

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

Item number: 8/2/20

20 Infantry Brigade

June 1941

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence
Summaries are contained in F.S. Regs., Part II.
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will be prepared in manuscript.

SEP 1 - 1941

WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Unit H.Q. 20 Aust Inf Bde

A:

118.

Month and Year June 1941

Commanding Officer Brig J. J. MURRAY

DSO, MC, VD.

References to Appendices.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.	
TOBRUCH	Sun 1 Jun	0513	1 EA bombed TOBRUCH and harbour without causing damage.		
		0800	Observations from post R22 revealed presence of approx 100 enemy vehs in direction of ACROMA.		
		1427	2 EA dropped bombs on harbour and town. Several buildings in AOD were damaged.		
		1901	40 JU 87 escorted by 8 ME 109 dive-bombed the 3 AA posns. 5 bombers were shot down and 6 others definitely hit.	C8	
		1925	4 JU 87 dive bombed PILASTRINO. One plane shot down. No damage done.		
		1955	1 EA bombed perimeter in the SE.		
		2150	to 2300 hrs - Movement of MT in excess of normal was heard in the MEDAUUAR salient.		
		2328	1 EA bombed the harbour without causing damage.		
				The relief of the 2/13 Bn by the 2/15 Bn was carried out successfully on the night 1/2 Jun.	C1
				Although many patrols pushed well fwd, no contact was made with the enemy. Ground activity remained quiet.	C7
Mon 2 Jun		0500	Change over between 2/15 Bn and 2/13 Bn completed.	C1	
		0705	Reported that a few shells were falling in fwd areas in the salient.		

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John Thompson

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WAR DIARY
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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Unit HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

Army Form C. 2118.

Month and Year June 1941

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Commanding Officer Brig J. J. Murray, DSO, MG, VD.

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	2 Jun (Ctd)		Our arty brought down harassing fire on enemy targets in the salient.	
		0804	8 BR 20 escorted by 16 ME 109 bombed the harbour area. Many bombs failed to explode.	
		1030	TAC/R reported several tks NW of ACROMA and below the escarpment at EL ADEM.	
		1045	30/40 covered MT observed at 39694399 moving EAST.	
		1113	1 EA dropped bombs north of town. No damage or casualties.	
		1240	2 ME 110 bombed a 3.7" gun site at EL GUBBI. No damage or casualties.	
		1530	A conference was held by Brig J. J. Murray at HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde to discuss the relief of 18 Bde by 20 Bde on nights 4/5, 5/6 and 6/7 Jun. The conference was attended by Lt-Col Burfows, Lt-Col Crawford, Lt-Col Brown and Maj Allan.	C2 C8
			Comd of WESTERN sector to pass to comd of 20 Inf Bde at 0300 hrs 5 Jun	
		1923	35 JU 87, 8 ME 109, 2 CR 42, 3 H 126 attacked AA guns on NORTH point and northern end of town. 4 EA were shot down and 4 hit. One of our 3.7" guns was put out of action for 24 hrs. 2 ORs were killed and 3 ORs were wounded.	
			Many patrols were carried out by fwd tps on night 2/3 Jun, but in no case was the enemy contacted.	C7
	Tues 3 Jun		A heavy sandstorm precluded ground and aerial activity. There was intermittent	C7

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Commanding Officer Brig J. J. Murray, DSO

Month and Year June 1941

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MG VD

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	3 Jun (Ctd)		shelling during the day.	
			Lieut W. B. A. Geikie attached for duty as LO.	A
	Wed 4 Jun		20 Inf Bde OO No. 6 was distributed to units. Reliefs will be carried out on	
			three nights: Night 4/5 Jun 2/17 Bn relieves 2/9 Bn	
			Night 5/6 Jun HQ 20 Bde relieves HQ 18 Bde.	
			Night 5/6 Jun 2/13 Bn relieves 2/10 Bn	
			Night 6/7 Jun 2/1 Pnr Bn less 2 coys relieves 2/12 Bn	C1
		1030	Thermos bombs were dropped in vicinity of 2/17 Bn "B" echelon. Bombs being dis-	
			posed of by SA fire.	C7
			on night 4/5 Jun 2/17 Bn relieved 2/9 Bn and 1 Coy of 2/1 Pnr Bn relieved the KDG.	B1 C7
			Capt J. G. S. Moffatt attached for duty.	A
	Thurs 5 Jun	0500	Air raid over TOBRUCH	
		0847	1 EA bombed TOBRUCH, but no damage was reported.	
		2150	Incendiary bombs destroyed three small petrol dumps, 4 miles west of harbour.	
			Air recce was carried out by an enemy plane during the day over Bde HQ area, and a	
			plane was used as a spotter for arty fire on 18 Cav area, and for mortar fire on	

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TOBRUCH	5 Jun (Ctd)		2/17 Bn.	C7
	Fri 6 Jun	0050	EA dropped a flare and bombs in the sea north of NORTH point.	
		0300	HQ 20 Inf Bde relieved HQ 18 Inf Bde. 2/13 Bn relieved 2/10 Bn	C1 C7
		1440	2 EA bombed NORTH point without causing damage.	
		1502	1 EA bombed north of the town. No damage.	
		1812	1 EA bombed SE shore of harbour.	
			During the day all fwd Bns were shelled, and casualties were sustained by 2/15 Bn and 18 Cav.	C7
			Between 8/12 GERMAN tks were reported to be in the EL ADEM sector.	
			Further digging and consolidating in the MEDAUUAR salient by the enemy reported by patrols.	C4
		2230	5 EA were turned back from TOBRUCH by intense AA barrage. Numerous HE and incendiary bombs were dropped SE of the harbour entrance, north edge of EL GUBBI and on the perimeter. No damage was reported.	
		2326	1 EA dropped incendiary and HE bombs 5 miles SW of harbour. A fire was started in an old ITALIAN ammunition dump. An officer and one OR were killed.	

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TOBRUCH	Sat 7 Jun	0205	Relief of 2/12 Bn by 2/1 pnr Bn completed without incident.	C1 C7	
		0515	5 EA DROPPED bombs on the NORTH point, town, AOW and SW of harbour.		
		0951	.7 JU 88 dropped 15 bombs on NORTH point. One 3.7" AA gun was put temporarily out of action.		
		1100	A meeting of COs of all units under Bde comd was held at Adv HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde. Notes were made of subjects discussed at the conference, and were promulgated for distribution to units concerned. Brig Murray's notes were forwarded to Division.	C2	
		1702	2 JU 88 dropped bombs near the beach hospital NORTH point without causing damage. Enemy shelling during the day caused little damage in Bn areas. Patrols observed working parties engaged in what appeared to be defensive posns. The noise of blasting and pneumatic tools being used was reported in the TWIN PIMPLES area.	C7	
				During the night 7/8 Jun, 6 or 7 raids were made by EA. Bombs were dropped on EL GUBBI, BSD, the harbour, in the sea north of NORTH point, and on the SOUTH shore of the harbour. No damage was reported.	C4 C7
			Sun 8 Jun	0058	2/13 Bn engaged with mortar fire an enemy working party of 100 strong seen near

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	8 Jun (Ctd)		FORBES MOUND.	
		0945	1 EA dropped bombs near the beach hospital NORTH point.	
		1030	1 EA dropped bombs on the foreshore WEST of the beach hospital.	C8
		1430	18 EA attacked PILASTRINO area. RSM Brown of 2/17 Bn brought one plane down with IMG fire. 1 OR was killed and 1 OR wounded by bombs and 1 OR seriously injured by MG fire. The plane brought down was identified as a GERMAN machine with ITALIAN markings. The crew of two, both ITALIANS, were killed as the plane burst into flames on landing. 2 planes were brought down during this raid, while two others were seriously damaged.	B C7 C8
		2212	1 EA dropped 6 bombs on the hospital. 2 wounded ITALIAN PWs were killed.	C8
		2237	1 EA dropped bombs NORTH of the town. No damage reported.	
		2254	1 EA dropped bombs NORTH of the town. There was one casualty amongst searchlight personnel.	
		2335	8 bombs were dropped on FORT SOLERO ridge. No damage was reported. There was increased enemy arty activity during the afternoon and evening, and several enemy shoots with air observation were reported.	C7

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TOBRUCH	Mon 9 Jun	0014	The AA site at 418427 was bombed, but no damage was sustained.	
		0425	Bombs were dropped NORTH of the town, no damage.	
		0527	Bombs dropped on NORTH point. No damage sustained.	
			Enemy dispositions are established at least 800 yds from our line. Diggings have been observed 400 yds from the wire by 2/17 Bn, and considerable enemy movement, sand bag filling and digging operations at 2000 yds out have been observed by 2/1 Pnr Bn.	
			Usual shelling fell during the day, 2 ORs were killed and 5 wounded by shell fire.	C7
		0745	2 HURRICANES were engaged and brought down by a number of ME. One plane fell into	
			the sea while the other landed forward of our FDLs. The pilot of this plane returned to our lines.	C7 C8
			An enemy recce plane was very active over Bde HQ during the day.	
			2/13 Bn patrols from B Coy encountered many booby traps extending over complete coy's front and as close as 40 yds to forward section of FORBES MOUND.	C4 C8
			The night 9/10 was particularly quiet from enemy arty activity, after the the rather considerable shelling during the day.	C9
			<p style="font-size: small;">Wt. 13161/317 200/0.0 5/39 H.E.J.Ltd. 51-3911 Forms C2118/21</p>	<p style="font-size: large; font-family: cursive;">Dwight</p>

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TOBRUCH	Tues 10 Jun		<p>Enemy arty activity commenced early today, and more than usual activity continued well into the morning. Several shoots with air observation were again conducted in the morning and late afternoon. The spotting aircraft in this latter activity being escorted by fighter patrols.</p> <p>Enemy mortars were very accurate in forward areas. 3 ORs were injured and one shell shocked.</p>	C9
		1450	2/1 Pnr Bn reported movement of inf approx 2000 yds on top of escarpment. At	
			1945 hrs considerable MT movement seen on escarpment 3000 yds out. 7 trucks descended to the flat.	
		2150	400/500 working party observed 2500 yds WEST of post S8.	
		2235	3 EA bombed NE of town for 25 min without causing damage.	
		2345	1 EA bombed NORTH of TOBRUCH. No damage reported.	
	Mid-night		1 EA dropped bombs on NORTH point. No damage sustained.	
			<p>Patrols from 2/13 Bn found anti MT pits full of booby traps. Between MT posts and enemy lines a distance of 5-6000 yds was also thickly strewn with trip wires and booby traps.</p>	C4 C7

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TOBRUCH	Wed 11 Jun	0020	3 EA dropped bombs on FORT ARIENTE, but no damage was sustained.		
		0106	3 EA bombed area SE of FORT ARIENTE, but again no damage.		
		0155	1 EA dropped bombs on fwd area. One landed close to 2/13 Bn front, remainder fell outside wire.		
		0230	1 EA bombed NORTH point but failed to do any damage.		
		0248	3 EA carried out HL bombing attack for 25 min. 3 sticks of bombs fell into FORT ARIENTE area. Nil result.		
		0750	12 JU 87, 6 CR 42 and 2 ME 109 carried out a dive bombing and MG attack on southern end of WADI AUDA and on a 3.7" gun site. Bombs of 50 and 100 lb types were dropped.	C8	
		1207	one EA dropped bombs into sea north of NORTH point.		
		1630	A recce plane flew over Bde HQ, but was forced back by accurate AA fire.		
		2355	2 lorry loads of ITALIANS commenced debussing in the vicinity of posts R31 and R33, a short distance out from the anti tank ditch. The enemy were engaged, but made off before our flanking patrol could contact them. It is believed that they had lost their way.		
				Shelling was normal during the day. 1 OR was killed and 2 ORs wounded by shelling.	C7

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	11 Jun (Ctd)		Usual number of patrols went out from each unit to a maximum depth of 300 yds, but found nothing unusual to report.	C4
			During night 11/12 the 2/13 Bn ^{advanced their line} moved fwd on an average of 400 yds.	C1
			2/1 Pnr Bn on their right conformed to this movement. One OR from 2/13 Bn was killed in the covering party for this movement.	<i>[Signature]</i>
	Thurs 12 Jun	0750	12 JU 87 with ITALIAN markings and 6 CR 42 attacked WADI AUDA pumping station and heavy AA sites. 1 JU 87 was shot down and the observer captured.	C8
			No damage was reported but 2 ORs were killed and 2 wounded during raid.	
			Lieut J. K. Thompson attached for duty as LO.	A
			Capt. C. M. Daintree ceased to be seconded from 2/13 Bn	A
		1100	A conference presided over by Brig J. J. Murray was held at Bde HQ, to discuss (1) relief of 2/17 Bn on night 14/15 Jun, (2) Straightening of left rear of salient, (3) improvement of posn by 2/17 Bn, (4) movement control. COs of all units under Bde Comd attended.	C2
			Except for periods of heavy shelling and mortar fire the day was very quiet with little little enemy ground activity.	C7

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TOBRUCH	12 Jun (ctd)	1325	2 enemy tanks were seen in square 426416 moving WEST. They were engaged by our arty and disappeared from sight.	
			Units were notified that TOMAHAWK fighters would be operating over the WESTERN DESERT as from 12 Jun.	C8
			During the night a 2/13 Bn patrol captured a GERMAN prisoner. All patrols reported the presence of booby traps.	C4 C8
	Fri 13 Jun	0155 to 0420	There were seven flights of EA over TOBRUCH and parachute flares were dropped at 0200 hrs.	
		1500	Brig J. J. Murray attended a conference at HQ 9 AustDiv.	C8
			20 Aust Inf Bde OO No. 7 distributed to units. 2/13 Bn and 2/15 Bn to each relieve part of 2/17 Bn. 2/17 Bn to move to Bde reserve. Relief to be carried out on night 14/15 Jun.	C1
			During the day there was considerable movement of MT on the escarpment.	
			Enemy shelling caused very little damage and there was only one casualty.	
			1 OR of 2/1 Pnr Bn was killed.	C7
			Standing patrols were sent out by 2/13 Bn to protect further improvements and	

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TOBRUCH	13 Jun (ctd)		wiring of defences. Other patrols found new booby traps and observed enemy working parties in the salient.	
			Whilst on patrol Lt. Tuckwell of A Coy, 2/17 Bn, was killed and 2 ORs wounded by a mine explosion.	C4
	Sat 14 Jun		A considerable increase of enemy arty activity has been reported. This may have been brought about by the arrival of the 3 Mobile Arty Regt of the PAVIA Div.	
			Approx 200 shells fell in the area between R11 and R33. 2 ORs of the 2/1 Pnr Bn were wounded. Bde HQ, the perimeter and harbour were shelled during the night.	C9
		1658	EA dropped bombs near the WATER TOWER 41224362 - no damage.	
			On night 14/15, 2/17 Bn carried out proposed move to new position without incident.	
			2/13 and 2/15 Bn moved in to conform.	C1
			Standing and protective patrols were out, but found nothing to report.	C4
	Sun 15 Jun	0345	2 EA bombed EL GUBBI aerodrome.	
		0438	5 EA bombed western perimeter, TOBRUCH, and west of town. Only telephone lines were damaged.	
			Reports of MT movement in front of the salient continue. A general flow of tanks	

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TOBRUCH	15 JUN (Ctd)		and AFVs to EL ADEM sector has been reported..	
			Our aircraft were operating over TOBRUCH today, and large columns of smoke were noticed in enemy territory. Enemy air activity has noticeably fallen off.	C8
			The recce plane usually so active did not appear during the day.	
		2035	Approx 8/10 MT were observed approaching on escarpment. Some were identified as tanks which began firing as they approached. Inf were also identified. Our arty fire quickly turned back the tanks and nothing further eventuated.	
			16 A Tk Coy moved out during the night 15/16 in accordance with instructions, and their place under comd has been taken by 26 A Tk Coy.	
			The sector was continuously shelled during the day and night, heaviest being over rear areas and salient, Bde HQ and rear Bde. 1 OR was killed and 1 wounded in 2/17 Bn. The harbour was shelled during the evening.	C7 C9
			Lieut R. A. Pegg resumed duty with 2/1 Pnr Bn.	A
	Mon 16 Jun	0800	4 G50 flew over the Fortress area and MGd personnel.	
			Heavy movement of enemy MT continued until about 1800 hrs. The movement was generally WEST to EAST along the main enemy supply route (ACROMA, EL ADEM thence to	

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TOBRUCH	16 Jun (Ctd)		man BARDIA rd), but a large convoy was reported to be moving from EAST to WEST along TRIGH CAPUZZO.	
		1945	1 OR was killed and 3 wounded in 2/15 Bn by mortar fire.	
		2000	Bde HQ heavily shelled for a short period.	C7
			Patrols penetrated deeply into the enemy's defences opposite the RAS EL MEDAUUAR sector, but no contact was made with the enemy.	
			The MT ditch approximately 300 yds from our tps holding the NORTHERN side of the salient is reported to be unoccupied, but to contain many booby traps.	C4
	Tues 17 Jun	0308 to 0445	Three flights by single EA made over TOBRUCH area. Several bombs were dropped without causing damage.	
			Shelling was normal in the Salient during the day, although there were eight casualties in fwd units, 2 ORs being killed, 4 wounded and 2 shell-shocked.	C9
		1600	2 EA bombed vicinity NORTH point. No damage sustained.	
			2/13 Bn patrols disturbed a number of enemy working parties.	C4
	Wed 18 Jun	0420	1 EA bombed 410438. No damage reported.	
			The situation was quiet throughout the day and night. Two IORs were wounded in	

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TOBRUCH	Wed 18 Jun		18 Cav by mortar fire.	? c7
	(Ctd)		A patrol from 2/1 Pnr Bn captured 2 ITALIANS of 20 Regt BRESCIA Div in vicinity of post S.13	c4
	Thurs 19 Jun	0830	Shipp ing in the harbour shelled. Visibility during the day was extremely bad owing to a heavy dust storm. Arty fire was on a comparatively reduced scale, although there were four casualties. 3 ORs of 2/15 Bn and 1 IOR of 18 Cav were wounded. Enemy MGs and mortars continued to be active on 2/13 Bn front. The night was very quiet and without incident. A patrol in the EL ADEM sector captured one ITALIAN prisoner of 8 BERSEGLERI bn.	c7. c4 c8
	Fri 20 Jun	1952	Situation remained quiet and unchanged and shelling was decreased in force. 2 EA dropped bombs on hospital and town. No damage or casualties reported. Enemy working parties appear to be more numerous during the last few nights. A patrol from 2/15 Bn surprised and fired on a working party of about 150 men, returning without casualties.	c7 c4
	Sat 21 Jun	0300 to 0500	Enemy heavily shelled the EL ADEM sector. No damage or casualties reported.	

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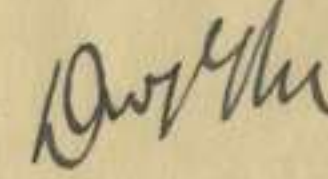
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TOBRUCH	21 Jun (Ctd)	0430	One EA bombed area 413427. An ambulance was destroyed and 2 drivers killed.	
		1009	3 EA dropped bombs in area 412434 and 410433. Telephone lines were cut. 2 ORs	
			were killed and 1 wounded.	
			A definite slackening was noticeable in enemy shelling, although casualties were	
			heavier than usual. 4 ORs were injured and 20 boxes SAA were destroyed in 2/13	
			Bn. 2 ORs were wounded by shrapnel and 1 OR by a sniper in 2/1 Pnr Bn. 1 OR was	
			injured in 18 Cav.	C7 C9
		1914	2 EA bombed NORTH of town.	
			During the night D Coy 2/13 Bn were engaged in digging fwd posns. 2 ORs were	
			killed by a booby trap during the operation.	
			A patrol from B Coy 2/13 Bn exploded a booby trap. 1 OR was killed and 6 ORs	
			wounded. A party which moved out to assist the injured set off another trap	
			injuring 4 ORs.	
			A special party proceeding from 2/15 Bn on line examination ran into an anti-	
			personnel mine. Lieut Morrison was killed and 1 offr from Div HQ and 1 OR was	
			injured.	C4 C7
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Unit HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

Month and Year June 1941

(Erase heading not required).

Commanding Officer

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	Sun 22 Jun	0515	One EA dropped incendiary bombs north of ARIENTE.	
		0610	One EA bombed SOUTH of ARIENTE.	
			Enemy arty and MG fire increased in intensity during the day. There were periods of heavy shelling on Bde HQ and intense MG fire on fwd posns. 1 OR was killed and 6 ORs wounded in 2/1 Pnr Bn area.	C7 C9
		1040	2 EA BOMBED NORTH point and WADI AUDA. No damage sustained.	
		1309	2 EA dropped bombs NORTH of Port War Signal Station.	
			During the night D Coy 2/13 Bn advanced approx 300 yds and commenced wiring posns dug during previous night. Despite the work of engrs, booby traps were exploded killing 5 and wounding 8, some being of 2/15 Bn who did not occupy their posn. MG fire was brought down by the enemy on the area of the explosions.	B.
	Mon 23 Jun	0645	One EA bombed TOBRUCH.	
		0705	One EA dive bombed north of port War Signal Station. No damage reported.	
			Two ships entering the harbour this morning were subjected to shelling by the enemy battery located in the BELGASSEM area.	
			2 ORs of 2/1 Pnr Bn were wounded; 1 OR was killed and 4 ORs wounded from ASC	

Wt. 13161/317 200/0.0 5/39 H.E.J.Ltd. 51-3911 Forms C2118/21

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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 HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

Month and Year June 1941

(Erase heading not required).

Commanding Officer.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	23 Jun (Ctd)		attached by shelling and mortar fire.	C9
		1841	One EA attacked harbour but bombs dropped in the water.	
			During the night work on the new posns on left flank of 2/13 Bn was continued.	
			The working party was supplied by 2/15 Bn, the covering party by D Coy, 2/13 Bn, who occupied these new fwd posns by 0400 hrs 24 Jun.	C7
			20 A Tk Coy relieved 24 A Tk Coy. 24 A Tk Coy returning to 24 Bde on completion of relief.	C1 C8
	Tues 24 Jun	1110	5 GR 50, 3 JU 88, 9 JU 87, dive bombed harbour. The JU 87s carried ITALIAN markings. Most of the bombs fell in the water. No damage resulted and one JU 87 made a forced landing in enemy lines.	
		1145	2 EA dropped bombs on NORTH point and North of ADMIRALTY House. No damage reported.	
			From fragments of unexploded shells it is known that the enemy is using some of our arty. Shelling generally showed a slight increase from preceeding 24 hrs.	
			The only casualties reported were 4 ORs wounded from RNF in 2/13 Bn area.	C9.
			Propaganda pamphlets were dropped over fwd areas by an enemy recce plane.	C7 C8.
			During the night a large number of illuminating flares were fired by the enemy.	

D. Miller

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

Month and Year June 1941.

(Erase heading not required).

Commanding Officer.....

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	24 Jun (Ctd)		The first stage of relieving one of 2/1 Pnr Bn Coys from reserve coy was successfully carried out without incident.	C1
			B and E Coys of 2/15 Bn advanced to new line approx 40024300 to 40124286.	C8
	Wed 25 Jun		7 or 8 air raids were made during the afternoon and night by single planes. Numerous bombs were dropped over the Fortress area, but no damage resulted. The light AA claimed to have hit one plane.	
		1500	A number of Hurricanes and Blenheims were operating over the TOBRUCH area. There were 5 casualties from mortar fire; 2 ORs were killed in 2/15 Bn and 3 ORs injured in 2/13 Bn.	C7
			A patrol from 18 Cav penetrated 1500 yds into the TWIN PIMPLES area and located the forward enemy line.	C4
		2200	2/17 Bn commenced relief of 2/13 Bn. Second stage of inter-coy relief by 2/1 Pnr Bn successfully carried out.	C1 C7
	Thurs 26 Jun	0500	The final stage of changing posns C and D Coys. 2/1 Pnr Bn completed. C Coy now occupies posts S16, 21, 23, 25, 27 and D Coy occupies posts S8, 9, 10, 11. 5 objects resembling OP or pill boxes have appeared on the escarpment, another	C1

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WAR DIARY

or

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Unit HQ 20Aust Inf Bde

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year June 1941

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	26 Jun		tripod structure some 20 ft high has also been observed about 1500 yds beyond S7. An enemy recce plane was again spotting for enemy arty during the afternoon. Shelling was much lighter than usual. One casualty from mortar fire was sustained by 2/17 Bn.	C7
		1500	RAF Blenheims with an escort of HURRICANES and TOMAHAWKS bombed behind the enemy lines.	
		1535	1 EA jettisoned its bombs into the sea after the first salvo of AA fire. All patrols reported the sounds of working parties on the escarpment.	C4
	Fri 27 Jun		2/1 Pnr Bn was heavily shelled all day. Mortar fire began early and was continued, killing 7 ORs in D Coy. 5 were Pioneers and 2 AASC personnel. Lieut C. W. Logan attached for duty from 2/15 Bn as OC Protective Platoon. Enemy air activity over the perimeter has been noticeably less. A recce plane was seen to drop leaflets over forward areas. Large formations of our own aircraft have been observed. Patrols were active on all fronts but made no contact with the enemy.	C9 A
	Sat 28 Jun		Enemy recce plane was again active and shelling on the sector continued.	

Wt. 13161/317 200/0.0 '5/39 H.E.J.Ltd. 51-3911 Forms C2118/21

Quayle

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 HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

Commanding Officer.....

Month and Year June 1941

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	References to Appendices.
TOBRUCH	28 Jun (Ctd)		<p>Bde HQ was heavily shelled.</p> <p>Our patrols continued to be active and there were a number of casualties in 2/15 Bn patrols. A patrol from D Coy struck booby traps or mines. 3 explosions were heard. 3 ORs were killed wounded and Lieut Carter and 3 ORs were killed. A C Coy patrol had 1 Offr wounded and 3 ORs killed by a booby trap. During the day 1 OR was killed by a sniper.</p>	<p>C9</p> <p>C1, C4 C7</p>
	Sun 29 Jun	0130	<p>A patrol from A Coy 2/1 pnr Bn raided strong post 69. 12 of the enemy were killed one prisoner of 3 Bn 19 Inf Regt was brought back. 1 OR was wounded and missing.</p>	
		0447	<p>A patrol went out to search for wounded man, covering route taken by fighting patrol, but was unsuccessful.</p>	<p>C4 C8</p>
		0215	<p>2/17 Bn reported that the enemy was inside the wire. All coys were ordered to stand to, but at 0227 hrs it was established that no penetration had taken place. It is thought that 2 MGs had been brought up and placed just outside the wire. Enemy air activity is still restricted but the recce plane continues to spot for his arty.</p> <p>In the 2/15 Bn there was one casualty from mortar and 3 from SA and MG fire.</p>	<p>C7</p> <p>C9</p> <p><i>Angela</i></p>



APPX

A

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

160 20th Div I Bde (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).
*			
*			
*			
<i>Brigadier</i> *	<i>1</i>		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	<i>1</i>		
Captains ...	<i>4</i>		
Lieutenants...	<i>4</i>		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	<i>10</i>		

* 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.
<i>Capt</i>	<i>McPherson J S</i>	<i>A.S.F.</i>	<i>4.6.41</i>	<i>Return 2.6</i>

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
<i>Capt</i>	<i>Backhouse A N</i>	<i>A.S.F.</i>	<i>1.6.41</i>	<i>Evacuated 28th Feb 41 - Illness</i>

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).
<i>Capt</i>	<i>Backhouse A N</i>	<i>A.S.F.</i>	<i>2/8 Fd Amb.</i>

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. <i>Personal No</i>	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
<i>Brig</i>	<i>NX 365</i>	<i>Kearney J.J.</i>	<i>A.I.C.</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Commander</i>
<i>Maj</i>	<i>NX 236</i>	<i>McCarthy J.S.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Detached to HQ 2nd Div for duty</i>
<i>Capt</i>	<i>NX 12230</i>	<i>Beckmann J.H.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Detached to 2/8 for duty</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 32</i>	<i>Mich J.M.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Brig S/O</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 12384</i>	<i>Scantler G.M.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>S/O Learner</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 70327</i>	<i>Mason A.M.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>S/O</i>
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>NX 12510</i>	<i>McMaster J.S.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>S/O Learner</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 13867</i>	<i>Francis M.D.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>S/O</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 56181</i>	<i>Jewick J.S.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>S/O</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 15590</i>	<i>Pickering M.D.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>S/O</i>

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank if held. <i>PERSONAL NO</i>	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
<i>Capt</i>	<i>NX 34963</i>	<i>Watson G.M.</i>	<i>M.M.D.</i>	<i>18 Jan 40</i>	<i>2/13 Coy for duty</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 35097</i>	<i>Francis G.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>20 Jan 40</i>	<i>2/17 Coy for duty</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 70322</i>	<i>Kearney J.J.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>27 Jan 41</i>	<i>2/15 Coy for duty</i>
<i>Maj</i>	<i>NX 12224</i>	<i>Wiley M.S.O.</i>	<i>A.I.C.</i>	<i>10 Apr 41</i>	<i>Attached to 2nd Div</i>
<i>Capt</i>	<i>NX 12328</i>	<i>McCarthy J.S.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>12 Apr 41</i>	<i>Attached to 2nd Div</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 34675</i>	<i>Combs G.J.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>14 Apr 40</i>	<i>3rd Div</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 180</i>	<i>Wiley M.S.O.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>30 Apr 41</i>	<i>1st Div</i>
<i>Lieut</i>	<i>NX 4731</i>	<i>Higgins P.A.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>12 May 41</i>	<i>1st Div</i>
<i>"</i>	<i>NX 34938</i>	<i>Wiley M.S.O.</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>12 May 41</i>	<i>Attached to 2nd Div</i>

Brig 20th Div 1st Bde
(Unit.)
7 Jun 41
(Date of Despatch.)

J.M. O'Connell
(Signature of Commander.)
(3.6.5 No. 1111)
Acting S/O 20th Div
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

20th Bus Coy (Unit). *7 Jun* 19*47* (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	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.			
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	3		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	4		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	41		11
TOTALS	50	*	11

* 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.
<i>Sgt Murray J</i>	<i>2/17 Bn</i>	<i>10th 9 Div Coy</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Sgt P. W. White</i>	<i>2/17 Bn</i>	<i>10th 9 Div Coy</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Sgt Coates C. H.</i>	<i>2/17 Bn</i>	<i>10th 9 Div Coy</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Asst Unit Clerk (Admin. Personnel)</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>58 L.A.S.</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Postal Unit</i>	<i>4</i>		
<i>J. Sec Coy</i>	<i>36</i>		

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).

6620 Aust Inf Bde Unit.

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.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals		Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																		2	2	
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																		5	5	
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
<i>BATMAN</i>																		2	2	
<i>ARMOURER</i>																		1	1	
<i>WATER DUTIES</i>																		1	1	
General duty personnel ..																				
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																			11	11

6620 Aust Inf Bde
Unit.

Date of Despatch *17 Jun 41.*

J. G. ...
Signature of Commander.

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

A

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE (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).
*			
*			
*			
BRIGADIER *	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...			
Captains ...	3		
Lieutenants...	4		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	8		

* 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	GEIKIE, W.B.A.	AIF	3-6-41	Attached for duty as LO
"	THOMPSON, J. K.	"	12-6-41	Attached for duty as LO
CAPT	BACKHOUSE, A.N.	"	8-6-41	Rejoined Unit ex 2/8 Fd

Officers QUITTED during week.

AMB.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
CAPT.	DAINTREE, C.M.	AIF	12-6-41	Ceases to be seconded from 2/13 Bn
MAJ	McCAFFREY, J.F.	"	11-6-41	Struck off strength transferred to AIF Depot of reinforcements - GAZA.

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. XXXXXX Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIG	NX 365	MURRAY, J.J.	AIF	Yes	Commander
CAPT	NX 12230	BACKHOUSE, A.N.	"	"	SC
"	NX 32	ALLRICH, F.M.	"	"	Bde Sup 0
"	NX 70327	ALISON, A. M.	"	"	LO
LIEUT	NX 12510	McMASTER, I. F.	"	"	BM Learner
"	NX 13867	VINCENT, M. D.	"	"	IO
"	NX 56181	TREWEEKE, F. S.	"	"	LO
"	NX 15590	PICKERING, M. V.	"	"	TO
<u>OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.</u>					
				Date of attachment	
MAJ.	NX 12229	ALLAN, H.T.	AIF	10-4-41	BM
CAPT.	NX 12328	MOFFATT, J. G. S.	"	4-6-41	SC Learner
Lieut.	NX 12372	GEIKIE, W. B. A.	"	3-6-41	LO
"	NX 34938 NX 34938	PEGG, R. A.	"	11-5-41	LO
"	NX 56431	THOMPSON, J.K.	"	12-6-41	LO
CAPT	NX 34675	COMBS, V. C.	"	14-6-40	58 IAD
"	NX 180	PAIN, R.T.W.	"	30-4-41	J Sec ^{9 Div} Sigs
LIEUT	NX 4731	DENNYS, G.	"	12-5-41	J Sec ^{9 Div} Sigs

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. XXXXXX Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CHAP	NX 34963	WATSON, B. M.	A A Ch D	18-6-40	to 2/13 Bn for duty
"	NX 35097	FRANCIS, C.	"	6-40	to 2/17 Bn for duty
"	NX 70322	CAMROUX F. J.	"	9-5-41	to 2/15 Bn for duty.

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE.

(Unit.)

14 Jan 41

(Date of Despatch.)

A. N. Backhouse CAPT.
(A. N. BACKHOUSE) (Signature of Commander.)

9 Div.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

6020th Coy/1st Div (Unit). *14 June 41* (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	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.			
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quarter-master-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	3		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	4		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	39		13
TOTALS	48	*	13

* 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.
<i>Adjutant</i>	<i>2/17 Bn.</i>	<i>Postal Unit</i>	<i>(1)</i>
<i>2 Cooks</i>	<i>2/17 Bn.</i>	<i>1 Serjeant</i>	<i>(39)</i>
<i>2 Bombardiers</i>	<i>2/1 Pioneer Bn.</i>	<i>1 Serjeant</i>	<i>(3)</i>
<i>5 Sappers</i>	<i>(11)</i>	<i>1 Serjeant</i>	<i>(2)</i>
<i>1 Cavalry Corporal</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>1 Serjeant</i>	<i>(4)</i>
<i>1 Cavalry Corporal</i>		<i>1 Serjeant</i>	<i>(1)</i>

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).
		<i>Two Cooks urgently requested</i>		
		<i>5 Sappers - Volunteers</i>		

H. J. ... Unit.

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.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																			2	2
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																			5	5
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
<i>BATTMAN</i>																			3	3
<i>WATER DUTIES</i>																			1	1
<i>CHIEF MESS DUTIES</i>																			1	1
<i>ARMOURER</i>																			1	1
General duty personnel ..																				
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).																			13	13

H. J. ... Unit.
Date of Despatch *14 Jan 41*

[Signature]
Signature of Commander.
H. J. ...
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE (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).
*			
*			
*			
BRIGADIER	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	4		
Lieutenants...	3		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	9		

* 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.
Maj	ALLAN, H.T.	A.I.F.	12-4-41	Seconded ⁱⁿ from 2/17 Bn to BM, HQ AIF (ME) instructions.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut	PEGG, R.A.	A.I.F.	15-6-41	Ceases to be attached. Resumes duty with 2/1 Pioneer Bn.

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. Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
Brig	NX 365	MURRAY, J. J.	AIF	Yes	Commander
Maj	NX 12229	ALLAN, H. T.	"	"	BM
Capt.	NX 12230	BACKHOUSE, A. N.	"	"	SC
"	NX 32	ALLRICH, F. M.	"	"	Bde Sup O
"	NX 70327	ALISON, A. M.	"	"	LO
"	NX 12510	McMASTER, I. F.	"	"	BM Learner
Lieut	NX 13867	VINCENT, M. D.	"	"	IO
"	NX 56181	TREWEEKE, F. S.	"	"	LO
"	NX 15590	PICKERING, M. V.	"	"	TO
<u>OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.</u>					
				Date of Attachment	
Capt.	NX 12328	MOFFATT, J. G. S.	AIF	4-6-41	SC Learner
Lieut	NX 12372	GEIKIE, W. B. A.	"	3-6-41	LO
"	NX 56431	THOMPSON, J. K.	"	12-6-41	IO
Capt.	NX 34675	COMBS, V. C.	"	30-4-41	J Sec 9 Div Sigs
Lieut	NX 4731	DENNYS, G.	"	12-5-41	J Sec 9 Div Sigs

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
Chap	NX 34963	WATSON, B. M.	AA Ch D	18-6-40	to 2/13 Bn for duty
"	NX 35097	FRANCIS, C.	"	6-40	to 2/17 Bn for duty
"	NX 70322	CAMROUX, F. J.	"	9-5-41	to 2/15 Bn for duty

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE

(Unit.)

21 Jun 41.

(Date of Despatch.)

Alan Backhouse CAPT.
(A. N. Backhouse) (Signature of Commander.)
SC 20 Aust Inf Bde 8 Div
(Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which Unit is serving.)

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

(Unit) 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	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.			
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	3		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals	4		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	38		14
TOTALS	47	*	14

* 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.
<i>2/17 Bn.</i>	<i>2/17 Bn.</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>(35)</i>
<i>2/17 Bn.</i>	<i>2/17 Bn.</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>(4)</i>
<i>58</i>	<i>(11)</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>(2)</i>
<i>1</i>		<i>4</i>	<i>(4)</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>(2)</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>(4)</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>(4)</i>		

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).
		<i>Two cooks urgently required</i>		
		<i>6 Drivers for vehicles</i>		

5020 Aust Inf Bde

Unit.

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.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																				
Clerks																				
Cooks																		2	2	
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled)																				
Drivers-Mechanics																				
Drivers-Operators																		6	6	
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																				
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																				
<i>BATMEN</i>																		3	3	
<i>WATER DUTIES</i>																		1	1	
<i>ARMOURER</i>																		1	1	
<i>DEPT'S MESS DUTIES</i>																		1	1	
General duty personnel ..																				
TOTALS (to agree with Col- umns 3 and 4 of Part A).																		14	14	

5020 Aust Inf Bde
Unit.

Date of Despatch 21 Jan 41

Alfred Dachtour
Signature of Commander.

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE (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).
BRIGADIER	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	4		
Lieutenants...	3		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	9		

* 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	LOGAN, C. W.	A.I.F.	27-6-41	Attached for duty from 2/15 Bn as OC Protective Pl.

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. Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIG	NX 365	MURRAY, J. J.	AIF	YES	Commander
MAJ.	NX 12229	ALLAN, HT.	"	"	BM
CAPT.	NX 12230	BACKHOUSE, A. N.	"	"	SC
"	NX 32	ALLRICH, F. M.	"	"	BDE SUP O.
"	NX 70327	ALISON, A. M.	"	"	LO
"	NX 12510	McMASTER, I. F.	"	"	BM Learner.
LIEUT	NX 13867	VINCENT, M. D.	"	"	IO
"	NX 56181	TREWEEKE, F. S.	"	"	LO
"	NX 15590	PICKERING, M. V.	"	"	TO
<u>OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.</u>					
CAPT.	NX 12328	MOFFATT, J. G. S.	AIF	Date of attachment 4-6-41	SC Learner
LIEUT	NX 12372	GEIKIE, W. B. A.	"	3-6-41	LO
"	NX 56431	THOMPSON, J. K.	"	12-6-41	LO
"	QX 8523	LOGAN, C. W.	"	27-6-41	OC Protective Pl
CAPT.	NX 34675	COMBS, V. C.	"	14-6-41	58 IAD
"	NX 180	PAIN, R. T. W.	"	30-4-41	J Sec Sigs
LIEUT	NX 4731	DENNYS, G.	"	12-5-41	J Sec Sigs

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CHAP.	NX 34963	WATSON, B. M.	AACH D	18-6-40	to 2/13 Bn for duty
"	NX 35097	FRANCIS, C.	"	30-7-40	to 2/17 Bn for duty
"	NX 70322	CAMROUX, F. J.	"	9-5-41	to 2/15 Bn for duty

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE.

28 Jun 41

(Date of Despatch.)

(Unit.)

(A. N. Backhouse) Signature of Commander.

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

9 DIV.

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

(Unit.)

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE

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).
*			
*			
*			
*			
BRIGADIER	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	4		
Lieutenants...	3		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
TOTALS ...	9		

* 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	LOGAN, C. W.	A.I.F.	27-6-41	Attached for duty from 2/15 Bn as OC Protective Pl.

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. Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
BRIG	NX 365	MURRAY, J. J.	AIF	YES	Commander
MAJ.	NX 12229	ALLAN, HE.	"	"	BM
CAPT.	NX 12250	BACKHOUSE, A. N.	"	"	SC
"	NX 32	ALLRICH, P. M.	"	"	BDE SUP O.
"	NX 70327	ALISON, A. M.	"	"	LO
"	NX 12510	McMASTER, I. P.	"	"	BM Learner.
LIEUT	NX 13867	VINCENT, M. D.	"	"	IO
"	NX 56181	TREWERKE, F. S.	"	"	LO
"	NX 15590	PICKERING, M. V.	"	"	TO
OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.					
CAPT.	NX 12328	MORFATT, J. G. S.	AIF	Date of attachment 4-6-41	SC Learner
LIEUT	NX 12372	CHIKIE, W. B. A.	"	3-6-41	LO
"	NX 56431	THOMPSON, J. K.	"	12-6-41	LO
"	OX 8523	LOGAN, C. W.	"	27-6-41	OC Protective Pl
CAPT.	NX 34675	COMBS, V. C.	"	14-6-41	58 LAD
"	NX 180	PAIN, R. T. W.	"	30-4-41	J Sec Sigs
LIEUT	NX 4731	DENNYB, G.	"	12-5-41	J Sec Sigs

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. Personal No.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
CHAP.	NX 34963	WATSON, B. M.	AACH D	18-6-40 to 2/13 Bn for duty	
"	NX 35097	FRANCIS, C.	"	30-7-40 to 2/17 Bn for duty	
"	NX 70322	CAMROUX, F. J.	"	9-5-41 to 2/15 Bn for duty	

NO 20 AUST INF BDE.

28 Jun 41

(Date of Despatch.)

(Unit.)

[Signature] Capt. CAPT.
(A. N. Backhouse) (Signature of Commander.)
9 DIV.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

2020 Ausdly Bde (Unit). 28 Jun 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	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus* to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.			
W.Os. Class II.			/
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants			
Staff Serjeants	2		
Serjeants	2		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.	4		
Corporals			
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	42		12
TOTALS	50	*	13

* 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.
<u>4/CPA MURRAY J.</u>	<u>2/17 BN</u>	<u>POSTAL UNIT</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>PTE COATES E.H.</u>	<u>2/17 BN.</u>	<u>J SEC 9 DIV SIGS.</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>SGT WINDEYER D.A.</u>	<u>2/17 BN.</u>	<u>A SEC 9 DIV SIGS</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>PTE KELLY E.C.</u>	<u>2/15 BN.</u>	<u>M SEC 9 DIV SIGS</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>1/PLST INT CORPS.</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>H SEC 9 DIV SIGS</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Cipher personnel</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>1/PLST CORPS SIGS</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>58 LAD</u>		<u>PTE MOORE J.F.</u>	<u>2/17 BN.</u>

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).

60 20 Aust Inf Bde

Unit.

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.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.O.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers																				
Butchers																				
Carpenters and Joiners ..																				
Clerks																			2 2	
Cooks																				
Despatch Riders																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
" " (Wheeled) ..																				
Drivers-Mechanics																			1 1	
Drivers-Operators																				
Electricians																				
Equipment Repairers ..																				
Farriers																				
Fitters																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons																			1 1	
Motor Mechanics																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters ..																				
Range Takers																				
Saddlers and Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers																				
Sanitary and Water Duties ..																				
Signallers																				
Storemen technical																				
Tailors																				
Wheelers																			3 3	
<u>BATMAN</u>																			1 1	
<u>WATER DUTIES</u>																			2 2	
<u>ARMOURER</u>																			2 2	
<u>OTHER MESS DUTIES</u>																				
General duty personnel ..												1								1
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 and 4 of Part A).												1							12 13	

60 20 Aust Inf Bde Unit.

Date of Despatch 28 Jun 40

(A. N. BACKHOUSE) Signature of Commander. SC 20 AUST INF BDE

Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving. 9 Div.

APPX B

OTHER REPORTS



TIMES OF SUNRISE ETC

ROUTINE FOR I SEC

MANNING CHARTS

EMCN/RGP

HQ 9 AUST DIV
2 June, 41.TIMES OF SUNRISE, SUNSET - MOONRISE AND MOONSET.

Shown hereunder as Appx "A" is a list of times of sunrise, sunset, moonrise and moonset from 1 June to 30 June, 41.

E. M. Rawson Capt
Col.
GS 9 AUST DIV.

DIST: List A Less Serials 12,13,14,15,20.

<u>JUNE - 1941</u>			<u>APPX "A".</u>		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunrise</u>	<u>Sunset</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Moonrise</u>	<u>Moonset.</u>
1	0620	2017	1/2	1147	0105
2	0620	2017	2/3	1249	0146
3	0620	2018	3/4	1350	0226
4	0620	2018	4/5	1452	0307
5	0619	2019	5/6	1555	0347
6	0619	2019	6/7	1660	0438
7	0619	2020	7/8	1767	0530
8	0619	2020	8/9	1913	0621
9	0619	2021	9/10	2019	0714
10	0619	2021	10/11	2124	0814
11	0619	2021	11/12	2209	0915
12	0619	2022	12/13	2253	1014
13	0619	2022	13/14	2340	1115
14	0619	2022	-	-	-
15	0619	2023	15	0022	1214
16	0619	2023	16	0107	1308
17	0619	2023	17	0151	1401
18	0619	2023	18	0216	1455
19	0619	2024	19	0251	1547
20	0620	2024	20	0325	1640
21	0620	2024	21	0400	1731
22	0620	2025	22	0443	1822
23	0620	2025	23	0527	1914
24	0620	2025	24	0612	2003
25	0621	2026	25	0706	2054
26	0621	2026	26	0752	2137
27	0622	2026	27	0849	2218
28	0622	2026	28	0947	2301
29	0623	2026	29	1044	2343
30	0623	2026	30	1152	-

Moon's phases: 1st Quarter 2nd
Full Moon 9th
Last Quarter 16th
New Moon 24th

War Diary

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde,
In the Field,
28 Jun 41.

ROUTINE FOR UNIT "I" SECTIONS

Owing to the necessity for a standardization of working systems throughout the Bde, the following points should be noted and adhered to by all "I" Sections throughout the units.

1. Patrol reports

- (a) Typed on the required pro-forma and sent in by 0900 hrs each morning.
- (b) A pro-forma is required every morning from each front line unit whatever the nature of the patrol.
- (c) Reports to be sent in in duplicate.
- (d) Unit clearly marked at the head and no code names for coys to be used.
- (e) Tracings to accompany each patrol report of over 1000 yds out.

2. Shelling reports

A typed return on pro-forma in duplicate from each unit every morning by 0900 hrs.

3. Summaries

Some units like to write their own summaries. This is optional and is both interesting and helpful but it must be understood that it cannot supplant either patrol or shelling reports.

4. Maps, Traces, etc.

The standard scale throughout the Bde is 1/25,000 for all such returns.

5. Dispositions

- (a) Any alterations of our own to be notified by units concerned at once accompanied by trace of new posns.
- (b) All information on enemy disposns, weapons, works, etc. is of greatest importance and should be given with as great a degree of accuracy and detail as possible.

6. Sitrep reports

To be rung through to Bde at the following times: 0745; 1145; 1745, thence every hour.

7. Enemy Weapons

Information on these is always sought, but care must be taken as to what is handled in the nature of explosive. A message through to Engrs will always obtain expert investigation on the spot, provided that the information likely to be obtained compensates for their time. Further investigation of booby traps, etc. already fully reported in Div "I" summaries is merely waste of time.

A degree of accuracy is difficult with the maps in use but units should endeavour to be as accurate as possible with their figures, especially when dealing with references, distances and bearings.

Detail is often lacking in reports especially where casualties are concerned. When a death is involved every piece of information possible is required.

Suggestions from Unit "I" Secs which might help the efficiency of the "I" work throughout the Bde, especially from the units' point of view, are always welcome and should be offered as soon as possible so that the best system can be adopted and maintained.

Clan A. McMaster Capt
for (H. T. ALLAN) Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

ARAB.
6 JUN 41

PERSONNEL AND MANNING CHART

Coy. Post No.	Strength		Bren	Breda	Vickers	Fiat	Tommy Gun.	.55 A/Tk.	Iti. Mortars	Spandow	Hotchkiss	Mortars ex 48 Bn
	Off.	ORs.										
"C" HQ.	2	9		2		2		1 Germ.				
1 Sec		13	3									
S 8	1	39	2	2	1		2	2				
S 9		32	3	2	1	1	2	3	1			
S11	1	31	3	6		3	2	1		1		
"B" HQ	2	13		1								
S12		21	2	2		2	1					
S13	1	32	2	6			1		1		1	
S14		15	1	1			1	1				
S15		34	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	x		2-2" & 1.88mm
S17		32	1	3			1	1	1	1		
S19		16	1	1	1		1	1				2 -2"mm
"D" HQ & Reserve	2	28	1	2	1		1		1			
S21		31	3	1			2	2	1			1 Xylo - phone
S23	1	14	2									
S16		14	2	1		1	1	3	1			
S25	1	11	1	1			1	1	1			
S27		10	2					1				
"A" HQ	2	10										
39884319	1	30	3	2			2	3				1 Schwarz - tztosh
39854326		33	3	2			2	2	1			
S10	1	32	2	2			2	1				
"Reserve"	1	47	7					4				
"B" Echelon Wadi 404433	3	63										
R.A.P	1	3										
B.H.Q.	4	14										
Sigs		10										
		24.	637.	45.	39.	5.	10.	23.	28.	9.	2.	



ROUTINE ORDERS

WORKS REPORTS

MINEFIELDS

Not for publication.
For official use only.

AMR & O 1537

AUS TRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER

by

Brigadier J. J. HENRY, DSO, MC, VD.

Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

No. 3

Monday 9 Jun 41

In the Field.

1. COURT OF INQUIRY

A court of Inquiry consisting of the undermentioned officers:

President

Capt C. H. Dalatree, 20 Aust Inf Bde HQ

Members

Capt C. H. Walcott, 2/13 Bn

Lieut W. B. A. Gellie, 2/17 Bn

will assemble at such time and place as the President may determine to inquire into and report on the circumstances under which
HX 68186 Lieut J. A. [unclear] was captured by the enemy on 2nd May 41.

The attention of the Court is directed to PWR Vol 1
Para 2 3 (1) and AMR & O para 701.

J. G. J. HOFFATT

(J. G. J. HOFFATT) Capt.
Acting SO 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Bn
2/15 Bn
2/17 Bn
S/1 Pioneer Bn
9 Aust Div
HQ
War Diary (2) ✓
HQ Sec Sigs
HQ affrs
File

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AMR & O 1587

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES

ROUTINE ORDER

by
Brigadier J.J.MURRAY, DSO, MC, VD.

Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

No.4

Thursday 12 Jun 41

In the field


1. AMENDMENT

COURT OF INQUIRY

Ref 20 Aust Inf Bde RO No 3 of 9 Jun 41 Para 1 is amended by deleting the Name of Capt O.M.Walsole and substituting in lieu thereof the Name of Capt E.A.Handley, MC of 2/13 Bn.

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Bn	Brig
2/15 Bn	War Dairy (2) ✓
2/17 Bn	"J" Sec Sigs
2/1 Pnr Bn	Bde Offrs
9 Aust Div	File


(Allan Backhouse) Cap t.
S C 20 Aust Inf Bde.

WD 2/1 PNR BN

13 Jun 41.

To GOLD of Turk
From ARAB.



Copy of Report from O.C. "B" Coy.
Ref; "B" Coy Area.

Post GI Concrete and sangars. Extension above escarpment to left with
(S13) good field of view fire. Further post to right to be constructed
outside minefield.

Post GK Concrete post, concrete tank trap (used for weapons) and sangars
(S15) above wadi on right. Section post in sangars to be built to
right near GS-old sangars can be made use of in part.

Post GS Concrete plus numerous sangars extending over 200 yds. Further
(S17) sangars to be built on high ground to right to command deep
wadi.

Post GL Concrete plus sangars up escarpment to left. Sangars to be
(S19) improved to cover high ground not protected from GS.

Post GJ Small concrete post. Automatic position to ~~be~~ left flank to be
(S14) constructed.

Post GW Concrete plus dug positions. New positions to be dug to the
(S12) right to cover wadi.

Deficiency: Lack of post between GW and GJ. This area requires two
section posts but at present there are insufficient men available
for work in this area.

Nature of Country The country in the "B" Coy area is mostly rock and
posts have to be built above ground. This draws enemy fire as
concealment is not possible. In GS certain sangars are untenable
in daylight.

Enemy Fire:
on GL- chiefly 75mm on bearing 340 degs.
on GS- mortar and light Arty fire--some AT.
on GK- slight MG and some light Arty fire.
on GI- AT fire nearby (solid non-explosive.)

Some of the fire in SS and GK area was of an unusual nature. Two
rounds or bombs were fired closely together. One burst in the air
with a dull noise and a red glow while the other seemed to bump
along the ground without bursting. Shrap. from a burst 100 ft up
travelled forward about 50 ft.

Fire on GS at night seemed to come from "Bren Carrier" area, possibly
light gun run in over night. Am wondering if this is from the
armoured car in those parts in the evening. I/summary of a couple
of weeks ago mentioned a sturm battery- this would possibly explain
the armoured car and the fire.

Enemy Activity: Sangars in "Bren Carrier" area have been enlarged and
appear too large for rifle or LA. They are a very suitable target
for 81mm mortar when available. Arty also are talking of a crack
at them.

Digging by enemy can be heard well out and is being located and
pin-pointed.

Sgd. V.R. Tunbridge Capt.

WD
20 Bde

FIELD WORKS.

SECRET.

1. The following arrangements will be made forthwith to continue the improvement of TOBRUK defences:-

Serial No.	Line	Unit to supply working party	Strength of working party	Location & description of Task		Engr Unit concerned with supervision etc.	Remarks
				Description	Sketch		
<u>20 BDE AREA.</u>							
1	Red Line	12 Bn	One Coy	Adding depth to Red Line Posts astride DERNA rd particularly just to N. of it.	A	13 Fd Coy (Lt OVERALL)	Night work only practicable. Tps could come up each night in MT
2	Blue Line	INDIAN Pnr & Lab Corps & as far as practicable 17 Bn	150 ? 17 Bn	Development of Blue Line posn incl sangars from BIANCA North to escarpment	A	13 Fd Coy (Lt WATSON)	
3	Res posns betw een Red & Blue Lines	INDIAN Pnr & Lab Corps	--	Reserve position covering minefield and road running down escarpment at FIGTREE	A	13 Fd Coy (Lt OVERALL)	Night work only practicable. Work to commence on completion Serial 2.
4	Blue Line	Ditto	--	North of DERNA rd to sea	A	13 Fd Coy (Lt WATSON)	Ditto
5	Western Switch Line	10 Bn assisted by any Res Coy of another Bn if located in this Line	One Coy ? Res Coy	Development of Bn position	A	13 Fd Coy (Lt BRENNAN)	Day work should be possible
<u>24 BDE AREA</u>							
6	Red Line	INDIAN Pnr & Lab Corps	100	adding depth to Red Line	B	7 Fd Coy	In conjunction with units in Red Line
7	Blue Line	Ditto	100	Development of defences from excl PILASTRINO rd to WESTERN SWITCH Line	B	Ditto	- -

Serial No.	Line	Unit to supply working party	Strength of working party	Location & description of Task		Engr Unit concerned with supervision etc	Remarks
				Description	Sketch		
8	Blue Line	43 Bn	All men available	Development of Blue Line Defences from PILASTRINO rd to incl EL ADEM rd	B	7 Fd Coy	
9	Blue Line	3 Fd Coy	One Section	Wiring & placing A/Tk minefield astride PILASTRINO rd and just in front of Blue Line	B	3 Fd Coy	
10	PILASTRINO DEFENDED LOCALITY	10 Bn	As many as are available	Development of PILASTRINO defended locality defences	B	Ditto	
11	Blue Line	9 Bn	One Coy	Development of Coy locality astride EL ADEM rd	B	7 Fd Coy	
<u>26 BDE AREA.</u>							
12	Eastern Switch Line	INDIAN Pnr & Lab Corps	50	Development of Eastern Switch Line defences	C	4 Fd Coy	
13	Blue Line	48 Bn & AASC & INDIAN Pnr & Lab Corps	As many as are available. 50 INDIANS	Development of Blue Line to sea	C	4 Fd Coy	
14	Red Line	48 Bn	As many as are available	Development of Res posn in rear of 23 Bn	C	4 Fd Coy	
15	Red Line	24 Bn	As many men as are available	Development of Res posn behind 24 Bn	C	4 Fd Coy	

Serial No.	Line	Unit to supply working party	Strength of working party	Location & description of Task		Engr Unit concerned with supervision etc.	Remarks
				Description	Sketch		
16	EL ADEM defended locality	9 En	As many men as are available	Development of EL ADEM defended locality	C	4 Fd Coy	
17	Green Line	12 En	One coy doing duty on aerodromes	Development of Switch Line in Green Line defences	-	3 Fd Coy	Work on alternate days only
18	" "	10 Bn	ditto	Development of Green Line in proximity to its posn on the aerodromes	-	3 Fd Coy	
19	" "	9 Bn	ditto	ditto	-	3 Fd Coy	
20	" "	INDIAN Pnr & Lab Corps	100	Development of Green Line defences	-	3 Fd Coy	

2. The detailed plans as already issued of development of Eastern and Western Switch Lines, the Blue Line, PILASTRINO and EL ADEM Defended Localities, and the Green Line will be followed in all cases.

Michael D. A.
Col.
GS 9 Aust Div.

SHEET "A"

398

400

402

404

406

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438

436

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432

430

428

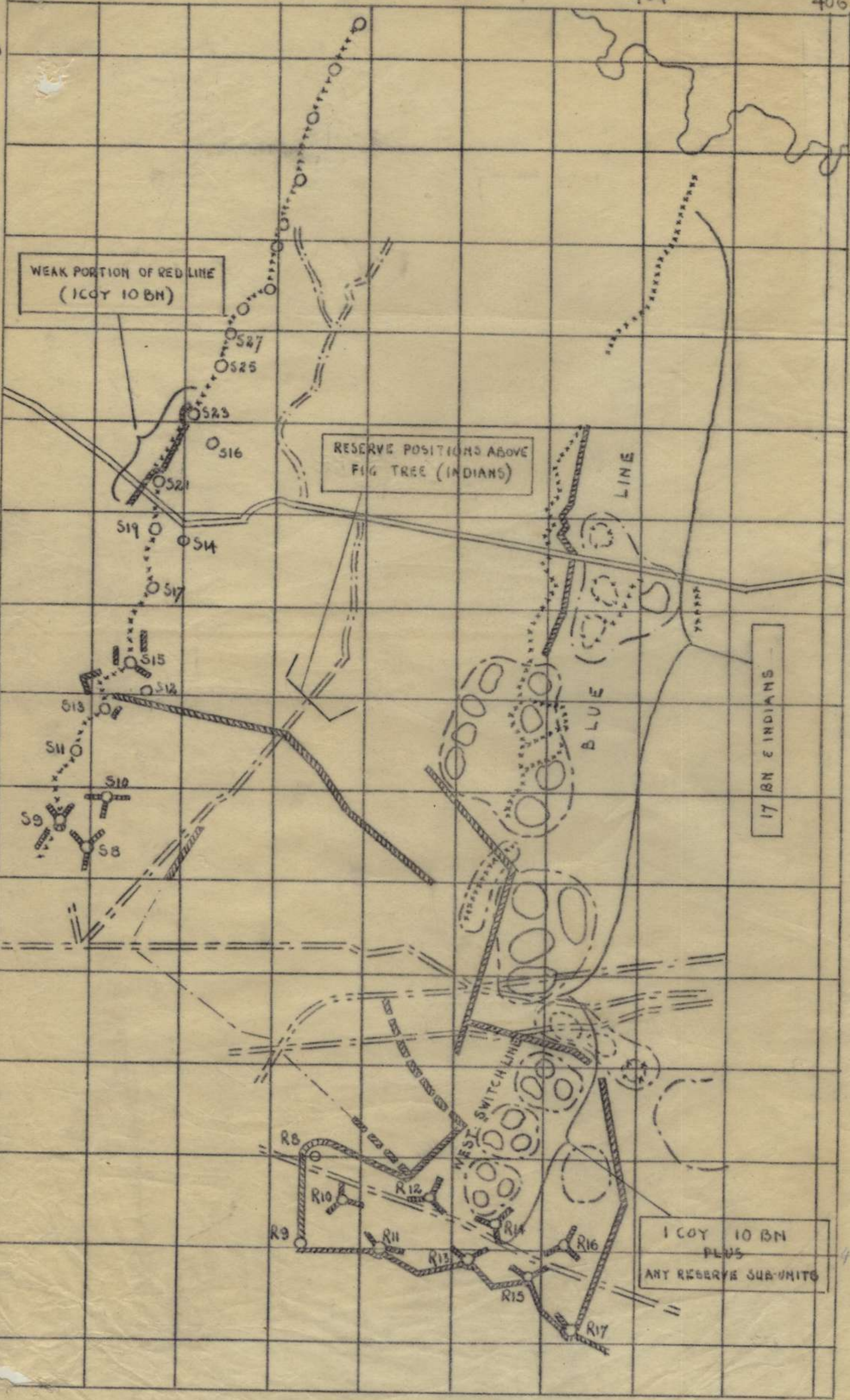
426

WEAK PORTION OF RED LINE
(1 COY 10 BN)

RESERVE POSITIONS ABOVE
FIG TREE (INDIANS)

17 BN & INDIANS

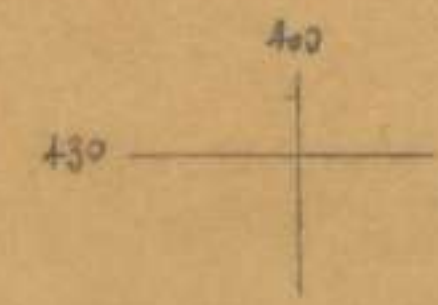
1 COY 10 BN
PLUS
ANY RESERVE SUB-UNITS



427

DAILY WORK REPORT ON BLUE LINE

CORRECT 10 MAY
12
13
14
16
20
22



PI post 100% at 20%
(40274287)

BNHQ
defencing trench excavations
40604252

2 pl WIRING
points to be completed
(40444253)

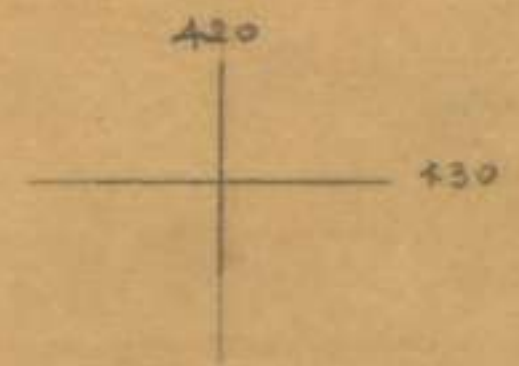
PI post (1 sec completed)
80%
50%
30%

40674271 PI post 50%
40674269 STRUT 50%

PI post 100%
(40274263)

PI post 10% (completing needed)
(40274264)

PI post 99%
(40144245)



20 AUST INF BDE O INSTN No. 2.
(Issued in conjunction with 9 Aust Div G.S.I. No. 66)

ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOR CLOSING GAPS IN MINEFIELD AND WIRE, AND BLOWING DEMOLITIONS FWD OF BLUE LINE.

1. Unit	2. Action on Warning of Attack	3. Action if Attack Develops	4. Remarks
a. 20 Aust Inf Bde	(i) Warn Eng. sector comd who will take precautionary measures. (ii) Warn bns that precautionary measures are being taken. (iii) Warn units u/c and in support that precautionary measures are being taken. (iv) Warn all concerned that gaps in RED LINE are being closed. <u>NOTE:</u> Precautionary measures are laid down in G.S.I. 66, coln 2, sub para (c).	(i) Advise Eng. sector comd what action is to be taken. (ii) Order bn to proceed with closing of all gaps with the exception of permanent counter-attack gaps (Vide GSI 66, coln 4 (b)). (iii) Issue orders for blowing of prepared demolition (if necessary). (iv) Warn all concerned that gaps have been closed and what demolitions are being carried out. (v) Advise Div HQ what action is being taken and when action is complete.	In event of an attack and communications breaking down, or of a sudden attack bn Comds may give orders on their own initiative and advise Bde later. Similarly they are to instruct officers concerned to order blowing of demolitions on approach of enemy without reference to higher authority, if there is danger of the position being overrun.
b. HQ of Bn of sub sector concerned.	(i) Warn all sub units incl units in support and u/c what precautionary measures are being taken. (ii) Check that precautionary measures in sub section have been taken. (iii) Warn all officers detailed to give orders to Eng. parties, to make certain that Eng. parties are in position. Vide GSI 66, coln 2 (iii).	(i) Order Eng. parties to close all gaps except as shown in G.S.I. 66, coln 4 (b). (ii) Warn all sub-units and units u/c and in support that gaps have been closed. (iii) Order blowing of demolitions if ordered by Bde. (iv) Advise Bde HQ of progress of action and when action is complete.	COs will detail an officer to be responsible for issuing orders to each Eng. party in the event of an attack. The officer will be one whose normal duties require him to be in vicinity of the work to be carried out. <u>A list of these officers will be submitted to Bde and amended as becomes necessary.</u> This list will include the appointments of offrs designated, in the form: "OC" right fwd coy "2 i/c" left fwd coy "OC" right fwd pl. Res Coy, etc.

/over

1. Unit	2. Action on warning of attack	3. Action if attack developes	4. Remarks.
c. Eng. sub sector comd.	(i) Immediately report to Bn Comd in his sub sector. (ii) Carry out tasks as given in G.S.I. 66, coln 2 (c).	(i) Carry out tasks as allotted in G.S.I. 66, coln 3-c (i) and (ii). (ii) Advise Bde on progress of tasks and on completion.	

H. T. Allan
(H. T. ALLAN) Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION:

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2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
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24 Aust A Tk Coy	4
Comd	5
BM	6
9 Aust Div	7
1 RHA	8
107 RHA	9
3 Pd Coy, RAE	10
War Diary	11-12 ✓
File	13

REPORT FROM IBBO GOLD re MINEFIELDS.

IBBO ESSEX Troop Signallers, out on Wire maintenance at approx 2330 hrs 7th June, were informed on their return to Bianca by an Australian Corporal that they had walked through a minefield at approx 40124308. It was reported to me by the Troop N.C.O. i/c Sigs early on the morning of the 8th June. Check on the tactical map showed only a "proposed" minefield in that area, and a visit to GLOW confirmed that there was no known field there.

The Troop Officer occupying the O.P. (at 40074315) on the 8th June was shown what appeared to be a gap in a field which was running in a NW-SE direction across the wadi about 100 yds. behind (NE) the O.P. The Infantry on the spot and at Bn HQ know nothing definite about the field, though were certain of its existence. The Troop Officer occupying this O.P. before first light on the morning of the 10th June, who knew the above uncertain facts, hit a mine at approx 150 yds from the O.P. on a Bg of 132° from it (40084315). (The Wireless truck has to be left in this wadi).

(SGD)R.W. Arnold,

2/Lt. R.W. Arnold

IBBO GOLD. 10.6.41.

To :-

M.Q., R.A.,
Tobruk Fortress.

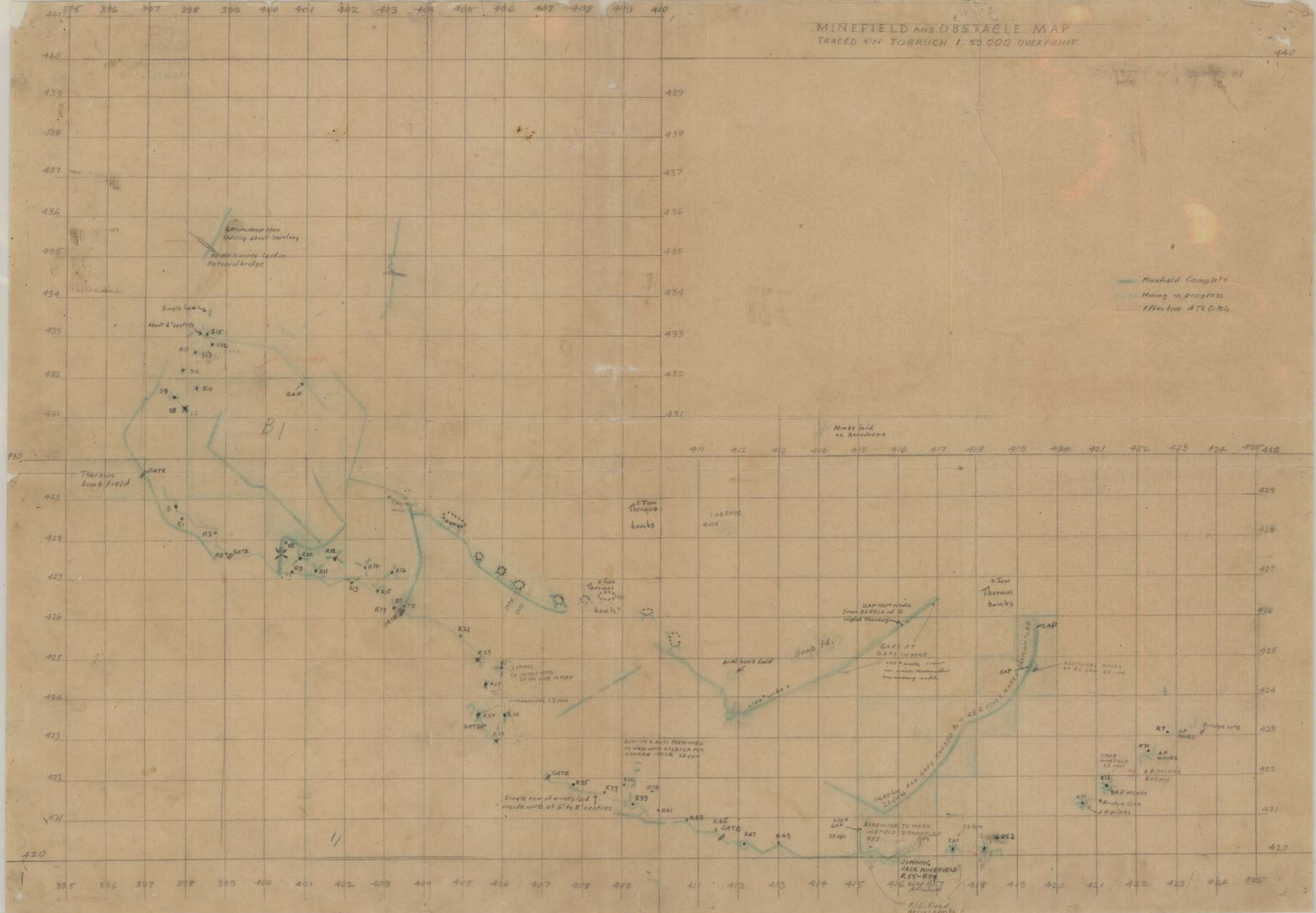
The above copy of report is forwarded from IBBO. May this matter please be investigated and particulars of all minefields in this area be forwarded, as at present they are proving a menace.

IN THE FIELD.
10th JUNE 41.

R.A. Arnold
Lt. Colonel R. A.
Commanding 51st Army Field Regiment R. A.

Copy to :- IBBO.
TURK

MINEFIELD AND OBSTACLE MAP
TRACED ON TOBRUCH 1:50,000 OVERPRINT



- Minefield Complete
- Mining in progress
- Effective ATK Ditch



REPORTS OF ACTIONS
RECCE REPORTS

2/15 Bn HQ
23 June 41

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES-- Night 22/23 June 41 - B Coy.

Arrangements had been made with MEKO HAND 1 for the continuation of the preparation of ~~the~~ Two Pl areas to be occupied by my forward Pls. I provided a covering party to protect this work.

Soon after their arrival they were disturbed by Mortar fire and MMG fire and MEKO HAND suffered casualties. Not a great deal of work was done and the working party withdrew earlier than was arranged.

My Pl commenced moving up after midnight and my sig. ran a wire to the new position. At the left hand flank Sig. Dolgner encountered a Booby trap and was killed, Lieut Parker and Sig Cull being injured. Cpl Parker (ASC) noticed a box in the pit he was to occupy and it proved to be a Booby trap and he was killed instantly.

Other casualties included: Pte Bound (covering party)

" Parker R 1st Pl

" O'Donnell P

Cpl Weisell

The last man to be injured was O'Donnell who was machine gunned while sheltering in a pit, and as I considered the positions not nearly sufficiently prepared (at least 2 nights more work required), I decided to evacuate before dawn. Owing to casualties, no ammo, for the left Pl was able to be carried forward, so without surplus ammo and in very incompleated pits, I considered the position would not give protection to either MMG or Mortar fire.

Sgd. Bruce Strange Capt.
O C B. Coy.

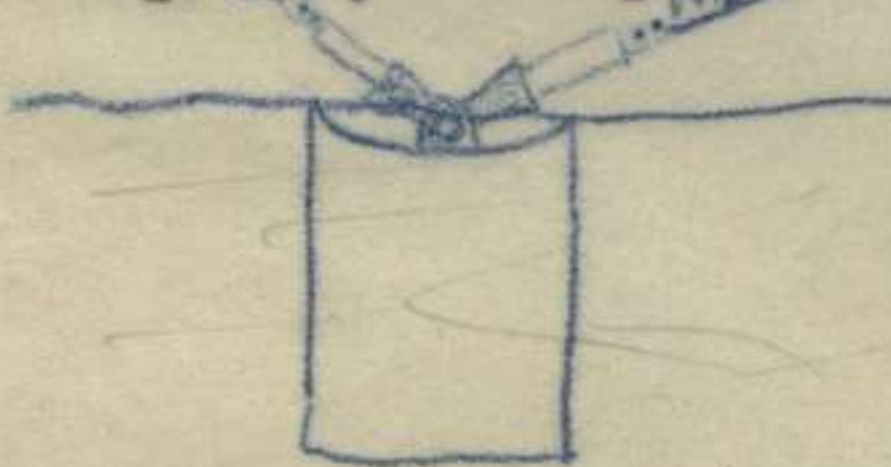
2/15 Bn HQ
22 June 41

REPORT ON RECCE on 22 June 41 - Daylight.

Time of Departure and return and place: Approx 1100 hrs to 1230 hrs, through left flank 13 Bn.

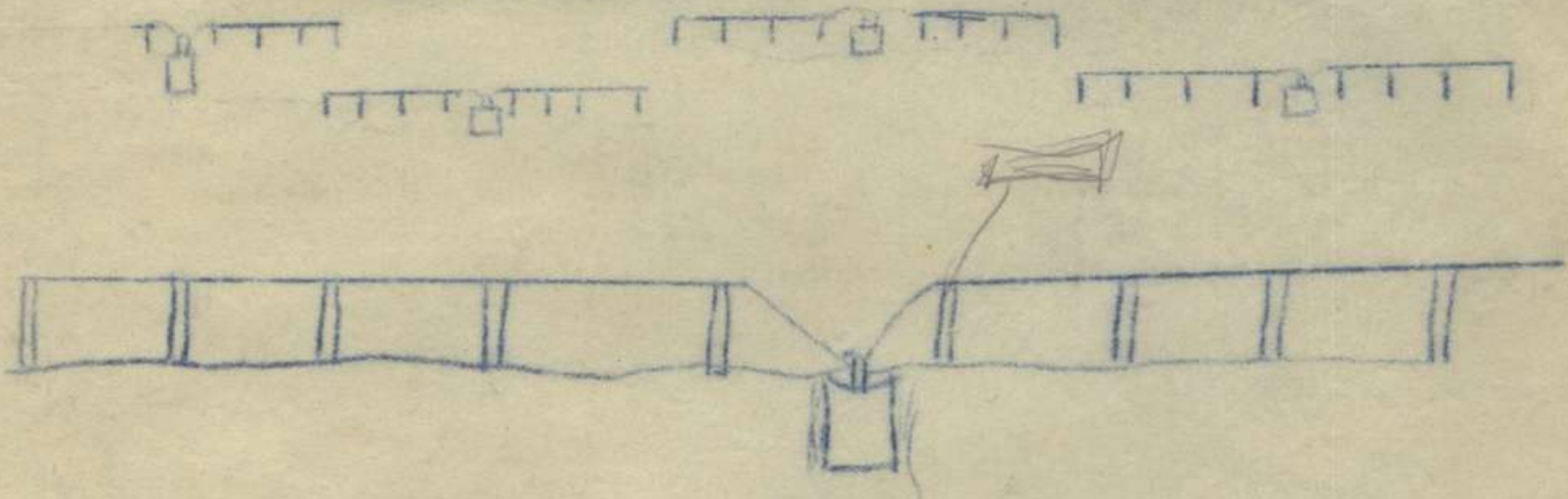
Object: Investigation of Booby Traps etc.

Information: With two others I set out towards position being prepared by MEKO on their left flank and within 30 yds of unoccupied enemy positions, first trip wires were encountered. The Booby traps at this point had been cleared by engineers the previous evening. Working along to the left (in front of Nixons Post - approx 700yds) it was discovered the whole front was covered with these trip wires and booby traps. Each one was devitalised and after thirty had been completed, enemy machine gun fire was experienced (the clouds had obscured the sun, giving enemy good light). After the sun shon again and we had the benefit of the mirage, I worked further along, almost to right flank of FEBE E Coy. I consider that these continue along the whole front. In several places traps had been exploded. The distance from our F D L varies between 700 - 1000 yds. Other findings were a "flask bomb" (presumably) and a Spando magazine. None of the pits showed signs of recent occupation. Owing to further M G fire, we could not bring in more than a couple of traps, but half a dozen detonators were brought in. With care and time no difficulty should be experienced in clearing the area of trip wires and traps. The traps are sunk in a hole, on either side of which a lining of timber is placed (to allow it to fly upwards before finally bursting) only the cup and the two detonators are exposed.



The lower hole on the detonator is the "safety" hole and a small piece of wire inserted here, before untying wire renders it safe.

- Exhibits:
1. Booby Trap and specimen of wire.
 2. Detonators and cup.
 3. "Flash" Bomb.
 4. Spandau Magazine.



The trip wires are staggered so that the whole of the enemy's position is covered by trip wire.

No 1 would be about 3' in front of No 2 and overlapping 3' likewise

No 3 " " " 3' " " " No 2 " No 4 overlapping 3'.

Distance between A & B usually about 30 ft and distance between B & C 15' Height of pegs 9", distance in front enemy earthworks 70 - 85 yds.

Singed Bruce Strange Capt.
O.C. B Coy.

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde,
8 Jun 41.

Report on attack by EA on 20 Aust Inf Bde area, 8 Jun.

At 1415 hrs sound of EA approaching from SE was heard at 2/17 Bn HQ and the alarm was given.

At 1420 hrs 7 enemy 3 TUKAS appeared over "A" Coy area and dropped 7 bombs. This was definitely dive bombing the planes coming as low as 100 feet. Machine gunning of this area also took place. A working party near an Italian amm dump had taken cover in slit trenches in which there was no roof for the two Sgts who took cover behind two boxes. The dump was hit and both Sgts were casualties, one being hit in the head and killed outright, the other hit in both arms and slightly on head. The planes continued over "D" area and here dropped 16 bombs and seriously injured one man with MG fire. Planes flew north and machine gunned 2/17 HQ, the wadi and also the escarpment below, 4 bombs falling 500 yds SE of HQ. One EA was brought down from 2/17 HQ with fire from a Lewis gun manned by RSM Brown. The bullets were seen to enter the plane which immediately burst into flames approx 100 feet from the ground and crashed burning fiercely. On inspection this proved to be a German plane with Italian markings painted over original German ones. As far as could be recognised from the bodies one man was definitely Italian while the other appeared to be a German, though, as he had no papers or means of identification this may be wrong. From the other man captured documents (in accompanying envelope) reveal his identify. Both airmen wore life-jackets.

The plane had one stick of unexploded bombs still attached.

The injured OR states definitely that he saw another plane crash with a loud explosion well outside the wire in a direction approx south of BIANCA. Another fact noted and reported by the BM of 20 Aust Inf Bde HQ was that four planes stood off the action about a quarter mile behind the attackers and 3,000 feet up. These took no part in the fight, though further information from an officer of the 51 Fd Regt affirms that they MGD the ground. The planes when over Bde HQ were joined by others coming in from other directions making a total of 20 planes several of which MGD Bde HQ as they all turned west to fly back in general direction of pt 209.

Note (a) It is suggested that accompanying planes had a GESTAPO role in the attack.

(b) Further documents have been collected by Col Eastwood of the 51 Fd Regt, presumably from the second body in the burnt plane.

LA AA Regt. (c) Further bombs were seen to land in the minefield in front of the wire. Inspection and report is following.

M. D. Vincent Lieut
For.
(H. T. ALLAN) Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

WD
20 Aust Inf Bde.

2/17 Bn HQ AIF.
In the field.

15 June, 41.

REPORT ON ACTION - TOBRUK PERIMETER - 11-14 APR. 41.

Below is an extract from the Bn's. War Diary for the above-mentioned dates :-

11 Apr. 41. During the morning no activity occurred on the front, but in the early part of the afternoon, movement was seen at the limit of observation some 3,500 yds out. At 1600 hrs enemy AFVs were seen in front of post R.31, moving from west to east. Some AFVs are also seen. At 1700 hrs enemy infantry were advancing on post 33. They are engaged by the arty by direct observation, and although shells fall amongst them, continue to advance for some time before going to ground. At 1700 an attack on post 33 appeared imminent, and again infantry are engaged; the attack does not develop. At 1730 the first report of tanks comes in from D Coy, which reports having sighted 70 in all, which have passed through the infantry. At 1800 hrs the tanks again advanced in three waves of 20, and one wave of 10 tanks, moving up to the ditch. They are engaged by arty and A/tk rifles, each wave in turn engages D Coy's posts, which lay east, and moves off in single file. At 1845 hrs, one wave of infantry, at least 800 on a careful count, advance, despite heavy arty and small arms fire, and enter the A/tk ditch. Comd D Coy reports having reported tanks on the wire. At 1800 the Comd anticipated an immediate attack. Here, a curious incident happened. At about 1815 hrs communication with D Coy failed, the C.O. from his Comd Post, through glasses, saw three tanks move quickly down the escarpment immediately in rear of post 32. He immediately reported this to the Bde Comd, and stated that in his opinion enemy tanks were through. Bde Comd then ordered one squadron of light tanks, and one squadron of cruiser tanks under orders of the C.O., Enga. The light tanks reported some ten minutes later, by which time Comd. had ascertained that no break through had in fact occurred. He therefore ordered the light tanks to move fwd of the escarpment with a view to sending them outside the wire to explore the position. Similar orders were given to the cruiser tanks, which arrived some five minutes later. By 1845 hrs when the infantry advance had commenced, both light and cruiser tanks had cleared the escarpment, and had commenced to engage the rear elements of the enemy advance, which were moving off. In this engagement three enemy tanks were destroyed. During the tank action both 1 RHA and 107 RHA fired by observation, and broke up the attack of infantry, while the tanks moved off to the vicinity of the EL ADEM Road. Shortly prior to 1845 hrs, twelve medium tanks were close to our wire. No further activity occurred up till night-fall, except that heavy machine gun fire was opened from the ditch, preventing any action to clear it. When darkness came, patrols were sent out to clear the ditch, but the fire was so heavy that they could not get beyond the wire, as they were enfiladed from defiladed positions in the ditch. It then became apparent that an organised effort was needed to clear the ditch. Arrangements were made with 2/13 Bn. to bring mortar fire into the ditch on a timed programme. Two pls of B Coy were given the task of clearing the ditch in front of D Coy. One mortar detachment, under Sjt. O'Dea, being placed under comd O.C. B Coy. During the day, O'Dea had been wounded in the heel, but expressed his ability to carry on, and his skilful handling of his detachment was of the utmost value in the operation, which commenced at 2200 hrs. At this time the fire of B0 Bty, ^{1 RHA} was brought down on its DF task immediately in front of D Coy's area. Mortar fire was placed along the ditch from both flanks, and then B Coy, (less one pl), under Captain Wilson went through the ditch with bayonet and bomb. No enemy were found, either alive or dead. The ditch

was patrolled continuously by all Coys from 2300 onwards. At the At the lastmentioned hour, Lieut. C.G. Pitman took out a fighting patrol, and located enemy in force 200 yds. south of post R.33. Fire was so intense that he was unable to advance, and withdrew without casualties. Continuous machine gun fire was experienced too, through the night from these posts, but when patrols were sent out at first light, the enemy had withdrawn.

12 Apr. 41. At about 0600 hrs. on the 12 Apr. one enemy mortar was located in the anti-tank ditch, in front of post R.32, but the crew succeeded in withdrawing.

During the morning of the 12 Apr. occasional tanks approached the wire, apparently investigating the state of the ditch with a view to crossing later. They were able, while moving up to have the cover of other tanks, also distant machine gun fire prevented any movement from the posts.

Sjt. Gambling, and one man volunteered to carry out a patrol by daylight, and succeeded in crossing the ditch, and proceeding for about 200 yds south to where the enemy had been located the previous night. They halted for a rest, and when recommencing their movement, found that they were in the middle of a square containing eight enemy machine guns, which engaged them. By skilful use of ground, Sjt. Gambling and the OR. were able to get back to their post. The fire during this day was such, that although it was known that gaps existed in the wire, a full investigation was impossible. When fire eased about midday, a small party in charge of Cpl. Benson went out from Post R.35, and repaired one serious gap under fire. With this party, was Pte. McKee, who engaged and knock-out three or four enemy machine gun posts with a Bren LMG, while the wiring party lay on its back and repaired the wire. His gun was in action for over one hour, and his excellent work during this day, and later, resulted in him being recommended for a Mention in Despatches.

About 1300 hrs. a heavy dust-storm developed, under cover of which the enemy apparently decided to make ground preparatory to an attack. At 1425 large numbers of infantry were seen through gaps in the dust, immediately south of posts 33 and 35, at a distance of 500 yds. on a front of approximately 1200 yds. Air assistance was thereupon asked for. At 1530 the enemy advance commenced, and was engaged by the arty. Through gaps in the dust, shells could be seen falling direct on each flank of the target. Heavy casualties must have been suffered. The guns were then switched to the centre of the target, and ten rds. gunfire fired. The attack did not develop. It is probable during this phase that 3 Panzer Regt. suffered the heavy casualties referred to in a captured diary, which in effect said under entry 13 Apr. "We are under continuous arty fire, 3 Regt has already lost 25% casualties. Faces are pale and drawn. We are suffering heavy casualties ourselves." During the arty fire parties of the enemy succeeded in advancing close to post R.33. In this post was one section of reinforcements which had been sent into the line immediately on their arrival on the 11 Apr. They were in charge of L/Cpl. Dunbar, who, by his reckless disregard of danger and good spirits, so stimulated his men that they went into action with a will. The attack broke, and the enemy withdrew, while at 1630 the enemy were bombed by two of our own planes.

Up to this time no arty fire came from the enemy, but at 1800 the CO and Captain Goschen^{2nd} went around the posts, and on reaching post R.32 found themselves under sustained arty fire, which lasted for approx. 20 minutes. This fire was apparently coming from tanks which were hull down some 2,000 yds out.

On this night the moon rose early, and observation was easy. Towards 2200 hrs, two groups of enemy vehicles were observed by Capt. Balfe from post R.32. They comprised 29 large troop-carrying vehicles, and twelve vehicles apparently towing guns. Captain Balfe reported to the Comd. what had happened, and thereafter acted as OP officer in a most unusual operation - a moonlight shoot, during which he directed the fire of the arty with great accuracy in the absence of an OP officer from the arty. The vehs ultimately moved off, after a number of direct hits had been scored. Throughout the night all posts reported movement of MT from west to east.

13 Apr. 41. Effective strength.

Staff cars seen, also HQ being established. Staff car engaged by A/Tk and bren. Arty engaged HQ NMS for rest of day. Our aircraft bombed enemy MT in vicinity BIR SAETA. Arty firing at intervals on B and D Coys areas. Two DRs shot by A/T fire at 2,000 yds.

0930 - Enemy Heinkel came over, flying along posts W to E.

1200 - Gp of veh at bearing 230 deg 3,000 yds away sighted. Later increased to 60. Engaged by 1 RHA for some hours at intervals, causing much delay and movement on and off trucks (300 rds. fired).

1600 - Reserve Coy moved up.

1700 - Arty fire on D's area commenced. Pole OP vacated. No attempt to cut wire by arty fire.

1730 - Much movement seen on 1200 yds front about 500 yds. out. SA fire became heavy.

2100 - Patrol sent out to estab. posn of enemy left flank, 700 yds to left of post 33. No prisoners yet.

2300 - 30 enemy inf approached wire at post 33 with two small field guns and one mortar, and engaged 33 only.

2345 - Lieut. Mackell, Cpl Edmondson and six others (Ptes. Grant, R.S., Smith, S.E., Williams, R.S., Keogh, L., and Foster, D.) went out and engaged. Edmondson killed. One prisoner sent to Sear 0015 and Coy Comd went to Bde to report.

Heavy SA and mortars (tk) sustained, 3 or 4 in action.

14 Apr. 41.

0600 - Effective strength.

0215 - Enemy penetrated fence, 70 or 80 in all.

0230 - Confirmation obtained by runner (L/6pl. Dunbar). SDF sent up. Coy Comd. returned from Bde.

0330 - Second prisoner brought in by Lieut. Geikie.

0430 - B Coy searching dead ground on right of D's position.

0500 - B Coy deployed behind hill. Reported to Comd.

0510 - Tanks crossed wire, 30 in first batch, 12 in next batch, and others later, came through wire in single file, and formed in line, facing post 32 about 30 - 40 ft. away post. Decided to shorten arty range by 250 yds after warning Coy. Behind each tank 15/20 men with LA, who left tanks 300 yds north of wire, when observation became impossible.

0530 - Small arms tanks and fd gun fire continuous. Fwd posts fired along wire and rear posts covered gaps between fwd posts by traversing, information having been received that enemy, after crossing wire, had spread. Efficiency of this proved by No. found shot through head in holes. In only about six cases were steel helmets worn. Apparent from fire that tanks were in vicinity of ditch.

0600 - Tanks had gone through, but three A/Tk guns and one small field piece were in action about 50 yds to left of post 32, firing to rear of post. They were engaged, and all but perhaps two of each crew killed. These continued to fight the guns, and turned them on the post until all were sniped. Lieut. Geikie killed four men by delib. fire. He and Coy Comd. ^{Capt. Wilson} then went back to B Coy.

Four heavier fd guns were then seen S of ditch, and were silenced by sniping. Remark on standard of musketry. (these were destroyed)

0700 - MG posts located and engaged, all on our side of wire.

0900 - 15 enemy located in ruined house NORTH of post 32. B Coy was then about to counter-attack.

0630 - ~~Comd~~ ^{B Coy} left post 32 and rejoined his Coy which had already been in action, Lieut. Owen having been wounded, in clearing the ruined house behind post 32. Rejoined (less 1 pl) and found enemy about 0730 on hill below house and arty OP. They were then engaged, and a charge made by two sections with Coy Comd. Enemy 100 - 150 strong. All were either killed or captured. Contact was made with Captain Peek (15 Bn.) and his Coy, which was placed deployed North of ruined house. Lieut. Pitman and his Pl. arrived about this time, and B Coy was reformed. Sjt. Brady killed - called out "India", reply "Bombay". Brady went out and was shot. Pl then attacked and cleared house.

0715. Withdrawal of tanks commenced. Second Coy of 2/15 under Capt. Strange arrived and reported to C.O. and were taken forward~~ed~~ by him and deployed with instructions to clear area from rear of escarpment and to line of post R. 32. C.O. then went forward on recce and ascertained that no formed ~~bolies~~ ^{bodies} of enemy had penetrated north of escarpment nor west of Post R. 22. He arranged with Capt Kidd (18Cav) for one Sqn of that Regt to be deployed and to mop up from West to East of Post R. 22 along the wire to (incl) the escarpment. Mopping up of the whole area by the second Coy of 2/15 and by this Sqn was quickly carried out and a P.O.W. collecting point established North of the escarpment. C.O. as soon as mopping up had started went forward to posts R. 32 and 33 and ascertained that casualties were smaller than at first estimated and that 2/13 Bn had taken over the custody of at least 200 P.O.W. He then ordered both Coys of 2/15 Bn and B. Coy 2/17 Bn to reorganise and be ready in the event of the enemy again attacking. By 0900 the situation was again normal and at 1100 hrs Capt Peek took over D. Coys posts and was relieved on 0300 hrs 16 Apr.

J.W. Crawford

(. J.W. Crawford) Lt Col.
Comd 2/17 Bn A.I.F.

S E C R E T

Headquarters,
9 Aust Div,
18 Jun 41.

CEML/RNN

9 AUST DIV OPERATION INSTN No.11

1. In yesterdays fighting in the Frontier Area severe losses were inflicted on the enemy and 800 prisoners taken. In the air our fighters shot down 12 STUKAS and 6 FIGHTERS during a dive bombing attack on our forward troops.
2. Considerable reinforcements have reached the enemy and following our capture of CAPUZZO numerically stronger armoured forces operating against the left flank of our advance have succeeded in stopping it.
3. The operations contemplated in 9 Aust Div Operation Order No.12 of 12 Jun and their exploitation in accordance with Operation Instruction No.10 are accordingly postponed for the present.

holloway

Distribution

GS 9 Aust Div. Col.

As for OO No.12



ack ✓



SIGNAL SECURITY
MAP REF CODE LIST

2/15 BN AIP.
In the Field.
17 Jun 41.

REPORT ON INTERCEPTION NIGHT 16/17 JUN.

I wish to report that a party consisting of 2 Offrs and 2 O/Rs left FEBE HQs at 2045 hrs and reported at Post R8 by 2150 hrs. During the first hour reception of intercepted signals was as under.

TIME	TEXT OF MESSAGE	STRENGTH OF SIGNALS.
2209	Arty conversation "24" 10 mins"	very faint
2228	Morse call VET VET etc	R4
2230	Subscribers calling KERA exchange	R 5
2231	"Hullo RAMA re message TOG 1930hrs ref Meteor etc"	R 4
2232	"Call me every 10 mins from now on"	R 3
2233	"Hullo Blue your at place where you sleep eh" "OK" "plenty of time to get the agent on the job".	R 5
2234	Discussion of news broadcast by 2 English voices.	R 4
2235	Morse call PD	R 7
2245	Weak speech unable to discern but interpreter states it was German too weak to translate.	R 2-3
2247	Sig discussion on arty lines re lighting of lights on switchboards etc. " is Sgt Hem..... there".	R 7
2300	Morse VET VET O O	R 5
2302	More discussion on arty lines by sigs.	R 5
2304	Morse W W W	R 4
2305	Weak voice- "What's my frequency now" "OK" yours has gone down a bit".	R 4
2315	Foreign speech- unable to interpret as either German or Italian. - about 10 mins	R 5
2326	" Hullo Magrum? Hullo Magrum?".	R 3
2326-32	Arty discussions by sigs on lines etc.	R 4
2340	Morse signals DN DN also / stroke.	R 3
2342	Conversation by PA re water " What about water how are we going to get it there "I" have only 10 tins, 8 Pl has 10, 9 Pl got 20 gals". " Then lay off the phone all night".	R 8
2345	" Anything to report on the navvies tonight"? nothing	R 4
2354	Discussion by A Coy on certain man. " Mr Yates did you get any new man last night an ASC cove etc".	R 8
2358	Weak morse code signals but although occasional letters picked up no complete groups. 5 letter code.	R 1-2
2400	Calling KERA etc	R 4
0003	PA reports " fleas are not crawling tonight" "OK off"	R 8
0005 -7	Weak code cypher	R 1-2
0006	Morse- call sign O O	R 2-3
0007	Call up KERA exchange and discussion for 15 mins by subscribers on situation up till 1941 AD	R 6
0104	Reporting all quiet on KERA front	R 4
0115	Morse call A A A	R 3
0116	Morse call G G G	R 3
0120	Some language speech for 5 mins - interpreters unable to translate - not knowing language	R 4-5
0126	Weak speech English	R 2-3
0145	Nothing to report.	

The party were advised by OC R8 to move out before 0200, this was done and R 8 was mgd at about 0203.

30 mins listening was then put in from R 10 but the strength of conversations of KERA fwd Coys was at R 6-8, so party left and arrived at FEBE at 0307 hrs.

DURING

During the evening the intercepted enemy signal strength was very weak due to metallic lines. I believe on experiments I have made with "twisted" D III cable and 2 D V telephones show very little can be picked over 500 yds using a metallic circuit.

Using earth returns however, distances of 2000 yds can be attempted and signals received R 4-5 on occasions.

Patrols from this unit report that enemy lines run in pairs which they sometimes even cross during patrolling - this indicates the use of metallic circuits in both Italian and German systems.

(Sgd)

W. J. Jones

Bae
BB
W. J. King

HKO/RNN

Headquarters,
9 Aust Div.,
In The Field,
14 Jun 41.

9 AUST DIV GENERAL STAFF INSTRUCTION No.59.

SIGNAL SECURITY

1. Despite previous instructions warning all ranks of the danger of careless speech over signal communications, many cases of neglect are still apparent.
2. The following recent cases of carelessness are forwarded as examples :-
These were intercepted by an apparatus set up in the forward area - one that could be used by the enemy as easily as by us.
 - a. A conversation stating that C Coy "X" Bn was going to relieve B Coy "X" Bn on night 11/12 Jun.
 - b. A "ball for ball" description of the shelling of a mortar pit stating "luckily there's no one there but he's giving it hell".
 - c. An O.P. "Listen X I am speaking from Post 12. Those last shells Jerry sent over just missed us by 200 yds to the right."
 - d. Constant reference to Post numbers in plain instead of Post Codes.
3. Comds are to take action again to bring the seriousness of lack of Signal Security to the notice of all ranks. Signal comms are to be used only to pass official messages - and then the proper unit and Post or Place Code Names must be used.

Distribution

List "B"

115 D. J. King Capt for Col.
GS 9 Aust Div.

Memo
W. J. [unclear]

2/15 BN AIF
In the Field
11 Jun 41.

20 Aust Inf Bde

SECURITY

Attached is a report by Lieut. G. E. MORRISON, Sigs Offr of this unit, on the result of experiments in interception of communications.

- 2. In the view of the serious laxity shown to exist in practice of security measures, it is thought that the information in the report should be brought to the notice of all ranks. Steps have already been taken within this unit for the strict enforcement of measures for the security of information.
- 3. The good work of Lieut. MORRISON in this matter is commended to your attention.
- 4. Attached are two messages and several newspapers picked up in enemy sangars on our D Coy front.

M. J. O.C. J Sec

M. J. O.C. J Sec
W. J. [unclear]

Maj.
Adm Comd 2/15 BN AIF

Blue memo.

[Handwritten mark]

11 Jun 41.

REPORT ON INFORMATION RECEIVED BY INTERCEPTION

CO
2/15 BN AIF.

I wish to advise that during the period from 2200 hrs on 9 Jun to 2100 hrs 10 Jun I carried out tests on line interception from Post R8.

APPARATUS

The apparatus used consisted of an audio amplifier of 2 tubes of the 1.4v type with the outlet connected to a pair of ear phones and a variable beat frequency signal applied to grid of the first tube made the selection of the signals than if all detected signals were amplified at the one time and having no selection. The picking portion or antennae consisted of a length of cable anything upwrds of 100 yards in length, preferably in 3 legs, each leg running out from a central point approx 120° apart and being insulated from the ground. This picking system was fed into the grid circuit of the amplifier coupled with a slight variable bias applied to the grid of the first tube.

INFORMATION

The Enemy

Enemy signals were heard by me at 0243 hrs on 10 Jun. These signals were picked up on a line running out in the direction of R6. The conversation was carried out in German, using clipped phrases, most of the speaking being done by the louder voiced of the party, the other member apparantly assenting. This conversation lasted approx 10 minutes.

At 0320 I picked up some Morse signals in a 5 letter figure code being snet a t approx 15 wpm. I enclose copied signals. These, however, only lasted a couple of minutes and were repeated once after the long break signal had been sent following the first sending.

Own Information

From the offset it was apparent that our own lines were causing much interference and the induction from them was very strong.

At 0330 hrs I heard a call from AIBO telling C LO? that there was a knocked out tank in front of them and it would make a good OP Post. Also quite a lot was said about nothing on the arty lines.

Practically every conversation on this unit's network was heard at a loud strength. To this I must in fairness add that my aerials were much closer to our out post lines to R8 than they would normally be, but even so the signal produced was strong when I was using an aerial running away from the post altogether.

At 0930 hrs during some Mortar fire, more than usual comment was made over the phone in the FB area.

I noticed that there is a tendency for arty OP offrs to practically throw all caution to the winds. Apparently they are not aware of the letter code for each post and will ask bluntly "Is that Post 10" etc or "Listen so and so I'm speaking from Post 12. Those last shells Jerry sent over just missed us by 200 yards to the right". I intercepted a cypher message being handled by Sigs in which the correct procedure was not being used, causing a possible error in transmission. From listening to these conversations I learned that part of C Coy was going to relieve B on the night of 11/12 Jun.

The fact that A Coy had changed their HQ was just as well as shells were landing in their old posn just so many yards away. A ball to ball description of shelling of a mortar pit "Luckily there's no one there but he's giving it hell".

To sum up, I would say that the majority, if not all of this information would be available to the enemy, who in 1917 had interception down to such a stage that no phone conversations were allowed within 2000 yards of front line trenches and eventually in some sectors telephones were withdrawn altogether and fullerphones substituted.

To remedy the trouble I would suggest that

1. The unit lines shall be made into metallic circuits immediately.
2. Strict unit censorship of all traffic that passes on lines be imposed
3. In conclusion I believe that the enemy L of C in the area surrounding our front are of the metallic type, hence the limited induction effect noticed.

Geoffrey Ellison
Sigs Offr. 2/15 BN AIF
Lieut.

The following is the 5 letter code copied from R8 at 0330 hrs 10 Jun

52168 42290 24/215 27651 68392 15792
47851 79340 m/2174 no2/6 - 4344 21336
ad322 - break signal then reopened.

BM

11

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde,
26 Jun 41.

MAP REFERENCE CODE LIST.

Code List issued as G15/85/1 of 12 Jun 41 from this HQ will be held as a reserve pending further orders and the attached Code Lists will be taken into use again as from 1200 hrs on 26 Jun 41.

please ack immediately by signal.

H T Allan

(H. T. ALLAN) Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

From 0001 hrs to 2400 hrs
on dates shown below

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>
26 June	7	R	E	D	C	O	A	S	T	2
27 June	M	O	R	T	L	A	K	E	6	3
28 June	W	H	I	T	E	4	2	M	U	G
29 June	6	M	I	L	F	O	R	D	2	5
30 June	O	L	D	2	9	3	C	A	R	T



AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

CAMOUFLAGE

RECOGNITION OF AIRCRAFT

AIR ACTIVITY

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde,
6 Jun 41.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS AND CAMOUFLAGE - BDE HQ AREA.

It is essential for the proper working of a Bde HQ that it should not be disturbed by shelling or bombing by the enemy.

To assist in this object it is essential that the proper use should be made of camouflage and track discipline. Shelling usually does not take place on any area unless it can be observed from an OP or by recce planes from the air.

In our present location there can be no observation of our position by land except for movement on the track leading from the bridge at the foot of the escarpment up over the escarpment down to Bde HQ in the wadi.

All movement of tpt on this track during the hours of daylight MUST be restricted to a minimum and will only be sanctioned in cases of absolute necessity. Ration trucks and such adm vehs will NOT move over the escarpment until dark.

The observation we have most to worry about is aerial recce. Tracks show up most clearly from the air and a lot clearer than the average soldier thinks. Therefore particular attention must be paid by all ranks to track discipline. There is one track along the bed of the wadi and that is the only one which will be used. NO OTHER TRACK WILL BE USED. All other tracks are being blocked as well as the road leading past the Orderly Room to the comd post. Any breach of this instruction will be regarded seriously. A piquet will be mounted by the Protection Pl to ensure that this order is observed.

No blankets, equipment, washing, boxes or tins of any description will be left in the open during daylight as these can be easily picked up from the air.

Finally, the easiest way of locating a position is movement either by personnel or vehs. Air raid precautions to be adopted in this area will be passive unless there is a definite attack by hostile aircraft. Passive precautions mean that the moment a plane is observed in the vicinity of the HQ area all personnel will immediately stop and take cover under shade or cover. This must be understood by all because the moment movement is observed so the position is pin pointed by the enemy and shelling will only follow.

No fire will be brought to bear on any plane except only in the event of a direct attack on the position.

The more heed that is paid to these matters by all ranks the less interruption there will be to our work and our work MUST NOT be interrupted.

Orderly Room
"I" Sec
LOs (to see and note) ✓
Rear HQ
Tpt Sec.
Prot Pl.
"J" Sec Sigs
Purple 51 RA

H. T. Allan
(H. T. ALLAN) Maj
20 Aust Inf Bde.

WD

HKO/RGP
G 7/17/1

[Handwritten scribbles]

HQ 9 AUST DIV
10 June, 41

- 18 Inf Bde
- ✓ 20 Inf Bde
- 24 Inf Bde
- 26 Inf Bde
- CRA

AIR ACTIVITY

The att correspondence from the Comd, 4 AA Bde, dealing with the action that has been taken against the HENSCHEL activities, is fwded for information and promulgation as considered necessary.

[Handwritten signature]
Col.
GS 9 AUST DIV.

[Large handwritten scribble]

[Small handwritten scribble]

Subject:- Air Activity.

SECRET.

H.Q. 4 A.A. Brigade.

LAA/73/18
10 June 41.


To:- H.Q. 9 Aust. Div.

1. The Henschel has been causing considerable annoyance to troops in the forward areas during the last few weeks and in the absence of fighter aircraft the A.A. have taken certain steps to deal with her.

2. I feel that a certain amount of misunderstanding occurs as to the capabilities of A.A. and I frequently receive calls saying that "Hetty" is over a certain area - can we do something about it?

3. I have therefore prepared a short statement which I suggest should be passed to C.R.A. and Infantry Brigade Commanders.

In the Field.
/GS.


Brigadier,
Commander, 4 A.A. Brigade.

"HETTY" the HENSCHEL.

1 Hetty's activities consist in:-

- (a) Patrolling the front line at low altitudes on reconnaissance flights.
- (b) Ranging enemy batteries on our guns and selected targets.

2. To combat 1(a) a limited number of Breda 20mm and Bofors 40mm guns have been pushed up to selected positions immediately behind our front line.

This has had the effect of making "Hetty" go up from 3,000 ft to about 10,000ft where she is out of range to Light A.A.

Although she can still carry out reconnaissance she has been forced to go up to an altitude from which she cannot carry out the very detailed reconnaissance she would like to do.

3. As soon as two 3.7" A.A. guns could be spared from the Harbour Defences they were pushed up into the Field Gun Area to try and deal with "Hetty" at the higher altitude and to combat her activities as detailed in 1(b). No more 3.7" guns can be spared at present.

4. In the Field Gun Area the Heavy A.A. gun suffers from the serious disadvantage that whereas all other troops can go to ground and cease movement when "Hetty" comes over the A.A. must open fire and thus disclose their position which being in this area is in range of enemy counter batteries.

This necessitates a number of alternative positions and requires that the guns shall move to a new position after two or three "shoots".

5. The area covered by "Hetty's" peregrinations is very large and we move the Heavy A.A. to various positions hoping that "Hetty" will play within range.

If she goes to another area and is out of range we have lost that particular round and hope she will come our way next day.

6. We have had half a dozen snap shoots at her with Heavy A.A., have hit her twice with Breda 20mm and made her keep her distance but so far the Gods have not granted us a "dead bird".

*Walter Brig
Comdr 4 A.A. Bde.*

In the Field.
10 June 41.
/GS.

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde,
In the Field,
22 Jun 41.

2/13 Bn
2/15 Bn
2/17 Bn
2/1 Pnr Bn
18 Cav

USE OF GROUND INDICATORS

1. The use of Ground Indicators - 2 and types approved - are shown in FSPB Pam. No. 2, para. 11 (page 24 to 27).
2. Call signs for use with these indicators are as follows:

TOBRUK FORTRESS

<u>Serial</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Call</u> <u>Sign</u>	<u>Serial</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Call</u> <u>Sign</u>
1.	HQ 9 Aust Div	TL	12	43 Bn	TE
2.	HQ 18 Inf Bde	XY	13	32 Bn	TT
3.	9 Bn	AT	14	HQ 26 Inf Bde	AC
4.	10 Bn	TK	15	23 Bn	EL
5.	12 Bn	AX	16	24 Bn	ET
6.	HQ 20 Inf Bde	LA	17	48 Bn	EV
7.	13 Bn	XL	18	HQ 3 Armd Bde	EX
8.	15 Bn	HL	19	1 RTR	FA
9.	17 Bn	UL	20	7 RTR	FC
10.	HQ 24 Inf Bde	IE	21	KDG	FD
11.	28 Bn	HX			

M. D. Vennib
Lt

(H. T. ALLAN) Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

G 9/16/1

Handwritten initials and number 20

S E C R E T

Headquarters,
9 Aust Div,
In The Field,
11 Jun 41.

RECOGNITION OF AIRCRAFT

1. The following aircraft recognition signals for period 11 Jun to 14 Jun incl, (in local time) are forwarded.

2.	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Challenge Letter</u>	<u>Answering Letter</u>
	11/12 Jun	0300 - 0900	P	V
		0900 - 1500	S	B
		1500 - 2100	O	J
		2100 - 0300	U	N
	12/13 Jun	0300 - 0900	P	S
		0900 - 1500	O	K
		1500 - 2100	B	M
		2100 - 0300	Y	V
	13/14 Jun	0300 - 0900	D	Y
		0900 - 1500	K	J
		1500 - 2100	X	B
		2100 - 0300	S	L
	14/15 Jun	0300 - 0900	V	Z
		0900 - 1500	L	K
		1500 - 2100	G	F
		2100 - 0300	X	T

3. ACK

Distribution

List "A" Less serials 13, 15 and 16.

H. K. Orley Capt-
GS 9 Aust Div. Col.

G21/16/1

SECRET.

Headquarters,
9 Aust Div
In The Field
14 Jun 41

RECOGNITION OF AIRCRAFT.

1. The following aircraft recognition signals for period 15 Jun to 17 Jun incl, (in local time) are forwarded.

2.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Challenge Letter</u>	<u>Answering Letter.</u>
15/16 Jun	0300 - 0900	V	Y
	0900 - 1500	Z	K
	1500 - 2100	B	P
	2100 - 0300	M	N
16/17 Jun	0300 - 0900	K	O
	0900 - 1500	W	B
	1500 - 2100	T	J
	2100 - 0300	Y	P
17/18 Jun	0300 - 0900	I	Z
	0900 - 1500	B	M
	1500 - 2100	T	O
	2100 - 0300	X	D

3. ACK

Distribution

List "A" Less serials 13, 15 and 16.

H. K. O'Leary Capt / 02, Col.
GS 9 Aust Div.

S E C R E T

HKO/RNN

G 29 /16/1

Headquarters,
9 Aust Div,
In The Field.

17 Jun 41.

RECOGNITION OF AIRCRAFT

1. The following aircraft recognition signals for the period 15 Jun to 17 Jun incl, (in local time) are forwarded.

2. <u>Date</u>	<u>time</u>	<u>Challenge Letter</u>	<u>Answering Letter</u>
18/19 Jun	0300 - 0900	T	N
	0900 - 1500	L	D
	1500 - 2100	Z	U
	2100 - 0300	J	O
19/20 Jun	0300 - 0900	N	V
	0900 - 1500	K	T
	1500 - 2100	Z	S
	2100 - 0300	X	L
20/21 Jun	0300 - 0900	G	F
	0900 - 1500	S	Y
	1500 - 2100	N	D
	2100 - 0300	W	X

3. ACK

Distribution

List "A" less serials 13, 15 & 16.

M. K. O'Leary Capt for Col.
GS 9 Aust Div.

SECRET.

HKO/RGP.

HQ 9 AUST DIV

G 45/16/1

18 JUNE, 41

AIRCRAFT RECOGNITION COLOUR SIGNALS.

1. The following Aircraft Recognition Colour Signals for the period 21 Jun to 23 Jun (in local time) are fwded.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Colour</u>
21/22 June	0300 - 0900	WHITE
	0900 - 1500	RED
	1500 - 2100	RED
	2100 - 0300	GREEN
22/23 June	0300 - 0900	RED
	0900 - 1500	RED
	1500 - 2100	GREEN
	2100 - 0300	GREEN
23/24 June	0300 - 0900	GREEN
	0900 - 1500	RED
	1500 - 2100	WHITE
	2100 - 0300	RED

3. ACK. ✓

NK Underly Capt.
Col.
GS 9 AUST DIV.

Dist.

List "A" less serials 13,15,& 16.

WKO/HER

G 45/16/1

HQ 9 Aust Div,
In The Field,

20 Jun 41.

RECOGNITION OF AIRCRAFT

1. The following aircraft recognition signals for the period 21 Jun to 24 Jun incl, (in local time) are forwarded.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Challenge Letter</u>	<u>Answering Letter</u>
21/22 Jun	0300 - 0900	V	X
	0900 - 1500	T	M
	1500 - 2100	D	W
	2100 - 0300	Y	G
22/23 Jun	0300 - 0900	U	W
	0900 - 1500	K	X
	1500 - 2100	P	S
	2100 - 0300	T	O
23 /24 Jun	0300 - 0900	D	W
	0900 - 1500	J	X
	1500 - 2100	V	G
	2100 - 0300	Z	K

3. ACK ✓

Distribution

List "A" less serials 13, 15 & 16.

W.K. Bentley Capt./Cpl.
GS 9 Aust Div.

HKO/CGE
G70/16/1

SECRET.

HQ 9 Aust Div
In The Field
23 Jun 41

RECOGNITION OF AIRCRAFT.

1. The following aircraft recognition signals for the period 25 Jun to 27 Jun incl, (in local time) are forwarded.

2.	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Challenge Letter</u>	<u>Answering Letter</u>
	24/25	0300 - 0900 0900 - 1500 1500 - 2100 2100 - 0300	L P K O	U Z V M M
	25/26	0300 - 0900 0900 - 1500 1500 - 2100 2100 - 0300	L K B D	X S M J
	26/27	0300 - 0900 0900 - 1500 1500 - 2100 2100 - 0300	Z D U B	X F O S

3. ACK.

Distribution.

List "A" less serials 13, 15 & 16.

H. K. Daley Capt / w. Col.
GS 9 Aust Div.

H ER
G100/16/1

S E C R E T

HQ 9 Aust Div
In The Field
29 Jun 41.

RECOGNITION OF AIRCRAFT.

1. The following aircraft recognition signals for the period 30 Jun - 1 Jul, (in local time) are forwarded.

2.	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Challenge Letter</u>	<u>Answering Letter</u>
	30/1	0300 - 0900	V	T
		0900 - 1500	L	O
		1500 - 2100	F	P
		2100 - 0300	W	X

3. ACK.

P. J. B. White Capt
for Col.
GS 9 Aust Div.

Distribution

List "A" less serials 13, 15 and 16.

REPORT ON AIR ACTIVITY OVER TOBRUCH FORTRESS - JUNE 41A. DAY

1. Dive Bombers : There were heavy attacks on the harbour on 1 and 2 June. The latter attack included a hit by AA gun site. No serious damage was done. 9 JU 87's were confirmed as crashed, a further 10 others seen to be hit. There was then a pause until 10 Jun when JU 87 with ITALIAN markings dive-bombed the water pumping plant in the WADI AUDA, and again on 12 Jun. In both cases; no damage was done and in each case a JU 87 was brought down and 5 others hit.

On two occasions (10 Jun) a ME 110 dived out of the clouds on a gun site releasing a 250 lb bomb, but missing by $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. After 12 Jun, there were no further attacks until one very faint-hearted attack by ITALIAN JU 87 on the harbour on 24 Jun. No damage was done and 5 planes were seen to be hit. The dive-bombers released their bombs at over 5,000 ft and the Lt AA guns did not get a fair chance.

The "umbrella" barrage over the harbour laid on by the heavy AA guns has definitely proved its worth. As the month progressed, the height of bomb release rose to about 6,000 ft, only a few stout-hearted ones worked round it and came down to 3,000 ft, and almost all of these were shot down by the Lt AA who now have much more confidence in the No 3 Predictor. All heavy AA gun sites have now learned the technique of dealing with dive-bomb attacks on their positions.

The "umbrella" barrage has now been modified to deal with the stout-hearted dive bombers who seek to "work round it". This has been done by sweeping about 5 degrees with selected guns and proved its worth in the heavy raid on 1 Jul. The enemy was beginning to realise the boundaries of the barrage.

2. High Level Bombing : Mainly by single JU 88 at heights of 20,000 to 25,000 ft. G.L. barrages were "laid on" extensively and proved their worth. It is very difficult to pick up single planes in time in this atmosphere.

The G.L. sets are a vital necessity for this harbour, as, without them single planes at 20,000/25,000 ft cannot be seen in time to engage before the bombs are released. A scrutiny of detailed records show that out of 23 single planes which attacked above 19,000 ft, 10 were definitely turned by a G.L. barrage (generally 12 rds) and either dropped their bombs in the sea as soon as they saw the shell bursts, or took avoiding action and dropped their bombs outside the boundaries of the harbour and the town.

About 8 attacks were made by two or three planes (JU 88) coming in at heights varying from 25,000 to 19,000 and from different directions. This is more difficult to deal with, but was countered by the G.C.O. in the C.O.R. detailing, which gun position was to engage which plane.

3. Formations : Only one formation attack (8 BR 20 escorted by 16 ME 109). No damage was done. Heavy AA claim a hit on one BR 20 and broke up one formation of three.

4. Decoys : No decoys were noticed.

5. Reconnaissance: Generally JU 88 at 25,000 ft who "kept on a curve" and took violent avoiding action when fired at. On occasions, two ME 109 came over at about 16,000 ft but never kept on a level course for more than a few seconds. On one occasion, a ME 110 flew straight across the Fortress area (probably photographing) at 26,000 feet.

B. NIGHT

The ITALIAN night pilot is notoriously frightened of the dark, and the only period of real activity was between 8 June and 15 June when the moon was at its best.

(See Over)

B. NIGHT (continued)

The average height of attack has been about 15,000 ft and never below 11,000 ft.

Attacks have been made by single planes, occasionally three or four coming in at five minute intervals.

G.L. barrages have been used, and if the information is not available early enough (as happened on very few occasions), selected sites " shot to sound".

The results have been most encouraging, when it is realised what an ideal target the harbour presents on a moonlight night.

A detailed analysis shews that out of 56 night attacks which were heading towards the harbour, 36 were induced to either turn and drop their bombs outside the harbour area, or to release their bombs as soon as they saw the first shell bursts.

Only one case occurred of Thermos bombs being laid.

C. CONCLUSION

1. The early part of the month was the period of maximum activity. This is attributed to GERMAN control which first showed the ITALIANS " how to do it", and then made them try and emulate their teachers. It is thought that GERMAN control was largely withdrawn during the second half of the month and the ITALIANS have shewn a marked falling-off in enthusiasm. We even had one period of 24 hrs without a single bomb.

2. The marked falling-off in the scale of night attacks as soon as the moon began to wane is significant. Between 11 and 15 June, we had 43 night bombers over. Between 16 and 30 June, we had only 15.

3. The enemy has not succeeded in permanently knocking out a single gun or instrument to date, and morale is high.

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A. DAY

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SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde,
8 Jun 41.

Report on attack by EA on 20 Aust Inf Bde area, 8 Jun.

At 1415 hrs sound of EA approaching from SE was heard at 2/17 Bn HQ and the alarm was given.

At 1420 hrs 7 enemy S TUKAS appeared over "A" Coy area and dropped 7 bombs. This was definitely dive bombing the planes coming as low as 100 feet. Machine gunning of this area also took place. A working party near an Italian amn dump had taken cover in slit trenches in which there was no room for the two Sgts who took cover behind two boxes. The dump was hit and both Sgts were casualties, one being hit in the head and killed outright, the other hit in both arms and slightly on head. The planes continued over "D" area and here dropped 16 bombs and seriously injured one man with MG fire. Planes flew north and machine gunned 2/17 HQ, the wadi and also the escarpment below, 4 bombs falling 500 yds SE of HQ. One EA was brought down from 2/17 HQ with fire from a Lewis gun manned by RSM Brown. The bullets were seen to enter the plane which immediately burst into flames approx 100 feet from the ground and crashed burning fiercely. On inspection this proved to be a German plane with Italian markings painted over original German ones. As far as could be recognised from the bodies one man was definitely Italian while the other appeared to be a German, though, as he had no papers or means of identification this may be wrong. From the other man captured documents (in accompanying envelope) reveal his identity. Both airmen wore life-jackets.

The plane had one stick of unexploded bombs still attached.

The injured OR states definitely that he saw another plane crash with a loud explosion well outside the wire in a direction approx south of BIANCA. Another fact noted and reported by the BM of 20 Aust Inf Bde HQ was that four planes stood off the action about a quarter mile behind the attackers and 3,000 feet up. These took no part in the fight, though further information from an officer of the 51 Fd Regt affirms that they MGD the ground. The planes when over Bde HQ were joined by others coming in from other directions making a total of 20 planes several of which MGD Bde HQ as they all turned west to fly back in general direction of pt 209.

Note (a) It is suggested that accompanying planes had a GESTAPO role in the attack.

(b) Further documents have been collected by Col Eastwood of the 51 Fd Regt, presumably from the second body in the burnt plane.

(c) Further bombs were seen to land in the minefield in front of the wire. Inspection and report is following.

M.D. Meind
For.
(H. T. ALLAN) Maj
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde

544.

19/7/41.

SECRET.

MIDDLE EAST TRAINING MEMORANDUM No. 16.
=====

C.R.M.E./8527/G(Top).

1. A war of movement such as this one requires troops to be trained to a considerably higher degree than was necessary in the last war. Of the two essentials of war - Equipment and Training - the production of equipment does not come into the province of the average soldier, but the situation in this respect is steadily improving. It is in training that we can all make our maximum war effort in making ourselves fit and skilled in the art and use of the weapons of war.
2. Probably never has training mattered more to us than it does now, and it behoves us all, officer and man, to make ourselves and others fit and ready for war. There are those who consider that because they have attended a course or because their unit has seen active operations, they are fully trained; there are others who consider that training is impossible in the field. But training is never finished and in some form or other is always possible wherever an individual or a unit may be. Scarcity of equipment provides no excuse for failure to carry out some form of training.
3. It is imperative that Formation and Unit Commanders realise this urgent need for intensive training. Only as a result of their energy and example will this be impressed on others. Every opportunity will be taken, in particular, of making full use of personnel who have graduated at Middle East Schools. It is not possible for every individual soldier to attend these courses; unit cadres must be contingently organised so that reserve specialists may be trained and the standard of efficiency upheld. Apart from giving ourselves a better chance of defeating the enemy, casualties will be saved thereby.
4. At this stage of the war in particular when the maximum is required from every individual, it is the duty of every officer to encourage those under him to still greater efforts and constantly to be thinking how he can be improving the efficiency of his Command.

Arthur Smith

Lieutenant-General,
Chief of the General Staff.

30 June, 1941.

DISTRIBUTION.

Headquarters,
British Troops in Egypt.
British Forces in Palestine & T.J.
Western Desert Force.
Tobruk Fortress.
East African Forces.
Troops in the Sudan.
Australian Imperial Force.
New Zealand Expeditionary Force.
Officer Commanding,
Army Troops, Aden (Thro' A.C.C.)
Troops in Cyprus.
British Troops, Iraq.
The Commandant,
Middle East Staff School.
Middle East Tactical School.
Chief Instructor,
Motor Contact Officers Wing (Attd. M.E.T.S.)
The Commandant,
Middle East Combined Training Centre.
Middle East Cavalry School.
Middle East Weapon Training School.
Middle East D.M. & M.M. School.
Middle East C.C.T.U.
Middle East R.A.S.C Training School.
Middle East Physical & Recreational Training School.
Officer Commanding,
R.A.C. School and Base Depot.
R.A. Base Depot & School of Artillery.
R.E. Base Depot & School of Military Engineering.
R. Sigs. Base Depot & School of Signals.
Infantry Base Depot.
Indian Reinforcement Camp.
R.A.S.C. Base Depot.
Rec. & Training Coy. R.A.S.C.
Depot Command.

Liaison Officer,
INDIA.

Union Liaison Officer.

Liaison Officer,
WEST AFRICA.

Australian Liaison Officer.

New Zealand Liaison Officer.

All Branches G.H.Q.

Copies to:

Under-Secretary of State,
The War Office,
London, S.W.1.

Army Headquarters,
Melbourne,
Australia.

General Headquarters,
India.

Military Headquarters,
Wellington,
New Zealand.

Defence Headquarters,
Union of South Africa.

APPX C 1

O.O.

20 BOE & BNS

1 Jun 41.

2/15 BN O.O. No.11. INFORMATION.

1. Enemy as shown in Intelligence Summaries.
2. Own troops. 2/13 BN in def position on left in salient.
2/15 BN part of Div Res is in PILASTRIANO area.

INTENTION

3. 2/15 BN will relieve 2/13 BN on night of 1/2 Jun 41.

METHOD

4. Relief.
The respective coys of 2/13 BN will be relieved by the same coys of 2/15 BN in their present posns.

5. Timings.

(a)	RAP	will	leave	present	posn	1900	hrs	1	Jun.
(b)	B Coy	"	"	"	"	2100	"	"	"
(c)	A Coy	"	"	"	"	2115	"	"	"
(d)	D Coy	"	"	"	"	2130	"	"	"
(e)	C Coy	"	"	"	"	2145	"	"	"
(f)	HQ Coy	"	"	"	"	2200	"	"	"
	& BN HQ	"	"	"	"				

6. Tpt

Each rifle coy will be provided with 6 3 ton lorries of 309 Coy RASC and will move at times specified to debussing points already selected by Coy Comds. This tpt will be handed over to outgoing coys of 2/13 BN.

7. Rations.

2/15 BN will take over from 2/13 BN 3 days emergency rations and water and will in addition take 3 days emergency rations and water for the numbers in excess of the strength of respective coys relieved. There will be left in present BN posn 3 days' rations and water for incoming unit.

8. Weapons.

2/15 BN will take all weapons now held into new posns now held. 2/13 BN will leave in present posn the following weapons, which will be taken over by 2/15 BN in situ.

- (a) 2 ~~Zollath~~ 81 mm A Tk Guns
- (b) 2 Vickers MMGs
- (c) 2 81 mm Italian Mortars
- (d) 2 Fiat MGs
- (e) 1 Breda MG
- (f) 3 Boys A Tk Rifles

9. Mortar

The M Det of 2/17 BN at present under the Comd of 2/13 BN will remain in its present posn and will come under Comd 2/15 BN on completion of relief.

10. Patrols

2/13 BN will provide patrols until first light 2 Jun 41. 1 NCO and 3 ORs from A and B 2/15 BN will report to 2/13 BN HQ by 2030 hrs 2 Jun and will assist in patrolling.

11. Amn

Each man will carry 150 rds SAA and two Grenades HE. All other amn including Grenades ST will be handed over in present posn. All amn held by 2/13 BN less such as is carried on the man will be handed over in present posn.

12. B Ech

Rear B Ech Tpt will remain in present posn at beach. Fwd B Ech will remain in PILASTRIANO area, except such as will require to be removed to

/REAR

12. B Ech Contd

rear of new BN HQ at the discretion of OC HQ Coy and QM.

ADM

13. SAA

Location of BN SAA Res will be advised to Coys when established.

Adm

14. Med

RAP will move to posn occupied by 2/13 BN RAP.

Intercomm

15. Line comm will be maintained throughout relief in 2/13 BN area.

16. (a) The following code words will be phoned to new Comd Posts when applicable:-

Relief of B Coy	completed	MENDIL
" " A Coy	"	DRIPSTONE
" " D Coy	"	CAVANAGH
" " C Coy	"	VICTORIA
" " HQ Coy	"	ANKARA

(b) Code word to be phoned to 18 Bde HQ on complete relief being effected. - RUDOLPH

ACK

Time of Signature *11/2/45*

Method of Issue *ORL*

R. W. ...
Capt.
Adjt 2/15 BN AIF

DISTRIBUTION

A COY	Copy No	1
B Coy		2
C COY		3
D COY		4
HQ COY		5
QM		6
TO		7
SIGS O		8
IO		9
RMO		10
9 Div AASC Att		11
Comd		12
2/13 BN		13
LO		14
20 Aust Inf Bde		15 ✓
12 Aust Inf Bde		16
File		17-18
W/D		19-20

2/13 BN OO NO 7.

INFORMATION.

1. ENEMY.

- (a) Enemy hold SANGARS and WEAPON PITS on general line 40154289 to 40044282 at mean distance of 350 yds from our posns.
- (b) Weapon Pits have no parapet and are approx 30 yds fwd of SANGARS. In places there is a trip wire laid fwd of Pits. No wiring of posns.

2. OWN TPS.

2/13 Bn hold general line 40174290 to R.8, thence to R.9 with three coys fwd - "D" Coy right, "B" Coy left and "C" Coy reserve in Bn HQ Area 40284281.

INTENTION.

3. To move into reserve posn in the PILASTRINO Area, after relief by 2/15 Bn

METHOD.

4. Relief of 2/13 Bn by 2/15 Bn on night 1-2 Jun 41.

Time relief to commence:-

"A" Coy	-	2200 hrs
"B" Coy	-	2145 hrs.
"C" Coy	-	2230 hrs.
"D" Coy	-	2215 hrs.
"HQ" Coy & Bn HQ	-	2245 hrs.
RAP	-	2045 hrs.

5. RELIEF.

Details of relief to be mutually arranged between OC Coys concerned.

6. RES POSN.

Coys will move into reserve posns vacated by relieving coys of 2/15 Bn.

7. GUIDES.

- (a) I.O. will arrange for guides to report to HQ 2/15 Bn one hour before movement of personnel-carrying vehicles ~~leave~~ for Assembly Areas.
- (b) Guides will remain with tpt and on completion of relief of respective coys, will guide them to res posns.

WYA

METHOD (Cont).

8. PATROLS.

- (a) 1 NCO and 3 ORs from 2/15 Bn will report to "A", "B" and "D" Coys after last light, to move with coy patrols on night 1-2 Jun 41.
- (b) On completion of relief 1 NCO and 2 ORs per pl from "A", "B" and "D" Coys will remain behind and assist 2/15 Bn in patrolling during hours of darkness.
- (c) 2/15 Bn will arrange to return personnel to res posn.

9. COMPLETION OF RELIEF.

Completion of relief will be signalled to Bn HQ by Code Word - "TARA".

ADMINISTRATION.

10. AMM.

Reserve Amn and ST Grenades to be left in Posts and taken over by incoming Unit.

11. TPT.

- (a) Pl trucks will report to Coy Kitchens at 1800 hrs and will move to fwd area with ration trucks.
- (b) RAP truck, Bn Office and Offrs' Mess truck will report to respective areas at 2030 hrs.

12. RATIONS - WATER.

Coys will ensure that three days reserve of rations and water is left in Posts and taken over by the incoming Unit.

13. WEAPONS.

- (a) Two MMGs (Vickers), two 81 mm Mortars will be handed over on loan to 2/15 Bn.
- (b) "B" Coy will hand over three Boys A Tk Rifles, two 8 mm Fiats and one 3.8 mm Breda.

INTERCOMMUNICATION.

- 14. Fwd Bn HQ will remain in present posn until relief is complete.

Adj't *J. Kelly* Capt
2/13 Bn A.I.F.

Time of Signature -----1050 hrs.

Method of distribution.-----DR.

<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>	<u>COPY NO</u>
A. Coy	1
B. Coy	2
C. Coy	3
D. Coy	4
Hq. Coy	5
Comd	6
TO	7
RMO	8
Sig Offr	9
2/15 Bn	10
18 Aust Inf Bde	11
20 Aust Inf Bde	12
3 A Tk Regt	13
104 RHA	14
War Diary	15-16
File	17.

2/13 Bn A.I.F.
Standing Orders for Counter Attack.

Ref Map. -- TOBRUK 1: 50,000

INFORMATION.

- 1. Enemy according to situation.

Intention.

- 2. To organise Bn as mob force to move at 30 minutes notice.

METHOD.

- 3. TPT. (a) Bn will be completely motorised with its own tpt and tpt carrying vehs from 309 RASC-Coy.
(b) Rifle Coys will each have six (6) three ton wagons.
(c) No 3 Pl will be provided with two (2) tms (1 ton)
(d) No 2 Pl will be provided with two (2) trucks (1 ton)

- 4. EMBUSSING PTS : Located as follows:-

A Coy. In Coy Area WEST of rd opposite RASC Pk.
B Coy Fwd Pls at Pl HQ, Res Pl and Coy HQ at Coy HQ.
C Coy Fwd Pls at Pl HQ, Res Pl and Coy HQ at Coy HQ.
D Coy. On rd along foot of escarpment WEST of Coy HQ
No 3 Pl. In Pl area- 400x west of Bn HQ.

- 5. GUIDES. Coys will provide guides for vehicles as required as follows:-

A Coy On rd near RASC Pk
B Coy West of rd June near Coy HQ.
C Coy East of rd June near B Coy HQ.
D Coy At Cross rds at foot of escarpment at 40744306.

- 6. MOVEMENT. MT by day- 10 vtm.
MT by night- Vehicles will maintain touch.

ADM

- 7. SAA. Each rifleman to carry 100 rds in pouches, one bandolier SAA and 2 Grenades HE.
2 S.T. Grenados per Sec.

INTERCOM.

- 8 Communication will be by runner and MC/DR . Report centre will be established and its location advised to Coys who will detail one runner to remain there.

Coys will carry a R/T set 108 which will be used only as instructed.

[Signature]
Capt.
Adjt 2/13 Bn A.I.F.

ACK.

Time of signature..... 1800

Method of issue..... 10/11

DISTRIBUTION.

A Coy Copy No 1.
B Coy 2.

C Coy	Copy No	3	IO	Copy	11
D Coy		4	QM		12
Q Coy		5	TO		13
309 RASC		6	LO		14
Comd		7	20 Bde		15
			File		16-17

SECRET

Copy No. 19

4 Jun 41

20 AUST INF BDE OO No. 6.

Ref Map : TOBRUK Overprint 1/50,000.

INFORMATION

1. (a) Enemy tps as per "I" summary.
- (b) 18 Aust Inf Bde holds WESTERN sector with under comd -
2/15 Bn, 2 coys Pioneer Bn, 18 Div Cav, 1 pl RASC -
3 coys, less 1 pl, HF - 1 mtr det 2/17 Bn, 1 mtr det
2/23 Bn - in support - 51 RA - 16 and 24 A Tk Coys -
"J" Bty 3 RHA - 13 Pd Coy RAE.

INTENTION

2. 20 Aust Inf Bde will relieve 18 Aust Inf Bde.

METHOD

3. Reliefs will be carried out on three nights.
 - (a) night 4/5 Jun 41 - 2/17 Bn relieves 2/9 Bn which moves to Div res.
 - (b) night 5/6 Jun 41 - 20 Aust Inf Bde HQ relieves 18 Aust Inf Bde HQ - 2/13 Bn relieves 2/10 Bn.
 - (c) night 6/7 Jun 41 - 2/1 Pnr Bn less 2 coys relieves 2/12 Bn.
 - (d) Details of reliefs, timings and routes will be arranged mutually by COs units.
 - (e) No movement in fwd areas before dusk - reliefs to be completed by 0300 hrs each night.
4. Emergency rations
3 days' emergency rations, including water, will be taken over in front line p can. Incoming units responsible for checking these stores and ensuring that they are complete before take over.
5. Weapons - captured weapons and weapons in front line surplus to G1093 scale of outgoing units will be taken over in front line. Mutual adjustments can be made under unit arrangements.
6. Trench stores - ST grenades, Mills, surplus amm, all RE stores and tool surplus to G1093 scale will be handed over to incoming unit - an inventory will be made and a receipted copy kept by each unit.
7. Patrols will be carried out by outgoing units on night of relief until dawn. Patrols will be withdrawn in time to allow men to reach back areas before observation by enemy can be made.
8. A Tk guns - A Tk guns remain in present posns.
9. Comd - 20 Aust Inf Bde will take comd of WESTERN sector at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41. Comd of subordinate unit will pass as per Appx "A".
10. Telephones - telephone cables and switches will NOT be removed except by adjustment by Sig ofrs.

/over

ADMIN

- 11. Tpt (a) "B" Ech remain in present locations.
(b) Tp carrying tpt as per Appx "B".
- 12. Amn APs remain unchanged. - allotment will be notified to units by SC.
- 13. Sup - Sup pts remain unchanged. New allotments of units to sup pts will be notified direct to units by Bde Sup Offr.
- 14. Water - change in allotment of water pts will be notified to units by SC.
- 15. Medical (a) MDSs remain unchanged at following locations:
 2/3 Pd Amb - 40954350
 2/8 Pd Amb - 40954323
 2/11 Pd Amb - 41454279

(b) Mobile sections remain as at present at:

- 41254295
- 40774238
- 40594307
- 40434322
- 40484332.

INTERCOMM

- 16. (a) Bde HQ will close in present posn at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41 and reopen at present location of 18 pde ~~at~~ 40204327 at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41.
(b) Sig reliefs will be arranged mutually by sig offrs.

ACK.

Time of signature 1430
 Issued by DRS

H. T. Allan
 (H. T. ALLAN) Maj
 BN 20 Aust Inf Bde

<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>	<u>CO Copy No.</u>	<u>APPX "A" copy No.</u>	<u>APPX "B" copy No.</u>	<u>Code for ack.</u>
2/13 Bn	1	1	1	SYDNEY
2/17 Bn	2	2	2	MELBOURNE
2/1 Pioneer Bn	3	3	3	ADELAIDE
309 RASC Coy	4	4	4	HOBART
1 8 Aust Inf Bde	5	5	5	TAMWORTH
9 Aust Div	6	6	6	BRISBANE
Comd	7	7	7	
BN	8	8	8	
SC	9	9	9	
IO	10	10	10	
TO	11	11	11	
"J" Sec Sigs	12	12	12	
Sup Offr	13	13	13	
LOs	14-17	14-17	14-17	
War Diary	18-19	18-19	18-19	
File	20	20	20	

SECRET

APPX "A" to 20 AUST INF BDE OO No. 6 Copy No. 19.

Ref : TORUK 1/50,000 with overprint.

COMMAID

1. Comd of WESTERN SECTOR passes to 20 AUST INF BDE at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41.
2. Comd of subordinate units passes as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Comes under</u> <u>comd</u>	<u>Time</u>
5 June 41	2/17 Bn	18 Bde	0300 hrs
5 Jun 41	2/9 Bn	20 Bde	0300 hrs
6 Jun 41	2/12 Bn, 2/15 Bn 2/17 Bn, 2 coys 2/1 par Bn, 18 Cav, 1 pl RASC, 3 coys less 1 pl HF, mtr det 2/17 Bn, mtr det 2/23 Bn.	20 Bde	0300 hrs
6 Jun 41	2/1 par Bn less 2 coys, 2/9 Bn	18 Bde	0300 hrs
7 Jun 41	2/1 par Bn less 2 coys	20 Bde	0300 hrs
7 Jun 41	2/12 Bn	18 Bde	0300 hrs

Tpt Carrying Tpt

(a) Allotment at present:

<u>COY</u>	<u>Ref No.</u>	<u>No. of vehicles</u>	<u>How with</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
309	309A	30	2/17 Bn	Div res.
309	309B	30	2/15 Bn	Div res.
309	309C	30	2/1 PWR Bn	Div res.
345	345B	30	18 Aust Inf Bde	Bde res.

(b) Movement of tps during relief will be carried out by Div res tpt - when reliefs are completed above tpt will return to present locations. Tpt movement of units for relief will be arranged mutually by COs.

(c) 5 Jun 41 six vehicles of 309C will report to 20 Bde HQ at 0900 hrs for purpose of tpt of Bde HQ to relieve 18 Bde HQ and will return to 309C Coy when completed.

4 Jun 41.

20 AUST INF BDE ADM INSTRUCTION No.1.Issued in conjunction with OO No.6.

Ref MAP : TOBRUK overprint 1/50,000.

1. Sup, Amn, water → On completion of moves will be in accordance with the following allotment.

2. Sup.

2/15 Bn.	Unchanged.
18 Div Ca and RASC att	"
20 Bde. HQ.	24 PSD DERNA Rd.
2/13 Bn.	" " " "
2/17 Bn.	" " " "
2/1 Pnr Bn.	" " " "
NF.	" " " "

3. AFs.

2/15 Bn.	PILASTRINO 40854307.
18 Div Cav and RASC att.	Unchanged.
2/13 Bn.	DERNA Rd 40654343.
2/17 Bn.	" " "
2/1 Pnr Bn.	" " "
NF.	" " "

4. WPs.

2/15 Bn.	PILASTRINO 40774307
18 Div Cav and RASC att.	Unchanged.
20 Bde HQ.	BSD junc rd DERNA-PILASTRINO.
2/13 Bn.	" " " " "
2/17 Bn.	" " " " "
2/1 Pnr Bn.	" " " " "
NF	" " " x " "

5. Returns to 20 Bde Rear HQ daily; INDENTS to DID forthwith.

A. N. Backhouse
 for (A.N. BACKHOUSE) Capt.
 xSC 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION.

2/13 Bn..	1
2/15 Bn.	2
2/17 Bn.	3
2/1 Pnr Bn.	4
18 Div Cav.	5
1 NF	6.
9 Aust Div.	7
Comd	8
BM	9
SC	10
Sup offr	11
CQMS	12
War Diary. ✓	13 & 14.
File	15

SECRET

APPX "A" to 20 AUST INF BDE OO No. 6 Copy No. 8

Ref : TOBRUK 1/50,000 with Overprint.

COMMAND

1. Comd of WESTERN SECTOR passes to 20 AUST INF BDE at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41.
2. Comd of subordinate units passes as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Comes under comd</u>	<u>Time</u>
5 June 41	2/17 Bn	18 Bde	0300 hrs
5 Jun 41	2/9 Bn	20 Bde	0300 hrs
6 Jun 41	2/12 Bn, 2/15 Bn, 2/17 Bn, 2 coys 2/1 Pnr Bn, 18 Cav, 1 pl RASC, 3 coys less 1 pl NF, mtr det 2/17 Bn, mtr det 2/23 Bn.	20 Bde	0300 hrs
6 Jun 41	2/1 Pnr Bn less 2 coys, 2/9 Bn	18 Bde	0300 hrs
7 Jun 41	2/1 Pnr Bn less 2 coys	20 Bde	0300 hrs
7 Jun 41	2/12 Bn	18 Bde	0300 hrs

Tp Carrying Tpt

(a) Allotment at present:

<u>COY</u>	<u>Ref No.</u>	<u>No. of vehicles</u>	<u>Now with</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
309	309A	30	2/17 Bn	Div res.
309	309B	30	2/13 Bn	Div res.
309	309C	30	2/1 Pnr Bn	Div res.
345	345B	30	18 Aust Inf Bde	Bde res.

(b) Movement of tps during relief will be carried out by Div res tpt - when reliefs are completed above tpt will return to present locations.
Tpt movement of units for relief will be arranged mutually by COs.

(c) 5 Jun 41 six vehicles of 309C will report to 20 Bde HQ at 0900 hrs for purpose of tpt of Bde HQ to relieve 18 Bde HQ and will return to 309C Coy when completed.

SECRET

Copy No. 13

2/13 BN 00 NO. 8

REF MAP. TOBRUK overprint 1 : 50,000

INFORMATION.

1. ENEMY.

As per Intelligence Summaries.

2. OWN TPS.

2/10 Bn in defensive posn general line 39854312-40084303.

2/13 Bn part of Div Reserve is in the PILASTRINO area.

INTENTION.

3. 2/13 Bn will relieve 2/10 Bn on Night 5-6 Jun 41.

METHOD.

4. RELIEF

- (a) The respective coys 2/10 Bn will be relieved by the same coys of 2/13 Bn in their present posns.
- (b) Details of relief other than matters herein specifically mentioned, to be mutually arranged between coy comds concerned.
- (c) Relief to be completed by 0300 hrs.

5. TIMINGS.

- (a) B Coy will leave present posn 2100 hrs Night 5-6 Jun 41.
D coy will leave present posn 2115 hrs Night 5-6 Jun 41.
C Coy will leave present posn 2130 hrs Night 5-6 Jun 41.
A Coy will leave present posn 2145 hrs Night 5-6 Jun 41.
- (b) Time for relief of Bn HQ and HQ Coy will be issued separately.

METHOD (Cont)6. DEBUSSING AREA.

B Coy	-	40314316
D Coy	-	40204319
C Coy	-	40314316
A Coy	-	40204319
Bn HQ & HQ Coy	-	40 ² 04319

7. GUIDES.

Guides from debussing area to fwd area will be supplied by 2/10 Bn.

8. PATROLS.

- (a) On completion of relief 1 NCO and 2 ORs per pl from each fwd coy of 2/10 Bn will remain to assist in patrolling during the hours of darkness.
- (b) Bn HQ, 2/13 Bn, will arrange for return of these personnel to 2/10 Bn.

9. TPT.

- (a) Personnel-carrying vehicles will be supplied by 309 Coy RASC and will move out at times specified to debussing points.
- (b) Allotment of vehs:
- | | | | | |
|-------|---|---|---|----------------|
| B Coy | - | 6 | - | 3-ton lorries. |
| D Coy | - | 5 | - | 3-ton lorries |
| C Coy | - | 6 | - | 3-ton lorries |
| A Coy | - | 5 | - | 3-ton lorries |
- (c) This tpt will be handed over to outgoing coys of 2/10 Bn.
- (d) Pl trucks will report as considered necessary at times to be notified.

10. EMERGENCY RATIONS.

- (a) 2/13 Bn will take over three days reserve rations and water as arranged. A corresponding amount of rations and water will be taken over by 2/10 Bn in reserve area.

11. AMM.

- (a) Each man will carry 150 rds and 2 Grenades HE. Other amm incl Grenades S.F. will remain in present posn. All amm held by 2/10 Bn less that carried on the man will be left in fwd areas.
- (b) RSM will arrange to replace all amm left in fwd area by 2/10 Bn.

METHOD (Cont)

12. B. ECH.

B Ech tpt will remain in its present posn.

Coy kitchens, unless otherwise notified, will move back after dark to present B Ech area.

ADMINISTRATION.

13. RAP will move to posn occupied by 2/10 Bn RAP. Details to be mutually arranged by RMOs.

14. SUP. AMN. WATER.

On completion of move will be as follows:-

- (a) Sup. 24 FSO - DERNA RD.
- (b) APs. DERNA RD - 40654343.
- (c) WPs. BSD June RD DERNA-PILASTRINO.

INTERCOMM.

15. LINE COMM.

Will be maintained throughout relief in 2/10 Bn area.

16. CODE FOR RELIEF.

The following Code Words will be telephoned to Command Posts when applicable:-

Relief of A Coy completed	-	"ARTHUR".
" " B "	-	"WILLIAM".
" " C "	-	"THOMAS"
" " D "	-	"HENRY"
" " HQ"	-	"PAUL"

ACK.

J. Kelly
 Adj 2/13 Bn. AIF. Capt

Time of signature - 2235 hrs.

Method of distribution - DR.

<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
A Coy	1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
HQ Coy	5
QM	6
TO	7
Sig Offr	8
IO	9
RMO	10
Comd	11
2/10 Bn	12
20 Aust Inf Bde	13
18 " " "	14
File	15-16
War Diary	17-18.

6 June 41.

Copy No _____

INFORMATION.1. Enemy.

Enemy forces opposite the western defenses of TOBRUK as at present held by 18 Ausst Inf Bde and Attd Tps are thought to be the 27 BRESCIA Div (Italian) holding from the Coast to the salient; four German inf Bns, a German engr Bn, and rather more than one German MG Bn in the salient; and 132 ARIETE Arm'd Div (Italian) which is astride the EL ADEM rd but extends on the West to the salient.

Details of these are -

- (a) 27 BRESCIA Div has two inf regts, 19 Inf Regt being on the coastal side of DERNA rd and 20 Inf Regt on desert side to an incl the salient. The FDLs in the DERNA rd area are now about 2000 yds west of the perimeter and the div extends back for some 20 kms towards GAZALA. Tps may total up to 3000.
- (b) 2 M.G. Bn has been identified in the salient. 8 M.G. Bn was used in the salient during the enemy attack of 14 Apr and then suffered severe casualties. It is not known whether it is still in the salient or is in reserve.
- (c) Two bns of 115 Lorried Inf Regt and two Bns of 104 Lorried Inf Regt are in the salient. These German tps may total up to 3000.
- (d) 33 Engr Bn part of 5 Col Arm'd Div was on 16 May some 20 kms West of Post 510. These are really Panzer or tk tps but are now used as assault tps.
- (e) 132 ARIETE Arm'd Div is estimated to have left about 36 light tks and 18 medium tks (total 54). These may be manned, in part at least, by Germans.
- (f) supporting tps such as 605 A/Tk Bn, 30 A/Tk Bn, 606 A.A. Unit, one bn of 33 Flak Regt and various arty regts, 33 Arty Regt, 24 Army Corps Arty and 1 Mob Arty Regt.

The enemy dispositions in the salient area have already been shown on traces from time to time.

2. Own Tps.

Strengths and dispositions as shown on traces already supplied.

INTENTION

3. 18 Ausst Inf Bde will be relieved in the RAS EL MENSHUAR sector by 20 Ausst Inf Bde.

4. System of Relief.

- (a) Night 4/5 June 41 9 Aust Bn will be relieved by 17 Aust Bn and will move to area rd junc 413426. Dismounted Squ KMOs will be relieved by one coy 1 Aust Par Bn as present on Blue line and will move to posn vacated by this coy.
- (b) Night 5/6 Jun 41 10 Aust Bn will be relieved by 13 Aust Bn and will move to area PIASTRINO.
- (c) Night 6/7 Jun 41 12 Aust Bn will be relieved by 1 Aust Par Bn (less one coy). New location of 12 Aust Bn to be notified later.
- (d) 15 Aust Bn will remain in present location and will revert to comd 20 Aust Inf Bde at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41.

5. Recess.

Unit comds will make the necessary recess of new area before commencement of relief.

6. Comd.

Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde will take over comd RAS EL MEDAUUAR sector at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41.

7. Units to come u/e

The following units will come u/e 20 Aust Inf Bde at 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41 in their present locations -

in support {

15 Cav (with u/e pl AA30)	
x J. Bty 3 BHA	1 mtr Det 2/23 Bn
x 16 Aust A/Tk Coy	1 mtr Det 2/14 Bn
x 24 Aust A/Tk Coy	2/15 Bn
I Coy 1 NF	2 coys Pioneer Bn
Y Coy 1 NF	
Z Coy 1 NF (less one pl)	

8. The following units will be in support 20 Aust Inf Bde as from 0300 hrs 6 Jun 41 -

51 A.Fd Regt (Arty Gp)
13 Fd Coy RAE

9. Times of Relief.

- (a) No movement in fwd areas before 2100 hrs.
- (b) Relief to be complete by 0300 hrs.

10. Patrols.

Vigorous patrolling will be carried out by all units of this Bde during the period covered by the relief. On the night on which units are relieved patrols will remain out until first light and will be withdrawn to new areas if possible during daylight under unit arrangements.

11. Future role of 18 Aust Inf Bde.

On moving to div reserve area 18 Aust Inf Bde will become responsible for anti-parachutist protection of rear areas. To carry out this role units will dispose coys as follows -

- (a) 9 Aust Bn will main one coy in area EL GUBBI aerodrome 414430.
- (b) 10 Aust Bn will maintain one coy in area 411430 and 412430.
- (c) 12 Aust Bn will maintain one coy in area LG 406433.

These coys will destroy or capture any enemy parachutist landing in the vicinity. Further detailed instructions of anti-parachutist role will be issued separately.

ADMINISTRATION

12. Post stores.

These will include 3 day reserve rations and water which will be listed in all posts and handed over and signed for when relief are carried out. All posts and trenches to be cleaned and free from refuse.

13. Med.

Mobile detts remain unchanged in present locations.

14. Art.

Units will take with them only the G.1098 scale incl the reserve amn brigaded.

All S.T. bombs and A/Tk mines will be left in posts with the exception of 15 A/Tk mines per Bn and S.T. bombs will be taken over from 20 Bde for the Tk Hunting plie.

15. sup.

Unit comds to make mutual arrangements. Any deficiencies in rations and water to be brought up by incoming units. Three day reserve rations and water to be in all posts at time of hand-over.

16. Equipment.

Units will only take with them their G.1098 equipment. The under-mentioned will be treated as Trench stores and will be handed over to relieving units -

- (a) All telephones, switchboards and cable.
- (b) All weapons over and above G.1098 scale (eg Mortars etc). Those taken over from 26 Aust Inf Bde and others issued since.
- (c) All stores supplied by the Engrs, incl wire, sandbags, timber, 45-gal water storage drums, picks, shovels, hammers, periscopes etc.

17. Tpt.

RASC tpt bringing in tpe of relieving units will take back tpe of the relieved units to their new locations. Unit comds will advise O.Cs of RASC sections on the following -

- (a) No of personnel to be transported.
- (b) Embarking points.
- (c) New locations.

18. B. Kohz.

B. Kohz will continue to be brigaded as under -

18 Bde HQ move to location 40964387 by 1700 hrs
6 Jun 41.


12 Bn. move to location in sq. 409435 by 1700 hrs
6 Jun 41.

3 and 10 Bns remain in present posns.

INTERCOMMUNICATION

19. H.Q. 18 Aust Inf Bde will close at present location at 0500 hrs 6 Jun 41 and will reopen at the same time at 41394278.

ACK.


 Maj.
 B.M. 18 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Time of signaturehrs.

Method of Distribution.....

DISTRIBUTION:

9 Aust Bn	Copy No. 1.
10 Aust Bn	2.
12 Aust Bn	3.
J. Sec Aigs	4.
Comd.	5.
B.M.	6.
F.O.	7.
18 Cav.	8.
J. Ety 3 RHA	9.
15 Aust Bn	10.
52 Fd Regt	11.
13 Fd. Coy	12.
1 NF	13.
1 Pnr Bn	14.
20 Aust Inf Bde	15.
File	16.
War Diary	17 & 18.