

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

Item number: 8/2/18

18 Infantry Brigade
Messages 1942, part 3 of 3

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT (63)

LOG SERIAL 334

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div rptd Adv NGF 128 US Regt

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde Gp

Originator's Number

I 539

Date

22

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Sitrep	Nº 17	to	2030 hrs	0	5
2/10	Aust	Inf	Bn	less	10
two	Coys	now	across	SIME MI	15
Ch	area	has	formed	inf	20
bridgehead	to	approx	depth	of	25
main	tracks	along	OLD	STRIP	30
0	enemy	engaging	them	By	35
fire	0	2/9	Aust	Inf	40
Bn	have	found	enemy	pocket	45
of	resistance	on	small	island	50
mouth	of	SIME MI	CK	0	55
Endeavouring	to	make	untenable	by	60
fire	during	night	0	Tanks	65
two	OK	Mula	probably	OK	70
by	morning	three	for	recovery	75
commencing	first	light	one	probably	80
easy	one	under	fire	but	85
mechanically	sound	probably	mechanically	considerable	90
sound	one	will	require		95
maintenance	every	water	damage		100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Immediate

TIME OF ORIGIN

2107

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

Jan 2/10 - Ben up 400 feet 7 hrs high.

Walter -

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OUT 62
LUG SERIAL

330

A. 18 ant 2 Inf Bdr GP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO Xsqn 216 ant 2 Inf Bdr GP 128 US Rgt 5 MO 219 ant 2 Inf Bdr

FROM 18 ant 2 Inf Bdr GP I 538 22 In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)	No	16	to 1800	has	5	
Strip	0/126	and	1/128	no	10	
change	front	quirt	0	officers	15	
patrol	2/10	ant	2 Inf	Bw	20	
crashed	approx	290239	1000	has	25	
0	swamp	waist	deep	0	30	
approx	three	posns	located	facing	35	
last	sounds	of	tunnel	forward	40	
2/10	construction	head	0	one	45	
roy	2/10	ant	2 Inf	Bw	50	
had	crossed	SIMEMI	CK	and	55	
is	located	293247	approx	Enemy	60	
opposition	nil	0	2/9	ant	65	
2 Inf	Bw	with	still	and	70	
tank	support	crashed	mouth	SIMEMI	75	
CK	on	north	bank	at	80	
1700	has	approx 0	Battle	casualties	85	
to	0600	has	17	and	90	
227	ant	units	1	and	95	
19	U.S.	units	0	WIRRAWAY	100	
NOT	at	spotter	crashed	in	105	
flames	east	of	1/126	CP	110	
at	1700	has	0	Present	115	
locations	own	aid	latest	information	120	
see	attached	trace	0 Topography	Grass country	125	
and	NEW STRIP	is possible	to inf	at West	to western	130

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IN	IN			OUT	OUT			OUT	OUT		

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

Secret

NOT to be taken from HQ

Atty 18 ant 2 Inf Bdr GP

TO

FROM

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Sitry	No	16	to 1800	has	5
0	0/126	and	1/128	no	10
change	front	quit	0	officers	15
patrol	2/10	ant	2 Inf	Bn	20
crashed	approx	290239	1000	has	25
0	swamp	waist	deep	0	30
approx	three	posns	located	facing	35
East	sounds	of	timber	front	40
note	construction	head	0	one	45
any	2/10	ant	2 Inf	Bn	50
has	crossed	SIMEMI	CK	and	55
is	located	293247	approx	Enemy	60
opposition	nil	0	2/9	ant	65
2 Inf	Bn	with	still	and	70
tank	support	crashed	mouth	SIMEMI	75
CK	on	north	bank	at	80
1700	has approx	0	Battle	casualties	85
to	0600	has	17	and	90
227	ant	units	1	and	95
19	U.S.	units	0	WIRRAWAY	100
NOT	at	spotter	crashed	in	105
flames	East	of	1/126	CP	110
at	1700	has	0	Present	115
locations	over the	and latest	enemy	information	120
are attacked	trace	0 Topography	0 Grass	country	125
ala NEW STRIP	is possible to inf	at West	to weather		130

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

IN

(61)

LOG SERIAL 409.

OPS

23/12 conference 2030 hrs

Bde Comd SE 10 signs of Col Goble, agh Col
 Martin day short ~~back the land~~ back the land
 Capt Matheson. BMDA

Verbal orders for attack by 2/10 and in line

1. Hundred corp 7 bombs given to 2/10
2. Tanks to work by for one for up
 one for in rear
3. 1/126 followed by 1/128 on left of 2/10
 protecting high flank and leading with
 approach ahead.
4. Start line - to be fixed on ground -
 line running NE-SW 1/2 in but at
 guide for 2/10 to meet the start of
~~2/10 front line~~ at BRIDGE from 2-30
 0900
5. ZERO - ~~not before~~ 0930
6. FUP - start line
7. Artillery - concentrations prior to start
~~concentrations~~ controlled by 7.00 - 10 minutes
~~before~~ 2-10 to 2-4 Rate 4
 then high & targets in rear
8. Engineers - Engineer main party 3 reports
 to 2/10 on HQ by 0700
9. Re - carry 2/10 and in line & two
 links main forward location
10. Orders during 7 attack 300° True
11. POW to bridge
12. TTP & SP at barrier - falling back
 north of it
13. Medical - evacuate in rear
 & NEW STRIP
14. Bde reports on for sent 7/12 2/12
15. Tank signals

message

Kegle

OPS

1230 14/12

Col. Martin, Lt's 128 Regt + 32 div
 Maj Thomas, Sgt 172 10 a.m. - Maj. Thomas & Maj. MEITHAM
 outline plan

- ✓ 1. Situation as at 1030 given verbally - some slight
 doubt still as to exact locations of 2/11 bn. 2/10
 fighting to left to include BRIDGE our SIMMENT in
 bridgehead with sufficient depth for engines to repair br.
 Eng bridge to be completed first and 1/126 to cross
 and take up position protecting southern flank for
 those Jap units south of ship. 2/10 to be
 prepared to give smoke cover. **exact smoke pt**
to be determined by acty. 2/10 to give smoke
to be observed if possible
3. 2/10 line to be shifted across to right flank 1/126
4. 1/126 to keep position to SW flank + to keep us in
 hand to deal with any possible Jap attack or counter
 attack.
5. 2/10 unit put first attack on night to
 left flank controlled by bombs. 1/126
 will extend on left flank
- ✓ 6. Col. Martin to ~~take~~ with direct control of
 1/126 + 3/128. 2/128 to be placed under
 control of 2/19 bn who will be charged with
 responsibility of securing all front ranks of
 SIMMENT CR
- ✓ 7. When main line of enemy machines is
 encountered the attack will be staged
8. Adv will be controlled by bombs to defeat objectives
9. 1/128 on move of 1/126 will be in rear
 under immediate control of Martin. ~~order to fire~~
~~active unit during combat~~
10. This will be prepared to move at dawnish
 action for 1230 to dispersed & employed area
 at BRIDGE TRACK some
11. A day 2/10 machine will be prepared to
 move at dawnish notes on action for the day
- ✓ 12. Adv - 500's will 2/19 ~~extra~~ extra 500's
 to go with 1/126

(over)

13. enough to maintain camp running for
all guns. 1/18 1/2 way.
14. engine - delivering or exploding with
noise. also breaking camp
15. Method - line of communication by AMBULANCE
or NEW SYSTEM to BGS
17. Admin Co 2/9 as late as possible

Notes

1. engine offer 5 minutes
- ✓ 2. Fall co 2/9 of projected action on 3/12/8
3. the 5c.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

OUT

81

Aug 18 Bde Gp

LOG SERIAL 382

TO X Sqn 46 Aust Armd Rept 2/9 2/10 Aust Lf Bn
17 Bde Carriers 128 US Rgt SMO 1413
FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

1542

Date

23

File number

(Write horizontally)

Sitrep	to	1700 L/23	⊙	night 22/23	5
fight	casualties	fw'd	tps	2/9 Bn	10
from	enemy	mortars	and	local	15
patrols	2/10 Bn	destroyed	two	MG posts	20
⊙	Approx	1100 hrs	2/10 Bn	lys	25
one	coy	extended	to	left	30
occupying	area	of	br	⊙	35
1/126	Then	crossed	br	making	40
contact	with	left	flank	2/10 Bn	45
⊙ 2/10	Bn	then	moved	NW	50
along	strip	1/126	maintaining	contact	55
with	left	flank	⊙ 141	MG fire	60
has	been	coming	from	NW end	65
OLD	STRIP	⊙	A/A guns	have	70
been	located	285251	and	28x2525	75
the	latter	being	a	Dompson	80
⊙	arty	knocked	out	an	85
27952546	⊙	US engs	have	been	90
working	to	repair	br by	1900 L/23	95
⊙	inf	digging	in	approx	100
800	yds	up	strip	end	105
across	strip	level	with	hut	110
vicinity	28929	dispos	own	tps	115
to	1700 hrs	and	latest	enemy	120
inf	see	att	tran		125
					130

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TIME OF ORIGIN

1720

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T.O.R.

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IN	IN			OUT	OUT			OUT	OUT		

Thompson

IN (69).

LUG SERIALS 456, 7, 8, 9

aps
 traps end at 1/10
 1/10 men at foot light & BRIDGE between
 two ships. so not men for these traps
 by orders of Bde
 1/10 continuing for 1/10 from by house across at
 station so 1/10 that station can move at
 station 1/10 of 1/10 & 1/10 of 1/10

1630 - "Lange" wounded - early evening
 gear

aps

1/10

1/10

length of line 283253

283250

light

center half moon

283251

1/10

aps

1645

Bde could to go 1/10 - was long
 available to 1/10 - moves at 0545
 to join 1/10. Long could to go
 up & see 1/10 for availability. Again
 long light. Long remain in the area
 until 0545.

IN(68)

LOG SERIALS. 453
454
455

OPS 1245

Both wind spoke to at station - 1/12/6
to maintain pressure on left

Both spoke to at 2/10 and 2/9 hrs -
2/10 the push ahead on the line
with security of 2/9 on other side
of the . The south front line by
1/12/6 very weather water - only
keeping up just on centre

24/12

3-120 - F50 reports that 4/10 on right line
marked accounts. - 2/10 agree
that line has marked accounts

1440 - At station very late and
1/12/6 ~~pushing~~ held up by
pull back ~~other~~ open. Trying to make
with a ~~inflection~~ probably attacking
at 30/10 minutes

1235

From 410 to 412 and
 made approx 100 yds for shot
 line - 15 to 20 yds up - 2
 can be doing, casualties - only
 have been firing on hill below
 Germans not moving ahead,
 against fire and have slight
 snipers in rear of ~~the position~~
 1/126. Position of 1/126 not known.
 in front of 1/126

1245

¹⁵⁰⁰ ~~Advised~~ spoke to Col Martin
 Germans - were moving and
 back ahead again in some.
 At Martin going fast himself -
 1/126 are suffering from enemy
 fire from in front of 410

1320

Still held up in centre.
 being arty. as 4 guns
 only considerably available
 rate of fire doubled

9.20/12

ARTILLERY ANNEX

BUNA FORCES
21 Dec. 1942

ANNEX NO. 1)
TO FO NO. 5)

MAPS: Buna Locality Revised 4" to one mile.

1. MISSIONS:

a. Hall Btry: To establish and maintain a smoke screen during the attack. See overlay No. 2 Hq Buna Force Arty, 21 Dec. 1942.

b. Manning Btry: To render direct support to URBANA FORCE prior to the forming up. To support the attack by a barrage, see overlay No. 2 Hq Buna Force Arty. 21 Dec. 1942 and schedule. In the event the attack falls behind the schedule time the forward observer will cease the fire and be prepared to put down a concentration on the locality delaying the attack.

(Forward Obs. - Lt Haywood)

c. Dusty Btry: Direct support. To be prepared to put down precision fire for destruction on bunkers that may be holding up the attack. (Forward Obs - Lt Dix)

d. Stokes Btry: To fire on barrage lines indicated overlay No. 2 Hq Buna Force Arty 21 Dec. 1942. To fire on bunkers on call by O'Hara forward observer. (Forward Obs. - Lt Cuffs)

e. O'Hara Btry: To fire on barrage lines indicated overlay No. 2 Hq Buna Force Arty 21 Dec. 1942. To fire neutralization missions on call by forward observer. (Forward Obs. - Lt Cuffs)

EICHELBERGER

BOWEN
G-3

36
MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

2

LIC

IN

62

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

LOG SERIAL

73

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO HQ US BUNA FORCE

FROM ADV NGF

Originator's Number

0364

Date

23

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

BUNH

FORCE

please

pass

to

5

18

BOE

O

FOLLOWING RECEIVED

10

By

GEN

HEKING

FROM

GEN

15

NER

NORTH COTT #8

first

comid

20

1/1

aust

armid

div

begins

25

O

delighted

to

hear

first

30

armid

unit

has

established

so

35

high

reputation

in

action

O

40

this

will

be

great

incentive

45

and

encouragement other

armid

units

50

who

look

forward

to

their

55

opportunity O

best

wishes

to

60

you

and

units

concerned

O

65

ends

70

75

80

85

90

95

100

105

110

115

120

125

130

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

Wooten
OPS
1.0 mark in camp 15 low 4 cond
+ 26/12
PRIORITY

NO/ 4174

25 December 1942

TO: ADV NGF, NGF, 5TH AF, GHQ, 7TH AUST DIV, BUNA FORCES

SITREP NO 123 TO 0400 25 DECEMBER. MAP REFERENCE: BUNA LOCALITY

REVISED 4 INCHES TO 1 MILE. OWN OPS: WARREN FORCE: NO CHANGE IN

DISPOSITIONS ADVANCE WILL BE CONTINUED AT 0700 25 DECEMBER. URBANA

FORCE: K CO 127 WAS WITHDRAWN FROM PREVIOUS POSITION AND PLACED

ON LEFT FLANK I CO 127. TWO PLATOONS C CO 127 MOVED TO POSITION

100 YDS EAST ALONG TRAIL FROM CP 2ND BN 127 WHICH IS LOCATED AT

POINT 259262 OTHER DISPOSITIONS NO CHANGE. ENEMY OPS: ENEMY AIR

CRAFT DROPPED 5 BOMBS AT 0210L, 15 BOMBS AT 0400L AND 5 BOMBS AT

0510L IN THE AREA EAST AND NORTHEAST OF SINEMI VILLAGE/ NO DAMAGE

WAS REPORTED. THE AREA AROUND THE BRIDGE BETWEEN THE AIR STRIPS,

AND PART OF THE OLD RUNWAY WAS BOMBED AT 2215L 24 DECEMBER AND AT

0100L 25 DECEMBER WITHOUT REPORTED DAMAGE. THE AREA OF THE SERVICE

CO 128 WAS BOMBED AT 0505L WITH 8-10 BOMBS WITHOUT REPORTED DAMAGE

WEATHER FAIR, BROKEN CLOUDS 8000 FT, VISIBILITY GOOD END

EICHELBERGER

18th Bde
PRIORITY

NO. 4158

TO: ADV NCF, NCF, 7TH DIV, GHQ, 5TH AF, BUNA FORCES, ALO:

SITREP NO. 122 INFORMATION TO 170CL/24 MAP REFERENCE BUNA LOCALITY 4 INCH

OWN OPS: WARREN FORCE: GENERAL ADVANCE DURING DAY ON THE LEFT FLANK.

DISPOSITIONS 2/9 BN RIGHT FLANK ON COAST AT MOUTH OF SINEMI CREEK AND EXTEND

TO 283255, THEN 2/10 BN EXTEND TO 283251. WHEN 1ST BN 126 REGT EXTENDING TO

284247 THEN 1 BN 128 EXTENDING TO 287244. URBANA FORCE: PART OF L4 CO.

SUCCEEDED IN REACHING BUNA MISSION - GIROPA PT TRACK AT PT. APPROX. 268264

BUT LOST CONTACT WITH OTHER FORCES AND WITHDREW TO CONSOLIDATE OUR LINE.

SOME ADVANCE MADE ALONG TRACK THRU GOVT. GARDENS ENLARGING BRIDGE HEAD EAST

OF ENTRANCE CREEK WE NOW HOLD EVERYTHING WEST OF ENTRANCE CREEK OUR LINE

RUNS FROM POINT ON CREEK 264263 SOUTH TO ROAD AT 264260 THENCE SOUTHWEST TO

BRIDGE AT 261258 STOP F CO. 126 ASTRIDE TRACK SOUTH OF JUNCTION 262255

SUPPORTED BY C CO. 127 STOP PATROL NEAR TARAKENA REPORT STRONG JAP PATROL

THAT AREA WITH PURELY DEFENSIVE ATTITUDE ENEMY OPS: LARGE AMOUNT OF AUTOMATIC

FIRE RECEIVED ON BOTH OUR FORCES. TWO TANKS KNOCKED OUT BY AA FIRE THIRD

TANK BURNED. FOURTH TANK ON SIDE IN BOMB CRATER. CASUALTIES URBANA FORCE NO

REPORT STOP WARREN FORCE AUSTRALIAN WOUNDED 3 OFF, 42 KM. AMERICAN NO REPORT

WEATHER BROKEN CLOUDS 10000 FEET VISIBILITY GOOD END.

EICHELBERGER

MESSAGE FORM

copy

OUT

94A

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

LOG SERIAL

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

506A

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 U.S. Div, 1st Adv NGF. 128 Regt arty 18 Bde

FROM 18 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Originator's Number

1543

Date

25

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Inter	to	2100 2/25	O 2/9 Bn	and	5
3/128	No change	O O L D	STRIP	are	10
am	night	and	left	flanks	15
has	pushed	ford	O	general	20
line	of	front	283253 -	287246 -	25
280249	with	2/10 Bn. holding north	arm and		30
1/126	with arm	of open	formed	by front	35
O C Coy	2/10 Bn	has moved	through	1/126	40
along	southward	flank	to	280249	45
and	is to	strike	with heads	into	50
resistance	center	of	stop	O	55
strong	pockets	of	resistance	within	60
two	arms	of	front	line	65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

Brig Wooten

PRIORITY

NO 42

25 DECEMBER 1942

TO: ADV NGF, NGF, 7 DIV, G-2 GHQ, 5TH AF, ALO BUNA FORCES

SITREP NO 124 TO 1700L/25. REFERENCE BUNA LOCALITY MAP REVISED. OWN OPERATIONS:

WARREN FORCE: FRONT LINE HAS NOT ADVANCED. AN ERRATUM IN PREVIOUS REPORTS IN

THAT 1ST BN 126 REGT NOT REPEAT NOT FACING SOUTH SAFEGUARDING LEFT FLANK OF

2/10 BN WHICH IS NOT REPEAT NOT EXTENDING OVER WHOLE WIDTH OLD RUNWAY. 1ST BN

126 REGT ADVANCED LEFT SIDE OLD RUNWAY ABREAST OF 2/10 BN ON RIGHT SIDE OF

RUNWAY. CENTER OF RUNWAY OPEN. 2/9 BN HOLDING SINEMI CREEK LINE FROM 283254

TO MOUTH ON COAST. 3D BN 128 REGT HAS COAST DEFENSE: MOUTH SINEMI CREEK -

CAPE ENDAIADERE - HARIKO WITH CP LOCATED 300 YDS SOUTH OF CAPE ON COAST. 1ST

BN 128 REGT LESS C CO IN RESERVE IN AREA FROM 285245 TO 291242. CP IS AT

291242. 2 PLATOONS OF 2/9 BN AT BRIDGE BETWEEN RUNWAYS. C CO 128 REGT NOW IN

REAR OF ENEMY EMPLACEMENTS THAT ARE HOLDING UP ADVANCE OF 1ST BN 126 REGT.

BOTH ATTACKING BNS USING INFILTRATION TO REDUCE ENEMY POSITIONS. URBANA FORCE:

ATTACK LAUNCHED TO CUT OFF BUNA MISSION AT 1125L. NO ARTY OR MORTAR PREPARATION

BUT SEMBLANCE OF GREAT ACTIVITY CREATED ON EXTREME LEFT FLANK ON ISLAND WHILE

F CO AND G CO 127 REGT ATTACKED THRU GOVT. GARDENS. F CO PUSHED THRU TO COAST

NEAR RJ 268264 AND ARE ESTABLISHING A LINE FACING SOUTHEAST. A CO 127 IS

REDUCING EMPLACEMENTS NEAR 266264 TO ESTABLISH A LINE FACING BUNA MISSION (WEST)

AND IN REAR OF F CO WITH A PORTION NOW ON THE COAST. TWO PLATOONS C CO CROSSING

ENTRANCE CREEK TO REINFORCE A CO ON THE COAST G CO ON RIGHT OF F CO THRU GOVT

GARDENS WITH RIGHT HELD UP AT 264259. L CO AT 264261 UNABLE TO ADVANCE. A

PLATOON EACH OF E AND C COS 127TH INF ARE CONTAINING TRACK JUNCTION SOUTH

ENTRANCE CREEK ISLAND (262255) H CO 127 ON ISLAND. ENEMY OPERATIONS: OLD

STRIP IS A NEST OF MUTUALLY SUPPORTING EMPLACEMENTS COVERING OLD STRIP TO

JUNGLE EITHER SIDE. ENEMY HOLDING FIRE UNTIL LAST MOMENT. PATROL 2/10 BN

WHICH ATTEMPTED CAPTURE OF STRONG POINT AT 284249 NIGHT 24/25 DEC LOCATED 1

50 CAL 1 HVY MG BUT PREVENTED FROM GETTING CLOSE BY ENEMY RIFLEMEN IN NEARBY

FOX HOLES. FIRES BURNING AT 271258, 263257 AND 261266. ENEMY ARTY

REPORTED

FIRE REPORTED FROM BUNTINGS STORE AT 1300L. INTELLIGENCE PATROL OF 5 MEN IN WOODS SOUTH OF GOVT GARDENS SUFFERED 4 CASUALTIES. ESTIMATED AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES: FROM 18 DEC TO 0600L 25 DEC: 8 OFFICERS 75 EM KILLED; 19 OFFICERS AND 311 EM WOUNDED. ESTIMATED AMERICAN CASUALTIES: LAST 24 HOURS: 3 EM KILLED; 3 OFFICERS 38 EM WOUNDED: TOTAL SINCE 18 DEC 48 KILLED 104 WOUNDED 48 MISSING IN ACTION. OLD BARGE OCCUPIED BY ENEMY MG SOUTHWEST BUNA MISSION ENTRANCE CREEK KNOCKED OUT BY MORTAR FIRE 1050L. 50 JAPS DRIVEN OFF SPIT SW BUNA MISSION BY MG FIRE AT 1600L OBSERVED RUNNING INTO MISSION BUILDING. URBANA FORCE CALLING FOR ARTY FIRE ON MISSION BUILDING. IT IS THOUGHT THAT GIROPA POINT WILL BE THE FINAL DEFENSIVE POSITION. ESTIMATED ENEMY STRENGTH BUNA AREA 450 - 500. WEATHER FINE, OVERCAST 8000 VISIBILITY 20 MILES END

EICHELBARGER

Warren Force

PRIORITY

NO 4244

25 DECEMBER 1942

TO ADV NGF, NGF, 7 DIV, G-2 GHQ, 5TH AF, ALO, BUNA FORCES

SITREP NO 124 TO 1700L/25. REFERENCE BUNA LOCALITY MAP REVISED. OWN OPERATIONS:

WARREN FORCE: FRONT LINE HAS NOT ADVANCED. AN ERRATUM IN PREVIOUS REPORTS IN

THAT 1ST BN 126 REGT NOT REPEAT NOT FACING SOUTH SAFEGUARDING LEFT FLANK OF

2/10 BN WHICH IS NOT REPEAT NOT EXTENDING OVER WHOLE WIDTH OLD RUNWAY. 1ST BN

126 REGT ADVANCED LEFT SIDE OLD RUNWAY ABREAST OF 2/10 BN ON RIGHT SIDE OF

RUNWAY. CENTER OF RUNWAY OPEN. 2/9 BN HOLDING SINEMI CREEK LINE FROM 283254

TO MOUTH ON COAST. 3D BN 128 REGT HAS COAST DEFENSE: MOUTH SINEMI CREEK -

CAPE ENDAIADERE - HARIKO WITH CP LOCATED 300 YDS SOUTH OF CAPE ON COAST. 1ST

BN 128 REGT LESS C CO IN RESERVE IN AREA FROM 285245 TO 291242. CP IS AT

291242. 2 PLATOONS OF 2/9 BN AT BRIDGE BETWEEN RUNWAYS. C CO 128 REGT NOW IN

REAR OF ENEMY EMPLACEMENTS THAT ARE HOLDING UP ADVANCE OF 1ST BN 126 REGT.

BOTH ATTACKING BNS USING INFILTRATION TO REDUCE ENEMY POSITIONS. URBANA FORCE:

ATTACK LAUNCHED TO CUT OFF BUNA MISSION AT 1125L. NO ARTY OR MORTAR PREPARATION

BUT SEMBLANCE OF GREAT ACTIVITY CREATED ON EXTREME LEFT FLANK ON ISLAND WHILE

F CO AND G CO 127 REGT ATTACKED THRU GOVT GARDENS. F CO PUSHED THRU TO COAST

NEAR RJ 268264 AND ARE ESTABLISHING A LINE FACING SOUTHEAST. A CO 127 IS

REDUCING EMPLACEMENTS NEAR 266264 TO ESTABLISH A LINE FACING BUNA MISSION (WEST)

AND IN REAR OF F CO WITH A PORTION NOW ON THE COAST. TWO PLATOONS C CO CROSSING

ENTRANCE CREEK TO REINFORCE A CO ON THE COAST G CO ON RIGHT OF F CO THRU GOVT

GARDENS WITH RIGHT HELD UP AT 264259. L CO AT 264261 UNABLE TO ADVANCE. A

PLATOON EACH OF E AND C COS 127TH INF ARE CONTAINING TRACK JUNCTION SOUTH

ENTRANCE CREEK ISLAND (262255) H CO 127 ON ISLAND. ENEMY OPERATIONS: OLD

STRIP IS A NEST OF MUTUALLY SUPPORTING EMPLACEMENTS COVERING OLD STRIP TO

JUNGLE EITHER SIDE. ENEMY HOLDING FIRE UNTIL LAST MOMENT. PATROL 2/10 BN

WHICH ATTEMPTED CAPTURE OF STRONG POINT AT 284249 NIGHT 24/25 DEC LOCATED 1

50 CAL 1 HVY MG BUT PREVENTED FROM GETTING CLOSE BY ENEMY RIFLEMEN IN NEARBY

FOX HOLES. FIRES BURNING AT 271258, 263257 AND 261266. ENEMY ARTY

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WILL BE THE FINAL DEFENSIVE POSITION. ESTIMATED ENEMY STRENGTH BUNA AREA
450 - 500. WEATHER FINE, OVERCAST 8000 VISIBILITY 20 MILES END

EICHELBERGER

Put map
Situation Report - 18 Bde as at 1100 4/25.

~~camp~~ for beach def to unit HARRIS
7x37 sited from C.E. to Nankai. no 2nd Bn

GENERAL

a) Lt Col MCNAB 3/128 with under command 2/9 Bn.

less two pls which are in Bde Res area of BR is
unltdy S.C. via beach def. unit SC.
responsible for the area ~~C. ENDAHARE~~ - north

SIMEMI CR, bordered on the south by the line of
SIMEMI CR. Disposition of fwd pls 2/9 Bn will NOT
be altered without prior approval of Comd 18 Bde.

b) 2/10 Bn and 128 Rgt less 3 Bn are fighting

slowly Nth along OLD STRIP. fwd line approx N-S

through S in SIMEMI. It is considered that ~~forward~~ ^{attacker}

but are now opposed by main fwd works of his main def system.
Detailed Disposition.

2/9 Bn ~~general def~~ ^{disposed} main fwd line
N.S. at Sq Semini with 7th Lt

2/10 Bn ~~general def~~ ^{disposed} main fwd line
3/128 from left flank 2/9 Bn back along
CR to 290 250

2/10 extends from 284 253 to 287 244 across line of its

the strip. 1/126 is on left flank of 2/10 pushing fwd along

Swamp. in area 286 253.

1/128 ~~behind~~ 1/126. ~~then~~ can 1/126 &
then 2 + CR

Bde re. two pls 2/9 visit BR.

is felt that it

endeavouring to break at 2/9 and 2/10 but amount of
M3 too light for job. ~~only~~ ^{AA guns} I think would face the guns
concerned, and unless we are able to locate & destroy AA gun

3 tanks. beyond as A. 12 gun it will be necessary to employ I the
all 8 tanks are now out of action. ^{to deal with this box system.}

2 completely burnt out N of east end NEU STRIP.

2 2/9 Bn area completely under water. recovery very doubtful.

4 OLD STRIP completely burnt out.

3 major repairs at Bde W/SLs required.

4 + 1/2 OLD STRIP area knocked out by AAA guns

4 casualties: 2/9 Bn to 0600 4/25 7+58 KIA 1+13 dead
wounded 11+183 missing 32

2/10 Bn to 0600 4/25 Killed 1+6 down. 0+1 wounded 3+78

X Sp 2/6 Arm Rgt. 0+2 KIA d. if w. 0+1 wounded 2+6.

2/5 Fd Rgt wounded 2+2.
Total AUS 27+383.

Revised Positions.

2/9 Bn Battle HQ 284 255
 HQ 288 254

B Coy Rt Flank 284 256 left flank 284 255
B Coy Personnel ~~to~~ Rt flank 284 255 left flank 284 254

D Coy outposts ~~279 257 on point~~
 282 257 on coast.
 282 255 on creek
 281 256 on creek
 279 257 on creek
 279 257 on creek
 278 257 on point.

Mbs on coast 287 258
 285 256
 284 256
 282 257

on creek 284 ~~254~~ 254

3/128 I & L Corp holding from 2835 2540.

2/10 Bn HQ 288 250

D Coy Rt flank 284 253 (e in Simemi)
 left flank 287 248

A Coy Rt flank 287 248
 left flank 287 244 (incl L's port)

B Coy Area 288 248.

C Coy Area moving to area
 291 244.

1/126

 2870 2435
Rt flank ~~287 2435~~ } A on Rt
Left flank 285 242 } B on left

1/128

289 241

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT. (110)
LOGSERIAL 573

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div npta Adv NGF 128 US Regt

FROM 18 Aust IM Bde

Originator's Number

I 547

Date

26

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Silence

to

2200 L/16

0

2/10

5

Bn

less

one

coy

284753-

10

284249

approx -

283247

0

C Coy

15

2/10 Bn

281248

0

one

coy

20

1/128

area

282247

0

one

25

coy

1/128

in

res

288248

30

0

3/128

and

1/9 Bn

unchanged

35

0

two

pls

1/9 Bn

bde

40

res

area

BRIDGE

0

128 US

45

Regt

less

previously

mentioned

dets

50

283247

to

291244

0

attempt

55

by

2/10 Bn

to

advance

on

60

at

counter -

attacked

0

MMG

65

posn

at

284249

NOT

reduced

70

0

it

is

intended

to

75

reorganize
front
ops

during
light

night

and

at

80

0

projected

further

85

moving

will

be

signalled

in

90

95

100

105

110

115

120

125

130

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DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

OUT (105)

LOG SERIAL 555.

to Martin

- ✓ 1. was cog 1/128 to nose to area 287 248
note immediate counter attack &
seemly quick position
- ✓ 2. 1/126 + cog 1/128 to position
contact from front position with
C cog showing in light
- ✓ 3. Present situation & time must be
held even if gaps to position
- ✓ 4. will continue with contact
between A cog & B cog light

OUT

(106)

LOG SERIAL 556

to at Dicks

1. ok to nose B cog
- ✓ 2. As 3/ above
- ✓ 3. Tell 7 1 above
4. A cog to fill in gap in line
when full box area reached
5. 3" gap in A cog objectives. Only
are interfering on it
6. A cog to push as far forward as possible
between shoulders thus shortening line
of 20/12

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT. (103)

LOG SERIAL

No. of Groups
GR.

546.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 2/10 Aust Inf Bn

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

I 545

Date

26

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

For	information	2/9	Aust	Inf	5
Bn	report	variation	in	range	10
3	inch	mortar	0 (A)	Type	15
of	bombs	No	B3524	12215A	20
328	in	diamond	pointed	Nos	25
C26	in	casting	No	of	30
fuse	lot	152	09275	filled	35
RY 2142	accurate	(B)	Bomb	no	40
39	in	circle	T and W	6/42	45
0	CS	in	castings	0	50
charge	lot	DK46	0	Type	55
fuse	150	0	Variation	in	60
1500	yds	200	yds	short	65
0	(C)	Bomb	two	driving	70
bands	CS	in	casting	over	75
DISW	over	4/41	0	charge	80
lot	1769	0	variation	in	85
1500	yds	100	yds	short	90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1600

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IN	IN			OUT	OUT			OUT	OUT		

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT

(120)

LOG SERIAL

No. of Groups

GR

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div upda Adv NGF 128 US Regt

FROM 18 Aust Int Bde

Originator's Number

551

Date

27

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Setup

To

2200 L/27

O

ref

5

map

BUNA

LOCALITY

with

BRITISH

10

REVISED

grid

O

line

now

15

2/10

Bn

less

two

coys

20

from

A1314

to

A1213

O

25

B 128

maintaining

overnight

contact

sub-units

30

2/10

Bn

A1213

to

A1112

35

O

A Coy

2/10 Bn

A1112

to

40

A1011

then

A and C

128

to

45

A0809

then

C Coy

2/10 Bn

to

50

A0608

O

Composite

be

from

55

A128

and

ATR pl

1/128

to

60

left

near

C Coy

2/10

as

65

standing

patrol

Eastern

corner

grass

70

patch

O

A & C Coys

1/126

res

75

log 09

O

B Coy

1/126

A1308

80

O

other

locations

uncharged

O

85

experiments

of

using

25 pr

AP

90

shot

with

Super

charge

at

95

close

range

against

observed

fuelboxes

100

attended

by

Considerable

Success

O

105

adv

continues

0700 L/28

110

115

120

125

130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS

DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

2205

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT, 115

LOG SERIAL

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div Rptd Adv NGF

FROM

18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

1550

Date

27

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Situp	To	1430 hrs	0	packet	07	5
resistance	284249	chased		by 2/10	Bn	10
0	line	runs		from	285253	15
to	285247	Day		right-	ACoy	20
left	0	C Coy		exerting	ford	25
pressure	along	timber		on	hps	30
flank	area	281208		0	ACoy	35
maintaining	pressure			center	0	40
Enemy	fighting	also		failed	good	45
ordie	at	288249		287251	286251	50
0	2A	Bn		bombed	1200 hrs	55
approx	3 EM	killed		2 and 5	wounded	60
0	Bomb	dropped		also	areas	65
COCONUT	PLANTATION	277257		GIROPA	PT	70
C ENDAIADERE	and	HAROKI		NO	other	75
damaged	0	casualties		reported		80
						85
						90
						95
						100
						105
						110
						115
						120
						125
						130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1550

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T.O.R.

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

IN (93)

LOG SERIALS 680, 681, 682, 683
684

1112 Col
from Ballard - found many marks to know latest
situation.

line at front runs 283254 - 276253 -
271257.

1601 from CO 1/10 1. 283253 - 280252.5 - line parallel to coverts -
273258. about 100' to coverts
2. along line of coverts there is a regular series
of ~~small~~ ^{small} ~~fringe~~ mounds that are joining

1606 Bde Comd to CO 1/10

1. advance to continue to edge of coverts -
not a general assault in view of mounds
reported.
2. carry to move up ~~coverts~~ ^{line} with objectives
of one platoon inside main line - Americans to enforce
and on way start to push forward. objective to secure line
in depth by dusk
3. Report when moving

1715

Bn L Col Orders

1. the command sergeant with 1st for US says to continue advance
2. will notify us of start line

Bn to Station 83 125 High for station

Confined arguments with 1/10

1. ~~Setting phone~~ & see that US says enforce & go as far
into coverts as possible
2. say leading way to mine in front
3. B 1/128 & one way 1/126 close behind center
4. 25/12 opposition in S. 1/2 - lights opposition

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
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TIONS.

IN

OUT

001 132

LOG SERIAL 699.

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div rptd Adv NGF Aug 18 Bde Gp 128 US Regt
FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

1561

Date

28

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Strip	to	2100	hrs	5
ref	map	BUNA	LOCALITY	10
①	OLD	STRIP	area	15
line	now	runs	①	20
Coys	210 Bn	from	A 1314	25
A 1013	①	thence	C 128	30
C 128	to	A 0316	①	35
A Coy	210 Bn	to	A 0118	40
C Coy	210 Bn	from	A 0417	45
A 0209	①	A 126	area	50
①	B 126	area	A 0413	55
B 128	area	A 0412	①	60
pls	219 Bn	bde	res	65
A 1605	①	other	dispositions	70
①	further	Success	today	75
AP	against	Enemy	pillboxes	80
many	direct	hits	mortar	85
A 0914	①	will	signal	90
projected	ops	29	see	95
				100
				105
				110
				115
				120
				125
				130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

2115

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

1903

OUT (129)

LOG SERIALS 692, 693, 694, 695, 696

2/10/20
 both would be to hold
 then pls C may be hanging on in woods as long as possible
 return as much ground as possible
 B may be move up in close support of C
 C 1/126 to move up and hold on for B may

1910

to Hamilton
 ✓ C 1/126 to hold on for B may

1950

A. Brown

strongly advised against. Two pls to be at immediate notice
 during night.

1915

for Doherty to take command
 decision as to
 they could well have to make dispositions. The much
 shown that B may is gaining ground in close support.
 C may dispositions to be reported earliest possible. Two
 pls to be disposed as far forward as possible of
 from here pl

1930

B.M. 127

D.P. 4 night shooting on Airopp park and creek
 and they 1910 from 265'25'3

~~Should any enemy counter attack be made
 during night it is essential that all pls
 hold their ground and fight where they are
 stand O to move is only to confuse
 our own pls with the enemy
 mistake about from loss of ground gained
 it more is to lose ground ^{altogether}
 fight for and to aid the enemy by
 our own confusion in which we
 will only be shooting our own pls~~

428/12

OUT 128

LOG SERIALS 686, 687, 688

17415 - Confirmed with
Col Martin arguments
for 128 wgh

1750 - was advised by
2/10 that zero was
1850

1758 - 25 Ro given to
128 C phone
connection
delayed)

Q

OUT (125)

657, 658.

49 SERIALS 659, 660, 661,
662, 663.

✓ 1015

Taylor gave from in follow
DB + 17255 - 280254 - 272254

Cong 273255 - 272258

present to 53 128 high

✓ 1020

two further the in pan. Bde and
ordered they Mass to organize more.

✓ 1025

Martin
con moving to free SW to cover
Mushroom rear - he is assuming
himself that gap between C + 17
Congo 1/10 is covered by VS ops

✓ 1035

Bde and issued 1/9 of probably
17 moving 1/1 to rear - was
when summit of summit the changed
by 1/10

Below was not yet

✓ 1045

King and Home - present dispatches vs
from BUNN mission area under
map. one dispatches given. Aided
him for early safety, but

✓ 1100

Conferred arguments with Col Martin.
Bde could speak - 3/128. Bde to be
submitted as 1/9 is coming round into
it.

✓ 1115

Bde could speak to 10 1/11 - fight
to be conducted as seen on ground -
to report definite disposition as Bde
Bde could give definite orders

OUT (124)

LOG SERIAL 655

Army Form C.2128
(Adapted, Large)
(Pads of 100)
Reprinted March, 1942—a.w. 10m pads.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
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TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div uprd Adv NGF AUG 18 Bdr 178 US Rpt

FROM 18 Aust Lnt Bdr

Originator's Number
ISS

Date
28

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Setup	To	1100 L/28	○	adv	5
NW	along	strip	ho	reached	10
edp	of	coconuts	on	line	15
A 1114	- A 1013 -	A 0813	○	pompom SC	20
corner	Coconut	grove	engaged	with	25
25 pr	AP	from	BRIDGE	area	30
about	along	○	C Coy	210 Bn	35
moved	along	timber	on	left	40
plant	to	A 0216	and then	used	45
North	to	COCONUTS	○	present	50
location	A 0418	○	opposition	this	55
area	NOT	hy			60
					65
					70
					75
					80
					85
					90
					95
					100
					105
					110
					115
					120
					125
					130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1105.

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

06 T (123)
LO4 SERIAL 653

1000 - Bde and staffs
to Col Martin. Appoint
from a very AD 414.
Cory will be leaving
to attend NE. 60 lbs
to cover a very man
at depth at approx
AD 414 facing NW.
Bat 128 US to
general appearance for
SW and south and
to maintain contact
between C & F wings &
mopping up after C.
Bey 1/128 being
retained in area by
Cory 7/126 and
moving to complete
1/128. 1/126 then
all in use.

4
27/12

Ln 2/10 B. wh. model

OUT (122)

LOG SERIALS 648, 649

0815 - passed conversation
to 2/10 - found on comms with
Hester - and in range of questions
being left behind - Employment of soft
spot tactics does not mean leaving
center of mountain of unknown strength
behind - mappers up north the soft
spot and mountain is successfully
death with. 2/10 explain that
they cannot see the morning
while they are mountainous as to
exact location of 2/10.

0900 - to 2/10 - and the kept in touch with
progress of C company and when it emerges
for this will call for different dispositions
of US 455 - if seeing early C &
A will be in contact. If C continues
on present line, seeing indisposition
will be later.
Soft spot tactics necessitate mappers up.

OUT (141)

LOG SERIALS 761, 762, 763,
764, 765, 766, 767

X 0605 - C wing had not moved because it was
not in front of them

1815 -

Bde went to right of 0

Two batts of 1st div - moved to front post - each
batt for new posts 1330 - two new units on
ground at 1330 for front line - front line about
Tanks were up & started in in front of 1st div
i.e. south of 1700 - became engaged with full
batteries. Eventually the machine 17 + more with C.

Two wings moved front high to front high
regardless of 1st

1820

~~1820~~

1830

1840

1850

1900

1910

1920

1930

1940

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

2020

2030

2040

2050

2060

2070

2080

2090

2100

2110

2120

2130

2140

2150

2160

2170

2180

2190

2200

2210

2220

2230

2240

2250

2260

2270

2280

2290

2300

2310

2320

2330

2340

2350

2360

2370

2380

2390

2400

2410

2420

2430

2440

2450

2460

2470

2480

2490

2500

2510

2520

2530

2540

2550

2560

2570

2580

2590

2600

2610

2620

2630

2640

2650

2660

2670

2680

2690

2700

2710

2720

2730

2740

2750

2760

2770

2780

2790

2800

2810

2820

2830

2840

2850

2860

2870

2880

2890

2900

2910

2920

2930

2940

2950

2960

2970

2980

2990

3000

3010

3020

3030

3040

3050

3060

3070

3080

3090

3100

3110

3120

3130

3140

3150

3160

3170

3180

3190

3200

3210

3220

3230

3240

3250

3260

3270

3280

3290

3300

3310

3320

3330

3340

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3370

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3390

3400

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3700

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3790

3800

3810

3820

3830

3840

3850

3860

3870

3880

3890

3900

3910

3920

3930

3940

3950

3960

3970

3980

3990

4000

4010

4020

4030

4040

4050

4060

4070

4080

4090

4100

4110

4120

4130

4140

4150

4160

4170

4180

4190

4200

4210

4220

4230

4240

4250

4260

4270

4280

4290

4300

4310

4320

4330

4340

4350

4360

4370

4380

4390

4400

4410

4420

4430

4440

4450

4460

4470

4480

4490

4500

4510

4520

4530

4540

4550

4560

4570

4580

4590

4600

4610

4620

4630

spo 29/12

B.M. to Major Mithke

OUT

140

26G SERIALS 757, 758.

1530

There are a further 60 reinforcements coming up. DOBODURA track. These will be intercepted and ~~used~~ used to enlarge the reserve of 26 and form a skeleton core to be held in Bole Reserve. Major Mithke to ~~secure~~ secure and fit this group with automatic weapons; also attend to rationing and supplies.

~~These reinforcements will be in Bole Reserve.~~

1540

Genl Layton (Food Report Centre) was advised of the above.

OUT

(139)

OUT (139)

LOG SERIALS 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750.

OPS
1403

to Martin - in enjoyment of flights and
first month in night if possible

1425
1435

✓ to ady 2/10 - ^{additional} fl coming up in case as to
Tunisian - not to be connected except in
case of urgent agreement necessary - to
refer to us before used in ops
ours not effect opinion for

1445

✓ to Taylor - (a) pass on about Tibbatts on arrival
(b) on arrival 2/10 Thomas to 1/126 CP
with memo on telephone - to report
when done

1448

✓ to Smith - suggests to Taylor - B & K make
suggestions with 2/10
to Mathew - (a) supper advance 2/10
(b) suggests to Taylor

1445

✓ to Martin - C say 1/126 with memo for both RUP
at little place of C say immediately by
advance

1435

✓ Jan 2/10 - ~~CA 17~~ 40 2/10 547th 40 each

1440

✓ to Moss - ~~Smith from~~ - Bds food supplies
morning 7 1/2 hrs long up on line

1445

✓ to QM 2/10 to - (a) 19 suggests to respond to
Taylor at bridge - says pt to 26
(b) automatic responses - QM arranging
4 2/12

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT 138

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

OUT

LOG SERIAL 740

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

2/9 1/10 Bns, Art, 18 Bde, 1st US Regt

FROM

18 Bde

Originator's Number

1564

Date

29

In Reply to Number

art
whil

obscure
smac

local
caliber

post
amm

280254
was

old
canard

moving
SE

29 Dec
come

D
COCO NUTS

post

extreme

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

B. Tomasevich

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

How to 1/9 1/10 128.
IO. was par 6 only

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

OUT (137)

LOG SERIALS 736, 737, 738, +739

0125

1310

rel and 15 cv 2/10 + desig Tye

1. danger of this going just too early
2. Warning to fly during the approach march
ch sign could be altered as of start of movement
and get out of the way of the main. Responsible for
safety protection
3. Inf attack must go in synchrony of the
being identified out.
4. Artillery can be just gone during approach march
(1310 2/10)

274253

1315

1/10 require carrier for C-119 - very
very suitable and total time one available - to
average quarters and command approach

1330

Run 20 2/1 - M.M.C. to be prepared to fire
on beach at 1300 hours. Particular
care to be taken not to shoot over
top

1340

1310 5 2/10

- (a) total time of emergency with 2/9
- (b) warning at report to Taylor at 1310 for
hurry

422/12

HEADQUARTERS
BUNA FORCES

30 December, 1942.

TO: G.O.C. Warzen Force.

1. For your information and compliance.

R. E. EICHELBERGER,
Lt. Gen., U.S. Army,
Commanding.

by F. Bradley
CofS

SECRET

Subject : Map Reference Codes

Adv HQ NG Force
29 Dec 42.

HQ BUNA FORCE
7 AUST DIV
- - - - -

1. It has been decided that in order to secure telephone conversations between units and formations in close proximity to the enemy, a map reference code will be taken into use throughout the GONA-BUNA area.
2. To ensure that no confusion will arise in the event of formations, units etc passing map references laterally this code will replace any map reference codes or special grids at present being used within formations.
3. The code, which will be a simple substitution, will come into use throughout this area at 0001 hrs 31 Dec 42 when the code word will be - STRAFEDNIP.
This code is operated by writing the numerals commencing with 0 beneath the word and substituting letters for them, i.e.,

S T R A F E D N I P

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Example :- Map Ref 263120; in code RDATRS

4. The following code words will be held in reserve at Div HQ and brought into use on receipt of instns from this HQ:
 - (a) NATIVEWORK
 - (b) SANDYCOVER
 - (c) JUNGLEROAD
 - (d) NUTSFORMAY
5. In the event of a code word becoming compromised, this HQ will be notified by immediate signal.

/s/ F. W. BURYMAN
Maj-Gen
DCGS

passed to HQ 10 Dec for use.

0725

3rd and 4th TSL 410
Co 410 & aft
Major Mose Capt Day & two of combs

1. Necessity for immediate and full obedience to orders
2. Personal good men by the words committed
3. Necessity of running all tank water, shut line on 1/9 should be repeated.
4.
 - (a) 4/12 line will go into line with a view to attack
 - (b) 6 tanks with 3 in support
 - (c) Frontage of attack will be decided later on assuming objectives 4/12 must force shell maps. Frontage to be decided upon by Co 4/10 and the command following on detached men.
 - (d) 2nd also 4/12 - 4/12 should line
 - (e) 4/12 to be ready 20/12
 - (f) SC running possible good flying up area
5. On order 2/10 ~~consequence~~ ~~consequence~~ & all 2/9 personnel come into area
6. 2" mortar by 2/10 on SE corner
7. ordering 4/12 up to the area

The upshots
Heavy support

and running frontage of attack + ordered 7
thous forward. weather to land goods
Capt Workless at 277251

0725

0720

to Co 4/12 - Co 4/12 on way up to north river
with view of frontage. Arrived to decide
on frontage he will use - then forward to
be informed later on orders to move at 2/10 at
SE end of ship. 2/9 coming with us 2/30/12
Co 2/10 at present 277251

Subject: INTER SERVICE RECOGNITION PROCEDURE

IN 88
LOGSERIAL 880

MOST SECRET

(0020-0000) Copy No 2
(0011-0000) Adv HQ NG Force
(0011-0011) 29 Dec 42
(0020-0011)

1. Further to our memo G23 dated 25 Dec 42 we enclose as Appx A list of Aircraft Recognition Letters for period 1100 L 1 Jan 43 to 1100 Hrs L 17 Jan 43.
2. All letters will be flashed with a single white light.
3. The current list should be destroyed on expiry.

MOST SECRET
APPX "A"

DATE	TIME (L)	ID AIRCRAFT IDENTIFICATION LETTER	SURFACE CRAFT or GROUND STATION LETTER
1 Jan	2	3	4
1 JAN	1100-1700	B ...	S ...
	1700-2300	Q ...	J ...
	2300-0000)	M ...	D ...
	0000-0500)		
2 JAN	0500-1100	Y ...	L ...
	1100-1700	V ...	N ...
	1700-2300	O ...	X ...
	2300-0000)	D ...	Y ...
	0000-0500)		
3 JAN	0500-1100	B ...	Z ...
	1100-1700	Z ...	V ...
	1700-2300	S ...	D ...
	2300-0000)	N ...	W ...
	0000-0500)		
	0500-1100	I ..	C ...
4 JAN	1100-1700	P ...	V ...
	1700-2300	H	Z ...
	2300-0000)	X ...	M ...
	0000-0500)		
	0500-1100	I ..	J ...
5 JAN	1100-1700	Z ...	V ...
	1700-2300	H	L ...
	2300-0000)	Y ...	C ...
	0000-0500)		
	0500-1100	J ...	F ...
6 JAN	1100-1700	D ...	O ...
	1700-2300	C ...	G ...
	2300-0000)	Y ...	N ...
	0000-0500)		
	0500-1100	B ...	I ..
7 JAN	1100-1700	D ...	O ...
	1700-2300	Z ...	I ...
	2300-0000)	P ...	V ...
	0000-0500)		
	0500-1100	B ...	X ...
8 JAN	1100-1700	H	W ...
	1700-2300	S ...	I ..
	2300-0000)		
	0000-0500)	J ...	C ...
	0500-1100	Z ...	Y ...
9 JAN	1100-1700	Q ...	B ...
	1700-2300	L ...	O ...
	2300-0000)	N ...	V ...
	0000-0500)		
	0500-1100	J ...	M ...
10 JAN	1100-1700	S ...	I ..
	1700-2300	G ...	F ...
	2300-0000)		G ...

11 JAN 0000-0500)
 0500-1100
 1100-1700
 1700-2300
 2300-0000)
 0000-0500)
 0500-1100
 12 JAN 1100-1700
 1700-2300
 2300-0000)
 0000-0500)
 0500-1100
 13 JAN 1100-1700
 1700-2300
 2300-0000)
 0000-0500)
 0500-1100
 14 JAN 1100-1700
 1700-2300
 2300-0000)
 0000-0500)
 0500-1100
 15 JAN 1100-1700
 1700-2300
 2300-0000)
 0000-0500)
 0500-1100
 16 JAN 1100-1700
 1700-2300
 2300-0000)
 0000-0500)
 0500-1100
 17 JAN

N
 M
 Q
 V
 Y
 P
 W
 O
 Y
 J
 X
 Q
 P
 Y
 Z
 B
 F
 O
 D
 S
 J
 V
 Z
 F
 H
 O
 P

C
 C
 J
 Z
 M
 J
 I
 N
 D
 M
 I
 L
 J
 O
 C
 Y
 P
 Z
 C
 X
 B
 P
 B
 X
 J
 V

For the Commanding General

F.S. Bowen Jr.
 Lt. Col., G.S.C.
 A.C. of S, G-3

OFFICIAL:

S.S. Auchincloss (R.S.)
 S.S. AUCHINCLOSS
 Colonel, Sig. Corps

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

1

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US DIV

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

0500

Date

14

In Reply to Number

one	to	carrying	1st	landing	barge
ONLY	arrived	HARURO	0200 hrs	with	COs
2/9	2/10	Aust	Inf	Bus	ORO
location	of	remainder	unknown	possibly	
BAY					

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS:

SIGNED

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

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

0748

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

H.Q. Maine Force

12 Dec

Dear Cummings.

A composite ^{carrier} platoon of 2/7 and
2/5 bns was sent forward some
time ago to come under command. 32 U.S. Div.

It appears that only carriers reached
their destination, the remainder being at
POALOOK. However it seems that all
personnel went forward, and sustained
some casualties including the Lt. Col.
Lieut Ferguson.

17 Bde is sending an ~~lieut~~ Capt Cramph
to take charge (under 32 U.S. Div) Can you
take him up with you? I would
also like you to explain the position to
H.Q. 18 Bde on your arrival, and suggest
(on our behalf) that they do all they can
to see the carrier he is properly looked after
Yours sincerely
F. C. Cramph

15 DEC.

IN and OUT

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

*Approved to Col Brown
who is passing on info*

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

3

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

32 US DIV

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

18 avak inf hde

Originator's Number

03

Date

15

In Reply to Number

engurs

request

double

and

treble

double

and

steel

wire

subtle

haul

14

ton

tank

for

possible

recovery

any

hank

bagged

0

grateful

you

arrange

these

stores

to

he

guided

from

MINE

BAV

or

MORESBY

at

earliest

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

SYSTEM
IN

TIME
IN

READER

SENDER

SYSTEM
OUT

TIME
OUT

READER

SENDER

SYSTEM
OUT

TIME
OUT

READER

SENDER

Lo for 3/2 Div

has lab in
must be linked
for



MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

132 US DIV

FROM

18 aust inf bde

Originator's Number

01

Date

15

In Reply to Number

—

in	view	reported	attack	by	unidentified
air	craft	on	landing	barge	right
13/14	the	please	ensure	AAF	fully
informed	details	all	tp	movements	HAMMER
and	SLEDGEHAMMER	ACK			

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS.except w/T
JAY RIF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL
INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST
BE SENT IN CYPHER.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

important

TIME OF ORIGIN

1150

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANS.IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL
INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST
BE SENT IN CYPHER.ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

THESE SPACES FOR MESSAGE CENTER ONLY

TIME FILED

MSG CEN No.

HOW SENT

MESSAGE

(CLASSIFICATION)

(SUBMIT TO MESSAGE CENTER IN DUPLICATE)

No

DATE

To

BRIG WOOTEN 18th AUST. INF. BDE.
WARREN FORCE = ACK RECEIPT YOUR
MSG. REQUESTING A.A.F BE INFORMED
DETAILS ALL YOUR TROOP MOVEMENTS.

SIGNED EICHELBERGER

11:35

OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF SENDER

TIME SIGNED

SIGNATURE AND GRADE OF WRITER

GPO

16-20158

op
A.M.V.
IN (4)
Maj Denniston
B.M 18th Bde

The following information received from
G-3 Buna Force (Lt. Col Bowen) at 0927 L
15 Dec by telephone.

468 Left Ora Bay - overland - between
0100 and 0400 today. 60 are
leaving now. 15 are still there.
4 Tanks and 50 tons of supplies
tonight on their own.

Gen Eichenberger will be up on
this flank tomorrow 16 Dec.

Message received by Col. Martin

Lawrence
at Inf.

16 DEC.

IN and OUT.

2130

4/16/12

OUT



10

2130 with ~~WRIGHT~~ ~~SPINNER~~ 20 for NCF
to 32 Bin coming to say that preparation of
slabs was coming good from ORO BAY and
the HAMMER and SLEDGE HAMMER had been
made previously. Painted out to him but
we could not move without slabs.

No 25 pike coming good 15/16
2145 May LOP/13NT had no details available
of composition of slabs coming good

From G-2 BUNA FORCES
To ICB 18 Bde.

Telephone Msge.

1st

(6)

advised

Sit to 1600L/14 own ops. Warren Force
no change in disposition. SA for. bde; SI-3
returned. Enemy work cont. on our
rt flank. 8 tp carrying 1. bays
arrived vicinity HARIKO 0700L/14
only one unloaded. Two were damaged
by up/1 a/c. Six are safe vicinity
ORO B.

URBANA. Buna Village taken 1000L/14
now occupied by two coys
and participating units on reorganized
Presser against TAP forces. Buna
Mission are continuing. No
change in disposition.
127 Inf no change.

GP

7cs.

by 1600 and 0500

8-12 hrs marching



17 DEC.

IN and OUT.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT

No. of Groups

GR.

18

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

ref map BUNA LOCALITY 4 nch 5
"1" summary to 1600 2/17 0 one 0 TOPOGRAPHY 10
SIMEMI CK Estuary from 284 254 to mouth 0 depth 15
varies 3 to 8 ft 0 width 10 to 40 ft 0 shelving banks 20
from sandy mud bottom 0 approaches through jungle 25
and riparian swamp 0 immediate approaches swampy 30
grass 0 current strong after rain NOT greatly 35
affected by tide 0 May be fordable at bar 0 40
Spotter 9/c could NOT locate 17 Dec log crossing 45
reported by G 2 BUNA FORCE 16 DEC which now 50
appears doubtful 0 Two 0 MOON RISE and 55
MOONSET 0 17/18 1503-0317 hrs 0 18/19 1551-0357 0 60
19/20 1640-0444 0 20/21 1727-0528 0 three 0 ENEMY 65
STRENGTH 0 NGF estimates max 2500 BUNA-ENDAIADEREO 70
ENEMY WEAPONS 0 air lt. multiple and one by A/A 75
gun has been firing this sector 0 one low 80
muzzle velocity mountain gun 0 from sea 85
att. tracer 0 mortars 0 a by mortar possibly 90
70 mm. rif gun has fired on this front 0 95
NOT located 0 lt. mortars or grenades 100
(~~discharged~~) discharged in use 0 possibly captured 105
Aust 2" mortar in use NEW STRIP are 0 following 110
weapons captured from 17 Bde bar air gp 5 Dec 115
one BROWNING .30 from BRENS one AITK rifle 120
EY rifle and grenades 2 nch mortar with 125
12 rounds HE 0 Explosive amm. reported 0 burst 130

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNATURE
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

2

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

of arm among timber guns impression 5
of fire from rear and flashes of ENEMY F.D. WORKS 10
pillboxes are reported of timber and earth 15
strengthened in some cases with oil drums 20
filled with earth of fire slits to front and sides 25
Entrance in rear of 4 ft breastwork C. ENDAIADERE 30
reported 16 DEC by G2 BUNA FORCES now 35
NOT definite of OWN TPS of possibility 40
and U.S. soldier captured by enemy 45
16 Dec. of URBANA FORCE of Our ops held 50
small bridge leads on ENTRANCE OK 55
areas 262 254 and 263 260 60
65
(X Sqn. pass to det 2/4 Aust. F.D. Coy. 70
arty pass to 17 Bdr. batteries 75
Passed verbally to 2/10 Bn by I.O. 18 Bdr.) 85
90
Trace is issued to X Armed Sqn and 2/9 Bn. 95
ONLY. 100
105
110
115
120
125
130

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BY ANY MEANS: () WIRELESS

SIGNATURE

* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1626

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

May
P. Oke
0715

Some guns firing in centre and we are
engaging them with arty.

IN

Sherwin
0720

Ths stationary on beach.
Fire from pill boxes
- Made 200 yds -

~~Three men seen swimming~~
Aug 128 10725

Col. Lupton
0723

for SC

0725
Sherwin

Three men seen by 128 US Regt - swimming in sea near
th on beach.

0727
Bm arty
I
0732

MGs on beach 300 yds south of the Cape. / cannot
A/C observed Reported to 2/9.
128 to be prepared to go fwd and get the PW.
PW since been shot.

Barber Ren
0738

Estimate of Casualties B Coy in Res } passed to
A.D. reach 300 yds N old enemy line } 128 U.S.
C held up
Ths slowly necessary to clear out

0739
MR Sherwin

Sidel report from CLARKSON Enemy MG's front
line orig. posns. are still op. also some enemy
rifle fire from that vicinity

TR has now turned off back into coconut grove

(A & D) 300 yds N old enemy line C held up
constr. Every pillbox to be cleared individually.
Ths slowly slowly hence slow advance.

0743

SA/C spotted pos A/T Regt 299 246 on 4th
I.O. 18 Dec say to inform 2/9 Bm.

Bm say Col Marked to
ensure 1/128 maintain
active pressure

278/12

Yank on beach near point, Can see
0721 Yank moving off beach
more ell by bullets landing
in water 100 yds from tank

0724 Yank stopped
large explosion in water near
tank probably mortar

0730 Yank moving smoke around it
probably from mortar
Explosion on ground near tank
raising dust clouds

0735 Yank moving up beach

Yank has just moved into trees
near point of Cape Endiaderre.

0750 Thick white cloud blows
from the land out to sea across
Cape End.

0755 Stray bullets still falling
in water

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

IN

LOG SERIAL 74.

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

BARKER *man* RED BECH.

FROM

GREEN.

Originator's Number

I 506

Date

18

In Reply to Number

<i>Sitrep</i>	BRON	<i>reached</i>	KILCOY	0810	<i>hrs</i>
<i>0</i>	BRON	<i>banks</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>aid</i>	WALT
<i>who</i>	<i>in</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>yds</i>	<i>in</i>	<i>near</i>
<i>0</i>	CRAN	<i>banks</i>	<i>taking</i>	<i>over</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>to</i>	CRAN	<i>0</i>	8	10	<i>cas.</i>
<i>0</i>	CRAN	<i>MOOR</i>	1	<i>pl</i>	<i>support</i>
<i>CRAN</i>	2	<i>pls</i>	<i>mopping</i>	<i>up</i>	<i>0</i>

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TIME OF ORIGIN

Signed

Signed

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No. *123*

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Réply to Number

BRON

vickers

in

posn

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

Signed

Signed

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SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
<i>P</i>	<i>0840</i>	<i>L. B. ...</i>	<i>...</i>								

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT

LOG SERIAL 128

25

Serial No.

No. of Groups

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div rptd Adv NGF 128 US Regt

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

I 525

Date

18

In Reply to Number

Sitrep no 8 to 1930 hrs @ dispositions for night
18/19 Dec @ 1/126 unchanged @ from original left
Hank 1/128 holds along South Side NEW STRIP to 303243
thence C Coy 2/9 to 302245 thence 3/128 along line of
track to coast at 306250 @ from 302245 to north coast at
301253 B A and D Coys 2/9 that order @ Tk lager
306248 @ MMGs cover beaches @ arty + mortar D.F. tasks

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BY ANY MEANS:

NOTED
P.O. Ginnolly

SIGNED

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1927.

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

24
OUT
LOG SERIAL

No. of Groups
GR.

125

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div rpld Adv NGF 128 US Regt.

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number
1524

Date
18

In Reply to Number

tank out	reported ①	unmobilised total	now three	known burnt	burnt out

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BY ANY MEANS: Not WIT

P. J. Connolly, Capt
SIGNED

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1845

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT

24

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div rpld Adv NGF 128 US Regt.

FROM 8 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number
1524

Date
18

In Reply to Number

tank	reported	immobilised	now	known	burnt
out	①	total	three	burnt	out

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P.D. Connolly, Capt
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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN
1845

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

MESSAGE FORM

OUT

23

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

LOG SERIAL 124

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Bn upld Adv NGF

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number
1521

Date
18

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

Sheep no 7 from 0700 to 1700 L/18 @ 18 Aust Inf 5
Bde Gp attack commenced 0700 hrs as planned @ By 10
0810 D Coy 249 Aust Inf Bn preceded by tanks of 15
X (composite) Sqn 246 Aust Armcd Rgt had reached 20
a point on the coast 400 yds west of C ENDAIDERE 25
@ A Coy had reached a point due south of D Coy 30
about 400 yds @ These two coys then formed a ~~def~~ 35
flank facing west in the areas named @ The remainder 40
of 18 Bde has been taken up in clearing the area 45
captured - C ENDAIDERE - 301254 - east end of 50
NEW STRIP - thence east to coast @ Very great 55
difficulty has been experienced in clearing the 60
pillboxes with which the area is honeycombed @ In 65
the vicinity of east end of NEW STRIP very heavy 70
enemy opposition has been encountered @ 249 Bn 75
report approximately 13 concrete steel covered 80
pillboxes this area @ Attacks this area have been 85
in progress all day @ See att trace for latest enemy 90
dispositions & casualties @ By 1700 L/18 9 + 91 had 95
passed through ADS @ No accurate figures of killed @ 100
3 tanks out of action @ night 18/19 consolidation present 105
area @ 19 Bde complete mopping up and 110
reorganization @ 1720 hrs C Coy 249 with 3 115
tanks in support had taken four pillboxes east 120
end NEW STRIP @ B Coy is on their north flank facing 125
west 130

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DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1722

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

OUT
LOG SERIAL 113

27

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

32 US Div - 1st AF - NCF

FROM

18 amsh inf bde gpt

Originator's Number

021

Date

18

In Reply to Number

it-ep NO 6 1445

on

North

hrs

South

①

hours

two

crops

atrop

450

gts

lost

through

spread

ENDITITARE

facing

West

①

ending

CAP: 1

just

against

determined

opposed

①

push

any

supported

by

available

links

one

any

strongpoint

holding

estimated

mostly

attacking

pillboxes

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

No. of Groups
GR.CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

started	East	and	NEW	STRIP	①
remaining	com	supporting	attacked	this	attack
①	two	units	destroyed	one	unsubdued
from	available	for	one	side	nause
①	3/128	US for	taking	over	cost
from	approx	306 21/4	to	approx	305 250
in	dup. H	200th	right	①	right

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DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

SIGNED

SIGNED

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.**

IN

OUT

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

(3)

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

flank left STRIP on unit program	1/12-8 flank O attack attack unit	unit 2/9 contact program when further	extending by with O STRIP projected	to at to with now action	contact NEW maintained when on
---	--	--	--	---	--

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

immediate

TIME OF ORIGIN

1450

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

²⁰
~~20~~ Cal. Cummings, Trinidad, 1350 Yrs.

(21)

ru 47 3/128 Bn on right to be sent up OUT
to look after the East Beach. ^{3/128} Bn to
come about 500 yds up from old
~~front~~ front line holding a strip
200 yds in depth facing
Eastwards, and he in a position to
~~swing out on a line East and West~~
& holding up all round defn

To: Col Cummings

BM

AM 1350
OUT (29)

2/9 Am waiting until "C" Coy attack goes in.

One tank has been drawn off to the right flank on a job. ^{but} is going back ^{with support}

"C" Coy will have two tanks for the attack.

Brig. wants Col Cummings to make as much ground as possible tonight, and with this object to move in as soon as possible.

Col Cummings wants to clear up strip of Coy attack before going on and then to push on with the tanks.

Can't dugouts be mopped up?

[7 swr. (4) Tanks will be available to clear up the strip when successful will endeavour to proceed to dispersal bay area.

Attack to start as soon as possible, and Bob Card to be kept informed. If successful may be able to push up coast.

Ensure that whole of front area is properly defended including Beaches.

Three (3) tanks have been proposed for use.

MESSAGE FORM

**CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP



out 18
LOG SERIAL 111

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div rpld Adv NGF

FROM

18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

I 520.

Date

18

In Reply to Number

sitrep nos to 1400L/18 locations unchanged
experiencing great difficulty clearing fireboxes strong
enemy resistance continues eastward end NEW STRIP
fresh attacks this area projected possible third tank
out of action casualties at 1300 hrs 8 and 83
through ADS

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Not WIT

P. D. Conolly

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
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TIME OF ORIGIN

1410.

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T.H.I. 1421.

T.O.R.

ops

LOCT SERIAL 106 OUT

(18)

1200 - instructed Col Miller - re-ambush the

125. Rpt of 1/128 Bn to make
physical contact with diff. flank

of C Coy & maintain the
assessing attack or V or stop.

Miller spoke to Bering

2

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 17
OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

LOG SERIAL 104

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 219 Bn City & Bde Tp X Sqn 46 Aust Army

FROM 18 Bde Originator's Number 1579 Date 18 In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)	Summary	Enemy	infantry	to 1200 hrs	10 PW	5
INFM	0	prisoners	states total	500	PHASE ONE	10
area	036	LMGs	4	HMGs mostly fwd on strip (new)		15
0	TANAKA	unit of four coys	0	one flame-thrower		20
each coy	0	2 or 3	mtn guns (cal ?)	and 2 or 3 small		25
area	298253 - 295254	believed out of ammo	0	PW		30
knows of NO	A Tr guns	0	Some A Tr grenades only			35
direct hits effective	0	Believes raft used to cross				40
SIMEMI CK	but does NOT know where	0	Supo			45
landed from	warships between CAPE and STRIP PT					50
0	believed	that	0	Concealing ammo	0	55
PW states	200 rounds per rifle	2000 rounds per				60
LMG	2	per HMG	0	health reported good	0	65
PW thinks	bulldozers contain	LMGs and	HMG	0		70
mtn gun	fired NW end old strip	but ceased				75
fire when	37" how	opened on it	0			80
						85
BWN	TPS	0	URBANA	was to attack island		90
mouth	ENTRANCE	CK	first light 18 Dec	NO		95
report	0	1/126	attempting press fwd	held up by		100
by fire	from	bulldozers	296254	0	37" how	105
attempt neutralize	these weapons	and	1/126	will		110
continue to pressure	0	ENEMY	fd works			115
reported	west bank	mouth	SIMEMI	CK		120
						125
						130

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ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1237

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T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

10

601

INTERVIEW OF KENICHI, IZUBIDA, 1ST CLASS PRIVATE, TAKEN PRISONER
ON DECEMBER 17, 1942 BY URBANA FORCE

This PW was in a slit trench in coconut grove west Entrance Creek with two fellow soldiers on the evening of December 16th. During the attack on the coconut grove made by the Urbana Force the two with him were killed. He stayed in the trench all night and on the morning of the 17th in an effort to escape he was shot through the left shoulder and received shell fragment wounds in his right hand from a mortar burst. He is 24 years old, married, has two children, a barber by trade and a grade school graduate. He was of a cheerful disposition and willing to answer questions in a free manner, but always narrowed his answers to the specific item, and limited his answers to his own experiences. Rarely would he branch off and give information from what he had heard from others. He was quite unimaginative so did not have much knowledge other than what concerned him.

The prisoner stated that he left Japan on October 13, 1942 in a convoy of three ships escorted by two destroyers. The ships made a direct trip to New Guinea, arriving at Giruwa one month later. The first ship carried 1000 personnel. He was quite certain that the two others carried only cargo. He identified his unit as the Busunose Unit, Kochi Regiment Seibu 34. His commanding officer's name is Col Nomoda Hiroshi. He is an infantryman.

Upon arriving at Giruwa this PW stated that he was one of about fifty who were sent down to Buna Mission by Boat. The others remained at Giruwa and to his knowledge were to be sent inland from that point. Upon questioning he stated that the fifty sent to Buna Mission were for the purpose of reinforcement. Upon arriving at Buna Mission he stated that he was used on patrol duty for about 20 days and the ten days before taken prisoner he was bivouaced in the coconut grove on the banks of Entrance Creek in which vicinity he was captured. He claimed there were from 40 to 50 men in that area.

This PW had no knowledge of the strength of the Japanese force on the east flank. After careful questioning he estimated the strength of the force on the Urbana Force side to be from 170 to 200 combat soldiers and 150 construction troops. This included marines. The area included in his estimate was bounded on the east by a line drawn from the west end of the old strip to the sea, and to the west, to the banks of Entrance Creek; southern border a line drawn from the west end of the old strip just south of the bridge crossing Entrance Creek. This estimate compares closely with the one given by PW Ikeda when questioned on December 10. He was certain of three ack ack guns in the large grass field on the track just east of Entrance Creek. He knew of two heavy machine guns across the bridge on this same track. One sets back from the track about two hundred meters on the left, but he could not place the position of the one on the right side of the track facing west. He had no knowledge of emplacements or disposition of troops in the Island in mouth Entrance Creek.

This PW stated that there was no concentration of troops in Buna Mission. It was patrolled. The beach along the shore line of the area he knew was patrolled. Machine guns are manned night and day. Rations are plentiful, ammunition he stated was sufficient but not in too large quantities.

He knew nothing of Sanima Creek or how it was being crossed. He knew nothing about Lt. General Yamamoto. He knew nothing about the 129th regiment. He knew nothing about any proposed use of tanks by us although he had heard of the Bren Carriers.

He knew of the message from the Emperor on November 26th. He claimed that the morale of the troops was good, and they all felt assured that reinforcements would come. He said they had dug in and could not attack with their present strength. He said no reinforcements had reached the Buna area by boat since he had been there. He knew of one parachute dropping and claimed it was all food. He stated that gask masks were issued to all men manning ack acks, and those who have been there for a long time. He was supposed to have one but never got one. He knew of no garments or coats such as rubberized rain coats which they had for protection against gas. He stated that the general health of troops was good, with some malaria.

PW seemed glad to be a prisoner. He stated that the Japs feared mortar fire more than anything else. He stated that he had not seen any artillery pieces.

DISTRIBUTION:

I Corps
32 Div
GHC
Adv H3P
MGF
Warren Force
Urbana Force
7th Aust Div
127th Inf

10-
HEADQUARTERS
BUNA FORCES

10- distribute
IN 26

18 December, 1942

The following are, word for word, extracts from Japanese Diaries which have been captured by our forces during the current operations in the Buna Area.

1. 25 Nov. -- I wonder what our replacements from Rabaul are doing, also, what our planes are doing. Passing the day like this means only waiting for death. Dried bread is issued now and then, however, this is only temporary relief. Every day, from morning till night, there are enemy air raids. Our unit daily becomes weaker. There is food, but we cannot cook it. There is water, but we cannot drink it. I pray fervently that the following on units will land.
28 Nov. -- From morning, we are heavily bombed. It is more terrifying than that of the 25th. The daily enemy air raids and assaults kill off my comrades. Hunger assails me and there is nothing I can do but await death.
29 Nov. -- This morning, the enemy persistently worries us with mortar fire.
2. 25 Nov. -- From 1400 there was very heavy rifle and machine gun fire. Every moment I thought there was going to be a charge. During the night, we made a cover for the trench.
5 Dec. -- Receiving concentrated fire incessantly from early morning. We are more dead than alive. Reinforcements do not arrive. The gradual extermination of my fellow soldiers makes me feel lonely at heart.
3. 27 Nov. -- The desperate struggle of the Nankai Detachment is fearful. It is utterly beyond one's expectation. I don't know why, but the whole outfit lacks efficiency. In particular, the patients in the hospital are like living statues. There is nothing to eat. Everybody is in a weak and staggering state. Without food, having become terrifyingly thin and emaciated, the appearance of our fellow soldiers does not bear reflection. How could the people at home understand this state of affairs? It must be seen to be believed.
4. 18 Nov. -- This morning, we mistook our men for enemy and fired upon them for awhile. After that, as before, there were several air raids.
21 Nov. -- Today the enemy suddenly took the offensive. The mortar bursting on our front is fierce and the enemy definitely has superiority in the air. Enemy bombers and fighters raided rear positions and afterwards strafed. Because of that, our forces could not move.
22 Nov. -- Enemy mortar fired from morning, bursting fiercely around us. Enemy scouts appear everywhere and attack, shooting automatic rifles. Today, enemy planes again flow over and because of this we could not step outside.
23 Nov. -- In the afternoon, enemy mortar opened fire ferociously. The shells are passing our hut and landing in the shore area. I feel that our lives are finally being shortened.
24 Nov. -- At this rate, we can't hold out. Taking this advantage, the enemy is gradually pressing on. As time passes on, enemy bombing becomes more fierce. Today's were the fiercest yet. In the afternoon, the enemy suddenly took the offensive. Mortar shells are really bursting close by. At night we had our first encounter. The enemy sent a three-man scouting party to reconnoiter our positions. Went out to check this party. It was fairly dark when suddenly alarming sounds of fire, rifle and automatic, were heard. ~~When they come.~~ We replied with mortar fire and the enemy finally withdrew, but we had one man killed in action.

28 Nov. -- At last our lives are becoming shorter. Look at the fierceness of the enemy mortar fire, which burst near us. Today the word that the Buna Crisis is imminent, has reached the ears of the Emperor and he has asked that Buna be defended to the last man.

W.D. Hawkins

W.D. HAWKINS,
Major, C.S.G.,
Asst. AG of S, G-2.

19 December 1943

P.W. Names Toshio Yoshida

Rank 1st Class Private

Unit Kuskobe Coy - Tanahra Unit

IV 26

Organisation Four Coys each of LMG & 1 Hq MG
1 Flame Thrower each.

Total strength 500 East of Simemi Ch

Disposition

MGs Area 294255 - 294250 New Strip -
290-255. But mostly fixed on New
Strip

Guns 2 or 3 Mtn guns (Cal?) } Area
+ 2 or 3 Smaller (Cal?) } 288258 - 286260
PW think out of amm.

ATK guns No knowledge of.

A/TK grenades have some which they
carry at waste - must get direct
hit to be effective.

Key of Simemi Ch

Apart from bridge by a type of raft.
No other bridge that he knows of
Does not know where rafts cross

Supplier

Cruiser + Destroyer about 5 or
10 days ago direct to beach between the
Cape + Strip point for his area.

Expects ships before end of year again

Food Eat little at time & a this
rate expects to last to Dec 31

Amn Rifle 200 rds per man
 LMC 5000 rds per man
 AMG Does not know

They are low & they are saving as much as possible & firing as little as possible.

Malaria 1 man in his Coy that he knows of.
 Not many sick that he knows

Pill Boxes
 He thinks contain 1 AMG & 1 LMC

~~2000 +~~ 2 + 2033.3.
 420 of 175 message dropped

How many of our there are known in coconuts.

Dreadnaught on ground

How many hundreds of yds west of Cape.

400 West of Cape

Personal Bays Eastern

~~2000~~ possibly 3 hills only

Red

MESSAGE FORM

CALL
AND
INSTRUC-
TIONS.

IN

OUT

OUT

30

LOG SERIAL

No. of Groups
GR.

155

Serial No.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 32 US Div rptd Adv NGF 128 US Rept

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

1529

Date

19

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

chup no 9 from 1700 L18 to 1200 L19 @ 1800 L18 approx 5
C Coy 219 Bn supported by tanks made ground 10
vicinity pillboxes in V at east end NEW STRIPO 15
for dispositions night 18/19 see Trace att @ night 20
18/19 Sunset @ morning 19 one active fwd patrolling 25
whole front @ Patrols 2 Coy 219 Bn located 30
3 pillboxes area 300251 @ Casualties 18 Dec 35
killed 5+40 @ died of wounds 1+4 @ wounded 40
8+119 @ missing @ +36 @ "US L19 C Coy 49 45
moved fwd and occupied from strip at 3022 50
to edge of jungle at 299 246 @ There line extend 55
generally north to coast @ adv continuing in north 60
3 more pillboxes captured @ further inform will 65
be advised. 70

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

SIGNATURE
* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

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

SIGNATURE

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1325

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

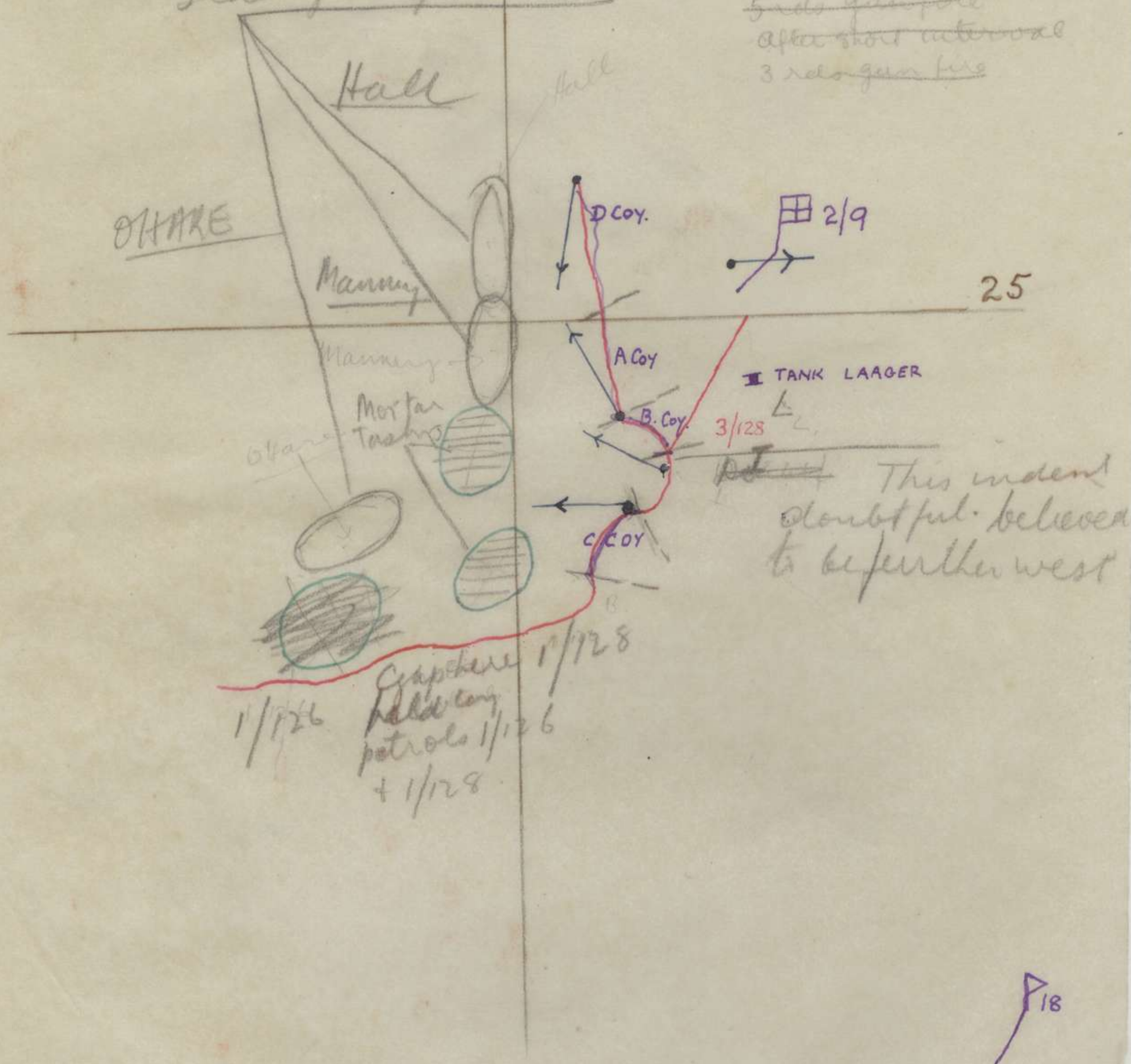
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER

To SUPERIMPOSE BUNA LOCALITY Approx 4" to 1 mile.

Ground ~~Position~~ ³⁰ 19/19 DEC.

ARTY DT Tanks on call
from Inf 5 rounds gunfire
then after short interval
3rd gunfire

DF on call from Inf
5 rounds gunfire
after short interval
3 rounds gunfire



I see
HQ 18 Avn Inf Bde.

Warren

MSG 10.

20 DECEMBER 1942

SITREP NO. 114 INFORMATION TO 1700L/20. OWN OPERATIONS: WARREN
FORCE: ATTACK WHICH BEGAN 0700L/20 SUCCESSFUL AND ALL ELEMENTS MADE
IMPORTANT ADVANCES. OUR FRONT LINE AS FOLLOWS: 1ST BN 126 REST WITH
RIGHT FLANK AT THE BRIDGE BETWEEN TWO RUNWAYS EXTENDING SOUTHWEST
ALONG EDGE OF WOODS TO POINT 293242. 1ST BN 128 IN CONTACT WITH THE
1ST BN 126 AT THE BRIDGE EXTENDS ALONG THE BEND OF SINEMI CREEK TO
POINT APPROXIMATELY 295246. 3RD BN 128 FACES SW ALONG SINEMI CREEK
WITH LEFT FLANK AT 2925470 AND THE RIGHT FLANK AT APPROXIMATELY
289252. 2/9 BN THEN EXTENDS THE LINE OF 3RD BN 128 ALONG SINEMI CREEK
TO THE COAST AT A POINT AT 284256. HAVE TAKEN ALL BUNKERS SOUTH OF
BRIDGE BETWEEN AIR STRIPS 9 ON E SIDE 6 ON W SIDE OF BRIDGE. OUR
ARTY DESTROYED 2 AA GUNS AT 283247. URBANA FORCE: NO CHANGE IN
GENERAL SITUATION. EFFORTS STILL PROGRESSING TO SEIZURE BUT LOG
EMPLACEMENTS AREA TRIANGLE FORMED BY SIWORI-DUNA TRACKS. THE LARGEST
FIRES REPORTED 1300L AT 268263 AND 274261 STILL REPORTED MORNING 1700L.
HEAVY BLACK SMOKE AND A GRASS FIRE BETWEEN SINEMI CREEK AND STEEP
POINT. ENEMY OPERATIONS: ENEMY AA FIRE MATERIALS REDUCED WITH NONE
BEING REPORTED BY WILBRAWAY BETWEEN 1600L AND 1700L. STRONG RESISTANCE
TO OUR ADVANCE CONTINUES WITH STRONG AUTOMATIC WEAPON FIRE AND S/A
FIRE BEING RECEIVED. EARLY IN ATTACK SOME AA FIRE BURSTING WITHIN
100 FEET OVERHEAD OF OUR TROOPS. ALL MAP REFERENCES DUNA LOCALITY.
SITUATION OVERLAY BY AIR 21 DECEMBER. WEATHER FINE WITH OVERCAST
3000 FEET VISIBILITY BELOW 20 MILES. END.

RICHTEBERGER

MESSAGE FORM

OUT (52)

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS.

IN
OUT

No. of Groups
GR.

Serial No.
OFFICE DATE STAMP

LOG SERIAL 275

TO X Sqn 246 Aust Amtd Regt 249 Aust Inf Bn
240 Aust Inf Bn, 128 US Regt, 17 Bde Commanders, SMO

FROM 18 Aust Inf Bde

Originator's Number

I 536

Date

21

In Reply to Number

(Write horizontally)

I Summary to 1500 hrs 21 Dec @ Dispositions own 5
the see Appx A at @ Ground Signals as used by JAPS 10
(document captured 18 Dec C. ENDAIABERE) See 15
Appx 'B' at @ Experience on other fronts and 20
examination of the dugouts suggests that many so-called 25
PILLBOXES have no fire slit, and are in fact 30
purely defensive dug outs for protection against 35
bombing and arty @ The attacking such dugouts 40
have on occasions concentrated all their attention 45
on the dugout and been caught by flanking fire 50
from slit trenches trees etc in the vicinity Confirmation 55
or otherwise of this view from first the will be 60
appreciated @ Own TIPS @ Posts at present 65
occupied by our the were reached by afternoon 70
20 Dec @ 21 Dec extensive patrolling on line of 75
SIMEMI CK to find practicable crossing places @ 80
ENEMY CASUALTIES @ 100 usable enemy dead 85
have been counted in area occupied by 240 Bn @ 90
Conservative estimate places enemy dead 18 Dec 95
at 150 @ WIRRAWAY reports 15004/21 4 barrelled 100
A.A. gun 277755 also intensive fortification from 105
N.W. end OLD STRIP to GIROPA PT. Some with 110
overhead cover @ Amount of JAP activity area 115
29/249 as indicated on air photo of 10 Dec suggests 120
possible crossing @ area of 249 Bn and I 128 Shelled 125
by AA gun approx afternoon 21 Dec 130

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

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

1600

SIGNATURE

PK Bury

SIGNATURE

* ORIGINATOR MAY DELETE "EXCEPT" AND
INSERT "INCLUDING."

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

Brig Wooten: Warren Force

IN

45

HEADQUARTERS BUNA FORCES

21, December, 1942

CAPTURED DOCUMENT - WARREN FORCE - TAKEN DECEMBER 18, 1942 IN THE VICINITY
OF CAPE ENDALADERE
(TRANSLATED BY S/SGT. S. ISHIO)

SIGNALS FROM PLANE TO GROUND TROOPS

Manuever

1. Short radius loop.
(Could be small circle)
2. Moving of plane slowly
right to left several
times (sort of a slide)
3. Moving of plane length-
wise several times (in dips)
4. Weaving horizontally left
and right.
5. Diving sharply and Climbing
6. Moving of plane slowly right
and left several times and
bank 180 degrees.
7. A line with green star on
top followed by red star
8. Green star on suspension line
(White Dragon)
9. One green star and blue star
10. Two white stars on suspension line

Message

Preliminary attracting of
attention. It means "Have
you any requests" "We have
requests" (Yellow Dragon)

Understand answer from
ground. (Black Dragon)

Repeat - message not understood

Request ground force to
indicate battle lines then
indicate our positions.

Enemy under here

Am about to return - will
answer your request

Are you friend troops

Are you friendly troops

Enemy retreating

About to bomb enemy - Indicate
direction of enemy.

DISTRIBUTION:

I CORPS, Adv NGF, NGF, GHQ, 7th Aust Div, Warren Force, Urbana Force,
127th Inf (CO), 32d Div, Brig. Wooten.

Brig Wooten ! Warren Force

HEADQUARTERS BUNA FORCES

21, December, 1942

JAPANESE ARMY PANEL DESIGNS

- T HAVE REQUEST
- N DID NOT RECEIVE
- NO REQUESTS
- A WAIT AMBULE
- H STOP BOMBING (ATTACK)
- ∧ WE ARE FRIENDLY TROOPS
- △ LET US KNOW THE SITUATION OF OUR UNITS
- ↑ ENEMY IN THIS DIRECTION
- ↑ IS THE ENEMY IN THIS DIRECTION
- ↑ BOMB ENEMY IN THIS DIRECTION
- X WE ARE IN MIDST OF BATTLE
- ∧ ENEMY PLANES PRESENT BE CAREFUL
- REQUEST AMMUNITION REPLENISHMENT
- || REQUEST PROVISION REPLENISHMENT
- ≡ REQUEST MEDICAL MATERIAL

DISTRIBUTION:

I Corps,
Adv NCF,
NCF,
GHQ,
7th Aust Div,
Warren Force,
Urbana Force,
127th (CO)
32d Div.
Brig. Wooten,
A.L.O.

IN (55)

LOG SERIAL 333

Logistical tanks

1930
for 2/9 CO

1. not quite to top
2. ok bordered by thick. size
3. tanks have been released - has
will know exact position

Bring up to CO

(a) 4/9 to arrange m.m.G. fire into
small pocket of gaps + also mortar
fire... Endeavour to be made
during night to drive gap 7/1 by
fire

(b) 2/10 COY - C.O. thinks that
coming not feasible. Coy
to be kept in area and to
be suitable with light or
in morning as desired.
4/9 not in position to give
any real assistance

(c) 4/9 to hold present position -
no ground to be given up

(d) Tanks - any tanks not out-
length to have close support by
2/9 CO

IN 54

LOG SERIAL 335

OPS

& 2/12

1950

from Col Dobbs

1. 4 pts across remaining lines following
2. gaps have been joining for past 20 minutes

Bde comm speaks to Col Dobbs

(a) mutually supporting defenses to be dug

(b) patrols may be sent out - some patrols not able to deal with small parties

(c) lines of fire & mobility are to be arranged

(d) DF on 29 good land

(e) Third Coy will be moved North or South in accordance with situation after on bde comm orders

(f) Two regts are to hold perimeter at night to be weakened

+