No 17	
	10 Feb	0925	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Working parties except men required for duty in area.	
		0955	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Tng in morning Def works in afternoon.	
		1000	Bde Comd visited military fwd areas and called at 61 Bn on way back.	
		1200	7 Bde Intelligence Summary No 7.	Appx 6.
		1200	Hostile landings Milne Bay. Warnings and Illumination ^{gun}	Appx 7.
		1800	Approval granted for 4 Bty 101 A/Tk to conduct 2 pdr A/Tk/school	
		1800	4 N.C.Os and 32 ORs left on a special mission, the destination of which is being kept secret until their return 14 Feb. Party supplied by Aust Inf Bn.	
		1930	7 Bde Tng Instn no 12	Appx 8.
	11 Feb	0840	9 Bn Coy dispositions. All Coys supplying working parties. Balce personnel tng in own areas.	
		0840	At 1000 hrs 10 Feb a patrol in charge of Capt Woodroffe and comprising five Offrs and one 'I' personnel, set out on a patrol from BALAGA to DUABO. Owing to shortage of time, the patrol failed to reach its objective and returned to B.H.Q. Another patrol in charge of Capt Henderson and comprising six offrs and one 'I' personnel set out on a patrol to MAPO PLATEAU. This patrol reached its objective, but not along the route it intended following. The patrol returned to B.H.Q. on the same day.	
			On 10 Feb at 2000 hrs a test of light signals was carried out by the R.A.A. 5 Aust Div to enable the Coy Comds of the 29 Aust Inf Bde to observe the effectiveness of these signals from their positions. The acting C.O. (Maj C.H. Bicks) adjt. Coy Comds of the 9 Bn witnessed the demonstration of test carried out with Very Pistols, 2" mortars, lin cartridges and rockets.	

D.310/5.10.—C.4788.

J. Mahoney

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7th AUST INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43 to 0900 hrs 1 Mar 43

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	11 Feb	0925	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Tng in morning def works in afternoon.	
		1125	4 Bty 101 A/Tk regt will conduct 14 days course beginning 22nd Feb for Inf personnel on 2 pdr A/Tk gun. Vacancies each Bn 1 Offr 3 N.C.Os 4 Ptes. Nominations this HQ by 1800 hrs L/15. 4 Bty will submit draft syllabus by 0900 hrs L/18. Six hrs work per day. Course will be held 61 Bn HQ route 7.	
		1800	A patrol in charge of Capt Beech and comprising six Offrs set out along Govt track through EANEANENE, thence along the track to WAMAWAMAANA for a distance of approx one mile and then returned to the Govt track by another track. Continuing in a NE and then SE direction, the patrol contacted the standing patrol of 47 Bn and finally came out of the Jungle at Route 7. Patrol left 1030 hrs L/11. Another patrol in charge of Capt Percival and comprised of 5 Offrs and two 'I' personnel set out to MAPO PLATEAU. The patrol reached its objective, but not on the route it intended to follow. The patrol returned to B.H.Q. on the same day.	
		0900	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties.	
	12 Feb	1033	61 Bn Coy Dispositions. Tng in morning Def works in afternoon.	
		1130	Lieut Hayes of 4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt called on B.M.	
	13 Feb.	0800	At 1000 hrs 12 Feb a patrol in charge of Capt Kelly of 9 Bn and comprised of seven Offrs and three 'I' personnel set out to cover the track from the end of route 10 and covering the left flank of 42 Bn. The patrol passed through BADILLA and THE PALMS and finally came out on the coast track at RABI. The purpose of these patrols was to give Offrs an opportunity of gaining first hand infm of tracks, so that they can be used in an emergency.	
		0800	On 12 Feb patrol comprised of 1 N.C.O. and 9 ORs from 61 Bn via Govt track to WAMAWAMAANA, along coast to TAUPOTA and via Mt MOREYA, STEPHENS to GILI GILI Another patrol of 1 N.C.O. and 9 ORs via STEPHENS, Mt MOREYA to TAUPOTA, along coast to WAMAWAMAANA, to GILI GILI via Govt track.	

0900

Sequence of events MILNE BAY action. Aug - Sep 42.

J. Mahoney

Appx 16.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7 AUST INF BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43 To 0900 hrs 1 Mar 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	
MILNE BAY	13 Feb.	0918	9 Bn Coy Dispositions. Coys supplying working parties.		
		0947	61 Bn Coy Dispositions. Tng in morning Afternoon Def works.		
		1200	Fd return of Offrs to 13 Feb.	Appx 9.1	
		1200	A minefield was marked out on the right hand bank of the KALOHI Ck below HAGITA HOUSE, stakes being driven into the ground to facilitate the laying of mines. This did not prove to be satisfactory and the stakes were re-arranged. Map Att.	Appx 10.	
		1355	Permission granted (1) Firing 3" Mortar (2) firing Grenades 68&36 (3) exploding 3 mines A/Tk (4) usual safety precautions to be taken and units immediate areas effected to be notified.		
		1445	Lieut Hayes relinquished comd 4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt to Capt Stone as from 2000 hrs Feb 12.		
		1545	Permission granted for Offrs to make recce 29 Bde Area. Recce to be completed 20 Feb. Offrs thoroughly learning dispositions forward Bns and then following routes between our assembly areas and forward positions. Guiding arrangements will be made with I.O. 29 Bde.		
		1800	All tech units about GURNEY FIELD contacted and a list prepared of men and weapons available for local defence, under comd 61 Bn.		
		14 Feb.	1000	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Remainder church parades and make and mend.	
				1000	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Church parades and make and mend.
15 Feb.	0930	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Remainder on essential duties in own areas.			
16 Feb.	1030	61 Bn Coy Dispositions. Coys Tng in own areas.			
16 Feb.	0945	9 Bn Coy Dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Balance tng in coy areas. Offrs inspecting defensive positions 42 Bn.			
	0950	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys tng in own areas. Offrs inspecting defensive positions 15 Bn.			
		1200	Location statement 7 Bde to 2359 L/15.	Appx 10	
		1535	4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt refresher course 3 weeks beginning 17 Feb One Good N.C.O. Inf instructor required rifle and bayonet one period per day. 9 Bn supply N.C.O. 17 - 21 Feb and 1 - 7 Mar. 61 Bn 22 - 28 Feb. Report 4 Bty. 0900 hrs first day of period.		

J.B. Mahoney

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7 AUST INF BDE

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43 To 0900 hrs 1 Mar 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY.	16 Feb.	1850	Ref 7 Bde 0315 dated 10 - 0317 dated 11 2 Pdr A/Tk course. Course deferred until completion of Plasmoquine treatment both Bns.	
	17 Feb	0900	9 Bn Coy Dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Remainder tng in own areas.	
		0940	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys tng in own areas.	
		1200	7 Bde Intelligence summary No 8	Appx 11.
		1250	Relief Drake Force by (B Coy 25 Bn).	
		1800	7 Bde sitrep to 1800 hrs L/17. A Tp 4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt is now situated 022007 Ref Map Milne Bay Prov No 2 Otherwise Sitnor.	
		2210	Lieut Mulcahy replaced Lieut Wanless at KANA KOPI Pte Stackpoolie accompanying as I see representative	
	18 Feb.	0925	9 and 61 Bns will return to Q.M. 25 Bn M.M.G's from 25 Bn Carriers 25 Bn will retain these guns until further instructions. Associate stores will accompany guns.	
		0935	9 and 61 Bns offrs inspected Jungle firing range 15 Bn Area. Bns will construct and use similar ranges near own areas. Advise this H.Q. posns chosen.	
		1008	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys tng in own areas.	
		1010	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties.	
	19 Feb.	0855	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties.	
		0954	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys tng in own areas.	
	20 Feb.	0940	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Remainder Tng in own areas.	
		1020	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys tng in own areas.	
		1200	Fd return of offrs W 3008	
	21 Feb.	1030	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Blood test at R.A.P. Church parade. Make and mend.	Appx 13
		2020	AIR RAID RED - ALL CLEAR 2110.	
		2118	G III (I) reported bombs dropped between A/A M.B. and Searchlight M.B.	
	22 Feb.	1000	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys erecting tents Route 10 in morning. Weapon tng in afternoon. Plasmoquine treatment starts midday meal.	
		1005	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Balce tng.	
		1213	61 Bn rang and reported Memorial tablet on Turnbull drome had been removed.	

J.G. Mahoney

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7. AUST. INF. BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs. 1 Feb. 43 To 0900 hrs. 1 Mar. 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MILNE BAY	22 Feb.	1220	AIR RAID RED - ALL CLEAR 1319.	
		2000	5 Div advised Lieut Blackburne 7 Bde, Lieut Clarkson Cpl Payne 61 Bn, Lieut Werder Sgt Patterson Cpl Hoge held in staging Camp Port Moresby.	Respective units informed.
		2010	AIR RAID RED - ALL CLEAR	
		2230	1 Offr 26 ORs reported to D.C.R.E. at ref 917992 from 0800 - 1600 hrs L/23.	
	23 Feb.	0120	AIR RAID RED - ALL CLEAR 0342.	
		0840	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys on Plasmoquine treatment light duties and tng in own areas.	
		0953	61 Bn Coy dispositions, Coys supplying working parties. Balce tng in own areas.	
		1445	Bombs dropped in raids 22 - 23 Feb. 1 Stick 2/6 A.A.S.C. - 1 killed 3 wounded - 1 stick No 3 Strip - Temporary damage to drome 1 stick in jungle area EANEANE track - 3 bombs WAIGANI - 1 stick in jungle near WAIGANI Con Camp.	
		1815	Sitrep to 1800 hrs L/23. 7 Bde Defence Pl returned this H.Q. 1100 hrs. Otherwise Sitnor.	
	24 Feb.	0825	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Plasmoquine treatment Coys tng in own areas.	
0916		61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Remainder tng in own areas.		
1100		QX 37979 A. Sgt Boulton P.F. 9 Bn to report N.G.F. Tng Centre Port Moresby as instructor Period of detachment approx 3 mths. Arrange passage by air through D.A.Q.M.G.		
25 Feb.	0840	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Plasmoquine treatment. Light tng in own areas.		
	0850	61 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys supplying working parties. Remainder tng in own areas.		
26 Feb.	0900	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys tng and respective duties in own areas.		
	1925	7 Bde Sitrep to 1800 hrs L/26. 'D' Coy 61 Bn relieved from defence GURNEY FIELD at 1500 hrs by 37-52 Bn. Hansom Force now in area H.Q. 25 Bn. H.Q. Coy D&C Coys Biv Route 10.		
27 Feb.	0730	S.S. BOTH cast off from LYLE WHARF MILNE BAY.		

D. 1157 (E. 29) - C. 4782

J. B. Mahoney

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 7 AUST. INF. BDE.

Date and Time.—From 0900 hrs 1 Feb 43 to 0900 hrs 1 Mar 43.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
MIDNE BAY.	27 Feb.	0800	4 Aust Inf Bde assumed comd 7 Aust Inf Bde. area.	
		0855	7 Bde sitrep to 0800 hrs L/27. 61 Bn. Advance parties 7 Bde H.Q.	
			'J' Sec Sigs- 241 L.A.D. - 9 Bn - 25 Bn - 3 Sec 5 Aust Div Provo -	
			11 Fd Amb - 24 Fd Coy R.A.E. - 25 Coy A.A.S.C. - left areas 0430	
			hrs to embark S.S. BOTH. <i>for PORT MORESBY</i>	
	0945	9 Bn Coy dispositions. Coys tng in own areas.		
	1200	Fd return of Offrs W 3008	Appx 14.	
	28 Feb.	1200	Location Statement 7 Bde.	Appx 15.

J.G. Mahoney

LOCATION STATEMENT.

7 AUST INF BDE.
as at 2359 hrs 30 Jan 43.

UNIT	VEH No.	LOCATION.	REF MAP	COMM.	REMARKS.
H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde	88	983993	MB Prov No 2	xL/T	To 5 Aust & 29 Bde.
"J" Sec Sigs H.Q 7 Aust Inf Bde.	88	"	"	"	-
H.Q 7 Aust Inf Bde Besch	88	974993	"	"	-
241 L.A.D.	88	"	"	"	-
9 Aust Inf Bn H.Q.	53	981992	"	"	-
H.Q. Coy.	"	981991	"	"	-
A. Coy.	"	979994	"	"	-
B. Coy.	"	986991	"	"	-
C. Coy.	"	982985	"	"	-
D. Coy.	"	980993	"	"	-
E. Coy.	"	981991	"	"	-
Besch. 25 Aust Inf Bn	50	999008	"	"	through 61 Bn
61 Aust Inf Bn H.Q.	99	001008	"	"	-
H.Q. Coy.	"	999008	"	"	-
A. Coy.	"	003011	"	"	-
B. Coy.	"	005008	"	"	-
C. Coy.	"	007006	"	"	-
D. Coy.	"	994997	"	"	-
E. Coy.	"	998008	"	"	-
4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt B.H.Q.	62	022007	"	L/T	-
A.Tp.	"	981992	"	"	29 Bde switch
B. Tp.	"	022007	"	"	D.R.L.S. L/T 29 Bde switch.
C.Tp.	"	022007	"	"	-
D. Tp.	"	047001	"	"	D.R.L.S. Under comd 29 Bde.
Gun D.1.	"	058003	"	"	D.R. "
" D.2.	"	054006	"	"	" "
" D.3.	"	047004	"	"	" "
" D.4.	"	052995	"	"	" "

[Signature] Capt.
 I.O. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

* F phone to 5 Div 29 Bde and 61 Bn.

War Diary

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by
BRIGADIER JOHN FIELD COMMANDING
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE.

Copy No 16

Date 1 Feb 43.

"G".

NIL

Jasmond Carr

A Major,
Brigade Major 7 Aust Inf Bde.

"A & Q".

26. ESCAPES OF PRISONERS OF WAR FROM ENEMY HANDS.- GRO G43.

It is the duty of all soldiers if captured by the enemy to effect their escape at the earliest possible moment.

It is equally important that the soldier having completed his escape should not disclose the method by which he, or any companion he may have had, evaded the enemy and achieved freedom.

The disclosure of such information-

- (a) prejudices the chance of other escapees;
- (b) prevents other members of allied forces from using the same or similar methods of escape;
- (c) endangers the lives of those who may have assisted the escapees at any stage of their escape.

Therefore, escaped prisoners of war will not, without the permission of G.S.1 of a corps or higher formation, disclose any details of their experiences in connection with their escape:-

- (a) either verbally or in writing to their friends and relatives;
- (b) either verbally or in writing to the press or broadcast stations.

Full details, however, will be given by escaped prisoners of war at the earliest opportunity to the nearest Allied Military Headquarters, from whence it will be transmitted to G.S.1 at LHQ or Advanced LHQ direct.

This order will be read in conjunction with GRO A.443/1942 regarding giving parole by officers and other ranks.

27. ABSENCE WITHOUT LEAVE. GRO A46.

Attention is directed to the fact that the seriousness of the offence of absence without leave is not properly appreciated and that the commission of this offence has been very prevalent.

All officers will ensure that the members under their command are instructed in the reasons for the offence being regarded seriously and will bring to particular notice the facts that absence without leave reflects adversely on the offender's unit, that it throws a heavier burden on his comrades and disrupts leave rosters and that it is not a sign of "toughness" on the offender's part but a betrayal of the national cause by its resulting wastage of transport, manpower and money and impairment of the efficiency and fighting strength of the offender's unit.

If it appears to a commanding officer investigating a charge of absence without leave that the accused has been absent without leave for a period in excess of 28 days, he should direct a summary of evidence to be taken and should apply to superior authority for a court-martial. The superior authority should convene a Court Martial for the trial of the accused unless it appears to him that special extenuating circumstances exist, in which event he may direct the commanding officer to deal summarily with the charge.

The attention of all officers appointed as presidents or members of courts-martial is directed to A.M.R. & O. 558 (3)

ABSENCE WITHOUT LEAVE (CONT)

A commanding officer will follow the procedure prescribed in A.M.R. & O. 461 in every case of illegal absence from his unit, whether or not the illegal absentee is suspected of desertion, and he will ensure that the descriptive report of the illegal absentee is rendered, whenever possible, within twenty-four hours from the time the illegal absence is discovered. The efficient working of the Provost Staff in this regard is largely dependent upon the promptness with which commanding officers notify cases of illegal absence. There is, however, a corresponding duty to notify the Provost Staff promptly when absentees return direct to their units.

Whenever possible, a court of inquiry under A.M.R. & O 445 will be held on an illegal absentee on the twenty second day of his absence. If a member is declared by such court to be absent without leave or other sufficient cause, a notification of the court's declarations will be sent forthwith to the nearest District Finance Offr. M.B.I. A.169/1941 is cancelled.

28. MISUSE OF ARMY TRANSPORT - THEFT OF PETROL. - GRC A48.

Whenever it appears that an officer or soldier has used both a Government motor vehicle and Government petrol for an unauthorized purpose he will be charged with the unauthorized use of both the vehicle and the petrol.

The charge of unauthorized use of the vehicle will normally be laid under Section 11 of the Army Act with an alternative charge under Section 40 of that Act. If, however, it appears from the evidence that the member charged used the vehicle with the intention of stealing it, the charge will be laid under section 18(4) of the Army Act as one of stealing public property with an alternative charge under Section 40 of that Act.

The charge of the unauthorized use of the petrol (consumed by the unauthorized use of the vehicle) will be laid under section 18(4) of the Army Act as stealing public property and an alternative charge under Section 40 of the Army Act will always be laid.

The charges laid concerning the one incident should all be on the one charge sheet and may be heard together.

29. ARMY NUMBERS GRC A52.

The use of the term "Personal Number", in relation to the number assigned to an officer of the A.M.F. or a person holding officer status, and the practice of showing such number in brackets after the name of the person concerned are to be discontinued.

The numbers assigned to all members of the A.M.F. will be referred to as "Army Numbers" and will precede the rank and name of the member.

30. PAPER ADHERING TO GUIDE BANDS OF BOMBS, M.L. H.E. 3" MORTAR.

Paper from the interior walls of containers may be found adhering to the guide bands of bombs, M.L. 3" Mortars. This paper will be removed prior to firing, as misfires and inaccurate shooting may otherwise occur.

31. BROADCASTS OVER ENEMY WIRELESS BY AUSTRALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR.

A member of the Military Forces who becomes a prisoner of war will not transmit messages over enemy wireless. The enemy's design, in arranging such broadcasts, is to enhance his own propaganda.

32. CASUALTIES AFFECTING PAY. GRC A27.

No action will be taken to amend Pay Book rates consequent upon promotions, remissions of fines or remission of forfeitures until receipt of the relevant Routine Form VII Order from Records Office.

33. MAXIMUM PERMISSABLE SPEED OF VEHICLES. GRO Q30 (See Para 41 for Local Restrictions)

1. Training -

(a) The following are the maximum speeds permitted on any surface for the vehicles mentioned. These speeds are not to be exceeded unless absolutely necessary for the purpose of field training, or as ordered by a responsible commissioned officer. In such cases the work ticket is to be endorsed accordingly.

Type of Vehicle	Max speed in m.p.h.
Cars, motor cycles and combinations	45
Trucks, 4 x 4 5-cwt (Jeep)	45
Ambulances (except in emergency)x	35
Vans and trucks 12 to 15 cwt	35
Vans 1 ton, lorries and trucks up to 3 ton, except 6 wheeler	30
Lorries and trucks, stores, 3 ton loaded	25
Lorries, 6 wheeler and semi-trailers	20
Lorries or trucks, S.B.G.	20
Lorries or trucks, F.B.E.	20
Tractors, wheeled, and other vehicles towing -	
Pneumatic tyred trailers and other equipment xx	20 - 15
Steel tyred field equipment or trailers	8 - 6
A.A. travelling platform	15 - 12
Medium Arty equipment, with rubber padded wheels	12 - 10
Medium Arty equipment, with steel tyres	6 - 4
Tank transporters -	
Tractor unit only	15
With trailer, unloaded	12
With trailer, loaded	10
Tractors, tracked -	
Towing medium Arty equipment	3 - 1/2
Carriers (all types)	20
Tanks, light M3	25
Tanks, Medium Mk II	8
Tanks medium M3	20
Tank cruiser (including A.C.)	20
Tanks infantry Mk II	12
Tanks infantry Mk III	12
Tanks combat (M.H.)	15
Tanks light Mk VIA	20
Cars, scout	35
Cars, light armoured	30
Lorries or trucks water tank	25
Trailers -	
Workshop	15
Laundry	15
Cooker	15
Generating Set	15
Recovery	15
Water tank	20
Two-wheeled, air compressor	20

x In cases of emergency, the speed of motor ambulances will be at the discretion of the medical authorities.

xx Where a second figure is shown, it denotes the maximum permissible speed on bad surfaces.

(b) Army drivers are subject to the traffic regulations of the State authorities, and must observe all the rules of the road and obey orders and signals from traffic police and members of the Provost Corps.

2. Operational.

It is emphasised that the above speeds do not apply in operations against the enemy. When in or near contact with the enemy, vehicles will move at a speed dictated by the tactical situation.

3. Convoys.

Particular attention is directed to the calculation of time tables when preparing operation orders. It must be remembered that the average road speed is necessarily below the maximum permissible.

MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE SPEED OF VEHICLES. (CONT)

4. General.

Armies, Corps and H.Q. L of C Areas are responsible to ensure that traffic is properly policed in their areas and will instruct the Provost Corps to see that traffic laws, both Army and Civil, are observed.

The necessity for prompt disciplinary action in the case of breaches of this instruction is stressed.

5. Cancellation.

This order cancels -

- (a) Standing Orders for the Operation and Maintenance of Mechanical Vehicles (Australia) 1940 - para 42.
- (b) M.B.I. O.39/1941.
- (c) M.T. Circular No 88 of 28 October 1940.
- (d) G.R.O. Q23/1942,

and is to be particularly brought to the attention of all ranks concerned in the operation and maintenance of mechanical vehicles.

34. CARE OF HAND TOOLS. - GRO 036.

Demands for replacement of hand tools indicate that wastage is unduly high.

An acute shortage of these tools exists. Many types are not manufactured locally and have to be imported from overseas. It is essential, therefore, that all ranks be impressed with the necessity of ensuring that wastage is reduced to a minimum.

Care is to be taken that tools are used only for the purpose for which they are supplied.

Unit commanders and officers or other ranks in charge of workshops, etc., are to take all necessary action to ensure that these instructions are observed by personnel under their control, and that appropriate steps are taken to ensure the safe keeping of hand tools on issue.

35. REGIMENTAL TRUST FUND - STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT - PUBLICATION OF.

Commanding Officers of units holding regimental trust funds will publish monthly in Unit R.Os a statement showing

- (i) the balance standing to the credit of the fund.
- (ii) receipts during the month
- (iii) expenditure during the month
- (iv) details of the purposes for which disbursements were made.

36. CENSUS OF WARLIKE STORES - MECH TPT - FORMATIONS IN N.G. AND/OR UNDER CONTROL OF N.G. FORCE. NGF 18

1. Instructions have been received from LHQ that:-

- (a) Census of all AUST mech vehs in NEW GUINEA will be maintained by HQ NGF.
- (b) GRO's are being amended to give effect to the above.

2. Commencing 20 Jan 43 and pending issue of amending GRO, Units in NEW GUINEA, or under control of NGF, will submit census information as required in paras 3,4, and 5 hereunder, which summarise, with appropriate reference to GRO's, all action required of Units.

3. On 20th day of each month Units will submit AAF. E5-9(a) in accordance with GRO O.318 para 4, of 14 Aug 1942.

The following will be submitted with each copy of AAF E5-9(a):-

- (a) TO BE SUBMITTED AS AT 20 JAN and 20 FEB, 1943 ONLY.

Details of all vehs held in Unit in accordance with following Pro Forma ;:

CENSUS OF WARLIKE STORES (CONT)

UNIT.....No of W.E.....

DETAILS OF ALL VEHS HELD IN UNIT ON 20.....43.

Army No	Engine No	Make	Type	Makers Model, or Serial No., or Series (as applicable)	Year of Manufacture	Tyre sizes	Whether vehicle is serviceable or awaiting repairs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

(b) TO BE SUBMITTED AS FROM INCLUSIVE 20 JAN 1943 and ONWARD

(i) List of Army numbers of all vehicles held BY TYPES, in accordance with GRO 0.318 para 5 (ii) (b) of 14 Aug 42. Pro-Forma is attached as APP 'A'

(ii) Summary of transfers of vehicles within NGF in accordance with GRO 0.318 para 5 (ii) (a) of 14 Aug 42. Pro Forma is attached as APP 'B'.

(iii) Details of any veh or vech received by the unit from any source outside control of HQ NGF whether the veh previously belonged to the unit or not. Pro forma is att as APP 'C'.

(iv) Details of any veh or vech despatched by the Unit to any place outside the control of HQ NGF. Pro forma is attached as APP "D".

4. On 20th day of each month Units will submit returns in accordance with GRO 0431 of 25 Sep 42 in respect of any vehicle NOT on charge, but held by, or under control of the unit. Pro forma is att as APP 'E' Copies will be distributed thus:-

(a) By AASC UNITS (and Units whose WE includes AASC Drs att).
One copy to DDOS NGF
One copy to ADOS etc, Formation.
One copy to DDST or his representative on Formation.

(b) By all OTHER UNITS.
One copy to DDOS NGF
One copy to ADOS etc, Formation

5. On every occasion when a veh is issued, drawn, or transferred, or received from a source outside control of HQ NGF, or despatched to a place beyond control of HQ NGF, both units concerned in the transaction will submit AAF G.52, vide GRO. 018 para 7 of 12 May 42.

CENSUS OF WARLIKE STORES (CONT)

6.(a) Formations, Special Forces, and Units in NEW GUINEA, or under control of HQ NGF, will cease to render returns and certificates to DOS (OS1) LHQ.

(b) Copies of returns, certificates of destruction, and of AAF 652 required by GRO's 0.18 of 12 May 42, 0.318 of 14 Aug 42, 0.431 of 25 Sep 42 and 0.519 of 30 Oct 42, to be submitted by Formations to DOS (OS1) LHQ, will now be submitted to DDOS NGF; except that DIV's will submit only one copy of AAF E5-40 to DDOS NGF.

(c) Returns required by GRO 0.318 of 14 Aug 42 to be submitted to DDOS ARMY will NOT be rendered by Formations in NEW GUINEA.

7. Formations will continue to submit returns to DSD LHQ as required by GRO 0.318 of 14 Aug 42.

8.(a) DDOS NGF is responsible for provision to DOS (OS1) LHQ of certain information as advised separately.

(b) DDST NGF is responsible for provision to DST LHQ of information vide GRO 0.318 para 8 of 14 Aug 42.

APPENDICES.

APP 'A'.

Pro-Forma as follows:-

UNIT.....No of W.E.....Date.....

ARMY NOS of VEHICLES by TYPES.

CARS DS	CARS RECCE	VANS 15 CWT WD 4 x2	VANS 15 CWT WD 4 x 4		
.....		
.....		
VANS	VANS 15 CWT GS	ETC	ETC	ETC	
.....	
.....	

APP 'B'.

Pro-Forma as follows:-

UNIT..... No of W.E.....Date.....

PARTICULARS OF VEHS RECEIVED BY UNIT, OR TRANSFERRED FROM UNIT, SINCE PREVIOUS MONTHLY RETURN.

RECEIPTS

TRANSFERS.

Army No	Type	Unit from which received	Army No	Type	Unit to which transferred
1	2	3	4	5	6

CENSUS OF WARLIKE STORES (CONT)

APP 'C',

Pro-Forma as follows:-

UNIT..... NO of W.E.....Date.....

VEHS RECEIVED FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE CONTROL OF HQ NGF SINCE PREVIOUS MONTHLY RETURN.

Army No	Engine No.	Make	Type	Makers Model, Serial No., or Series (as applicable)	Year of Manufacture	Tyre Sizes	Whether vehicle is serviceable or awaiting repairs	Date Received	Unit received from	Name of vessel or of aircraft.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

APP 'D',

Pro-Forma as follows:-

UNIT.....No of W.E.....Date.....

VEHS DESPATCHED TO PLACES BEYOND CONTROL OF HQ NGF SINCE LAST MONTHLY RETURN.

Army No	Make	Type	Year of Manufacture	Unit to which Transferred or Consigned	Date Despached	Name of Vessel or of Aircraft
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

APP 'E',

Pro-Forma as follows:-

UNIT.....No of W.E.....Date.....

STATEMENT OF VEHICLES HELD BUT NOT ON CHARGE TO UNIT.

Army No	Make	Type	Maker's Model Serial No or Series (as applicable)	Year of Manufacture	Whether serv-iceable or awaiting repairs	Source from which Received
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

37. CAMOUFLAGE OF TENTS - BITUMINOUS EMULSION.-NGF Order 19.

Further to New Guinea Force Order 384 of 20 Jul 42. The only types of bituminous emulsion which may be used for camouflage of tents are those manufactured by:-

- (a) Shell Coy of Australia, or
- (b) Sterling Varnish Coy of Brisbane.

Stocks of the approved types are held by Ordnance Depots. Stocks of any other types held by Units will be returned to Ordnance by 20 Jan 43.

38. DAILY PARADE - BDE H.Q.

A parade will be held at 0800 hrs daily. Tents to be in inspection order by 0800 hrs. Duty Offr will inspect pers, rifles and tents in A Ech area, and Lt H. Rodgers B Ech Area.

39. POSTAL. (5 AUST Div R.O. 460)

The enclosure of currency in articles for posting is prohibited and Franking Officers must ensure that this instruction is strictly observed.

Postal Notes to the value of £5 only, is the limit of sale to any one individual over a period of fourteen days.

Postage rates for letters to the mainland are as follows:-

Postage rates for letters to the mainland are as follows:-

Air	3d
Ordinary	Free

Parcel Rates are as formerly.

Owing to the heavy congestion on Mainland telegraph circuits, resulting in heavy delays to telegraph traffic and to the fact that telegrams lodged in this area are forwarded by air to the mainland for onward transmission by telegraph, personnel are advised to use the air mail letter service in preference to the lodgement of telegrams.

40. PLACES OUT OF BOUNDS. (5 Aust Div R.O. 462)

All AASC Dumps and petrol points are out of bounds to all ranks other than personnel detailed for duty at such places.

41. ROAD DISCIPLINE. (5 Aust Div R.O. 463)

Considerable difficulty is being experienced in maintaining roads in trafficable condition, and every assistance is required from drivers of motor vehicles. Some drivers, through bad driving and carelessness cut up the roads and make the maintenance of them more difficult. CO's of units will ensure that all drivers on strength of unit are instructed on the subject of careful driving and also that all are aware of the maximum speed at which vehicles are permitted to drive in the Milne Bay Area.

THIS SPEED IS 20 M.P.H.

Chains will not be permitted on any of the made roads. An exception may be made in the case of water carts and such essential maintenance vehicles. The work ticket of vehicles must be endorsed by C.O's or O.C's that the wearing of chains is essential.

Provost have been instructed to check speeds etc. Disciplinary action will be taken against any contravention.

Jacques
Capt,
A/Staff Capt 7 Aust Inf Bde.

NOTICES.

The registered number of gun machine BREN .303 mkI reported lost in NEW GUINEA Force Orders of 11 Jan 43, page 7 is 3760. All units will institute a thorough search forthwith and report any relative infm direct to DDOS NEW GUINEA Force.

DISTRIBUTION.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. 9 Aust Inf Bn | 5. 4 Bty 101 A/Tk | 9. 'J' Sec Sigs | 12. C.Q.M.S. |
| 2&3. 25 Aust Inf Bn | 6. Comd | 10. 241 L.A.D. | 13. Tpt Sgt |
| 4. 61 Aust Inf Bn | 7&8. Staff | 11. 5 Aust Div | 14. File |
| | | | 15&16. War Diary |

The information contained in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press or to any person not holding an official position in His Majesty's Service.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

Copy No 15

by
BRIGADIER JOHN FIELD COMMANDING
7th AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BRIGADE

Date 3 Feb 43.

'G'

42. D.R.L.S. - DISPATCHES FOR.

Dispatches for DRLS must be marked "Certified Official" and signed by an offr. The dispatch must also bear a serial number for identification.

43. SCHOOLS AND COURSES - OFFR CANDIDATES FOR.

All offrns nominated to attend schools and courses will be interviewed by Bde Comd before they leave to attend the course. Units are responsible for arranging interviews through B.M.

44. CENSORSHIP AND FRANKING.

(TO BE REPEATED IN UNIT ORDERS AND READ TO ALL RANKS)

Parcels from NEW GUINEA intercepted by Base Censor have in many cases contained everything and anything except that which is stated on the declaration of contents. Arms, amn, grenades, clothing, eqpt, tobacco and cigarettes have been sent in parcels to the mainland.

These breaches provide undeniable proof that Offrs and O.Rs are NOT "playing the game" and, in some cases, are deliberately breaking regulations.

Senders and franking offrns must understand what is required of them and faithfully carry it out. (See 7 Inf Bde Instn "Censorship" issued 12 Jan 43).

Breaches of censorship in correspondence also show that units have a long way to go in educating their personnel in sane and safe security-mindedness.

In censoring correspondence franking offrns must conscientiously discharge their duty of existing censorable matter. They must also frank letters promptly and absolutely respect the confidence of the writer. Nothing written in a letter must be discussed or disclosed (unless disciplinary action for breach of censorship is necessary).

The right drill for censoring is to fold the page in half from top to bottom, or cover half of it from one side with another sheet of paper. A glance down the uncovered side for place names, names of units, or other forbidden matter will show whether any para should be fully read and censored (if necessary). The same can then be done for the other side. By this method a letter can be carefully censored without the franking offrns' really reading the personal parts of it.

J. Mahoney Major,
Brigade Major 7 Aust Inf Bde.

"A & Q"

45. REGIMENTAL TRUST FUND - 7 AUST INF BDE H.Q.

Statement of Account

- 1. Cr Balance as at 31 Jan 43 £48/15/6.
- 2. Receipts for Month £11/8/8.
- 3. Expenditure for Month £39/5/7.
- 4. Purpose for which disbursements made:- Purchase of foodstuffs.

Jacobs Capt,
Staff Capt 7 Aust Inf Bde.

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

SERIAL No 6

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

6 Feb, 1943

WE Regt AMF
11/2/3

WE 12 + 60

WE 5 + 12

(AMF)

HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde (Unit)

PART A—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
BRIGADIERS	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		1
Captains	3	1	3
Lieutenants	4	1	1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	9	2	5

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut	KREBS	AA HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde	5.2.43	Returned from X List - 11 Aust Inf Bde

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
Lieut	KREBS	AA HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde	31.1.43	To X List - 8 days in hospital

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank	Name and Initials	Corps	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers Posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Lt Col T/Brig	TX 2002	Field J	Infantry	yes	
Capt T/Brig	Q15602	Mahoney J.C.	3 M		
Lt Col T/Brig	QX 34432	Jackson W.B.	3 M (L)		
Lt Col	Q21873	Mathison J.W.	401		
Lt Col	Q21881	Mathison K.D.	50		
Lt Col	QX 40330	Mathison G.A.	70		
Lt Col	QX 40336	Radford L.T.	602		
Lt Col	QX 40331	Mathison S.T.	603		
Lt Col	QX 38336	Wood L.A.	Amey O		
Officers attached from other Corps					
Lt Col T/Brig	Q44359	Wilson G.A.	AASC	yes	relieved by W.F.
Lt Col	Q112822	Cook R.M.	AASC	yes	
Chaplain	QX 40347	Cook C.C.	AASC		
Lt Col	Q123369	Mathison J.M.			
Lt Col	Q123505	James G.			

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Date of attachment	Nature of attachment
Hon Lt Col	Q257	Graham E.C.	YINCA		No
Lt Col T/Brig	Q140391	Cavanagh W.O.	AASC		DENTIST

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde
(Unit)
6 Feb 1943
(Date of Despatch)

J.P. Greig
(Signature of Commander)
5 Aust Inf Bde
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving)

7 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.6

Compiled from information in N.G.P. Summary
No. 106 from 1200 hrs 20 Jan 43 to hrs 27 Jan 43.

SUMMARY OF ENEMY MOVEMENTS
and
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STRENGTH.

SEA.

Photo recon of RABAUL 22 Jan showed a total of 54 large and medium vessels. Tonnage of merchant vessels was estimated at 179000 tons - a drop of 15,000 tons since previous photo recon on 18 Jan. The only naval craft sighted were 7 destroyers and 5 submarines. Vessels are now more widely dispersed.

The convey reported on 20 Jan heading for WEWAK was sighted in that harbour the next day. Two days later it was again sighted standing out to sea. It is estimated that the total Jap force now at WEWAK is 500.

AIR.

There has been a further increase of land based A/C in NE sector - from 146 on 17 Jan to 253 on 24 Jan. The principal increase has been in fighter A/C which have increased from 56 to 153 thus accounting for more active interception.

Our bombing of RABAUL and LAE continues daily. As fast as the enemy attempts to use LAE his A/C are destroyed one pilot describing the aerodrome as a "shambles".

RAPOPO aerodrome was used for the first time during the period.

An interesting feature of enemy air recon has been their extension south to take in 200 miles of the CORAL SEA.

LAND.

All organised resistance has now ceased in the GONA-BUNA AREA. Mopping up continues. The success of these operations was made possible by our air superiority thus permitting the use of forward L.Gs for delivery of men and materials.

Enemy patrols have been active in the BLACKCAT- MUBO area where they are also path cutting.

Defensive works continue to be constructed by the LAE - SALAMUA Garrison.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS BY AREAS.

LAND. Ref BUNA 4 inches to 1 mile.
" GONA " " "

OWN.

This weeks activities have been the final stage in ops in the BUNA -SANAANDA area and the end of all organized enemy opposition. Small parties of enemy are still being liquidated.

BUNA AREA. Continuous pressure was maintained against the enemy positions North - west of TARAKENA by a U.S. Bn. At 1315 L/21 contact was made on the East bank of the lagoon at GIRUWA with an Aust Bn advancing from SANAANDA. By next day all organized resistance had ceased. The US Bn held the Coastal Strip from TARAKENA to GIRUWA and the Aust Bn from TARAKENA to SANAANDA. On nights 20/21 and 21/22 Jan enemy barges endeavouring to land in this area were engaged by Arty and MG fire and driven off.

An enemy hospital located in the GIRUWA area was found to be littered with bodies and over 100 prisoners were taken, most of whom were stretcher cases.

SANAANDA AREA. At 1315 hrs on 21 Jan contact was made by the Aust Bn moving from GIRUWA towards TARAKENA and the US Bn advancing from the East.

IN our attack against 3 enemy pockets, 190270 was captured on the afternoon 19 Jan, whilst 194270 and 195266 were entered but not completely liquidated. The attacking US Bn was reinforced and after concentrations of arty, mortar and HMC fire enemy resistance was overcome. The enemy were then confined to a triangle 192266 - 193266 - 193267. This position was attacked at

1045 hrs on 22 Jan and by 1300 hrs had been overcome.

In the area 211288, after the enemy had been cleared from the rest of the road, they were confined to one small pocket on the East side. This pocket was attacked by an Aust Bn at 0800 hrs on 20 Jan but strong opposition was encountered. The attack was continued all day and by 1045 hrs 21 Jan enemy resistance had been overcome. The post proved to be stronger than was expected, 200 enemy dead being found. Our casualties were one wounded.

At 0700 hrs 20 Jan an attack was launched by an Aust Bn against the enemy position on the coastal sector at 212296-206301. The attack was preceded by fifteen minutes of arty concentration and by 0830 the enemy line of resistance had been narrowed considerably. Some Japs escaped into the swamp and at least three pill boxes remained to be cleared out. Elements of another Aust Bn were moved up in support and the attack continued. Extremely stubborn resistance was met but by 1415 hrs on 21 Jan the enemy was completely encircled and was confined to a small defended position consisting of weapon pits and shallow trenches. The attack was continued on morning of 22 Jan and all resistance was overcome.

At 1400 hrs 22 Jan all organized resistance by the enemy in the forward area had been overcome. Fighting patrols were sent out against small enemy parties which were trying to escape westwards and many of the enemy were killed. Mopping up continues.

GONA AREA. Activities in this area have been confined to fighting patrols. The Aust Bde in this area was given the task of stopping the enemy escaping from the SANANANDA area. The JUMBORA-GONA track was patrolled and escaping enemy parties engaged.

SALAMAU - MUBO - Area. Our activities in this area have been confined to patrolling by strong parties to obtain information of enemy movement in the SADDLE area towards WAU.

During the week a small force was flown in to BENA BENA for patrol duties in that area

LAND-ENEMY.

SANANANDA - TARAKINA AREA.

Enemy resistance in this area was reduced to several isolated localities during 20/21 Jan and on 22 Jan forward troops reported that all organized resistance had ceased.

Isolated parties were still being intercepted while attempting to move out of the area, no doubt endeavouring to give effect to the order to withdraw to MAMBARE area. On 25 Jan 31 enemy were killed and 10 captured from various parties.

GONA - KUMUSI AREA. Evidence that some parties of enemy are succeeding in evacuating the SANANANDA area is given by interception of a party of 50 well armed Japs by our patrol at SABARI. 12 were killed and the remainder were expected to make their way via DHUNIA to the mouth of the KUMUSI. A late report states that 200 enemy are at DHUNIA. An additional party of 200 have arrived at SABARI, according to a reliable report. It is considered that as many as possible will be evacuated to MAMBARE by barge and the nightly activity of these craft between KUMUSI and MAMBARE indicates that this evacuation is in progress. The weakened state of these troops makes it highly improbable that many will reach MAMBARE by land. Tac/R over KURENADA on 19 Jan indicated that the village was extensively used, and is probably the embarkation point.

MAMBARE AREA. A report from a reliable source on 20 Jan states that the enemy is camped on the Western end of the small island in the MAMBARE mouth, and a hideout is suspected in the vicinity of GAVORA.

On 21 Jan and 25 Jan a reliable source stated that the enemy is returning to DUVIRA Creek in unknown numbers and suggests that this may be for the purpose of acquiring food or due to the straffing of the island by our A/C.

DUVIRA CK was evacuated by the Japs on 5 Jan

MOROHE AREA. On 24 and 25 Jan small parties of Japs were reported at KOBO and BAU on south side of WARIA River. Barges were used to land

these troops but numbers and other details are not yet available. A later report states that dumps are established at KORO and BABILI and troops are quartered at SAV. On 26 Jan our A/C attacked and destroyed 4 barges on the South bank of WARIA River.

Natives reports state that other Japs are occupying HORCHE Village North of the River.

SALAMAVA - MUBO - WAU. Enemy patrol activity was noticed in the BITOI R - BLACKCAT - MUBO track area on 21 Jan.

Later reports state that the enemy patrolling is increasing and some large parties appear to be moving in the direction of WAU on the BLACKCAT and WAMPUNE tracks. Our forward patrols report that the total of these enemy patrols approximates 300 to 350 men and the largest party of 160 moved on the BLACKCAT track in parties of 30 at 10 minute intervals.

These patrols are probably for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of our strength and defences at WAU.

MADANG. On 19 Jan our patrol reported that Japs are living at ALXISHAPEE and in villages and plantations within 3 miles radius of MADANG but not in MADANG itself. The same patrol reported a pontoon bridge over the GOGOL River about 10 miles upstream from the Mouth, in the vicinity of SAKIE.

A reliable report on 19 Jan states that enemy patrols were at BUMBUM (80 miles SE of MADANG) and were heading for SAINANTU (75 miles south of MADANG).

The last patrol reported south of MADANG was on 21 Jan when a party of 100 strong, well armed was moving up the RAMU River. Recce A/C failed to locate this patrol.

(b) SEA.

ENEMY.

NEW ZEALAND.

NEW BRITAIN.

There have been no significant changes of shipping in this area during the past week with the exception of a possible A/C Carrier in the harbour. At 1414L/26 an A/C carrier and 2 cruisers were sighted 80 miles SSW of BUKA course 290°. This may be the same one seen in RABAUH Harbour and may have taken A/C reinits to NEW GEORGIA.

The majority of shipping at RABAUH is between FRAED PT and LUNE OF YORKE IS, possibly moved from SIMPSON'S HARBOUR because of the continued bombing by allied aircraft.

The latest photo recce of this shipping made on 22 Jan, reveals the following:-

- 45 merchant vessels (179000 tons)
- 7 destroyers
- 2 patrol craft
- 5 submarines
- 4 tankers

A convoy, consisting of 2 merchant vessels 1 cruiser and 1 destroyer sighted on 21 Jan about 50 miles east of WIDE BAY was not reported again and is presumed to have moved to the SOLOMONS.

On 23 Jan 5 cargo vessels of 2000 and 3000 tons were sighted at intervals between ARAWA and GAMBATA all were stationary.

SOLOMONS.

Little change has taken place in the number of vessels in the SHORTLAND IS area and the total remains at 16 to 17 of all types including approx 11 merchant vessels.

Considerable movement of shipping, mainly destroyers is still taking place throughout the SOLOMONS area.

NEW GUINEA.

On 21 Jan our A/C sighted 3 destroyers and 2 tpts in NIWAK harbour. The convoy was last sighted on 23 Jan 21 miles ENE of NIWAK moving due north at 15 knots.

SUBMARINE SIGHTINGS.

18 Jan	1	ENE of OSEPHY Reef
19 "	1	90 miles NE of WOODLARK IS
20 "	1	85 " NE of TROBRIANES
" "	1	77 " ENE KIRIWINA IS
21 "	1	225 " SSE ROSSEL IS (LOUISIANES)

22 Jan 2 vicinity of entrance to MORESBY Harbour
 22Jan 1 20 miles off CAPE NELSON (TUPI)

Small Craft Coastal Activity. Sightings of moving and stationary craft on the coast between KUMUSI and SALAMAUA are still being reported. It is considered that this activity is concerned mainly with the evacuation of the remnants of the forces defeated in the SAMANANDA area, although some disposition of fresh forces may be taking place at points along the coast.

(c) AIR.
OWN.

The main feature of the week's operations has been the heavy daily bombings of RABAUL and LAE. Normal long range recesses of the sea-lane approaches to NEW GUINEA have been continued and several enemy targets within close range have been struck by A/C on missions in support of the army. Coastal sweeps against the enemysmall craft have been carried out daily.

Every position in the MUBO area have been bombed and strafed three times during the past week. The targets included MAT MAT HILL, GARRISON HILL and MUBO VILLAGE, and on each occasion the enemy L of C to KOMIATUM was strafed. Reported activity of barges and concentration of native craft between KUMUSI and LADU have had the attention of A/C engaged on the daily armed coastal recess and these A/C strafed the SABAMAUA Peninsular.

The enemy dump areas at LAE have been bombed each day and many fires have been started. On 26 Jan the attack of B 25's was preceded by a strafing run at low altitude carried out by BOSTONS.

The continued concentration of shipping in RABAUL Harbour and A/C on the adjacent dromes at LAKUNAI and VANAKANAU, have been attacked by heavy bombers each night. The full result of these strikes has not been observed owing to the large number of searchlights and the intense A/A fire, but 2 vessels of 2,4000 tons were seen to sink following a low altitude skip-bombing run by PORTRESSES and at least 5 ships have sustained hits during other raids. Numerous fires, including one from a large fuel dump at VANAKANAU, have been started in the vicinity of the aerodromes.

ENEMY.

Despite several losses of A/C, enemy air strength in the SWPA is being continually reinforced and increased interception of our A/C has resulted.

There has also been an increase in nuisance raids over MORESBY, MILNE BAY, ORO BAY-BURIA area, and HERRAUKS in DUTCH NEW GUINEA. Recess have also been extended and on 22 and 23 Jan these were carried out to 200 miles south of SAMARAI and to within 450 miles of CAIRNS. These are, no doubt, for the purpose of checking up on our shipping movements in the CORAL SEA.

PORT MORESBY. During the past week the following raids have been made against MORESBY:-

No	Date	Time	A/C	Bombs dropped	Damage	Casualties
99	22	2153L	1	4 to 6	nil	nil
100	23	0300L	unknown	unknown	"	"
101	25	0300L	6	30	some	"
102	26	0237L	2	4	nil	"
103	27	0300L	3	unknown	some	

MILNE BAY. The enemy has persistently raided MILNE BAY since 17 Jan. Raids nos 10 and 11 were reported in summary No 105 and since then the following attacks have been made:-

No	Date	Time	A/C	Bombs dropped	Damage	Casualties
12	20	2115L	10	4	nil	nil
13	21	0135L	unknown	unknown	some	1 slight
14	22	2120L	3	3	nil	nil
15	23	2359L	4	11	nil	slight
16	25	0509L	8	several	slight	"
17	25	0504L	3	6/8	some	nil

All raids were made from a high level, over 10000ft and only on one occasion did planes come down to 11000 ft.

ORO BAY. On night of 22/23 Jan an unknown number of ^{enemy} A/C were active over this area and dropped 12 to 15 bombs in vicinity of EMBOCO CK crossing, 6/8 inland from HARIKO and 12 approx 1/2 mile south

of BAIKONG CRUISE Mouth.

NEW BRITAIN.

RABAU. Use of RAPOPO drone was noticed for first time on 25 Jan when 30 planes believed to be M/B, L/B and D/Ms were on the drone. The number of A/C on LAKUNAI has been reduced by approx 30 and were probably transferred to RAPOPO for dispersal or operational requirements. The sighting of black painted SSP on drone s at rabaul gave rise to the belief that these would be used as night fighters. This is borne out by interception of our A/C on night 23/24 Jan and 24/25 Jan.

WENAK. Our A/C, while seeking a convoy reported to be in this area were intercepted by 25 ZEMES. 12 were shot down and 6 damaged. The sightings of 25 A/C on WENAK drone was referred to in summary no 10E.

EQUIPMENT. (1) The following are preliminary reports on Japanese arty weapons captured at BUNA:-

- (a) 37 mm A/Tk gun (TAISHO II, 1902 model)
 - length of barrel 152cm - 56.5"
 - width of breach ring 14cm - 5.6"
 - thickness front to rear 16cm - 6.2"
 - length of trail 173cm - 67.5"
 - diameter of wheels 91cm - 35.5"
 - height of axle 28cm - 10.9"
 - traverse 45°
 - elevation (?)
 - calibre 37mm - 1.4"
 - length of cartridge to base 16cm - 6.4"
 - diameter of base 5cm - 2.1"
 - width of rim 2mm - .08"

The gun is mounted on a carriage with a split trail and iron shod wooden wheels. It is fitted with a horizontal hand operated sliding breech block.

The range gear and range drum are on the right. Traversing, elevating and sighting gear on the left.

The buffer is beneath the piece and the cradle is pivoted on the axle, and fitted with a traversing arc and pinion forward of the axle which allows for 45° traverse.

The gun is fitted with a small steel shield which has been penetrated, probably by a 37mm fired by our tanks.

- (b) 75 mm Regt'l gun (old 1903 Mtn gun)
 - LENGTH OF BARREL 135 cm - 53.0"
 - Width of breach ring 27 cm - 10.5"
 - Height of breach ring 16 cm - 7.0"
 - Wheel track 92 cm - 35.9"
 - Height of wheels 83 cm - 34.3"
 - Axle to top of barrel 51 cm - 12.1"
 - Length of trail 173 cm - 67.5"
 - Width of trail 60 cm - 23.4"
 - Diameter of trail 8 cm - 3.1"
 - Perch - length (trail) 60 cm - 23.4"
 - Rifling right to left
 - Dim of cartridge case base 9 cm - 3.5"
 - Width of rim 8 cm - 1.2"
 - Length of case from rim 18 cm - 7.0"
 - Length of projectile 30cm - 11.9"
 - Length of fuse 6 cm - 2.5"
 - Calibre 75 mm $\frac{1}{2}$ 2.9"

The gun is mounted on a carriage fitted with wooden wheels with iron rims and a six trail of tubular steele to which is welded a tubular steele perch fitted with a spade. Has a hand operated whelan type breech screw hinged on the right with an extracting principle similar to that of an 18 pr.

The sighting and range gear appear to have been on the left, with two collapsible seats being provided for the crew, seats fold to the centre of the trail when not in use.

The buffer and recuperator is situated in the cradle beneath the piece and are probably spring and oil operated.

The traversing gear was probably on the left and only allowed for a small amount of traverse - probably about 10°.

The amount of elevation could not be determined.

(c) Other weapons captured include a twin-barrelled 13 mm gun, and a single barrel 20 mm gun, both of which are dual purpose AA/A.Tk. Known details of the 20 mm gun are as follows:-

Maximum horizontal range	5,450yds
" vertical range	12,200ft.
Practical rate of fire	120r.p.m.
Muzzle velocity	2,720ft.

TACTICS JAPANESE A/TK MINES.

The mines are laid along the left hand wheel track and spaced irregularly 4 to 10 ft apart. A total of 10 mines were so laid. These were covered with sand and only the igniter showed. Two mines were found beside the road tied to sticks about 7 ft long, presumably for pushing under vehicles. One mine sighted had been run over by a tank but only the detonator had fired, another had exploded and blown the track off a Gen Stuart.

OTHER FRONTS.

BURMA.

ARAKAN AREA. KYAUKAN, 42 miles north by east of AKYAB, was occupied by allied troops who encountered only slight opposition, on 17 Jan.

CHIN HILLS AREA. JAKAWO, 30 miles north of KALEMYO, has been occupied by our forces, no enemy were encountered. However there are further indications to support the presence of a Bn of Japanese located in the KALEMYO area.

MYITKYINA AREA. KACHIN levies claim that 46 casualties have been inflicted on the enemy in the NEOPZUP area. Here the situation is reported to be satisfactory and levies expect to adopt offensive harassing tactics in the near future.

N.E.I.

Japanese naval and merchant shipping activity has shown a definite increase over the last month, and the enemy base at AMBON appears to be the centre of most movement. Photo-recon on 20 Jan reveal the following surface units in AMBON BAY:-

- 1 cruiser 4,000 tons
- 1 tanker 1,300 "
- 9 merchant vessels totalling 8,950 tons
- 4 patrol boats 4/500 tons
- 1 possible sea-plane tender
- 2 merchant vessels 2,500 tons

The allied air force has maintained long range reconnaissance over enemy occupied territory. Attacks on Japanese shipping at AMBON on 21 Jan resulted in one large cruiser, 2 merchant vessels, one 4,000 tons and the other 500 tons, receiving direct hits. *recc.*

TIMOR. In Portuguese TIMOR, widespread burning of villages and small scale actions in the nature of skirmishes by hostile and friendly natives are occurring daily.

Air attacks have been made on numerous enemy occupied towns and villages throughout the area.

KAI ISLANDS. On 19 Jan, TOHAL was attacked, all bombs fell amongst store barracks and buildings east and south of the harbour.

BOEROE ISLAND. Photographs taken to the 16 Jan of MANLEA airfield show the runway in good condition.

SECURITY.

Security and censorship received a setback during the past week and it would appear that offrs and ORs are abandoning security and completely disregarding censorship.

The base censor has been inundated with parcels which contain in many cases, every thing and anything except that which is stated on the declaration of the contents. In effect, many parcels are complete arsenals and canteens. Arms, amm, grenades, clothing, equipment and many cigs of tobacco and cigarettes have been intercepted.

These breaches provide undeniable and concrete proof that offrs and ORs are not "playing the game" and, in some cases are willingly and

wittingly contravening regulations. The impression of the unit censor stamp and the "frank" of the censoring officer is quite clear on the majority of parcels but the contents reveal that sender and franking officer either don't know what is required of them or simply don't care. It is obvious by the cases described, and the number of mail breaches which are still occurring that units still have a long way to go in educating their personnel to a degree of sane and safe "security mindedness".

The result of these breaches too, should be borne in mind. They are unsatisfactory to the sender. In regard to the despatch by mail of arms, amn, equipment and captured material, is leaving himself open to the preferment of disciplinary action and in sending tobacco and cigarettes he is only making a generous contribution to the red cross or patients of the A.G.H; A very good cause but a total loss to the sender with an even chance of committing himself to disciplinary actions.

The following extracts provide an illustration of various ways in which news, views and opinions are conveyed to the mainland.

A private from the D/W workshops discloses the state of affairs which has been mentioned in other mail too often of late:- "I am sending this letter in a green envelope and all that I can in future, as it has come now to the officers discussing our letters between themselves, whilst censoring. Well that has gone too far for most of the boys, and if it had been me that had seen them in the act, I would of up and caused them a bit more trouble, as it is, this morning I had a go in with the W O over it, naturally he made all the excuses about the place. They are always right and you cannot beat them, but why let them have it all their own way, not me!"

The right drill for censoring is that your page should be folded in half from top to bottom or another sheet of paper covering half of the page on one side, and just glance down the side of the uncovered part for any words such as names of places etc., and then if anything is found the whole of that paragraph can be read and censored if necessary.

The following extracts written by a member of a Pd Amb might explain where valuable is lost to intelligence:- "We had about 30 jap prisoners wounded through our hands and of course I went through their 'kicks' and got a few souvenirs, papers, money, a few coins and a compass attached to a wrist watch".

An officer of the Pd Amb graphically describes enemy air action, mentions number of casualties and names:- "On arriving back at the MDS, I was confronted by a sickening scene. Our people sick, wounded, MOs, orderleys had been given a terrific plastering with 5 anti-personnel bombs, machine gun fire and cannon fire. Worst of all, we lost 2 MOs, Maj ---- who was at ---- whilst I was at ---- and also Maj ----, a fine chap from ----. In all, 27 were killed and as many wounded. It was deliberate on the Japs part, as they must have seen our large red cross on the ground and flag flying. I understand they also gave our A.G.H. and C.C.S. at ---- a doing".

JAPANESE NATIONAL HOLIDAYS, FESTIVALS AND ANNIVERSARIES.

There is evidence that Japanese operations are sometimes effected by anniversaries and other national festivals, which are, in general, observed with rather more particularity than is usual amongst western nations. On the other hand, some holidays may be observed among operational units by granting leave and a general tendency towards relaxation; on the other hand, some festivals are (e.g. navy day, national aviation day and emperor's birthday) may give rise to a desire to provide striking war news either before the day or on the day itself. For example, national aviation day in 1941 was marked by a distinct increase of air effort in CHINA.

The following dates in the Japanese calendar, the most important known as "SHIDAISETSU" are underlined. March 6, March 28, April 3 and April 29 are usually marked by an elaborate review at the YOYOGI parade ground, TOKYO.

<u>1 Jan</u>	SHINOHAI	Universal worship
<u>3 Jan</u>	OMISHIMAI	New year's festival
5 Jan	SHINJEN	ENKAI New year's banquet
7 Jan	WAKANA-NO-SERIKU	Early herb fate
8 Jan		beginning of the Army

<u>11 Feb</u>	<u>KIGENSETSU</u>	Empire day, and anniversary of accession of the emperor JIMMU.
5 Mar	NOMO-NOSEKKU	Peach festival
6 Mar	CHIKU SEISU	Birthday of the Empress
10 Mar	RIKUGUNKINENBI	Army day
21 Mar	SHUNKIKOREIZAI	Spring equinox
3 Apr	JIMMU TENNO SAI	Anniversary of the ^{death} emperor JIMMU
8 Apr		Birthday of Buddha
<u>29 Apr</u>	<u>TENCHOSETSU</u>	" " <u>Emperor HIROHITO</u>
<u>30 Apr</u>	<u>YASUKUNI SHRINE</u>	Festival
5 May	SHOBI-NOSEKKU	Iris festival
27 May	KAIGUN KINENBI	Navy day
7 July		Anniversary of the commencement of the China incident.
13, 14 and 15 Jul	O-Bon.	Buddhist festival of the year. Analogous to ALL.
15 Jul		Souls day in belief and ceremony.
6 Sep	KIKU-NO-SEKKU	Chrysanthemum fete
20 Sep		National aviation day
24 Sep	SHUKIKOREIZAI	Autumn equinox
17 Oct	KANNAMESAI	Harvest festival
23 Oct	YASUKUNI SHRINE	Festival
<u>3 Nov</u>	<u>MEIJISETSU</u>	Birthday of the emperor Meiji and Meiji shrine festival.
23 Nov	SHINNAHESAI	Harvest festival
23 Dec	TAISHO TENNOSAI	Anniversary of the death of emperor TAISHO.

G. M. Jones Capt.
 I.O. 7 Aust Inf Bde.
 5 Feb 45.

7 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 7
Compiled from information in H.C.F. Summary No107
From 1200 hrs 27 Jan 43 To 1200 hrs 3 Feb 43.

SUMMARY OF ENEMY MOVEMENTS

AU

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STRENGTH

SEA.

During the past week there has been a decrease in shipping concentrations at RABAU and an increase in BUIN-PAISA area, but the total strength in the area NEW GUINEA - SOLOMONS has not materially changed. As all recent reports of RABAU have been from visual recon, insufficient detail, to draw significant conclusions, has been obtained.

Small convoys were sighted at WEWAK on 28 and 31 Jan; these, added to the previous convoy of 21 Jan, indicate the continued development of WEWAK as a base.

The fact that the vessels sighted at WEWAK came from the north and not from RABAU, suggests the decentralisation of shipping control previously exercised by RABAU and the possibility that another formation outside the NE sector is interested in the AITAPE - WEWAK area.

AIR.

No significant change in air strength has been noted during the past week but no recent photo recon have been carried out over the RABAU area.

Although the enemy has considerable bomber and fighter strength in NEW BRITAIN and NEW IRELAND, no attempt at interception of our tpt A/C proceeding to WAU or our bomber missions over LAE or SALAMUA has been made to date. The enemy may be conserving A/C strength for some future operation but it is felt that the present allied aerial superiority is acting as a deterrent.

A study of enemy air recon activity has revealed a marked change in policy. Prior to 30 Jan, recon were confined to SE NEW GUINEA and the adjacent islands but from 30 Jan to include 2 Feb they covered the SOLOMON group and eastern CORAL SEA to an area 400 miles south of GHADALCANAL.

OPERATIONS (a) LAND OWN and ENEMY

GONA- KUMUBI. Allied patrols continue to pursue the disorganised Jap parties which are attempting to get through the KUMUBI and OPI districts.

It was estimated that the Jap refugee parties totalled 500 to 600. During the week under review at least 134 of these have been killed and 5 captured. Offensive action against these enemy parties, is being taken by a number of PIB and US patrols. The latter are each 50 strong - one is moving NW along the coastal track and the other via SABAIR to DEUNIA. In addition, one Coy of a US In has been sent to secure the mouth of KUMUBI river.

The 100/150 enemy troops who have already reached the coastal area are offering resistance at BAKUMBARI, but it is likely that they will be evacuated if Jap barges can succeed in eluding our shore patrols and PT bouts.

MOROBE AREA. Enemy were reported south of the WARIA River between the WARIA estuary and KOSO. Some were also in the vicinity of BAU on the isthmus formed by LAKE INLET. This force reported on 29 Jan to number 200, was patrolling in the vicinity but was apparently taking no steps to fortify their positions. Subsequently enemy were also reported to be living in the vicinity of ZAKA and DONA OK.

On 1 Feb it was reported that reinftr were arriving nightly by barge, but as no increase in strength has been mentioned, it is probable that the barges carried supplies.

WAU - MUBO Following considerable patrol activity from MUBO in the direction of BLACKCAT and WANDUMI the enemy launched an attack at 0445 L/28. This attack, directed at our positions in the WANDUMI area was preceded by MG and mortar fire, and after holding up the enemy for 24 hrs, two of our coys were overrun.

Coordinated with his frontal attack the enemy sent forces

round both our flanks and by night fall small parties had succeeded in reaching WAU Valley.

During the morning 29 Jan the enemy estimated at 300/500 was forcing our positions and large numbers were again by passing. Our force in this area was not in sufficient strength to beat off the enemy and were ultimately overwhelmed.

On 29 Jan Aust reinforcements were flown into WAU, meanwhile the enemy appeared to have consolidated in the CRYSTAL CK area.

At 0630L/30 the enemy launched an attack on WAU drome and succeeded in reaching a point 400 yards from his objective. There he was held and later driven back to the CRYSTAL CK area. Of his original strength in the attack estimated at one Bn 102 Regt and one Coy 51 Engr Regt he suffered at least 250 casualties. Further Aust reinforcements include a section of arty, landed 30 Jan, temporarily assisted in completing the enemy's withdrawal, and by 1800L/30 our dispositions were as follows:-

- (a) Two coys holding area one mile from CRYSTAL CK (b) Two Bns less three Coys responsible for defence of drome. (c) Two coys BLACKCAT. (d) One coy at WAIPALI. (e) One sectn Fd arty in drome area.

During the evening 30 Jan and night 30/31 Jan there were indications that the enemy was working NW along BULOLO CK.

On 31 Jan troops began active patrolling and cleared the enemy from the area WAU - CRYSTAL CK thence NE to BULOLO River.

By 1800L/1 our force was considerably reinforced and now consisted of 1 Aust Inf Bde, 3 indep Coys, 1 tp Arty, 1 bty AA, 1 Coy MG and auxiliary troops.

During 31 Jan - 3 Feb further casualties, 70/80 killed, were inflicted on the enemy who at 1200L/3 appeared to be concentrated in parties of 50/60 covering all tracks in the area CRYSTAL CR - WANDUMI. At this stage some of our patrols were covering, in force, all the enemy's lines of withdrawal whilst others with arty and MMG support were attacking from the North and NW.

In the MUBO area on 29 Jan one coy forced the enemy to withdraw from house proper and moved forward to WARBAINING. On 1/2 Feb several small parties of enemy were observed in this area but no contact has yet been made.

No activity has been reported from BLACKCAT but action continues generally throughout the area with the enemy temporarily on the defensive.

- (b) SEA* (SEE PAGE 1)
- (c) Air.
- OWN.

There have been comparatively few strikes during the past week. The main features of the operations have been:-

- (a) Direct and indirect air support for our own troops in the WAU area.
- (b) Night attacks against RABAUL by heavy bombers.
- (c) Fighter cover for transport planes to WAU.

Since major operations commenced in the WAU area indirect air support has been given by allied planes by bombing and strafing the enemy L of C in the area MUBO - SALAMAUA. Continued attacks by light bombers are considered to have caused considerable damage to enemy stores and installations in this valley and a close check on any possible movement has been maintained by armed recon. On 30 Jan Beau fighters gave direct support by strafing the enemy which was withdrawing towards CRYSTAL CK, causing heavy casualties.

Flying fortresses carried out 4 raids on RABAUL, the targets being SIMPSONS harbour, wharf installations at LAKUNAI and VUNAKANAU aerodromes. The intensity of the searchlights prevented detailed observation being made, but one ship was seen to be hit, and fires were caused in the wharf and town areas. Fragmentation bombs were used in the strike against the aerodromes and all fell in the dispersal bays or along the runways.

Two strikes only were made against LAE this week and on each occasion bombs fell in the target area causing explosions which were followed by fierce fires.

Long range recon A/C have been active during the week, and in the course of their patrols have bombed the towns of WEWAK and MEDANG and also a number of enemy landing strips on the New Britain coastline.

ORGANISATION. (1).

Captured documents reveal that at 5 Oct 42, 3 Coy, 51 engr regt consisted of 4 pls and HQ section, a total strength of 259.

Embarkation table date d 1 Jan shows the same organisation of total strength 210.

(2). Embarkation table dated 1 Jan shows following strength 102 Inf regt.

HQ 102 Inf Regt	161
3 Coy 1 Bn 102 Regt	155
11 Coy 3 Bn " "	161
12 Coy 3Bn " "	151

(3) Undated extract from captured note book states armament of 2Bn, 14 Pd Arty Regt as :- 1 Bty - 4 Mortars, 2 Bty - 2 mountain guns.

CENSORSHIP.

A decrease from 15% to 8% in the quantity of parcels bearing censorable contents has been noticed during the past week. This can be largely attributed to the publication of an article in guinea gold outlining the danger to operations, personnel and tpt by the inclusion of explosives and other eqpt, and requesting the co-operation of all troops in this matter. The results gained indicate that many personnel must have been completely ignorant of the postal regulations.

R. J. S. Jones Capt.
L.O. 7 Aust Inf Bde.
19 Feb 43.

JF/WEM (10/2)

SECRET

Ref No M. 173

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

10 Feb 43.

Subject : HOSTILE LANDINGS . MILNE BAY
WARNINGS AND ILLUMINATION

5 Aust Div.
 Copy to 29 Aust Inf Bde.
 " " Comd.
 → War Diary (2)
 File.

1. It may be anticipated that, even although the weather is unfavourable and visibility limited, air search and outlying observers will reveal the movement of hostile convoys towards this area. Jap movements towards New Guinea have invariably taken place under low cloud ceiling but have always been reported by recce aircraft and spotter stations. Thus when landing was made at GONA on night 21/22 July, the position of Jap convoy was reported throughout the daylight hours of 21 July to Milne Force H.Q. When the attack was made on MILNE BAY in Aug 42, the enemy were reported at 0930 hrs 25 Aug at 151°37' E 08°40' S and at 1040 hrs at 09°00' S 151°45' E. A report timed 1545 hrs placed the convoy 10 miles S. of Normanby Island. Course and speed indicated arrival in Milne Bay in the hours of darkness but no precise information could thereafter be gained as to number and position of hostile landings.

2. Movement into MILNE BAY in the hours of darkness can now be ascertained by defence lights and patrol craft, none of which were available in the operations of Aug-Sept. The R.A.A.F. crash launch fitted with wireless was used but was destroyed. Information can now be obtained in sequence by the following means:

- (a) Aircraft recce and spotter observations.
- (b) Patrol boats and defence lights.
- (c) Beach lights and flares.

3. In the event of defence lights being destroyed by hostile action during the initial penetration of the bay and if patrol boats have been sunk, beach lights and flares are the only remaining aids. So long as defence lights remain in action and particularly if the light in the K.B. MISSION area can function as a sentry beam directed towards LALAVA IS, beach lights and flares should NOT be employed. These should be used when it is evident that one or more landings are imminent on the beach between the limits of MAIWARA RIVER mouth and RABI. It is submitted that control be effected by installation of a signal post on HIWOLA IS. so placed that it can observe towards LAU LAU IS. and MAIWARA RIVER mouth. A prearranged signal by lamp could then be made towards the beach and so timed as to set all beach lights between MAIWARA RIVER mouth and LAU LAU IS. in operation when hostile barges have closed to within 1000 yards of the beach.

4. For the sector between LAU LAU IS. and RABI a signal post working on similar lines might be installed near the GAMA RIVER mouth. It is for consideration whether an inlying patrol boat furnished with signal lamp should operate off shore in this sector in order to obtain correctly timed action with beach lights. Even on very dark nights observers in such a launch or on the small islands in the bay can see a considerable distance when all shore lights are suppressed.

5. The premature operation of beach lights may reveal the general limits of the defensive area and thus give time for evasive action of his barge formations and harassing fire on F.D.Ls from his supporting warships. He will be denied an opportunity for the latter if lights are NOT switched on until his barge formations have closed a distance to the beach where supporting fire from ships will only endanger his own troops. Surprise effect of the lights will also be much greater. Flares should also be reserved for close range work.

6. It has previously been suggested that a suitable star shell for use with 3.7" A.A. guns would be of service in bridging the possible gap between loss of defence lights and the switching on of beach lights.

7. 7 Aust Inf Bde trials with beach lights have shown that these are effective to seaward for a distance of 1200 yards on a clear dark night with a S.E. wind. Rain would reduce the visibility.

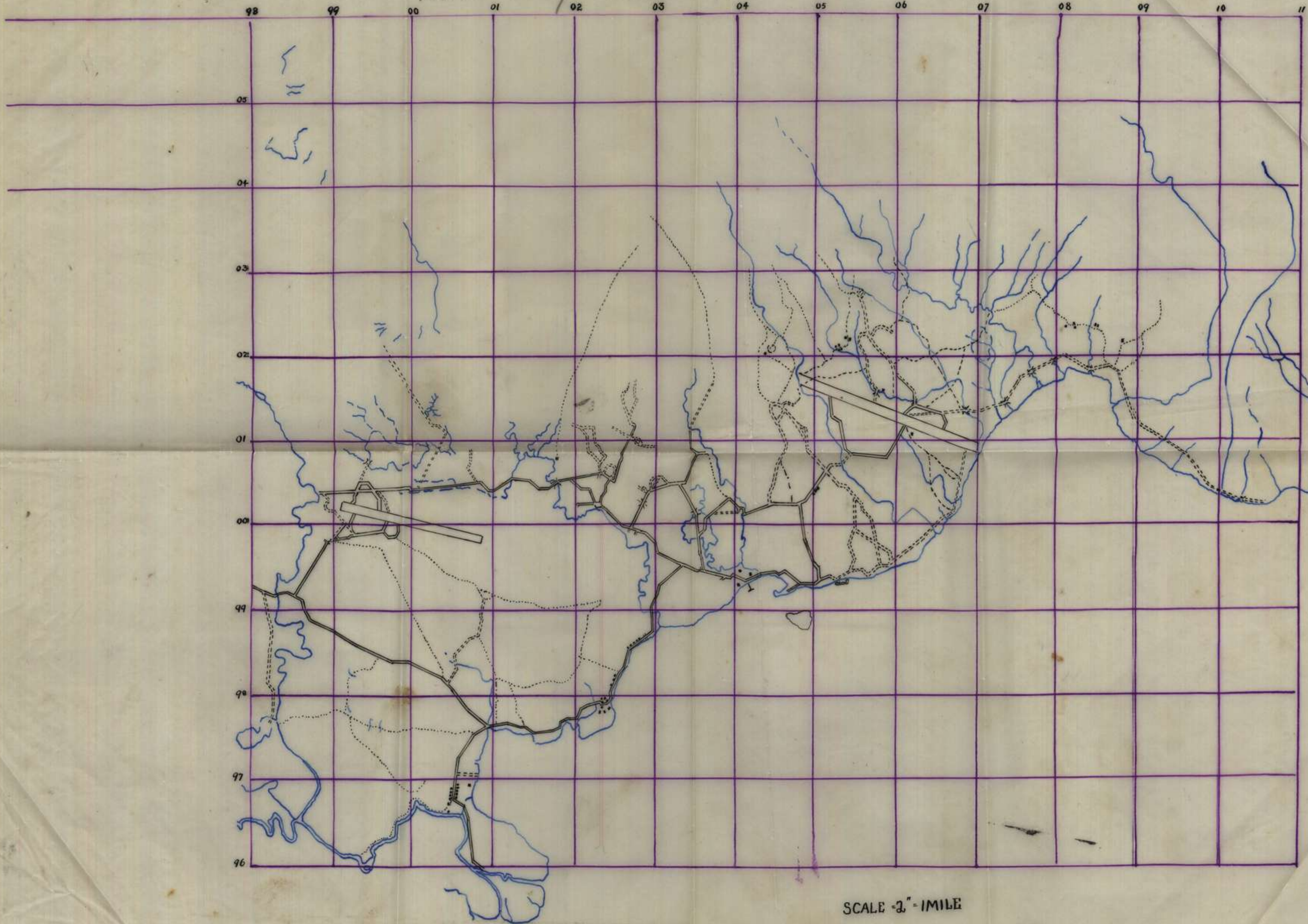
Reports of a trial made in the GABA GABUNA bay area were forwarded to H.Q. MILNE FORCE on 7 Nov (7 Aust Inf Bde SM.122). It has been found that the light should be within voice control distance of the M.M.G. or gun section comd. The configuration of the beach and the lines of the forward wire have therefore regulated the placing of the B.E.L's but where possible they have been sited to illuminate an arc to seaward, working from the general fixed line of the M.M.G. section which they serve. Lights so placed are not always in the best position for beach guns and where possible these should have a B.E.L. under control of gun crew.

8. It is submitted that the arcs on which the B.E.L's operate should be regulated by stops in order to prevent traverse over a wide front. Where possible, artificial defilade in the form of a log housing has been built but some of these could be altered to advantage. These housings were built to give some protection against the small arms fire from assault boats accompanying enemy barges.

9. Lights on LAU LAU IS require particular attention in the control of arcs as otherwise there is a risk of interfering with the vision of beach gun and Bofors gun crews on the adjacent beach front.

John Field Brig.
Comd. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

Milne Bay Prov. 1402.



SCALE - 3" = 1 MILE

7 AUST INF BDE TNG INSTN No 12

1. Time available for tng.

(a) 9 and 61 bns will be called upon to supply working parties in alternate weeks, thus leaving every second week free for uninterrupted tng. Schedule is here set out:-

PERIOD	WORKING PARTIES (W) or TNG (T)	
	9 Bn	61 Bn
0600 to 0600		
10 Feb - 15 Feb	W	T
15 Feb - 22 Feb	T	W
22 Feb - 1 Mar	W	T
1 Mar - 8 Mar	T	W
8 Mar - 15 Mar	W	T
15 Mar - 22 Mar	T	W
22 Mar - 29 Mar	W	T

(b) In "working party" weeks per NOT required for working parties will be actively trained.

2. Hours of tng.

1st week : 36 hrs
2nd week : 42 hrs
3rd week : 48 hrs
(and following)

3. Nature of tng.

(i) Type of tng	Hours allotted		
	1st week	2nd week	3rd week
(a) Drill	3½	3½	1½
(b) Weapon tng and S.A. practices	8½	8½	8½
(c) Individual tng.	6	6	6
(d) Night tng.	6	6	6
(e) Tactical tng.	12	18	26
TOTAL	36	42	48

(ii) (a) Close order drill : Pl inspection and drill for 15 mins each morning whether unit is engaged on tng or working parties. During first two tng weeks one hr per morning on two days per week, close order drill by coys.

(b) Weapon tng : (Note Appx D, A.T.M. 14). All inf weapons, incl A.Tk mines and explosives. Especially those weapons with which units have recently been equipped, or are about to be equipped (e.g. 2" mortar, Owen S.M.G., 2 pdr A.Tk gun). Particular attention will be given to maintenance of weapons in tropical climate and to rectifying stoppages. Assault courses will be laid out and tps trained in firing from the hip and firing from behind trees with rifles and bren guns. Use of all grenades, incl throwing and firing live grenades, will be taught. Special emphasis will be laid on judging distance, indication and recognition of targets, range cards (where suitable) and fire control. Each man will fire a controlled practice once a week.

(c) Individual tng : Individual tng must be continued throughout tactical tng and forms a large part of night tng. The following subjects (with references) are particularly suited to tng for tropical warfare:-

Subject	References
1. Fieldcraft	Inf Minor Tactics; M.T.P. 33
2. Concealment and Camflg from ground and air.	M.T.P. 33 A.T.M. 6 Part II Para 19 " 8 Para 10 Part II Para 2 " 11 Para 22 " 12 Part II Para 12 " 13 Part I Para 8 " 15 Part I Paras 3, 4 " 16 Part I Para 2; Appx K.
3. Stalking and Sniping	A.T.M. 13 Appx B " 15 Para 16 " 16 Part IV Para 37
4. Scouting and Observation tng	M.T.P. 33 A.T.M. 9 Para II A.T.M. 16 Appx L
5. Keeping direction and inter-comm in jungle	M.T.P. 33
6. Use of compass prismatic	Inf Minor Tactics A.T.M. 13 Supplement
7. Messages and Reports	Inf Minor Tactics M.T.P. 33 A.T.M. 4 Part III - B Para 13 A.T.M. 16 Part III Para 26 A.T.M. 13 Supplement P.A.G.; JAP Army C.W. A.T.M. 8 Part I Para 13; Part III Para 12 " 11 Para 21 " 16 Part III Para 25
8. Map reading	
9. Anti-gas tng.	
10. Eqpt for jungle movt.	Local experience and experiment
11. Scaling and crossing Obstacles - tree climbing - use of rope ladders and cargo nets - lashing and improvised ladders	Inf Minor Tactics A.T.M. 8 Para 25 A.T.M. 9 Para 24 A.T.M. 16 Appx B
12. Crossing streams - rafts and floats	M.T.P. 23 Part VIII A.T.M. 12 Appx K A.T.M. 16 Appx B
13. Use of local materials - revetting - shelters	
14. Fd works and protective wiring (inspection of well laid out posts)	Inf Minor Tactics A.T.M. 15 Para 6
15. Unarmed combat	
16. Swimming	A.T.M. 6 Para 2 A.T.M. 7 Para 17 A.T.M. 16 Para 11
17. Illustrated lecturettes on JAP tactics and weapons.	A.T.M.'s 10, 11, 14, 15, 16
18. Handling of P.O.Ws	

(d) Night tng : Night tng will be organized in light of MILNE BAY experience that movt by night in jungle warfare must be restricted. Night tng will be carried out on suitable terrain - e.g. plantation or cleared areas. A.T.M. 11 para 19 gives suitable subjects. (Other refs are M.T.P. 33; A.T.M. 12 Para 44; A.T.M. 15 Para 9; A.T.M. 16 Part II Para 14). Chief importance will be laid on handling weapons by night; silent movt; detection of enemy movt; keeping direction and intercomm; protection by night. During night tng anti-malarial precautions must NOT be relaxed.

(e) Tactical Tng. Tactical tng will be combined with progressively longer marches. These must NOT be mere route marches but will be tactical moves with situations requiring decisions and action by junior leaders. Suitable subjects for minor tactical tng are set out below. (A.T.M. 4 Appx 'F' gives a useful index to pns on inf tactics up to Nov 1941. Many important pamphlets have been issued since).

Subject	References
1. Formations adapted to jungle (Sec and Pl)	Inf Minor Tactics pp 81 - 88
2. "Gp organization of sec"	A.T.M. 11 p. 41
3. Sec Stalk	M.T.P. 33 sec 27
4. Infiltration	Inf Minor Tactics Chap XVIII A.T.M. 11 p.41
5. Fire and movt (sec and pl)	A.T.M. 11 p. 41
6. Mopping up (sec and pl) - ("mock up" JAP pillboxes and fd defs.)	A.T.M. 12 Appx 'R'
7. Preparation and conduct of ambush (sec and pl).	Inf Minor Tactics p. 115 A.T.M. 10 pp 12, 14, 20.
8. Cross country moves (sec and pl), incl outflanking and striking back to axis of adv.	
9. Tank hunting	M.T.P. 42 A.T.M. 1 Appx 'D' A.T.M. 4 para 5
10 Siting and lay-out of fd defs	A.T.M. 13 p 23 7 Bde instn "Layout of sec posts (10 Nov 42)
11 Patrolling - recce standing fighting	A.T.M. 7 p 23 A.T.M. 9 pp 26 - 31 A.T.M. 10 pp 14 - 15 A.T.M. 11 p 37 M.T.P. 33 sec 28 Inf Minor Tactics pp 102-108, 163
12 Raid on a village	Inf Minor Tactics A.T.M. 2 Appx 'B' M.T.P. 33
13 Perimeter def of night biv.	
14 Carriage of weapons, eqpt and amm.	
15 Amm sup for all inf weapons - theory and practice.	
16 Pl "Free for all" (4th week)	A.T.M. 4 Appx 'B'

4. Organization for tng.

(a) Success of tng programme depends on thorough preparation. Fullest use must be made of instructors who have recently passed through schools. "Working party" week will be used for preparation of following week's lessons and exercises. Ingenuity must be used to making tng lively, stimulate interest and enthusiasm, and overcome inertia.

(b) Detailed syllabus for each week's work (incl all "specialists" pls) will reach this H.Q. (in 2 copies) by 1800 hrs on previous Friday.

5. Coy bivouacs and tng.

Bns will arrange for coys in turn to make three (3) days tng bivouac on plateau above MAPO in second and third weeks of tng.

6. Classes for N.C.O's and potential N.C.O's

During tng weeks N.C.O's will be with their own sub-units. During "working party" weeks, while all parties must have due proportion of offr's and N.C.O's, advantage will be taken of all opportunities to hold classes for N.C.O's and potential N.C.O's.

7. T.E.W.T's

Units will conduct fortnightly one T.E.W.T. for offrs (on counter-attack roles) and one T.E.W.T. for sgts (general tactical tng). Details of proposed T.E.W.T's will be submitted with tng syllabus.

ACK.

Signed at 1930 hrs.

Issued by L.O's.

J. Mahony Maj.
Bde Maj. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No	1 - 10	9 Bn
	11 - 20	61 Bn
	21	25 Bn
	22	4 bty 101 A.Tk Regt
	23	Comd.
24 - 25		B.M.
26 - 30		Staff
	31	5 Aust Div for infm
	32	29 Aust Inf Bde for infm.
33 - 34		War Diary
35 - 36		File
37 - 40		Spare.

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted)
(Page 1)

SERIAL No 7
WE Ref AMF
11/2/3
WE 12 + 60
WE(alt) 5 + 121

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

13 Feb 1943

A.P. 7 Aust Inf Bde (Unit)

PART A—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
BRIGADIERS	1 *		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		1
Captains	2		3
Lieutenants	4	1	1
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters			
Totals	8	1	5

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
CAPT	JACKSON W J E	HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde	6.2.43	To First Aust Army Junior Staff School

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
CAPT	JACKSON W J E	HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde	6.2.43	To First Aust Army Junior Staff School

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank	Name and Initials	Corps	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)
CAPT	JACKSON W. J. E.	HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde	As above.

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers Posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A.)

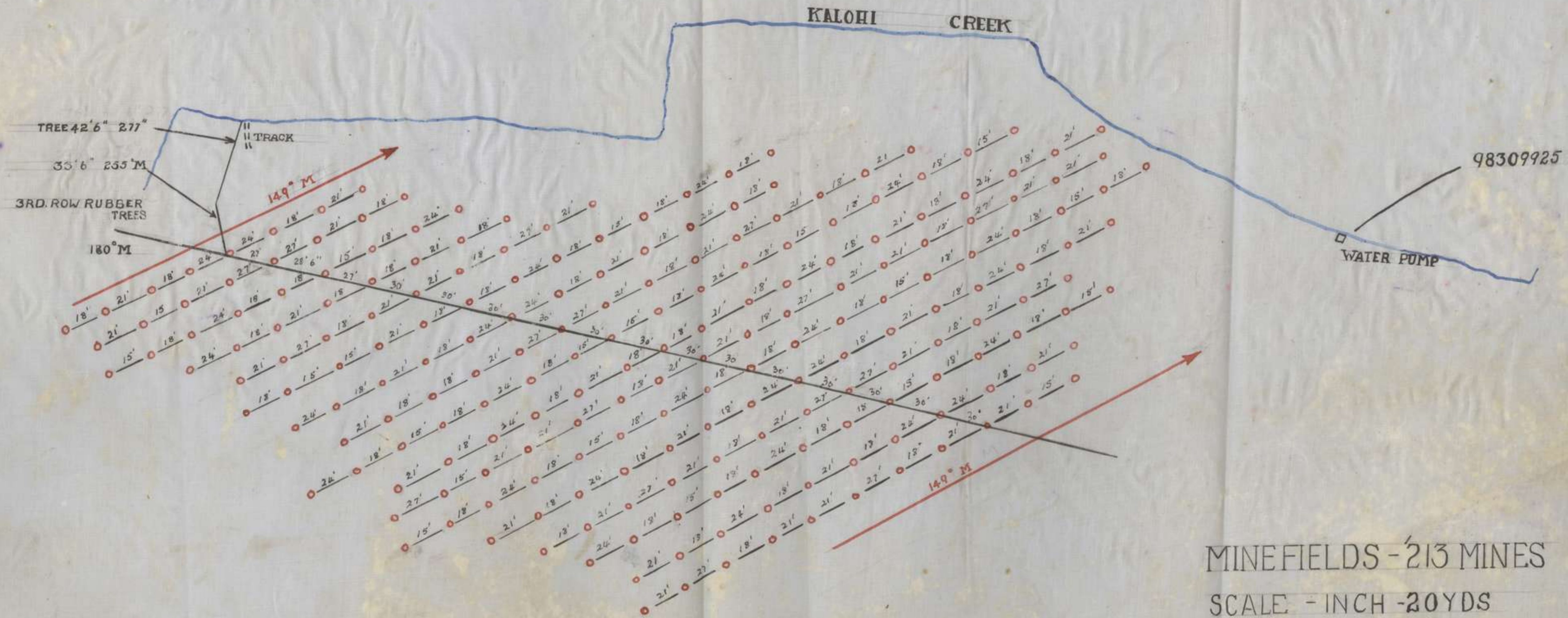
1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Appointment Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
1st Lt T/Brig	TX 20021	FIELD J	Bde Comd	Yes	
Capt T/Brig	D 15602	MAHONEY J E	B.M.	"	
1st Lt T/Brig	D 21972	MATHISON T W	L.D.1	"	
"	D 21661	MC INNES R D	E.O.	"	
1st Lt	OX 40880	KREBS A A	S.C.	"	
"	OX 40836	RADFORD J P	L.O.2	"	
"	OX 40881	SHACKBURN ST	L.O.3	No	AWOL Conference
"	OX 38334	WOOD H A	Amun D	yes	NGF T/Brig Centre
<u>Officers attached from Other Corps</u>					
1st Lt T/Brig	D 44289	NELSON C A	AASC	3ASCO	Yes
1st Lt	D 44287	COOK R M	AAME	4th Bn	"
Chaplain	BY 44217	COUPE C T C	AACHD	2nd Bn	"
"	D 123369	KOBENSTKAR J M	"	3rd Bn	"
"	D 123505	JAMES G	"	6th Bn	"
1st Lt	D 257	GRAHAM E T	YMCA	"	No
1st Lt T/Brig	D 440291	CAYANAGH W O	AAME	Dentist	No

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Date of attachment	Nature of attachment
<i>as above</i>					

NO. 7 Aust Inf Bde
(Unit)
19 Feb 43
(Date of Despatch)

[Signature]
(Signature of Commander)
5 Aust Bn
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving)



MINEFIELDS - 213 MINES
 SCALE - INCH - 20 YDS

LOCATION STATEMENT.7 Aust Inf BdeAs at 2359 hrs L/15

UNIT	REF No.	LOCATION	REF MAP	COMN	REMARKS.
H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.	88	983993	M Bay Prov	Div switch.	No 2.
'J' Sec Sigs	"	"	"	"	"
Besch 7 Aust Inf Bde	"	974995	"	L/T	"
241 L.A.D.	"	"	c"	"	"
9 Aust Inf Bn HQ.	53	981992	"	7 Bde switch	"
H.Q. Coy	"	981991	"	L.T B.H.Q.	"
AA Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
Sigs Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Mortar Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Adm Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Pioneer Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Carrier Pl	"	"	"	"	"
A Coy HQ.	"	997991	"	L/ T to B.H.Q.	"
7 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
8 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
9 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
B Coy HQ.	"	986991	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
10 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
11 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
12 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
C Coy Hq.	"	982925	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
13 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
14 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
15 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
D Coy HQ	"	982989	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
16 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
17 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
18 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
E Coy HQ.	"	981991	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
19 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
20 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
21 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
25 Aust Inf Bn Rear HQ.	50	999008	"	L/T H.Q. Coy 61 Bn	"
61 Aust Inf Bn HQ.	99	001008	"	7 Bde Switch.	"
HQ Coy.	"	999008	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
Sigs Pl	"	"	"	Through H.Q. Coy	"
AA Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Mortar Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Pioneer Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Adm Pl	"	"	"	"	"
Carrier Pl	"	"	"	"	"
A Coy. H.Q.	"	003001	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
7 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
8 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
9 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
B Coy HQ.	"	005008	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
10 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
11 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
12 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
C Coy HQ.	"	007006	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
13 Pl	"	"	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
14 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
15 Pl	"	"	"	"	"
D Coy HQ	"	994997	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"
16 Pl 2 Sec 19 Pl 1 Det 3	"	M 989002	"	Through Coy HQ.	"
17 Pl 1 Det M3 1 Sec 19 Pl	"	003996	"	"	"
18 Pl	"	006996	"	"	"
E Coy HQ. & 20 Pl	"	998008	"	L/T to B.H.Q.	"

21 Pl 2 Det 3"M	99	013014	M Bay Prov	Through Coy HQ.	
			No 2		
4 Bty 101 A/Tk Regt	62				
Bty HQ.	62	022007	"	29 Bde Switch.	
A Tp	"	981992	"	D.R.L.S.	
B Tp	"	022007	"	Through Bty HQ.	
C Tp	"	"	"	"	
D Tp	"	047001	"	D.R.L.S.	Under Comd 29 Aust Inf Bde.

W. A. Jones Capt.,
I.O. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

7AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 8.

Compiled from information in N.G.F. Summary No 108
From 1200 hrs 3 Feb 43 To 1200 hrs 10 Feb 43.

SUMMARY OF ENEMY MOVEMENTSandSIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STRENGTH.SEA.

No change of any import has occurred in the amount of shipping tonnage in RABAU. On 2 Feb there were 5 Naval vessels and 36 Merchant vessels totalling some 164,000 tons in the harbour.

KAVIENG continues to be used as a staging base of medium importance.

Evacuation or partial reinforcements of GUADALCANAL has apparently been successfully carried out by a force of 17 destroyers. There is reason to believe the former course has been taken.

AIR.

Enemy air effort has been confined to the expensive attempt to damage WAU drome on 6 Feb.

LAND.

A series of attacks on a company scale have been made on enemy positions south and SE of WAU resulting in the enemy being cleared back WANDUMI.

An unconfirmed report from native sources state that by 6 Feb 1500/2000 Japanese had arrived at LAE and MADANG. There is reason to assume that these troops have been flown in by tpt A/C.

The enemy in MAROBE area has been showing increased activity lately. 400 Japanese are now reported to be in the vicinity of the WARIA R mouth - with stragglers from SANANANDA this force might be now between 5/600 strong.

OPERATIONS.(a) LAND. OWN. ENEMY.GONA - KUMUSI.

In reaching a point 6 miles North of BAKUNBARI, allied inf supported by arty have made a substantial advance and now threaten KUMUSI. Determined resistance at BAKUNBARI village was overcome on 6 Feb by an encircling movement.

The US patrol which covered the inland route ERUGATA - SENINI returned to the coastal area without having met any enemy in force.

Along the KUMUSI, PIB ambushed a party of the enemy on rafts and inflicted 75 casualties. Some of the enemy succeeded in escaping and later were reported having reached the OPI River.

In the whole area the enemy appears to be desperate in his attempts to escape to comparative safety in the vicinity of MAMBARE R. At KUMUSI a large number have moved from KUREMADA to DELTA IS. More than 200 enemy casualties have been reported during the last week.

MOROBE AREA.

Further enemy reinfts have been reported in this area, and the total strength is now estimated at 5/600. Reports 9 Feb indicate the enemy occupation of DONA L/G and the building of fd works south of the WARIA R between KOBO and SAPPA. The enemy are most alert with sentries posted and have placed the general area WARIA Mouth out of bounds to natives.

In contrast they are attempting to obtain confidence of natives to assist in giving infm regarding the WARIA villages - GARAINA in particular - also about allied tp movements in this area.

They have informed the natives that they rely on submarine and barge activity for supplies but are expecting the arrival of a supply vessel.

WAU - MUBO.

In the WAU area the main activity has consisted of determined coy attacks on enemy positions in conjunction with extensive patrolling. The enemy attempted 2 or 3 isolated thrusts but were unsuccessful and have been slowly forced back to the south and SE.

On 8 Feb the main concentration of Japs appeared to be on the East side of the BULOLO R vicinity junction of CRYSTAL CK and BULOLO R.

During the morning of 9 Feb this force was withdrawn through WANDUMI along the new Jap track in the general direction of WAIPALI. It succeeded in invading our forces on the L of C but suffered heavy casualties when engaged by arty.

In the BALLAMS - WANDUMI - BLACKCAT area our patrols are very active and appeared to have effectively disrupted the enemy L of C blocking any major attempt to bring up supplies. Several contacts were made along the new track cut by the enemy.

Further to the East our patrols have prepared defensive positions and are now in control of the track junction WAIPALI - BUIBAINING. Strong enemy parties have been observed in the vicinity of WAIPALI but no contact has been made.

MARKHAM. Inconclusive reports have been received of enemy in strength in the NADZAB - YALU area.

No further infm has been received of the Jap patrol which left KAIAPIT in the direction of LAE.

MADANG - WEWAK.

In conjunction with indications of the arrival of considerable reinforcements incl elements of 20 Div and 41 Div, a marked increase in drome activity has been observed at MADANG, ALEXISHAVEN and WEWAK.

(b) SEA ENEMY.

A destroyer convoy of 17 ships which was attacked ^{by} A/C in the afternoon of 4 Feb was reported entering SHORTLAND Harbour at 1000 L/5 Feb thus completing two trips between the BUIN - FAISI area and the GUADALCANAL during the period 2/5 Feb. 17 enemy destroyers were again reported entering SHORTLAND Harbour at 0730 L/8 Feb, so it can be assumed that still a further trip had been made. At the same time 17 Naval and Merchant vessels were observed in the TONOLEI area, south BOUGAINVILLE. It is not known if these destroyers were for evacuation or reinforcement. There have been strong indications that the Japanese are evacuating their depleted forces.

There has been no latest sighting of RABAU base shipping since the photo-recce on 2 Feb. There was not a complete sighting however, owing to the partial obstruction by cloud, the following vessels were revealed:-

- 1 Possible Battleship
- 2 Destroyers
- 36 Merchant vessels, totalling 164,000 tons.
- 2 Patrol Craft
- 2 Tankers

On 4 Feb, A/C over the KAVIENG area sighted 2 heavy Cruisers in YSABEL passage while a merchant vessel, a small Tanker and a patrol craft were reported in KAVIENG itself. On the same day a destroyer, a merchant vessel and 2 launches were sighted at WEWAK.

(c) AIR OWN

There have been comparatively few strikes during the past week although fighter A/C have been busy escorting Tpts to forward areas.

WAN AREA.

Few requests for direct air support have been received owing to the difficulty of indicating suitable targets. Light bombers have carried out several raids against the enemy L of C in the GOADAGASAL - KOMIATUM valley and have kept a close watch for any movements south of SALAMAUA. MUBO village has been their primary target and Jap positions on the surrounding hills have been bombed and strafed successfully.

LAE. An indication of increased activity in this area has resulted in 8 attacks being made by medium bombers, Bostons and Beau fighters. Most of these were against A/C reported on the strip, and personnel. A number of large fires were caused and installations were destroyed.

RABAU.

Air action against RABAU has been mainly confined to harassing raids carried out in the early morning hours. They achieved some success by the dropping of fragmentation bombs on searchlight positions and it is thought that the morale effect of A/C overhead for some hours on successive nights more than justified this economic departure from the usual bombing raids.

LONG RANGE RECCE.

The coast of NEW BRITAIN and northern shore line of NEW GUINEA have been closely searched for enemy shipping each day. Heavy bombers carrying out the armed recce sank several cargo vessels - one 1000 ton vessel off TALASEA, a similar vessel at ARAWA and a smaller craft off FINSCHAFEN. Direct hits on a 6000 ton Tanker off BUKA Passage and a 500 ton ship in OPEN Bay were observed and both ships were left in a damaged position.

Fighter A/C intercepted Jap Bombers which were covered by a strong formation of fighters near WAU on 6 Feb with conspicuous success. (see enemy Air para).

ENEMY AIR.

WAU. At 1040L/6 a formation of 9 Jap medium bombers with a top cover of 25 Fighters were sighted approaching WAU. Some of our Tpt A/C were on the Strip at the time and others enroute. Kittyhawks and Airacobras acting as an escort engaged the enemy at 7000 ft and in dog fights which ensued shot down at least 15 enemy fighters and 4 bombers. Our losses were nil. Two of our A/C on the strip at the time were destroyed but the casualties from the raid were very light. At 1205 hrs 3 further flights of fighters intercepted 9 enemy A/C near MUBO at altitudes ranging from 7 to 18000 ft and destroyed 4.

SWPA. NORTH WEST SECTOR.

During this period attention has been paid by allied air forces to the enemy occupied islands and bases. Daily armed recce of the entire NW area has been carried out and opportunity targets have been attacked. Successful attacks have been made on DOBO in the ARU Group and BABO on the south coast of MACLUER GULF, DUTCH NEW GUINEA. KAUKENAU on the south coast of DUTCH NEW GUINEA and TIMIKA 8 miles SE of KAUKENAU were also bombed but the results were not observed.

A strike on shipping in the INNER Harbour at AMBON resulted in direct hits on a 10000ton Merchant vessel and the main wharf.

KENDARI in the CELEBES was attacked, buildings were destroyed and a possible amm dump went up.

Sea activity in this area continues on a scale in keeping with the reinf't which is known to be proceeding.

SECURITY. CENSORSHIP.

Investigation was made into the handling of cables and wireless messages during the week.

It was found that the censorship of cables was rigid and provided no loop holes. All cables and wireless messages from troops pass through AWA, controlled by navy and censored by member of naval intelligence.

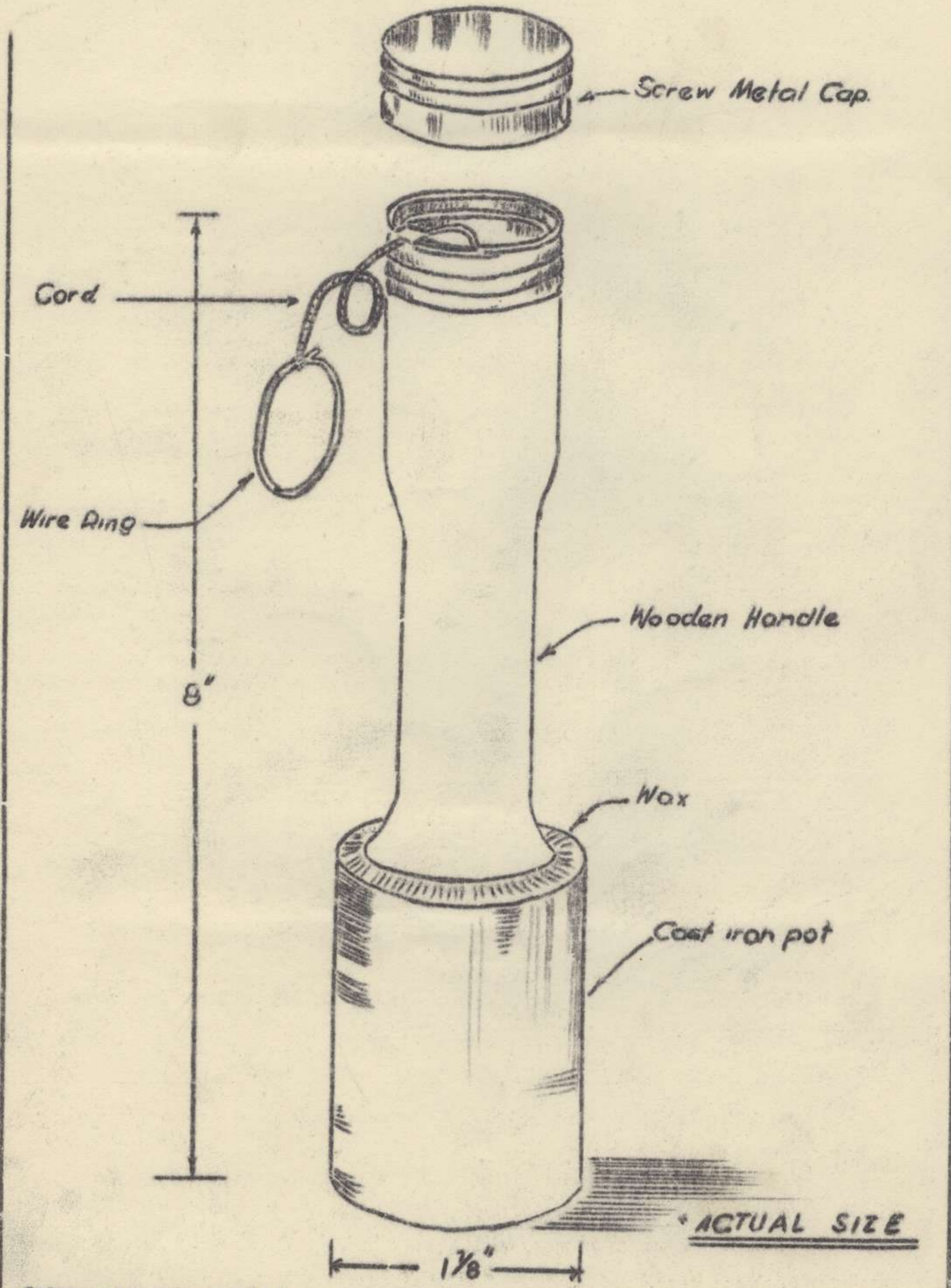
Illegal enclosure in parcels of forbidden articles has dropped to such a small percentage now that a "spot" censorship has been considered sufficient. Breaches in ordinary mail by offrs and ORs maintains a steady high level.

JAPANESE STICK GRENADE - CAPTURED WAU AREA. APPX. A.

METHOD OF USE. Remove screw metal cap on end of handle - take out wire ring but do NOT pull cord, place middle finger through wire ring, holding handle until it is desired to throw grenade - then throw still retaining the cord by wire ring.

Action When the grenade is thrown, the string is pulled out of the composition in the top of the ignitor, causing the material to ignite and spit the fuse which can be heard hissing while in flight for approx 25 yds. The fuse burns for about 4 seconds before grenade bursts. No details are yet available on the effectiveness of this weapon (for further information see "notes on Japanese weapons 1942").

R. J. Jones Capt.
I.O. 7 Aust Inf Bde.
17 Feb 43.



11/PPX 13

12

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted)
(Page 1)

Serial No. 8

WE Ref AMP 11/2/3

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

WE 12 x 60

20th Feb 1943

WR(atted) 5 x 12 HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde. (Unit)

PART A—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment.)
Brigadiers	1		
Lieut.-Colonels			
Majors	1		1
Captains	2		3
Lieutenants	5	1	
2nd Lieutenants	4		
Quartermasters			
Totals	9	1	4

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause
A/Lieut	CONWAY W.A.	HQ 11 Aust Div	14/2/43	Taken on strength as Education Off.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank	Name	Corps	Date	Cause

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank	Name and Initials	Corps	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known)
T/capt	JACKSON W.J.E.	HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde.	At First Aust Army Junior Staff school, Ashgrove, Brisbane.

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers Posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Appointment Corps	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed
Lt-col T/Brig	TX2002	FIELD J.	Bde Comd	Yes	
Capt. T/Maj	015602	MATONEY J.C.	B.M.	"	
Lieut T/Capt	021972	MATHISON T.W.	L.O.1	"	
"	021661	MCIVERES R.D.	L.O.	"	
Lieut	0140380	FREERS A.A.	S.C.	"	
"	0140356	RADFORD D.P.	L.O.2	"	
"	0140331	BLACKBURN S.T.	L.O.3	No	At CW Conference, NCF Trng Centre.
"	0138334	WOOD L.A.	AMEN O.	Yes	
"	W205407	CONWAY W.A.	Educ O.	"	
<u>Officers attached from other Corps</u>					Allowed by HQ - yes or no.
Lieut T/Capt	014200	MILSON C.A.	AA O	ASCO	yes
Lieut	0112077	COOK R.B.	AMC	UG O	"
Chaplain	0100507	COOPER C.S.C.	AA SH D	ACC 9 In	"
"	0135008	KUMARASWAMI J.H.	"	" 13	"
"	0130005	SMITH G.	"	" 01	"
Hon Lieut	1257	CHITAM S.J.	YMOA		No
Lieut T/Capt	0140321	CHIVATARI W.C.	AMC	Dentist	"

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank and higher temporary rank, if held	Personal Number	Name and Initials	Corps	Date of attachment	Nature of attachment
as above					

HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde

(Unit)

Act Trebs.

(Signature of Commander)

Lieut. Staff Capt.

20 Feb 45

(Date of Despatch)

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving)

"APPX 14"

TO BE MADE UP TO AND FOR SATURDAY IN EACH WEEK.

Army Form W. 3008.
(Page 1)

Serial No 9

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

WE Ref AMF 11/2/3

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde

(Unit.)

27 Feb 43

WE 12 & 60

PART A. STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1		2	3	4
Ranks.	W.E.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment)
Brigadiers	1	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...	2	1	•	1
Majors ...	5	2	•	3
Captains ...	4	5	1	•
Lieutenants				
2nd Lieutenants				
Quartermasters				
District Officers				
Totals ...	12	9	1	4

*Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

PART C. DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO THE UNIT IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED.

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)
T/Capt	JACKSON W.J.E.	HQ 7 Aust Inf Bde	At First Aust Army Junior Staff School Ashgrove BRISBANE

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

(i) Officers posted to Unit (Total to agree with column 2 of Part A).

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank if held.	Name and Initials	Corps Appointment	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Lt-Col T/Brig	TX 2002	FIELD J	Bde Comd	Yes	
Capt T/Major	Q15602	MAHONEY J.C.	B.M.	Yes	
Lt T/capt	Q21972	MATHISON T.W.	L.O.1.	Yes	
Lt T/Capt	Q21661	McINNES R.D.	I.O.	Yes	
Lt	QX40880	KREBS A.A.	S.C.	Yes	
Lt	QX40336	RADFORD D.P.	L.O.2.	Yes	
Lt	QX40381	BLACKBURNE S.T.	L.O.3.	No	At CW Conf NGP Trg Centre
Lt	QX38334	WOOD L.A.	Amen O.	Yes	
Lt	N205407	CONWAY W.A.	Educ O.	Yes	

OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS

Allowed by W.E.
• Yes or No

Lt T/capt	Q 44289	NELSON C.A.	A.A.S.C. B.A.S.C.O	Yes
Lt	Q112877	COOK R.M.	A.A.M.C. HYG O.	Yes
Chaplain	QX40347	COUPE C.J.C.	A.A.Ch.D. Att 9 Bn	Yes
"	Q123369	ROSENSKJAR J.M.	" Att 25 Bn	Yes
"	Q123505	JAMES G	" Att 61 Bn	Yes
Hon/Lieut	B 257	GRAHAM E.J.	Y.M.C.A.	No
Lt T/capt	Q140391	CAVANAGH W.O.	A.A.M.C. Dentist	No

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
		as above			

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde

27 Feb 43

(Unit.)

(Date of Despatch.)

A.A. Krebs
Staff Capt 7 Aust Inf Bde
5 Aust Div. (Signature of Commander.)

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

"HPPX15" *Apr 16*

LOCATION STATEMENT.

REAR PARTY 7 AUST INF BDE.

As at 2350 hrs L/28.

4 Aust Inf Bde Adm Comd 7 Aust Inf Bde Units from 0800 hrs 27 Feb 43.

Unit.	Veh No.	Location.	Ref Map.	Comm.	Remarks.
Rear H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde.	88	983993	M.B. Prov No2.	Div Switch.	-
Rear Party 'J' Sec Sigs.	88	"	"	"	-
Rear Party Becsh.	88	984995 7	"	L/T.	

[Signature]
.....Capt.,
I.O. 7 Aust Inf Bde.

SECURITY

NOT TO BE COMMUNICATED TO THE PRESS OR TO ANY PERSON NOT HOLDING AN OFFICIAL POSITION IN H.M. OR THE U.S. ARMY.

H.Q. 7 Aust Inf Bde

SEQUENCE OF EVENTSMILNE BAY ACTION

August - September 1942

<u>Date</u> August	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
24	1510	MILNE BAY raided by 8 type 'O' fighters. P 40's intercepted and A/A engaged. 3 JAP planes possibly brought down. (Raid probably intended to cover move of barges down coast from BUNA. Towards nightfall 7 barges escorted by one cruiser with fighter cover landed tps N.W. of TUFU. - continued voyage next day).
25	0830	Our recce A/C sighted convoy of 9 ships (reported as 3 crs, 2 tpts, 2 tankers, 2 gunboats) at 151°35' E, 08°45' S, course 360° (just N.E. of TROBRIANDS).
25	1000	Coast-watchers reported convoy passing KITAVA IS.
25	1040	Our A/C attacked 7 barges loaded with tps between C VOGEL and GOODENOUGH IS. Barges forced ashore on S.W. coast GOODENOUGH (Possibly force intended for TAUPOTA).
25	1545	Convoy reported 10 mls South of NORMANBY IS.
25		<u>Dispositions MILNE FORCE: fwd bde 7 Aust Inf Bde (9, 25, 61 bns), with under command 9 bty 2/5 Aust Fd Regt, 4 bty 101 Aust A.Tk Regt: res bde 18 Aust Inf Bde (2/9, 2/10, 2/12 bns).</u>
		<u>Dispositions 7 Inf Bde. Right fwd bn: 9 bn less 'C' Coy - MAIWARA R - LADAVA MISSION Area. C Coy BALAGA, being relieved and coming fwd.</u>
		<u>Left fwd bn : 61 bn less 'D' Coy and one pl 'A' Coy - Bn H.Q., H.Q. Coy, A Coy less one pl, C Coy, E Coy - vicinity No 3 aerodrome (cleared and partly graded) 'B' Coy - K.B. MISSION, 'D' Coy AHIOMA (for patrols to EAST CAPE), one pl A Coy standing patrol TAUPOTA.</u>
		<u>Bde res : 25 bn less D Coy and two pls B Coy - route 7. D Coy - WEDAU. Two pls 'B' Coy - 7 day patrols GILI GILI to WEDAU and return. (D Coy less one pl and two pls 'B' Coy rejoined bn by march route).</u>
26	0015	4 ships reported in MILNE BAY
26	0100	JAPS landing at WANADALA, covered by gunfire from warships. Two launches bringing 'D' Coy 61 bn from AHIOMA engaged by landing barges. Launches run ashore. Our losses - 14 men. Remainder of Coy later rejoined bn overland.
26	0230	JAP adv gd marching along rd towards K.B. MISSION engaged by one pl B Coy 61 bn at MOUNTAIN SPRINGS. Comd of JAP tk shot: tk withdrew.
26	0615	JAP ships leaving bay. Tpt NANKAI MARU bombed and sunk. P 40's destroyed 9 landing barges on beach at WANADALA, and strafed JAP tps and dumps. During action our planes strafed and bombed JAP fwd tps and rear areas daily.
26		'B' Coy 61 Bn checked JAP adv 500 yds East of K.B. MISSION.
26	1630	'B' Coy 61 bn and 'G' Coy 25 bn with arty and air support counter attacked. Adv of 800 yds made but ground NOT held.
26		'A' Coy 25 bn and elements H.Q. Coy and E Coy reinforced 61 bn at West edge No 3 aerodrome as firm base for operations with good cleared fields of fire.
26	2045	JAP warship in MILNE BAY shelled area East of K.B. MISSION. JAP tps made encircling sweep past K.B. MISSION. JAP reinfmts landed.

<u>Date</u> August	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
27	-	Day set by JAPS for occupation of MILNE BAY aerodromes.
27	0130	B Coy 61 Bn and C Coy 25 Bn consolidated posn at RABI - West of GAMA R.
27	0215	JAP ships left bay
27	0400	JAPS withdrew East of K.B. MISSION
27	0813	8 JAP bombers and 12 fighters approached GILI GILI from East. Our A/A, fighters and bombers engaged. Possibly 12 Jap planes brought down. (These A/C may have intended to land on the captured aerodrome).
27	1635	2/10 bn (under comd 7 bde) marched to K.B. MISSION without opposition and organized perimeter def for night 27/28 Aug, with intention of continuing adv next day.
27	2020	2/10 bn at K.B. MISSION attacked by JAP force estimated 700 - 800 men with two med tks.
28	0207	Two coys 2/10 bn retired from K.B. and reformed on GAMA R. Two coys withdrew North into hills. JAP adv with tks continued. All our fwd elements withdrew to No 3 aerodrome, where JAP adv was held by 25 and 61 bns less dets.
29	-	Encounters with JAP snipers East of No 3 aerodrome. Patrol 25 bn disabled two JAP tks ditched West of GAMA R.
29	1730	One JAP cr, 9 mrs approaching MILNE BAY.
29	2313	Gunfire from bay.
30	0035	Our A/C dropped flares over ships in bay.
30	0605	61 Bn patrols advanced East of No 3 aerodrome. 'B' Coy 61 Bn moved to K.B. MISSION. Little contact with JAPS. All fwd tps recalled to No 3 Strip before nightfall.
30/31	Night	JAPS in strength repeatedly attacked our posns on No 3 Strip. 25 and 61 bns inflicted by casualties. No JAPS advanced beyond East edge of Strip. JAPS withdrew at first light, leaving snipers.
31	0908	2/12 bn moved through our firm base at No 3 aerodrome and was immediately engaged by snipers.
31	1140	7 "O" fighters overhead at 15000 ft for 10 minutes.
31	1503	2/12 bn reached GAMA R. Two coys remained RABI; Bn less two coys continued to K.B. MISSION. Two coys 9 bn allotted role of holding rd in rear of 2/12 bn. 'A' Coy 9 bn at MOTIEAU (between K.B. MISSION and RABI), C Coy less one pl at RABI (still occupied by two coys 2/12 bn), one pl C Coy at DUALA CK (between RABI and No 3 aerodrome).
31 Aug/ 1 Sep	Night	At dusk formed body of 300 JAPS approached RABI from West (having probably hidden in foothills after unsuccessful attack on aerodrome). RABI posn was attacked throughout night from three directions in turn. All attacks were beaten off. JAP casualties about 60 killed. Our casualties 7 killed. A Coy 9 bn at MOTIEAU was also attacked by small parties during the night.
1 Sep	1630	B Coy 25 Bn and C Coy 61 Bn took over RABI area from two coys 2/12 bn which moved on to K.B. MISSION. Two JAP crs off TROBRIANDS all day.
1/2 Sep	Night	B Coy 25 Bn at RABI attacked by small parties.
2	After-noon	2/12 bn killed 70 JAPS East of K.B. MISSION. 25 bn less 61 Bn less C Coy responsible for def of No 3 Aerodrome. B Coy withdrawn to bde res. Two JAP crs still off TROBRIANDS.
2/3	Night	C Coy 9 bn at RABI attacked by snipers.

<u>Date</u> <u>Sep.</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
0 3	2010	JAP ships in bay. North shore of bay shelled. 2/9 bn moved to K.B. MISSION in small craft. Rd in rear of 18 bde held by A Coy 9 bn (MOTIEAU), 'C' Coy 9 bn less one pl, 'B' Coy 25 bn, 'C' Coy 61 bn (RABI) one pl 'C' Coy 9 bn (DUALA CK).
3 4	2300 Morning	2 JAP warships shelled shore East of K.B. MISSION 2/9 bn advanced to GORONI. Fwd tps engaged in hand-to-hand fighting East of GORONI. Flanking coy 2/9 bn struck JAP prepared posn covering supply dump at WAGA WAGA.
4		A and C Coys 9 bn withdrawn to bn area at GABA GABUNA. B Coy 25 bn returned to bn. 'C' Coy 61 bn remained RABI. Pl 61 bn at TAUPOTA. (later reinforced and then relieved by pl 25 bn from WEDAU) began intercepting armed parties of JAP stragglers who had crossed STIRLING RANGE from MILNE BAY and were making for BUNA. In a series of skirmishes extending over a fortnight at least 40 JAPS were killed. Our casualties 4 wounded.
4	1847	One JAP cr sighted off NORMANBY IS.
5		1 JAP cr, 1 dr, 2 U.I. vessels heading for MILNE BAY. These ships probably took off a number of JAP survivors night 5/6 Sep.
6	0030	JAP warships shelling.
	0827	1 cr, 2 drs near TROBRIANDS heading North. 2/9 bn after steady adv all day reached LILIHOA. Only snipers encountered. JAP stores destroyed.
	1600	'B' Coy 2/9 bn patrolled to AHIOMA. No enemy seen.
	2155	JAP warships shelled S.S. ANSHUN at pontoon wharf. S.S. ANSHUN sank in 20 mins.
7	0045) 0100)	Further naval gunfire. Shells fell beyond GURNEY AERO-DROME
7		18 bde demolished JAP amn and sup dumps WAGA WAGA
	1550	2 JAP crs off FERGUSON IS heading South.
8	0010	JAP warshipshelled in direction of GURNEY AERODROME
	1207	9 Mitsubishi type '96' bombers escorted by 5 type '0' fighters dropped 50 bombs from 24,000 ft. Bombs fell between GURNEY AERODROME and junc routes 1 and 10. Casualties : 7 killed, 11 wounded. Slight damage.
	2040	Fwd tps 18 bde returning to GILI GILI passed K.B. MISSION. Our patrols MILNE BAY and TAUPOTA mopping up JAP stragglers.
9-15		
11	1700	2 JAP drs off FERGUSON IS heading South. Dr "YAYOI" sunk by our A/C.

J. Mahoney

Maj.

Bde Maj. 7 Aust Inf Bde