

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

Item number: 8/3/2

2/2 Infantry Battalion

December 1940

W A R Y.

December 1940.

2/2 A.I.F.

Comd. Officer.

Major F.O. Chilton

1-9 Dec. 40. With exception Div. Exercise 3/5 Dec. first 10 days of month devoted to Coy. training, firing Brens, A.Tk. rifles and 2" Mortars - Brens in many cases (reinforcements) for the first time.

2 Dec. 40 Capt. P.J. Woodhill left for Law Course at Corps H.Q.

3-5 Dec. 40. Div. Exercise, ~~story told by Operations diary herewith.~~ The Bn. had little to do on this Exercise, the main interest first lying in brushing up patrol and raid tactics, and in a 7½ mile withdrawal by compass on a bearing of 61°, the longest single leg compass ^{march} ever undertaken by any member of the Bn. Two Platoons, led by a Reinforcement Officer, went too far South and missed the defensive line to which we were withdrawing, but the remainder of the Bn. marched straight in.

7 Dec. 40. Warning order received that Bn. would move forward and take up position in BAGOOSH BOXX formerly occupied by ARGYLE and SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.

9 Dec. 40. Advance party, Major Cohen i/c, Capt. King, Lieuts. Green, Jones, Brock, Loftus, Swinton and 43 O.R.'s, left for new position. Four A.A.S.C. lorries lift party and all gear.

9-12 Dec. 40. Preparations for move forward :-
Offrs. Gear less valise and "small" suitcase sent to Kit Store ALEXANDRIA.
Office Records returned to Base.
Men's Kit Bags stored in one tent and to remain i/c of Rear Party. They may come forward and may be sent back to Kit Store.
Camp Accomodation stores tents etc being left standing, so not so much packing to do as in move from HELWAN.

10 Dec. 40. Message from Major Cohen to send up truck, phones (lines already laid) and to bring all available timber and wood, as "dugouts very primitive".

Problems - how much iron etc. will we be able to transport, and therefore how many dugouts, latrines, showers, etc. ought we dismantle now.

11 Dec. 40. Major F.O. Chilton, formerly O.C. "D" Coy. and acting 2 i/c Bn., returned from secondment to H.Q. 6 Aust. Div., as C.O. of the Bn.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part 2 and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit.....

Army Form C. 2118.

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.

WAR DIARY.

December 1940.

2/2 BN. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer. Major F.O.Chilton.

12 Dec. 40

Road party consisting of all Unit Tpt. less D.S. car left AMIRIYA 0715 hrs (16 minutes late, owing to Bn. ahead being late) carrying all W.E. less Brens for train security, and all ~~xxxxxxx~~ personnel possible to get on - approx 180 in all. Uneventful approx 100 mile journey, slow because of large numbers of other M.T. - R.A.F., English Bns., Free French etc. - on road. Arrived BAGOOSH 1400 hrs, to find advance party had done much work in preparing camp. This was position formerly occupied by ARGYLL & SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS when Italians were pushing forward to SIDI BARRANI, so Platoon posts well and carefully made and in circumstances comfortable. Bn. position covers area below and immediately on top of escarpment, "B" & "C" Coys. on escarpment "A" & "D" Coys. on flat. H.Q. Coy. and Bn. H.Q. occupied dugouts in hillocks on flat.

*See map.
Ras el Kanayis*

13 Dec. 40

Main body left AMIRIYA Friday 13th by train. Train due 0700 hrs did not arrive until 1130 hrs. After uneventful journey arrived SIDI HANEISH 2000hrs embussed in unit transport which carried whole train party less unloading party. Hot meal on arrival at BAGOOSH camp. Lieut. D.N. Fairbrother and 36 O.R's left at AMIRIYA as rear party.

1500 natives engaged in digging A/Tk. obstacles in front of right forward Coy. on flat ("A" Coy.) and patrols were sent out by all Coys. each night, but as Italians were already in full retreat towards SALUM and BARDIA, position had lost its tactical significance and the patrols were sent out as training more than with any thought that enemy would be encountered.

All ranks benefited by contact with A & S.H. - 140 all ranks of theirs being left behind as Battle Casualties - a situation we take care of by Training Bns. in PALESTINE. During one afternoon boxing competitions organised - Pte. Tullipan lost to Piper Morrison A & S.H., Pte. Waters 2/2 Bn. beat his opponent, Sg+. Coyle 2/2 Bn. beat his opponent.

Much information as to enemy methods, defences, morale, degree of cold etc. to be expected, gained from Major Carmicheal 2 i/c A & S.H. who returned from acting as Div. Liaison Officer, to pick up tobacco and other comforts for his Bn.

Enemy activity at BAGOOSH in area NIL. Some bombing at FUKA and DABA but none closer than two or three miles.

14 Dec. 40

Instructions from Bde. to be ready to move at short notice. C.O., Adj., I.O. left on Recce. to W.D. Force H.Q. and thence to SIDI BARRANI and heights overlooking SOLUM which at that time had not fallen.

16 Dec. 40

Adj. returned with big picture of campaign, and information that Bn. would move next day. Late in day orders received from Bde. to move morning 17 Dec. - 33 Tp. Carrying Lorries from 4 NEW ZEALAND Reserve Petrol Coy. reporting 1800 hrs 16 Dec.

W.O.

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WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
WARA... W.A.R. D.I.A.R.Y.	14 Dec.		Summary of Events and Information. [Faint text describing military operations, mentioning units like 2nd Coy, 1st Coy, and locations like WARA, WARA, and WARA.]	References to Appendices. [Faint text mentioning various reports and documents.]

2/2 BN. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer.

Major F.O. Chilton

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
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 and the Staff Manual respectively. Life books
 summaries are contained in F.2. Regs. Part II.

Kit bags which had after all come forward from AMIRI-YA Officers suit cases and stretchers, and much other surplus gear, left in dumps at BAGOOSH under charge of Sgt. Lee and 10 O.R.'s.

On Bde instructions Unit anti-gas clothing less sufficient for decontamination squad, also left behind. Hurried last minute check of all weapons, transport etc. L.A.D. report 'excellent' on condition of our M.T., other BN's. not getting such satisfactory comment. Although advice has been received that SIDI BARRANI and westward is a wood fuel area, oil burning soyers are taken in the hope that they can be used.

17 Dec.40

Reveille 0300 hrs, Bn. embusses and moves off complete as it stands at 0500 hrs. We are the first out and head the Bde. Group.

It had been cold all the few days at BAGOOSH, but most of the Bn. sheltered below the escarpment had not realised the very severe cold it was to face. The morning of the 17th showed what was coming, it was bitterly cold and by the 0900 hrs ~~xxxx~~ halt hands and feet were numb. Comfort Funds BalACLAVAS and Sweaters a great boom.

Much M.T. on road and frequent bad detours around craters left by land mines laid by Italians in their retreat. Convoy halted 1200 hrs for lunch then approx. five miles from SIDI BARRANI.

Large quantities of abandoned Italian war material being collected in dumps along the road. By nightfall four M/G. and three Breda L.M.G.'s (with ammunition) had been taken on Bn. strength.

1300 hrs recce. forward by Coy. Comds., and Bn. moved to bivouac area five miles beyond SIDI BARRANI (see map.) 1500 hrs.

NEW ZEALAND Tp. carrying lorries left us there, it is understood to convey petrol and rations forward to 7 Armoured Div. During the afternoon one long standing Tpt. problem solved, by acquisition of Italian 30 cwt for surplus office gear, "I" Sec. gear, packs, etc. of Bn. H.Q. personnel. Also some more M/c, with result that when rough stoney country had all but one of BN's. original M/c off road, five were still available.

Orders from Bde. to move to SALUM morning
18 Dec.

18 Dec.40

A echelon crowded with every man who could be got on, off at 0645 hrs; main body due to leave at 0945 hrs in 15 vehicles (12 3 ton and 3 captured Italian 10 ton) provided by Royal Tank Regt. But SALUM road proved enormously congested with M.T., many deviations, delays owing to blockups by abandoned Italian M.T.; as result R.T.R. vehicles could not land 2/3 Bn. (which was first away) at SALUM until 1000 hrs, and did not return for 2/2 Bn. until 1300 hrs. Main body arrived SALUM 1600 hrs.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
 WAR DIARY

Unit
 Commanding Officer

AF 12191314 200000 239 H.E.1744 21-2111 10000011851

*See map
Sidi Barrani*

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17 Dec 40

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

18 Dec 40

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit
Commanding Officer

Month and Year (Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
			<p>18 Dec.</p> <p>Orders from Bde. to move to SALUM morning. All available. M/c original M/c off road, five were left, with result that when rough stoney country had been cleared, etc. of Bn. H.Q. personnel. Also some more Italian 30 cwt for supplies of office gear, "I" Sec. gear, standing 1st. problem solved, by acquisition of one 7 Armoured Div. during the afternoon one long t is understood to convey petrol and rations forward, NEW ZEALAND Tp. carrying lorries left us there, (see map.) 1500 hrs.</p> <p>Moved to bivouac area five miles beyond SIDI BARRAMI 1300 hrs recee. forward by Coy. Comd., and Bn. (ammunition) had been taken on Bn. strength.</p> <p>At nightfall four M.G. and three Lewis J.M.G.'s (with material being collected in dumps along the road. Large quantities of abandoned Italian war approx. five miles from SIDI BARRAMI. Their retreat. Convoy halted 1300 hrs for lunch much M.T. on road and frequent bad detours. Sweets and food were used. Comfort finds Balclava and bitterly cold and by the 0800 hrs xxw half, it was realized the very severe cold it was to face. It had been cold all the days at BUKKOSH, but complete as it stands at 0800 hrs. We are the first Reveille 0800 hrs, Bn. emphasizes and moves off SIDI BARRAMI and westward in the hope that they can turning soya are taken in the hope that they can comment. Although advice has been received that four M.T., other Bn's. not getting such satisfactory transport etc. L.A.D. report excellent on condition. Hurried last minute check of all weapons, sufficient for operations Unit anti-gas clothing less. On Bde instructions Unit anti-gas clothing less. Officers suit cases and stretchers, and much other things which had after all come forward from AMRI-18 Dec.</p>	<p>A echelon crowded with every man who could be on, off at 0845 hrs; main body due to leave at 0900 hrs. Main body arrived SALUM 1000 hrs. Bn. did not return for S/S Bn. until 1000 hrs, and did not return for S/S Bn. until 1300 hrs.</p>

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
 and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages
 will be prepared in manuscript.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

19 Dec. 40.

WAR DIARY

Unit

Meanwhile all Pl. trucks had returned to SIDI BARRANI to assist bringing 2/1 Bn. forward, and they (Pl. trucks), reported back about 2400 hrs.

Bivouac for night 18/19 Dec. beneath escarpment SALUM (see map). Still bitterly cold, and driven sand made conditions very unpleasant.

See map SALUM

C.O., I.O., Major Cohen and Sigs. Officer recce with Bde. Comd. to K.R.R. position on top of escarpment intention being that 16 Aust. Inf. Bde. will relieve support Group of Armoured Div. as soon as possible.

Still great quantities captured and/or abandoned Italian war material, and opportunity seized to acquire a small Fiat for Recces., a Staff car, quantities of picks and shovels and Sigs. wire.

At 1800 hrs Major Cohen returned from escarpment with preliminary orders from C.O. Bn. to be ready to move at one hours notice from 1300 hrs 19 Dec., to take over left of forward Infantry from K.R.R., with 2/3 Bn. moving in late on our left, and Leicesters (16 I.B.) relieving on our right. Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. NIL.

C.O., I.O. and Coy. Comds. on recce top of escarpment - Tps. rested during morning.

1300 hrs 2 i/c and Adj. on recce top of escarpment, orders then being that Bn. would move at 2130 hrs, B Echelon being unloaded to provide transport for as many as possible.

1445 hrs orders through Bde. to move at 1530 hrs, it having been decided to get troops up difficult escarpment pass road during daylight.

With wide dispersion and no phones impossible to get Bn. on move by 1530 hrs, but A Echelon under way 1545 hrs, when formation of enemy bombers and fighters attached shipping in SALUM BAY, and apparently attempted to bomb troops under escarpment. No bombs fell close, and advance up pass commenced at 1600 hrs.

After difficult and tiring 12 mile march up pass and across rough country Bn. reaches LIBYAN Border wire at 2320 hrs. Relief of K.R.R. complete by 0300 hrs. In this position enemy in BARDIA 8 miles away, but no troops between us and them, so that when K.R.R. moved out at first light the Bn. could properly be said to be in the front line, despite the width of No Man's Land. Normal security by patrols few thousand yards to front, but no attempt made from this position to contact enemy.

Bn. disposition ^{as trace map} and strength and disposition as follows :-

See Salum map.

End

Army Form 2118

References to Appendices

REF ID: A111111 200000 000 H.E.I.111 21-2-111 Name: CHILTON

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year..... (Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
			<p>19 Dec. Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	
S/S BN. A.I.F.	18 Dec.	PI	<p>Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	
S/S BN. A.I.F.	19 Dec.	PI	<p>Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	
S/S BN. A.I.F.	19 Dec.	PI	<p>Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	
S/S BN. A.I.F.	19 Dec.	PI	<p>Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	
S/S BN. A.I.F.	19 Dec.	PI	<p>Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	
S/S BN. A.I.F.	19 Dec.	PI	<p>Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	
S/S BN. A.I.F.	19 Dec.	PI	<p>Enemy activity night 18/19 Dec. still bitter cold, and driven forward, and they</p>	

WAR DIARY.

December 1940.

2/2 BN. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer.

Major F.O.Chilton.

Outside Baidra

Place.

"A" Coy.

Capt. W.B. Caldwell
Lieut. K.H. Loftus and 92 O.R's
Lieut. A.A. McLellan
Lieut. A.S. Watson

Hour.

"B" Coy.

Capt. A.H. Chapman
Lieut. R.E. Jones and 96 O.R's
Lieut. J.J. Roderick
Lieut. *M.* Derbyshire

"C" Coy.

Capt. A.A. Buckley
Lieut. C.H. Green and 101 O.R's
Lieut. G.F.W. Baylis
Lieut. *J.* Holroyd

"D" Coy.

Capt. J.G. Hendry
Capt. E.H. King and 88 O.R's
Lieut. G.S. Cox
Lieut. *J.* Sargeant

H.Q. Coy.

Major P.A. Cohen
Lieut. B. Brock
Lieut. A.H. Baird and 212 O.R's
Lieut. D.S.I. Burrows
Lieut. A.S. Wilson
Lieut. J.B. Todd
Sgt. R.C. Smith i/c A.A.
Sgt. G.C. Coyle i/c Mortars

Bn. H.Q.

Major F.O. Chilton
Major C.R.V. Edgar and 47 O.R's
Capt. D.L.B. Goslett
Lieut. J.W. Dunlop
Lieut. C.N. Swinton

Padre Reid and 2 O.R's
Major Hosier
Y.M.C.A. Mr. Monfries (away)

BAGOOSH REAR PARTY
11 O.R's

AMIRIYA REAR PARTY

Lieut. D.N. Fairbrother
&
36 O.R's

DETACHED

Capt. *G.H.* Godbold (*METS*) *MA* and 12 O.R's
Capt. P.J. Woodhill
Capt. G.A. Bertram (*MESS*)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence will be printed in manuscript. The pages and the 2nd Manual respectively. This book contains in F.S. Regs. Part II

Months and Year

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Events requiring not retained)

Summary of Events and Information.

WAR DIARY

Unit

Commanding Officer

References to Appendices

Army Form C 2118

WAR DIARIES SHOULD BE KEPT IN A SAFE PLACE AND NOT DESTROYED

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C. 2118.

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.					References to Appendices.	
	"I" Coy.		"B" Coy.	"C" Coy.	"D" Coy.	"E" Coy.	"F" Coy.		
S/S BN. A.I.F.	W.B. Colquhoun		A.A. Chapman	G.H. Green	E.H. King	G.C. Cogle	R.C. Smith	D.J.B. Goslett	D.E. Woodhill
Major R.C. Chiffon	and 38 O.R.'s		and 101 O.R.'s	and 89 O.R.'s	and 518 O.R.'s	and 47 O.R.'s	and 5 O.R.'s	and 13 O.R.'s	and 13 O.R.'s
December 1940									

WAR DIARY

December 1940.

2/2 BN. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer

Major F.O. Chilton

20 Dec. 40

Day occupied by recces forward by Coy. Comds. etc and Coys. moved forward to new positions (see map) night 20/21 Dec.

*See map
Bardia South*

No enemy activity our area but considerable troop movement, particularly Artillery, coming up in support.

B Echelon at this stage still back at foot of escarpment, and some bombs dropped near them and almost exactly on site of Bn. H.Q. night 18/19. Kerosene impossible to obtain (as we had been warned) but one hot meal per day provided by cooking on wood fuel.

21 Dec. 40

Bn. H.Q. moved to new location (see map), and "B" and "D" Coys leap frogged through "A" and "C" Coys respectively to move some two miles closer to enemy.

Bn. now within range enemy shelling, in striking distance for patrols, and as close as possible without going over ~~the~~ slight rise and thus coming under direct observation. The operation for the capture of BARDIA had now commenced in earnest, and much of the story of the following days is told in the operation diary.

PATROLS NIGHT 21/22 Dec.

"C" Coy. sent out fighting patrol (W.O.II H.I. Lovett in Comd.) with orders to gain information as to :-

- (1) Extent and density of mine field
- (2) Nature of A.Tk Obstacle
- (3) Nature of wire
- (4) Nature of enemy posts

Patrol Recce made by O.C. Capt. Buckley and W.O.II Lovett.

This patrol successfully brought back information - W.O. II Lovett's report attached.

"B" Coy. sent out Pl. at dusk to occupy area of O.P. near ruined M.T. (see map) near BIR TEFUA. Purpose of patrol to protect Sgt. Campbell of Carrier Platoon who went into O.P. just before dawn with Don ∇ and line, to stay and observe throughout the day.

Patrol uneventful, Sgt. Campbell's report attached.

Coy. dispositions again slightly altered - "B" Coy. moved 2 Pls. forward 600 yds, and "C" Coy. one Pl. in conformity.

ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Considerable artillery counter battery work throughout days 21 and 22, and high level bombing raid on two battery positions on our right. Although on several occasions Artillery concentrations came down on Pl. areas, no casualties as yet except a signaller who trod on what was apparently an unexploded grehade, and a man who shot himself in foot while cleaning rifle.

22 Dec. 40.

Bde. Comd. instructed C.O. patrol east side of line of road and if possible follow A.Tk. obstacle along.

End

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

WAR DIARY

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Unit

Army Form C

WAR DIARY.

December 1940

2/2 BN. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer

Major F.O. Chilton

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
 will be prepared in manuscript
 and the Staff Manual respectively. Little pages
 summaries are contained in P.S. Regs. Part II.

Month and Year

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Enter heading not relevant)

WAR DIARY

2 rear Coys. and Bn. H.Q. moved at 1400 hrs to new position (see map).

PATROLS NIGHT 22/23 Dec.

"D" Coy. to cover Artillery O.P. working party - uneventful patrol.

"A" Coy. - to enemy wire - Lieut. Loftus (see report).

B Echelon moved up escarpment and established at location of Bn. H.Q. night 19/20 Dec. B Echelon personnel discover dead Italian and buried him during day.

RATIONS.

Still only possible to supply one hot meal per day, the evening meal, but this is brought up successfully about 1715 hrs daily.

WATER.

Water now being drawn from FORT CAPUZZO - water very brackish (saline).

Dispersion, and Slit Tranches, which Bn. and Bde. Comd. have been preaching for months, at last being carried out satisfactorily - shelling and bombing have seen to that. Result of enemy's high level bombing on 22nd shows what inadequate dispersion leads to - English Artillery on our left lost 5 trucks.

M/C.

Still having very bad time. B.S.A's proven highly unsatisfactory in desert, no less than 7 cracked sumps.

SIGNALS.

In rocky country, signals having very difficult time. Tracked vehicles and shell fire continually cut cables, and though many miles of Italian cable being used, communications continually failing, and difficult enough as it is would have been impossible without the use of captured Italian cable.

23 Dec.40.

Unit

Commanding Officer

As far as possible men sleep through day in anticipation nightly patrols. Men's morale high, anxious to carry on quickly the advance of the English Bdes. and Armoured Div., but BARDIA tougher than SIDI BARRANI and SALUM, with A.Tk. obstacle and wire, and must realise necessity of awaiting Reinforcements.

Country here very rocky, and digging difficult but Sangars have been constructed, and much ingenuity shown in constructing shelters under ground sheets, Italian bivouac sheets, iron, timber

etc.
WATER.

Orders from Bde. that owing to reduction in level at FORT CAPUZZO ration of 2gallon per man per day all purposes must be rigidly enforced. After allowing for B Echelon cooking this means one water bottle per day for drinking and washing. In one way the intense cold is fortunate as drinking is not so necessary, but keeping clean in driven sand, with sleeping in narrow trenches, is impossible.

15581213 500000 200 H.H.I.I.V. 21-2011 Form 171851

End

Army Form C 2118

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

53 Dec. 40.

Unit.....

Month and Year.....

(Erase heading not required).

Commanding Officer.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
<p style="text-align: center;">S/3 BN. A.I.C.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">D.I.A.R.Y.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28/31 Dec.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NIGHT</p>	<p>As far as possible men sleep through day in captured Italian camp. would have been impossible without the use of continually failing, and difficult enough as it is Italian cable being used, communications continually cut cables, and though many miles of difficult time. Tracked vehicles and shell fire In rocky country, signals having very S/3 BN. A.I.C. Still having very bad time. B.G.A.'s proven English Artillery on our left lost 8 trucks. And shows what inadequate dispersion leads to - result of enemy's high level bombing on of satisfactory - shelling and bombing have seen have been proceeding for months, at last being carried Dispersed, and still in trenches, which Bn. and Bde. Comd. very practical (see line). Water now being drawn from FORT CAPUNNO - water WATER. successfully about 1775 hrs daily. day, the evening meal, but this is brought up Still only possible to supply one hot meal per during day. personnel discover good Italian and buried rim Location of Bn. H.Q. night 18/30 Dec. B Echelon B Echelon moved up escarpment and established at report).</p>	<p>As far as possible men sleep through day in captured Italian camp. would have been impossible without the use of continually failing, and difficult enough as it is Italian cable being used, communications continually cut cables, and though many miles of difficult time. Tracked vehicles and shell fire In rocky country, signals having very S/3 BN. A.I.C. Still having very bad time. B.G.A.'s proven English Artillery on our left lost 8 trucks. And shows what inadequate dispersion leads to - result of enemy's high level bombing on of satisfactory - shelling and bombing have seen have been proceeding for months, at last being carried Dispersed, and still in trenches, which Bn. and Bde. Comd. very practical (see line). Water now being drawn from FORT CAPUNNO - water WATER. successfully about 1775 hrs daily. day, the evening meal, but this is brought up Still only possible to supply one hot meal per during day. personnel discover good Italian and buried rim Location of Bn. H.Q. night 18/30 Dec. B Echelon B Echelon moved up escarpment and established at report).</p>

Rum ration now issued on return of all patrols.
Bn. pool of all sand shoes, for issue to patrols.
It is found that boots make too much noise even when bound with sandbags.

BN. H.Q.

Previously, on exercises, large tarpaulin had been used, but this allowed glimmer of light through and before leaving BAGOOSH an E.P.I.P. was acquired. This spreads completely over the rear part of 15cwt Morris, and supported by poles cut down to same height as truck, makes satisfactory office for use at night. The blue lining keeps light in completely. This tent is taken down at dawn daily by Pioneer Platoon to avoid drawing attention of hostile aircraft, and when H.Q. moves is roped down on roof.

24 Dec.40.

Patrols night 23/24 as orders attached completely uneventful.

Still cold with much sand in air.

I.O. active obtaining exact information as to location of Artillery in area - now in considerable strength - the following being disposed as on map:

- 2/1 Field Regt.
- 2/2 Field Regt.
- 51 Field Regt.
- 7 Medium Battery
- 234 Medium Battery
- 104 Battery 414 Battery

in area, their positions constantly changing.

Strangely quiet day - some little activity by our guns, but very little from BARDIA.

Previous recce. ~~xxxx~~ had disclosed enemy O.P's on poles. In hope of locating place suitable for man to lie up with L.M.G. and shoot down observers, Major Cohen and Lieut. Baird made recce. in Carrier about 1500 hrs. Discovered no chance of establishing post as suggested but burst from Bren scattered observers and something may be done in same manner in future.

Lieut. Green evacuated with septic foot, another man with bullet in foot and a H.Q. Coy. man with fingers blown off by Italian exploding bullet while examining it.

Bde. Comd. expresses wish for "C" Coy. to move to left to close apparent gap between us and 2/3 Bn. - this proving difficult owing to number of guns in area.

Other outstanding problem is observation of enemy during day: Various suggestions being discussed but Artillery O.P's have most vantage points and we cannot crowd them. Nothing can be done tonight as Artillery are shelling enemy heavily at various times through night.

LT. Col. Walker, C.O. 2/7 Bn., I.O. and 2 Coy. Comds. join us, making recce for 2/7 taking over this area in 3 or 4 days.

3118
 3118
 Commanding Officer
 Unit
 INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY
 (Essays prepared and submitted for reference)
 MONTHLY AND YEARLY
 will be prepared in manuscript and the 2nd Annual Report. This Report Summary are contained in E.2. Regt. Part II Instructions regarding M.S. District and Intelligence

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

WAR DIARY OR INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Month and Year.....

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
			<p>10th Battalion 1st Battalion 2nd Battalion 3rd Battalion 4th Battalion 5th Battalion 6th Battalion 7th Battalion 8th Battalion 9th Battalion 10th Battalion 11th Battalion 12th Battalion 13th Battalion 14th Battalion 15th Battalion 16th Battalion 17th Battalion 18th Battalion 19th Battalion 20th Battalion 21st Battalion 22nd Battalion 23rd Battalion 24th Battalion 25th Battalion 26th Battalion 27th Battalion 28th Battalion 29th Battalion 30th Battalion 31st Battalion 32nd Battalion 33rd Battalion 34th Battalion 35th Battalion 36th Battalion 37th Battalion 38th Battalion 39th Battalion 40th Battalion 41st Battalion 42nd Battalion 43rd Battalion 44th Battalion 45th Battalion 46th Battalion 47th Battalion 48th Battalion 49th Battalion 50th Battalion 51st Battalion 52nd Battalion 53rd Battalion 54th Battalion 55th Battalion 56th Battalion 57th Battalion 58th Battalion 59th Battalion 60th Battalion 61st Battalion 62nd Battalion 63rd Battalion 64th Battalion 65th Battalion 66th Battalion 67th Battalion 68th Battalion 69th Battalion 70th Battalion 71st Battalion 72nd Battalion 73rd Battalion 74th Battalion 75th Battalion 76th Battalion 77th Battalion 78th Battalion 79th Battalion 80th Battalion 81st Battalion 82nd Battalion 83rd Battalion 84th Battalion 85th Battalion 86th Battalion 87th Battalion 88th Battalion 89th Battalion 90th Battalion 91st Battalion 92nd Battalion 93rd Battalion 94th Battalion 95th Battalion 96th Battalion 97th Battalion 98th Battalion 99th Battalion 100th Battalion</p>	
			<p>AS/ES 1st Lt 2nd Lt 3rd Lt 4th Lt 5th Lt 6th Lt 7th Lt 8th Lt 9th Lt 10th Lt 11th Lt 12th Lt 13th Lt 14th Lt 15th Lt 16th Lt 17th Lt 18th Lt 19th Lt 20th Lt 21st Lt 22nd Lt 23rd Lt 24th Lt 25th Lt 26th Lt 27th Lt 28th Lt 29th Lt 30th Lt 31st Lt 32nd Lt 33rd Lt 34th Lt 35th Lt 36th Lt 37th Lt 38th Lt 39th Lt 40th Lt 41st Lt 42nd Lt 43rd Lt 44th Lt 45th Lt 46th Lt 47th Lt 48th Lt 49th Lt 50th Lt 51st Lt 52nd Lt 53rd Lt 54th Lt 55th Lt 56th Lt 57th Lt 58th Lt 59th Lt 60th Lt 61st Lt 62nd Lt 63rd Lt 64th Lt 65th Lt 66th Lt 67th Lt 68th Lt 69th Lt 70th Lt 71st Lt 72nd Lt 73rd Lt 74th Lt 75th Lt 76th Lt 77th Lt 78th Lt 79th Lt 80th Lt 81st Lt 82nd Lt 83rd Lt 84th Lt 85th Lt 86th Lt 87th Lt 88th Lt 89th Lt 90th Lt 91st Lt 92nd Lt 93rd Lt 94th Lt 95th Lt 96th Lt 97th Lt 98th Lt 99th Lt 100th Lt</p>	
			<p>AS/ES 1st Lt 2nd Lt 3rd Lt 4th Lt 5th Lt 6th Lt 7th Lt 8th Lt 9th Lt 10th Lt 11th Lt 12th Lt 13th Lt 14th Lt 15th Lt 16th Lt 17th Lt 18th Lt 19th Lt 20th Lt 21st Lt 22nd Lt 23rd Lt 24th Lt 25th Lt 26th Lt 27th Lt 28th Lt 29th Lt 30th Lt 31st Lt 32nd Lt 33rd Lt 34th Lt 35th Lt 36th Lt 37th Lt 38th Lt 39th Lt 40th Lt 41st Lt 42nd Lt 43rd Lt 44th Lt 45th Lt 46th Lt 47th Lt 48th Lt 49th Lt 50th Lt 51st Lt 52nd Lt 53rd Lt 54th Lt 55th Lt 56th Lt 57th Lt 58th Lt 59th Lt 60th Lt 61st Lt 62nd Lt 63rd Lt 64th Lt 65th Lt 66th Lt 67th Lt 68th Lt 69th Lt 70th Lt 71st Lt 72nd Lt 73rd Lt 74th Lt 75th Lt 76th Lt 77th Lt 78th Lt 79th Lt 80th Lt 81st Lt 82nd Lt 83rd Lt 84th Lt 85th Lt 86th Lt 87th Lt 88th Lt 89th Lt 90th Lt 91st Lt 92nd Lt 93rd Lt 94th Lt 95th Lt 96th Lt 97th Lt 98th Lt 99th Lt 100th Lt</p>	

Wt. 13161/317 200/000 5/39 H.E.J.Ltd. 51-3311 Forms C2118/21

Major J. O. Clayton
 Comd. 10th Bn
 Dec 1940

S/Sgt
 P.I.A.
 M.A.M.
 1st Lt

WAR DIARY.

December 1940.

2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer.

Major F.O. CHILTON

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
will be included in manuscript.
and the Staff Journal respectively. This page
is numbered as contained in F.O. Regs. Part II.

Month and Year

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Please heading not advised)

Unit

Commanding Officer

Comforts Fund Xmas hampers being landed this evening at SALUM. Bombed during unloading, and preliminary reports indicate, sunk. H.Q. Coy. C.Q.M.S. Elks missing, may be killed or possibly in M.D.S. below escarpment.

Message from G.O.C. W.D. Force through Bde. Comd. complimenting Bde. on patrol work.

This Diary is being written in office truck, with C.O., 2 i/c, Adjt., H.Q. Coy. Comd., Sigs. Officer, Carrier Officer in conference on general matters - it is 8 p.m. Christmas Eve 1940, and in an hour there will be gunfire from every Battery in the area. A strange Christmas Eve.

PATROLS NIGHT 24/25 Dec.

"D" Coy. to protect 2/2 Field Regt. O.P. working party.

"B" Coy. to patrol at flank and front.

No patrols closer than 1000 yds. to wire because of Artillery programme.

25 Dec.40

At 0040 hrs message from Bde. that another Artillery O.P. (2/1 Fd. Regt.) wanted local protection - "D" Coy sent out another Section, which got into position at 0200 hrs. M.T.

Transport Officer reports, only way trucks have been kept on road is by our having stripped vehicles sent to recovery. For instance springs, tyres, etc. removed from 3 bombed 2/3 vehicles have provided spares for L.A.D. and kept out of recovery's hands numerous vehicles which would otherwise have gone back.

Christmas Day.

Normal Artillery activity both sides.

Word of bombing yesterday SALUM wharf. C.Q.M.S. H.Q. Coy. Sgt. Elks killed outright by bomb. Buried with others on beach at SALUM.

Patrols night 24/25 uneventful, no enemy contacted, because of having to keep 1600 yds from wire owing to Artillery programme.

Artillery Liaison Officer, Lieut. Lawson of 2/1 Field Regt. attached from today.

Aust. Comforts Fund Xmas parcels distributed, and although only Bully Beef for lunch, men able to have peaches, plum pudding, tinned cream and cake for tea.

Capt. Godbold returned from M.E.T.S. - posted to "C" Coy. as O.C. - Capt. Buckley going 2 i/c.

26 Dec.40.

Patrols last night again uneventful as again an Artillery programme, and patrols not allowed closer than 300 yds to wire.

"D" Coy, captured a "prisoner" this morning, but he turned out to be a man from the QUEENS on our right, left behind from their patrol because he was coughing, and off his course on his return.

Some desultory shelling, but in general a quiet day.

WAR DIARIES SHOULD BE KEPT IN A SAFE PLACE

Handwritten initials

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

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit.....
Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
W A R S/S Bn. A.I.E. D I A R I December 1940			<p>Patrols last night again unsuccessful as again no fire was observed. Patrols not allowed to enter area 300 yds to wire. "D" Coy. captured a prisoner this morning. Patrols last night again unsuccessful as again no fire was observed. Patrols not allowed to enter area 300 yds to wire. "D" Coy. captured a prisoner this morning. Patrols last night again unsuccessful as again no fire was observed. Patrols not allowed to enter area 300 yds to wire. "D" Coy. captured a prisoner this morning.</p>	<p>Patrols last night again unsuccessful as again no fire was observed. Patrols not allowed to enter area 300 yds to wire. "D" Coy. captured a prisoner this morning. Patrols last night again unsuccessful as again no fire was observed. Patrols not allowed to enter area 300 yds to wire. "D" Coy. captured a prisoner this morning.</p>

WAR DIARY.

December 1940.

2/2 BN. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer.

Major. F.O. Chilton

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in P. 2, Regs. II, III and the Staff Manual respectively. These will be kept in manuscript and the Staff Manual respectively.

Patrols Night 26/27 Dec.

"B" Coy. fighting patrol to within 1000 yds of wire.

"D" Coy. 2 Patrols to protect Artillery O.P's. All uneventful, no enemy seen.

27 Dec. 40.

Very much warmer today - after intense cold of past week everyone relieved to take off greatcoats. Men's vitality and resistance being lowered by continual cold, today a great tonic. Some shelling elsewhere but none in Bn. area.

Formation of enemy bombers lost one machine to A.A. fire on returning from what was apparently a bombing raid on SALUM. Machine fell near Bde, H.Q.

Lieut. Roderick, suffering with rheumatism transferred H.Q. Coy as Pioneer Officer; Lieut. Burrows to "B" Coy. in his place.

We supply piquet of one Capt. and one Pl. at CAPUZZO water point.

With completion of pipe line from SALUM much of salinity goes out of water, to great relief of all ranks.

Patrols Night 27/28 Dec.

"C" Coy. fighting patrol to endeavour capture prisoners and harass enemy from outside wire - W.O.II Lovett.

"B" Coy. fighting patrol to get through wire and observe enemy activity over stone wall inside wire - Lieut. Burrows.

"A" Coy. to protect Artillery O.P.

28 Dec. 40.

Patrols 27/28 Dec. comparatively uneventful - Lieut. Burrows report attached, others no contact with enemy.

Lieut. Fairbrother and O.R's R.T.U. from rear parties at AMIRIYA and BAGOOSH - AMIRIYA handed over to Indian Div., gear from BAGOOSH returned to Kit Store.

Capt. Woodhill R.T.U. from attachment 1 Aust. Corps - returned to "A" Coy as 2 i/c.

1500 hrs orders received from Bde. that 2/7 Bn. would relieve us evening 28 Dec., and that we would go into reserve, 2/1 Bn. from reserve moving up to left of 2/3 Bn.

2/7 Bn. commenced to move in at 1800 hrs.

Violent duststorm all day, visibility scarcely 20 yds. No moon, pitch black and very cold, so relief extremely difficult for 2/7 Bn., and our march to unknown position without recce., just as difficult.

Relief completed 0100 hrs. 12 mile march back to reserve area - all there 0400 hrs. Impossible to find 2/1 Bn. Coy. areas, as no guides had been left, Bn. Bivouac in intense cold - mostly without blankets-until dawn, when Coy. areas with slit trenches etc. dug, located.

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

WAR DIARY

Unit

Commanding Officer

Army Form C 5118

W.P.

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

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
S/S BN. A.I.T.	December 1940	1000	<p>Very much warmer today - after intense cold. Most of day a great fog. Some shelling elsewhere but none in bn. Relieved by 1st Coy. at 1000 hrs. Machine gun fire on returning from what was formation of enemy bombers lost one. All uneventful, no enemy seen.</p> <p>Patrols to protect Artillery.</p>	<p>Violent dust storm all day. Visibility scarcely 20 yds. No moon, bitter black and very cold, so relief without recourse. Just as difficult. Relieved completed 0100 hrs. 12 mile march back to bivouac in intense cold - mostly without blankets-until dawn, when Col. Reserve area - all there 0400 hrs. Impossible to find S/V Bn. extremely difficult for S/V Bn., and our march to unknown position without success.</p>

WAR DIARY.

December 1940.

2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

Comd. Officer.

Major F.O. Chilton.

29 Dec.40)
30 Dec.40)
31 Dec.40)

Settling in, in new, back area, and making

Preparations for attack on Bardia, of which
warning orders received by C.O. from Bde. 29 Dec.40
Weapons. Checked daily by Armourer Sgt. Trouble
with Brens due to sand eradicated and constant attention
ensures all in order. Constant attention in this
country however a necessity - at one time only half
a dozen Brens in the Bn. would fire Automatic.
Still onlt four 2" Mortars in the Bn., otherwise
W.E. complete.

Transport. Spare parts taken from "out of commission"
trucks, trouble now with lack of springs. L.A.D.
welding as temporary expedient.

Carriers. Carriers being thoroughly examined by
L.A.D. and 6 out of 9 condemned, illustrating that
impossible expect Carriers in this country, do
approach march 300 miles and maintain efficiency.
Nothing for it but to use whole 9, hoping that
condemned 6 will last.

Ammunition. Complete W.E. less 2" Mortar smoke
made up. Bn. actually substantial S.A.A. and hand
grenade reserve.

Air Photos. Air Photos provided by R.A.F., mounted
on atrips by "I" Sec. and proving very useful.

Comforts. £80 worth of tobacco was bought at
BAGOOSH, but this is being kept for a time when men
are right out and unable to buy. Extra sox issued:
choclates, limited amount beer, tobacco etc, bought
from N.A.A.F.I. supplied at half price.

Groundsheets. New ground sheets to replace all
old or lost ones.

Sand Table. Model of ground defences over which
this Bn. will attack constructed by Major Cohen in
nearby Sheik's tomb and full details of operation
explained to all ranks.

First Aid Lectures. First Aid Lectures to all
Officers and N.C.O's by R.M.O.

Conferences. C.O. with 2i/c and Major Cohen, and
with Coy. Comds. going over every step of operation
with maps, sand table and photographs.

Recces. I.O. and Adj. with B.M. and parties from
other units, to assembly area and along axis of
advance.

I.O. with Officer from each Coy. to assembly
area.

NEW YEARS EVE. Cold and no change in the situation.

RECEIVED 29 DEC 1940

Reference to...
Comd. Officer...
Major F.O. Chilton...
Intelligence...
MAYB DIALY

lwd

... F. O. Chilton ...
Comd 2/2 Bn AIF

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

WAR DIARY OF INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

Month and Year.....

(Erase heading not required).

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.

21 Dec 40
20 Dec 40
19 Dec 40

Adj. A.M.A.P.
31 Dec. 40.

DISTRIBUTION.

ALL COYS.

1. Jan. 1941.

4. Pl. H. Coy. 0830 hrs.
 10. Pl. "B" Coy. The sand table in Carruba Cave will be completed
 by 1700 hrs. today. Attached is the roster whereby all ranks of each
 Platoon will be able to have the operation explained to them.
 12. Pl. "B" Coy. 1000 hrs.
 16. Pl. "D" Coy. 1030 hrs.
 17. Pl. "D" Coy. Only an hour has been allotted to each Platoon and in
 order to give everyone an opportunity it is essential that Platoons
 arrive and depart from Carruba Cave on time.

Coys. will arrange to relieve runners so as to enable them
 to attend with 31 Dec. 40.

1. Pl. H. Coy.	1300 hrs.
7. Pl. "A" Coy.	1330 hrs.
8. Pl. "A" Coy.	1400 hrs.
Bn. H.Q. Coy.	1430 hrs. 1500
13. Pl. "C" Coy.	1500 hrs. 1430
14. Pl. "C" Coy.	1530 hrs.
15. Pl. "C" Coy.	1600 hrs.
9. Pl. "A" Coy.	1630 hrs.

Capt.

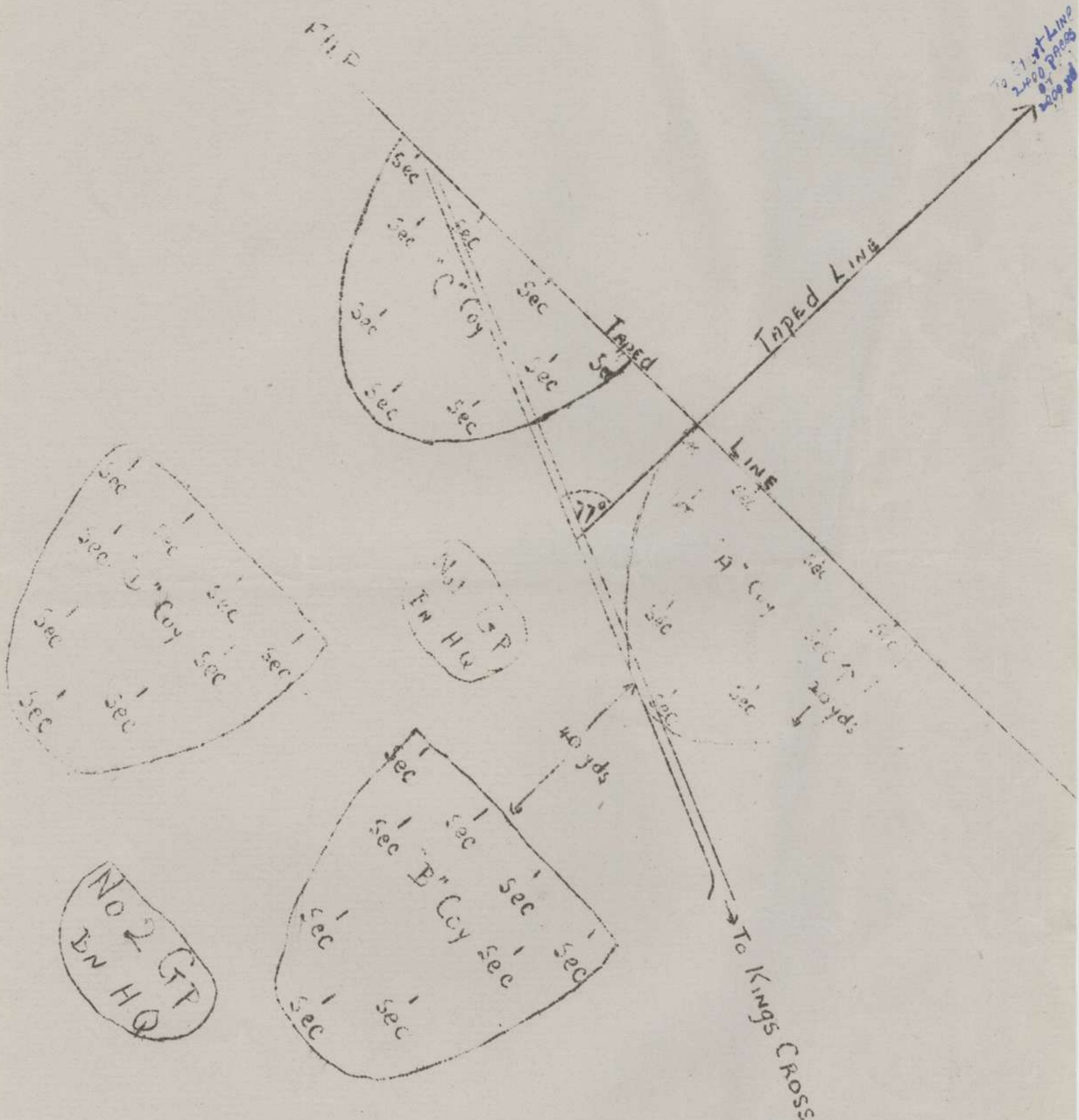
Adj. A.M.A.P.

1. Jan. 1941.

4. Pl. H. Coy.	0830 hrs.
10. Pl. "B" Coy.	0900 hrs.
11. Pl. "B" Coy.	0930 hrs. 0910
12. Pl. "B" Coy.	1000 hrs. 0940
16. Pl. "D" Coy.	1030 hrs. 1000
17. Pl. "D" Coy.	1100 hrs. 1040
18. Pl. "D" Coy.	1130 hrs. 1100
3. Pl. H.Q. Coy.	1200 hrs. 1115

Coys. will arrange to relieve runners so as to enable them
 to attend with their pls.

)))
 _____ Capt.
 Adj. A.M.A.P.



Note 1. ~~Distances~~ Intervals between sections on taped F U line 10 yds

Note 2. When taped start line is reached intervals between sections will be MANEUVERED to 40 yds.

WESTERN

DESERT

OPERATIONS

BARDIA

BN MOVES WEST Main body of Bn left AMIRIYA on 13 Dec 40 by train and completed journey to BAGOOSH by MT. Enemy bombing at FURA and DABA. On to SALUM on 18 Dec 40. Intense cold and dust.

ITALIAN MATERIAL Abandoned Italian trucks and weapons prove useful.

FIGHTING PATROLS Closer to BARDIA. Recce and fighting patrols sent out to explore nature of enemy posts, minefields and anti-tank obstacles, 21 Dec 40. Message from GCC WD Force complimenting Bde on patrol work.

SANDSHOES Bn pool all sandshoes for patrols because boots made too much noise even when bound with sandbags.

2/2 BN
WESTERN
DESERT.
DEC 40.

XMAS HAMPERS Boat bombed at SALUM when unloading Xmas Comfort Fund Hampers, but hampers distributed on Xmas Day.

MODEL OF BATTLE FIELD Sand model of defences over which Bn was to attack, built by Major Cohen (I.O.) and proposed operation explained to all ranks.

MAPS & PLANS Maps of MATRUH - RAS EL KANAYIS (joined) SIDI BARRANI, BARDIA SOUTH, SALUM, TOBRUH FRONT (sketch)

2/2 BN
WESTERN DESERT

BARDIA - General

AMENITIES

XMAS HAMPERS Boat bombed at SALUM when unloading Xmas Comfort Fund hampers, but hampers distributed on Xmas Day.

2/2 BN
WESTERN DESERT
Dec 40

MAPS & PLANS

Maps of MATRUH - RAS EL KANAYIS (joined) SIDI BARRANI, BARDIA SOUTH, SALUM TOBRUK FRONT (sketch)

2/2 BN
WESTERN DESERT
Dec 40.

Handwritten blue ink scribbles and numbers, including '775' and '81312', circled in blue ink.

12-De AMIRIYA. ComD. Oddr. Major C.R.V. Edgar.

1 Dec. 40. Cold Fine.

Medical Boards.

As a result of the last Divisional Exercise the following cases will be sent for boarding.

- (a) Bilateral Hallux Valgus and Bunions - 3 cases.
- (b) Pes Planus.
- (c) Weakness of ankles.
- (d) Pis Careus.
- (e) Recurrent specific epididymis - orchitis.

Two of these cases (one in group (a) and the other (e)) were included in the list of doubtfuls mentioned 9 Nov. 40. None of them outlasted even the first day of the exercise.

Weekly Sick Return and Synopsis of Week's Sick.See Appendix 1. *Rushmore*

2 Dec. 40. Cold Fine.

Tetanus Toxoid Injections.

When these were recommended some months ago I asked the C.O. of 2/1 Fd. Amb., to ascertain whether those men who had received the first injections at Ingleburn in Dec. 39 would require to have this first injection repeated before giving the final one. On making inquiries he stated that only one more injection would be required for these cases.

However yesterday instructions were received from A.S.M.S. stating that unless the two injections were given at an interval of less than 3 months they were useless. Fortunately this information just arrived in time to enable me to give the majority of these cases a third injection - in another weeks time 3 months would have elapsed since their second injection. 290 men received an injection today. *Rushmore*

3 Dec.

to 5 Dec. Divisional Exercise carried out.

This Bn moved as rear Bn in Bde Box on Day 1. On Day 2 a defensive position was established followed on evening of Day 2-3 by a withdrawal. Comments on this exercise from the medical aspect are of no value as mock casualties were not made from members of the Bn. The weather was bitterly cold accompanied by a strong wind and heavy showers of rain. Sickness fortunately was at a minimum though there were several cases of mild diarrhoea. *Rushmore*

6 Dec.

Bitterly Cold- Fine.

Training of Stretcher Bearers.

The band are now being given further instructions in Stretcher bearing.

Diarrhoea.

6 cases attended the R.A.P. ^{for} ~~the~~ treatment - all cases occurred on the exercise. *Rushmore*

7 Dec.

Cold - Fine.

Tetanus Toxoid Injections.

Further injections were given today.- all toxoid has now been used up and further supplies appear unobtainable. 40 men still require one injection to complete their dosages according to the requirements of the latest instructions.

Blood Groups.

The 50 odd men who have not yet been typed, attended 2/5 Gen Hosp today. All blood groups have now been completed. *Rushmore*

8 Dec. 40

Weekly Sick Return & Synopsis of Week's Sick.

See Appendix 1.

9 Dec. 40. Cold Fine.
 Move to BAGOOSH.
 In preparation for the Bn move to this area the Advance guard left today. It included the hygiene Sgt who was sent forward to attend to any matters relating to the sanitary arrangements for the Bn.
 Medical Boards.
 Arrangements made with 2/2 Fd. Amb to take 13 O.Rs from this Bn. who are awaiting transfer to PALESTINE for Boarding and for operation. These men will be transferred tomorrow.

10, 11 and

12 Dec. 40. Windy Fine.
 Preparations proceeding for the impending movement.

12 Dec.

Cool Fine.
 Major F.O. Chilton became C.O. today.
 Road Party.

Left for its destination this morning taking the greater part of our medical supplies. One orderly and two S.B's accompanied the party.

13 Dec.

Cool Fine.
 Departure of the Main Body for BAGOOSH.
 Movement by train.
 Medical Arrangements.

4 S.B's were allotted to Coys and each bearer carried one haversack containing shell dressings, scissors, plaster etc. Each Orderly carried in addition a first aid kit.
 R.M.O. accompanied the main body.

Arrival at Destination.
 At 2030 hrs without incident or sickness.
 near Party.

Party consisting of one Off. and 36 O.Rs was left behind at AMIRIYA - medical supplies were left with this party. The question of attaching a stretcher bearer was considered but it was deemed to be a greater necessity to have all available bearers at the new destination.

BAGOOSH.

14 Dec. 40.

Cool Windy.
 Camp Area.

Bn. occupies an area of about 3 sq. miles in left fwd area of BAGOOSH BOX. The left flank is sited on the escarpment.
 Medical.

4 Stretcher bearers have been attached to each Coy. Coy sick parades have been instituted owing to the long distance to the R.A.P. One S.B. in each Coy has been given medical supplies, thermometers etc. and has been detailed to treat all sick. Those of a serious nature and those who do not respond to his treatment will attend the Bn sick parade which is held at 1500 hrs daily. These men will be brought to the R.A.P. on Pl. trucks and will carry with them all their equipment.

Two stretchers have been supplied to each Coy.

Hygiene and Sanitation.

Latrines.- Deep trench in all areas which have been built by the Royal Engineers. These are in excellent condition and are fly proof.

Urinals.- Soakage pits surmounted by perforated kerosene tins are in all areas.

Rubbish.- This is taken well away from the camp area and spread out in the sun daily - then raked together and burnt. The excess is burnt.

Flies.- At a minimum.

Water.- Chlorinated at the water point. Water test satisfactory.

Water Allowance.- 1½ galls per man per day.

15 Dec.

An intense dust storm blew all day.

AMIRIYA FORM C 3118

CAMPUSIQUA OFFICER

Unit

YAWB DIALY

INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

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Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II.
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will be prepared in manuscript.

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
	28 Dec.			
	29 Dec.			
	30 Dec.			
	31 Dec.			
	1 Jan.			
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	30 Mar.			
	31 Mar.			

15 Dec. 40. Weekly Sick Return & Synopsis of Week's Sick.

See Appendix 1.

16 Dec.

The Bn is now on 30 mins notice to move fwd into the zone of active operations. Preparations are in progress for the move and all excess kit is being sorted out for return to base. Owing to the information about the intense cold in our future field of operation, all warm clothing possible is to be worn. The long lines of communication are causing much worry and all the available utensils have been brought into use for the carrying of water and extra food. The R.A.P. which of necessity requires a large amount of water is fortunate in possessing a 40 gal water tank which has been specially built for the truck. In addition we have twelve 2 gal water tins.

SIDI BARRANI

17 Dec.

The Move Forward.

The Bn. was moved fwd in M.T. today and embussed at 0500 hrs in bitterly cold weather. We all felt thankful for S.D. uniforms, pullovers, scarves and greatcoats, but even these were insufficient to keep out the biting wind. In the afternoon we bivouaced some five miles west of SIDI BARRANI.

SOLUM. move

18 Dec.

A further by M.T. was made today and we bivouaced at SOLUM for the evening on the plain at the foot of the escarpment. All ranks have cooperated well in using the bare minimum of water and conserving all possible food.

19-20 Dec.

BARDIA Area.

At 1600 hrs the Bn. set forth on a difficult night march of 12 miles climbing the escarpment and then moving in pitch darkness N. Westwards to the gap in the barb wire at the Italian frontier post. We moved into LIBYA and took up our battle position at 0300 hrs 20 Dec. 40. in preparations for the attack on BARDIA, thus relieving the K.R.R. are now 8 miles from the enemy lines.

20-21 Dec.

A further advance was made during the night 20/21 of about 2-3 miles. After taking up our position we were heavily shelled & received our first initiation into true warfare. A hot meal was brought forward from B. Echelon on night 21 Dec. 40 our first hot meal since leaving BAGOOSH and a very welcome one after living on cold bully beef and dry biscuits. Rations are now arriving satisfactorily and from now a hot meal will be sent forward nightly. Water is coming from SIDE BARRANI.

Weekly Sick Return & Synopsis of Weeks Sick.

See Appendix 1.

BARDIA AREA.

22. Dec.

Intensely cold weather with bitter penetrating winds continue and one wonders how long the Troops can stand up to the severe strain of limited water, food and the intense cold quite apart from the many upsets of warfare.

A further advance of 3 miles was made today by the Bn. Regular shelling continues and the R.A.P. personnel have had their share of narrow escapes. The shelling of the area we are now in is very constant as the Italian artillery continue to seek our near by guns. Water is now been obtained from FORT CAPUZZO. The tests indicate that it is pure but unfortunately it is very salty.

At the R.A.P. we have had great difficulty in digging more than 6 inches below ground level. is solid rock beneath. Kerosene tins filled with sand have been brought into use in lieu of sandbags.

23 Dec.

Our water ration has now been set at 1/2 gallon per man per day. However the R.A.P. has been given a generous allowance of 14 gallons per day for carrying out treatment.

BARDIA AREA.

24 Dec.

Christmas Eve & plenty of fireworks to celebrate such an occasion. Heavy shelling by both sides all night 24 Dec. Our Bn has been well and truly peppered but interestingly.

WAR DIARY

2/2 BN. A.I.F.

December 1940.

Comd Officer.

Major. F.O. CHILTON

25 Dec.
26/27 Dec.
28 Dec.
29/31.

Enough casualties are still at a minimum. There has been lucky escapes but the smallness of the number of wounded indicate the degree of safety that is attained by merely getting a few inches below ground level.

Christmas Day and the fireworks continue.

Much warmer a strange change after days of intense cold.

Fresh water is now being received and the ration has been increased to 1 gallon per man.

Bitterly cold once more and an intense dust storm blew all day reducing visibility to a minimum.

Relief by 2200 hrs by 2/7 Bn. and we retired to reserve position some four miles to rear of Brigade H.Q.'s.

Weekly Sick Return. (See appendix 1.)

In reserve and Bn. recuperating.

Now receiving two warm meals daily.

Comments upon the present Campaign.

Battle Casualties (See appendix 2.)

Coldness. - This has been severe, strain on the Troops - the most upsetting thing being the wind which penetrates through the thickest clothing.

Hygiene. ~~Practically every man has~~

The principles of sanitation do not seem to have been neglected and cases of diarrhoea have been few and far between.

Sickness. Practically every man has ^{colic} conga but this is to be expected.

1. A.F. has shown noticeable increase due to the lack of water and insufficient opportunity for treatment.

Influenza - several cases have occurred.

Rheumatism - many cases due to the intense cold.

Morale. With few exceptions, this has been outstandingly good and is a credit not only to the enthusiasm of the Troops but also to their hardiness ^{of} physical fitness.

Medical Organisation. Four stretcher Bearers are attached to each Coy. - their equipment consists of shell dressings, first aid kit and 2 stretchers to each Coy.

Owing to the long distances for stretcher carry M.T. is used whenever possible. For our two forward Coys. when we were facing the enemy one truck was kept near the road between these Coys. for transporting wounded men to the R.A.P. all other transport having been sent to the rear.

The tarpaulin used at the R.A.P. - where I had my three Medical Orderlies, Sergeant and 4 reserve bearers - was found invaluable. Not only did it keep the R.A.P. warm but protected instruments & dressings from the dust & being light proof it rendered treatment at night easy. By means of our camouflage net stretched over the tarpaulin we were able to place bushes all over the net thus making the area completely invisible from the air and difficult to see from the ground from any distance even during daylight.

Treatment within the scope of the R.A.P.

Shock, cleansing of the wound, arrest of haemorrhage, dressings and splints were well within our scope. If necessary owing to the shelter minor operations could have been attempted, but with an ambulance attached night and day and with easy access to the A.D.S. surgery was not only not needed but would have been against interests of the patients.

Readman
Readman

Readman Cpl
R1102/2Bn

WAR DIARY

Army Form C 5118

WAR DIARY

Weekly Sick Report for Week Ending 1 Dec. 40.

Strength	740
Total Sick	193
Av. Daily Sick	27.5
Daily Sick Rate	3.7
" N.D. "	1.2
" Evac Hosp Rate	0.15

Synopsis of the Weeks Sick

The large number reporting on the parades was due to blisters caused by the recent exercise and also to the continuance of the outbreak of diarrhoea.

Malaria.

One case with typical rigor and temp reaching 105° occurred. EVAC.

Infective Arthritis.

One case with similar history 2 years ago.

Painful joints - knees, elbows and small joints of fingers.

No pyrexia. - EVACUATED.

Subacute Appendicitis.

Sudden onset with pain in R.I.F. followed by vomiting

O.E. Tenderness and muscle guarding R.I.F.

Temp 99°

Tongue furred.

EVAC.

Weekly Sick Report for Week Ending 8 Dec. 40.

Strength	740
Total Sick	151
Av. Daily Sick	21.5
Daily Sick Rate	2.9
Daily N.D. Rate	0.8
Dail-Evac Hosp Rate.	0.19

Commonest Diseases.

I A T	12
U R T I	8

Synopsis of Weeks Sick.

1 A.T. 12 Cases of sensis mostly of a mild degree.

U R T I Coryza and sore throats have increased.

Two fresh cases of influenza.

Diarrhoea. Is now at a minimum.

V.D. It is worth recording the lack of these cases during the past weeks.

Weekly Sick Report for Week Ending 15 Dec. 40

Strength	720
Total Sick	54
Av. Daily Sick	7.7
Daily Sick Rate	1.0
Daily N.D. Rate	0.1
Daily-Evac Hosp Rate	0.09

Commonest Diseases

I A.T.	6
U.R.T.I.	3

Synopsis of Weeks Sick

1 A.T. cases are healing well

U.R.T.I. cases continue mildly which is satisfactory when the coolness of the weather is considered

Scabies. One recurrent case was reported and was evacuated.

Urethritis. One recurrent case. No history of ^{coitus} since completion of treatment 4 months ago.

Tonsillitis. Also a recurrent case. Evacuated.

T 101°. L tonsil enlarged and red. L tonsillar gland enlarged.

Ac. Conjunctivitis. Recurrent

Marked redness of conjunctiva L eye with associated blepharospasm ~~associated~~ ~~erated~~ ~~blepharospasm~~.

As when he had initial attack 6 months ago the eye failed to respond to argyrol ~~stearine~~ and hot washes. Pte was evacuated.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit

Commanding Officer

Month and Year

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.

Weekly Sick Report for Week Ending 22 Dec. 40.

Strength	700	<u>Most Prev. Disease.</u>
Total Sick	7	Coryza
Av. Daily Sick	1	
Daily Sick Rate	0.14	
Daily N.D. Rate	0	
Daily-Evac. Hosp. Rate	0.06	

Synopsis of Weeks Sick
1 A.T. One Case immetige back evac. owing to inability to wear pack.
Measles. Sick for two days with headache , sore eyes coryza; rash for one day.

Weekly Sick Report for Week Ending 28 Dec. 40.

Strength	680	<u>Most Prev. Diseases.</u>
Total Sick	63	Coryza
Av. Daily Sick	9	L A T 12
Daily Sick Rate	1.3	
Daily N.D. Rate	0	
Daily Evac Hosp Rate	0.35	Incl 6 Battle Cas. 9

Synopsis of Weeks Sick
 Coryza - large Nos explained by campaign in bitterly cold weather
 L A T - increase explained by by the rigors of the campaign.
 4 of these were severe enough to render the men unfit for service and zero evac.

Influenza.
 Five cases with typical headache and joint pains occurred and were evac.

Infect. Arthritis.
 2 Cases occurred on the same day.
 Each man had a temp. of 99.5° and complained of inability to use the affected joints.

Case 1. R Knee and L Ankle swollen and painful.

Case 2. R Knee swollen and painful.

Fibr/sitis of Lumbar muscles.

Several cases of this complaint have occurred. Responded well to aspirin and hot fements. No relation to shell fire or aerial bombing.

Scabies.

One-recurrent case occurred and was evacuated. ^{extremities}
 Complaint - itchiness at night, especially of illoires and penis.
O.E. → Typical distribution of rash.

Richardson
 Capt.
 APO 2/2 Bn

WAR DIARY.

2/2 BN. A.I.F.APPENDIX 2.DEC.20. 40.NX. 1892 Pte. DASEY. V. ANXIETY NEUROSIS. Evac.A.D.S.

Since entering the front line has been in tears & shivering with fright.

DEC.22.40.NX. 18369. Pte. RAMSAY. C.W. S.I.W. G.S.W. R.FOOT.

States was cleaning Rifle when it discharged.

OE. Entrance wound $\frac{1}{2}$ " Anterior to Medial Malleolus size $\frac{3}{4}$ "

Exit wound at base of (v) toe on lateral aspect of foot.

In size somewhat smaller than entrance wound.

Haemorrhage. - Slight.

Shock. - Slight.

Treatment.

- (1) For shock - hot drinks, blankets.
- (2) H.I. Morphia gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.
- (3) Acriflavine dressing after cleansing of wounds.

143888. Pte. JEFFERSON. N. 1st.(BR) Light.A.A. Battery.

Schrapnel Wound L. shoulder. Evac. A.D.S.

Wounded by Aerial Bombs.

O.E. Large flesh wound L.Deltoid area size 4"X4" extending down to but not involving head of Humerus. Humerus appears intact.

Penetrating wound also through anterior fold of L.axilla

- no exit wound.

Haemorrhage \rightarrow very slight.

Shock. - marked.

Treatment.

- (1) Shock.
- (2) H.I. Morphia gr. 3/8
- (3) Acriflavine dressing after cleansing of wounds
- (4) Trisngular bandages applied & forearm placed in sling.

Pte. PEVITT. G.S.W's.R.Hand& R.Leg. R.T.U.after 36 Hrs.

A bullet exploded in a nearby fire.

O.E. $1\frac{1}{4}$ " penetrating wound R.Hand on Ulnar aspect of (v) Metacarpal . No F.B. No fracture . slight

haemorrhage. Abrasion lower third of R.leg.

Treatment.

- (1) Shock.
- (2) H.I. Morphia Gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.
- (3) A T S 3000 Units (Int)
- (4) Wounds cleansed and Acriflavine dressing applied,

NX.1804. Pte.COOPER.R.E.W. Grenade wound R.Heel.Evac. A.D.S.

Trod on grenade whilst laying signal wire.

O.E. 2" long laceration of heel & 2" deep CALCANEUS seems to shattered.

Shock - marked

Haemorrhage - profuse.

Treatment.

- (1) Shock
- (2) H.I. Morphia gr. 3/8.
- (3) Wound cleansed.
- (4) Acriflavine gauze plug

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

WAR DIARY

OR

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit

Commanding Officer

Month and Year

(Erase heading not required).

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.

DEC.40.

Just before evacuating haemorrhage recommenced and wound plugged once more.

NX.13560 Pte. BROOME. E.A. ANXIETY NEUROSIS Evac. A.D.S.

States his nerves have gone. Has been crying and shivering for 2 days.

NX.9881 Pte. CAMPBELL. W.W. G.S.W. R.Foot. S.I.W.
Evac. to A.D.S.

Loading rifle preparatory to going out on patrol

O.E. Entrance wound between 4 & 5 Metatarsals 1" from digital groove.

Exit wound vertically below entrance wound on Plantar aspect of foot no bony lision.

Treatment.

(i) Shock

(ii) H.I. Morphia gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.

(iii) Wounds cleansed and Acriflavine dressings applied.

4 DEC.40a

Pte. GREEVES. G.S.W. Hands S.I.W. Evac. A.D. S.

Explosive bullet went off in hands

O.E. Thumb) Fingers L.Hand - loss of Terminal Phalanges

Middle) Distal to nail beds

Ring)

Little finger L.Hand - laceration.

R.Hand - lacerated middle & ring fingers with ? fracture terminal phalanx middle finger. Shock - marked

Haemorrhage - excessive from thumb L.Hand.

Treatment.

(i) Pressure pad unsuccessful in controlling bleeding from L. thumb. Bleeding points could not be Ligated and as a consequence a tourniquet was applied for 15 minutes. Haemorrhage was successfully controlled.

(ii) Shock

(iii) H.I. Morphia gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.

(iv) Wounds cleansed and acriflavine dressing applied.

25 DEC.40.

NX. 4363 Pte.ULRICK.W. Schrapnel wounds Neck &

Scalp. evac. A.D.S.

O.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ " entrance wound 1" to left Sterno

Clavicular joint and immediately above Clavicle

wound tracks towards Trachea. Pt. gives a history of pain on swallowing. No. Haemoptysis or Haematemesis

$\frac{1}{4}$ " puncture wound L. frontal region. Shock - slight

Haemorrhage - Slight.

Treatment.

(I) Shock

(ii) H.I. Morphia gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.

(iii) Wounds cleansed and acriflavine dressing applied.

30 DEC.40.

NX. 1298. Pte. CORRIGAN. J.D. S.I.W. G.S.W. R.Foot.

Evac. A.D.S.

Cleaning rifle when it discharged.

O.E. Entrance wound $\frac{1}{2}$ " Anterior to med. malleolus.

Exit wound 1" posterior to Metatarsal arch on central

aspect plantar surface of foot. Shock- slight

Haemorrhage - slight.

Treatment.

(i) Shock

(ii) H.I. Morphia gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.

(iii) Wounds cleansed and acriflavine dressing applied.

*Rechnung Copy
R1102/2Bn*

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

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit.....

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

2/2 Bn., A.I.F. (Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	3		
Captains	9		
Lieutenants	18	/	
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters (Lieut.)	1		
District Officers			
TOTALS	31	/	1

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

2/2 Bn. A.I.F.
 4 DEC 1940
 4 DEC 1940

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

File	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
	Major		CHILTON F.O.	2/2 Bn	No	H.Q. 6 Aust. Div.
	"	Admin. Comd	EDGAR C.R.V.	"	Yes	
	"	Coy. Comd	COHEN P.A.	"	No	On leave
	Capt.	"	GODBOLD G.H.	"	No	M.E.T.S.
	"	Adjnt.	BERTRAM G.A.	"	No	Staff Sch. Haifa
	"	Coy. Comd.	GALDWELL W.B.	"	Yes	
	"	A/Coy. Comd.	HENDRY J.G.	"	"	
	"	Coy. 2 i/e	WOODHILL P.J.	"	No	Law Sch. Gaza
	"	Coy. Comd.	CHAPMAN A.H.	"	Yes	
	"	A/Adjnt.	GOSLETT D.L.B.	"	"	
	"	Coy. Comd.	BUCKLEY A.A.	"	"	
	"	A/Coy. 2 i/e	KING E.H.	"	"	
	Lieut.	Coy. 2 i/e	GREEN C.H.	"	"	
	"	Sigs. Offr	BROCK B.	"	"	
	"	Tpt. Offr.	TODD J.B.	"	"	
	"	Carrier Pl.	BAIRD, A.H.	"	"	
	"	Q.M.	WILSON A.S.	"	"	
	"	Asst Adjnt.	DUNLOP J.W.	"	"	
	"	Pl. Comd.	SWINTON, C.N.	"	"	
	"	"	COX G.S.	"	"	
	"	"	FAIRBROTHER D.N.	"	"	
	"	I.O.	McLELLAN A.A.	"	"	
	"	Pl. Comd.	LOFTUS K.H.	"	"	
	"	A/Coy. 2 i/e	JONES R.E.	"	"	
	"	Pl. Comd.	BAYLIS C.F.W.	"	"	
	"	Pioneer Pl	BURROWS D.S.I.	"	"	
	"	Pl. Comd.	RODERICK J.J.	"	"	
	"	"	WATSON G.C.	"	"	
	"	"	DERBYSHIRE M.	"	"	
	"	"	HOLROYD J.	"	"	
	"	A/A PL	SARGEANT T.	"	"	
	"	Pl. Comd.	CRAWFORD J.J.	"	No	On sick leave

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.		ARMATI L.V.	A.A.M.C.	5.11.39	R.M.O.
Chaplain		READ C.A.	A.Ch.D.	13.2.40	Padre
S/A Major		HOSIER H.	Sal. Army		Chaplain
		MONFRIES B.			Y.M.C.A.

2/2 BN. A.I.F.
 (Unit.)

John Dunlop Lieut.
 (Signature of Commander) 2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

7 DEC 1940
 (Date of Despatch.)

16 Aust. Inf. Bde. - 6 Aust. Div.
 (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/2 BN. A.I.F. (Unit)

7 DEC 1940 19 (Date)

(To be furnished by all units of Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Infantry, Royal Army Veterinary Corps, Royal Army Pay Corps, Army Educational Corps, Corps of Military Police, and all Headquarters units).

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.	5		1
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants	35	3	
Staff Serjeants			
Serjeants			
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	57		4
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	634		19
TOTALS	731	* 3	* 25

* These Totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt	Aux Army Pay Corps		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
Nx 7171	Sgt.	Brazier B.S.	2/2 Bn.	
Nx 1443	Cpl	Duggan N.J.	"	
Nx 1579	Sgt	Cook A.D.	"	
Nx 1955	"	Greney F.C.	"	

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

2/2 Bn., A.I.F. (Unit)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks,	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishment).
*			
*			
Lieut.-Colonels			1
Majors	3		
Captains	9		
Lieutenants	18		
2nd Lieutenants			
Quartermasters	1		
(Lieut)			
TOTALS	31		1

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major	C.O.	CHILTON F.O.	2/2 Bn.	Yes	
"	2 i/c.	EDGAR C.R.V.	"	"	
"	Coy. Comd.	COHEN P.A.	"	Yes	
Capt.	Coy. Comd.	GODBOLD G.H.	"	No	M.E.T.S.
"	Adjnt.	BERTRAM G.A.	"	"	Staff Sch. Haifa
"	Coy. Comd.	CALDWELL W.B.	"	Yes	
"	A/Coy. Comd.	HENDRY J.G.	"	"	
"	Coy. 2 i/c.	WOODHILL P.J.	"	No	H.Q. 1st. Corps.
"	Coy. Comd.	CHAPMAN A.H.	"	Yes	
"	A/Adjnt.	GOSLETT D.L.B.	"	"	
"	Coy. Comd.	BUCKLEY A.A.	"	"	
"	A/Coy. 2 i/c	KING B.H.	"	"	
Lieut.	Coy. 2 i/c.	GREEN C.H.	"	"	
"	Sigs. Offr	BROCK B.	"	"	
"	Pvt. Offr.	TODD J.B.	"	"	
"	Carrier Pl.	BAIRD A.H.	"	"	
"	Q.M.	WILSON A.S.	"	"	
"	Asst. Adjnt.	DUNLOP J.W.	"	"	
"	I/O.	SWINTON C.N.	"	"	
"	Pl. Comd.	COX. G.S.	"	"	
"	"	FAIRBROTHER D.N.	"	"	
"	"	McLELLAN A.A.	"	"	
"	"	LOPTUS K.H.	"	"	
"	A/Coy. 2 i/c.	JONES R.E.	"	"	
"	Pl. Comd.	BAYLIS C.F.W.	"	"	
"	Pioneer Pl.	BURROWS D.S.I.	"	"	
"	Pl. Comd.	RODERICK J.J.	"	"	
"	"	WATSON G.C.	"	"	
"	"	DERBYSHIRE M.	"	"	
"	"	HOLROYD J.	"	"	
"	A/A Pl.	SERGEANT T.	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive rank, and higher temporary rank, if held.	Personal Number.	Name and Initials.	Corps	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.		ARMATI L.V.	A.A.M.C.	5.11.39	R.M.O.
Chaplain		READ C.A.	A.Ch.D.	13.2.40	Padre
S/A Major		HOSIER H.	SAL.ARMV		Chaplain
		MONFRIES B.			Y.M.C.A.

2/2 Bn., A.I.F. (Unit.)

J.W. Dunlop
A/Adjnt (Signature of Commander.) 2/2 Bn

14 Dec. 40 (Date of Despatch.)

16 Aust. Inf. Bde. - 6 Aust. Div. (Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2/2 Bn. A.I.F. (Unit) 14 Dec. 1945 (Date).

(To be furnished by all units and all Headquarter units.)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			1
W.Os. Class II.	4		2
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	37	5	
Serjeants			
Corporals	58		3
Troopers, Privates, &c.	603		50
TOTALS	702	5	56

* These totals should agree with the details shown in Part D on page 2 of Army Form W.3009.

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pay Sgt.	A. A. Pay Corps.		
Mail Orderly	A. A. Postal Unit.		

Part C. Description of other ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
NX 7171	Sgt.	Brazier E.S.	2/2 Bn.	
NX 1443	Cpl.	Duggan N.J.	"	
NX 1579	Plt.	Cook A.D.	"	
NX 1955	"	Greney F.C.	"	

2/2 Bn A.I.F.

Unit.

War Diary

Army Form W. 3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers															
Butchers															
Carpenters and Joiners															
Clerks															
Despatch Riders															
Draughtsmen (topo)															
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.															
Electricians															
Farriers															
Fitters															
Masons															
Painters and Decorators															
Plumbers and Gasfitters															
Saddlers and Harness Makers															
Signallers															
Storemen technical															
Vickers Machine Gunners															
Cooks															
General duty personnel					5			5	1	2			3	50	56
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A.)					5			5	1	2			3	50	56

2/2 Bn A.I.F.

Unit.

J. W. Dunbar Lewis
A.I. Adj. 2/2 Bn.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 14 Dec. 40

16 Aust. Inf. Bde. - 6 Aust. Div.

D.3459.

Bde., Divn., Area, &c., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

..... **2/2 Bn., A.I.F.** (Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1 Ranks.	2 Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
..... *
..... *
..... *
..... *
Lieut.-Colonels .....	.....	.....	1
Majors.....	3	.....	.....
Captains	9	.....	.....
Lieutenants	17	.....	1
2nd Lieutenants .....	.....	.....	.....
Quartermasters .....	.....	.....	.....
District Officers (Lieut)	1	.....	.....
TOTALS	30	.....	2

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary (e.g., Major-General, Brigadier, etc).

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	LAWSON	H.B.	2/1 Fd. Regt. 25 Dec. 40	Liaison Offr.
.....
.....
.....

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
.....
.....
.....
.....

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

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

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Major	C.O.	CHILTON F.O.	2/2 Bn.	Yes	
"	2 i/c.	EDGAR C.R.V.	"	"	
"	Coy. Comd.	COHEN P.A.	"	"	
Capt.	"	GODBOLD G.H.	"	"	
"	Adj.	BERTRAM G.A.	"	No	Staff Sch. Haifa
"	Coy. Comd.	CALDWELL W.B.	"	Yes	
"	"	HENDRY J.G.	"	"	
"	2 i/c	WOODHILL P.J.	"	No	H.Q., 1 Aust. Corps.
"	Coy. Comd.	CHAPMAN A.H.	"	Yes	
"	A/Adj.	GOSLETT D.L.B.	"	"	
"	Coy. 2 i/c.	BUCKLEY A.A.	"	"	
"	"	KING E.H.	"	"	
Lieut.	Sigs. Offr.	BROCK B.	"	"	
"	Tpt.	TODD J.B.	"	"	
"	Carrier Pl	BAIRD A.H.	"	"	
"	Q.M.	WILSON A.S.	"	"	
"	Asst. Adj.	DUNLOP J.W.	"	"	
"	I.O.	SWINTON C.N.	"	"	
"	Pl. Comd.	COX G.S.	"	"	
"	"	FAIRBROTHER D.N.	"	"	
"	"	McLELLAN A.A.	"	"	
"	"	LOFTUS K.H.	"	"	
"	A/Coy. 2 i/c	JONES R.E.	"	"	
"	Pl. Comd.	BAYLIS C.F.W.	"	"	
"	"	BURROWS D.S.I.	"	"	
"	Pioneer Pl	RODERICK J.J.	"	"	
"	Pl. Comd.	WATSON G.C.	"	"	
"	"	DERBYSHIRE M.	"	"	
"	"	HOLROYD J.	"	"	
"	"	SARGEANT T.	"	"	

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Capt.		ARMATI L.V.	A.A.M.C.	5.11.39	R.M.O.
Chaplain		READ C.A.	A.Ch.D	13.2.40	Padre
Lieut.		LAWSON H.B.	2/1 Fd. Regt.	25 Dec. 40	Liaison Offr.

2/2 Bn., A.I.F.

(Unit.)

38 Dec. 40

(Date of Despatch.)

16 Aust. Inf. Bde. - 6 Aust. Div.

(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

(Signature of Commander.)

2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

Unit.

Wardlaw

Army Form W 3009
(page 2)

Part D. Detail of Surplus or Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W. 3009.

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, ETC.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.							REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.		
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour Sergeants.	Staff Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusillers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusillers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																	
Butchers																	
Carpenters and Joiners																	
„ (trained in wheeling duties).																	
Clerks																	
Despatch Riders																	
Draughtsmen (topo)																	
Drivers H.T. and/or I.C.																	
Electricians																	
Farriers																	
Fitters																	
Masons																	
Painters and Decorators																	
Plumbers and Gasfitters																	
Saddlers and Harness Makers																	
Saddle Tree Makers																	
Signallers																	
Storemen technical																	
Vickers Machine Gunners																	
Wheelers																	
General duty personnel					5				5	1	2					79	82
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).								5								82	

2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

Unit.

Date of Despatch 28 Dec. 40

W. Dunlop
Signature of Commander.

16 Aust. Inf. Bde - 6 Aust. Div.
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

Dear

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

ROUTINE ORDERS

PART 1. NO 245.

AMIRIYA.

8 Dec. 40.

BY C.R.V. EDGAR, ADMIN. COMD. 2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

1. DUTIES

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) Duty Coy to mount Retreat 8 Dec. | "A" Coy. |
| Next for duty. | "B" Coy. |
| Ord. Offr. | Lieut. K.H. Loftus. |
| Next for duty. | Lieut. J.J. Roderick. |
| Ord. Sgt. | Cpl. J.R. Webb. |
| Next for duty. | Sgt. W.A. Bell. |
| Duty Offr. | Lieut. T. Sargeant. |
| Next for duty. | Lieut. C.F.W. Baylis. |
| Reserve Pls. | "B" Coy. |
| Next for duty. | "C" Coy. |

BRIGADE DUTIES to mount at Retreat 8 Dec 40.

- (b) As notified Bn.R.O. 244 7 Dec 40.

2. 2/1 C.C.S. RETURN OF PERSONNEL TO UNITS.

The following procedure will be observed for movement of personnel back to Units when discharged fit from 2/1 C.C.S. :-

2/1 C.C.S. will notify Formations or Units by signal through D.R. leaving at approx. 1000 hrs the previous day, quoting numbers by Units.

Formations or Units will arrange tpt to report 2/1 C.C.S. at 1030 hrs to collect. (D.R.O. 1099.)

3. DUTIES MAINTENANCE OF M.T. VEHICLES.

Damage has occurred to Big Ends and Main Bearings when vehicles have been parked in splinter-proof pits on steep slopes, in such a way that the oil has drained away from the oil pump. When engines have been started the bearings have run dry quickly. This damage is to be avoided by providing gentle slopes in anti-splinter pits. Where this is not possible, vehicles will be parked so that oil runs to, and not away from, the pump. (D.R.O. 1100.)

4. MAILBAGS- IMPROPER USE OF.

A report has been received that Mailbags are being used by Units as containers, floormats, etc. Disciplinary action will be taken in any case where Mailbags are detained or used in an improper manner. (D.R.O. 1101.)

W. Dunlop Lewis
Cpt.
for Adj. 2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

1. DUTIES.

(a) Duty Coy to mount Retreat 10 Dec. 40. "C" Coy.
Next for duty. "D" Coy.
Ord. Offr. Lieut. A.A. McLellan.
Next for duty. Lieut. G.C. Watson.
Ord. Sgt. Sgt. D.C. Peirce.
Next for duty. Sgt. W.J. Gilbert.
Duty Offr. Lieut. D.S.I. Burrows.
Next for duty. Lieut. C.F.W. Baylis.
Local Reserve Pls. "D" Coy.
Next for duty. "A" Coy.

2. SMALL PARTIES OF TROOPS TRAVELLING BY TRAIN.

In order to avoid over crowding as much as possible, and to concentrate troops, travelling to certain trains, the following arrangements have been made :-

- (a) A train from the WESTERN DESERT leaves MERSA MATRUH (HATAWA) at 1600 hrs. daily and runs to CAIRO arriving at 0545 hrs. next day. Troops for Canal Zone will travel by this train and after breakfast at E.F.I. Canteen at BAB EL HADID Barracks will travel in a reserved coach by train leaving CAIRO at 0710 hrs.
- (b) In the return direction a train leaves CAIRO at 2200 hrs. daily, due at MERSA MATRUH (HATAWA) at 1120 hrs. next day. Troops from Canal Zone will travel by trains leaving PORT SAID at 1840 hrs., SUEZ at 1720 hrs., and ISMAILIA at 1959 hrs.
- (c) Troops for stations between ALEXANDRIA and EL HAMMAM will travel from CAIRO by train leaving at 1230 hrs., changing at ALEXANDRIA into train departing at 1550 hrs., due EL HAMMAM at 1819 hrs.
- (d) Third class coaches are attached daily to trains leaving CAIRO at 0710 hrs., and 1830 hrs. to PORT SAID, and connecting trains to SUEZ. Troops for PALESTINE will travel on 1830 train. A reserved coach is provided on the PALESTINE train.
All personnel travelling by these trains to be provided with 3rd. Class warrants and/ or half fare vouchers for portion of journey not covered by leave warrant. At least 48 hrs. notice of small parties should be given to R.T.O. KANTARA, and H.Q. Movement Control, Canal Area, in order to make necessary adjustments at KANTARA.
Any parties arriving without notice may be refused on-
trainment, or alternatively travel in the unreserved portion of the train and be subject to any subsequent overcrowding.
- (e) In all cases as much advice must be given as possible, certainly not less than 24 hrs., to ensure adequate arrangements.

(D.R.O.1103.).

3. AUST. COMFORTS FUND, XMAS GIFT.

H.Q. 6 Aust. Div. advise that the A.C.F. has a Xmas gift for every member of the A.I.F.
Arrangements for issue will be notified later.

JWB

4. The following Div. order is repeated and will be impressed on all transport drivers.
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

Many cases have recently occurred in which Commanding Officers have held drivers not to blame for collisions on the grounds that the Vehicle with which they had collided was at fault. In many cases it is considered that the drivers could have avoided collision in spite of the bad driving of the other vehicle. Collisions have taken place when the W.D. vehicle has been overtaking another vehicle which has turned to the left without warning. The moment to pass another vehicle must be carefully and correctly chosen by the overtaking vehicle.

A large portion of accidents are also due to excessive speed. Attention is drawn to En.R.O. 240 (para 6) of 1 Dec.40.

Risks cannot be taken with impunity in this country. The Military driver i/c of a W.D. vehicle is not entitled to assume that the other drivers will always take the correct action in an emergency, and they should accordingly drive with corresponding care.

It must be impressed on all drivers that only in exceptional cases can a driver involved in a collision be entirely blameless.

C.Os will in future give such cases the fullest consideration before deciding that the overtaking W.D. Vehicle is NOT to blame. If a driver is not considered blameless it is the duty of the Commanding Officer to take disciplinary action.

It cannot be too strongly pointed out that an endeavour to save a few seconds or minutes in traffic may result in a vehicle being immobilised for days, even weeks, with a consequent loss to the efficiency of the forces. The momentary carelessness of a driver may mean that reinforcements and supplies are not delivered to the fighting forces at a time when they may be urgently required, or that an essential vehicle is out of action. (D.R.O.1105)

W. Dunlop
Capt.
Adj. 2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

N O T I C E S

LOST - STEEL HELMET

A steel helmet marked NX 1129, Sigan. LOCKYER, H.H. was lost in 16 Aust. Inf. Bde area during Div. Exercise 3-5 Dec. If found to be returned to the S.H.Q. 6 Dec. 40.

FOUND.

During Div. Exercise 3-5 Dec., one belt waist, one bayonet frog, marked NX. 9847, WAIGHTS G.B. also one Bron Mag. Enquires 2/1 Bn.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

.....
ROUTINE ORDERS PART I, NO.248 by
MAJOR C. R. V. EDGAR, ADMIN. COMD. 2/2 BN.
.....

Field
14 Dec. 40.

1. BDE. DUTIES.

Bde. Duties as detailed in message 0506 of 14 Dec. will continue to be supplied by "D" Coy every third day until further notice.

2. MEDICAL.

All except urgent cases will be treated by Coy. S.B.

Cases deemed untreatable at Coys. will report to R.A.P. 1500 hr daily. Personnel so reporting will bring all equipment, including blankets.

The S.B. conducting Coy sick parades will NOT be detailed for any other duty.

3. LEAVE.

Leave is cancelled until further notice.

4. STRENGTH STATES.

Coys. are reminded that Strength States must reach Bn.H.Q. by 0700 hrs daily, they can be sent by phone.

These states should follow the form of A.F.W. 3006 and need only show the figures provided for on same.

Detailed parade states can be sent in later to reach Bn. H.Q. by 0930. It is hoped to be able shortly to abandon the latter.

5. AMMUNITION RETURNS.

Coys are reminded that returns of ammunition expended for the 24 hrs. ending 1200 hrs is due at Bn. H.Q. at 1300 hrs. daily.

6. CHURCH.

R.C. service will be held in the Bn. H.Q. area approx 200 yds south west of the carrier sec. at 0945 Sunday 15 Dec 40.

7. LAUNDRY.

No arrangements as yet. Coys. will be notified as early as possible but meantime every effort should be made to conserve enough water to wash socks and underclothes, and advantage taken of days free from blown sand to dry same.

8. MAIL.

Mail delivered to "I" sec. will be sent as opportunity occurs.

J. D. ...
for Adj. 2/2 Bn. A.I.F. *Leant*
Capt.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION No. 70.

AMIRIYA.
8 Dec. 40.

MOVEMENT OF BATTALION ADVANCE PARTY 9 DEC. 40.

1. An Advance party will proceed from 2/2 Bn. 9 Dec. 40 and move under Bde arrangements.

2. Composition - Party will consist of 7 Officers and 43 O.Rs as follows :-

<u>Coy.</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>O.Rs.</u>
H.Q.	Major P.A. Cohen Licut. B. Brock	Staff Sgt. Richards A/Sgt. Heath Sgt. Carlo. 6 N.C.Os (1 reliable N.C.O. per platoon) 4 Ptes (including 1 cook) 2 "I" Sec. Ptes and Cpl Elks.
Bn.H.Q.	Licut. C.N. Swinton	
A Coy.	Licut. K.H. Loftus	3 N.C.Os. (1 per Pl) 1 O.R.
B. Coy.	Licut. R.E. Jones	3 N.C.Os (1 per Pl). 1 O.R.
C. Coy.	Licut. C.H. Green	3 N.C.Os (1 per Pl.) 1 O.R.
D. Coy.	Capt. E.H. King.	3 N.C.Os (1 per Pl.) 1 O.R.

In addition, Officers will take their batmen and if necessary employ them as orderlies.

3. S.P. - Flagpole at Brigade.

4. S.T. - 0835hrs 9 Dec. 40.

5. Route - Cairo - Alexandria road - Matruh Road to K. 40 (75573308) (Indicated by a tent on SOUTH side of road with red and white Post Office flag flying).
Advance party to R.V. at Kilo 40 at 1400 hrs 9 Dec. 40 when it will be met by representatives of Br. Bn. which we are relieving.

6. TRANSPORT - 4 30Cwt A.A.S.C. lorries will report to Bn.H.Q. at 0800hrs 9 Dec. 40. for transport of personnel. This transport to be sent back as soon as debussing completed.

7. RATIONS AND WATER. Unconsumed portion of day's rations will be carried by party.
Licut. Griffiths will arrange with Major Oxley-Boyle Queens Regt. for rations for subsequent day until arrival of main body.
Two days' Reserve petrol rations and water, and cooking utensils will be taken.

8. KIT - Officers may take a valise and small suitcase, total weight, 50lbs.
O.Rs - Will take packs only at present. Their sea kit bags will be stored in Kit Store and their universal kit bags will be marked and left with Battalion.

9. BLANKETS - Blankets will be rolled in bundles and carried with the/Party


party.

Owing to the prevalence of blood sucking camel ticks, blankets will be sunned every day, weather permitting.

SECURITY - Those ranks armed with a rifle will carry it and 50 rounds, S.A.A. at all times.

DRESS - Marching order less packs.

F.S. Uniforms and felt hats will be worn during the movement. Steel helmets will be carried on left shoulder.


Capt.
Adj. 2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

2/2 Bn. ADMIN. INSTRUCTION No. 69.

2" MORTAR PRACTICE

1. Selected personnel of 2/2 Bn will move to Range Sunday 8 Dec. 40 and fire 2" Mortar.
2. A.B.C & D Coys will each select six teams of two men each.
3. Personnel selected will report to Lieut. Fairbrother who will be Range Officer at B Coy H.Q. at 0900hrs, 8 Dec. Party will return to Camp at approximately 1300hrs.
4. The following N.C.Os will also report to Lieut. Fairbrother and act as instructors :-

H.Q. Coy. - Sjts. Ryan & Coyle. Cpls Crossman & Nugent.

5. Each Coy will make the following equipment and ammunition available.

<u>2" Mortars.</u>	<u>BOMBS FUSE 139.</u>	<u>BOMBS FUSE 151.</u>
A Coy. All on issue	13	23
B Coy " " "	13	23
C Coy " " "	--	36
D Coy " " "	+-	36.

6. Each man will fire 3 rounds.
7. Tpt Offr will arrange for one 30cwt truck to report to each rifle Coy and one 150wt to report to Sig. Pl. at 0830hrs. O.C. Coys will ensure that tpt is loaded and ready to move off on time.
8. O.C. Sig. Pl. will provide four signallers, two D.5s and sufficient cable to run from firing mound to beach - approx. 1000x ..
9. Range Officer will ensure that red flags are prominently displayed on range boundaries while practice is in progress and that two scouts are posted on high ground on N.E. boundary to warn possible trespassers

W. R. ... Capt.
Adj. 2/2 Bn. A.I.F.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

S E C R E T.

2/2 BN.

AMIRIYA
10 Dec. 40

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO..71

R E A R P A R T Y.

1. A Rear Party consisting of 1 Officer 1 Sgt. and 35 O.R's will remain in AMIRIYA CAMP after the remainder of Bn. has moved out.

2. DUTY.

To guard accomodation stores until handed over, and , if necessary, dispose of Universal Kit Bags.

3. COMPOSITION.

O.C. Lieut. D.N. Fairbrother
Sgt. Sgt. W.J. Gilbert
Coys. will detail the balance of the party as follows :-

	Cpl. or L/Cpl.	:	O.R's	
A	1	:	7	
B	-	:	8	(Including Lieut. D.N. Fairbrother's batman)
C	1	:	7	
D	-	:	8	
H.Q.	1	:	2	{ 1 cook 1 Water duties man with purifying and testing equipment.)

Where possible personnel will be selected from Light Duty men and must be reliable and trustworthy.

Complete Sections will NOT be detailed.

4. NOMINAL ROLLS.

Coys. will forward Nominal Rolls of selected personnel, to reach this H.Q. by 1000 hrs 11 Dec. 40.

5. RATIONS.

Details to be notified later.

Q.M. will arrange for cooking utensils to be left.

6. SECURITY.

Coys. will ensure that each man armed with a rifle is in possession of 50 rds. S.A.A.

L.B. Gosbell
Adj. 2/2 Bn. . . A.I.F. Capt

War Diary

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

SECRET
14 Dec. 40.

PATROLS.

Apart from the necessity of patrolling to guard against possible enemy surprise, the opportunity will be taken to obtain valuable practise in patrol work.

The following patrols will be sent out:-

1. At dawn each day, one sec Carriers, to patrol the Bn. front to a depth of 2000 yds forward of the A.Tk obstacle.
2. Daily, the normal dawn patrols by each of "A", "B" and "C" Coys.
3. During each night, at least three lateral patrols, to cover area between themselves and sub units on left and right by each of "A", "B" and "C" Coys.
4. Reconnoitring and fighting patrols as Appendix A No.1 attached. Further appendices will be issued daily.

J. W. Dunlop *Leavel*
 for Adjt., AMAP. Capt.

DISTRIBUTION.

- "A" Coy.
- "B" Coy.
- "C" Coy.
- "D" Coy.
- Carrier Pl.
- "I" Sec.
- Duty Offr.
- PIPO
- PEGO
- CAMO
- War Diary.

APPENDIX "A" No.1

SECRET

TO
PATROL INSTRUCTION 14 Dec.

14 Dec. 40

TYPE OF PATROL	Coy. to PROVIDE	T A S K	TIME OUT	ROUTE OUT	TIME IN	ROUTE IN	PASS WORD	NEIGHBOURING UNITS
Reconn- aitring	"B" Coy	To report.- Are there any enemy in re-entrant 75323273	2000	Through own Coy lines	2200	Through "C" Coy	Already notified	Units on right are sending patrols to their own front continually through night.
Reconn- aitring	"A" Coy	To report.- Are there any enemy in area of 127. 75193281	0100	do	0300	Through "B" Coy	do	
Fighting	"D" Coy	To obtain identification of any enemy in the area north of the escarpment within 1500 yds of A.Tk obstacle	2300	Through "A" Coy	0130	Through "A" Coy	do	

5-11

16 AUST. INF. BDE. C. O. NO. 2.

Reference Maps: SALUM & SIDI BARRANI

Sheets 1/100,000.

INFORMATION

(1) CAPPUZO has been captured.

(2) Three of our men-of-war entered BARDIA Harbour this morning and sank three ships.

They were heavily fired on by S.A. fire.

7 Armd. Bde. have penetrated the defensive wire protecting BARDIA from South.

BARDIA is burning fiercely, and an intercepted Italian message states:-
"Abandon material which cannot be lifted by air".

At 1100 hrs this morning 100 M.T. moved North.

It would appear from the above most probable that BARDIA will fall into our hands in the near future.

INTENTION

(3) 16 Aust. Inf. Bde. Gp. will move to-morrow to area below escarpment between SALUM and track junc. 52803704.

METHOD

(4) Move will be carried in accordance with March Table, Appendix A attached.

(5) Bn. O. Gps. will form up on road facing west with head at S.P. at 0645 hrs. in the order shown in Appendix A. Bns. Comd. and 2/ i/c's Coys. will form this Gp.

ACK.

J. Campbell
.....Major.
B.M. 16 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Issued by hand at 1945 hrs.

DISTRIBUTION: Copy No. 1 - 2/1 Bn
2 - 2/2 Bn
3 - 2/3 Bn
4 - A.Tk. Coy
5 - Comp. Coy A.A.S.C.
6 - 2/1 Fd. Amb.
7 - Tpt Det 7 R.T. Bn.
8 - H. . S.D.F.

Copy No 9 - Bde. Comd
10 - B.M.
11 - S.C.
12 - T.O.
13-18 - File
19-20 - War Diary.

MARCH TABLE.

APPENDIX A.

Serial. No.	Date.	Unit.	S.P.	S.T.	Destination.	Remarks.
1	18	2/3 Bn	1000 yds W. of level crossing on road which is immediately S. of Trig 61.	0500	In area on left of or astride road SIDI-BARRANI - SALUM in area shown in para 3 (to be marked by unit guide on road)	(1) M.P. of 7 R.F. Bn. will lead 2/3 Bn carrying all marching personnel, blankets and rations of this unit. It will move on a front of 3 vehicles, the centre down the main road. On debussing 2/3 Bn personnel it will return and embus marching personnel of 2/2 Bn and then come back for 2/1 Bn. Marching personnel 2/2 and 2/1 Bns will be dispersed both sides of road ready to embus at following times :- 2/2 Bn - 0945 hrs 2/1 Bn - 1500 hrs. (2) Density - 200 yds. Speed - 18 m.i.h.
2	"	Rde. H.Q.	"	0545		
3	"	2/1 Fd Amc		0610		(3) Lieut. Wilson will control movement at S.P.
4		2/2 Bn (less marching personnel)		0635		(4) Lieut Griffiths will control debussing and arrange turning circuit
5		2/1 Bn (less marching personnel)		0710		
6		A.T.k. Coy		0740		

APPENDIX "A" No.1

SECRET

PATROL INSTRUCTION 14 Dec.

14 Dec. 40

SERIAL	TYPE OF PATROL	COY. TO PROVIDE	TASK	TIME OUT	ROUTE OUT	TIME IN	ROUTE IN	PASS ORD.	NEIGHBOURING UNITS
1.	Reconnaissance	"B" Coy	To report. - Are there any enemy in re-entrant 75323273	2000	Through own Coy lines	2200	Through "C" Coy	Already notified. To be notified separately	Units on right are sending patrols to their own front continually through night.
2.	Reconnaissance	"A" Coy	To report. - Are there any enemy in area of 127. 75193281	0100	Through "A" Coy	0300	Through "A" Coy	do	
3.	Fighting	"D" Coy	To obtain identification of any enemy in the area north of the escarpment within 1500 yds of A. Tk obstacle to a depth of 200 yds along the southern part.	2300	Through "A" Coy	0130	Through "A" Coy	do	

Inc

50 x 200
150 x 200

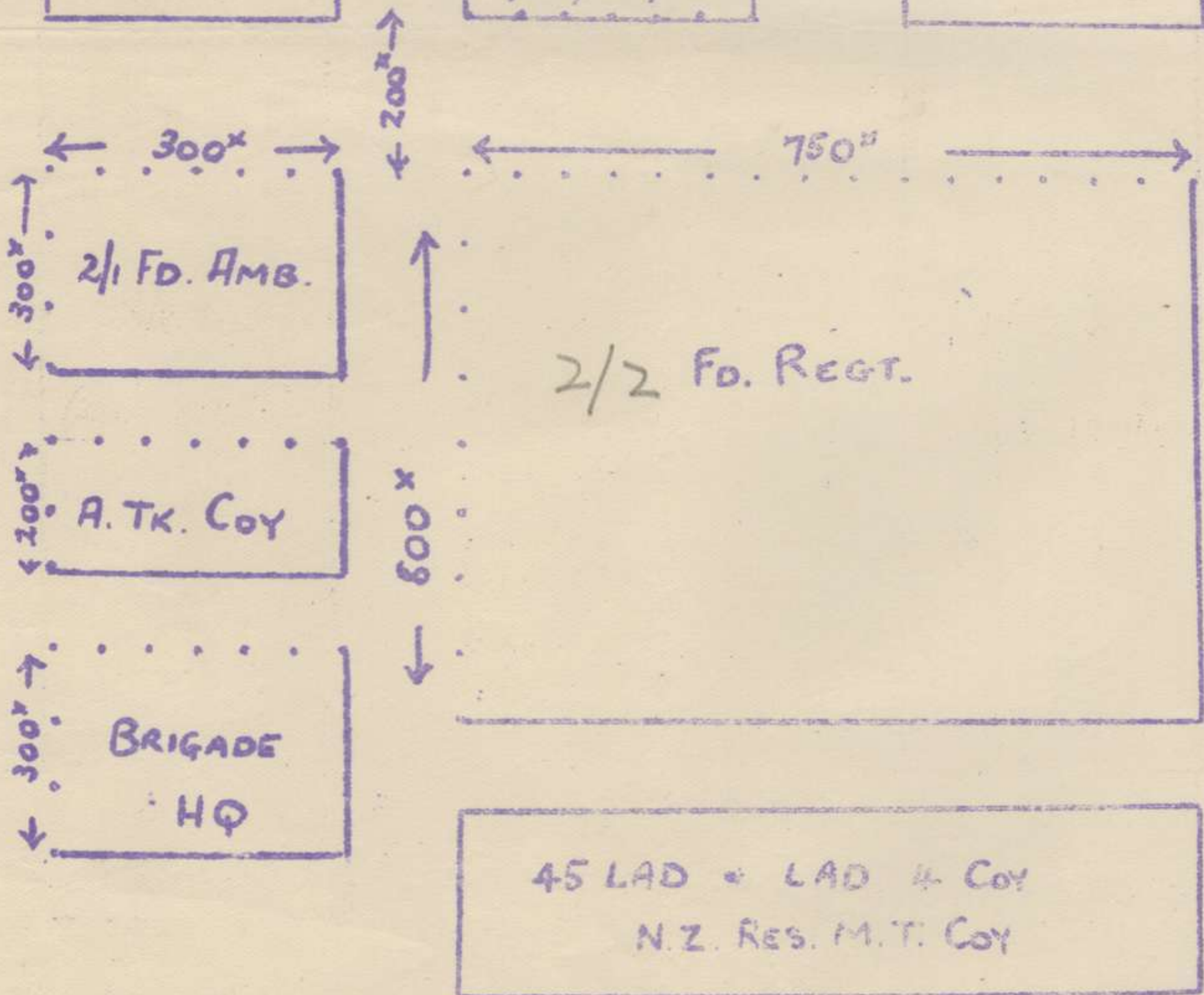
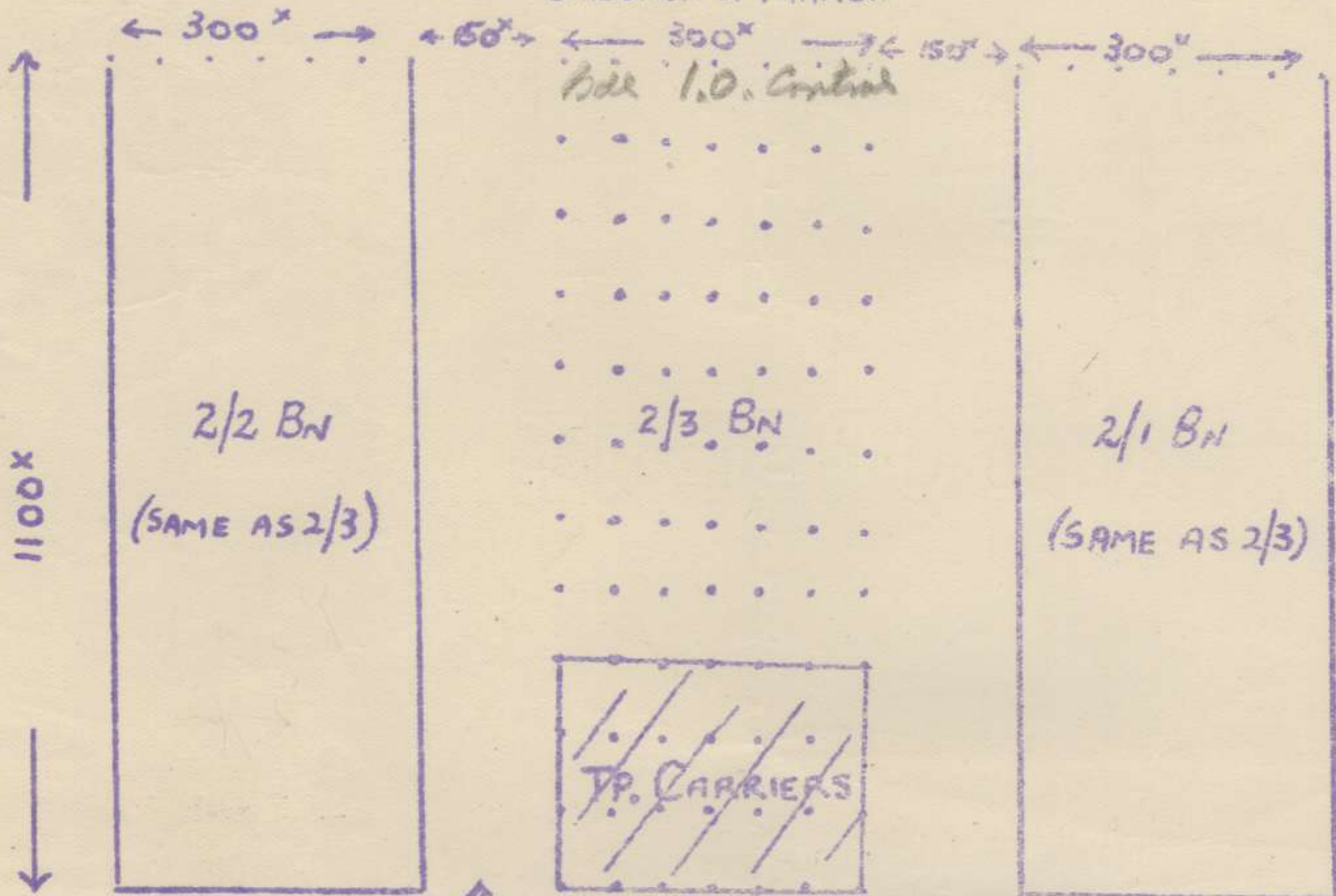
TRACE "A"

ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH 16 AUST INE BDE

O.O No 1 OF 16 DEC 40



DIRECTION OF MARCH



2/2/40
SECRET

COPY NO. *2*...

16 Dec. 40.

Ref. Maps: MATRUH & SIDI BARRANI, RAS EL KANAYIS

1/100,000.

INFORMATION

- (1) Information received at 1400 hrs that CAPUZZO and SALUM had been evacuated by Italians who left 6 aeroplanes at CAPUZZO and 6 guns at SALUM. They have blown up the road leading up the pass out of SALUM.
- (2) Our own Armd. formations are astride road BADIA-OBREUK.
- (3) Comp. Coy A.A.S.C. came under Comd. 16 Aust. Inf. Bde. at 1700 hrs 15 Dec, 4 N.Z. Res. M.T. Coy come u/c this Bde at 1500 hrs to-day.

INTENTION

- (4) 16 Aust. Inf. Bde. Gp. will move to-morrow, 17 Dec., from present location to vicinity cross tracks 61103345, *SIDI BARRANI*

METHOD.

(5) The move will be made in column of route whilst on road, in accordance with March Table, Appendix "B" attached hereto, and on leaving SIWA road at 69453225, the desert formation laid down in Appendix "A" will be adopted.

(6) Route

From present locations along MATRUH Road to Kilo 7 (T.C.P.) across South of MATRUH defences to SIWA Rd. at Kilo 6 (T.C.P.), thence S.W. along SIWA RD. to point where telegraph line leaves road to west at approx 69453225, thence follow above mentioned telegraph line to gulch 65603253, thence across desert on true bearing 282° to west junc. 61103345.

This route to be notified as widely as possible to ensure that no-one becomes lost in the desert.

(7) Guides to lay out desert formation.

Each unit will arrange for 3 guides in own M.T. to report at 0300 hrs to Capt. R.W. Knights where Tank Obstacle crosses MATRUH Road. Two vehicles per unit required.

(8) TRAFFIC CONTROL POINTS (T.C.P.'s)

(a) See Appendix B for locations.

(b) Bde. Sig. Offr will arrange for 3 D.R.'s for this duty to report to Capt. Knights at time and place shown in para (7). These D.R.'s will remain in posn until tail of 2/2 Fd. Regt. has passed this post.

(9) Troop Carrying M.T.

- (a) 33 lorries 4 N.Z. Res. M.T. Coy will report to each Bn at 1515 hrs to-day.
- (b) These vehicles will carry 2 days' rations for every man in unit, plus Unit blankets in addition to 16-18 soldiers.
- (c) Res. M.T. Coy is self-supporting in rations, water and petrol.

(10) Control and Direction of movement of Desert Formation (See Appendix A)

- (a) Bde. I.O. will display on his car, which will move 50 yds in front of centre of 2/3 Bn., a BLUE Flag when the formation is to move, which it will continue to do until the RED flag is displayed instead
 - (b) Bde. I.O. will be responsible for direction of march. He will provide himself with a Sun Compass.
 - (c) In addition to the halt necessitated by forming up, a halt for lunch will be made from 0900-0920 hrs. An additional halts will be for checking and for not more than 10 minutes. NO one will halt except at the above times and then only on display of Red Flag.
- (11) Speed of movement when in desert formation will be 10 m.i.h.

(12) Breakdowns.

- (a) L.A.D. will move in rear of formation and repair breakdown vehicles and assist to direct them fwd.
- (b) Units are responsible for collecting their own stragglers and whenever a vehicle breaks down one vehicle will be detailed to assist with it.
- (c) As insufficient maps are available for issue to all M.T. vehicles, drivers will be informed that in the event of becoming isolated they will move generally westward and will bear right along the edge of the escarpment, along which they will probably locate British Units.

(13) Security

Units will ensure that all ranks destroy their private letters.

ADMINISTRATION

(14) Top. (a) Special attention must be given to maintenance of vehicles

- (b) Carriers will move independently in unit areas and make every effort to avoid rocky outcrops.
- (c) M.C.'s will be carried in M.T.

(15) Gas Equipment

Units will take 6 eyeshields per man, anti-gas ointment, respirators and sufficient anti-gas clothing for decontamination Squads.

(16) Rear Parties.

- (a) Each Bn will detail 1 N.C.O. and 10 O.R.'s to remain present location and guard Universal T. Bags and other surplus stores.
- (b) 2/1 Bn will detail an offr. in charge of all unit rear parties.
- (c) 2/3 Bn. will guard surplus stores of Bde: H.Q. and 2/1 Fd Amb. in addition to their own. Last two mentioned units will dump their stores at 2/3 Bn. Stores.

SERIAL No.	ORIG No.	TOR.	INWARDS FROM	OUTWARDS TO	TEXT.	REMARKS.
24	DK III.	1420	D. Coy.		Mem. file	
25	A304	1615	Bde.		Extract general orders 1300. My Chilton cases to be recorded v. i. t. o. 2/2 PM see 2nd Workmen	
26	-	1730	Carrier Pl		Ref. Carrier Patrol to investigate Coy. enemy infantry advancing on Artillery C.P. 51503965 area. No enemy encountered in Area. Enemy transport and working parties observed on 5150.3900 C.O. informed and organizing C.P.'s and patrols.	file
27	-	1754	BDE.		Ref. map SALUM 1/100000. AP open from 1600 hrs today at 51683736. PP open from 1400 hrs same place. SP used same location as AP and PP	file
28	A41	0400	A Coy		Patrol sent to report on enemy guns at BIR SHEIMAN reports no guns there	file
29	064	1915	7th Bde.	7th. Amb.	R. AP established 51463794	
30	P1	0145	B. Coy		B Coy in O digging under mine.	file
31	P2	2130	B Coy		Enemy just fired shot at member of patrol. Patrol gone out in endeavour to encircle enemy patrol.	
32		0115 0526	B Coy		NIL return.	
33		0700	HQ Coy.		all clear.	
34	0108	0650		Bde.	Two enemy aircraft overhead 0600 hrs. two bombs dropped on HQ area, further details later.	
35		0650	B Coy		B Coy advised standing patrol returned no lead seen.	
36	-		all Coys		all clear.	
37	-	0712		Bde	all clear. standing down.	

Serial No	ORIG No	T.O.R.	OUTWARDS TO	INWARDS FROM	Subject of Message	Remarks.
1	0220.	0440	BDE		A Coy in position as advised Griffiths	
2		0700		A	A Coy report All clear.	Phone
3				B	All clear. PATROL IN.	Phone.
4		0730		D	All clear.	"
5		0745		A	Patrol coming in.	
6				C	All clear.	
7				A	A Coy patrol in	
8		0815	Bde.		A Coy patrol in a NII REPORT.	all clear.
9		0840	Bde		All clear, 2/2 stand by down. Nil report from Coy patrol	
10			A+B.		Stand down.	
11		1000		A Coy.	Enemy shelling road 2000 yds to the front approx 3 miles from Fort Capurusa.	
12		1003	Bde.		A Coy report enemy shelling road CAPUBARDIA approx 51523808 also bracketing left forward on. Shells falling in groups of 4 or 5.	
13		0900		Bde.	Sketch. Dawn patrols report all clear.	
13	0102	1018	All Coys.		As soon as men have sufficient protection allow to rest. Movement both of A/C and personnel to be kept to min. Raising of dust to be avoided.	
14				D Coy	INT. Summary - see file.	
				A Coy	" " " " also sketch.	

(17) Blankets

3 blankets per man will be carried in Tp carrying vehicles (See para 9 (b)).

(18) Rations

Units will take with them the unconsumed portion of rations for 17 Dec, and rations for 18 and 19 Dec.

(19) Dress. F.S. Uniform and hat will be taken.

INTER-COMMUNICATION

(20) Bde. H.Q. closes at present location ~~2000~~ hrs and opens at 9.P. same hour and proceeds to destination as shown in Appendices A and B.

(21) One wireless set will report to each Bn at 2000 hrs to-night.

(22) No restrictions on wireless communication except that minimum aeri-als will be used.

ACK.

J.R. Campbell
.....Major.

F.M. 16 Aust. Inf. Bde

Issued by How R. at 1915. hrs.

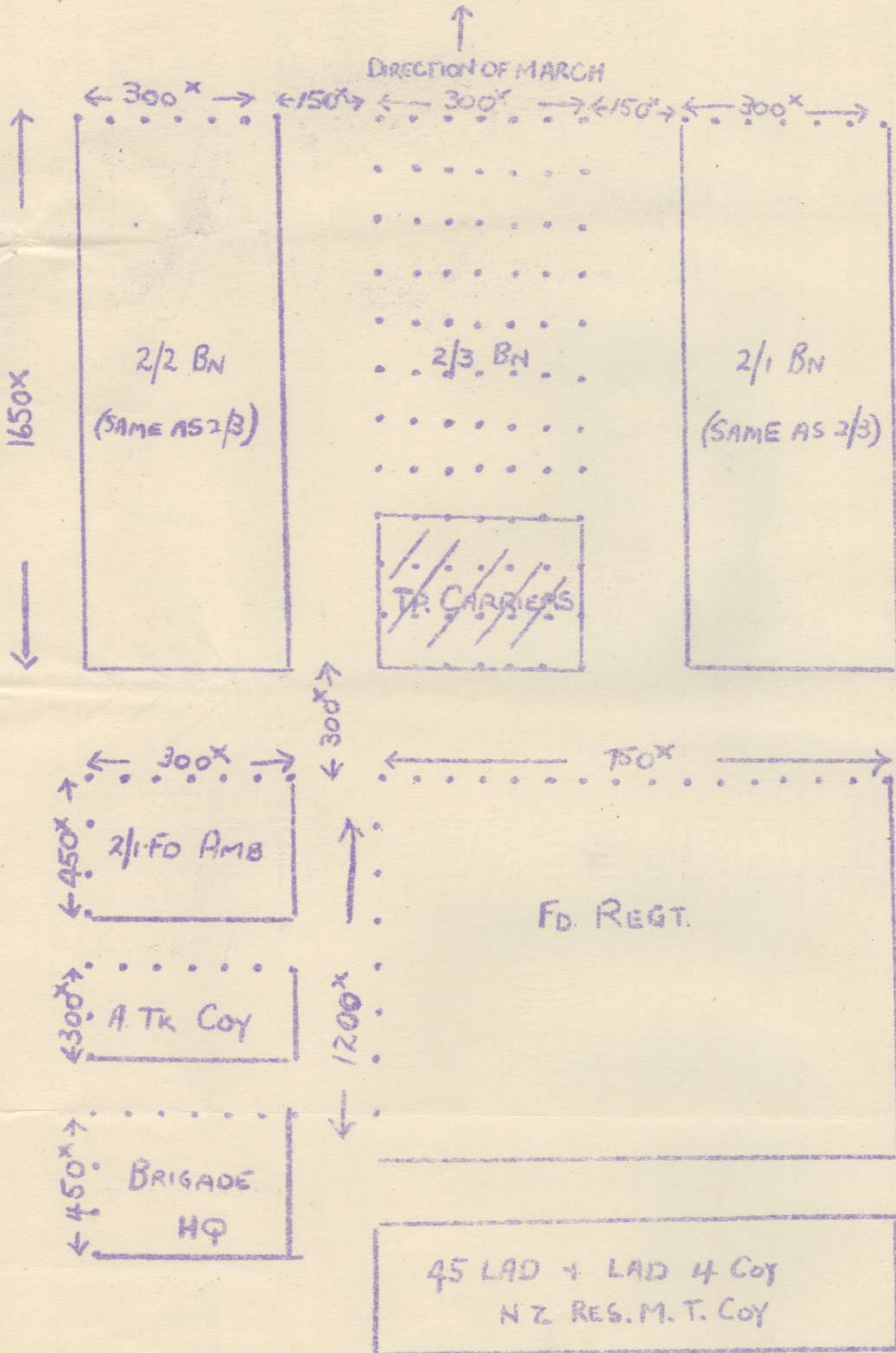
DISTRIBUTION : See over Page.

DISTRIBUTION.

Copy	1	2/1 Bn.
"	2	2/2 Bn.
"	3	2/3 Bn.
"	4	1 st Aust. A/Tk. Coy.
"	5	2/2 Fd. Regt.
"	6	2/1 Fd. Amb.
"	7	Comp. Coy. A. A. S. C.
"	8	4 H. Z. Res. M. T. Coy.
"	9	6 Aust. Div.
"	10	H. Q. D. F.
"	11	51 Fd. Regt. (for information)
"	12	Bde. Comd.
"	13	B. L.
"	14	S. C.
"	15	Sig. Offr.
"	16	T. O.
"	17	I. O.
"	18	Sup. Offr.
"	19-23	File
"	24-25	War Diary.

DESERTR FORMATION DIAGRAM
ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH 76 AUST INF BDE

O O No 1 OF 16 DEC 40



APPENDIX A--B MARCH TABLE.

Issued in conjunction with 16 Aust. Inf. Bde. Op. O. No. 1, 26 Dec. 1940.

Serial No.	Unit	From	S. P.	S. T.	Route	Destination	Remarks.
1.	2/2 Bn.	Present Location.	Cross of Peak Obstacle and Satruh Rd.	0400	Road portion of route shown in para 6.	Cross tracks 61103345.	(a) Density 100 yds. between vehicles. (b) Speed. 20 m.i.h. (c) T. C. PS. At 7 kilo peg SIVAH Rd. 6 kilo peg SIVA Rd. CHARING CROSS 71203397. (d) Lieut. E. V. Tilsor will control movement at S. P.
2.	2/3 Bn.			0425			
3.	2/1 Bn.			0450.			
4.	2/1 Fd. Amb.			0515.			
5.	Bde. H.Q.			0525.			
6.	A/Tk. Coy.			0535			
7.	2/2 Bn. Regt.			0545.			

OPERATION ORDER No.1

Ref Map SALUM 1/100,000

INFORMATION. 1. Enemy, Known enemy lines as pointed out on Map. Considerable shelling occurred along road approx 1,000x NORTH of CAPUZZO during afternoon 19 Dec. 40.

2. Own Troops.

16 Aust. Inf. Bde. and 16 I. B. (Brit.) are taking over from Support Group Armoured Div. NIGHT 19/20 Dec. 40,
Inter Bde. boundary grid line 517
Two Platoons A/Tk. Coy. come under command AMAP.

INTENTION

3. AMAP will take over from K.R.R. night 19/20 Dec.

METHOD.

4. ~~"A" and "C" Coys. will take over existing positions from "B" and "A" Coys. K.R.R. respectively.
"A" Coy. on right of Road CAPUZZO-BARDIA (West of Rd) Approx 3,000x NORTH of CAPUZZO
"C" Coy. EAST of Road CAPUZZO-BARDIA (as per trace att.)
"B" and "D" Coys. will defend CAPUZZO.
"B" Coy. right "D" Coy. left.~~

5. Carriers

In area immediately EAST of Bn. H.Q.
Roll - Protection of Bn. H.Q. and patrolling as ordered later.

6. A/Tk Defence

Orders to be issued later.

7. DIGGING.

Sections will dig in as deep as possible during night 19/20 Dec., where ground permits, or otherwise construct sangars.

8. A/A Defence

During daylight all Bren Guns will normally be mounted for A/A protection. A/A Pl. 2 dets. "B" Ech.

9. Stand To

0530 hrs.

2dets. Bn. H.Q.

10. Method of Relief

AMAP and K.R.R. will each send one guide per Pl. to R.V. where Road SALUM-CAPUZZO crosses wire (5170 3765) at 2145 hrs. and will lead Pls. to areas Coy. Comds. are to report by W/T. to H.Q. K.R.R. as soon as relief is completed. K.R.R. will be moving out at first light 20 Dec.

11. Mortars

Mortar Pl. in reserve, Location to be notified later.

ADMINISTRATION12. AMN.SS.S.A.A. reserve. To be notified later.13. R.A.P. 200x SOUTH EAST of Bn. H.Q.14. A.D.S. Establishing during night 19/20 Dec. at 5160 3740.15. "B" ECH. Will remain in area astride grid line 20 and immediately NORTH of Grid line 7016. Water. May be obtained from tanks at FORT CAPUZZO. ALL unit containers will as far as possible be kept filled.

- (2) -

INTERCOMMUNICATION. * Bn. H.Q. 300x SOUTH EAST from ruined building
17 immediately inside wire on left of Road SALUM-
CAPUZZO. Bearing 229 deg.
Code Names. Code names will be used in all
messages.

ACK.

Issued at 1945 hrs. 19 Dec.

by _____

F. J. P. 1945 Cap
Adj. AMAP

DISTRIBUTION.

List "A" and
16 A/Tk. Coy.

PL "C" Coy

Appendix A

517

REF. MAP
1/100000
SALUM

1 PL "C" Coy
protecting
SF F Bty and
F.O.P.

1/1 Th.
F Bty

Th.
F Bty

380

EGYPT

LIBYA

D B

FORT
CAPALZO

1/2 Bn HQ
HQ Coy → SALUM

Psdet
TADS

510

A MAP B
20 Dec. 40.
Field

Adj. t.

Ammunition Return

Ammunition expended during 24 hrs; ending 1300 hrs. 20 Dec.

100 Rounds S.A.A.

R B Smith csm
..... For
O.C. "B" Coy;

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

2/2 Bn.

A.I.F.

20 Dec 41

VEHICLES OUT OF COMMISSION.

TYPE	REG. NO.	F.D. No.	DAMAGE.	CAUSE.
BSA Cycle	3965		Bent Fork	Damaged in fall
"	4164		Plate off sump	Tom off on rocks
"	4073		do	do
"	4178		do	do
Haris 15	2759		Broken stub axle	Fair wear & tear

J. J. Todd Lieut.
11.10.

<u>ESTABLISHMENT</u>	<u>STRENGTH.</u>	<u>SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT</u>
6 batmen.	Ellam Jones E. 7 Barnes Hennessey Cotter Behan Fenn	1
2 Clerks	Connors 3 O'Donnell x Hyland x 2	1
6 I Sect.	Lobban 6 Swallow Thompson Jackson 3 O'Sullivan Rowland	-
1 Med. Orderly	Phillips 3 Burr Parnell	2
20 S. B.'s	Fuller J. W. H. Tilbury R. L. Green Law Blackford Abbott Blackwell Drylie Daly O'Brien Holt Morgan McLaren Readford Casson Williams Cakes Farrell L/Cpl Marney 24 Potts Martin R. S. M. Gye 1	1
1 W. O.		
5 Sgts.	Smith 5 Dark Nicholas Thomas Lee	-
3 R. P's.	Mottley Reynolds Blanch. 3 Martin 1	1
31.680.	Capt Asmate Driver 4850	6

S P E C I M E N.

W. M. Keller

"NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE" OR ~~SECRET~~ SECRET.

3 DIV. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 42.

Copy No. 8.
13th February, '17.

for
PERIOD 0900 hours 12th February - 0900 hours 13th February.

Reference Maps.

AMIENS.	1/100,000.
ROSIERES.	1/40,000.

SYNOPSIS.

1. OPERATIONS.

Capture of BUCY completed.

2. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

Arrival of 4 Bavarian Division.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Unusual patrolling.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

Unchanged.

5. ENEMY TACTICS.

Policy of Counter attacks.

6. ENEMY MORALE.

Good: 4 Bavarian Division.

7. CONCLUSIONS.

SPECIMEN

"NOT TO BE TAKEN INTO FRONT LINE" or SECRET.

3 DIV. INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 42.

for

Copy No. 8.
13th February, '17.

PERIOD 0900 hours 12th February -
0900 hours 13th February.

Reference Maps. AMIENS. 1/100,000.
ROSIERES. 1/40,000.

1. GENERAL SITUATION.

The enemy have remained inactive.

Part of 3 Div. completed its operation of the previous day with the capture of HILL 71 and the ruins on the Northern outskirts of village of BUCY (0451) by an attack at dusk on 12th February. The attack was made without Artillery support and came as a surprise. Except on the outer flank of the night attacking battalion, casualties were negligible.

2. ENEMY ORDER OF BATTLE.

- (a) Prisoners captured all belonged to 11 Bavarian Regiment confirming that 4 Bav. Div. has now completed its relief of 2 Prussian Div. in sector incl. BUCY - exd. HAMEAU (9471).
- (b) 4 Bav. Div. consists of 9 and 11 Bav. Regiments. Possibly 7 Bav. Regiment has been added to it making three Regts. instead of the normal two. It has so far been employed on the Eastern front and is not yet believed to have been involved in heavy fighting. The bulk of its personnel therefore are probably pre-war, and their standard of training should be very good.
- (c) Air Photos show fresh tracks and transport in area GAROUL 8342. This is an indication towards 4 Bav. Div. containing three Regts.

3. ENEMY ACTIVITY.

Patrolling on the Div. front has been abnormal. 4 Bv. Div. has probably sent out more patrols than its predecessor through lack of familiarity with ground and conditions here.

Arty. activity was negligible.

4. ENEMY DEFENCES.

not

Air photos do/show any new works since 8th February.

5. ENEMY TACTICS. - Policy of Counter attacks.

Reliable sources report that the Germans will discontinue counter attacks to regain lost ground unless that ground is of importance to the defences of flank formations. This is partially confirmed by captured documents elsewhere on front, which refer to need for counter attacks to include as their objective some feature of definite tactical importance.

/2.....

6. ENEMY MORALE.

Prisoners of 4 Bav. Div. all seem well nourished and to have a great admiration for their officers, who have changed little since the outbreak of war.

7. CONCLUSIONS.

The arrival of a unit new to the Western front will mean increased activity of patrols at night and of artillery by day for a week to ten days judging from experiences on similar occasions elsewhere. During this period, whilst troops are familiarizing themselves with the sector, any raids and offensive action are unlikely.

Any noise by our own patrols will at once draw excessive fire owing to enemy jumpiness.

Should important information be desired it may prove best to send out false patrols to disturb the enemy without endangering themselves, sending out the real patrols to gain information as late as possible in the night when the enemy have worn themselves out. It should, however, be noted that Bavarian Divs. often "stand to" 1½ hours before dawn or at all events post fresh sentries then, instead of the usual one hour.

Time of signature

X..... Y.....

Issued through Signals.

G.S. 3 Div.

Distribution.

- Copy. No 1. 7th Inf. Bde.
- 2. 8 Inf. Bde.
- 3. 9 Inf. Bde.
- 4. R.A.
- 5. R.E.
- 6. Comdr.
- 7. G.
- 8.) Q
- 9.) Q
- 10. III Corps.
- 11 } War Diary
- 12 } File
- 13 } NOTES.
- 14 } Copies to cooperating unit - especially RAF

(a) Because a paragraph is shown don't necessarily include it in every Summary you do.

(b) Q. gets 2 copies to circulate round heads of services, e.g. C.R.A.S.C., D.A.D.O.S., D.A.P.H., A.D.H.S., but you may want some of these to have their own copies.

(c) Other paragraphs might be :-

- COMMUNICATIONS.
- ADMINISTRATIVE.
- EQUIPMENT.
- MATERIAL.
- AIR ACTIVITY.
- SERVICES.

A Map B.
23 Dec 40.
Fuld.
0615 hrs.

Adjlt.
A. Map.

Dawn Intelligence Report,

As Reported to Brn by phone, Artillery
tracw was observed coming from our right flank
between 2330 hrs & 2400 hrs, it had a very low
flat trajectory travelling at what appeared to be
about 4 high. M.G. fire opened up on
on our extreme forward left flank in
conjunction with the artillery.

Standing patrol at broken cars, as
previously phoned to Brn. reported small
light some distance to immediate front
Also movement on this extreme right
flank, an endeavour was made to investig
ate this movement, but was unable to locate
anything

/standing.

2

standing patrol on road, also listening
post on ^{extreme} right flank. both report nothing
unusual happened.

Cpl. D. R. Flett.
for O.C. A.M.A.P.B.
~~~~~

DATE 31.12.1950

| N.O<br>SERIAL | ORIG.<br>No | T.O.R. | INWARD<br>FROM | OUTWARD<br>TO | SUBJECT                                                                                                                                                                      | REMARKS |
|---------------|-------------|--------|----------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1             | C10         | 0645   | C Coy          |               | Night patrol report all dead. Enemy activity nil                                                                                                                             | File    |
| 2             | C11         | 0650   | C Coy          |               | Went report. Dugouts and sangers deepened                                                                                                                                    | File    |
| 3             | 1.5         | 1020   | Sp.            | BDE           | Our position now 51463800                                                                                                                                                    | File    |
| 4             | 1.6         | 1020   | Sp.            | MAJ. CHILTON  | Our position now 51463800 - 400' North of 100' West of main rd                                                                                                               | File    |
| 5             | 1.6         | 1030   | Sp.            | BDE           | Enemy shelling position occupied by B Coy. No reports yet from here. Enemy guns appear to be searching for our arty. positions                                               | File    |
| 6             | DK107       | 0940   | D Coy          |               | Situation report. Nothing to report. No enemy activity casualties NIL.                                                                                                       | File    |
| 7             | DK108       | 0945   | D Coy          |               | Liaised with 272 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. Rept. considered 1200' from rd. sufficient protection. Therefore no standing patrol was sent out. No sign of A Coy patrol in D Coy Area.  | File    |
| 8             |             | 1205   | D Coy          |               | Ka 2/3 <sup>rd</sup> 1200' bearing 240° magnetic from D Coy. No enemy activity to report in this area                                                                        | File    |
| 9             | 067         | 1210   |                | BDE           | Expenditure amm. twenty four hours ending 1100 hrs. 21 DRC. NIL                                                                                                              | File    |
| 10            |             | 1100   | Various Pl.    |               | Area patrolled along left flank Don Coy forward to a point due West Blue Seiman grid 513. (by shelling apparent no movement).                                                | File    |
| 11            | DK108       | 1310   | D Coy          |               | Sitrep. Considerable shelling on 272 <sup>nd</sup> 1000' in front of D Coy right on ridge. 194. rd/51203845. 8 shells in rear of main approx 1145 hrs. All quiet at present. |         |
| 12            |             |        | A Coy          |               | Summary - See file                                                                                                                                                           |         |

REFMAP  
OPERATIONS DIARY

PAGE 2

DATE 21 DEC 40

| SERIAL NO | ORIGIN No | T.O.B. | INWARDS FROM | OUTWARD TO | SUBJECT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | REMARKS |
|-----------|-----------|--------|--------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 13        |           |        | B Coy        |            | Enemy infantry of approx Coy strength advancing 1500m front of B Coy position. Warn this Coy go forward make contact. Carners desired.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |         |
| 14        |           | 1335   |              | B Coy      | Am sending 2 carrier secs under Pains to report to you. You must not leave your own. Meet enemy under obsrv & advise Arty OP if poss.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |         |
| 15        |           | 1345   |              | Pde        | B Coy reports enemy inf approx one Coy advancing to 1500m front. Time 1315. Have sent patrol H&B to investigate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |         |
| 16        | C. 14     | 1350   | C. Coy       |            | Artillery shell has been found approx 500m W. of Coy HQ's. Size approx 6" Bushy 1 looks to be there some time. Is marked with circle of stones etc. 1st reported to be. Tabungul, from approx 500m N. of Coy HQ's.                                                                                                                                  |         |
| 17        | 131       |        | B Coy        |            | Enemy have broken crest but do not intend to advance further. Range from here 800m. Arty know about it. We get our warning from them as they withdraw through us. They state enemy's have no AFV's with them and that the enemy's intention was the clearing out of Arty OP's. Have no intention of leaving obsrv, but suggest do area be occupied. |         |
| 18        | 0.        |        |              | Pde        | B Coy report enemy reached crest but do not appear to be advancing further. Range from B. 1800yds. Arty state no AFV's Arty OP withdrawn.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| 19        |           | 1430   | B Coy        |            | Nothing further.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |         |
| 20        | 0233      | 1500   |              | All Coy    | PMty at 51473800 200m W of rd CHAZZO-BARDIR. Sign on road of rd reads 5113N. PRR 500 yds Sth of this Hq. B Coy report enemy Coy 1800 N. their immediate front 1330hrs. Draw markers 400m N of this Hq & 200m W of road approx 51473804 1715 hrs. 1 known also.                                                                                      |         |
| 21        | 0107      | 1530   |              | Pde        | Warning. Carrier operating on B Coy front report AFV considerable distance fwd. No further information at present will inform.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |         |
| 22        | UP48      | 1570   |              | Pde        | Password night 21/22 Dec ANDY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |
| 23        | DM17      | 1555   | D Coy        |            | Nil Report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |

| SERIAL No. | OR No | T.O.R. | OUTWARD TO  | INWARD FROM | SUBJECT OF MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | REMARKS  |
|------------|-------|--------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 15         |       | 1450   |             | Bde.        | Password night 19/20. Rabbit                                                                                                                                                                                                       |          |
| 16         | 0104  |        | B. Coy      |             | Address request for shifting gun to A100 Coy. A100 Coy prefer guns remain packed for mobility                                                                                                                                      |          |
| 17         | 131   |        |             | B. Coy.     | Ref A100 gun/spokes with my forward pl. This vehicle is well in the open. Can I have it moved. Gun could be given all round traverse from ground. Enemy spotter seen over area at 1000 hrs. This pl is right against Balouch's pl. |          |
| 18         |       | 0815   |             | B Coy       | Int Summary.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |          |
| 19         | 0103  | 1145   | A & B Coys. |             | DB bearing this message will remain with Coy until recalled. Use for urgent messages. Lines broken down.                                                                                                                           | See file |
| 20         | 053   |        |             | A Coy       | Strength returns AX Nil and Nil AY Nil and Nil AZ Nil and Nil B Nil C 4 and 103.                                                                                                                                                   | File     |
| 21         | 0105  | 1230   | BOK.        |             | Carrier patrol reports having patrolled to area 515386 and to 400' each side of rd. Enemy arty shelled area actively. Visibility bad due to dust.                                                                                  | File     |
| 22         | 0106  | 1315   | Q.M.        |             | 3 90 art. Lories to report 3 H-Q. at 1400 hrs.                                                                                                                                                                                     | File     |
| 23         | 0.63  | 1400   | BDE.        |             | Expenditure amm. twenty four hours ending 1200 hrs 20 DEC. 160 rds SMALLS CTN.                                                                                                                                                     | File     |
| 24         | 131   | 1450   |             | B Coy       | Sketch showing dispositions and fire plan of B Coy area                                                                                                                                                                            | File     |
| 25         | 0499  | 1430   | I           | BDE.        | Please expedite daily amm. and vehicle returns. In future returns will reach this H.Q. not later than 1100 hrs daily                                                                                                               | File     |

REF. MAP SALUM 1/100,000  
Operations Diary

PAGE - 3  
DATE - 20.12.40

| SERIAL NO | ORIG. NO. | T.O.R | OUTWARD TO | INWARD FROM | SUBJECT OF MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                            | REMARKS   |
|-----------|-----------|-------|------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 26        | 0222      | 1535  | All Coys.  |             | As result orders from Bde amm returns will in future reach this HQ 1000 hrs. daily. They will cover 24 hrs instead 0900 hrs.                                                                                  | File      |
| 27        | 0223      | 1545  | Bde.       |             | Ammn return sent DR approx 1415 hrs. sorry delay but broken rig wires. presume in future return will cover 24 hrs instead 0900 hrs. Vehicle return soon as possible                                           | File      |
| 28        | 0224      | 1600  | All Coys   |             | Coys will draw petrol at same time as rations                                                                                                                                                                 | Telephone |
| 29        | 0225      | 1610  | Bde.       |             | Vehicles out of commission. MORRIS 15 Cwt. 2759 broken stub axle. BSA cycles 3965 bent forks 4164, 4073, 4178 plates off axles. Causes descent during                                                         | File      |
| 30        |           | 1610  |            |             | M. Wilson with message from Bde Comd. Two enemy guns at Big Steiman Bde Comd would like confirmation of a trench & what is enemy doing in the area                                                            |           |
| 31        |           | 1907  |            | D Coy       | All Clear.                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Phone     |
| 32        |           |       |            | Bde.        | password night 20/21 is BADGER.                                                                                                                                                                               |           |
| 33        |           | 1955  | Bde.       |             | B&D report number of booby traps in Jullapurgya and area. Traps take form of hand bombs placed in crevices in rock walls with bins removed. When bombs kicked up cat falls off & bomb explodes, no casualties |           |
| 34        | 0226      | 1935  | C. Coy.    |             | Two P.A. trucks at present all you will report Hq Coy Hq by 0800 hrs 21 Dec                                                                                                                                   |           |
| 35        | 13        | 1930  | All Coys.  |             | password 20/21. Badger.                                                                                                                                                                                       |           |
| 36        | 022       |       | W.T. Van   |             | 2/2 P.M. Hq moves up Capurgya - Bardia road morning 21 Dec. You will follow office truck. Ready move 0820 hrs                                                                                                 |           |



# OPERATION DIARY.

Page 1  
Dec 22.

| SERIAL NO. | ORIG. NO. | TOR.  | INWARDS FROM | OUTWARDS TO | TEXT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | REMARKS                     |
|------------|-----------|-------|--------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1          | DK115     | 0655  | D Coy        |             | Int Summary - See file.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                             |
| 2          |           |       | B Coy        |             | " " " "                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                             |
| 3          |           | 0805  | Carrier Pl.  |             | Nil report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Why Bde.                    |
| 4          | B1.       | 0625  | B Coy        |             | How M's shelled heavily from 0605 to 0620. Coy HQ shelled at same time. No casualties                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Why Bde                     |
| 5          | B2        | 0745  | B Coy        |             | Standing patrol returned at 0605. Enemy patrol fired one round at patrol then returned rapidly toward their lines. Action was sent out in an endeavour to surround enemy but they moved too quickly. Other than above no enemy contacted. Patrol caught in centre of heavy barrage 0610. 50 shells in the one barrage. Patrol relieved by carrier at 0600 hrs. After contact B Coy by 05. Slight movement of enemy transport toward during night good distance away late 0600 in hot way. Patrol took up position as ordered. | Bde given<br>copy           |
| 6          |           | 0900  | C Coy        |             | Report by WO 2 Lamb - See file.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                             |
| 7          | B.3.      | 0911. | B. Coy       |             | 2 Strafel shells air burst over reserve Pt area at 0910 hrs appear to come from rt flank enemy. also lightly shelling but in front of FDK's.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                             |
| 8          | DK16      | 0920  | B Coy        |             | Pt Ramsay shot in foot - accident                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Trucks sent,<br>RPP advised |
| 9          | 09        | 0705  | Bde.         |             | Experience 0950 necessary fire Bren guns before going to action to ensure. No stoppages for night attacks guns should be fired several hrs before                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                             |
| 10         | DK119     | 1010  | D Coy        |             | Shell splinter for identification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                             |
| 11         | 069       | 1145  |              | BDE         | Expensive ammo 24 hrs ending 1000 hrs 22 Dec Nil                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                             |
| 12         |           | 1100  |              |             | 27 Planes made air attacks bombs dropped vicinity D C Coy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                             |

NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

DIARY

REF. MAPS.

SHEET NO. 2

2/2BN

(Place)

(Date) 22 Dec 40

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To    | INWARDS From : T.C.Q. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                                        | REMARKS |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 13.        |             | 1205               |                | B Coy                 | Enemy aircraft attempted attack on arty posns. on left flank of B Coy. 26 planes dropped approx 50 bombs                                                                                                       | short   |
| 14         |             | 1200               | <del>Bde</del> | Bde.                  | Ref map Salun A.P. now established at 5168 3736 which is also S.P. A.P. open continuously units will take own transport with demands to A.P. direct                                                            |         |
| 15         |             | 1225               |                | A.P. Post             | 20 bombers & 7 fighters made air attack.                                                                                                                                                                       |         |
| 16         |             | 1227               |                | B Coy                 | Lost contact with carrier O.P. English arty have line through.                                                                                                                                                 |         |
| 17         |             | 1232               |                | B Coy                 | made contact with carrier O.P. again everything O.K.                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| 18         |             | 1145               |                | C Coy                 | 20 enemy bombers escorted by fighters dropped bombs in area adjacent to arty. Bearing to area from C Coy H.Q. 310° Distance about 1 1/2 miles. 3 fires have started. Look like trucks. No casualties in C Coy. |         |
| 19.        | 1066        | 1145               |                | BDE                   | CARI report column of inf. and transport approx 1 mile long moving south along main Rd and column of inf moving west across front reported at 0822 message just received                                       |         |

NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

SHEET NO. 3

.....

2/2EN.....

DIARY

.....

(Place).....

REF. MAPS.

(Date) 22 Dec 40.....

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From : T.O.Q. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                         | REMARKS  |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 20.        | 0240        | 1205               | BDE         |                       | Right fwd Coy report definitely NO trap movement SOUTH and only movement discernable is working parties moving WEST. Nothing to report BN area. |          |
| 21         | 0242        | 1305               | BDE         |                       | Left fwd Coy redirected to CAMO 1200 hrs one pte REGENT J. NX4634 of CAMO lost on patrol this morning please check identity.                    |          |
| 22         |             | 1305               |             | D Coy                 | Report on Pte Regent NX 4634                                                                                                                    | see file |
| 23         | 0503        | 1405               |             | Bde                   | Refur in bb. movement reported within enemy's own lines.                                                                                        |          |
| 24         | 0244        | 1420               | Bde         |                       | This HQ moving to 51453844 turning there 1500 hrs                                                                                               |          |
| 25         | 0.10        | 1520               |             | Bde                   | Patrols enemy front tonight arranged 2000 hrs to 0500 hrs 9 Dec                                                                                 |          |
| 26         |             | 1705               |             | D Coy                 | DULO. OP in CAMO area about 3 miles from D Coy horn. Require protection. Shall I send patrol or will you contact CAMO.                          |          |
| 27         |             |                    |             |                       |                                                                                                                                                 |          |

NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

SHEET NO. (4)

DIARY

2/2BN

REF. MAPS.

(Place) .....  
(Date) 22 Dec

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From : T.O.Q. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | REMARKS |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 27         | 0245        | 1800               | BDE         | C                     | Please advise 3rd Bn patrol from 4/4th moving out from 2/2 Fd Regt HQ: 51373848 0100 hrs. Intend to move N 300 yds to guard digging of OP. at 5130 3885 route in 200 yds east & then south back to 2/2 Fd Regt. HQ. time in 0500. |         |
| 28         |             | 1820               |             | C                     | position is 300 yds W of Bn NOT SOUTH.                                                                                                                                                                                            |         |
| 29         |             | 1950               | All coys    |                       | collect sandshoes in key post for use in patrols. Advise short ages to these HQ. May be able to fill from other coys.                                                                                                             |         |
| 30         |             |                    | HQ Coy      |                       | please make list of sandshoes your coy with sizes. they may be needed by boys for patrols.                                                                                                                                        |         |
| 31         |             |                    |             | B Coy                 | Ref forward C. P. at wrecked MT this OP is now will reg. by enemy act. from results of their shooting today. I advise that this O.P. be moved to area pipe line                                                                   |         |

NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

SHEET NO. .... 5 .....

DIARY

2/2BN.....

REF. MAPS.

(Place).....

(Date)..... 27 Dec 40 .....

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From : T.O.Q. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | REMARKS |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 31         |             | 1900               |             | B Coy                 | <p>trench near MT if approved. I would like to send out party to improve trench &amp; make it comfortable O.P before daylight. Sgt Campbell reports that parties of about 50 men per party are constantly working on enemy defences in various ways etc Transport to same active.</p> |         |
| 32         | 0247        |                    | All ways    |                       | <p>Sgt [unclear] walked this afternoon on what was apparently booby trap which blew up damaging his heel. This may possibly have been thermos bomb. all ranks to be warned.</p>                                                                                                       |         |
| 33         |             | 2300               |             | B Coy                 | <p>Two Rodera patrol report movement on right flank. So endeavor to find out what it is.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |
| 34         |             | 0300               |             | B                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |

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

# WAR DIARY

OR

## INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit AMAP

Army Form C. 2118.

Month and Year DEC '40

Commanding Officer Major F.O. Chilton

| Place.          | Date.     | Hour.       | Summary of Events and Information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | References to Appendices. |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>51623764</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>0700</u> | <p><u>Current Situation:</u> The Bn at this time has dug in sufficiently to afford adequate protection. The present position of Bn. H.Q. is 51623764. During night 20/21 Dec. "B" Coy moved up into Sq. 515814 - "D" Coy into sq. 514814.</p> <p><u>Leakage:</u> Leakage has been made with SIMO and KAMO and left flanks.</p> <p><u>Enemy Order of Battle:</u> It has been established that in BARDIA there are several known enemy Divs - 62 Metro. Div., 63 Metro Div., 2 CC NN Div. xxx GAF Sector. No contact has yet been made with the enemy. During night 20/21 Dec. our patrol penetrated to 51443895 without encountering enemy positions.</p> <p><u>Enemy Morale:</u> In previous battles on the front and every have proved to be of very low morale.</p> <p><u>Q:</u> Normal rations of water and rations are available.</p> |                           |

W. J. Chilton  
Lieut.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

(Erase heading not required).

AMAP

Unit

Dec 140

Date and Time.—From

To

71147 J. O. Chilton

Place

Date

Hour

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to  
Appendices, Diaries, &c.

51493841

22

Situation: Whole of Bw area was shelled during day 22 Dec. - no casualties  
B Coy report shrapnel being used. Large number enemy planes bombed 2/3 Bw and  
Arty. area on our left flank at noon and again at dusk. A Coy, C Coy and  
Bw H.Q. moved forward into position behind B and D Coys. Bw H.Q. at 51493841.  
Lines: I.O. liaison with 7 MED Bty and 51 Fd Regt. on our right flank  
and 234 Fd Regt and 2/3 Fd Regt on our left flank  
Enemy Order of Battle: same as previously  
Enemy Activity: - Slight enemy activity reported by forward D.P. CARR  
reported column of infantry transport approx. 1 mile long moving S along main  
rd. and column of inf moving W across front at approx. 0822. Investigated  
by B Coy - report definitely no movement S. and party moving W only  
working parties. Enemy arty. firing on D.P. at 51583873 this appears  
to have been definitely pin-pointed by enemy. Working parties in  
enemy were active throughout the day. Movement reported on B Coy  
right flank at 2300 hrs. No further report.  
Our Activity: - Patrol from A Coy went out to investigate enemy wire and

and Year Dec. 40.  
Date

Intelligence Summary  
Summary of Events

Unit A M A P  
C.O.  
A.

minefield. Report not yet to hand. B Coy standing patrol at O.P.  
51383878 report apart from movement on right flank, which was investigated  
no unusual activity. Casual standing patrol at O.P. 51383878 during day  
22 Dec. report only activity of enemy being working parties and M.T. |  
movement.

Q :- Normal

Miscellaneous :- Enemy appears to have spotted O.P. 51383878 and are  
trying to knock it out with shell-fire. Telephone lines being constantly  
cut by splinters, causing difficulty of communication.

Winton Heat.  
I. O.



Dec. 40

Intelligence Summary <sup>AMFP</sup> C.O. Maj. Chilton

Place DATE Hour SUMMARY of Events. Ref. APP

51463800

22

0700

Our Situation :- The bn. <sup>AS</sup> moved

from 51623764 during morning 21 Dec.  
Established H.Q. at 5146380000 rocks.  
Dug in and built sangers - also used  
existing Italian stone works. Shelling  
of bn area throughout day 21 Dec.  
No casualties.

B Coy moved 2 PIs forward approx.  
800 yds. D Coy moved 1 PI forward  
approx 650 yds. No further movement  
of Bn.

Liason : D Coy liased with 1/2  
Fd. Regt. on left rear flank. Contact  
also made with Med. Bty. on right  
flank of Bn area behind B Coy.

Enemy Order of Battle : Same as previously.

Enemy Activity : Slight movement of  
troops reported forward of B Coy.  
Carrier patrol investigated - nothing to  
report. Enemy working parties at  
work on defences.

Patrol from C Coy penetrated to to  
wire and A/Tk obstacle through  
minefield 390515. Report attacked. B Coy  
standing patrol fired on by enemy (1 shot)  
who then retired rapidly. No strength estimation.  
Carrier standing patrol at 51583879

Patrol sent to investigate report of enemy  
guns at BIRSKLEIMAN but report nothing there  
Normal water available. Water from  
FORT CAPUZZO being used - very saline

W. J. D.

Report from I sect. O.P.

MAP Ref 51583877.

AT 1200 hrs.

Time 1200 hrs - 1700 hrs 23/12/40.

Saw the enemy vigorously patrolling the wire & several parties of men working inside the wire. At pt A on sketch I saw approximately 100 men working on what appeared to be a battery position. Also saw lorries drawing trailers which had A/A guns on them. These guns were used from one position & were afterwards taken to other positions where they were used against our aircraft during the afternoon.

Enemy O.P.s

Were numerous, mainly of the "ladder" type the most prominent being at pt B on sketch.

On some of these "ladders" dummies were placed, as when fired upon didn't move.

TRANSPORT.

Apart from the lorries mentioned, there was very little M.T used during the afternoon.

Enemy Action.

During the afternoon (approx 1400 hrs) one section of men attempted to come through the wire, but withdrew quickly when fired on by our artillery.

The O.P. was shelled four times, each time about 10 shells dropped with a radius of 100 yds from the O.P. The fire appeared to be from the N.N.E.

Topography:

Approximately 200 yds in front of the O.P. the ground falls away, & there is a wide strip of dead ground between it & the enemy's wire. About 1500 yds behind the wire there is a slight ridge running East & West behind which is more dead ground. The country on the left is slightly on a higher level than the ground to the front. There appears to be one long stretch of sandy ground which is marked on sketch.

Weather:-

The weather for the first hour of so was windy & dusty & visibility was poor. The dust cleared later but although positions could be seen it was practically impossible to discern what the men were working at.

Howland Sept.

Report by flight patrol B. Long. 25/12/40

W. St. James.

Leave out 2300 hrs time in 0530 hrs

Route out 12th Regt AMM. 17 all ranks

Patrol proceeded on route laid down in 2250 yds  
down pipe line from O.P. in old 114 Park trench

Eastwards found spit approx 4'-6' x 16' deep right  
along side pipe line Reason of same unknown.

On travelling required 2250 patrol turned left along

Mag 302° W. Party travelled for approx. 200 yds

stange light noticed moving high in sky - as seen  
ed illuminated hole probably from Mag. to regulate

strength & direction of wind. Well inside enemy def-

ences & leaf of impenetrable observed for some time

& definite variation of position. Some 500 yds from

pipe line. Large wood pile found - dimensions 300 yds

x approx 300 yds x 300 yds consist of logs of wood (fire)

some 3'-4' high definitely not AT obstacle. Party

travelled over 1000 yds on b. 302° patrol returned on back

bearing 122° approx 250' from enemy AT obstacles - no

enemy movement observed. At the junction seen a very

loud barrage & it was very noticeable & the terrific

reverberations caused presumably by buildings

in BARRAGE or rocky ground vicinity of town. The patrol

covered majority of ground within between 200 yds

AT obstacle & 700 yds same across the front & failed

to contact enemy. No movement was discerned from

enemy lines at 0400 as was expected in a

"stand to" throughout patrol the advantage of



of wearing sandaloes was very noticeable by the  
almost complete silence. Once more trouble  
was experienced with Bren LMGs in that they would  
not fire one round before the patrol left.

Therefore patrol went out with greatly decreased  
fire power thereby if enemy had been encountered  
end. Causing a considerable amount of moral  
effect. The escape of one enemy was found  
in some woods along pipe line from forward  
element of Coy. AMHD. It is suggested that  
patrol be provided as body has apparently  
been there for many days.

Map accompany report with route of  
patrol attached.

Paul Jones  
Lt

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

|                              |     |                               |                          |
|------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS</b> | IN  | <b>No. of Groups.<br/>GR.</b> | <b>OFFICE DATE STAMP</b> |
|                              | OUT |                               |                          |

**TO** (ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

| FROM | Originator's Number | Date | In Reply to Number |
|------|---------------------|------|--------------------|
|      |                     |      |                    |
|      |                     |      |                    |
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|                                                          |                                                                                                    |                                                 |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT <b>AS WRITTEN</b> BY ANY MEANS. | IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT <b>IN CIPHER</b> . | ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS<br>DEGREE OF PRIORITY | TIME OF ORIGIN |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------|

**(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)**

| SIGNED    |         |        |        | SIGNED     |          |        |        |
|-----------|---------|--------|--------|------------|----------|--------|--------|
| SYSTEM IN | TIME IN | READER | SENDER | SYSTEM OUT | TIME OUT | READER | SENDER |
|           |         |        |        |            |          |        |        |
|           |         |        |        |            |          |        |        |
|           |         |        |        |            |          |        |        |
|           |         |        |        |            |          |        |        |

**T.H.I.**

**T.O.R.**

NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

SHEET NO. *21*

DIARY

2/2BN

REF. MAPS.

(Place) *26 Dec 40*  
(Date)

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From : T.O.Q. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                                             | REMARKS |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1.         |             | 0130               |             | B Coy                 | Mr. Barroughs patrol reported back                                                                                                                                                                                  |         |
| 2.         |             | 0710               |             | B Coy                 | Reporting all clear                                                                                                                                                                                                 |         |
| 3.         |             | 0650               |             | D Coy                 | patrol reported in at 0100                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |
| 4.         |             | 0655               |             | D Coy                 | all patrols back <del>now</del> all clear                                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| 5.         |             | 0655               |             | A Coy                 | all clear nothing to report.                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |
| 6.         | 20106       |                    |             | D Coy                 | patrol sent to cover 0130 all returned. Last contact with OPD's after evening O.P. Patrol leader decided that as dawn was breaking he should return and did not again make contact. Advise you make contact by wire |         |
| 7.         | 0700        |                    |             | C Coy                 | all clear                                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| 8.         | 0705        |                    | All Regts   |                       | Stand down all clear                                                                                                                                                                                                |         |
| 9.         | 0700        |                    |             | HQ Coy                | all clear.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |         |
| 10.        | 0710        |                    |             |                       | Capt King and 1 OR. detached water point.                                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| 11.        |             |                    |             | B Coy                 | Shen Report. Enemy shells landed in Coy area during 24 hrs ending 0700 on 27 Dec                                                                                                                                    |         |

*all Coy*

*Ref firing of Bar guns to ensure that they are in order. no guns will be fired during stand to for this purpose. To ensure that all Coys are not fired at one time!*

OPERATIONS DIARY.

Page 2  
Date 27 Dec 60

| Serial No | Senders No | Time Recd or sent | Outwards To | Inwards from | Message                                                                                                                                        | Remarks       |
|-----------|------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 12        | 055        | 0705              |             |              | The following times will be observed AFD Coy<br>odd between 0900 & 1000 hrs and 1100 to 1200 etc.<br>BC 1000 to 1100 hrs and 1200 to 1300 etc. |               |
| 13        | 071        | 0705              |             | C Coy        | Intelligence Report. Shells landed in Coy area during<br>night otherwise no enemy activity. all clear station later.                           |               |
| 14        | 072        | 0705              |             | A Coy        | 20 shells fell in <u>Coy area</u> at 0445 hrs                                                                                                  |               |
| 15        |            | 0750              |             | A Coy        | Intelligence Summary                                                                                                                           |               |
| 16        |            | 0755              |             | Bde          | plato increase 19 shells per man per day                                                                                                       | See file 1.5  |
| 17        |            | 0755              |             | D Coy        | Shelling Report 0700 4 shells 1950 3 shells, 0415<br>to 0440 heavy shelling on O Coy area. map later.                                          |               |
| 18        |            | 0755              |             | B Coy        | Enemy shells landed in Coy area during 24 hrs<br>ending 0700 27 Dec. 50 shells.                                                                |               |
| 19        |            | 0800              |             | O Coy        | Intelligence Summary                                                                                                                           |               |
| 20        |            | 0800              |             | B Coy        | Intelligence Summary & Report                                                                                                                  | See file 1.5  |
| 21        |            | 0800              |             | B Coy        | Shell Report                                                                                                                                   | See file 1.5. |
| 22        |            | 0800              | Bde         | HQ Coy       | Shelling Report. one shell in Sig pl area 0500<br>hrs 27 Dec 40                                                                                | See file 1.5. |
| 23        |            | 0800              |             | HQ Coy       | Shelling Report                                                                                                                                |               |
| 24        |            | 0835              |             | Bde          | Dawn Int Report all clear.                                                                                                                     | See file 1.5. |
| 24        |            | 0840              |             | B Coy        | Cypher return                                                                                                                                  |               |
| 24        |            | 0850              |             | A Coy        | Shell report with status                                                                                                                       | see 1.5. file |
|           |            |                   |             | D Coy        | 129 SFA expended. (amm)                                                                                                                        |               |
|           |            |                   |             |              | Shelling Report.                                                                                                                               | See 1.5. File |



NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

SHEET NO. 1

DIARY

2/2BN

REF. MAPS.

(Place) .....  
(Date) 26

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From : T.O.O. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | REMARKS  |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1          |             |                    |             | D Coy                 | Shelling report                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | File     |
| 2          | C 31        | 0705               |             | C Coy                 | Dawn Int. report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | File     |
| 3          | I 13        | 0711               | BDE         |                       | Shelling report                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | File     |
| 4          | -           | 0730               | -           | B Coy                 | Int. summary & report                                                                                                                                                                                                             | File     |
| 5          | EK 135      | 0735               |             | D Coy                 | Int. summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | File     |
| 6          |             | 0815               |             | D                     | both patrols in No 100 to report.                                                                                                                                                                                                 | phone    |
| 7          |             | 1010               | A Coy       | D                     | Shelling report required by 0900 in each msg. If shelled heavily then report required as soon as possible after shelling takes place as possible. Each report to be accompanied by sketch showing area shelled, number of shells. | summary. |
|            |             | 1545               |             | B Coy                 | 8 shells in B Coy area at 1500. 4" and 25 pound also one unincorporated shell.                                                                                                                                                    |          |
|            |             | 1615               |             |                       | password night 06/07 Dec 1945.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |          |
|            |             |                    |             |                       | ditto                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |          |

**NOTE:** All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

SHEET NO. 2

DIARY

2/2BN

REF. MAPS.

(Place)

(Date) 26 DEC 40

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From : T.O.Q. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                            | REMARKS |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 11         |             | 1717               |             |                       | The object barometer was picked up in Bay area at approx 1600 hrs several of these objects have fallen in this area between B and H of Bay HQ approx 51553845 forward 405155 3852. |         |
| 12         | 10105       | 1744               |             |                       | Two sections patrolling gap between ANTA PD, CAMO B, O first patrol out 1200 hrs 10100 second patrol out 0300 hrs 0500 C both patrols bearing 280 deg Distance 2000 yds            |         |
| 13         | -           |                    |             |                       | One patrol brought these up to but not beyond 1000 yds this side of line tanks ditto                                                                                               |         |
| 14         |             | 1820               |             |                       | Ref patrol night 1470 due to city concentration Patrols to be as for night 23/26                                                                                                   |         |
| 15         | 10105       | 1709               |             |                       | Spec. 1 thermos been found on landing ground WNW SALINA Bay Repeatedly are being destroyed or damaged there may be more in area.                                                   |         |

A. Map B.  
22 Dec 40.  
Field  
0700 hrs.

Adjlt,  
A. Map

Dawn Intelligence Summary.

Coy in same positions as occupied yesterday.  
Platoons and mortar positions improved during the night.

During night Coy provided three (3) patrols.  
1. Standing patrol commanded by Lieut Rednick of Pl. strength took up position immediately on darkness falling at observation post in Broken Cars area. Other than information contained in previous report all clear.

2. Standing patrol on road N.C.O and six men report no unusual occurrences.

3. Listening post on extreme Coy right flank report all clear.

There was no information gleaned about enemy.

Owing to some misunderstanding contact by Don 5 was not made with standing patrol. At approx 1830 a line party was asked for and after numerous inquiries were made a line party arrived at approx 2330 hrs. with instructions to wind in cable to O. Pip. instead of repairing cable which had been broken by previous shelling. After obtaining a Don 5 from Bn. line party went out to check the line and make contact, they went along the line out to the patrol apparently connected the phone & did not bother to ensure contact was made.

This Coy would far rather have their evening meal if cooked by B. Eschelon arrive at bay by 1630 hrs. as it would enable patrols etc. to have a hot meal before going on patrols. In the past the meals have been arriving at bay too late for patrols to receive them.

Res. E. P.

SECRET

Copy No.....

22 Dec 40

2/1 Bn Operation Instruction No.2

by Major R. Gram adn Comd 2/1 Bn

Ref Map: BARDIA SOUTH 1:150000

INFORMATION

1. Patrol reports 2/2 Bn confirmed 2/3 Bn following details enemy fwd defences
  - (a) Dimensions A Tk trench:
    - 5 ft deep with vertical face on enemy side
    - 6 ft bottom
    - 10 ft across top
    - Sloping near side with spoil thrown on near side.
  - (b) Wire
    - About 30 yds beyond A Tk ditch are two simple barbed wire fences 9 ft high and about 10 yds apart, filled with loose wire to a depth of 3 ft.
  - (c) Sangars
    - About 50 yds behind wire there are lines of stone sangars.
  - (d) Manning of fwd defences
    - Manning of sangars were observed at about 0400 hrs appear to one man to 3 yds. Manning appeared routine as enemy advanced normally and appeared to converse naturally.
  - (e) Patrols 2/1 Bn last night did not contact enemy positions.

INTENTION

2. 2/1 Bn will send out one patrol during early morning 23 Dec to examine enemy's line of fwd defences.

METHOD

3. B Coy will provide one recon patrol.
  - Route
    - (a) Coy comd will recon Arty C.P. area point 50903900 as debussing point for patrol.
    - (b) Patrol will move from right to left across whole Bn patrol sector.
    - (c) There will be no movement fwd of green line on map before midnight.

TASK

4. Patrol is required to gain the following information
  - (a) Type of wiring, its dimensions and where are the gaps?
  - (b) What are the dimensions and where are the gaps in the tank obstacle.
5. Transport
  - C Coy will detail 2 - 15 cwt trucks to report to HQ B Coy by 1830hrs
6. Reports
  - Patrol comd to report personally to Bn HQ on return.

94

- 2 -

7. Password

Bic password night 22/23 Dec - EGG SHELL.

ACK

*DR J. J. J. J.* Capt  
Adj 2/1 Bn

Issued in writing at 1300 hrs

DISTRIBUTION

List A  
J Bty 1st Wa Regt  
2/2 Bn  
2/3 Bn

REC 41

Intelligence Summary

A.M.A.P.

C.O. Major F.D. Chilton  
References

Place      Date

51483848      24

Summary of Events

Situation:- Bn H.Q. moved approx. 300 yds. to S. and 200 yds. W of  
Tarmac road - CAPUZZO - BARDIA - ref 51483848. No other movement

D Coy moved by the Bn. Defences were strengthened by digging and building up.  
2 led forward during the morning with starting approx 300.

Enemy Activity:- Apart from Muzmagic shelling the enemy were  
quiet during preceding 24 hrs. <sup>2/3 Bn</sup> report enemy digging in  
51303914 to 51403892 - investigated by patrol from C Coy  
and reported no activity.

Own Activity:- Carries patrol 1 mile E of B Coy forward 3  
Enemy O.P. on ladders which they suspect can cover B Coy  
lines. City report they have seen these and are dealing with them.  
DP 51293882 to investigate

D Coy patrolled area forward of ~~DP~~ DP 51293882 - report no signs of  
reported enemy digging at 51303914 to 51403892 - report no signs of  
activity. C Coy patrolled area forward of DP 51583878 and  
also gave protection to observers of 2/2 Id. Regt. who were occupying  
their O.P. during the night - nothing to report. C Coy patrolled  
area between their left flank and 2/3 Bn right flank. A Coy  
doing the same between the 2/3 Bn and the Grenadiers. Both  
report all quiet.

Subscribed sheet.  
I. O.

Dec. 140

Intelligence Summary  
Summary of Events

AMAP  
C.O. 116  
Ref

Place Date 25

51473839. Situation.

AMAP has taken up a temporary defensive location in  
shallow trenches and weapon-pits have been dug throughout the  
area and B are out forward with C and A in  
reserve. Throughout the night our arty. were in action against Bardia.  
There was considerable counter-battery firing during which H.Q. suffered one  
casualty. During a bombing raid on Salum yesterday afternoon it is reported,  
but not confirmed, that this Bn suffered one casualty.

Liaison :- Liaised with D Coy Queens on our right flank, and with H.Q. 2/2 Field  
Regt at Fort Capuzzo.

Enemy Activity :- Apart from spasmodic shelling no enemy activity reported during the day.

Our Activity :- D Coy had two patrols out to protect OPs at 51293882 and 51353892.  
D Coy patrolled to protect OP at 51653872. Our arty did a considerable amount of  
firing during the night. Patrols report no enemy activity. C Coy patrolled gap on  
left flank between 2/2 and 2/3 Bns.

Q :- Water cut down to  $\frac{1}{2}$  gal. per man per day. Christmas banners reported sunk during  
bombing of Salum - this is not confirmed.

Moral :- In spite of cold weather moral of troops is still high.

Winton Lieut.  
I. O.

Place

Date

Dec. 40.

Intelligence Summary  
Summary of Events

AMFP

C.O. Maj. F.O. Chilton

References

51483839

26

Situation :- Bn. remained in same position: D Coy H.Q. moved 600 yds. on a bearing of 335°. Int. O.P. situated at 51583877

Liaison :- Liaison officer from 1 NUD reported to AMFP H.Q. during afternoon of 25 Dec. I.O. liaised with H.Q. CAPRI.

Enemy Activity :- Int. O.P. reported at 1315 hrs. approx 100 men working on anty position 51643903 (approx). Also O.P. observed at approx. 51893896. The enemy also appeared to be vigorously patrolling inside their wire. Reported CAMO sighted A.F.V. Patrols report no activity of enemy during night 25/26. At approx. 51573889 patrol from B Coy reports signs of digging. 18" to 2' deep 6' long 3' to 4' wide. This patrol also reports seeing what appeared to be an illuminated kite flying a long way behind enemy lines. D Coy patrols to left flank reported no activity. A Coy patrols to right flank also report no activity.

Q :- Normal. Christmas hampers issued, one to each man.

Miscellaneous :- Italian gas boots and gloves found forward of B Coy's position near some ruins of road CAPUZZO - BARDIA sent on to Bde.

Winton Tent.  
I.O.



Dec. 40

Intelligence Summary  
Summary of Events

AMAP  
C.O. W. D. Chilton

Place. Date  
51483839 27

Situation :- Am. remained in same position as on 26 Dec. sections improving their positions by digging and building up. B Coy area spasmodically shelled at approx. 1530 hrs. 4" and 2.5 pounders. Tail fins of what appeared to be mortar bombs found in B Coy area at approx 1600 hrs. This was forwarded on to Bde.

Enemy Activity :- Apart from light shelling during the day the enemy were quiet: patrols report no activity during the night 26/27 Dec.

Our Activity :- Patrol from B Coy patrolled to within 1000 yds of mine - mine activity of enemy, nothing able to report. Two patrols from D Coy to Cont. O.P. 51363892. ~~1st~~ 2nd. patrol lost contact with O.P. but apart from this have nothing to report.

O :- Normal

Miscellaneous :- What appeared to be several mortar bombs fell in B Coy Area between 1600 and 1700 hrs. 26 Dec. One of the tail fins has been sent to Bde.

W. D. Chilton  
I.C.

23 Dec 40

— REPORT ON PATROL BY LIEUT LOFTUS —

OBJECT OF PATROL. To discover if there  
was a minefield on the RIGHT of  
the road leading into the  
enemy's position. To determine its  
nature.

To Recce the AT OBSTACLE and  
mine fence.

METHOD Patrol consisted of one  
Officer, one Sgt and seven ORs  
plus three engineers from the PHE  
TIME The patrol left at 2:00 hrs  
on 22/12 and returned, safely at  
07:15. The patrol was delayed  
at the beginning by fire  
across the road.

ROUTE By track to O.P.  
21583867 thence marching on  
a bearing of  $41^{\circ}$  until the  
enemy's lines were reached  
and returning via the main  
road.

RESULTS —

RESULTS No LAND ON AT MINES  
could be found at all but  
the ground is covered with  
small tufts of <sup>weeds</sup> carnation  
which <sup>weeds</sup> facilitate concealment.

Two attempts to approach the  
AT obstacle brought the patrol  
under observation by the enemy  
but at the third attempt the  
patrol commander succeeded  
in crossing the AT obstacle  
and reaching the wire.

The ditch was long and straight  
at this point and showed very  
little excavated material.

About 20 ft wide at the top  
and 9 to 10 ft at the bottom the  
rear wall was perpendicular  
and varied from 6 to 10 ft in  
depth. The front wall had  
a single terrace about 18 inches  
wide but otherwise almost  
perpendicular.

The ditch has been dug in  
a mixture of stones and earth  
and both top edges heavily  
ballasted with broken stones.

From the rear edge back for  
approx 30 yards this ballasting  
is done with large stones of  
12 to 18 inches in length forming  
a simple chevroned surface  
through which foot tracks run  
to the obstacle.

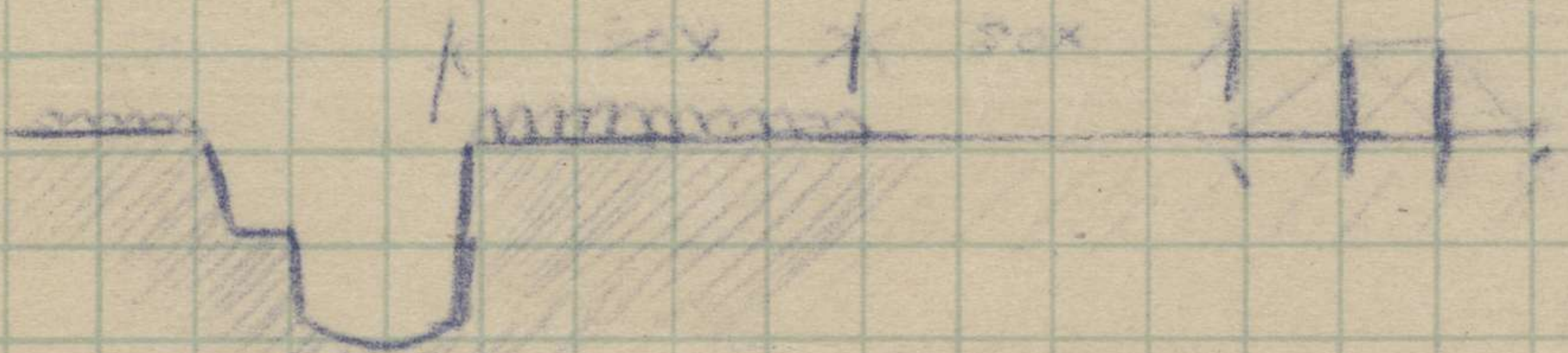
About 80 yards back from the  
obstacle a wire fence runs  
straight & parallel to the ditch.  
Built of a double row of long  
iron pickets with wire ends  
crossed between them and an  
apron on either side.

The wire is the ordinary  
light iron type and firmly  
attached from picket to picket.

The only post which the  
patrol could see was

maintained by at least two  
men who seem to work in  
pairs. The post appeared to have  
been built on the ruins of an  
old post and, from the  
outline only, to contain a  
pillbox which was feet high.

Hoops



SECTION OF DITCH

SECTION OF WIRE



CHEVAUX DE FRICE

A M A P.  
26 Dec 40.

PIPO.

REPORT ON BREN GUNS.

With the return of the two Brens now at L.A.D. no further Bren Guns from this Bn. require L.A.D. attention.

Five Guns will not fire ~~Automatically~~ due to weak return spring which cannot be requisitioned by us or by L.A.D.

In other Guns the return spring is weak and a number additional to the five may cease to fire Automatic at any time.

One Gun has a cracked striker which may at any time put it out of action, no replacements striker pins are available in the Unit or from L.A.D.

Spare striker springs are also a necessity.

It is suggested that it is imperative that someone be sent back immediately to obtain

- (a) Return springs
- (b) Strikers
- (c) Striker springs.

W. D. Dunlop Capt.  
Adj. A.M.A.P.

NOTE: All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS

SHEET NO. 2

DIARY

2/2 EN

REF. MAPS.

(Place)

(Date) 26 DEC 40

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd. | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From | T.O.Q. | MESSAGE | REMARKS |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------|---------|---------|
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------|---------|---------|

11 F 17 1705 Bde

The object herewith was pushed out in Bay area at approx 1200 hrs. Several of these objects have fallen in this area between B ford at N of Bay HQ approx 51553845 forward to 51553852.

12 DO105 1744 Bn HQ R Coy

Two sections patrolling gap between ANI A PD, C ANI D B, O first patrol out 2300 on 0100 second patrol out 0300 on 0500. Both patrols bearing 280 Deg. Distance 2000 Yds.

13 - - - - - Pn Coy Bn HQ

Hence patrols tonight these may go up to but not beyond a mile 1000 yds this side of anti tank ditch.

14 1820 Pn HQ Bde

Ref patrol night 26/270 due to arty concentrations. Patrols to be as for night 25/260.

15 10105 1709 Pn HQ, Bde

Queen Thermos bombs found on landing ground WNW SALUNO Coy. Repeat all Coy. are being destroyed. Warning. There may be more in area.

LOG DIARY OF INTELLIGENCE SECTION

| SERIAL<br>No. | TIME  |      |        | SUMMARY OF SUBJECT. | ACTION TAKEN |      | CONFIRMED | REMARKS    |
|---------------|-------|------|--------|---------------------|--------------|------|-----------|------------|
|               | DESP. | REC. | ORIGIN |                     | ACTION       | TIME | BY        | DEDUCTIONS |



**NOTE:** All communications both in and out telephone, etc., conversations to be entered on this form.

OPERATIONS  
.....

DIARY  
.....

REF. MAPS.

SHEET NO. .... 1 .....

2/2BN .....

(Place) .....

(Date) ..... 26 .....

| Serial No. | Senders No. | Time Rec'd or Sent | OUTWARDS To | INWARDS From : T.O.O. | MESSAGE                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | REMARKS |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1          |             | 0705               |             | D Coy                 | Shelling report                                                                                                                                                                                                              | File    |
| 2          | C 31        | 0711               |             | C Coy                 | Dawn Int. report.                                                                                                                                                                                                            | File    |
| 3          | I 13        | 0720               | BDE         |                       | Shelling report                                                                                                                                                                                                              | File    |
| 4          | -           | 0730               | -           | B Coy                 | Int. summary & report                                                                                                                                                                                                        | File    |
| 5          | EK 133      | 0735               |             | D Coy                 | Int. summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | File    |
| 6          |             | 0815               |             | D                     | both patrols in No 446 to report.                                                                                                                                                                                            | phone   |
| #          |             |                    | A Coy       | ⊕                     | Shelly report required by 0700hrs each way. If shelled heavily then report required as soon as possible aft. shelly takes place as possible. Each report to be accompanied by sketch showing where shells fell number & time | summary |
| 7          |             | 1010               |             |                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |         |
| 8          |             | 1545               |             | B Coy                 | 8 shells in B Coy area at 1500. 4" and 25 pounders also one unexploded shell.                                                                                                                                                |         |
| 9          |             | 1615               |             | Ade                   | password night 26/27 DEC PLAYERS.                                                                                                                                                                                            |         |
| 10         |             | "                  | All Coys    |                       | ditto.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |         |

*Wardrang*

AMAP  
23 Dec. 40

SECRET

To:  
BIPO  
CAMO  
DUGO  
(Unit on right already advised)

AMAP Patrols Night 23/24 Dec.

Following is precis of verbal orders given Coy. Comds.  
AMAP afternoon 23 Dec. :-

(1) "D" Coy.

Pl. Patrol

1st Task.

Protect withdrawal Arty. O.P. personnel  
cover further digging of O.P. To be in position  
fwd. of O.P. at 51298882 by 1830 hrs. Remain ~~in~~  
there until approx. 0100 hrs.

2nd Task.

Harass, and if possible capture any enemy  
patrols that may be seen.

Move fwd. from above position approx 4000  
yds on bearing 45° to within 4/500 yds of wire.

TIME OF RETURN.

To leave position 0400 hrs.

ROUTE IN.

Straight back to own Coy.

(2) "C" Coy.

Pl. Patrol

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

ROUTE OUT.

Through "B" Coy., reporting "B" Coy. H.Q.  
en route.

TIME OUT.

Leave "B" Coy. H.Q. 2200 hrs

1st Task.

Report is area of wrecked transport,  
51548876, clear of enemy.

2nd Task.

Same as "D" Coy's 2nd Task.

Route out for second task - on bearing 20°  
approx. 1500 yds to within 4/500 yds of wire.

ROUTE IN.

Via O.P. at 51588877, thence through "B" Coy.

(3) "B" Coy.

Sec. Patrol. 5/600 yds to right flank.

TASK. Ensure area clear of enemy.

TIME OUT. 0500 hrs.

ROUTE OUT. Through right Platoon.

TIME IN. 0600 hrs.

ROUTE IN. Through "A" Coy.

(4) "A" Coy.

Sec. Patrols. 1000 yds to right flank.

(1)

TIME OUT. 1930 hrs.

TIME IN. 2100 hrs

(2) TIME OUT. 0500 hrs.

TIME IN. 0600 hrs.

*Robertson*  
Adj. - AWAP. Capt.

EXTRACTS FROM ESB NEWS BROADCAST FROM CAIRO 1030 HRS 25 DEC.40.

CAIRO. Last night's communique from GHQ CAIRO reports continued concentration of British Forces including Artillery in the Bardia Area, and that this concentration is progressing.

CAIRO. HQ RAF, Middle East, reports the destruction yesterday of 7 enemy aircraft including three S57s. An aerodrome at Benina was completely destroyed by fire and 3 planes on the ground were burned.

Raids were carried out on Tripoli and Military Targets were fired, the fires being visible for over 50 miles. Castello power station was hit and seen to be on fire.

ATHENS. Greek HQ communique claims continued advance and the capture of 8 guns, many prisoners and much material.

LONDON. Two trains containing troops were machine gunned from the air in Eastern England yesterday, and one soldier was wounded. Otherwise air activity was light. No reports of enemy air activity over the South of England.

LONDON. Lady Dill, the wife of General Sir John Dill, died in London after a long illness.

AUCKLAND. The Prime Minister of N.Z. (Mr. Frazer) in a Xmas message to Mr. Winston Churchill expressed the Dominion's great admiration for the British people in their present struggle, and stated "We will continue to do our utmost to contribute to the ultimate success of our common cause".

NEW YORK. President Roosevelt in a seasonal message to the American people stated, "We must keep on hoping for and working for the better world. This cannot be a Merry Xmas but it can be a Happy Xmas, if we will believe in the Golden Rule of all mankind".

EXTRACTS FROM ESB NEWS BROADCAST FROM CAIRO 1030 HRS 26 DEC. 40.

CAIRO. GHQ ME communique reports Italian air raids on SALUM. Little damage and few casualties occurred.

CAIRO. RAF HQ ME reports many enemy aircraft have been successfully attacked in Southern Albania. Bombing attacks have been followed up by low level machine gun attacks. An Italian Cruiser was heavily bombed and machine gunned from low level.

~~CAIRO.~~ At Bologna our aircraft dived from low cloud at more than 300 miles per hour and did considerable damage to hangers and grounded planes these being both machine gunned and bombed.

British planes dropped Melotov Breadbaskets and pamphlets over Naples. All our aircraft returned safely.

LONDON. The King spent Christmas Day quietly with his family. In his longest ~~speech~~ Broadcast speech to the Empire he said, "We look forward to happier days to come. The future will be hard but with the help of God we shall make our way to Justice and Peace". After eulogistic references to the work of the Army, the Navy and the Air Force, he referred with pride to the way the people of the battered cities, towns and villages were facing the war. He continued "The Peoples of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and

South Africa, as well as many in U.S.A. have thrown open their homes to the children of the Mother Country. Time and time again during these last few months I have seen for myself the battered towns of this country and we may justly be proud of our nation and people and the new unit and harmony among all classes. We will go on thinking less about ourselves and more about one another. Our feet are planted on the way to victory".

LONDON.

There was only slight enemy air activity reported during the last 24 hours over Britian. Light raids occurred over the Orkneys and Scotland. One ~~enemy~~ enemy plane was shot down by the Fleet Air Arm.

BERLIN.

German High Command reports that after the attack on Manchester on 23 Dec. there was no attack from the air on 24 or 25 Dec.

ATHENS.

Greek troops have occupied CHIMARA after 27 years. They were tumultuously greeted by the inhabitants, who included weeping women and children. The surrounding country has been devastated and laid waste by the Italians, who, in retreating had littered the road with sufficient material for three divisions.

LONDON.

"In recent months prospects have greatly improved" said Queen Wilhemina in a broadcast to the Dutch East Indies.

LONDON.

In broadcast messages to the Forces from the First Lord of the Admiralty, (Mr. Alexander); the Army (Mr. Margison) and the Air Force (Sir Archibald Sinclair), the main points stressed were successes of our arms in LIBYA, and the fact that we have kept our heads in times of danger and will certainly continue to do so now in victory.

TOULON.

A one million Franc fine has been imposed on the City of Orleans following the cutting of a German military phone line.

-----

2/3 of the Patrol. We  
opened fire ~~completely~~  
with the Brens using  
2 mags per Bren.

There was no reply  
from the enemy to our  
fire & after waiting for  
some 10 minutes. The Patrol  
withdrew in order not  
to be caught by the  
daylight.

Enemy Moral.

~~W.S. Brown~~

Enemy Moral

There was a  
singing & happy talk  
among the marking Party  
Enemy Patrol, or covering Party

There appeared from Recce

Patrol to be no covering  
part of down side of A/T  
Trench

1st ~~Bunney~~  
ment

# Patrol Report.

Type

28 Dec

Fighting Patrol

Strength

1 officer 1 WOII + 15 ORs

Route

Out. Proceeded to  
Point 183 Anty. O.P.

Then Bearing 26°30' to  
Anti Tank ~~Ditch~~ Trench Enemy

In Bearing 206°30'  
Point 183 + then B bay HQ.

Times

out

0030 hrs

in

0540 hrs

Task I. Anti Tank Trench  
Enemy

width 15 to 20 feet.

Depth 4'6" to 5'

Enemy side. Sheer wall

Own side angle 45°.

Task II

wire fence



A large working Party was busy on what appeared to be a mining task. As they seemed to be drumming Pickets + hammering.

Task II harass & annoy  
→ make presence of our patrols felt.

Drawing located the enemy mining party who appeared to be large & took the patrol some 250 yds to rear of Ft ~~to~~ Trench + set the Brens 3 mi number on to the area estimated where the party was after a delay of 15 min taken up in backing for

working on were defences. M T  
was very evident moving back -  
wards and forwards and several  
Guns was seen moving East.  
Towards dusk I was unable  
to locate gun flashes until almost  
dark and then our plane was shot  
out. There were also two observers  
from two English regiments with  
me in the O.P. and they put  
over some very good shots.  
Also locating several gun  
emplacements.

Report on Forward O.P.  
by Sgt Campbell of Cameris  
22/12/40.

Ref Pt. of O.P.

51583838

Ref Map = Bardia (south) 1/100,000

I proceeded to forward O.P. before  
dawn. Immediately after dawn  
the enemy opened fire and continued  
to shell O.P. throughout the whole day  
My field of view covered about  
 $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles of enemy front and I was  
able to see any move on that  
area at once. From O.P. to  
enemy wire was about 2000 yds  
over very favourable ground.

Their wire was visible but con-  
usable to give any great detail.  
In front of wire is either a  
ditch or track. The enemy  
area behind wire was on a  
slight forward <sup>slope</sup> and did not  
seem to have any great defences.  
During the whole day there were  
a great number of men moving  
around, presumably parties.

Patrol Report.

Coy ~~out~~ patrol to enemy tank obstacle  
bordering 2/2 Pn area. Leaving TEFVA at 2400 hrs - night  
21/22 Dec returning 0535 hrs 22 Dec. Strength of patrol  
5 N.C.O 110 men.

1 Lt Comdr. WO 2 David

Task I Investigate probable gun emplacements in area  
BIR. & SLEIRMAN.

Report Patrol moved on hearing of 33rd from Area TEFV  
to Sleirman. Area well searched appears to be honeycombed  
with clusters of weapon pits approx 2' deep with parapets  
of stone. No sign of any gun emplacements but track  
marks of AFV's in area.

Task II

Investigate tank obstacle in front of enemy posn.  
Report Patrol moved north from Sleirman area for 3000 x  
and arrived within 30x of obstacle. Lt Honeywell went forward  
and climbed near side of obstacle. He reported as follows:  
Obstacle 12' high wide across top 6' wide at bottom. Further  
side is 5' in height & perpendicular. Near side is stony & the  
stony spoil being thrown back in a batter which being stony  
is very loose - obstacle continued as far each way as  
could be seen. Abt 30' behind obstacle is heavy wiring  
system - Two rows of ordinary straight fence 9 or 10' high  
and abt 6' apart appeared to be filled to abt 3' with  
loose wire. Very close behind wire were stone sangars &  
a low stone rampart abt 2' high. As Lt Comdr & Lt  
Honeywell were preparing to cross obstacle a large number  
of men (probably 1 man every 3') came forward and  
occupied posns - appeared quite casual & could be heard  
talking & laughing as if it were routine stand to. Time  
abt 1545 hrs. As patrol was in full view of fwd obs.  
only 30x from obstacle Comdr decided to withdraw &  
got out at 0405 - too late to try somewhere else.

Task III

Ascertain extent & density of mine fields  
Report on forward journey close look out was kept  
but no mines seen. There were indications in

Places that mines or dummies had been there  
Small rectangular holes 10" x 6" had been dug in sand  
groups in rows abt 8' apart. On return journey a close  
inspection by a section of 9 failed to reveal any mine.  
Return was on bearing 135° from the 200' in front of  
obstacle to return road. Whole area covered with  
tracks which appeared to be converging on a pt where  
return rd & spike line enter defensive area.

TASK IV Type of wire - No report

TASK VI Type of post. With exception of few posts  
mentioned No report.

Points which may be of use

No patrol moved fwd in vicinity of OP fwd of B Coy  
a light could be seen in area on left of OP area and  
was visible until patrol had gone some distance.

ii When patrol was 2000' fwd sounds of hammering  
& sentries challenging could be distinctly heard. Sound  
travels long distance in desert.

iii Large patrols not easy to handle in this type of  
country.

iv No sign whatever of enemy movement fwd of  
obstacle although posts scattered about look as if they  
might be occupied by day. Some appear recent  
construction.

v Boots scrapped in sand bags appear & feature in this  
country catch in thorny bushes & make a good deal  
of noise. Sand shoes best.

vi In left going out huge stacks of timber dumped in  
heaps about 6' high. Area about 100' in depth or more  
appeared to extend for considerable area. Abt 4000' in  
front of obstacle - apparently unoccupied. Similar heaps  
on left going out.

Addendums

1 From point 400' West of Sleiman on bearing  
337° battery of at least 8 guns fired salvo bearing  
taken on flashes.

2 All reinforcements still have Brass identification  
discs on rifle butts - Sushers in moonlight.

E N G L I S H.I T A L I A N.A R A B I C.

33

## SPELLING

## PRONUNCIATION

## PRONUNCIATION.

|                          |                      |                                        |                |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. HANDS UP              | MANI ALTO            | <u>MAHNEE AHLTO</u>                    | ERFA EDUC.     |
| 2. STAND STILL           | FERMATI              | <u>FAIR-MAH-TEE</u>                    | KIF.           |
| 3. THROW DOWN YOUR ARMS  | LASCA IE ARMI        | LASHAY LAY <u>AHMEE</u>                | ERMI NARUK.    |
| 4. FORWARD               | AVANTI               | AH- <u>VAHN-TEE</u>                    | MASCHI.        |
| 5. WHAT IS YOUR UNIT?    | CUALLA E TUA UNITA?  | QUAH-LAH <u>AY+</u> TOO-AH OO-NITAH?   | MENHA FERKA.   |
| 6. COME HERE             | VIENI QUI            | VEE-ENNY <u>KWEE</u>                   | TAALA HENNA.   |
| 7. WHERE ARE THE OTHERS? | DOVE SONI GLI ALTRI? | DOH-VAY <del>SONNEE</del> LEE AHL-TREE | FEN EL TUNINE. |
| 8. WHERE IS THE WATER?   | DOVE L'ACQUA         | DOH-VAY LAH-KWAH?                      | FEN EL MOYA.   |

.....  
 AMAP  
OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 2

.....  
 No 13

28 Dec.40

RELIEF OF POSITION.

1. 2/2 Bn. will be relieved by 2/7 Bn. night 28/29 Dec. 40.
2. 2/2 Bn. will move into reserve area approx. 505380.
3. Zero to be notified later.

4. Order of Movement:-

Coys. will move in the following order :-

|               |          |      |         |
|---------------|----------|------|---------|
| "A" Coy       | Z        |      |         |
| "C" Coy       | Z        | plus | 10      |
| "D" Coy       | Z        | " "  | 15      |
| "B" Coy       | Z        | " "  | 25      |
| H.Q. Coy less | Carriers | Z    | plus 40 |
| Carriers      | Z        | plus | 75      |

5. Bn. Checking Point.

A Checking Point will be established by I.O. on road CAPUZZO - BARDIA opposite present site of Bn. H.Q.

6. INTERVALS.

Intervals between Pls. 20x and Coys. will move on each side of road, keeping a sharp watch for M/T moving by night.

7. Route.

As per Sketch attached.

8. Action on Arrival.

R.V. on track 800x S.W. of Bde. H.Q.  
 On arrival at R.V. Coys. and Pls. will be met by guides who will guide them to prepared positions. Normal Security arrangements including "Stand To" will apply, but no patrolling.

9. M/T ("A" Ech.)

Will report to Coys. under Bn. arrangements and will be loaded and return to present "A" Ech. Park where they will move to new position under Bn. arrangements.

10.,.

Present Bn. H.Q. closes Z+45 and opens new position at same time.

Sig. personnel attached to Coys. will disconnect phones immediately prior to moving out.

*[Signature]* Capt.  
 Adjt. AMAP.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

A M A P.  
30 Dec. 40.

EXTRACTS FROM NEWS BROADCAST FROM CAIRO 1030 hrs. 29 Dec. 40.

ATHENS. A communique issued by the Greek Naval authorities states that the Greek submarine "PAPANOPOLIS" has torpedoed three Italian Troop ships in the Adriatic Sea, their tonnage is estimated to total between 28000 and 30,000 tons and they were intercepted between BRINDISI and VALONA Italian destroyers attacked the Submarine but without success, and it has now returned to its base.

CAIRO. G.H.Q.M.E. communique of last night states that the concentration of our forces in the vicinity of BARDIA is proceeding smoothly, ~~Prisoners~~ Prisoners of war to date number 38,114 of which 28,000 are Italians Officers and men. The statement also mentions the capture of four additional guns, South of BARDIA. In the Sudan and Kenya areas our Air Force have again been active carrying out a number of reconnaissance flights and also causing several fires at strategic points. The South African Air Force was responsible for shooting down one Italian Plane in flames.

ATHENS. Operations in SOUTHERN ALBANIA are reaching a decisive stage on the right flank and the Greek Artillery have been brought by mountain passes and tracks to points of vantage. Crown Prince Paul paid a visit to the troops and was received with great enthusiasm. He also paid visits to the men in hospital.

LONDON. Londoners have been free from the nightly bombing this week, with the exception of Friday night. Raids occurred over East Anglia and the South East of England. At Southampton, however, two attacks were made by Germans yesterday causing some damage and a few casualties. The British Coastal Command fighters and bombers again carried out extensive attacks on the Channel Ports from Calais to Bologne while huge crowds on the English coast watched the terrific explosions and fires, The most extensive of the British "Blitzkrieg". At times up to 100 bombs a minute were dropped. The attack continued for three hours.

LONDON. Marshall Petain - states a message from Vichy - has refused to consent to the German terms to hand over the French Fleet to Hitler. The French Cabinet will meet again to-morrow afternoon.

LONDON. Mr Churchill's broadcast to ITALY last week, calling on the Monarchy and people to throw off the Fascist yoke, which is leading the nation to destruction, has brought an Official Italian rejoinder directed against "those who would poison the Italian mind and destroy the bulwark of the nation", which appears to indicate that Il Duce fears Mr. Churchill's words to be seeds falling on fruitful ground.

MOSCOW. The unsatisfactory position of Italy in regard to oil supplies is made the subject of an article in the "Red Star", the official red news journal, which points out the likelihood of cessation of supplies from ROMANIA in the event of the extension of hostilities.

ALEXANDRIA. The Commander in chief- Mediterranean Fleet- (Admiral Cunningham) expressed his belief that in the course of the New Year the Mediterranean will be free of all enemy activity.

MELBOURNE. Mr. W.M. Hughes - Minister for the Navy - stated that the raider which shelled the ISLAND of MAUND on Friday last, hoisted the Nazi flag just before firing. The Raider at dawn signalled by lamp to the shore "Do not use your wireless or I will destroy it". I am going to shell the phosphate stores and jetty". The wireless was not used and was left intact but the stores were shelled.

(2)

LONDON. The construction of fabricated ships have been approved by the Admiralty. Large sections of standardised ships will be rolled and assembled, thus extending shipbuilding activities to inland places and considerably speeding up the process.

TWO SCHOONERS ENDEAVOURED TO ESCAPE FROM BARDIA 29 DEC.

One sunk, one captured. Captured one contained besides Italians prisoners from Queens Hussars.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Adj. A.M.A.P.

Capt.