

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

Item number: 8/3/17

2/17 Infantry Battalion

July 1945

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

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

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
<u>COMMANDER'S SUMMARY JULY 1945</u>				
<p>Activity during the month has been confined to patrolling and the consolidation of the SERIA area. At the beginning of the month the main elements of the Bn were established in the SERIA-KUALA BELAIT area with C coy at BADAS and a detachment from A coy at KUALA BELAIT.</p> <p>All ranks were eager to regain contact and exterminate some enemy. A plan was made for an attack by C coy on BT PUAN in conjunction with an ambush on the escape track to LABI. C coy were to proceed to LABI where junction would be made with A coy. A coy were to thrust up the DAMIT and MENDARAM rivers against Jap positions and cut L of C. Preliminary moves had begun when a Brigade direction restricted troops to be allotted and objectives. Unfortunately enemy had withdrawn when this direction was subsequently modified.</p> <p>On 1 Jul 14 pl crossed the BELAIT river at BADAS and advanced to BT PUAN. It was found that the enemy had vacated BT PUAN the same day and 14 pl secured the position without opposition at 1800 hrs. The Japs had withdrawn in the direction of LABI abandoning one heavy Browning MG when they moved out. Patrols pushed along the track towards LABI but failed to make contact. On the same day 7 and 8 pl of A coy were established at KUALA BELAIT with sections forward at SEMBURU. The next day A coy Hq moved forward from KUALA BELAIT, their position being taken over by 11 pl B coy.</p> <p>A coy began extensive patrolling on 3 Jul, most patrols being moving by canoe along the MENDARAM river as far as KG MENDARAM and along the DAMIT river as far as TERIAM. Considerable assistance was being given by the Dyaks in the BALAI area and information was readily forthcoming from the natives at BADAS and BT PUAN.</p> <p>C coy sent out a patrol on 3 Jul along the LABI track to make contact with a patrol being sent forward to SIMPANG by A coy. The patrols met at the RV on 5 Jul and both reported NMS.</p> <p>Following the arrival of our troops at SIMPANG the Japs who were concentrated on the RAMPAYOH river between BT TELINGAN and BT MENDARAM began to panic and made efforts to retreat towards MARUDI. On their initial move they were turned back by reports of our troops being at MARUDI. However the movement of our troops in the area between SIMPANG and LABI finally decided them to push through to the SOUTH, which they eventually did quite successfully. They did not as we anticipated move to MARUDI but to LINEI on the TUTOH river further SOUTH. Reports of this party received later in the month indicated that they are in poor condition with little food and that they have thrown away all their automatic weapons and heavy gear. It would appear that they have no fixed intention.</p> <p>On 6 Jul A coy had established at SIMPANG with detachments at KUALA BALAI and SEMBURU. On the same day they sent a recce patrol as far forward as BT TELINGAN. This patrol moved through KG LABI and covered a wide area but no</p>				

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			(2)	
			<u>COMMANDER'S SUMMARY JULY 1945 (CONT)</u>	
			<p>signs of the enemy were found.</p> <p>Two days later a section of 16 Bty moved into position at SEMBURU. On the same day a pl from A coy moved into position at MENDARAM and patrolled SOUTH along the RIDAN track to BT TERAJA without making contact.</p> <p>On 9 Jul the pl at MENDARAM patrolled SOUTH to RIDAN and reported NMS.</p> <p>While A coy was moving forward to LABI C coy were patrolling along the BELAIT river to the WEST. These patrols all reported NMS. The pl which contacted A coy at SIMPANG moved back to join C coy following a track along the banks of the MELAYAN river.</p> <p>On 10 Jul an SRD party under the command of Maj. G.S. CARTER entered MARUDI but following a stiff fight in which they killed 11 Japs they were forced to withdraw from the town. The enemy party was well led and were evidently combatant troops who had moved from the MIRI area via BAKOENG. After the SRD party was withdrawn from MARUDI Maj. CARTER flew by CATALINA to Brigade where he asked for assistance for our troops. On 14 Jul D coy with AS party, detachment M3", section MG Pl and a detachment of Engineers, left for MARUDI in LCMs escorted by one ESB Gunboat and the armed SRD launch HMAS TIGER SNAKE.</p> <p>8 Pl under command of Lt L. GRAHAM left MENDARAM for RIDAN to establish an outpost on 14 Jul. Their position at MENDARAM was taken over by 2 pl less one section. 2 Pl had moved up river with A coy Hq. / from</p> <p>On 15 Jul while moving up the BARAM river to MARUDI D coy received reports on natives that there was a party of enemy approx 40 strong at KUALA RIDAN. Following this report they decided to make a landing against the enemy held positions. This landing was made at 1500 hrs after a bombing and strafing strike by six SPITFIRES and a rocket barrage from the Gunboat. Two pls were landed and found that the enemy had withdrawn. These two pls moved across country to MARUDI while the remaining pl moved on by LCM. All reached MARUDI without contact. By nightfall on 15 Jul D coy was firmly established in MARUDI and the next day 16 pl set out to contact 8 pl at RIDAN. At midday they sighted 12 Japs but were unable to make contact as the Japs withdrew rapidly in the direction of KUALA RIDAN. After moving on along the track towards RIDAN for two hours they made contact with a party of 40 Japs armed with four LMGs. This was evidently the party which had forced the SRD to vacate MARUDI and had been in position at KUALA RIDAN the previous day. When contact was made our troops were moving through swamp while the enemy were in position on firm ground overlooking the swamp. Enemy positions were well sited. A determined effort was made by 16 pl to dislodge them but due to the unfavourable ground and the numerical superiority of the enemy our attempt was not successful. After a protracted fight our pl broke off contact. During the engagement 5 enemy were killed. Our cas were 1 killed and two wounded. One Dyak who was moving with the patrol was also killed. After breaking off contact 16 pl made a difficult return to MARUDI in darkness carrying the wounded men.</p>	

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			(3) <u>COMMANDER'S SUMMARY JULY 1945 (CONT)</u>	
			<p>On 17 Jul a patrol was sent out from MARUDI under the comd of Lt B.FORSTER by LCM accompanied by the Gunboat, to BAKOENG. The village was found to be unoccupied and the patrol moved on further up river. Information was received from natives that a party of enemy was moving downstream by canoe and our patrol set a waterborn ambush. However the enemy had evidently heard the motors of the LCMs as they did not appear. After deciding that the enemy was not coming patrol was moved further upstream and when rounding a bend of the river near KUALA ARANG they came under MG fire from both banks. Some of the fire penetrated the ramp and one man was killed. The gunboat engaged the enemy positions and silenced them. The swampy Nipa fringed banks of the river made a landing at this point impossible so the craft were put about and the patrol returned to BAKOENG. While turning the craft were again engaged but the enemy fire was ineffective.</p>	
			<p>The enemy party of 40 moving about the RIDAN river area was again contacted 18 Jul by a patrol from 8 pl who were in position near KG RIDAN. When contact was made our patrol attacked and drove in the enemy outpost and then attacked the main position. At this stage the patrol came under heavy automatic fire and were unable to get forward. After a short time our patrol broke off contact leaving four Japs dead. Patrol's cas was one man wounded who was able to remain on duty. Two more Japs were later found to have died as a result of this engagement. Their bodies were found by Dyaks who decapitated them and brought the heads into our outpost.</p>	
			<p>Three days later the enemy party was again contacted on the MENDARAM RIDAN track by a ration party moving to RIDAN. The ration party engaged the enemy who withdrew WESTWARD towards the swamp. The ration party returned to MENDARAM and a fighting patrol was sent out in quest of the Japs but failed to make contact. The enemy party was again sighted by natives a few hundred yards SOUTH of MENDARAM the following day and were engaged by Arty. The enemy then moved EASTWARDS and was last reported to be EAST of LABI. A Juki MG which they had been carrying was found by one of our patrols on the RAMPAYOH river EAST of BT MENDARAM. Although this party had shown willingness to fight when contacted by our troops it is considered that they must by now be in poor condition and declining in morale. They have suffered casualties when contacted and have had no opportunity to supplement their rations since contact was first made on 15 Jul.</p>	
			<p>A contact patrol set out from MARUDI under comd Lt B.POWELL and reached RIDAN late on the afternoon 21 Jul. The track was found to be clear of enemy. This patrol remained at RIDAN for several days to enable 8 pl to be used for setting ambushes along the MENDARAM RIDAN track in the hopes of taking a heavier toll of the enemy parties active in the area.</p>	
			<p>After establishing at MARUDI D coy worked in close cooperation with the SRD party operating in that general area and received much assistance from Maj CARTER who had lived in the MARUDI district prior to the war.</p>	

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			(4) <u>COMMANDER'S SUMMARY JULY 1945 (CONT)</u>	
			<p>On 24 Jul 17pl less one section moved to BAKOENG and established a patrol base. Recce patrols forward to the ARANG area found that the enemy had withdrawn from the positions ^{from} which he engaged our waterborn patrol. On 27 Jul acting on a native report that there were 6 Japs at ARANG a patrol was sent forward to deal with them. On reaching ARANG it was found that the enemy had gone. Patrol then split with one section moving back along the river track and one section moving via the inland track. After moving some distance the sec moving on the inland track was ambushed by a party of 8 enemy. In the ensuing engagement the section suffered one man killed one man wounded. One Dyak with the patrol was also killed. Although in a most unfavourable position the patrol killed 4 Japs and made a difficult withdrawal through swamp. The sec comd, Cpl C.LEMAIRE, had shown considerable resource and coolness throughout the engagement. He was personally responsible for killing the Jap officer in charge of the ambush, and one OR. After the patrol returned to BAKOENG native reports were received that two strong enemy parties were approaching and it was decided to withdraw the patrol to MARUDI. This was effected at 2330 hrs.</p> <p>17 Pl moved to K.BAKOENG the next day with a detachment of M3" under comd. On 29 Jul a recce patrol under Lt B.FORSTER moved across country to BAKOENG and a section of MGs joined 17 pl. When Lt FORSTER found BAKOENG to be unoccupied by the enemy 17 pl was moved forward of BAKOENG to 688716. On 31 Jul 16 pl was moved from MARUDI to join 17 pl.</p> <p>C coy was moved from BADAS to SERIA on 13 JUL and their position was taken over by B3 Pl 2/2 MG BN. Since arrival at SERIA C coy has been engaged in training. On same day 10 Pl B coy set out to march to TUTONG to take over from 4 pl who had been guarding the AUSTER strip and the Ferry. 10 Pl were relieved by a pl from the 2/15 Bn on 31 Jul and now the whole of B coy is concentrated at SERIA.</p> <p>During the whole of the month coys have been spread over a wide area and a considerable amount of patrolling carried out. For the number of patrols carried out few contacts were made. On several occasions patrols found evidence of Jap atrocities carried out against natives. The killing and mutilation of natives was found chiefly in the MARUDI area.</p> <p>The LABI area was found by A coy to be a large agricultural area where a considerable amount of rice is grown. There are many other garden crops in this area and a fairly large rubber plantation exists at RAMPAYOH. This plantation is native owned and the trees have not been planted to a pattern. It has been badly neglected during the period of Jap occupation.</p> <p>MARUDI proved to be a much more important centre than we had at first thought. The rubber resources of the area are extensive there being several large plantations in the area. These plantations have been largely neglected</p>	

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			(5) <u>COMMANDER'S SUMMARY JULY 1945 (CONT)</u>	
			<p>over the period of the Jap occupation and a considerable amount of clearing is required. However the yield of the trees should be good as they have not been tapped since the British vacated MARUDI. In addition there are 24000 katis of raw rubber stored in the town which the owners are anxious to sell. MARUDI was also of considerable political significance in pre-war days and the reoccupation of the town by our troops will do much to restore British prestige. Already the local inhabitants are flocking back to the town from up river and the population is now approx 1000. The town is also important tactically as by holding it we are able to control a considerable area.</p> <p>MARUDI is beyond the boundary of the Div area and considerable restrictions on activity, especially pertaining to civil affairs have been required. These are finding reflection in the measure of confidence felt by the natives as to the stability of our re-occupation.</p> <p>An additional 18 Indian PW were recovered during the month. Most of these were in a better condition than those recovered in June. They had been taken to LABI in April and had not been subjected to the same harsh treatment as those who were in the compound at BELAIT.</p> <p>15 Enemy were killed during the month and 3 Japs and 3 Formosan PW taken. Two of the Jap PW and the three Formosans were taken by a patrol from 10 pl which moved from TUTONG to TAUNGGLIANG on receiving a report of Japs in the area. The remaining Jap was taken by D coy when they re-occupied MARUDI.</p> <p>When SERIA and K.BELAIT had been secured and the Bn began to push inland it was found that provision of maps for the operation was inadequate. The 1:25000 and 1:50000 maps extended as far SOUTH as BADAS only. The area SOUTH of was covered only by the STRAT series. It was soon found that these maps were most unsatisfactory and forward coys had great difficulty in determining positions. Fortunately a number of enemy maps were captured and some small scale maps prepared by ground survey were obtained from the representative of the District Officer of the LABI area who was living at K.BELAIT. By the preparation of a new map incorporating the detail of all these maps the Bn Int Sec was able to produce an adequate coverage of the required area at a scale of 1:63360. This is still the most satisfactory map which we have of the area bounded on the NORTH by BADAS, by the TUTONG river on the EAST, MARUDI on the SOUTH and the BARAM river to the WEST.</p> <p>THESE MAPS Requests for air photos could not be met as recce aircraft were engaged in more important theatres of operations. One run only of eight photos has been flown of the BAKOENG area. This run was flown by a Boomerang using a K5 Camera. In the absence of adequate maps a good coverage of air photos would have been of great assistance and the preparation of maps from them would have been a simple matter. The Bn Int Sec has spent a</p>	

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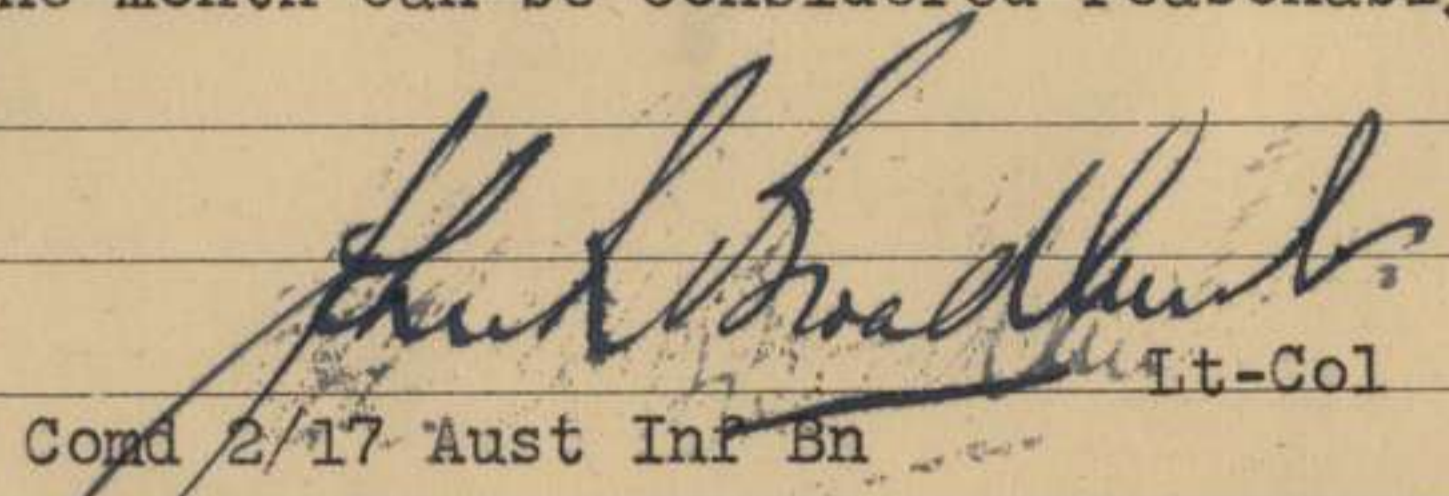
Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			(6) <u>COMMANDER'S SUMMARY JULY 1945 (CONT)</u>	
			<p>considerable amount of time on this work during the long training period in Australia.</p> <p>When A coy first moved up the BELAIT river communication was by 22 Set with the control set at this Hq. The control set however was withdrawn by Bde Sigs and A coy placed on the Bde net. From this time onwards communication was most unsatisfactory and many messages received were corrupt. The control set being under Bde control made the checking, which was so frequently necessary, very slow.</p> <p>Line was laid from BADAS to SIMPANG and was completed late on 6 Jul. In the early stages this line was a poor means of communication and messages had to be transmitted by key. The attachment of a power phone later made conversation possible. A line to SIMPANG was first extended to MENDARAM and then to RIDAN.</p> <p>D coy was also placed on the Bde net when it moved to MARUDI and although there was a marked decline in the number of corruptions in messages, checking through Bde slowed down the receipt of the corrected message.</p> <p>Cable was sent to D coy and laid from MARUDI to connect with the A coy line to RIDAN. A power phone had also been sent to D coy and when the line was completed on 31 Jul communication was found to be satisfactory, although the distance was 50 miles.</p> <p>Pigeons were used by both A and D coy. They were used with varying success. On occasions the birds made a 30 mile flight in 40 minutes, at others they took as long as 6½ hrs. Sometimes they failed to leave the loft. The main disadvantage was that the pigeons had to be returned in 4 days and that usually when sent forward it took them 3 days to reach the coy which was to use them.</p> <p>Proclamations of Martial Law were posted in both MARUDI and LABI. The Divisional area is still under Martial Law. The Office Bearers of the India Independence League in the SERIA-BELAIT area have now been apprehended and most of their documents are in our possession. This was achieved mainly through the efforts of officers of this Bn.</p> <p>At SERIA work on the oilfield has progressed and a co-ordinated effort is being made by 3 pl 2/3 Fld Coy, 2/58 LAD and Engineers of the oilfield staff. During the month the manager of the field, Capt CONNOCK, arrived and has taken over direction of the work. He expressed appreciation of the work which has already been done by the troops. Equipment for fire fighting has been made mainly by the LAD.</p> <p>Notification that personnel who have completed 5 years service including two years operational service are to be given the option of release from the Services, was received on 6 Jul. This was most enthusiastically received by most of those men who are eligible. Most now feel that Australia's effort in the war is finished and that any further action on which they will be embarked will be token only. As the month progressed more definite information was received and the first batch of three to be released under the plan, left on 28 Jul.</p>	

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			(7) <u>COMMANDER'S SUMMARY JULY 1945 (CONT)</u>																
			<p>Troops stationed at SERIA have had plenty of opportunity for surfing and are as a result looking very fit. A surf carnival was held during the month and it was a most successful function. This was largely due to the effort of Lt P.B.CUNNINGHAM who organised the show.</p> <p>The mobile cinema has shown in the Bn area on several occasions and provided a welcome break for the troops. The Bn Concert Party has been revived and has already put on one show. Immediately after its conclusion preparations for a bigger and brighter show were begun. They expect to have their concert early in the next month. Canteen goods have been in ample supply and troops have now had two beer rations for the month. It was well received.</p> <p>Although we have not achieved so much this month as last, we feel that this was mainly due to restrictions imposed by limits of Div area. Had we been able to push ahead as we planned we would have been able to make contact with the enemy who withdrew from the SERIA BELAIT area and have no doubt of what the outcome of that would have been. In the inland push many obstacles in the way of transport had to be overcome as most of the move was of necessity by water and in the early phases we were dependant on native canoes and FBEs. Later we were given a DUKW and a limited number of LCMS. We have now had experience warfare of amphibious warfare in every sense of the word.</p> <p>Cooperation by the natives, in particular the Dyaks, has been most helpful. Many of the Dyaks have proved to be first rate soldiers of undoubted courage with a distinct hatred for the Japs. They did much good work as scouts and were in the thick of the fighting when contact was made. Some Chinese have done very good work and have not been wanting in courage. They have been very good as interpreters.</p> <p>Everywhere we have been enthusiastically received by the local inhabitants irrespective of their nationality. They have all been treated harshly by the Japs and are agreeably surprised since our occupation. They are probably much more favourably inclined now towards British rule than at any other time in the past.</p> <p>Despite the restrictions imposed upon our activities the month can be considered reasonably successful.</p> <p><u>Coy Comds as at 31 Jul 45</u></p>																
			<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%;">Hq</td> <td style="width: 10%;">Coy</td> <td style="width: 80%;">Maj L.C.MACLARN MC</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>"</td> <td>Capt G.F.HOLTSBAUM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>"</td> <td>Capt R.S.RUDKIN</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>"</td> <td>Capt A.J.WRIGHT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>"</td> <td>Maj N.B.TREBECK</td> </tr> </table>	Hq	Coy	Maj L.C.MACLARN MC	A	"	Capt G.F.HOLTSBAUM	B	"	Capt R.S.RUDKIN	C	"	Capt A.J.WRIGHT	D	"	Maj N.B.TREBECK	
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Unit 2/17 Aust. Inf. Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.	
FORCE HQ	1 Jul	0957	Effective Str <i>31 offrs 4/5 ORs.</i> CO, accompanied by the IO, left KUALA BELAIT by <i>sketch</i> canoe to visit the river force at KUALA BALAI.		
		1315	Two Javanese reported to C coy that Bt PUAN is now unoccupied by the enemy. They also stated that before the Japs evacuated the village they machine gunned and killed most of the remaining Javanese.		
		1520	15 pl C coy immediately moved forward with instas to posn vic Bt PUAN and recce village for signs of enemy.		
		1605	Remainder of A coy gp will join river force at KUALA BALAI.		
		1650	14 pl reported crossing BELAIT river with orders to advance along Bt PUAN tr.		
		1810	15 pl now one mi from Bt PUAN. Contacted two natives who confirmed infm that Japs had vacated this village and had gone towards LABI		
		1840	15 pl has secured Bt PUAN NMS. Verbal report states approaches from BADAS are covered by pillboxes and there are extensive diggings in village. Recce patrol 600 yds forward of our FDLs reported NO enemy in area and scattered trees lying across tr.		
		2100	A coy patrol comd Lt FINK from K BALAI to SEMBURU by canoe reached vic 912878. They report river block constructed by enemy at approx 907880. Natives have already made river passable for canoes at this point. Patrol could not get to TERIAM (914874) for observation but natives report that there are six Japs in the area.		
				Last light disposns C coy XXXXXX 900036 13 pl 90750290 14 pl 938019 15 pl Bt PUAN 953010	
				A coy 7 pl less two secs 895882 one sec at SEMBURU one section at BALAI 8 pl at BALAI. One sec 7 pl plus one det M3" will move forward to FINKS LANDING 895882 2 Jul	
		Instas issued by CO for D coy to move to KUALA BELAIT and take over area from A coy. One pl of D coy to be prepared to move to K. BALAI and come under comd A coy. 16 Bty to move one sec of guns upstream from BADAS to Bt PUAN. Engrs in BADAS to report on flotation eqpt available for gun transport. One pl C coy to remain at Bt PUAN			

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Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Force HQ	1 Jul	2100	remainder of coy to continue advance towards LABI. C coy force to be supplied by FBE from BADAS to Bt PUAN.	<i>Op instr No. —</i>
		2225	Operation Instr issued (enclosed as appendix) CO discussed with RMO the advisability of having a Medical Offr with A coy gp. RAP gp to move forward to BALAI 2 Jul.	
		2255	2 pl placed on 2 hrs notice for move to BALAI.	
			Marched out 1 OR evac Marched out In 1 Offr 26 ORs from "K" list 4 Gen Rfts.	
	2 Jul		Effective Str 37 Offrs 715 ORs (1/30)	
	2 Jul	0030	A message from the BM states that the Bde Comd does not wish too large a force to be committed to ops in the LABI area. He regards 2/17 Bn as his reserve.	
		0930	A preliminary report from A coy patrol to MENDARAM reports the river to be impassable beyond 822850 (LABI SPECIAL). Natives report 300 enemy moved SOUTH from LABI to the BARAM river on 30 Jun.	
		1200	15 pl are unable to find any signs of bombs having fallen near Bt PUAN.	
		1440	We receive news of the 7 div landing on BALIKPAPAN. They seem to have turned the heat on properly.	
		1600	15 pl patrol returned from 3500 yds SOUTH along LABI tr. They found a considerable amount of food, survey instruments, telephone and a large quantity of documents. NO contact was made.	
		2030	COs instns to OC 6 coy. One pl will move at 030900 I SOUTH along tr to LABI. They will contact a pl from A coy at the tr junc EAST of TERIAM.	
			Trencode messages being received from Div are proving unsatisfactory. Most are corrupt, whether this occurs during encoding or transmission we do not know.	
			The possibilities of D coy moving up the BELAIT river are now remote.	
			Later they will possibly be sent up the BARAM river to MARUDI.	

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Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Force H	2 Jul	2030	Bde cas now inflicted on the enemy now total : Counted killed 135 unconfirmed 22 PW 53. Too many of the latter. Marched Out Nil Marched In 1 Offr 2 ORs from "X" list	
	3 Jul	0815	Effective Str 39 Offrs 753 ORs (1/32) Orders are despatched to A coy to send 1 Offr and two secs by canoe to MENDARAM with rations and amm for two days. Their role will be to ambush the enemy and inflict cas. Patrol may withdraw at Comds discretion if pressed.	
		0830	Adjnt & OC D coy leave to visit the river force at KUALA BALAI. 2 pl less one sec will move with them.	
		0900	4 pl are now guarding the Auster strip at TUTONG. CO and Lt CUNNINGHAM left with Bde Comd to visit 2/13 Bn at LUTONG	
		1030	A message from A coy states that their sec at SEMBURU is being relieved and will establish an outpost at TERIAM today. 7 pl is now est at FINKS LANDING 895881. A patrol to TERIAM reports NMS	
		1045	One sec from 8 pl has now relieved the sec of 7pl at X SEMBURU	
		1145	A coy report of interrogation of Brodie, former RMC SINGAPORE. 500 Japs from RAMPAYOH moved to BARAM river.	
			The 22 Set being used for comm is being withdrawn by Bde. A coy will be netted in to Bde.	
		1415	C coy reports that the BADAS pump station is now in working order.	
		1420	8 pl less one sec move to est an ambush at MENDARAM. The pl is	

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FORCE HQ	3 Jul		moving by FBEs and later by canoes.	
		1530	14 pl moving down the LABI tr has reached 951987(LABI SPECIAL) nms 14 pl reaches 948964. The going is slow as in many places tr is swampy	
		1640	14 pl at 947795. Still NMS	
		1950	Capt FORD reports that preparation of gun posns at SEMBURU will take two days. During the day three Malays reached C coy from the interior. They were sent down by American airmen who had heard of our landing, to see if the reports were true. An Offr and two ORs are to go to LABUAN to teach Tka personnel local protection.	
		2245	A former Malay police boy who had been taken to LABI by the Japs came in to give infm. His report is fairly extensive and seems to be accurate.	
		2345	Report from A coy reports 2 pl to be est with 8 pl at 810927. A coy on the Bde 22 Net is to be KI	
	4 Jul	1030	Verbal instrs received from Bde for us to be prepared to send a patrol by LCM up the TUTONG river to BANG TANGUR and BINUTAN. Patrol is to endeavour to contact NEI soldiers reported to be in that area.	
1035		14 Pl reaches 947956 NMS. Tr alternates from firm to swampy ground. Bde advises that due to intercomn 2/15 Bn will supply the TUTONG river patrol.		

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45

To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ	4 Jul	1220	Two FBES and one Diesel launch now available to A coy. 14 Pl has reached 947942 where they contacted an ex member of RAF SINGAPORE (Malayan) who is able to give them some up to the minute infm of LABI.	
		1455	The master Tac R over LABI reports NMS. A Wirraway Tac R over MARUDI also reports NMS Three more Indian PW have been recovered by C coy. The total for the SERIA area is now 44. Difficulty is being experienced in having messages cleared to A coy through Bde 22 Set.	
		1700	A patrol from C coy up river by canoe to 010010 found a small village of six huts. Tr along the MELAYAN river is a footpad only. Natives in the area report that 18 Japs moved up the tr 4 days ago. 14 Pl has reached TANAJOR. Natives have been acting as scouts for them. A message was handed to Lt MUSSET (14 pl) by a native who had been sent by Lt FINK (7pl) from TERIAM. Junction of the two pls is anticipated (at tr junc 923870) tomorrow morning. 7 Pl reports trs in the TERIAM area are very swampy and all brs	
		2000	US. 2 A coy disposns now are : HQ 790822 7Pl and one det M3" TERIAM 8 Pl one sec SEMBURU remainder Pl MENDARAM area, last reported 890809 at 1600 hrs, and proceeding along tr to MENDARAM. 9 Pl less one sec 895882, one sec and one det M3" 796919. Marched out 4 ORs	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form 2. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ	5 Jul		Effective Str 39 Offrs 750 ORs (1/31)	
		0730	B Ech reports that the br across the SERIA river was destroyed by fire last night. This was due to the spreading of fire from the oil wells	
		0930	7 Pl is carrying out patrolling of the LABI area from its SIMPANG base.	
		1000	IO leaves for topo recce of LABI area in an Auster.	
		1130	The CO has reached A coy by DUKW and is going forward to contact 7 pl at SIMPANG.	
		1300	A pale IO returns from his plane recce. Recce was most successful and our provisional map prepared by the Bn Int sec was proved accurate. Messages were dropped to 7 and 14 pls at SIMPANG. 14 Pl reached SIMPANG at 1030 hrs.	
		1320	Three more PW have been brought in.	
		1430	Two Indian PW were brought to 7 Pl at SIMPANG by a Chinese. Later when interrogated at Bn HQ they were able to give the location of Japs at LABI and also identified the photograph of Lt KAMIMURA.	
		1600	7 Pl at SIMPANG sighted two Japs 800 yds EAST of their posn. Natives report LABI clear of enemy.	
		2000	An excellent sketch has been received from Brodie the Eurasian with A coy, showing Jap posns in the LABI area and the trs leading to MARUDI.	
		2045	A report is received from Bde that SRD parties control the river from MARUDI to LONG LAMA, also the crossing at TINJAR river.	
		2115	It is reported that RT Code No 2 has been compromised. A poor show by someone.	
		2230	A total of five Indian PW were recovered today. We have now recovered 49 in this area. CO returned from KUALA BALAI and SIMPANG. He issued orders for 5 pl to move up river on 6 Jul. Their task will be to make the tr from 895882 forward to SIMPANG passable to jungle carts.	
				A tp of 16 Bty is to move to SEMBURU as soon as transport is available. Lt GRAHAM'S ambush patrol to MENDARAM rejoined A coy during the afternoon. NO contact was made with the enemy.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form, C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ	5 Jul 6 Jul	0830	Effective Str 39 Offrs 746 ORs (1/31) CO issue instructions to C coy that 14 pl is to return from SIMPANG today via the tr along the MELAYAN RIVER.	
		1000	2 pl less one sec, personnel of one tp 16 Bty leave by DUKW for SEMBURU. They are taking with them tools and signal equipment for A Coy.	
		1100	A request is made to Bde for a Tac R of the area along the RAMPAYOH river between BT TELINGAN and BT MENDARAM. We feel sure now that the Japs in the LABI area are hiding there.	
		1600	A considerable amount of time has been devoted to investigation of Independent India League in the KUALA BELAIT area by members of the Bn staff. Results have been good as most of their records have been found and the office bearers identified and apprehended. They are a plausible tribe but the evidence against them is overwhelming.	
		1630	14 pl are returning from SIMPANG by tr along the MELAYAN RIVER.	
		1750	Natives have been giving them some extravagant reports of enemy str in the RAMPAYOH area.	
		1850	The remainder of A coy less one sec has been established at SIMPANG. A party of DYAKS from BRUNEI called here in quest of Jap rifles. They are keen to get on with the job.	
		2010	A coy dispositions are now: Coy HQ 931873, 7pl 93858725 8 pl less two secs 930894, one sec KUALA BELAI and one sec 895872. 9 pl 93128695. 2pl less one sec at SEMBURU.	
		2055	Bde advises that a return is required of all personnel with 5 yrs service incl 2 yrs operational service regarding discharge. This cheers us up quite a bit and most of us who are eligible feel that we would like to be in it. We will not be broken hearted if we do'nt but we have a lot to pick up when we return to civilian life. 5 years have been a big gap.	
			A coy report that they have had a recce patrol to BT TELINGAN via LABI. NMS. These Japs are hard to catch.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	JUN 6 (continued)		We have an air strike teed up for tomorrow on the RAMPAYOH RIVER between BT TELINGAN and BT MENDARAM sqs 9481, 9480. 2 ORs evacuated sick. 2 ORs marched in.	
	JUN 7		Effective str 39 Offrs 751 ORs. (Att under W/E 1/30) Weather conditions are unfavourable and it is improbable that the RAMPAYOH airstrike will go on today. One tp of 16 Bty left by LCM for A coy area.	
		0910	4 more Indian PW are reported to be recovered by A coy.	
		1050	Bde comd accompanied by G 1 Lt-Col WILSON, CRA Brig EASTICK and CO of 2/8 Fd Regt, Lt-Col JOHNSTON visited this HQ.	
		1100	Natives report that the Japs have evacuated the entire LABI area and are moving down the RIDAN-MARUDI tr. Evidently one was left behind as the DYAKS have just brought in a fresh head to A Coy.	
		1430	14 Pl has now rejoined C coy and reports NMS along the MELAYAN TRACK. C coy is now disposed: Coy HQ 900036, 13 Pl 010003(Kg BISUT) 14 pl 90750290 one sec 907930; 15 pl BT PUAN.	
		1800	An Auster will be available for Army co-op tomorrow. It is unlikely that they will have a target. Arty are now in position at SEMBURU (one sec 16 Bty).	
		2105		
	JUN 8		Effective Strength 39 Offrs 752 ORs. (att under WE 1/30) Two working parties are sent to Bde. B coy is supplying them. A coy patrol has set out for MENDARAM. It is doubtful if they will be fast enough to catch the Japs.	
		1035	2 pl is now at SIMPANG and J det engrs at 895883.	
		1450	4 more Indian PW have been recovered by A coy. One skull (fresh Jap) delivered to A coy by a DYAK. Bde reports that the DYAKS are mixing it with the Japs down MARUDI way and finishing up with a firm hold on the thick end of the stick.	
		1640		

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit..... 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From..... 1 JUL 45..... To..... 31 JUL 45.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	JUL 8 (continued)	1750	13 pl patrol left KG BISUT 010010 by canoe for BT USONG and PANG SIONG. We are definitely becoming aquatic minded these days . The patrol will remain overnight.	
		1920	A DYAK who reached C coy from the TUTONG R area reported that some days ago a party of 18 Japs reached their village and asked for guides for TUTONG. Result; 36 DYAKS 18 Japs less bodies arrived at destination. The DYAK offered to deliver the heads to C coy but said that they would prefer to keep them as they had a party on . Permission granted to retain heads. Showing definite professional courtesy DYAKS requested permission to go to LABI to collect more heads.	
		2030	Another report is received of DYAKS putting a party of Japs to flight three hrs SOUTH of MENDARAM on the RIDAN tr. DYAKS scored three rifles.	
		2125	Reports of continued movement south by Japs are coming in.	
		2200	A coy's patrol to MENDARAM continued south along tr to BT TERAJA. A bivouac area was found where Japs had stayed the previous night but the result of the patrol was NMS.	
	JUL 9	0930	Effective strength 38 Offrs 747 ORs. B coy opens the day with a route march from SERIA to KUALA BELAIT. There is not much doing in the SERIA area but the surf is good. We now have quite a collection of native prahus and many of our tps are now quite expert in shooting breakers in them.	
		1210	C coy's patrol to BT USONG area has returned. NMS. Natives informed them that the latest Japs in area left 15 days ago. A coy patrol along tr to KG RIDAN set out at 0830 hrs. 2 Pl less one sec has established as a base for them at MENDARAM. One det 5 pl has joined A coy HQ.	
		1515	Bde comd visited this HQ. We like his BUICK 1939 sedan.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ	10 Jul		Effective strength 39 Offrs 777 ORs (1/31)	
		0630	A new code word has been received for the R/T code No 2 and so we are saved from the dreaded TRENCODE.	
		1030	Capt G. "Gunner" Holtsbaum has gone to MENDARAM to glean some news of his patrol to Kg RIDAN.	
		1045	Bde Comd, C.O., B.M., Adjt leave by the "Flyer" for BADAS. From BADAS they will go to Bt PUAN by "Phut Phut" boat. Personnel are engaged in preparations for the surf carnival to be held to-morrow. An arena, announcer's stand, pillow fight pole and sundry other appointments are being erected. The pnrns doing most of the construction. Lt Peter Cunningham is the organising genius. There is much canoe activity with crews practicing for the races to-morrow.	
		1300	A report is received through A Coy that Lt Horsfall's patrol to Kg RIDAN bivouaced last night one hours march from RIDAN. They have found many recent signs of enemy activity. Further reports are being received from natives sources that the enemy are moving SOUTH from MARUDI to LINEI.	
		1630	Bde Comd and C.O. return from BADAS. On the down trip the "Flyer" hit a log on the rails and jumped the track. NO cas. The Japs are very hard to catch these days. If "Horsface" doesn't get any after walking all the way to RIDAN he will be extremely annoyed. During the operations he has walked twice as far as anyone else with little luck. While he has been searching afar his fellow platoon commanders have been getting nice little bags of four or five right on the door-step.	
			Marched in 4 ORs - marched out 3 ORs.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	11 Jul	11 Jul 1030	<p style="text-align: center;">Effective strength 39 Offrs 779 ORs (1/31)</p> <p>A Coy are having some bother with their native paddlers and are asking for outboard motors to replace them. They have had a mishap with their Deisel launch capsizing it in 15 ft of water with some loss of equipment.</p>	
		1330	<p>We were to have had a Surf Carnival to-day but pouring rain has forced a postponement until to-morrow.</p> <p>During the morning the C.O. talked with Maj G.S. Carter (SRD operating in the MARUDI area). Outcome of the talk is that D Coy will leave for MARUDI in a couple of days where they will establish a patrol base and assist the SRD.</p>	
		1630	<p>A message has been received from SRD that they have been forced to withdraw from MARUDI.</p>	
		1800	<p>Lt Horsfall's patrol to RIDAN returned to MENDARAM. Natives told them that the Japs still have the Indian PW with them and are making for LINEI.</p> <p>The arrival of a daughter for Capt A.J. "FOO" Wright is celebrated at the Command Post with some of the local brew and some Scotch.</p>	
			<p>B3 pl 2/2 MG Bn is to relieve C Coy in the BADAS area. The war has become very tame and we now haven't a Jap in our area of responsibility.</p> <p>The section of 16 Bty guns is to return to SERIA from BADAS.</p>	M/O Nil - M/I 1 OR.
	12 "	0945	<p style="text-align: center;">Effective strength 39 Offrs 781 (1/31)</p> <p>Engineer detachment with A Coy is to rejoin their platoon at SERIA. There is no work for them at LABI.</p>	
		1000	<p>16 Bty less one section is now concentrated at PENAGA Golf Course. The other section remains at SEMBURU.</p>	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		1430	The Surf Carnival begins. The postponement has been justified as the afternoon is bright and clear. Nominations have been good and in addition to the battalion entries we have competitors from 16 Bty 2/8 Fd Regt, B3 Pl 2/2 MG Bn, Sup Dep Pl AASC, Air Force and Navy.	
		1535	13 pl leaves Bt PUAN by canoe. They expect to reach KUALA BELAIT to-morrow. To-night they will stage at KUAAA BALAI.	
		1930	2 pl less one sec has rejoined A Coy at SIMPANG. The Surf Carnival this afternoon was a great success. B3 pl put on a good show for a small unit. The best individual performer for the day was Matheson of C Coy. The variation of events was good and the enthusiasm of the organisers received the reward it deserved.	
		1945	The Bn Concert Party has begun it's performance. It should be appreciated. We are supplying working parties 50 strong throughout the night at KUALA BELAIT to off-load LSMs. The Headman of GADONG reports that the Japs moving SOUTH from KUALA BELAIT have reached LINEI.	M/I 1 Offr (Capt B.J Blundell MC) M/O Nil
	13 Jul		Effective strength 39 Offrs 782 ORs (1/31) D Coy is to move to MARUDI on the BARAM river. They will have air support.	
		1305	Protective patrols from A Coy at SIMPANG to TANAJOR and RAMPAYOH report NMS.	
		1645	Bde Comd & Brig Wells B.G.S visits this HQ. Both have a trial shoot with a new Browning 9 mm automatic pistol sent to us for trial.	
		1730	A report has been received that Japs moving from BAKOENG SOUTH along the BARAM river bayoneted 18 Dyaks at MARUDI.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			<p>It looks as if D Coy might have a job to do. C Coy has now completed the move from BADAS and are now concentrated in the SERIA area. Disposns: Coy HQ 764085, 13 pl HQ and one sec 768087, 14 pl 764084, 15 pl 764084, two secs 13 pl en route BADAS-KUALA BELAIT by canoe. During the morning 10 pl B Coy left for TUTONG where they will relieve 4 pl who are guarding the airstrip. When relieved 4 pl will establish at SERIA. 10 pl are marching to TUTONG.</p>	<p>M/I 5 ORs M/O 2 ORs</p>
	14 Jul	0900	<p style="text-align: center;">Effective strength 40 Offrs 785 ORs (1/31)</p> <p>D Coy plus det Mortars, sigs, Arty recce, Engrs and M.O. leave KUALA BELAIT travelling in three LCMs escorted by one LCM Gunboat and the armed launch H.M.A.S "TIGERSNAKE" for MARUDI. They will stage during the night on the banks of BARAM river and are scheduled to reach MARUDI 15 Jul. D Coy will establish a patrol base at MARUDI and assist the SRD party which is operating in the area.</p>	
		1130	<p>The C.O. and I.O. ^{who} were to fly to MARUDI to-day returned from Bde. The Catalina is not available. 13 pl has completed the canoe trip from BADAS to KUALA BELAIT and report NMS.</p>	
		1300	<p>To-day is very quiet and there is little to report. A Coy patrol 8 pl under Lts Graham and Vock left SIMPANG for RIDAN where they will establish an ambush. The pl will contact D Coy in the MARUDI area.</p>	
		1800	<p>8 pl bivouacs at MENDARAM. They will move on to TERAJA river at 150900I. 5 pl less two secs will establish an outpost to aid communication and supply to 8 pl at 151600I. Disposns as at 141800I. BnHQ 76400867 (1:25,000 series). A Coy HQ 934871 (BADAS Special)</p>	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			7pl 935870 en route RIDAN 9 pl 930870 " " " B Coy HQ 76330865 (1:25,000 series) 10 pl TUTONG ferry and Airstrip 11 pl 64900615 (KUALA BELAIT) 12 pl 76330850 C Coy HQ 764085 13 pl 76780870 14 pl 764084 15 pl 764084 (less two secs) 2 Secs 15 pl 76480836 D Coy En route MARUDI by LCMs 2 pl 885882 (BADAS Special) 3 pl 2 dets with A Coy 2 " " B Coy 1 " at TUTONG 3 " BnHQ 4 pl En route SERIA from TUTONG 5 pl (less 1 sec) MENDARAM 1 Sec 5 pl BnHQ 16 Bty One Sec SEMBURU Three secs 733077 (Golf Course)	
	15 Jul	0945	Effective strength 40 Offrs 786 ORs (1/31) D Coy are having trouble with their outboard motor.	M/I 1 OR
		1000	Maj McCulloch (Entomologist) calls to see the C.O. A sec patrol from A Coy sets out for TANAJOR to contact a Chinese collaborator reported to be harbouring 3 Japs.	M/O Nil
		1230	D Coy has sent in a request for an airstrike on BAKOENG. There are 12 Spitfires available to give them cover to-day	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			D Coy are receiving considerable information of considerable enemy movement in the BAKOENG-MARUDI area. 50 Japs with 3 MGs are reported to be at the RIDAN-BARAM river junc.	
		1430	Spitfires begin bombing and strafing the enemy positions. This is followed by a rocket barrage from the Gunboat. All support fire is well in the target area.	
		1515	16 and 17 pls land unopposed at 7862. The Gunboat and 18 pl move on to MARUDI. 16 and 17 pls will proceed across country to join 18 pl.	
		1720	A report has been received that Maj Sato, who commanded the enemy force at BRUNEI has been killed. His skull in company with 3 others has been brought in by Dyaks in the LIMBANG area.	
		2230	D Coy has reached MARUDI. Their time of arrival has not been stated. No opposition has been met.	
			A Coy's patrol to TANAJOR returned with 4 Chinese but no Japs. They have been unable to get any information from the Chinese.	M/I 2 ORs M/O 1 OR
	16 Jul		Effective strength 40 Offrs 787 ORs (1/31) D Coy disposns at MARUDI last night were as follows: Coy HQ Government Office MARUDI 16 pl Western outskirts MARUDI 17 pl KUALA RIDAN 18 pl With Coy HQ.	
			One Chinese who had been left in the hospital by the SRD party was killed by the Japs. All local patrols NMS. The Union Jack has been hoisted in MARUDI. A bit of flag wagging goes down with the "locals".	
		0945	D Coy have received reports of enemy at the river bend 7663 (Strat series)	
		1100	A Coy are asking for another outboard. They must be founding a navy.	

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

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ		1200	A pl under Lt Clarkson has set out from MARUDI to contact Lt Graham's pl at Kg RIDAN. The remainder of D Coy is engaged in local patrols in the MARUDI area.	
			Natives report that 40 Japs evacuated the position at KUALA RIDAN when D Coy landed. D Coy have posted the proclamation of martial law in the Bazaar at MARUDI. They have found an enemy marked map showing withdrawal routes.	
		1800	A Coy reports that they have posted proclamation of Martial Law at both LABI and KUALA BALAI.	
			A Coy pl has set out from MENDARAM for RIDAN. Lt Vock is following on with the ration party.	
		2100	Lt Graham's patrol has reached RIDAN. A pigeon has arrived at Bde with a message.	
			2 American officers Maj Finnegan and Capt Carry have arrived from GHQ Manilla and will make a report on Oilfields.	
			The Mobile Cinema is showing to-night. The films are of the usual standard.	M/I 1 OR M/O Nil
	17 Jul		Effective strength 40 Offrs 788 ORs (1/31)	
		0800	Things are very tame to-day and no reports have come in from our forward Coys.	
		1115	A D Coy patrol in the MARUDI area found an abandoned enemy launch. The launch is 50 ft long and seaworthy. The magneto is missing.	
			The rubber plantation is badly neglected and will require much work to restore it to workable condition. Information suggests that the Japs are breaking up into small parties in the LINEI area.	
			Lt Forster has set out from D Coy with a gunboat and an LCM on patrol up river to BAKOENG. They return to-morrow.	
			A D Coy patrol to 770625 (MIRI 1:250,000) reports NMS.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ		1510	SRD party reports the Japs are moving from LINEI towards Bt MULU.	
		1535	A native who contacted D Coy claims the Dyaks are fighting the Japs along S.PASIT.	
		1850	An SRD report has come to hand stating that the enemy are now completely demoralised and starving. 11 were killed by natives at LINEI yesterday and 15 at BAKOENG a few days ago. Stragglers are asking the Ibans to kill them. The Ibans and Poonans (two Dyak tribes) have declared a truce and have launched a joint offensive against the Japs. It looks as though Kamimura and his boys will pay in full for their massacre of the Indian PW at KUALA BELAIT. The MARUDI Dyaks have been shown a photo of Kamimura and told we want him alive.	
		2200	There are some Japs about after all. D Coy pl moving to contact 8 pl at RIDAN encountered 12 Japs at 1200 hrs at 850660 (Strat series). The Japs withdrew towards KUALA RIDAN before they could be engaged. A party which followed them was unable to regain contact. 18 pl then proceeded on towards RIDAN and two hours later encountered 40 enemy with 4 LMGs. The enemy were engaged and our troops endeavoured to encircle them. The enemy were on slightly rising ground and our troops were in a swamp. After a hot fire fight in which 10 enemy were thought to be killed our troops withdrew. Our own cas were one killed, Cpl Howard, an original of the unit, and two wounded. 18 pl then returned to MARUDI. The D Coy patrol under Lt B Forster to BAKOENG also met enemy. BAKOENG was secured without opposition but natives stated that there were 18 Japs coming down stream by canoe. A waterborne ambush was set near ARANG but the Japs failed to turn probably having heard the engines of the LCMs. The patrol then moved on and on rounding the river bend was met with	

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

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			with MG fire which penetrated the ramp killing Pte R.Griffiths. The gunboat engaged and silenced the MGs. The nature of the banks made a landing impossible and the patrol was forced to return to BAKOENG. While putting about the enemy again engaged our craft. The fire was ineffective.	M/I 1 OR M/O 3 ORs
	18 Jul	0950	Effective strength 40 Offrs 786 ORs (1/31) A patrol from 8 pl outpost at RIDAN encountered 40 enemy with 4 LMGs at 0845 hrs. No doubt the same party as met by 16 pl yesterday. The sec attacked killing 4 and forced the withdrawal of the outpost. The sec then launched two more attacks but were pinned by heavy mortar and MG fire. Our sec returned the fire by mortar and rifle grenades and then withdrew 200 yds. The enemy then heavily shot up the vacated area with mortar and MG fire. Our patrol broke off contact. The sec Comd is wounded but remaining on duty.	
		1305	Lt Forster's patrol is endeavouring to find tracks forward to the enemy position encountered yesterday. A Coy reports the recovery of the PITA gun which was lost when the launch sank at KUALA BALAI.	
		1710	2/12 Fd Amb at MIRI reports that the 2 wounded from D Coy have been admitted and are in good condition. It was thought that Pte Johns H.J. who had been hit in the thigh had developed gangrene.	
		1830	A Coy are not happy about their line communication through BADAS. At present morse only can be used. Pictures for we of the base area to-night. Twp natives have been wounded by Japs in the MARUDI area. One has a bullet wound in the shoulder and the other a sword wound in the back of the head.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ		2320	17 pl reports an air strike and a mortar concentration on enemy positions on the BAKONG river all fell in the target area.	M/I I OR M/O 1 OR
	19 Jul	0105	Effective strength 40 Offrs 782 ORs (1/31) A party of Dyaks has left MARUDI to try to recover Cpl Howard's body.	
		1115	Div will not allow us to have 75 mm guns at MARUDI with D Coy. The arty are not pleased. Our reserve Coys are engaged in route marching. It is hot work in this country.	
		1215	D Coy reports that Dyaks in the area are most co-operative. A report from D Coy states that there are 24,000 Katis of raw rubber at MARUDI and that they anticipate finding more. The plantation will be ready for tapping in one months time.	
		1630	A patrol from MARUDI to 780613 (Strat series) found 3 dead natives. One was a woman and her breast had been cut off.	
		1745	A patrol from MENDARAM made contact with Lt Graham's pl at RIDAN. "Porky" wants to remain at RIDAN as he considers he has a good chance of "bagging" some more Japs.	
		1840	D Coy reports that an AUSTER strip can easily be prepared at MARUDI. There are 24000 katis of raw rubber at MARUDI and that there are probably further supplies available in the area. In view of the lack of effort by the powers that be to do anything about the SERIA oil fires we wonder how long it will be before they come to a decision about the disposal of the rubber.	
			A belated report has been received from A Coy. A patrol from RIDAN on the 17th Jul reached GADONG (position not stated) No contact was made.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ		1900	A Coy pl at RIDAN reports the arrival of Dyaks with 3 Jap skulls. They claim that an officer once owned one of them. The Dyaks have evidently been trained in security as they brought in documents and a map found on the body of the officer. Nothing further to report.	M/I 2 OR M/O 2 OR
	20 Jul	1020	Effective strength 40 Offrs 782 ORs (1/31). A Coy say natives report the Japs are now moving the bulk of their force from LINEI to LIMBANG. A nice walk.	
		1035	A coy has sent a sec of 7 pl to MENDARAM to assist in the re-supply of 8 pl at RIDAN. We are sending a line down to RIDAN. Runner from MENDARAM is NOT a satisfactory means of communication.	
		1200	The A Coy patrol at RIDAN reports that the enemy party encountered yesterday began to move along a track leading to Bt TERAJA late in the afternoon. Yesterday the BAKOENG patrol engaged the enemy positions 700693 with mortars. Dyaks who moved forward reported many groans coming from the enemy positions.	
		1600	Lt Powell with 18 ORs left MARUDI at 1000 hrs to endeavour to make contact with 8 pl at RIDAN. Dyak party returned to D Coy. They report having found Cpl Howard's body which they buried. 5 dead Japs were found in the area. Some of the troops are playing football this afternoon.	M/I 1 OR M/O 1 OR
	21 "		Effective strength 41 Offrs 782 ORs (1/31) Reports of activity by forward coys are slow to come in to-day. B and C Coys and part of HQ Coy are route marching. There has been no report of 18 pl who are on their way to RIDAN. A resupply party to there has left MARUDI.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ		1500	An A Coy carrying party under Lt Vock moving from MENDARAM to RIDAN under the protection of Lt Wood and 5 ORs made contact with the enemy at 1200 hrs near Bt TERAJA. After engaging the enemy with fire our troops returned to MENDARAM. A platoon from MENDARAM moved out at 1400 hrs to deal with enemy.	
		1725 1850	Bde Comd made a brief visit to this HQ. A recce patrol under Lt B. Forster left MARUDI for BAKOENG at 1600 hrs. They are moving by L.C.M. and have taken a canoe with outboard motor. The hospital at MARUDI has been re-opened and a very large number of natives are now receiving treatment for the numerous complaints peculiar to the area to the area . There has been a large influx of natives from up river and the population of the town is becoming sizeable. It would appear that MARUDI is a much more important centre than we at first thought. There are considerable resources in the area and from MARUDI it is possible to control a very large area. The holding of the town will do much to restore British prestige. Already the "locals" are confident of our ability to hold it. It is a great pity that we have not a larger force at our disposal so that we could occupy BAKOENG in force and carry out offensive operations further up the BAKONG River towards BELURU where SRD report a considerable enemy concentration. The enemy now appears to be disposed along the BAKONG River from ARANG to BELURU and along the RIAM Rd.	
		2330	A Coy reports that the Jap party which has now contacted our troops on three occasions has made off into the swamp at 870745. They will NOT be very comfortable in there. Where they entered the swamp 4 abandoned packs and equipment were found. In addition there was lots of blood about. It would seem the ration party did a job. During the afternoon	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			Lt Graham, who is based at RIDAN, laid an ambush at Bt TERAJA but was by passed by the Japs. D Coy patrol to BAKOENG under Lt Forster returned to MARUDI at 1930 hrs.	M/I Nil M/O 7 ORs
	22 Jul		Effective strength 41 Offrs 776 ORs (1/31)	
		0630	One sec of 7 pl has moved to MENDARAM where they are under comd 5 pl.	
		0815	Church Parade for SERIA personnel who are so inclined.	
		0930	7 pl moves to MENDARAM. When relieved 5 pl will return to SIMPANG.	
		1330	A fighting patrol moved out from MENDARAM acting on information from Dyaks that there is a party of Japs moving towards the MENDARAM River.	
		1545	D Coy's patrol around the peninsular area at MARUDI returned at 1330 hrs and reports NMS.	
		1650	A Coy is now asking for canoes and paddlers as they have been having trouble with their outboard motors. Last time they were having trouble with their paddlers and asking for motors.	
		1714	A 5 pl patrol from MENDARAM contacted an 8 pl patrol from RIDAN at Bt TERAJA. The track is clear of enemy. 18 pl under Lt Powell has reached RIDAN from MARUDI. They found the MARUDI - RIDAN track clear. They reached RIDAN late on 21 Jul. They will remain at RIDAN until ordered to return. En route they found 9 mm ammunition in the position which Japs occupied when 16 pl contacted them.	
		1940	An interesting sketch map has been received from WO Horsnell, SRD, who is operating in the BELURU area. It shows details of enemy positions and the track systems in use. SRD are requesting an airstrike.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17^bAust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			A Dyak reports to 5 pl at MENDARAM that the Jap party is at 915801. Position is engaged by arty.	
		1745	Lt Fink who led the MENDARAM patrol during afternoon reports NMS as far as 876815.	
		2350	Request for airstrike on BELURU lodged on behalf of SRD.	
			A Coy report that the Jap party of which we are seeing so much is being led or guided by Chinese who know the LABU area.	M/I 1 OR M/O 1 OR
	23 Jul		Effective strength 41 Offrs 776 ORs (1/31)	
		0830	D Coy reports that Lt Forster's patrol returned 221830I. Patrol established at 692721 and moved forward to 698692 NMS. Then patrol Comd, 2 ORs and 2 Dyaks moved by canoe to 694698 then along the bank to 700693. From this point enemy positions at 699692 were observed for 35 minutes but NMS. Natives stated that 1 Jap offr and 4 wounded Japs were seen moving towards NAKAL	
		1220	21 Jul. Patrol returned to MARUDI without further incident. C.O. spoke by R/T to Maj N.B.Trebeck at MARUDI re standing patrol at BAKOENG, Dyak patrol up BAKONG River, SCR 300 sets and overland routes BAKOENG - MARUDI.	
		1430	A Coy do NOT want any more pigeons. By the time they reach there they are useful for one day only.	
			D Coy are having some strife endeavouring to place villages, tracks etc in the MARUDI area on the map. It is long overdue for higher formations to supply reasonable maps on which to operate.	
			D Coy reports that they have recovered an Indian PW.	
		1620	A 17 pl patrol around the peninsular at MARUDI reports NMS.	
		1710	We are to furnish a report on OBOE SIX by 2 Aug. Dyaks have brought in two skulls. They found the Jap bodies in the sago swamp west of TERAJA. They had evidently died of wounds inflicted by 8 pl patrol at 180850I.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ		1925	The "Six Dominoes" Concert Party has arrived at BnHQ to put on a show.	
		2120	A D Coy carrying party returning fto MARUDI from RIDAN found footprints of three Japs at RIDAN. They lost trace of them in the swamp. No other signs of Japs were seen. Enemy casualties to date: Counted Dead 96 Unconfirmed 22 Wounded -- PW 9	M/I 1 OR M/O 1 OR
	24 Jul		Effective strength 41 Offrs 776 ORs (1/31) Maj J Ochiltree, one of our original officers, is staying with us at present. He is a Staff Corps Offr and intends to enter the Int Corp after the war. He is now engaged in studying Intelligence on the Bde and Bn levels. Amenities are becoming active and are to run a Table Tennis tournament. The Bde amenities offr will be a busy man. D Coy personnel in the MARUDI area are engaged in local patrols.	
		1220	A D Coy patrol which returned at 1415I had moved to 781672	
		1640	found a well worn track which petered out in a swamp at 789623. A JUKI strip was found at 782521. NMS. throughout patrol. (ref map 1:50,000)	
		1620	16 pl are now at 79636080. 17 pl less one sec have established at BAKOENG.	
		1655	18 pl begin their return journey from RIDAN to MARDUI to-morrow. An Indian PW has been brought in to 8 pl by Dyaks. He escaped from the Japs at LINEI. The party laying line to RIDAN have reached Bt TERAJA and expect to reach RIDAN on 25 Jul. Lt Fink has been informed by Dyaks that they have captured the	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

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Unit... 2/17 Aust. Inf. Bn.....

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45..... To 31 Jul 45.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			<p>JUKI belonging to the party which we have contacted on three occasions. The remnants of this party are now reported to be 1½ days march East of MENDARAM. These lads can hike. The Dyaks are joining in the chase.</p> <p>The PW recovered by D Coy reports that the Japs force at LINEI is made up by KAMIMURA TAI, KEMPI TAI and ASANO TAI. They have no automatics now and less than half have rifles. Their morale and physical condition is poor. They stated that their intention is to make for BELURU via MARUDI. We hope they try!</p> <p>A Coy detachment at K. BALAI are carrying out successful salvage operations from the sunken launch. Seems a pity to be bringing M and V to the surface after disposing of it so well.</p> <p><u>Battalion disposns:</u></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">BnHQ 76400867 (K. BELAIT NE) A Coy HQ 931875 (LABI Special) 7 pl 915805 (MENDARAM Special) 8 pl 8968 (MIRI Strat) 9 pl 930870 (LABI Special) B Coy HQ 76330865 (K. BELAIT NE) 10 pl 095264 (K. TUTONG) 11 pl 64900615 (K. BELAIT SW) 12 pl 76330850 (K. BELAIT NE) C Coy HQ 764085 (" ") 13 pl plus one sec 76780870 (" ") 2 sec 76780848 (" ") 3 " 76940864 (" ") 14 pl 764084 (" ") 15 pl 76480836 (" ") D Coy HQ 79956075 (MARUDI Special) 16 pl 79856080 (" ") 17 pl less 1 sec BAKOENG (MIRI Strat)</p>	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			18 pl plus one sec RIDAN 8968 (MIRI Strat) MMG pl one sec 93008750 (LABI Special) " " D COY 79956075 (MARUDI Special) 3 pl 2 dets A Coy 1 det TUTONG 2 " D COY remainder BnHQ area. 5 pl less 2 secs SIMPANG. 2 " BnHQ area Total of INDIAN PW now 60. D Coy has had a visit from WO Horsnell SRD who is in charge of the force operating BELURU area. He states he is NOT strong enough to deal with the Japs there.	M/I Nil M/O 4 ORs
	25 Jul		Effective strength 41 Offrs 773 ORs (1/31) 10 pl at TUTONG FERRY reports having been on a patrol yesterday to TUNGGULIANG. Information was received from natives that there are five Japs there. The patrol moved to PERUMPONG by jeep and then on foot with a Chinese guide to TUNGGULIANG where 5 Formosans were found working as labourers for the Chinese villagers. The Japs had brought the Formosans to the SERIA oilfields. Our patrols sent them to BRUNEI. D Coy is engaged in local patrols at MARUDI and is assessing the rubber resources. 17 pl at BAKOENG is carrying out recce patrols up river from their base. 18 pl is still in the RIDAN area. A second PW has been recovered by D Coy at MARUDI. He escaped from the Japs at LINEI and reports them to be in poor condition and morale. They have discarded all automatic weapons and most of their gear. At SARAJOW he saw 12 Jap heads in the possession of Dyaks. Of these 2 were officers of the NIJUMA TAI. He also thought he recognised the head of KAMIMURA. If it is he we hope he died hard.	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit... 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			17 pl report NMS. for 3½ hours' paddle up S ARANG. Three Japs were unsuccessfully chased along the banks of the BAKOENG River. Natives in the area are giving them information of enemy movement in the area.	
		1945	A coy reports that a patrol from seven pl to 980776 (Labi Special) found a Juki M.G. and ammunition. It had been abandoned by the Jap party operating in the area during the last few days. The Jap party is now reported by natives to be at the Saud R.	
		2100	RIDAN is now connected by line to A Coy. A recovered P.W. (Indian) reached this H.Q. to-night. We had to inform him of the death of his brother while in our care here.	M/I 1 OR M/O 4 ORs
	26 Jul		Effective strength 41 Offrs 769 ORs (1/31) To-day is even quieter than usual. We have had no reports of operations from either A or D Coys. The elements of the battalion concentrated in BnHQ area are busily engaged in restoring SERIA to it's former tidy state. Drains are being cleared and the abundant long grass cut. Lt Crisp's recce yesterday moved by canoe to 692698 (1:50,000) then along bank to 698690. At 69956910 one tunnel was found also a hut which had room for 20/30 men. At 698695 trenches were found and expended .303 1941 ammunition. The spent rounds suggested a Lewis gun. NMS throughout patrol.	
		1735	Capt Connoek, manager for British Malay Petroleum Coy SERIA, visited this HQ. He is now established here in SERIA and has the unenviable task of restoring order to the oilfields. Local patrols in the MARUDI & LABI areas made no contact.	M/I 3 ORs M/O 5 ORs

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ	27 Jul	0830	Effective strength 41 Offrs 767 ORs (1/31) 18 pl leaves RIDAN for MARUDI. It is expected that they will reach MARUDI to-morrow.	
		1130	24 Kittyhawks pass over on their way to bomb BELURU. C.O. speaks to Maj Trebeck over R/T and discussed attaching D Coy personnel to SRD patrols.	
		1450	18 pl returns from RIDAN. Daily contact patrols had been made between RIDAN and MARUDI during 18 pl's stay at RIDAN. In a surprise message the Bde Sig officer has complimented the battalion sigs for their work.	
		1900	Lt-Col Morgan 2/12 Fd Amb visits MARUDI. Much discussion goes on amongst personnel eligible for release under the 5 year plan. Those concerned find it difficult to think of anything else.	
				During the afternoon the Bde Comd visited this HQ to discuss releases.
	28 "	0945	Effective strength 41 Offrs 765 ORs A message received from D Coy reports that the Japs have re-occupied ARANG. A 2 section patrol under Lt Crisp moved to ARANG from BAKOENG on native information that 6 Japs were killing pigs at ARANG. Patrol found that the Japs had gone. Lt Crisp with one section returned by the river track and the other section under Cpl Lemaire by the inland track. As Lemaire's section approached the tunnel area at 699691 they were ambushed by 8 Japs armed with rifles. When the Japs opened fire Pte Williams was wounded and one Dyak killed. One Jap officer and 2 ORs then charged. Lemaire killed the officer and 1 OR was killed by patrol. L/Cpl Giffen assisted Williams to the Dyaks with the patrol and then disappeared. While looking for him Lemaire encountered another Jap whom he killed. The patrol made repeated efforts to find Giffen but	

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Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			<p>were unable to find him in the long swamp grass. The patrol then made a difficult withdrawal through swamp passing two Japs on the way and met a party under Lt Crisp who had come out from BAKOENG to look for them. The above encounter took place on the afternoon of Jul 27.</p> <p>At 2330 hrs on the same night 17 pl withdrew from BAKOENG to MARUDI. Natives had informed ^{them} of the approach of two parties of Japs.</p>	
		1000	D Coy are carrying out local patrols in the MARUDI area. They have received a report of two Japs in the PENINSULAR area.	
		1325	An urgent request has been received from D Coy for a Tac R of the BAKOENG - ARANG area.	
		1335	The C.O. gave these instructions to Maj Trebeck. 17 pl plus one sec MGs will establish forthwith at junction BAKOENG - BARAM rivers. Tasks: (1) secure the L of C along the BARAM River (2) endeavour ^{to} contact by patrolling (3) secure an area in which to build up a larger force after MARUDI is free of any overland threat.	
		1615	Special instructions: The force will only be withdrawn under the most extreme circumstances	
		1715	A power phone is to be sent to D Coy D Coy reports that 17 pl plus one det Mortars occupied K. BAKOENG at 1200 hrs.	
		2030	A patrol around the PENINSULAR area found SRD medical gear 5 Jap packs and blankets D Coy's proposed patrols for to-morrow are: Serial 16 Lt Forster 3 ORs plus Dyaks - out 0800 hrs from MARUDI by overland track to BAKOENG. They will endeavour to find L/Cpl Giffen. At 0900 hrs an SRD patrol is setting out for ARANG. A Coy seems to be having a quiet time. Personnel in SERIA area are engaged in training	

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WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

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Unit. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.														
FORCE HQ		2100	<p>During the day the first 3 personnel to be released from the battalion under the 5 Year Plan left for LABUAN. They are Pte J. Geaney, W. Patman and W. Priest. They well deserved the break. 3 recovered Indian PW from MARUDI reached this HQ. They were in fair condition. The total recovered is now 62.</p> <p>Total enemy casualties to date:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr><td>Killed</td><td style="text-align: right;">100</td></tr> <tr><td>Unconfirmed killed</td><td style="text-align: right;">22</td></tr> <tr><td>Wounded</td><td style="text-align: right;">8</td></tr> <tr><td>PW</td><td style="text-align: right;">9</td></tr> </table> <p>Own casualties</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr><td>Killed</td><td style="text-align: right;">8</td></tr> <tr><td>Wounded</td><td style="text-align: right;">12</td></tr> <tr><td>Missing</td><td style="text-align: right;">1</td></tr> </table>	Killed	100	Unconfirmed killed	22	Wounded	8	PW	9	Killed	8	Wounded	12	Missing	1	
Killed	100																	
Unconfirmed killed	22																	
Wounded	8																	
PW	9																	
Killed	8																	
Wounded	12																	
Missing	1																	
	29 Jul	0630	<p>Effective strength 41 Offrs 757 ORs (1/31)</p> <p>C.O. leaves for MARUDI by re-supply craft from K. BELAIT. 70 pounds of gelignite to demolish Jap tunnels at ARANG. A power phone has also been sent forward.</p>	<p>XXXXXXXX</p> <p>M/I 1 OR</p> <p>M/O 8 ORs (incl 3 Five Year Plan discharges)</p>														
		1200	<p>2 Boomerangs pass over on their way to do a Tac R of the BAKOENG ARANG area.</p>															
		1445	<p>Dyaks report to D Coy that approx 20 Haps are moving South at 9668 NW of MARUDI. D Coy feel that the Dyaks might be putting over a story to obtain more rifles. They have been sent out for more detailed information.</p>															
		1540	<p>Tac R of BAKOENG area dropped by Boomerang. Signs of considerable activity were seen South along the river from ARANG for a distance of approx 8 miles.</p>															
		1930	<p>Mobile Cinema is showing in the area.</p> <p>Lt Forster's patrol to BAKOENG across country was unable to pass through the swamps which were waist deep. The patrol returned to MARUDI.</p>															

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			<p>During the afternoon 17 pl and det mortars and sec MGs moved forward to and established at BAKOENG. They have had no contact with the enemy.</p> <p>Fire fighting is progressing steadily with some measure of success. It is anticipated that the remaining fires will be extinguished within the next two weeks. Equipment made by Engineers and L.A.D. has proved efficient.</p>	M/I 1 OR M/O Nil
	30 Jul	0845	<p style="text-align: center;">Effective strength 41 Offrs 759 ORs (1/31)</p> <p>Route march for all personnel in BnHQ area. Troops marched out with band leading.</p>	
		1030	<p>D Coy reports that the SRD patrol to ARANG was unable to get through due to chest deep swamp. The report of Lt Forster's patrol being unable to get through was NOT correct. The patrol reached BAKOENG and found it unoccupied. 17 pl and det mortars and sec MGs then moved from K.BAKONG and occupied an area beyond the village at 688716.</p>	
		1715	<p>C.O. accompanied by M.O. returns from MARUDI by Catalina. He reports MARUDI to be an easy position to hold and that our troops have been well received by locals.</p> <p>D Coy reports that enemy did not enter BAKOENG after the withdrawal of 17 pl.</p>	
		2100	<p>L/Cpl Giffen's body has been found by the Chinese interpreter with 17 pl.</p>	M/I 4 ORs M/O 2 ORs
	31 "	0830	<p style="text-align: center;">Effective strength 41 Offrs 759 ORs (1/31)</p> <p>10 pl leaves TUTONG on a two day hike to rejoin B Coy at SERIA. They handed over to a force from 2/15 Bn.</p>	
		0930	<p>Lt Horsfall sets out with a patrol from SIMPANG to Bt TELINGAN to intercept a party of Japs reported by natives to be moving in that direction.</p>	

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.															
FORCE HQ		1135	A Tac R received of the area between BELURU and ARANG indicates a fair amount of enemy activity in some areas. A party of natives in Jungle Greens was sighted. Possibly SRD. Another party waved a Union Jack.																
		1400	A D Coy patrol yesterday failed to find L/Cpl Giffen's body. The guide lost his way and the darkness caused the attempt to be abandoned. Another patrol has been sent out to-day at 0930 hrs. D Coy are receiving excellent co-operation from natives. An Iban Police Inspector has been giving first rate topographical information.																
		1830	<p>The line has now been laid between D and A Coys. Communication should now be more satisfactory.</p> <p>Local patrols in A and D Coy areas have negative results. It would appear that we have our area clear of enemy. It is probable that from now on our only contact will be when we move outside of area of responsible.</p> <p>The 5 Year Plan is a hot favourite as a topic of conversation amongst those personnel who are eligible. Everyone is now becoming impatient for a ruling as to their fate.</p> <p>Lt Horsfall's patrol returned NMS. Patrol from D Coy found L/Cpl Giffen's body and buried it at 699690. His pay book, AAB 83 and identity discs had been removed by the enemy.</p> <p>The month closes with our area clear of enemy. During the month we killed 15 enemy and inflicted other casualties and took 3 Japs and 3 Formosans PW. In addition we recovered 18 Indian PW. Our own losses 3 killed 3 wounded.</p> <p>Disposns as at 31 Jul:</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="1190 1553 2441 1737"> <tr> <td>BnHQ</td> <td>76400870</td> <td>(K. BELAIT NE 1:25,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A Coy HQ</td> <td>931873</td> <td>(LABI Special 1:63,360)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 pl</td> <td>915805</td> <td>(MENDARAM Special 1:63,360)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8 pl</td> <td>9068</td> <td>(MIRI 1:250,000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9 pl</td> <td>930870</td> <td>(LABI Special 1:63,360)</td> </tr> </table>	BnHQ	76400870	(K. BELAIT NE 1:25,000)	A Coy HQ	931873	(LABI Special 1:63,360)	7 pl	915805	(MENDARAM Special 1:63,360)	8 pl	9068	(MIRI 1:250,000)	9 pl	930870	(LABI Special 1:63,360)	
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By Authority: L. F. JOHNSTON, Commonwealth Government Printer, Canberra.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			B Coy HQ 76330865 (K.BELAIT NE 1:25,000)	
			10 pl en route TUTONG to Coy HQ.	
			11 pl 64900615 (K.BELAIT SW 1:25,000)	
			12 pl 76330850 (" " NE 1:25,000)	
			C Coy HQ 764085 (" " " ")	
			13 pl HQ and	
			No 1 sec 76780870 (" " " ")	
			No 2 sec 76780840 (" " " ")	
			No 3 sec 76940864 (" " " ")	
			14 pl 764084 (" " " ")	
			15 pl 76480836 (" " " ")	
			D Coy HQ 79956075 (MARUDI Special 1:50,000)	
			16 pl 797608 (" " " ")	
			17 pl 688716 (MARUDI " ")	
			18 pl 798608 (" " " ")	
			MMG 2 pl	
			less 1 sec 93008723 (LABI Special 1:63,360)	
			1 sec 688716 (MARUDI Special 1:50,000)	
			2/2 MG Bn BB	
			pl 903033 (LABI Special 1:63,360)	
			Mortars 3 pl	
			2 Dets A Coy 931873 (" " " ")	
			2 dets B Coy 763086 (K.BELAIT NE 1:25,000)	
			2 dets C Coy 764085 (" " " ")	
			1 det } Bn HQ D Coy 688716 (MARUDI Special 1:50,000)	
			1 det } 10 pl en route TUTONG to SERIA.	
			TkA 4 pl BnHQ area 76400870 (K.BELAIT NE 1:25,000)	
			Pioneers 5 pl	
			less 2 sec 933872 (LABI Special 1:63,360)	
			2 sec 766087 (K.BELAIT NE 1:25,000)	

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

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit... 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From 1 Jul 45 To 31 Jul 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
FORCE HQ			Arty 1 sec SEMBURU 874902 (LABI Special 1:63,360)	
			16 Bty less 1 Sec 733077 (BELAIT NE 1:25,000)	
			Marched in 3 ORs. Marched out 2 ORs.	

[Handwritten Signature]
 Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Lt-Col

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Serial No 2.
Nos 6 - 7.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

Lieutenant Colonel J R BROADBENT

Commanding 2/17 Australian Infantry Battalion.

6. EXTRACTS FROM 9 AUST DIV RO SERIAL 24

The following extracts from 9 Div RO are republished for the immediate action of all sub unit comds:

(a) HYGIENE

Bivouac areas are not being kept up to the required hygiene standard. All units will commence forthwith the "cleaning up" of areas which they are at present occupying.

"Cleaning up" will include:-

- (i) Clearing, burning, and, if necessary burying of all refuse.
- (ii) The clearance of existing drains.
- (iii) Satisfactory drainage of areas.
- (iv) Malarial control.

Sub-units prior to vacating bivouac areas will ensure that same are left in a clean condition. COs and/or OSC units will render a personal certificate to HQ 9 Div indicating that the area which they are vacating, has been "cleaned up" in accordance with the definition contained in Para 1 above.

(b) DRESS AND DISCIPLINE

The general standard of dress and saluting in BRUNEI BAY area is far from satisfactory. The maintenance of a normal high standard in this regard by all ranks under existing operational conditions is indicative of the standard of training and efficiency of the units concerned. GOC 9 Div directs the Comds will give this matter their immediate and personal attention.

(c) PROMULGATION OF ORDERS

It has been found that orders issued by higher HQ are not at all times reaching the individuals who are required to execute them. It is the responsibility of all comds to ensure that all orders issued are promulgated and fully explained to the individuals responsible for their execution. In future,

where individuals who should have received them, are found to be ignorant of orders, the Comd concerned will be called upon to explain why the individual concerned is ignorant of the order issued.

(d) SALVAGE

- (i) The attention of units is drawn to 9 Div Adm Order No 2 para 16 (c), which reads:-

"Commanding Officers will give the collection and return of all salvageable materials within their areas and within areas through which their units may operate their personal attention. An efficient system for the collection of salvage and its rapid delivery to salvage collection points will be established in every unit."

- (ii) This order will be strictly complied with.
- (iii) Sub unit comds will establish dumps for salvageable material within their respective areas and notify the QM of the location.

(e) INDISCRIMINATE SHOOTING

- (i) Time and time again definite orders have been issued by HQ 9 Div indicating that under no circumstances will indiscriminate shooting be tolerated. Despite these orders indiscriminate shooting still continues.

- (ii) GOC 9 Aust Div has directed:-

That clear orders will be promulgated immediately to all ranks that indiscriminate shooting is strictly forbidden.

That where indiscriminate shooting takes place, the individual(s) concerned will be dealt with by severe disciplinary action.

7. NATIVE COMPOUNDS

All native compounds are out of bounds to all unauthorised personnel.

D. W. H. S.
Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
19 Jun 45
Capt

NOTICES

FOUND: On Able Road S & W .38 Pistol No v171968. Name stamped on pistol case is VX19854 B CORNISH. Owner may collect same at DAPM's office 9 Aust Div.

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SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

by

Major-General G F WOOTTEN, CB, CBE, DSO.

GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING NINTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

The Island of LABUAN and the whole of BRUNEI PENINSULA have been captured. The speed with which these operations have been accomplished reflects great credit on all who have been engaged. I congratulate most sincerely all Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, and Men of Ninth Australian Division, First Tactical Air Force RAAF, and United States units under my command, on the great success they have won. It was only by sterling leadership, sound planning, a high standard of training and co-operation between all services, together with the magnificent fighting qualities of the troops engaged, that this result was achieved.

I wish all ranks good luck in the subsequent phases of this operation, which I am confident will continue to be executed with the same high spirit and devotion to duty which have characterized the action to date.

14 Jun 45.

(Signed) G F Wootten Major-General
General Officer Commanding
Ninth Australian Division.

John Mary

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Serial 4

Nos 14 - 17

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PART 1

by

Lieutenant Colonel J R BROADBENT

Commanding 2/17 Australian Infantry Battalion

14. DOGS

1. DRO 190 is hereby cancelled.
2. Units are forbidden to keep dogs as mascots or pets in 9 Aust Div Area.
3. All dogs held by units will be shot and buried forthwith.
4. 9 Aust Div Pro Coy personnel will likewise shoot all stray dogs in military areas and will arrange for their burial in a site to be selected by OC 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.
5. Dogs may be retained by the civilian population but only provided they remain in civilian areas allotted by this HQ in conjunction with BECAU.

15. PREVENTION OF SCHISTOSOMIASIS (BILHARZIA) (BLADDER DISEASE)

1. It has been noticed that troops are bathing and washing clothes in unsterilised water despite the many orders issued to the contrary.
2. Attention is directed to Bn RO 31 of 20 Mar 45, para 151.

" With a view to preventing the above, which is a chronic disease, the following orders will be strictly observed by all COs and/or CSC in all areas NORTH of AUSTRALIA:-

- (a) Troops will not bathe, wash clothes, or clean their teeth in, or drink or handle unsterilised water.
- (b) All water for any human use whatever must first be sterilized by superchlorination for half an hour, or if this is not possible, by boiling.
- (c) Sub-units will be held responsible for ensuring strict compliance with each of the provisions of the abovementioned Bn RO.

16. UNAUTHORISED PERSONNEL VISITING MEDICAL UNITS

1. Considerable difficulty and loss of efficiency is being experienced by Medical Units, and particularly 2/1 CCS, as a result of numbers of troops inspecting Japanese PW and Released Allied PW, who are undergoing medical treatment.


2. Under no circumstances will officers or other ranks visit medical units to inspect the abovementioned personnel. Should they desire to visit AMF personnel undergoing medical treatment, they will report to the HQ of the medical unit concerned and obtain approval to visit a particular ward etc in which such personnel undergoing treatment are located.

17. INCREASED TOBACCO AND CIGARETTE RATION

1. Approval has been obtained to increase the tobacco and cigarette ration for servicemen who are serving overseas.

2. As a result the following ration will operate from 5 Jun in NEW GUINEA, PACIFIC and DARWIN areas -

3 ounces tobacco or 105 cigarettes per week
(without deduction for non smokers).


Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
28 Jun 45

Int Rec

WAR DIARY

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Serial No: 5
Nos: 18 - 25

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

Lieutenant Colonel J R BROADBENT

Commanding 2/17 Australian Infantry Battalion.

18. CURRENCY

1. The following currencies only will be accepted by AIF Paymasters in BRITISH NORTH BORNEO:

- AUSTRALIAN
- AMERICAN
- STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
- NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES
- PHILIPPINE VICTOR PESOS

2. BRITISH NORTH BORNEO and SARAWAK prewar issues will not be accepted.

19. WEARING OF IDENTITY DISCS

1. It has been brought to notice that certain personnel brought to hospital have NOT been wearing identity discs. Identity discs are ordered to be worn to enable correct records in the event of death of the wearer, obtained and in the case of wounded men to enable their correct blood group to be ascertained if a blood transfusion is urgently required.

2. It is an offence which will be severely dealt with for a soldier NOT to wear his identity discs. All officers will carry out frequent inspections to ensure this order is fully complied with.

20. GRO 2437/44 - FOOD CONSERVATION - POTATOES

1. Attention is drawn to the necessity of all officers making clear to troops the reasons of this GRO.

2. The Army Ration has been balanced as a result of scientific study of health and resistance to disease under active service conditions, and unless troops receive the benefit of all the essential food factors in the ration this research is wasted.

3. The boiling and continually soaking of peeled potatoes will destroy more than 50% of the food value of this vegetable particularly when boiled in Soyer stoves in which the tin plate of the inner surface has perished.

4. Potatoes must always be cooked in their jackets. This conserves vitamins, minerals and flavour and makes a saving of 14 lbs weight per 100 lbs (or 17 lb per cent if the cooked skin is eaten as roughage). When potatoes are properly cleaned and cooked in their jackets they make an attractive dish. This is particularly so in the case of young potatoes which are liable to break up when boiled in large quantities after peeling.

5. It is not intended that soldiers should be compelled to eat the skins or that variations in the Menu such as mashed or baked potatoes should not be served. If mashed potatoes are to be served, they should be first par boiled, removed from the fire, then the peel can be removed, in a thin layer, return to the fire, finish cooking, mash and serve. For baked potatoes either clean and bake in jackets, or par boil, remove thin layer of peel, cut in half, place in baking dish with hot fat and brown off in oven. For chip potatoes the skin should not be removed at all as the amount of peel on each chip after cutting is negligible.

6. All officers and in particular unit officers whose duties include the inspection of men's messing facilities will impress upon the minds of their troops that one of the main objects of this order is to preserve the full food value of the vegetable.

21. CENSORSHIP AND SECURITY

1. "Platypus" News Sheet

The news sheet "Platypus" being produced daily by HQ 9 Aust Div may be posted in private correspondence to AUSTRALIA, commencing with the issue published 7 Jul 45.

2. Payment for Japanese Heads

It has been reported that reference has been made in correspondence that payment is allegedly being made for enemy heads brought in by natives. This is NOT a fact. No head toll has been paid to natives by any Allied unit in BORNEO and any reference to this falsehood in letters is forbidden.

3. Parcels

Parcels are being despatched with the inclusion of a slip of paper bearing the full name and full official address of the sender. GRO 371/44 lays down that such a slip be included in all parcels, and senders jeopardize delivery of their parcels by not fulfilling this condition.

4. Foreign Currency

Some doubt still persists with regard to the inclusion of foreign currency in letters. Permission has not been granted for the inclusion of DUTCH currency in correspondence from the divisional area. The inclusion of local currency and JAPANESE invasion money is permitted.

22. PERSONNEL WITH QUALIFICATIONS FOR RAILWAY WORK

Sub-units will forward at earliest full particulars of all personnel on strength who in civil life are qualified in the following trades:

- (a) Railway engine drivers
- (b) Steam loco fitters
- (c) Fitters
- (d) Platelayers.

23. PERSONNEL WITH PRE-WAR EXPERIENCE IN BORNEO

All sub-units will immediately forward the names and full particulars of all personnel who pre-war lived in BORNEO or MALAYA. The particulars to be given will include:

- (a) Particulars of military service.
- (b) Full personal particulars, which will include -

- (i) Length of period lived in BORNEO or MALAYA.
- (ii) Positions held in either country.
- (iii) Languages spoken.

24. WATCHES GS - CARE OF

1. Further to DRO No 187 of 22 Jun 45.
2. A high percentage of watches GS are being received by workshops for repair, with broken balance staffs, of which no replacement stocks are available.
3. The usual cause is sudden jarring, as will happen if a watch is dropped out of a clothes pocket while undressing.
4. Action will be taken to ensure that watches GS are securely attached to the user's person or clothing at all times.

25. MOVING OF FURNITURE

NO furniture will be removed or transferred by units or dets from any government or civil offices or unoccupied houses without the authority of this HQ. (Adv 20 Ede AG705 refers).

J. M. ... Capt
Adj 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
13 Jul 45

SPECIAL MESSAGE

The following message was received recently by Lt-Gen Sir Leslie MORSHEAD, Comd 1 Aust Corps from HRH The Duke of Gloucester:-

/ " I was extremely disappointed to have had to cancel my visit to your Corps owing to the Prime Minister's death. I was looking forward immensely to seeing your men again after their successes at TARAKAN LABUAN BRUNEI and BALIKPAPAN and I am confident that you will complete the liberation of BORNEO in record time. I hope to carry out my visit to you before long. Until then good luck to you all. signed HENRY Gov-Gen"

Please promulgate to all ranks.

War Diary

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Serial No: 6
Nos: 26 -

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

Lieutenant Colonel J R BROADBENT

Commanding 2/17 Australian Infantry Battalion.

26. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL

Result of trial of NX66440 Pte (L/Cpl) BARNETT E A - 2/17 Aust Inf Bn held at HQ NSW L of C Area on 22.6.45.

On the charge of: AWL from 2359 hrs on 6.5.45 until 0915 hrs on 13.6.45.

Finding: Guilty of the charge.

Sentence: To be fined the sum of eight pounds (£8.0.0).

Date of Sentence: 22.6.45.

Finding and sentence confirmed on 25.6.45 by Col L E VAIL.

The accused was awaiting trial for 8 days in close arrest.

Date of promulgation to the accused: 28 Jun 45.

27. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL

Result of trial of NX53030 Pte DEANEY T G - 2/17 Aust Inf Bn held at HQ NSW L of C Area on 8 Jun 45.

On the charge of: DESERTION - (AWL from 2359 hrs on 6.12.44 until 1800 hrs on 31.5.45).

Finding: Not guilty of desertion but guilty of absence without leave.

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

Date of Sentence: 8.6.45.

Finding and sentence confirmed on 15.6.45 by Maj-Gen E C P PLANT.

Date fixed for review of sentence: 8 Jul 45.

The accused was awaiting trial for 7 days in close arrest.

Date of promulgation to the accused: 28 Jun 45.

28. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL

Result of trial of NX14477 Pte VERRINDER A W - 2/17 Aust Inf Bn held at HQ NSW L of C Area on 20 Jun 45.

On the charge of: AWL 0630 hrs 5 May 45 to 1400 hrs 14 Jun 45.

Finding: Guilty of the charge.

Sentence: To undergo detention for sixty days.

Date of Sentence: 20 Jun 45.

Finding and sentence confirmed on 22 Jun 45 by Col L E VAIL.

Date fixed for review of sentence: Not to be reviewed.

The accused was awaiting trial for 5 days in close arrest.

Date of promulgation to the accused: 27 Jun 45.

29. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL

Result of trial of NX170514 Pte O'NEILL J J - 2/17 Aust Inf Bn held at HQ NSW L of C Area on 13 Jun 45.

On the charge of: DESERTION (AWL from 2359 hrs on 22 Aug 44 until 0001 hrs on 5 Jun 45).

Finding: Not guilty of desertion but guilty of AWL.

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

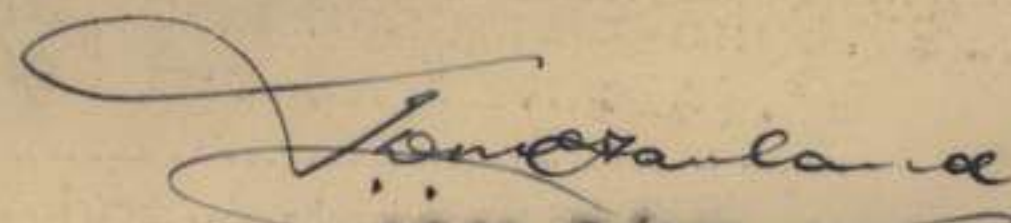
Date of Sentence: 13 Jun 45.

Finding and sentence confirmed on 19 Jun 45 by Col VAIL.

Date fixed for review of sentence: 13 Jul 45.

The accused was awaiting trial in close arrest for 7 days.

Date of promulgation to the accused: 28 Jun 45.


Capt
Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
19 Jul 45

War Diary

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Serial No: 6
Nos: 30 -

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

ROUTINE ORDERS PART I

by

Lieutenant Colonel J R BROADBENT.

Commanding 2/17 Australian Infantry Battalion.

30. AIR MAIL

1. Weather permitting the following air mail services are operating as from 16 Jul 45:

Depart MELBOURNE	1400 hrs Mon, Wed, Fri.
Arrive MOLOTAI	1600 hrs Tue, Thu, Sat.

Connects with Courier Plane.

Departs MOLOTAI	0600 hrs Wed, Fri, Sun.
Arrives LABUAN	1500 hrs Wed, Fri, Sun.
Departs LABUAN	0600 hrs Tue, Thu, Sat.
Arrives MOLOTAI	1500 hrs Tue, Thu, Sat.

Connects with RAAF Mail Plane.

Departs MOLOTAI	0600 hrs Wed, Fri, Sun.
Arrives MELBOURNE	1000 hrs Thu, Sat, Mon.

2. This service conveys Air Mail from all states except Queensland which is despatched via FINSCHHAFEN and TOWNSVILLE.

31. PERSONAL EFFECTS OF CASUALTIES

1. When a casualty is admitted to a medical unit his personal effects should accompany him wherever possible.

2. If this cannot be effected and the casualty has been evacuated beyond a field ambulance, it is impossible to guarantee that personal effects will be forwarded in time to reach their owner before he is evacuated beyond the Divisional area.

3. Unless the casualty can be actually contacted, units will retain his personal effects for safekeeping or disposal.

4. Medical units will not accept personal effects for patients not actually being held by them.

32. BEER - SCALE OF ISSUE

It is anticipated that the stocks of beer available in this area and due to arrive ex AJST will enable an issue to units on purchase on the basis of 1 - 2 bottles per man per week to be maintained unless specially directed by a Commanding Officer not more than one bottle of beer will be sold to any one man on one day. As the quantities of beer available in this area are limited and as, where possible, the normal scale of issue per man of two bottles per week should be maintained, beer should not be sold to non drinkers.

33. VENEREAL DISEASE

1. Intercourse with women in Borneo is forbidden.
2. Many of these women are suffering from venereal diseases of a virulent kind, and protection cannot be guaranteed.
3. The fact that a soldier develops venereal disease in this area will be taken as prima facie evidence of disobedience of this instruction.

34. DISTRICT COURT MARTIAL

Result of trial of NS66352 Pte HODSON A -- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.

held at HQ NSW L of C Area on 22 Jun 45

on the charge(s) of - AWL from 2359 hrs on 6/5/45 until 0915 hrs on 13/6/45.

Finding: Guilty of the charge.

Sentence: To be fined the sum of eight pounds (£8.0.0).

Date of Sentence: 22/6/45

Finding and sentence confirmed on 25/6/45 by Col L E VAIL.

Date fixed for review of sentence: No review.

The accused was awaiting trial for EIGHT days in close arrest.

Date of promulgation to the accused: 28 Jun 45.

[Signature] Capt
Adjnt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
Jul 45

2/17 AUST INF BN REPORT ON RIVER PATROLS'OBOE SIX'GEN

1. Tac river movements executed by this Bn fall into two classes:
 - (a) Fwd tps moving in canoes.
 - (b) Fwd tps moving in armed and armoured craft (LCMs).
2. Under local conditions of broad rivers and densely vegetated swamp-lined banks the former type of mov is hazardous owing to scope for ambush. If the rate of adv is immaterial and all possible cas are to be avoided, and if there is a chance that suitable craft may become available, such op could not be justified unless with full infm of enemy location provided by persons with local knowledge who are prepared to accompany the force. In any event quiet and careful mov are essential.
3. In mov of the second type all surprise is lost and all efforts should be made to make craft proof against enemy weapons, e.g., stacking stores can help also in providing a fire step for own tps. Sloped tarpaulin or netting overhead may reduce danger from time fuze grenades.
4. Further factors prevailing, particularly with type (a) ops are:
 - (a) Absence of satisfactory intercomn eqpt.
 - (b) Slowness of re-supply and med evacuations.
 - (c) Unsatisfactory maps.
5. All these make it imperative that directions to patrol or force comds should be in the form of op instrs allowing especially a wide discretion in matters affecting the security of force incl its withdrawal. This applies to subsequent as well as initial directions.
6. Examples of specific ops and lessons learned are set out.

TYPICAL OPS

7. With one exception all river patrols and ops executed by 2/17 Aust Inf Bn have been with the use of native canoes, prahus etc, and with the use of FBE with outboard motor, DUKWS and LCMs for building up and re-supply to base, again with small craft used for mov of personnel and stores to fwd tps.

BELAIT RIVER OPS

8. (a) Intention: To est outpost at K BALAI as base for off patrolling against enemy. As a preliminary move for this op strong section, under comd an offr (1 offr 8 OR), was despatched up river from K BELAIT in five native canoes with tasks as follows
 - (i) recce for suitable area for pl outpost posn covering river junc and secure same if possible.
 - (ii) obtain maximum infm of enemy mov and disposns.

Having regard to tasks allotted to patrol, patrol will take advantage of native assistance to cause greatest surprise, consternation and cas possible to enemy.

Services of several DYAKS and MALAYS were available as guides and paddlers.

- (b) Organisation: Patrol set out organised as follows:

Boat No.	Personnel.	Weapons.
1	2 OR (Scouts), 1 DYAK (guide) 3 MALAYS (Paddlers).	1 OSMG, 1 Rifle.

2	Patrol Comd, 1 OR, 2 DYAKS, 1 MALAY.	1 OSMG, 1 Rifle.
3	Sec Comd, 1 OR, 1 DYAK, 2 MALAYS.	1 OSMG, 1 RIFLE.
4	2 OR, 2 DYAK, 1 MALAY.	1 LMG, 1 RIFLE.
5	1 OR, 1 DYAK, 2 MALAY.	1 RIFLE.

(Note: Res amn, rations and water distributed over all craft with a quantity in craft 5 which was the largest craft).

It was considered necessary to organise in this manner for the following reasons:

- (i) reliability of natives could not be assessed and betrayal had to be guarded against.
- (ii) disperse fighting tps and weapons over craft to avoid "all eggs in one basket".
- (iii) have LMG in posn to cover other craft and assist in any necessary extrication.
- (iv) have automatic fire available in each fighting craft.

(a) Tactical Movt:

The river was two to three hundred yds wide and craft moved close in to bank and when necessary crossed river to allow hugging inside bank on river bends. Craft travelled slowly and a close study of the banks was made with binoculars. Natives were closely watched for any signs of betrayal whilst not giving indications of anything but absolute trust. Patrol reached BALAIT after six hours paddling and proceeded to investigate the area. (See sketch Appx "A").

(d) Adm:

Three days rations (ABL 6) and an additional emergency ration per man were taken and one gall of water per man in 2 gall tins. Additional chlorination powder and detasting tablets also taken.

Res amn carried for all weapons.

All sups distributed over craft with bulk Craft 5 which was considered stores craft.

(e) Intercomn:

By native canoe. Fluorescent panels and emergency signalling mirror were taken. Lack of suitable intercomn was caused by:

- (i) W/T set suitable for carriage in craft and with required range not available.
- (ii) line could not be laid due to time required and nature of river banks did not permit laying.

(f) Mounting of Inf Weapons in Craft:

LMG was placed in bow of craft and gunner could lie behind weapon and fire with small portion of body showing.

LESSONS LEARNED

9. (a) Tactical

- (i) In wide river craft present an excellent target for enemy particularly if enemy sited to cover river bend.

- (ii) LMG must be within control of Patrol Comd and in a posn to engage any enemy posn to allow dispersal of remainder of craft.
- (iii) Inexperience of tps in handling native craft makes debarkation slow and with a definite risk of craft capsizing.
- (iv) Some natives, particularly MALAYS, appear very afraid of Japs and panic easily. Would be decided danger in event of contact.

(b) Adm:

- (i) Loading of craft paramount importance as not constructed to carry heavy eqpt or stores.
- (ii) Craft take in water. Small boards must be placed across bottom of craft to keep eqpt dry. Space should be left in centre for one person who acts as bailer.
- (iii) With inexperienced occupants craft liable to capsize. Considered ABL 6s suitable ration as are buoyant.
- (iv) Outboard motors used found unreliable on many occasions. Drifting wood caused frequent breaking of propellor shaft pin.
- (v) After stopping to refuel outboard motors great difficulty experienced in re-starting engines.
- (vi) Paddles hard to obtain. Improvised paddles NOT suitable for long journey.

(c) Intercomms:

Sending messages by canoe causes considerable loss in time and makes control by senior HQ very difficult.

(d) General:

- (i) Own tps can paddle canoes but not steer.
- (ii) On long journeys personnel are affected by cramped posns occupied necessitated by size of craft.
- (iii) Native estimates of paddling time is for light laden craft. Suggested one third be added to their timings.
- (iv) Difficulties occurred in times. It must be remembered that native time is one hour behind official army time.
- (v) When moving on river with log obstacles involving manhandling of canoes, natives would not operate after dark on account of fear of crocodiles.

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. As well as points mentioned under heading of Lessons the following recommendations are made:

- (a) When moving in wide streams formation shown in Diagram Appx "A" considered suitable, but considered formation shown in Appx "B" more suitable for narrower streams.
- (b) Where reliability of natives assessed favourably leading canoe should be manned entirely by natives.
- (c) MALAYS are not considered suitable for patrols when contact with enemy is likely.
- (d) Whilst planning river patrol special consideration must be given to the following factors:

- (i) River: Navigability, length, width, tidal effects.
 - (ii) River banks and immediate precincts (suitable landing places, timber and secondary undergrowth etc).
 - (iii) Availability of craft: self-propelled or otherwise, accomodation and load capacity, suitability for assault landing.
 - (iv) Enemy: possibility of encounter, possible type of encounter, likely posns to be occupied.
- (d) Intercomm: As suitable wireless sets are not available for this type of patrol it is considered most suitable means by use of pigeons and/or message dropping and picking up by aircraft.
 - (f) Craft: If using outboard motors on craft ensure res motors carried, also res of parts - particularly prop shaft pins.
 - (g) Refuelling: Refuel while on move. Do NOT let outboard motors stop.

BARUM RIVER OP - PATROL MARUDI TO BAKOENG

11. (a) Composition of Force:

Tps: Coy 2IC, one Pl, and det 3" Mortars.

Craft: 1 Gunboat and 1 LCM.

(b) Start Point: MARUDI.

(c) Route: BAKOENG RIVER

(d) Tasks: Occupy BAKOENG and control area by patrolling.

(e) Organisation: Patrol was organised as follows:

Craft 1	Gunboat	HQ Craft containing HQ personnel and 4 others required to assist manning guns.
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Craft 2	LCM	One Pl and det 3" Mortars.
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(f) Description of Op:

Patrol moved up BAKOENG RIVER and occupied BAKOENG without incident.

Natives reported party of approx 18 Japs moving down ARANG RIVER and patrol comd decided to investigate. A "holding/ group of one sec and det mortars was left at BAKOENG and remainder proceeded upstream with gunboat leading.

On reaching a point where it was considered enemy should have been visible, but were not, patrol comd decided to set an ambush. River banks were swampy and did not permit landing of pts or offer any posns suitable for occupation. Ambush remained water-borne with one craft on each side of stream making use of foliage for cover and being able to effectively cover the stream with automatic fire.

Enemy did not appear and after waiting one hour patrol moved on to attempt to locate the enemy.

On rounding a river bend gunboat was engaged at approx 200 to 300 yds range by LMGs and rifles. Gunboat engaged with 20 mm guns and enemy silenced. One OR had been killed by enemy fire penetrating ramp of gunboat. Patrol comd decided to withdraw patrol and as gunboat completed turn enemy again opened fire, this time ineffectively.

Patrol then withdrew, joined "holding" force and occupied

Posn southern end of BAKOENG.

(g) Adm:

Five days sups, rations and one gall water per man in 2 gall cans were taken. Also an adequate supply of steriliser and detaster. Res amm carried for all weapons.

(h) Intercomm:

108 Set.

(j) Mounting of Inf Weapons in Craft:

LMGs in LCM were in bow of craft and able to be fired either through meshing on ramp or over sides. It is not known if 3" Mortar was mounted for action.

LESSONS LEARNED

12. (a) Tactical:

Craft offer excellent target for enemy in posn on river bank and even enemy small arms fire can inflict cas by penetrating of craft.

Noise from craft engines can be heard at long distance and gives enemy indication of presence of tps.

Swamp banks of river make landing very difficult and in most cases prevent anything but a direct assault. Direct assault against enemy in prepared posns without arty or air support and with only one landing craft not practicable.

Detailed study of topo infm particularly tracks, most essential. This infm generally only available from local sources, and this stresses necessity of contacting natives from the area of operation.

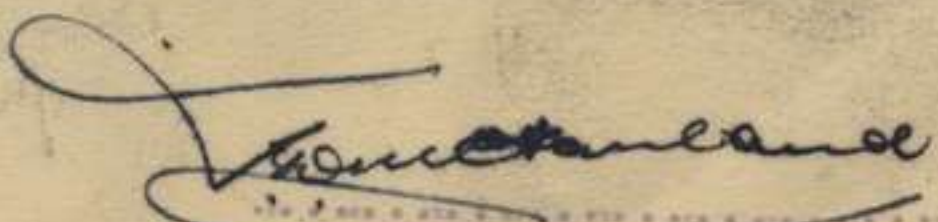
The Japs will occupy posns in swamps considered unsuitable by own tps.

Necessary to have alternate means of comm. Considered only satisfactory solution is an increase in availability of 22 sets

If a set piece landing is to be made with air craft sp it is much desired to have direct comm by wireless with air craft. This enables target to be clearly indicated. To further confirm target tracer rounds should be fired by sp craft available. (This was done in a company landing at KUALA RIDAN with success incl excellent close sp by air craft and it is recommended as well suitable for incorporating in the plan for river patrols likely to contact enemy).

Gunboat: (i) Ensure that all guns on sp craft are in working order and NOT likely to jam when needed.

(ii) Must be under close control of force cmd, and as no suitable intercomm available essential to have Force HQ on gunboat. (NB: Objections raised to large numbers on Gunboats).


Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

2/17 AUST INF BN REPORT ON OPS OBOE SIX

PART 1 - LESSONS FROM OPS

PLANNING

1. From unit viewpoint a more flexible and less centralised planning method would have been helpful. Outline plans submitted on outline instructions assumed such rigidity that adjustments necessary for a sound final plan could only be made, if at all, after considerable delay. As a result on final orders being settled the Bn had to be committed on a plan which was not considered the best practicable.
2. No scope existed for liaison between unit comd and the comds of craft and control of craft during the planning stage, and no discretion as to adjusting details of landing. As a consequence it was found that craft comds had little knowledge of the plan. It is felt that some liaison with comds control craft might have avoided the anomaly of the force being landed 1000 yards EAST of correct location when it was evident to section comds an error was being made. This mistake would have cost the unit dearly had the enemy opposed the landing from the high ground.

ORDERS, BRIEFING AND REHEARSAL

3. Detachment of planning team proved helpful and enabled the op to be more effectively stage managed within the unit. This being done by the withholding of the plan till stability had been reached and a clear presentation could be made.
4. Usual aids to putting all ranks in the picture were employed, viz, sand tables, maps, photos, plaster models, lectures. This continued on LSI. All ranks were obliged to view vertical photos through universal stereoscope.
5. A hastily arranged rehearsal of the landward aspect proved of considerable value.

EMBARKATION, SEAWARD REHEARSALS AND ASSAULT LANDING

6. Embarkation of tps was satisfactory. It was found impracticable to embark tps in full marching order by scrambling nets and arrangements were made to have packs lifted in slings. The usual difficulties in embarking small attachments, public relations gps etc, were met.
7. Loading of stores was unsatisfactory. Slotting area was too congested. Craft comds ignored written instructions as to correct hold and sequence to be used in loading ship. This rendered nugatory dispatching of stores in correct sequence from shore and entailed considerable difficulties in reloading subsequently. Accordingly larger loading staff is required to supervise stores from shore to ship.
8. Craft loading and seaward rehearsals proved of great value but prescribed number of rehearsals of move to net stations during voyage exceeded that considered by OC ship and OC tps to be required for complete efficiency.
9. Maximum efforts were made to keep tps hardened during voyage. Full weight eqpt was worn for at least one hour on all days. Boots were worn at all times. LSI deck space was most useful.
10. News of preliminary moves in relation to the landing was received by all ranks with interest and appreciation.
11. Disembarkation to craft went smoothly and ahead of time schedule. Heavy stores were preloaded. Thirty-two (32) personnel to each craft did not prove excessive.

12. It is recommended that there be no absolute directions that tps keep down during approach to shore. When standing:

- (a) physically less cramped and more air anti sea sickness
- (b) psychologically less disturbing
- (c) appeases natural curiosity and proper interest in effects of bombardment, mov of other craft, nature of the shore incl recognition of objectives, and distance from beach.
- (d) no special safety advantage (tps can crouch in event of fire) except during very last stages before beaching when tps should be down and braced to take jolt.

13. No water gap was encountered so arrangements for flotation of heavy weapons and eqpt proved superfluous, but in no way embarrassing. Adoption of these arrangements to meet a water gap as a matter of routine is worth consideration. Quagre re 75 mm guns owing to time taken unpacking.

14. The possibility of being landed incorrectly was scarcely contemplated during planning in view of the obvious land marks, though allowance was made for possible enemy action. Flexibility of plan incl adm and intercomm arrangements, with subordinate comds clear on intention and objectives are requirements. Difficulties were experienced as a result of very great increase in requirement of sig cable and a break in communications ensued. Coys proceeded to maintain the object and used orderly to phone-head.

15. One coy moving to secure BROOKETON attempted a too rigid adherence to the initial coy plan. As a result it failed to exploit the early success in reaching the northern limit of YELLOW BEACH delaying the completion of its task considerably.

16. Quick exploitation by another coy in the FOO CHOW area enabled killing of Japs attempting escape.

ADVANCE TO BRUNEI

17. Conventional adv guard principles were applied. Previous trg proved of special worth.

18. Following factors assisted in maintaining momentum:

- (a) preplanning action at certain localities.
- (b) constant relieving fwd elements of flanking responsibilities by det parties from main guard or main body to search trs and wider approaches from flanks.
- (c) restricting searching to flank to that necessary to ensure safe passage of main body. Parties moving on L of C having to watch their own security.
- (d) making full use of info from natives as to enemy mov.
- (e) ferrying with tps to carry heavy weapons also eqpt of adv guard above drill order.

19. D plus 1 day was extremely hot and still and many tps suffered from heat exhaustion, especially those more heavily loaded. The burden of the preceding six (6) weeks practically all spent at sea or in transit without hard marching was felt. Strict march and water discipline were necessary. To quote the report of one coy comd, "It is doubtful whether this extract from FSR II referring to march discipline 'the longer and more trying the march and the worse the conditions the more strictly must be enforced' has had great implications in the Bn's history."

20. In contact with the enemy good fieldcraft, maintenance of pressure, and instinctive firing by individuals proved effective. Value of jungle courses and trg of soldier to act quickly was proved. On several occasions:

Japs encountered actually aiming at an individual were shot by him before they could fire.

21. Normal defensive positions were established by night. The value of normal locality as distinct from perimeter style defense was again indicated when an enemy party attacking the rear coy at BRUNEI airstrip were annihilated, efforts to avoid one post placing them in the fire of others. Strict fire discipline by night was maintained and foiled some enemy attempts to locate our positions.

22. Patrolling introduced no new factors. Practically none was done by night though frequently at first light to clear ground in anticipation of further adv. By day, especially after capture of BRUNEI, large number of pl patrols with FOO or mortar MFC with sig line were dispatched.

ADV BRUNEI - SERIA

23. An attempt was made to increase mobility and regain contact with enemy. All available tpt was used, jeeps being sandbagged for fwd elements. System generally was for adv guard coy to move to a major bound (approx 4 - 6 miles) pause, search and secure, and tpt move back to lift fwd second coy. Fwd coy then re-embussed and resumed adv. Arty bty moves normal though generally establishing gun posns in rear coy locality by night. ~~Details of order of march, method of move and lessons brought out are contained in extracts from coy comd's reports Appx "A".~~ ^{as follows.} Fwd jeeps moved by bounds similar to the recognised method with carriers along a road with one jeep covering the fwd jeep to the next viewpoint. Where the ground warranted closer investigation scouts in fwd jeeps dismounted then called the jeep fwd when the ground was clear. This was necessary where road blocks incited suspicion. However on long stretches of flat road it was possible to move at a good speed, the pl comd using his tactical knowledge and knowledge of enemy methods in determining where reasonable risks could be taken. The main body moved continuously, halts controlled by Coy Comd, who was in turn moving from viewpoint to viewpoint behind the point pl. An interval of 100 yards was maintained by vehs.

24. Although the approach to this type of operation was not tested by enemy action definite lessons were apparent. It is necessary to strike a balance between the requirements of speed and security. It should be noted that the speed of mov was made possible by the availability of reliable infm from the native population. It is desirable therefore that an interpreter move with adv guard pl.

25. A detailed study of maps and air photographs is essential prior to mov to determine likely enemy posns by as many people as possible, in particular the scout gp of the adv guard pl. It follows that tps should be trained in Map Reading at speed. Tps in leading vehs must be detailed to specific tasks of observation. The scout gp should use a pair of binoculars in addition to the pl comd on the sp jeep.

26. Mov of scout veh between observation points to be at a maximum thus allowing time for observation with glasses whilst the sp veh moves up to cover further adv. IMGs on sandbagged jeeps must be mounted firmly, but not fixed. Weapons in all vehs must be readily available to counter ambush.

27. There is a necessity for all tps to be conversant with a drill for dismounting to engage the enemy. Pl Sjt of adv guard pl continually studies the terrain to appreciate routes for mov fwd of res secs if required.

28. MT drivers should be trained in selecting best cover for vehs when approaching observation point.

29. Need for close liaison with arty to ensure continual arty sp without delaying column.

30. A tpt NCO and RP would be valuable additions to the force for co-ordination of tpt mov. A TCP must be established to control veh dispersion when tps are deployed in a defensive locality.

31. If the road is narrow and a system of ferrying fwd tps is necessary due to shortage of tpt, the requirement of a veh circuit will influence selection of bounds.
32. Mortar MFC is required to be well fwd in the order of march adjacent to coy cmd, continually selecting mortar posns along the route thus shortening the period required to give quick sp. The MNG NCO should ride on the MNG jeep so that he can move fwd without delay if required.
33. Walkie-talkies should be distributed evenly in the column to keep constant communication by relay along its entire length. Bicycle communication provides a satisfactory alternate means particularly if the road is narrow.
34. G Op personnel not adjacent to coy cmd should be close to a Walkie-talkie. It will be noted in the order of march the second pl cmd and MFC ride in a veh next to the coy cmd whilst the rear pl cmd remains with his pl at the tail of the column. This was considered necessary due to its length and the possibility of action by by-passed enemy.
35. If frequent reports are required by the higher cmd and the LOS set is out of range as it mostly was, it would be necessary for the line jeep to move further fwd in the order of march. This was satisfactory on the first day of the adv when the rate of the adv did not cause delay in the main body due to a line jeep in the centre of the column. For this reason it moved at the rear of the column on the second day. The line should continue fwd at halts for use by coy cmd, if required, reverting to the tail of the column when it moves off. The line party can keep up if the line is not poled. This is unsatisfactory as the amount of traffic causes breaks. Additional sigs are required for poling at the earliest.
36. River obstacle at TUTONG prevented further trial of this experiment. An adv of over 20 miles was achieved in one day.
37. After capture of SERIA operations were mostly long range patrols and up river mov which were subject of separate report.

CO-OPERATION

38. LSI KANIMBLA good. Being RMAS ship liaison was easier.
39. ESB co-operation not up to standards previously obtained.
40. Naval bombardment: SFCP was of great value and did effective shoots mainly provided harassing tasks. Clear proof of accuracy of fire, casualties and damage inflicted. Doubtless hastened any withdrawal. Co-operation excellent.
41. Air: Most successful when fwd elements could contact aircraft direct through ASP attached. Appear to be great limitation in ability of aircraft to identify targets. The practice of regarding any building in the area as the target required to be hit is wrong. When directed on target area sp was of great value.
42. RAA: Provided all sp requested and proffered useful suggestions. Changes in arty LO att should be as few as possible. Imperative that orders or instructions be handed over fully.
43. RAE: Most satisfactory sp and co-operation in all regards.

EQUIPMENT

44. Unit eqpt generally satisfactory. Usual difficulties over shortage of tpt, both MT and water craft (incl outboard motors). Considerable *information* from local sources and captured vehs helped. Jungle carts have been most useful in the LABI area.
45. Cooking eqpt on a reduced scale was used at a reduced B Ech during the op. Hot dinner and breakfast were provided throughout the adv from evening D plus 1. Hot boxes, Fowler stoves and hydro burners used extensively.

45. Signals eqpt:

(a) Wireless:

- (i) SCR 536. A great many required replacement. New sets worked very well and are a constant requirement.
- (ii) 108 Set: Over ranges prevailing in the adv these sets proved inadequate though effective when working to a 22 set.
- (iii) 22 sets: Owing to extreme distances between coys in out-post posns sets of this strength are required. It is not a satisfactory system to operate to coy outstations through Bde Sig centre.

(b) Line and great distances covered created a supply difficulty. Old civilian lines were used to maximum. 60 miles of ~~wired~~ combat ^{and} 3 cable now extend from Bn HQ to fwd coys at LABI and HARUDI. Freddy phones provide satisfactory ^{com}reaction but require to be kept clear of other lines on account of terrific induction. ~~Employing~~ of 2 phones for use within Bn was again proved inadequate. Owing to dispersal many phones were required by pl out-posts. Arty switches would have been most useful for lines fwd of coy HQ.

Establishment

ENEMY EQUIPMENT

47. Enemy were not well equipped even in small arms. Some tps lacked firearms of any sort. A good deal of trg eqpt, wooden rifles and bayonet training dummies, body padding etc were seen.

ENEMY METHODS

48. Subject of attempted and successful demolitions is left to RAE report.

49. Generally enemy showed extraordinary lack of initiative.

GENERAL

50. Throughout the whole operation the unit strove to apply the generally accepted principles and methods studied and practiced so fully during trg. In all cases they proved worthy of the confidence placed in them. Many incidents created in trg found their counterparts during the adv. Though some speed in adv was obtained it was not at expense of good scouting and local security.

51. Distances which sub-units are detached and the precarious nature of communications have necessitated the placing of considerable responsibility on subordinate comds. In general they have reacted very well. Op instructions rather than orders should usually be given and subordinates must be allowed a wide discretion as to methods to be adopted, use of sp arms etc to attain the object. Where possible they should be relieved of problem of re-supply.

52. Natives have proved a valuable source of infx both of enemy and topography though reliability varies. Study of Malay language by tps has helped considerably.

[Handwritten Signature]

Lt-Col
Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
3 Aug 45

(c) Excessive loading of v ehicles.

This caused numerous delays as vehicles for loading on weather deck had to be winched up. Some vehicles were fitted with chains which also caused trouble with weather deck loading.

(x)

The use of permanent experienced loading parties from the 2/3 Tk A Regt proved very successful as all bulk cargo was handled and stacked with maximum speed.



(PH PIKE)

Maj

REPORT ON OPERATIONS

This report is based on my observations as 1 Aust Corps Liaison Officer (personnel) during the period 9 Mar to 6 May 45.

Embarkation CAIRNS(i) Rail Movement

This was hampered throughout by adverse weather conditions. Pers trains were seldom loaded to capacity causing minor problems in feeding and accommodation and over a period this necessitated extra trains being allocated. This could be avoided by early advise to RTOs of any change in strength.

(ii) Staging

On arrival at Staging Camp units were required to continue with internal adm only. This was not carried out and units repeatedly made independent arrangements for pay, mail canteen stores etc without reference to Liaison Staff or Staging Camp Staff. This caused considerable confusion delay and duplication of work which could be handled by Liaison Staff.

(iii) ESCORTS

In most cases escorts provided were insufficient to adequately safeguard stores during movement. In many cases escort parties were not provided with sufficient rations to allow for any emergency and in many cases men were left at "sidings" without rations. NCOs IC escorts had received no specific instructions regarding supervision of malaria precautions and in many cases had NO supplies of atabrin.

(iv) Stores

Generally all units stores were severely marked crated and packed. Segregation of stores was not carried out in accordance with instructions issued for loading of rail trucks. This made it impossible in many cases to stow ships as desired i.e., bulk and unit stores bottom stowed - accommodation stores top stowed for early discharge. Also stores which came in the category of "dangerous cargo" when stacked with other stores were just pushed aside by wharf labourers and in many cases were completely lost.

(v) Security

Throughout the move units were not security minded as men were not kept under control or occupied whilst in staging areas. This resulted in a great volume of AWL which some units disregarded entirely.

In TOWNSVILLE area, local units were not subject to "blanket" censorship and mail was passed to members of these units for forwarding. Also men who went AWL were able to use trunk line interstate telephone.

(vi) Ships Staffs

The appointment of the senior combatant officer as OC TPS as laid down in Standing Orders for Movement was not always adhered to. The OC Tps then selected his own staff, and this in many cases was from some small unit or group. The result was that major units aboard the same ship had little or no say in the movement or administration during the voyage. Some of the staff chosen had no experience in embarkation and were ~~sufficient~~ inefficient whereas travelling on the same ship

were personnel who had been trained as ships adjt and ECOs without a job.

Despite detailed instructions to the contrary some Ships Staff worked directly with the Ship's Offrs before embarkation. This resulted in considerable confusion and delay which might have been avoided had MC Staff had complete control. Unit COs and QM also made unauthorised visits to the wharves and issued instructions for the loading of stores which in one case resulted in a strike by waterside workers. This work must be controlled by the Port MCO(Cargo) and all instructions should come through him.

(vii) Embarkation TOWNSVILLE

The facilities at TOWNSVILLE were better in all respects for security staging and movement of personnel.

In regard to stores there was no shed space available at the wharves and stores were left for long periods in open rail trucks exposed to the weather.

(viii) General

It is considered that the following points were the main reasons for delay and counter orders during the move:

- (a) Inaccurate information from US authorities of ships allocated in
- (i) Personnel capacity (Offrs and ORs)
 - (ii) Cargo capacity (No of holds and dimensions)
 - (iii) E T A

This resulted in some cases of entire ship loads being altered after the ship had berthed and the tps were in the staging areas. Also stores and personnel were split and "shut out" and in one case 120 men were moved back to CAIRNS to embark.

- (b) Use of civilian labour.

On two occasions when permission was granted for the use of army labour (unskilled) the loading rate was doubled over 24 hrs.

- (c) Adverse weather conditions

(ix) Tactical Loading of LSTsat MOPOTAI

The sighting and preparation of the Ships Assembly area for vehs and pers was well organised and throughout the embarkation worked without any serious delay. The slotting area for stores was badly sighted and prepared with resulting delay and damage to stores.

It is considered that the Pre-embarkation Assembly Area was situated at too great a distance from Ships Assembly Area. This increased the communication difficulties to such a degree that control between these two points was a major problem. Also the distance which vehicles had to travel after final waterproofing caused many mechanical breakdowns.

The actual embarkation went very smoothly but the following points may be noted:

- (a) Confusing instructions from ASME regarding waterproofing procedure
- (b) Drivers not sufficiently trained in "backing" and working to hand signals

2/17 AUST INF BN OP INSTR 3

1. Information: Issued separately.
2. Task in General:
D Coy will control general area BAKONG - MARUDI by patrolling from MARUDI.
3. Tasks in Particular:
 - (a) Patrol to RIDAN with view to:
 - (i) clearing enemy from area MARUDI - RIDAN.
 - (ii) contacting A Coy at RIDAN. Inter-coy boundary RIDAN and line RIDAN LINEI tr to SOUTH 3000 yds. All incl A Coy.
 - (b) Gain further information of enemy movement.
 - (c) Protect, until BBGAU can take over, Government offices and records at MARUDI.
 - (d) Conserve and report on rubber in area.
 - (e) Reconnoitre Auster strip and dropping ground vicinity MARUDI.
4. Nature of Force:
 - (a) Force will retain its character as a patrol and NOT engage in serious action to capture or retain MARUDI.
 - (b) It must be clearly understood that NO further force to assist or extricate patrol will be employed.
5. Comd:
 - (a) Maj N B TREBECK will comd.
 - (b) Lt B FORSTER is att D Coy and will take over comd in event of Maj TREBECK becoming cas.
6. Tps:
D Coy and normal att sigs

<u>Bn HQ:</u>	Int Sec:	1 Sjt and 1 OR.
	Med:	RMO and Med Orderly.
	SBS:	Normal.

One sec 2 Pl.
 One Sec 3 Pl.
 RAA Recce party 2
 RAE Recce and outboard motor party 3.
 RAAF det ASP.
 Det Ede Sigs 2
 Det ESB.
 Det SRD (until arrived at MARUDI).
7. Craft and Comd:
 - (a) ESB (i) One gunboat and 3 LCM of Boat Bn. 593 EB and SR available.

- (ii) Detachment Boat Bn 593 EB and SR under comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn for planning 12 Jul 45 and under comd for ops from time of leaving KUALA BELAIT.
 - (iii) Inf Coy Comd appointed by Comd 2/17 Aust Inf Bn will command whole detachment incl detachment Boat Bn 593 EB and SR.
 - (iv) Craft will NOT operate singly except in emergency or in waters known to be clear of enemy.
- (b) SRD:
- (i) HMAS "TIGERSNAKE" and FELLO armed launch will accompany and be under comd until arrival at MARUDI.
 - (ii) On arrival at MARUDI both craft will revert to normal roles under comd Maj CARTER.
 - (iii) Orders to the craft will be passed as far as possible through Maj CARTER.

8. Duration of Patrol:

- (a) Patrol will operate in MARUDI area for approx seven days but will NOT return until ordered.
- (b) If in opinion of comd the security of the patrol is seriously threatened he will withdraw to KUALA BELAIT or to such posn as he considers appropriate.

ADM

9. (a) Nine days ops, amm, and fuel on craft.
- (b) Resupply under arrangements HQ 20 Bde on D plus 3 but patrol comd will release one LCM after arrival at MARUDI for return to BELAIT. LCM will be escorted to KUALA BAKONG thence unescorted.

10. Water:

Minimum 2 days water. Adequate supply of steriliser and de-taster.

11. Med:

- (a) RMO and one med orderly will accompany with adequate med stores.
- (b) Evacuation of cas by LCM. Air evacuation facilities have been requested.

12. Proclamations:

Copies of proclamation of Martial Law will be obtained from BBGAU and posted in suitable locations. Advise this HQ where posted.

13. Demonstration:

An Australian Ensign or Union Jack will be carried by patrol and hoisted in MARUDI when the town is secured.

INTERCOMM

14. Wireless:

- (a) Det 20 Bde sigs will operate 22 set link through Bde HQ.
- (b) RAAF wireless link with ASP available.
- (c) Two 108 and 5 SCR 536 sets available.

15. Line:

Four miles cable and three phones available.

16. Pigeons:

To be supplied by HQ 20 Bde. Suggested used with distant patrols to enable direct information to be passed to this HQ.

17. Air:

- (a) Fluorescent panels will be carried incl by lesser patrols despatched from WARUDI.
- (b) Message dropping and collecting facilities have been requested.
- (c) Signalling: CCBPS combined panel code to be taken.

Monteclair Capt
Adjnt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
/3 Jul 45

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No

D Coy	1 - 2
HQ Coy	3
A Coy	4
ESB Det	5
Comd	6
Adjnt	7
RMO	8
File	9
War Diary	10 - 11

MESSAGE FORM

WAR DIARY

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
------	----------	----------	---------------------------

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A)	Originator 2/17 Aust Inf Bn	Date—Time of Origin 132100I	Office Date Stamp
For Action			Message Instructions GR
TO	A Coy		
	(w) For Information (INFO.)		
	D Coy		

ORIGINATOR'S No.

036 SECRET (.) Op Instr 4 (.) INFM (.) D Coy moving MARUDI to
 est patrol base (.) INTENTION (.) A Coy will est platoon stand-
 ing patrol vicinity RIDAN with a view to (.) FIRST (.) inflicting
 cas on enemy moving MARUDI - RIDAN - LINBI track (.) SECOND (.)
 patrol RIDAN → LINBI track SOUTH 3000 yards (.) THIRD (.) D Coy
 patrols will contact at RIDAN probably 17 JUL 45 (.) TIMINGS (.)
 A Coy patrol to be est by afternoon 16 JUL 45 and remain until
 ordered to withdraw subject to patrol comds discretion in emer-
 gency (.) ADM (.) resupply responsibility A Coy (.) INTERCOMMO
*figeans will be used for direct comms to
 this HQ*

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except Wireless Signed <i>[Signature]</i> Capt	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER Signed	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority IMMEDIATE	Time	System	Op
			THI or TOR		
			Time Cleared		

2/17 AUST INF BN - TRG INSTR 1

23 Jul 45

OBJECT

1. This instr lays down the policy governing trg and camp development for such tps as are static. The main object of all comds will be to ensure that all tps not @mp operationally are kept fit and usefully occupied.

TRG

2. This instr will be implemented on receipt.

3. It is emphasised that op requirements will take priority over trg and camp development.

4. Subjects of general application

Smartening up drill, including squad drill with and without arms, at frequent intervals.

Physical and recreational trg including, where possible, the teaching of personnel to swim.

Map reading including preparation of terrain, track and river and beach reports.

Signalling including ground to air recognition signals.

Aircraft recognition especially with respect to Allied and possible Jap aircraft in the area.

Air photo interpretation.

Intelligence.

Educational subjects including study of Malay language.

TRG DETAILED

5. Sub-units will include in each week's trg one full day route march to cover 12 miles. Dress to be full battle order.

HRS OF TRG

6. Whenever practicable trg will be carried out between 0800 and 1300 hrs daily, the afternoon being reserved for administrative and recreational purposes.

TRG SYLLABUS

7. To be submitted by OOs to Adjt each SATURDAY by 1200 hrs, to cover following week. (Monday to Sunday incl). Syllabus for period 24 - 27 Jul 45, to be submitted by 1800 hrs 24 Jul 45.

CAMP DEVELOPMENT

8. The objects of camp development are:

(a) The improvement of living conditions.

(b) Keeping tps occupied.

9. Every Sub-unit and det will draw up a plan for the progressive development of its own camp. This plan will incl -

Clearance of long grass, rubbish, debris, etc
 Drainage (in view of approaching rainy season)
 Construction of paths and hard standings
 Regular layout of camp
 Recreational facilities
 Protection of unit stores.

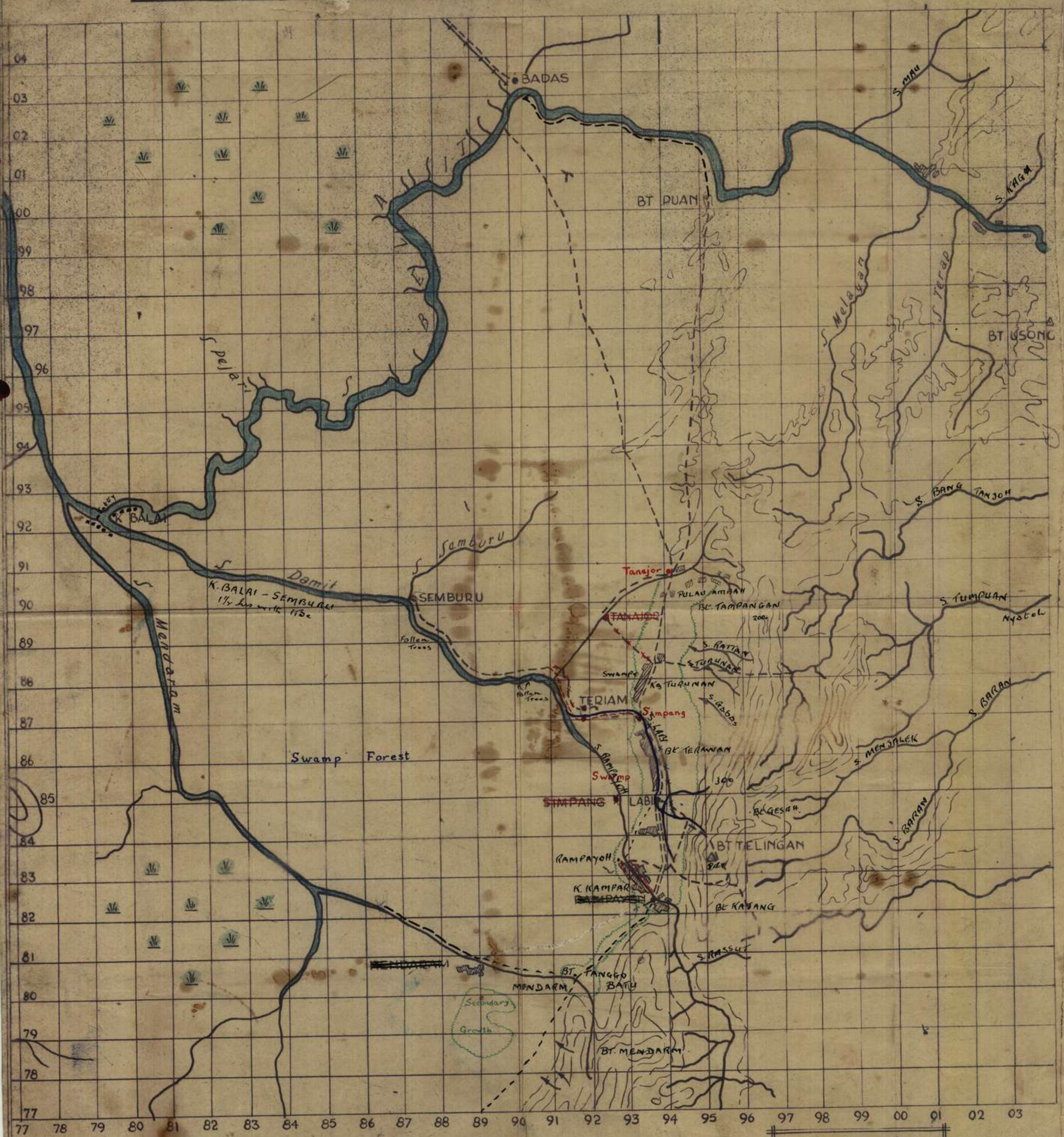
10. As the standard of pitching tents is generally unsatisfactory and is causing undue wear, special attention will be given to the care and maint of tentage. (See GRO 0385/44 and MGO Eqpt Memoranda 9 and 10).

11. Where possible, tps will be camped well clear of native homes as it is undesirable that British tps camp under bivouac conditions adjacent to natives living in houses.

[Signature]
 Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
 23 Jul 45

BADAS - LABI - MENDARAM AREA

RF 1:63360



Scale 1 inch to 1 mile



Legend

- TRACKS - - - - -
- CREEKS - - - - -
- FORM LINES (TO BE TREATED WITH RESERVE)
- CULTIVATION [hatched pattern]

Enlarged from RECONNAISSANCE MAP BRUNEI & ADJACENT TERRITORIES 1937 1 inch to 2 miles

NOTE: The cleared area at LABI is intersected by many tracks and canals. Huts dot the entire area and gardens very well tended. Tr TANAJOR - RAMPAYOH built up, drains on each side, jeepable except for bridges. Tr TERIAM - SIMPANG as above. All ground other than clearing - swamp forest.

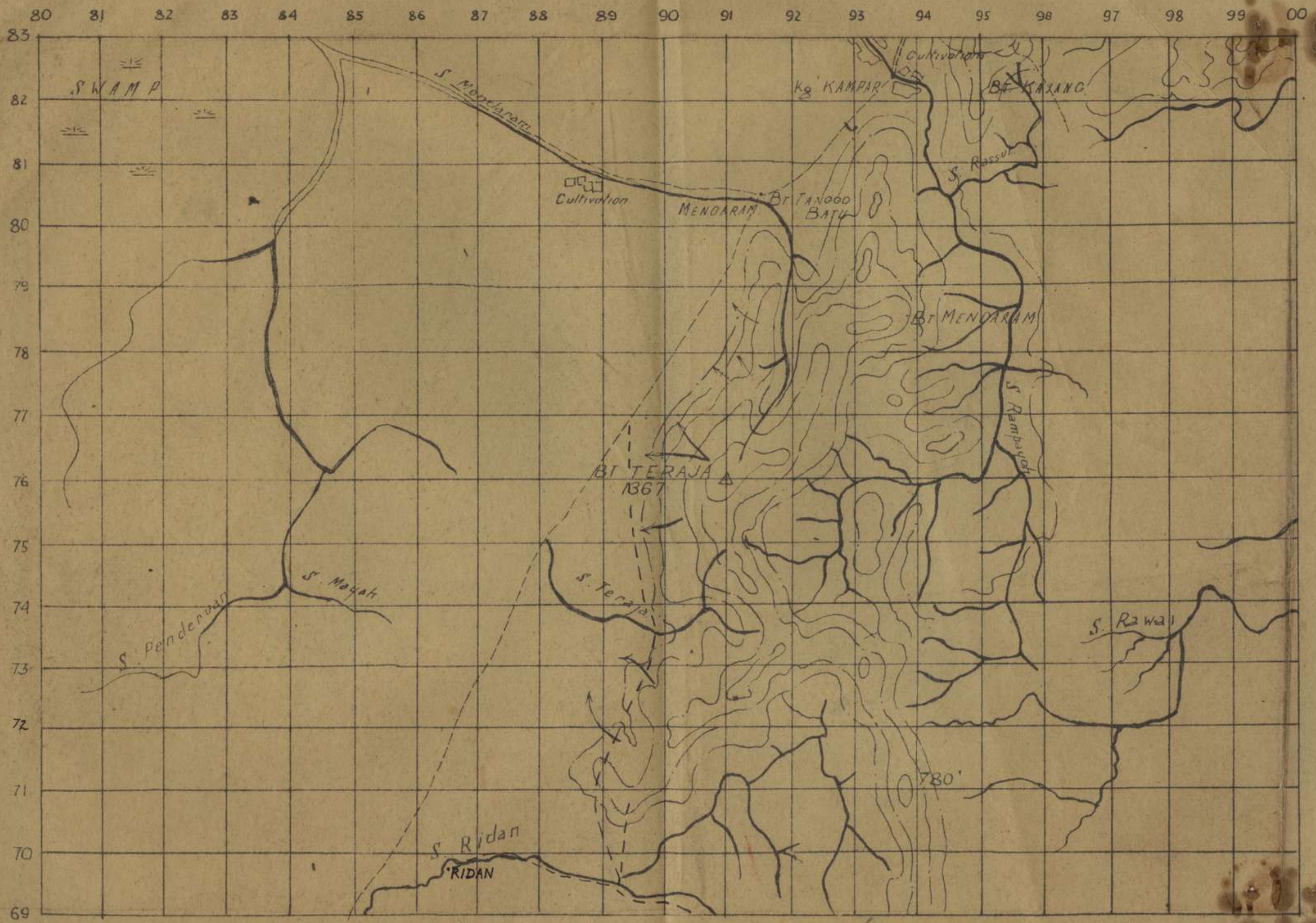
2/17 Aust Inf Bn Inf Sec
29 JUNE 45

R 1-63360

MENDARAM-BUKIT TERAJA

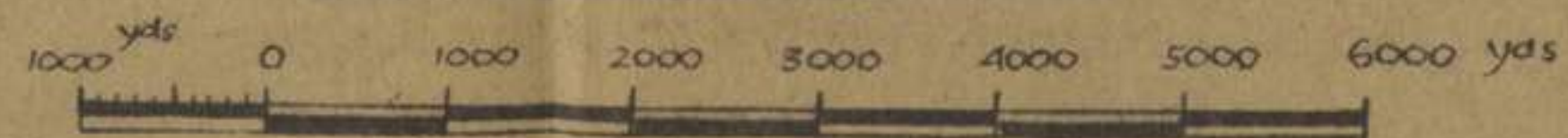
AREA

Ref Map SERIA-LABI Special-1-63360

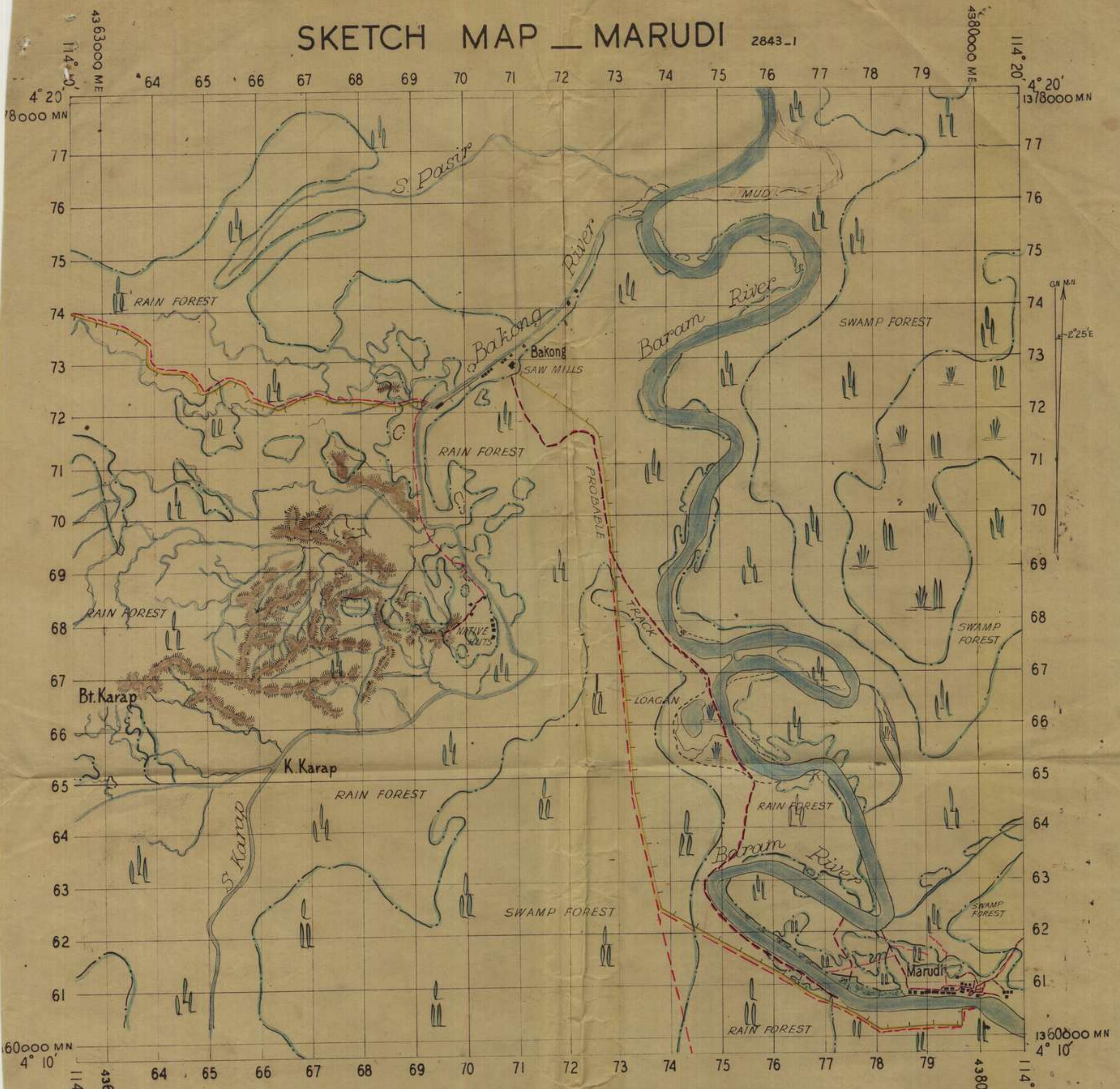


*Traced from map compiled by
Int Sec 2/17 Bh-A Jul 45*

SCALE 1" TO 1 MILE



SKETCH MAP — MARUDI 2843-1

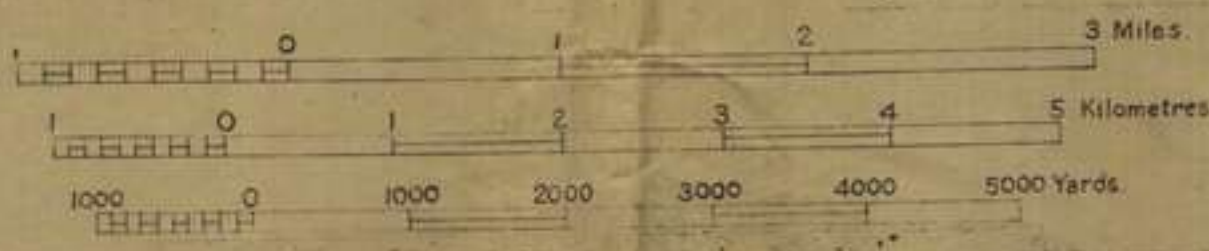


COMPILED BY 5 AJST. FD. SURVEY COY. A.I.F. 15 JUL. 45

100/MISC/7637

WARNING — FORM LINES ONLY

Scale 1:50,000



Motor Road	— — — — —
Jeep Road	- - - - -
Foot Track
Reported Track
Bridge & Culvert	— — — — —
Cutting & Embankment	— — — — —
Telephone Line	— — — — —
Landing Strip	— — — — —
Seaplane Base	— — — — —
Cemetery	— — — — —
Native Garden	— — — — —
Spot Height	— — — — —
Railway	— — — — —
Double Track with Station	— — — — —
Single Track with Station and Siding	— — — — —

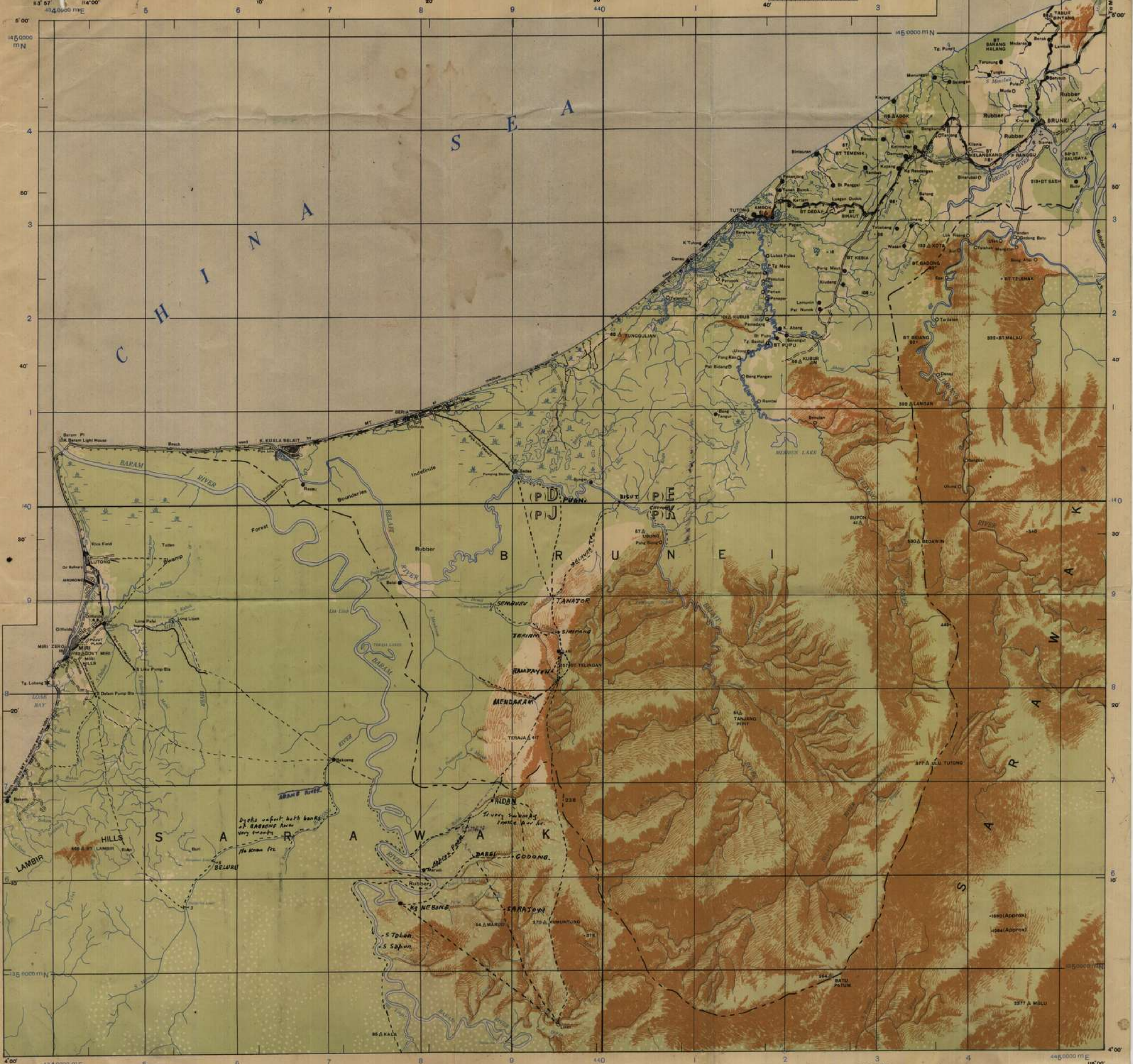
Large Native Village	•••••
Small Native Village	•••••
Unidentified Native Village	•••••
Building & Mission	•••••
Control Point	•••••
Second Order	•••••
Third Order	•••••
Fourth Order	•••••
Astronomical Station	•••••
River, Permanent Stream	— — — — —
Non-perennial Stream	— — — — —
Spring, Well, Waterhole	•••••
Hill Features	•••••
Fathom Line	— — — — —
Coral Reef	— — — — —

Swamp - Subject to Inundation	— — — — —
Permanently Inundated	— — — — —
Mangroves	— — — — —
Full Cover	— — — — —
Camouflage Cover (Secondary Growth)	— — — — —
Scattered Timber	— — — — —
Scrub	— — — — —
Plantation Rubber, Casuarina	— — — — —
Kanai Grass	— — — — —
Contours	— — — — —
Form Lines	— — — — —
Cliffs & Steep Slopes	— — — — —
Depression Contour	— — — — —
Sand	— — — — —

BORNEO 1: 250,000

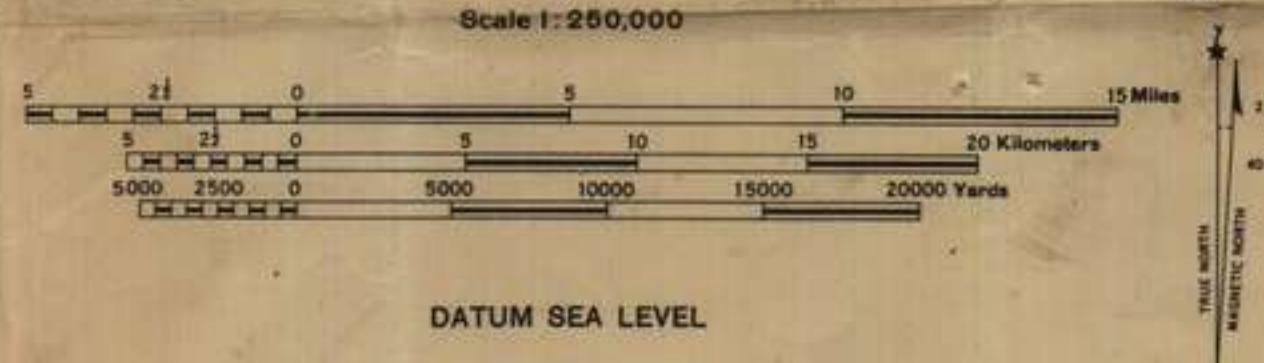
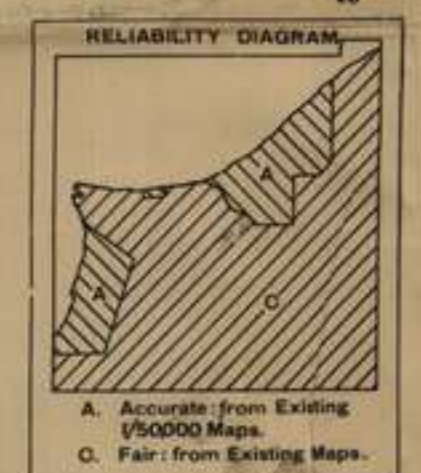
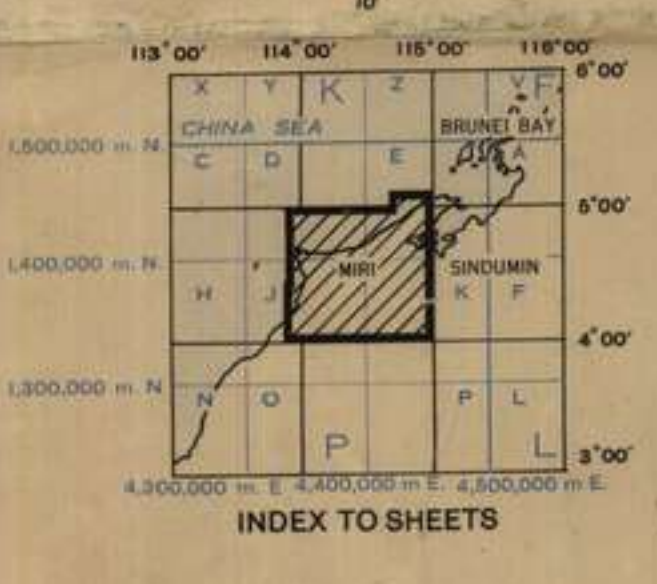
MIRI

FIRST EDITION SWPA I



LHQ 1025/3168 SWPA 1531
 CONTROL: 1st and 2nd Order Triangulation, 1:63,360 maps by Surveyor General FMS & SS, Shell Oil Coy Maps and Surveys, US Hydrographic Charts and British Admiralty Charts.
 AIR PHOTOGRAPHY: Missions SMC21-J1, SMC20-L1, SMC20-L2, SMC07-H9, 3127 and Shell Oil Coy Photos.
 COMPILATION: LHQ Cartographic Coy, Aust Svy Corps from Air Photographs, Shell Oil Coy Maps, 1:63,360 maps by FMS & SS, US Hydrographic Charts, British Admiralty Charts, Sirst Eng Study No 115 and Terrain Study No 89.
 DRAWING & REPRODUCTION: LHQ Cartographic Coy, Aust Svy Corps, Apr 45.
 FIRST EDITION

Glossary
 Tandjong: Tg. cape
 Boekit: Bk. hill
 Soengai: S. river
 Guenoeng: G. mountain



NOTE: OFFICERS USING THIS MAP ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY ADDITIONS AND AMENDMENTS ON THE MAP ITSELF AND FORWARD SAME TO SURVEY DIRECTORATE, H.Q. OF FORCE CONCERNED.

HEIGHTS IN METRES



APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION 1944 FOR CENTRE OF SHEET
 ANNUAL MAGNETIC CHANGE INCREASE
 Use diagram only to obtain numerical values.
 To determine magnetic north line, connect the point north 'N' on the south edge of the map with the value of the angle between GRID NORTH and MAGNETIC NORTH, as plotted on the degree scale on the north edge of the map.

BRITISH METRIC GRID (BM)
 N.E.I. EQUATORIAL ZONE
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Orthomorphic
 Origin: Equator and 110° E
 False Co-ordinates: 5,000,000 metres East of Origin, 900,000 metres North

To give the co-ordinates of a point use only the larger figures on the grid lines and add zeros.
 The grid numbers at the corners are the full co-ordinates referred to the origin of the grid zone.
 EXAMPLE: DANAU (A) 114° 00' (U) 116° 00' 26
 ALWAYS indicate grid letters in giving a reference on this grid.

MIRI BORNEO
 N400 - E11400/1 (Greenwich)

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

(Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 7/7/1945 (Unit) 27 45

W.E. 11 126 3 OFFRS. 33 O.R's. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.											
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.							
-	-	-	1	Lieut.-Colonels												
-	-	-	3	Majors												
NR	1	-	6	Captains	AANC	1	-	-								
-	-	8	29	Lieutenants												
-	-	-	1	Quarter-masters												
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.												
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.												
	1	8	40			1										
				DETAIL	A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.		
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).				A.	A									41		
				E.(1)	41											41
				E.(2)												

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
NX65452	Capt	McLEOD K T	W/I LOB MOROTAI	2 Jul 45	Duty completed
SX37099	Lt	McLEOD D R	W/I x 2/2 AGH	1 Jul 45	

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / / 194

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 7/7/1945 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt-Col	NX12225	BROADBENT	J R	CO	Yes		
Maj	NX12220	PIKE	P H	2IC	"		
Capt	NX24708	McFARLAND	J D	Adjnt	"		
Lt	NX14133	WATERHOUSE	B	IO	"		
"	NX14354	LINDSAY	H R J	Asst	Adjnt	"	
HQ Coy Maj	NX12228	MACLARN	L C	OC	Yes		
Lt	NX4368	VICKERS					
Lt	NX20769	FORSTER	B	1 Pl	Comd	"	
"	NX4368	VICKERS	D H	2 "	"	"	
"	NX15693	POLLOCK	P I	3 "	"	"	
"	NX4510	MORAN	R J	4 "	"	"	
"	NX16646	WOOD	D M	5 "	"	"	
"	NX14384	HEWITT	A J C	6 "	"	"	
Capt	NX52928	SIMPSON	L G	6 Pl	Comd	"	
A Coy Capt	NX29407	HOLTSBAUM	G F J	OC	"		
"	NX70701	MURPHY	P K	2IC	"		
Lt	QX9259	FINK	F J	7 Pl	Comd	"	
"	NX59113	GRAHAM	L F	8 "	"	"	
"	VX131361	HORSFALL	G L	9 "	"	"	
B Coy Capt	NX14875	RUDKIN	R S	OC	"		
"	NX65452	McLEOD	K T	2IC	"		
Lt	NX104283	WILLIAMS	D A	10 Pl	Comd	Yes	
"	NX65621	TRUDGON	M P	11 "	"	"	
"	NX104115	KENNEDY	R E	12 "	"	"	
C Coy Capt	NX14738	WRIGHT	A J	OC	"		
Lt	NX123482	MUSSETT	J W	13 Pl	Comd	"	
"	VX146393	ANDREW	J D	14 "	"	"	
"	NX69775	DELVES	B I	15 "	"	"	
D Coy Maj	NX12371	TREBCK	N B	OC	"		
Lt	NX113719	POWELL	P B C	16 "	"	"	
"	NX144854	CLARKSON	J B	17 "	"	"	
"	VX87965	WILSON	A C	18 "	"	"	
HQ Coy Lt	NX9660	BROOK	G R	2IC 1 Pl	"		
"	QX39756	PHILP	H J	" 3 "	"		
"	VX75353	WASLEY	H J	" 6 "	"		
A Coy "	QX40103	VOCK	C W	" 8 "	"		
B "	SX37099	McLEOD	D R	" 10 "	"		
C "	NX25123	FLETCHER	N N	" 13 "	"		
D "	NX25429	CHRISP	G R	" 16 "	"		
"	VX3012	FLETCHER	M H	No	Det HQ 9 Div	21/1/45	
"	NX20674	CUNNINGHAM	P B	2IC 17 Pl	Yes		
Capt	NX203245	RITCHIE	P L	RMO	"		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX53993	BLACKWELL K G	AA Chap	Dep't Jan 45	Unit Chaplain

Date of Despatch 7 Jul 45

Signature of Commander
Adjnt 2/17 Aust

War Diary

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 7/7/1945 5 2/17 Aust Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. II 12c/3 OFFRS. 33 O.R.'s. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1 W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				2		3 ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.	DETAIL.		ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				
				Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required.		
-	-	-	1	W.Os. Class I.						
-	-	-	6	W.Os. Class II.						
-	-	-	5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.						
				Staff Sergeants						
--	-	4	36	Sergeants		2	1	1	5	
NR	8	2	61	Corporals		1	1	1	5	
13	13	20	665	Troopers, Privates, etc.		1			13	
				Civilians counting as O.R.						
13*	21	26	774*	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.		AAC	AAOC	AAOS	AAPL	AAAL

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2). ** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces, 10 N.Z. Forces.	Detail	C.M.F.		A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
		A.I.F.	Under 19 Years.							
	A	806								806
	B(1)									
	B(2)									

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
				2	DRO WARWICK		
				1	HQ 9 Aust Div (Batman).		
				3	Leave.		
				8	AWL.		
				15	Fd Amb.		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To.....(Unit) is Particularly Requested. / / 194.....

Army No	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 7 / 7 / 1945 .

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.				Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)				Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)				Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)			
W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.		W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.		W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.		W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	
			Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants
			Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen
			Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers
			Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing
			Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental
			Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers
			Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangefinders
			Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters
			Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders
			Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers
			Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers
			Blacksmiths								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer
			Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevedores
			Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine
			Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical
			Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers				Tailors
			Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters
			Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identifa. Numbers				Tinsmiths
			Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers
			Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors
			Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters				Winchman				Whitesmiths
			Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman				
			Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners				
			Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics								
			Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)								
			Fitters				Driver-Operator								
			Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers								
			Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians								
			Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)								
			Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.
			Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors				
			Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers				
			Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks				
			Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply				
			Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical				
			Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties				Coach Trimmers				
			Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors				
			Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks				
			Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies				
			Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.
			Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals				
			Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.				
			Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics				
			Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant				
			Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.				
			Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers				
			Plumber				Moulders				Farriers				
			Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates				
			Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers				
			CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.

SEE APPENDIX "X" ATTACHED.

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
 (b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
 (c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
 (d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
 (e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

Date of Despatch 7 Jul 45

[Signature] Capt
 Adjutant 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Appendix "A"

Date: 7 Jul 45

WE II/12c/3

Unit: 2/17 AUST INF BN

Trade	Rank	WE	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfts Requd
<u>TRADE GROUP 1</u>						
Blacksmith	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
<u>TRADE GROUP 2</u>						
Carpenter	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Int Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	2	2	-	-	-
" "	Pte	7	7	-	-	-
Signallers	Cpl	4	3	1	-	NR
"	Pte	22	22	-	-	-
<u>TRADE GROUP 3</u>						
Butcher	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
Clerk	Sjt	2	2	-	-	-
"	Cpl	6	6	-	-	-
"	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
Eqpt Repairer	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
Rangetaker	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
Storeman Tech	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	3	3	-	-	-
Tailor	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
"	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
Gunlayers	Pte	8	8	-	-	-
<u>NON-SPECIALISTS</u>						
RSM	WO I	1	1	-	-	-
CSM	WO II	5	5	-	-	-
RQMS	WO II	1	1	-	-	-
CQMS	S sjt	5	5	-	-	-
Pl Sjts Riflemen	Sjt	12	12	-	-	-
" " Signallers	Sjt	1	2	-	1	-
" " MMG	Sjt	3	4	-	1	-
" " Mortar 3"	Sjt	5	6	-	1	-
" " Tk A	Sjt	3	3	-	-	-
" " Pnr	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
Batmen	Pte	35	35	-	-	-
Dvrs MT	Cpl	1	2	-	1	-
" "	Pte	11	11	-	-	-
Gen Duties (Mess)	Pte	3	3	-	-	-
Hyg Duties	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
LMG & Riflemen	Cpl	36	33	3	-	NR
LMG & Riflemen	Pte	361	349	12	-	12
MMG Nos	Cpl	2	2	-	-	-
" "	Pte	20	20	-	-	-
Mortar Nos	Cpl	5	4	1	-	NR
" "	Pte	68	68	-	-	-
Orderlies	Pte	32	32	-	-	-
Pioneers	Cpl	4	3	1	-	NR
"	Pte	28	28	-	-	-
Regtl Police	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	6	5	1	-	1
Storeman	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Stretcher Bearers	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	2	2	-	-	-
" "	Pte	18	18	-	-	-
Tk A Nos	Cpl	4	2	2	-	NR
" "	Pte	7	7	-	-	-
Water Duties	Pte	2	2	-	-	-
Band		22	22	-	22	-
		769	774	21	26	13

TRADE	RANK	WE	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfts Reqd
Total brought forward		769	774 774	21	26	13
<u>ATTACHED ALLOWED BY WE</u>						
<u>A A M C</u>						
Chiropodist	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
Hyg Inspector	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
Med Orderly	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A O C</u>						
Shoemaker	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A Postal Service</u>						
Postal Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A P C</u>						
Pay Clerk	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A C C</u>						
Caterer	WO ii	1	1	-	-	-
Cooks	Sjt	5	5	-	-	-
"	Cpl	5	5	-	-	-
"	Pte	13	13	-	-	-
		801	806	21	26	13

Surplus Tradesmen NOT allowed
by WE.

Trade Group

Date of Despatch: 7 Jul 45

John J. ... Capt
Adjnt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

28 / 45 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 14 7/1945 2/17 Inf Bn (Unit)

W.E. II / 1203 OFFRS. 33 O.R's. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.								
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.				
-	-	-	1	*									
-	-	-	3	*									
NR	1	-	7	Lieut.-Colonels	AAMC	1	-	-	-				
-	9	9	29	Majors									
-	-	-	1	Captains									
				Lieutenants									
				Quarter-masters									
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.									
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.									
	1	9	41			1							
		DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
		A.	"A" 42										42
		E.(1)											
		E.(2)											

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
NX17528	Capt	E J BLUNDELL	Ex 2/1 CCS	13/7/45	

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
NX15893	Lt	PI POLLOCK	HQ 9 Aust Div	10/7/45	Det for duty

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / / 194.....

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

2/17 Aust Inf Bn Unit

28 / 45 (Serial No.)

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 14/7/1945 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt Col	NX12225	BROADBENT	JR	CO	Yes		
Maj	NX12220	PIKE	PH	2IC	"		
Capt	NX24708	McFARLAND	JD	Adjt	"		
Lt	NX14354	LINDSAY	HR	Asst Adjt	Yes		
"	NX14133	WATERHOUSE	B	IO	"		
HQ Coy							
Maj	NX12228	MACLAIN	LC	OC	Yes		
Lt	NX20769	FORSTER	B	1PlComd	"		
"	NX4368	VICKE S	DH	2PlComd	"		
"	NX15693	POLLOCK	PI	3PlComd	No	Det HQ 9 Aust Div	10/7/45
"	NX4510	MORAN	RJ	4PlComd	Yes		
"	NX16546	WOOD	DM	5PlComd	Yes		
"	NX14384	HEWITT	AJC	TO	Yes		
Capt	NX52828	SIMPSON	LC	QM	"		
A Coy Capt	NX29407	HOLTSBAUM	GFJ	OC	Yes		
"	NX70701	MURPHY	PK	2IC	"		
Lt	QX8259	PINK	PJ	7PlComd	Yes		
"	NX59113	GRAHAM	IF	8PlComd	"		
"	VX131361	HORSFALL	GL	9PlComd	"		
B Coy Capt	NX14975	RUDKIN	RS	OC	"		
"	NX65452	McLEOD	KT	2IC	"		
Lt	NX104283	WILLIAMS	DA	10PlComd	Yes		
"	NX65621	TRUDGEON	MP	11PlComd	"		
"	NX104115	KENNEDY	RE	12PlComd	"		
C Coy Capt	NX14738	WRIGHT	AJ	OC	"		
"	NX17528	BLUNDELL	EJ	2IC	"		
Lt	NX123482	MUSSE T	JW	13PlComd	"		
"	NX69775	DELVES	BI	14PlComd	"		
"	VX146393	ANDREW	JD	15PlComd	"		
D Coy Maj	NX12371	TREBECK	MB	OC	"		
Lt	NX12372	XXXX	XX				
"	NX113719	POWELL	PBC	16PlComd	"		
"	NX144854	CLARKSON	JB	17PlComd	"		
"	VX87965	WILSON	AG	18PlComd	"		
HQ Coy							
Lt	NX9660	BROOK	GR	2IC1Pl	"		
"	QX38756	PHILP	HJ	2IC3Pl	"		
"	VX75353	WASLEY	HJ	2IC6Pl	"		
A Coy Lt	QX40103	VOCK	CW	2IC9Pl	"		
B Coy "	SX37099	McLEOD	DR	2IC10Pl	"		
C Coy "	NX25123	FLETCHER	NN	2IC13Pl	"		
D Coy "	NX25429	CHRISP	GR	2IC16Pl	"		
"	VX3012	FLETCHER	RE		No	Det HQ 9 Aust Div	21/1/45
"	NX20674	CUNNINGHAM	PB	2IC17Pl	Yes		
Capt	NX203245	RITCHIE	PL	RMO	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX53993	BLACKWELL KG	AA Chap Dept	11/1/45	Unit Chaplain

14 Jul 45
Date of Despatch

Monte... Capt
Signature of Commander
Adjnt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 14/ 7 /1945.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitches			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Bangetakers			
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical			
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers				Tailors			
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Bollermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters				Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers							
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks							
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties				Coach Trimmers							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors							
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks							
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders							
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals							
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.							
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics							
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant							
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.							
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers							
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.			

SEE APPENDIX "A" ATTACHED.

ATTACHED BY W.E.

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

14 Jul 45
Date of Despatch

[Signature] Capt
Signature of Commander
Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

14 Jul 45
 II/120/3.

Unit: 2/17 AUST INF BN

Trade	Rank	WE	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfts Recd
TRADE GROUP 1						
Blacksmith	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
TRADE GROUP 2						
Carpenter	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Int Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	2	2	-	-	-
" "	Pte	7	7	-	-	-
Signallers	Cpl	4	7	-	-	-
"	Pte	22	3	1	-	NR
TRADE GROUP 3						
Butcher	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
Clerk	Sjt	2	2	-	-	-
"	Cpl	6	6	-	-	-
"	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
Eqpt Repairer	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
Rangetaker	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
Storeman Tech	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	3	3	-	-	-
Tailor	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
"	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
Gunlayers	Pte	8	8	-	-	-
NON-SPECIALISTS						
RSM	WO I	1	1	-	-	-
CSM	WO II	5	5	-	-	-
RQMS	WO II	1	1	-	-	-
QMS	S sjt	5	5	-	-	-
Pl Sjts Riflemen	Sjt	12	12	-	-	-
" " Signallers	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" " MMG	Sjt	3	2	-	1	-
" " Mortar 3"	Sjt	5	4	-	1	-
" " Tk A	Sjt	3	6	-	1	9
" " Pnr	Sjt	1	3	-	-	-
Batmen	Pte	35	1	-	-	-
Dvrs MT	Cpl	1	35	-	-	-
" "	Pte	11	2	-	1	-
Gen Duties (Moss)	Pte	3	11	-	-	-
Msg Duties	Pte	4	3	-	-	-
MG 3 Riflemen	Cpl	36	4	-	-	-
" "	Pte	361	36	-	-	-
MG Nos	Cpl	2	347	14	-	14
" "	Pte	20	2	-	-	-
Mortar Nos	Cpl	5	20	-	-	-
" "	Pte	63	3	2	-	NR
Orderlies	Pte	32	68	-	-	-
Pioneers	Cpl	4	32	-	-	-
"	Pte	22	2	2	-	NR
Regtl police	Sjt	1	28	-	-	-
" "	Pte	6	1	-	-	-
Storeman	Pte	6	5	1	-	1
Stretcher Bearers	Sjt	1	6	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	13	2	-	-	-
Tk A Nos	Cpl	4	18	-	-	-
" "	Pte	7	2	2	-	NI
Water Duties	Pte	2	7	-	-	-
Band			2	-	-	-
			769	22	29	15

Appendix "A"

TRADE	RANK	WE	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfts Reqd
Total brought forward		769	776	22	29	15
<u>ATTACHED ALLOWED BY WE</u>						
<u>A A M C</u>						
Chiropodist	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
Hyg Inspector	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
Med Orderly	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A O C</u>						
Shoemaker	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A Postal Service</u>						
Postal Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A P C</u>						
Pay Clerk	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A C C</u>						
Caterer	WO ii	1	1	-	-	-
Cooks	Sjt	5	5	-	-	-
"	Cpl	5	5	-	-	-
"	Pte	13	13	-	-	-
		801	808	22	29	15

Surplus Tradesmen NOT allowed
by WE.

Trade Group

Date of Despatch: 14 Jul 45

L. J. ... Capt
Adjnt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

DETAILS OF SURPLUS NCOs

<u>Army No.</u>	<u>Rank.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Med Class.</u>	<u>Trade Gp.</u>	<u>Recommendation.</u>
VX87323	Sjt	RICKETSON RHC	A 1.	MMG	Posted to unit in accord with GRO 189/44.
VX81437	Sjt	EVERETT K	A 1.	Mortar.	"
NX105093	Sjt	HANCOCK H C	A 1.	Drum Major	"
NX60481	Sjt	DIXON C A	Sig Pl.		Remain with Unit.
NX142968	L sjt	MULHOLLAND P A	A 1.	Band Sjt.	Posted to unit in accord with GRO 189/44.
VX134230	Cpl	CORDWELL J L T	A 1.	Tpt Cpl.	"

SURPLUS PERSONNEL

23 Band Personnel - Posted to unit in accordance with GRO 189/44.

DEFICIENCIES IN NCOs

Deficiencies in NCOs caused by Medical evacuations and by personnel attending schools and courses.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)
..... (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 21 7 5 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
II 120 3 35 789/194 1 32 (Unit)

W.E. OFFRS. O.R's. + OFFRS. O.R's. ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 2 3 4				5	6 7 8 9 10									
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.									
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.					
-	-	-	1	*										
-	-	-	3	*										
NR	1	-	7	Lieut.-Colonels	A A M C	1	-	-	-					
-	-	10	30	Majors										
-	-	-	1	Captains										
				Lieutenants										
				Quarter-masters										
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.										
NR	1	10	42	Civilians Counting as Offrs.		1	-	-	-					
				DETAIL	A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
				A.	43									43
				E.(1)										
				E.(2)										

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
NX14800	LT	CUTLER C	9 Div Reception Camp	19.7.45	

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO..... (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. /..... /194.....

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 21/7/1945 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt-Col	NX12225	BROADBENT	JR	CO		Yes.	
Maj	NX12220	PIKE	PH	2IC			
Capt	NX24708	McFARLAND	JD	Adjnt			
Lt	NX14133	WATERHOUSE	B	IO			
"	NX14354	LINDSAY	HJ	A/Adjnt			
HQ - Maj	NX12228	MACIARN	IC	OC			
Lt	NX9660	BROOK	GR	1PlComd			
"	WX4368	VICKERS	DH	2 "			
"	NX15693	POLLOCK	PI	3 "		No Det HQ 9 Div	10.7.45
"	NX4510	MORAN	RJ	4 "			
"	NX16646	WOOD	DM	5 "			
"	NX14384	HEWITT	AJC	TO			
Capt	NX52928	SIMPSON	LC	QM			
A - Capt	NX29407	HOLTSBAUM	GFJ	OC			
"	NX70701	MURPHY	PK	2IC			
Lt	QX8259	FINK	FJ	7PlComd			
"	NX59113	GRAHAM	LF	8 "			
"	VX131361	HORSFALL	GL	9 "			
B - Capt	NX14875	RUDKIN	RS	OC			
"	NX65452	McLEOD	KT	2IC			
Lt	NX104283	WILLIAMS	DA	10PlComd			
"	NX65621	TRUDGEON	MP	11 "			
"	NX104115	KENNEDY	RE	12 "			
C - Capt	NX14738	WRIGHT	AJ	OC			
"	NX17528	BLUNDELL	EJ	2 IC			
Lt	NX123482	MUSSETT	JW	13PlComd			
"	NX69775	DELVES	BI	14 "			
"	VX146393	ANDREW	JD	15 "			
D - Maj	NX12371	TREBECK	NB	OC			
Lt	NX113719	POWELL	FBC	16PlComd			
"	NX144854	CLARKSON	JB	17 "			
"	VX87965	WILSON	AC	18 "			
HQ - Lt	QX38756	PHILP	HJ	2IC 3 Pl			
"	VX75353	WASLEY	HJ	2 " 6 "			
A - "	QX40103	VOCK	CW	2 " 8 "			
B - "	SX37099	McLEOD	DR	2 " 10 "			
C - "	NX25123	FLETCHER	RH	2 " 13 "		No Det HQ 9 Div	21.1.45
D - "	NX25429	CHRISP	GR	2 " 16 "		Yes.	
2	VX3012	FLETCHER	RH			No. Det HQ 9 Div.	21.1.45
"	NX20674	CUNNINGHAM	PB	2 " 17 "		Yes.	
"	NX14800	CUTLER	C	Bn HQ.			
Capt	NX203245	RITCHIE	FL	RMO			

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX53993	BLACKWELL KG	AA Ch Dep	11.1.45	Unit Chaplain.

21 Jul 45
Date of Despatch

[Signature] Capt
Signature of Commander
Adjnt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 21 / 7 / 1945 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

W.E. II / 120 / 3 OFFRS. 33 O.R.'s. 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R.'s. 32 ATT. BY W.E.

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.

1				2	3	4	5	6					7	8	9	10	
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.				ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.									
Reinfts. Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.					Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinfts. Required					
-	-	-	1	W.Os. Class I.													
-	-	-	6	W.Os. Class II.					1								
-	-	-	5	Squadron or Company Quartermaster Sgts.													
				Staff Sergeants													
-	-	4	36	Sergeants				2	1	1	5						
NR	7	2	62	Corporals				1	1	1	5						
15	15	22	665	Troopers, Privates, etc.				1			14	1					
				Civilians counting as O.R.													
15 *	22	28	775 *	Totals of cols. marked * should agree with details shown in Part E on Page 2.				ARMY	ARMY	ARMY	ARMY	ARMY	*	1			
Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 7 of instructions for compilation of this return will complete analysis of Part B(1) and B(2).				Detail	A.F.	C.M.P.		A.W.A.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL	R.A.N	R.A.A.F	**	TOTAL			
				A	808	Under 19 Years.	19 Years and over.				■	■	808				
				B(1)													
				B(2)						■							

Part B. Other Ranks Attached from Other Units.

Part C. Other Ranks Included in Part A Detached to Other Units.

Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which they belong	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.	Number of O.Rs.	Unit to which detached.
3				3	Leave.		
				8	A W L.		
				10	Fd Amb.		
				2	Old Ech & Rec.		
				2	HQ 9 Aust Div (Batmen).		
				1	HQ 9 Aust Div (Instr).		

Part D. Description of Other Ranks Whose Return To.....(Unit) is Particularly Requested. / / 194.....

Army No	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 21/ 7 /194 5.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, B.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitches			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Rangetakers			
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevedores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical			
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers				Tailors			
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Bollermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters				Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers							
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks							
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties				Coach Trimmers							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors							
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks							
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders				ATTACHED BY W.E.			
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals							
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.							
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics							
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tptn. Plant							
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.C.							
Photowriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers							
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.			*

SEE APPENDIX "A" ATTACHED.

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.E. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

21 Jul 45
Date of Despatch

Capt
Signature of Commander
Adj 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

Date: 21.7.45

WE II/12c/3.

Unit: 2/17 AUST INF BN

Trade	Rank	WS	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfts Reqd
TRADE GROUP 1						
Blacksmith	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
TRADE GROUP 2						
Carpenter	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Int Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	2	2	-	-	-
" "	Pte	7	7	-	-	-
Signallers	Cpl	4	3	1	-	NR
"	Pte	22	22	-	-	-
TRADE GROUP 3						
Butcher	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
Clerk	Sjt	2	2	-	-	-
"	Cpl	6	6	-	-	-
"	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
Eqpt Repairer	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
Rangefinder	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
Storeman Tech	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	3	3	-	-	-
Tailor	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
"	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
Gunlayers	Pte	8	8	-	-	-
NON-SPECIALISTS						
RSM	WO I	1	1	-	-	-
CSM	WO II	5	5	-	-	-
RQMS	WO II	1	1	-	-	-
CSMS	S sjt	5	5	-	-	-
Pl Sjts Riflemen	Sjt	12	12	-	-	-
" " Signallers	Sjt	1	2	-	1	-
" " MMG	Sjt	3	4	-	1	-
" " Mortar 3"	Sjt	5	6	-	1	-
" " Tk A	Sjt	3	3	-	-	-
" " Pnr	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
Batmen	Pte	35	35	-	-	-
Dvrs MT	Cpl	1	2	-	1	-
" "	Pte	11	11	-	-	-
Gen Duties (Mess)	Pte	3	3	-	-	-
Eng Duties	Pte	4	4	-	-	-
L.G 3: Riflemen	Cpl	36	34	2	-	NR
" "	Pte	361	346	15	-	15
MMG Nos	Cpl	2	2	-	-	-
" "	Pte	20	20	-	-	-
Mortar Nos	Cpl	5	4	1	-	NR
" "	Pte	68	68	-	-	9
Orderlies	Pte	32	32	-	-	-
Pioneers	Cpl	4	3	1	-	NR
"	Pte	28	28	-	-	-
Regtl Police	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Storeman	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Stretcher Bearers	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	2	2	-	-	-
" "	Pte	13	18	-	-	-
Tk A Nos	Cpl	4	2	2	-	NR
" "	Pte	7	7	-	-	-
Water Duties	Pte	2	2	-	-	-
Band			24	-	24	-
		769	775	22	28	15

TRADE	Rank	WE	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfts Recd
Total brought forward		769	775	22	28	15
<u>ATTACHED ALLOWED BY WE</u>						
<u>A A M C</u>						
Chiropodist	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
Hyg Inspector	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
Med Orderly	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A O C</u>						
Shoemaker	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A Postal Service</u>						
Postal Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A P C</u>						
Pay Clerk	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A C C</u>						
Caterer	WO II	1	1	-	-	-
Cooks	Sjt	5	5	-	-	-
Cooks	Cpl	5	5	-	-	-
"	Pte	13	14	-	1	-
		801	808	22	29	15

Surplus Tradesmen NOT allowed by WE.

Trade Group

Date of Despatch: 21 Jul 45

[Signature]
 Capt
 Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

30 45 (Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 28/7/1945 2/17 3a (Unit)

W.E. II/120 3 OFFRS. 33 O.R's 769 + OFFRS. 1 O.R's 32 ATT. BY W.E.

PART A.—POSTED STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.								
Rein'ts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'ts Required.				
-	-	-	1	*									
-	-	-	3	*									
NR	1	-	7	Lieut.-Colonels	AAMC	1	-	-	-				
-	-	10	30	Majors									
-	-	-	1	Captains									
				Lieutenants									
				Quarter-masters									
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.									
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.									
NR	1	10	42			1	-	-	-				
DETAIL				A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
A.				43									43
E.(1)													
E.(2)													

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / / 194

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 28/7/1945 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
Lt-Col	NX12225	BROADBENT	J R	CO	Yes		
Maj	NX12220	PIKE	P H	SIC	"		
Capt	NX24703	McFARLAND	J D	Adjt	"		
Lt	NX14133	WATERHOUSE	B	I O	"		
	NX14354	LINDSAY	H R	Asst Adjt	Yes		
HQ Coy Maj	NX12228	MACFARLANE	L C	CC	Yes		
Lt	NX9860	BROOK	S R	L Pl	Cond	Yes	
"	NX4368	VICKERS	D H	2	"	"	
"	NX15693	POLLOCK	P J	3	"	No Det HQ 9 Div	10/7/45
"	NX4510	MORAN	R J	4	"	Yes	
"	NX16548	WOOD	D M	5	"	"	
"	NX14384	HEWITT	A J	TO	"	"	
Capt	NX52928	SIMPSON	L C	QM	"	"	
A Coy Capt	NX29407	HOLT SAUM	G F	J CC	"	"	
	NX70701	MURPHY	P K	SIC	"	"	
Lt	QX8259	FINK	F J	7 Pl	Cond	"	
"	NX59113	GRAHAM	L F	8	"	"	
"	VX131361	HORSFALL	F L	9	"	"	
B Coy Capt	NX14875	RUDKIN	R S	CC	"	"	
"	NX65452	McLEOD	K T	SIC	"	"	
Lt	NX104283	WILLIAMS	D A	10 Pl	Cond	"	
"	NX65621	TRUDGEON	M P	11	"	"	
"	NX104115	KENNEDY	R E	12	"	"	
C Coy Capt	NX14738	WRIGHT	A J	CC	"	"	
	NX17528	BLUNDELL	H J	SIC	"	"	
Lt	NX123482	MUSSETT	J W	13 Pl	Cond	"	
"	NX69775	DELVES	B I	14	"	"	
"	VX146393	ANDREW	J D	15	"	"	
D Coy Maj	NX12371	TREBECK	H B	CC	"	"	
Lt	NX113719	POWELL	V B	16 Pl	Cond	"	
"	NX144854	CLARKSON	J H	17	"	"	
"	VX87955	WILSON	A C	18	"	"	
HQ Coy Lt	QX38756	PHILP	H J	SIC	1 Pl	"	
"	VX75353	WASLEY	H J	SIC	6	"	
A Coy	QX40103	VOCK	C W	SIC	8	"	
B Coy	SX37099	McLEOD	D R	SIC	10	"	
C Coy	NX25123	FLETCHER	S M	SIC	13	"	
D Coy	NX25429	CHRISP	G R	SIC	16	"	
"	VX3012	FLETCHER	R H	"	No	Det HQ 9 Aust Div	21/1/45
"	NX20674	CUNNINGHAM	P B	SIC 17 Pl	Yes		
"	NX14800	CUTLER	C	Bn HQ	"		
HQ Coy "	NX20769	FORSTER	B	"	"		
Capt	NX203248	RITCHIE	P L	RMO	Yes		

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
Capt	QX53993	BLACKWELL K G	AA Chap	Dep 11/1/45	Unit Chaplain

Date of Despatch

a.w. 10m bks 10/43

Signature of Commander Capt
Adjt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 28 / 7 / 1945.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.P.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, R.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Eangetakers			
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Roughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radiographers				Stevadores			
Computers								Riggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical			
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers				Tailors			
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Bty. Comd's Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters				Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)				Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks				Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators											
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Butchers							
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Coach Trimmers							
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Concretors							
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Cooks							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Despatch Riders							
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Draughtsmen, Signals							
Pattern Maker				Masons				Drivers, H.T.							
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Mechanics							
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Driver Tptn. Plant							
Photowriter				Miners				Engine Hands, I.C.							
Plumber				Moulders				Equipment Repairers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Farriers							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Fitters' Mates							
								Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				CARRIED FORWARD				Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.			*

SEE APPENDIX "A" ATTACHED.

ATTACHED BY W.E.

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
(b) Authorised grades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
(c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
(d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.F. in col. "Reints. Required."
(e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

28 Jul 45

Date of Despatch

[Signature]
Adjt. Quartermaster
Capt

TRADE	Rank	WE	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfte Recd
Total brought forward		769	773	23	27	16
<u>ATTACHED ALLOWED BY WE</u>						
<u>A A M C</u>						
Chiropodist	Cpl	1				
Eye Inspector	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
Med Orderly	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A O C</u>						
Shoemaker	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A Postal Service</u>						
Postal Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A P C</u>						
Post Clerk	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	1	1	-	-	-
<u>A A C C</u>						
Caterer	WO II	1	1	-	-	-
Cooks	Sjt	5	5	-	-	-
Cooks	Cpl	5	5	-	-	-
"	Pte	13	13	-	-	-
		801	805	23	27	16

Surplus Tradesmen NOT allowed by WE.

Trade Group

Date of Despatch: 28 Jul 45

[Signature]
 Capt
 14jt 2/17 Aust Inf Bn

SURPLUS NCOs

Army No.	Rank.	Name.	Med Class.	Trade Gp.	Recommendation.
VX87325	Sjt	RICKETSON RHG	A 1.	MMG.	Posted to unit in accord with GRO 189/44.
NX109629	Sjt	MATHESON DR	A 1.	Mortar.	"
VX81437	Sjt	EVERETT K	A 1.	"	"
NX105093	Sjt	HANCOCK HG	A 1.	Drum Major.	"
NX60481	Sjt	DIXON CA	A 1.	Sig Pl.	Remain with unit.
NX142968	L sjt	MULHOLLAND PA	A 1.	Band Sjt.	Posted to unit in accord with GRO 189/44.
VX134230	Cpl	CORDWELL JLT	A 1.	Tpt Cpl.	"

SURPLUS PERSONNEL

21 Band Personnel - Posted to unit in accordance with GRO 189/44.

DEFICIENCIES IN NCOs

Deficiencies in NCOs caused by Medical evacuations and by personnel attending schools and courses.

Date:

WE II/12c/3.

Unit: 2/17 AUST INF BN

Trade	Rank	WE	Posted Strength	Deficit	Surplus	Rfts Reqd
TRADE GROUP 1						
Blacksmith	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
TRADE GROUP 2						
Carpenter	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Int Duties	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	2	7	-	-	-
" "	Pte	7	3	1	-	NR
Signallers	Cpl	4	22	-	-	-
"	Pte	22				
TRADE GROUP 3						
Butcher	Pte	1	1	-	-	-
Clerk	Sjt	2	6	-	-	-
"	Cpl	6	4	-	-	-
"	Pte	4	1	-	-	-
Sqpt Repairer	Pte	1	4	-	-	-
Rangefinder	Pte	4	1	-	-	-
Storeman Tech	Sjt	1	3	-	-	-
" "	Pte	3	1	-	-	-
Tailor	Sjt	1	1	-	-	-
"	Cpl	1	8	-	-	-
Gunlayers	Pte	8				
NON-SPECIALISTS						
BSM	WO I	1	5	-	-	-
CSM	WO II	5	1	-	-	-
BQMS	WO II	1	5	-	-	-
CCS	S sjt	5	12	-	-	-
Pl Sjts Riflemen	Sjt	12	2	-	1	-
" " Signallers	Sjt	1	4	-	1	-
" " MMG	Sjt	3	6	-	1	-
" " Mortar 3"	Sjt	5	3	-	-	-
" " Tk A	Sjt	3	1	-	-	-
" " Pmr	Sjt	1	35	-	-	-
Batmen	Pte	35	2	-	1	-
Dvrs MT	Cpl	1	11	-	-	-
" "	Pte	11	3	-	-	-
Gen Duties (Hoss)	Pte	3	4	-	-	-
Eng Duties	Pte	4	34	-	-	NR
L G & Riflemen	Cpl	36	345	122	-	-
" "	Pte	361	2	-	-	-
MMG Nos	Cpl	2	20	-	-	-
" "	Pte	20	4	1	-	NR
Mortar Nos	Cpl	5	69	-	-	-
" "	Pte	63	32	-	-	-
Orderlies	Pte	32	3	-	-	-
Pioneers	Cpl	4	23	-	-	-
"	Pte	23	1	-	-	-
Regtl Police	Sjt	1	6	-	-	-
" "	Pte	6	6	-	-	-
Storeman	Pte	6	1	-	-	-
Stretcher Bearers	Sjt	1	2	-	-	-
" "	Cpl	2	18	-	-	-
" "	Pte	18	2	2	-	NR
Tk A Nos	Cpl	4	7	-	-	-
" "	Pte	7	2	-	-	-
Water Duties	Pte	2	23	-	23	-
Band						
			773	83	27	18