

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

Item number: 8/2/20

20 Infantry Brigade

August 1941, Appendices, part 1
of 3

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A	A	2200	0100	1 Sjt & 1 Cpl	From R. 27 est 2500x on brng 230°	Patrol moved fwd approx 2000x before any enemy movement was seen. At this point movement could be observed on the escarpment. Patrol moved a further 500x and could clearly see two parties of men on the high ground although they were in the vicinity of 1000x distant from the patrol. The working parties were in the same locality as those reported last night namely between pt. 171 and FIG TREE. Patrol came under accurate fire at this point and despite efforts to move to a flank was unable to make any progress. Patrol returned.
	B	2300	0300	1 Offr 2 NCOs 5 ORs	From R. 35 3165x brng 194° - 1000x brng 288° - then brng 49° and return.	Patrol attempted to pick up the road contacted by previous patrols and investigate in that area. Could not find the track nor was any sign of enemy activity encountered. Faint tapping noise could be heard but this was coming from a long distance away and the exact direction was hard to determine. Patrol returned through R. 35.
	C	2200 6/7	2200 7/8	1 NCO & 1 OR	Fwd OP 40094258	This OP was equipped with a telephone and was in touch with Coy HQ at all times. This OP observed movement on 26 points on the escarpment by odd men or small groups of enemy. All the movement was to the west of pt. 171 and along the line of the escarpment between 39954254 and 40164245. 39954254 is an OP probably used by the enemy arty; it was seen to be occupied during the hours of daylight. Some posn were seen fwd of the escarpment but no movement was seen there during the day and it is not considered that they are occupied in daylight. - This OP is being maintained (This refers to our own OP)
	C	2300	0300	1 Offr 6 OR	From R. 13 brng 230°	The intention of this patrol was to investigate sangars fwd of the escarpment reported by the OP to determine if they were occupied during the hours of darkness. These sangars are just over the minefield at this point but when still far from the minefield the patrol was fired on by an MG and forced to ground. Progress was continued under fire from the flank for some distance when patrol apparently moved into dead ground and the fire ceased. Patrol stopped just our side of the minefield and the patrol leader moved fwd to investigate the sangar. A whistle was heard from the posn which was answered from nearby. Movement was heard to the rear of the sangars but patrol could see nothing. Patrol leader placed a gelignite bomb amongst some rocks and moved to a safe distance. This had no effect of drawing enemy fire. Patrol returned.

REMARKS: *2/13*

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	D	2330	0415	2 NCOs 6 OR	From R.27 brng 220° to minefield return R.29.	The road appearing on the EL ADEM overprint was crossed at approx 1500x before coming to the field. The minefield at this point consists of 5 rows of TELLER mines with the usual safeguards of furrows and high trip wires. NO "S" mines were laid in this area. Patrol moved through field but had proceeded but a little way when they came under heavy fire from 4 MGs. After several attempts to move fwd they lay and listened for approx 1 hour. They could hear the sound of voices, much talking and shouting and the sound of stakes being driven. This noise came from well back from their posn and estimated to be on the escarpment between FIG TREE and pt. 171. Nothing could be seen of the working party from this point. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

Glyndwr Stevan
GOLD.

SECRET.

HOSTILE SHELLING REPORT.

UNIT 2/13 AUST INF BN.

For 24 hrs ended 0700 hrs 9 Aug 41.

Coy	Location of repts point	Bearing of Flash or sound (or of groove made by unexploded (Shell))	No of secs from flash to report	Area shelled	Damage done	No of guns	Calibre	Time of Shelling From To	No of Shells	Date.	
A	R.17	-	-	R.17	NIL	1	75mm	1000	1100	5	
	R.20	213°	5/6 secs	R.19-20	"	4	"	1900	2000	42	
						1	"	2300	2400	5	
						1	"	0130	0230	4	
	R.31	200°	-	R.31 & OP	NIL	4	75mm	0830	0832	6	
					?	12	" & 105mm	2018	2023	70	
C	R.14	-	-	R.15	NIL	1	75mm	0830	0845	7	
				R.14	Direct hit on rear pit - No damage	1	"	1805	1810	5	4 Air bursts.
				R.15	NIL	1	"	1850	-	3	
				R.14	"	1	"	2020	2023	2	
D	R.26	-	-	R.26	NIL	4	105mm	2015	2016	12	1 Air burst.
	R.23	191°	-	Coy HQ	"	1	"	2016	-	1	

This observation was taken at 0115hrs.

REMARKS.

GOLD.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A	A	2200	0100	1 Sjt & 1 Cpl	From R.27 est 2500x on brng 230°	Patrol moved fwd approx 2000x before any enemy movement was seen. At this point movement could be observed on the escarpment. Patrol moved a further 500x and could clearly see two parties of men on the high ground although they were in the vicinity of 1000x distant from the patrol. The working parties were in the same locality as those reported last night namely between pt. 171 and FIG TREE. Patrol came under accurate fire at this point and despite efforts to move to a flank was unable to make any progress. Patrol returned.
	B	2300	0300	1 Offr 2 NCOs 5 ORs	From R.35 3165x brng 194° - 1000x brng 288° - then brng 49° and ret- urn.	Patrol attempted to pick up the road contacted by previous patrols and investigate in that area. Could not find the track nor was any sign of enemy activity encountered. Faint tapping noise could be heard but this was coming from a long distance away and the exact direction was hard to determine. Patrol returned through R.35.
	C	2200 6/7	2200 7/8	1 NCO & 1 OR	Fwd OP 40094258	This OP was equipped with a telephone and was in touch with Coy HQ at all times. This OP observed movement on 26 points on the escarpment by odd men or small groups of enemy. All the movement was to the west of pt. 171 and along the line of the escarpment between 39954254 and 40164245. 39954254 is an OP probably used by the enemy arty; it was seen to be occupied during the hours of daylight. Some posn were seen fwd of the escarpment but no movement was seen there during the day and it is not considered that they are occupied in daylight. - This OP is being maintained (This refers to our own OP)
	C	2300	0300	1 Offr 6 OR	From R.13 brng 230°	The intention of this patrol was to investigate sangars fwd of the escarpment reported by the OP to determine if they were occupied during the hours of darkness. These sangars are just over the minefield at this point but when still far from the minefield the patrol was fired on by an MG and forced to ground. Progress was continued under fire from the flank for some distance when patrol apparently moved into dead ground and the fire ceased. Patrol stopped just our side of the minefield and the patrol leader moved fwd to investigate the sangar. A whistle was heard from the posn which was answered from nearby. Movement was heard to the rear of the sangars but patrol could see nothing. Patrol leader placed a gelignite bomb amongst some rocks and moved to a safe distance. This had no effect of drawing enemy fire. Patrol returned.

REMARKS- rear of the sangars but patrol could see nothing. Patrol leader placed a gelignite bomb amongst some rocks and moved to a safe distance. This had no effect of drawing enemy fire. Patrol returned.

Ser No	Sub Unit Repts	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled
		Out	In		
	D	2330	0415	2 NCOs 6 OR	From R.27 brng 220° to minefield return R.29.

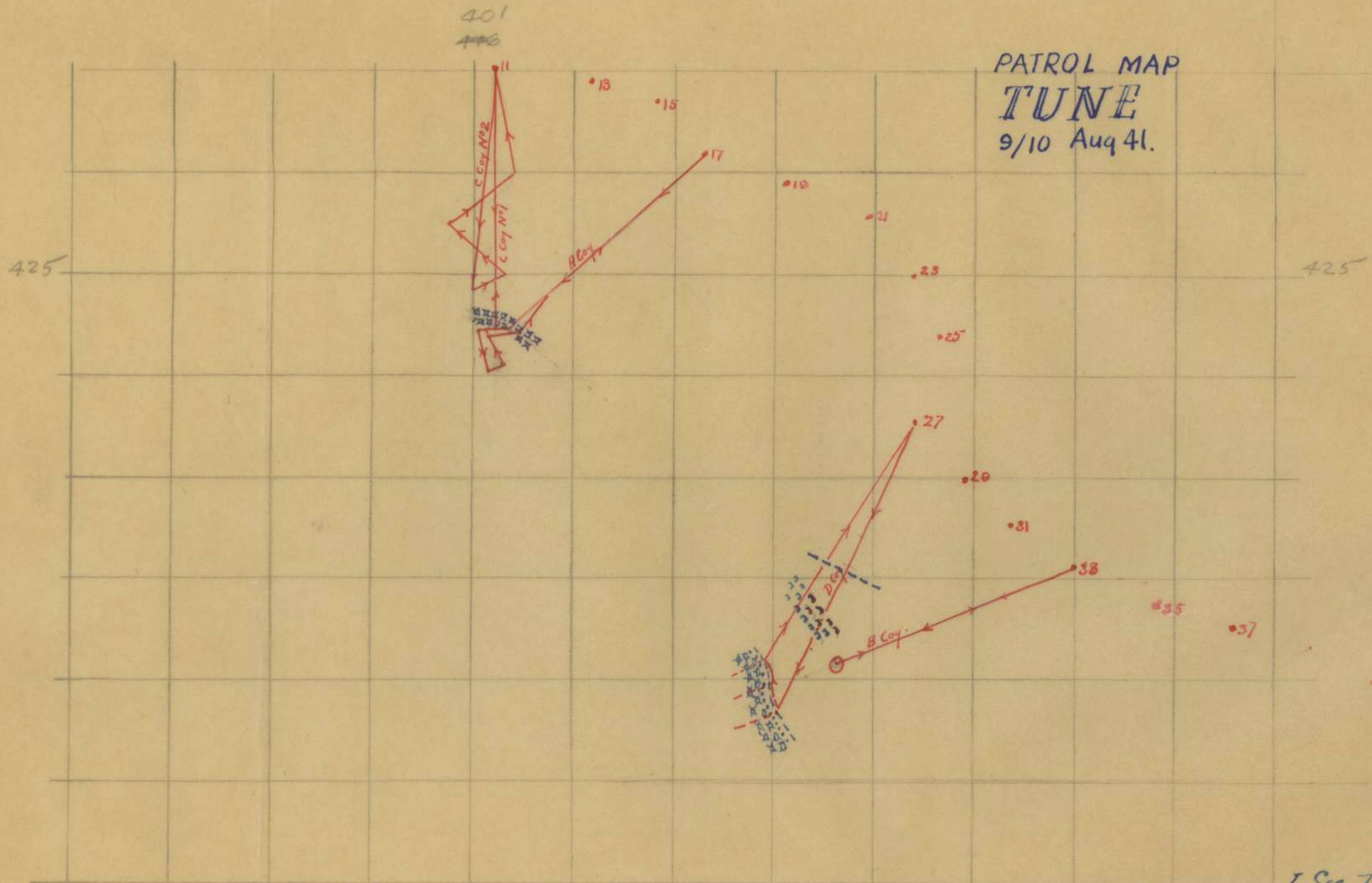
REPORT

The road appearing on the EL ADEM overprint was crossed at approx 1500x before coming to the field. The minefield at this point consists of 5 rows of TELER mines with the usual safeguards of furrows and high trip wires. NO "S" mines were laid in this area. Patrol moved through field but had proceeded but a little way when they came under heavy fire from 4 MGs. After several attempts to move fwd they lay and listened for approx 1 hour. They could hear the sound of voices, much talking and shouting and the sound of stakes being driven. This noise came from well b ack from their posn and estimated to be on the escarpment between FIG TREE and pt. 171. Nothing could be seen of the working party from this point. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

Glynnau D. Lewis
GOLD.

PATROL MAP
TUNE
9/10 Aug 41.



I Sec. TUNE
10 Aug 41.

⊗ Areas only.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2115	0130	2 NCOs 9 ORs	Brng 230° from R.17 est 2800x. West then up escarpment In R.17	At about 2800x on the bearing of 230° struck and crossed the minefield. Slight movement was observed on the skyline but there were no working parties visible on the scale of last night. After crossing the minefield patrol moved west and then commenced to climb the escarpment. By this time the moon had risen and fire came from the left flank fwd of the patrol. Patrol continued and swung slightly to the left but no enemy could be contacted nor was the patrol fired on. Patrol withdrew and when over the minefield on the way home was fired on again by MGs from vicinity pt. 171.
	B	0015	0225	1 Offr 1 NCO 3 ORs	Brng 247° from R.33 2750 paces and return.	Patrol moved out with the object of drawing fire if possible from the posns proved to be occupied by a previous night patrol and if enemy there to engage them. Patrol took up posn opposite enemy posns and attempted to draw fire by firing their Bren at the enemy posns. NO fire was returned and it is now considered that the posns are only occasionally occupied to give the impression that the line at that point is constantly held.
	C	2100	0100	1 Offr 6 ORs	From R.11 brng 180°	Set out with the intention of reaching enemy posns before the moon rose. The moon had risen however before the minefield was reached. Moved through the field and proceeded for approx 100x when MG fire was drawn from both flanks. Patrol continued forward but fire continued to be accurate and constant. Considering that nothing could be done in such bright light patrol returned.
	C	0110	0400	1 NCO 5 OR	From R.11 185°	Patrol to ensure that the early patrol was not followed home or enemy habit of coming out after our deep patrols had returned. Patrol moved over the general Coy front at a depth of est 2300x. Nothing was seen or heard.
	D	2330	0500	2 NCO 5 OR	From R.27 brng 205° to minefield est 3300x	Patrol at est distance of 2800x came across three rows of unused posns running E to W consisting of MG posns and slit trenches sited in depth. Approx 500x further on minefield was contacted. Moved to the right along the minefield for 500x; minefield was crossed in several places but nothing could be seen or heard. It was becoming late so patrol returned.

REMARKS-

Lyndon Stewart
GOLD.

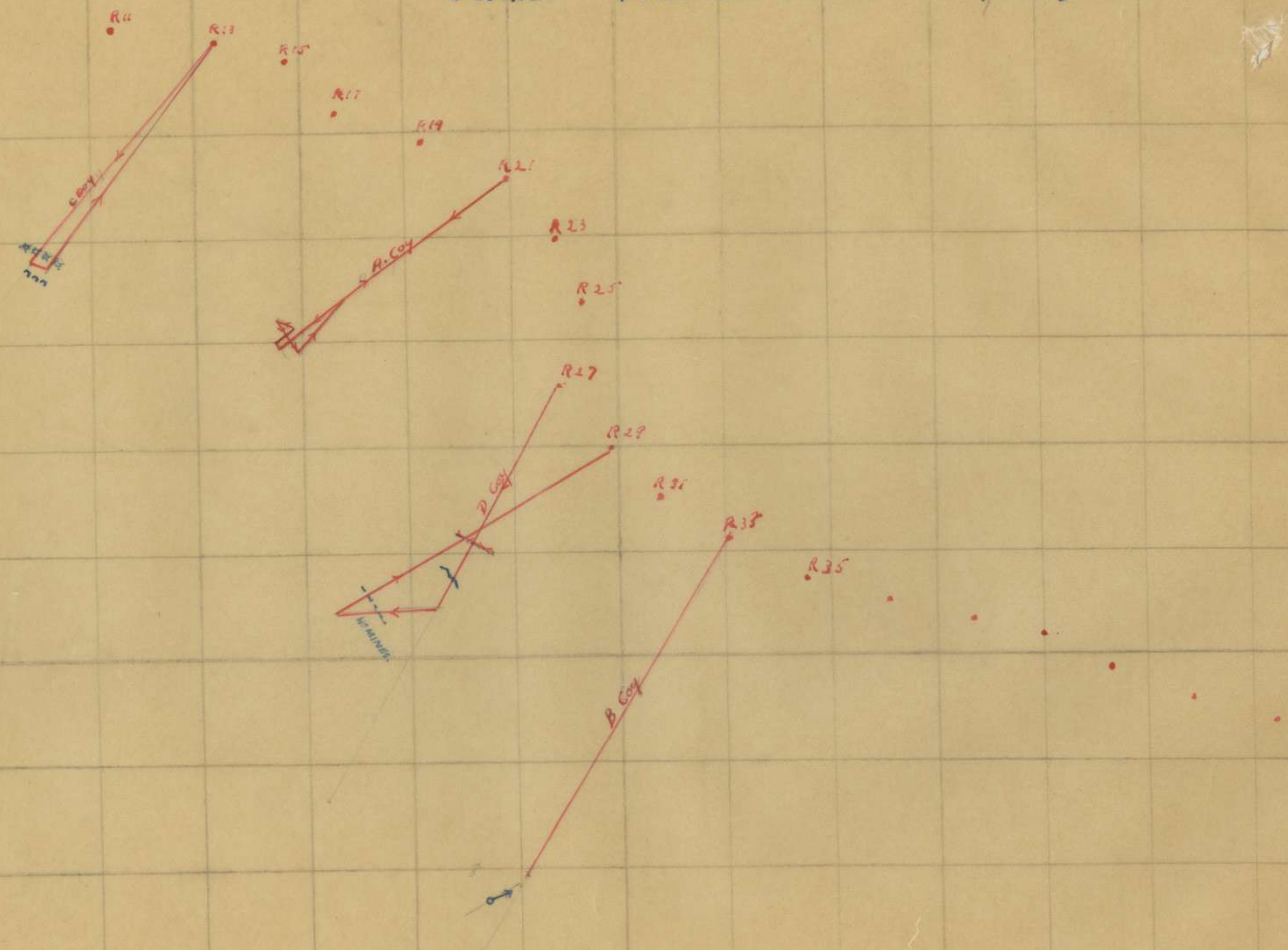
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		Out	In			
A		2115	0130	2 NCOs 9 ORs	Brng 230° from R.17 est 2800x. West then up escarpment in R.17	At about 2800x on the bearing of 230° struck and crossed the minefield. Slight movement was observed on the skyline but there were no working parties visible on the scale of last night. After crossing the minefield patrol moved west and then commenced to climb the escarpment. By this time the moon had risen and fire came from the left flank fwd of the patrol. Patrol continued and swung slightly to the left but no enemy could be contacted nor was the patrol fired on. Patrol withdrew and when over the minefield on the way home was fired on again by MGs from vicinity pt. 171.
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D.		2330	0500	2 NCO 5 OR	From R.27 brng 205° to minefield est 3300x	Patrol at est distance of 2800x came across three rows of unused posns running E to W consisting of MG posns and slit trenches sited in depth. Approx 500x further on minefield was contacted. Moved to the right along the minefield for 500x. Minefield was crossed in several places but nothing could be seen or heard. It was becoming late so patrol returned.

REMARKS-

Gyndwin Evans
GOLD: -

TUNE. PATROL MAP

10/11. Aug 41. 41



Tune 1 sec.
11. Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Repts	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A		2105	0030	1 Offr 2 OR	From R.21 on brng 231° Gen area of pt. 174 and return.	Patrol moving on bearing of 231° did not locate any mines nor was the semblance of a field encountered. After a distance of 2750x patrol was well up towards the top of the escarpment without sign of mines or enemy. Moved further west. Two rifle shots were fired from IFG TREE and an MG was seen to fire from the same posn towards est R.13 or 15. Patrol moved further up escarpment and came to within 100x of the first sangars. Up to now it had been dark and apart from the two rifle shots the patrol had drawn no fire. Moon began to rise and rather than commit commit such a small party patrol returned.
B		2340	0420	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 ORs	212° from R.31 for 4590 paces.	There was no sign of enemy previously reported in vicinity of the sangars est 3000x from perimetre. After covering 4450 paces on our original bearing bird call was heard on our left flank and repeated several times on our right. After progressing for a further 100x the call was again heard from the left and a MG opened fire from our right front. On listening voices could be heard but no words distinguished. On attempting to move patrol birdcall was again heard and fire immediately opened. Three men were seen on the skyline to our right carrying an object that may have been a gun. Thinking that the post may have been withdrawn patrol again attempted to move but was again forced to ground by accurate fire. Patrol withdrew by crawling. MG estimated to be on our side of the enemy minefield. It is considered by the patrol leader that the bird calls are signals from listening posts that enemy are in the vicinity.
C		2145	0445	1 Offr 5 OR	220° from R.13 recce foot of esc. and return.	Sangars previously reported to contain enemy were to be investigated and reced for futher action. Minefield was crossed and sangars located with-our difficulty. Sangars run on an east - west line for approximately 200x There was no sign of enemy nor was any fire drawn. Patrol returned.
D		2330	0530	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 ORs	210° from R.27	Crossed road at 2600 paces and a further 500 paces came across the weapon pits reported last night. It is considered that these pits have never been occupied. Continued for further 300x then changed direction to 270° At 3300 paces from our wire on this course the minefield trip wire was in posn but no mines were found. There were the prepared holes where the mines had either been taken up or had not been laid. Patrol went a further 400x without hindrance. The sound of the driving of stakes could again be heard on their right coming from deep in the enemy's territory. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

had either been taken up or had not been laid. Patrol went a further 400x without hindrance. The sound of the driving of stakes could again be heard on their right coming from deep in the enemy's territory. Patrol returned.

Glyndwr N. ...
GOLD.

SECRET.

HOSTILE SHELLING REPORT.

UNIT 2/13 AUST INF BN.

For 24 hrs ended 0700 hrs 11 Aug 41.

Coy	Location of repts point	Bearing of Flash or sound (or of groove made by unexploded (Shell))	No of secs from flash to report	Area shelled	Damage done	No of guns	Calibre	Time of Shelling From To	No of Shells	Date.
A	NO SHELLING IN COY AREA.									
B	R.31	180°-200°	-	R.31	1 OR injured by stone chips.	12	75mm	2055 2101?	31	10 Aug.
C	R.14	-	-	R.13-14-15	NIL	3	105mm	0940	13	11 Aug.
				R.15	"	1	"	1800	1	
				R.14	"	2	"	1805	2	
				R.16	"	1	"	1845	7	
				R.12	"	2	75mm	0045	2	
D	NO SHELLING IN COY AREA.									

REMARKS.

Sydney Road
GOLD.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A		2105	0030	1 Offr 2 OR	From R.21 on brng 231° Gen area of pt. 174 and return.	Patrol moving on bearing of 31° did not locate any mines nor was the semblance of a field encountered. After a distance of 2750x patrol was well up towards the top of the escarpment without sign of mines or enemy. Moved further west. Two rifle shots were fired from IPG TREE and an MG was seen to fire from the same posn towards est R.13 or 15. Patrol move further up escarpment and came to within 100x of the first sangars. Up to now it had been dark and apart from the two rifle shots the patrol had drawn no fire. Moon began to rise and rather than commit commit such a small party patrol returned.
B		2340	0420	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 ORs	212° from R.31 for 4590 paces.	There was no sign of enemy previously reported in vicinity of the sangar est 3000x from perimetre. After covering 4450 paces on our original bearing bird call was heard on our left flank and repeated several times on our right. After progressing for a further 100x the call was again heard from the left and a MG opened fire from our right front. On liste voices could be heard but no words distinguished. On attempting to move patrol birdcall was again heard and fire immediately opened. Three men were seen on the skyline to our right carrying an object that may have been a gun. Thinking that the post may have been withdrawn patrol again attempt to move but was again forced to ground by accurate fire. Patrol withdrew by crawling. MG estimated to be on our side of the enemy minefield. It is considered by the patrol leader that the bird calls are signals for listening posts that enemy are in the vicinity.
C		2145	0445	1 Offr 5 OR	220° from R.13 recce foot of esc. and return.	Sangars previously reported to contain enemy were to be investigated and reced for futher action. Minefield was crossed and sangars located with our difficulty. Sangars run on an east - west line for approximately 200x. There was no sign of enemy nor was any fire drawn. Patrol returned.
D		2330	0530	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 ORs	210° from R.27	Crossed road at 2600 paces and a further 500 paces came across the weapons pits reported last night. It is considered that these pits have never been occupied. Continued for further 300x then changed direction to 270°. At 3300 paces from our wire on this course the minefield trip wire was in posn but no mines were found. There were the prepared holes where the driving of stakes could again be heard on their right coming from deep in the enemy's territory. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

had either been taken up or had not been laid. Patrol went a further 400x without hindrance. The sound of the driving of stakes could again be heard on their right coming from deep in the enemy's territory. Patrol returned.

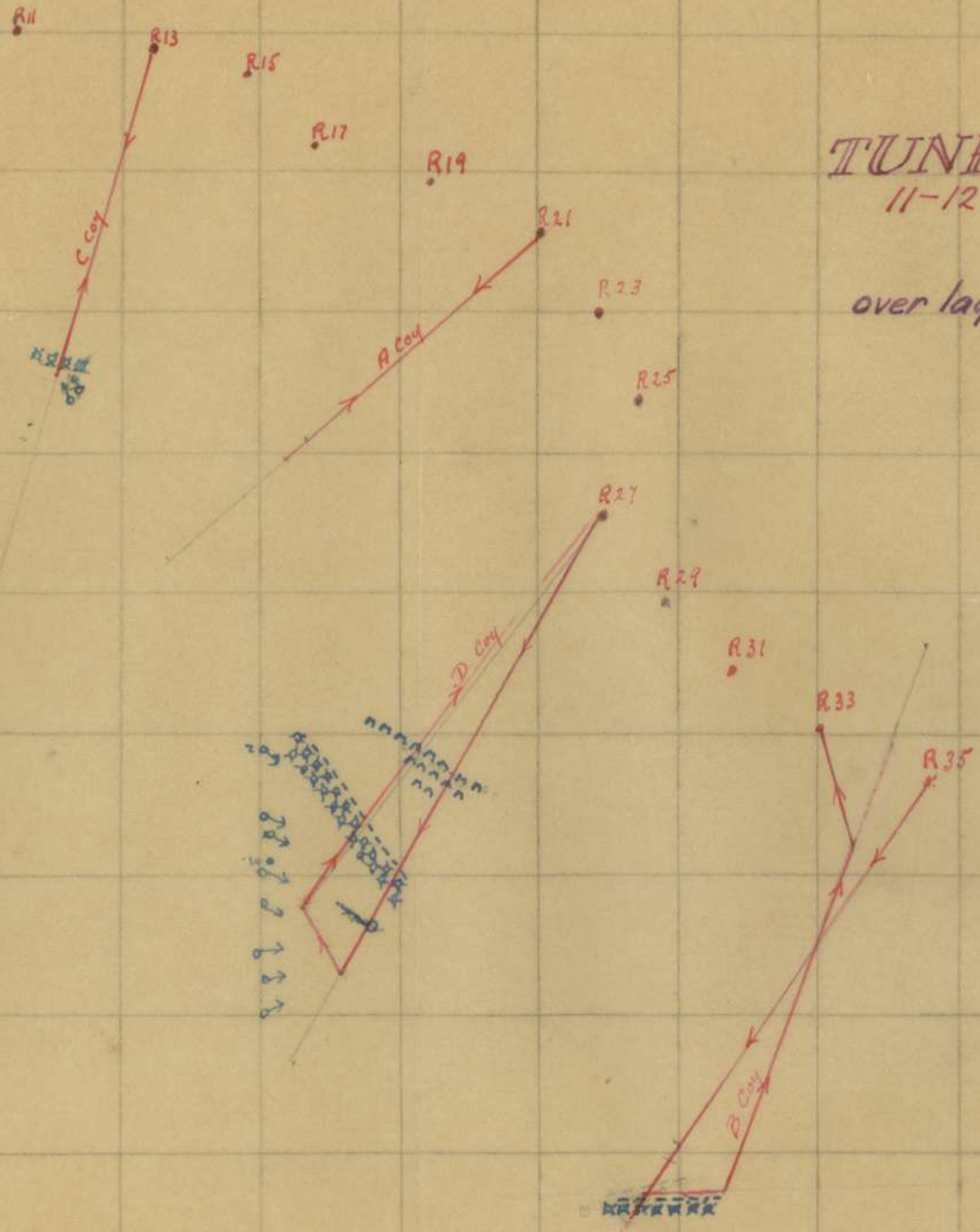
Clyde ...
GOLD

TUNE Patrol Map

11-12 Aug 41

over lay TOBRUCH Sheet 1:50000.

Note. New minefld & Located by B Coy.



TUNE I Sec.
12 Aug 41.

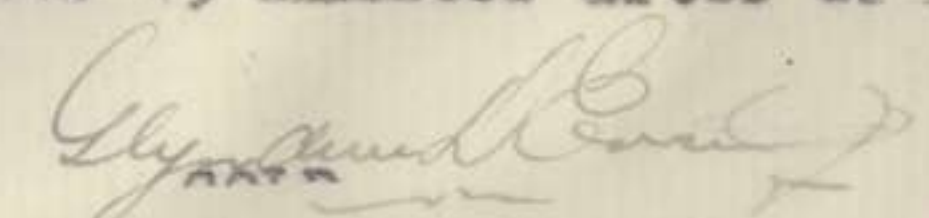
Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A		2100	0015	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R.21 brng 228 Vicinity FIG TREE and return.	There was no minefield on this bearing and at a distance of 2400x two men were left to observe. There was fire from 3 automatic weapons on the right of the patrol and a further LMG on the left of the patrol. There was nothing to be seen on the immediate front. On rejoining the two men left to observe they said they had seen one man rise from the ground and move to the rear just before the LMG had opened fire from the left. MT movement was heard to the rear of the enemy posns. Patrol returned.
B		2245	0330	1 Offr 7 ORs	From R.35 brng 214 for 4120 paces. Back 100x then brng 87° for 600p Return R.33	On this bearing crossed minefield at distance 4020 paces NO "S" mines in this area. No activity in vicinity. Heavy fire on the right evidently on patrol from A Coy. A little fire from the left flank of the patrol judged to be directed along the line of the minefield. Patrol returned.
C		2100	0400	1 Offr 5 ORs	Brng 195° from R. 13	While examining trip wire on enemy side of the minefield at the foot of the escarpment, MGs opened up from each flank of the patrol the bullets striking between the patrol and our lines. Two more MGs from further up the escarpment also opened fire but just where these guns were firing could not be determined. The sangars previously reported in this area were seen ahead of the patrol but the fire did NOT come from them but from dug posn further XXXX away on either flank. Mortar fire was directed evidently to catch the patrol if it moved back, 6 bombs falling between the patrol and our lines. Patrol withdrew.
D		2115	0200	1 Offr 1 NCO 9 ORs	From R.27 brng 210 est 3600x - back R.27	Two mortar personnel with one 45mm mortar went with the patrol as far as the line of dug posns reported previously on this front. The mortar was dropped off here with the role of firing and drawing the fire of the enemy thus disclosing their posn to the main patrol. Main body continued on original bearing until est 3000x from perimeter then changed to bearing of 330° for 600x. On this leg the glow of cigarettes could be seen and the sound of talking heard to the immediate front. Patrol was evidently detected as talking ceased and as patrol continued to move forward fire was opened on the immediate front from MGs mortar, 2 20mm Bredas. More MG fire came from the right but the number of guns firing from this direction could not be determined. Our 45mm mortar opened fire and fired 20 rnds. Enemy guns were estimated to firing at range of 150x to the front and 100x from the right. The fire was continued for 45 minutes after which the patrol withdrew.

REMARKS-

GOLD.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
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A		2100	0015	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R.21 brng 228 Vicinity FIG TREES and return.	There was no minefield on this bearing and at a distance of 2400x two men were left to observe. There was fire from 3 automatic weapons on the right of the patrol and a further LMG on the left of the patrol. There was nothing to be seen on the immediate front. On rejoining the two men left to observe they said they had seen one man rise from the ground and move to the rear just before the LMG had opened fire from the left. MT movement was heard to the rear of the enemy posns. Patrol returned.
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D		2115	0200	1 Offr 1 NCO 9 ORs	From R.27 brng 210° est 3600x - back R.27	Two mortar personnel with one 45mm mortar went with the patrol as far as the line of dug posns reported previously on this front. The mortar was dropped off here with the role of firing and drawing the fire of the enemy thus disclosing their posn to the main patrol. Main body continued on original bearing until est 3000x from perimeter then changed to bearing of 330° for 600x. On this leg the glow of cigarettes could be seen and the sound of talking heard to the immediate front. Patrol was evidently detected as talking ceased and as patrol continued to move forward fire was opened on the immediate front from MGs mortar, 2 20mm Bredas. More MG fire came from the right but the number of guns firing from this direction could not be determined. Our 45mm mortar opened fire and fired 20 rnds. Enemy guns were estimated to firing at range of 150x to the front and 100x from the right. The fire was continued for 45 minutes after which the patrol withdrew.

REMARKS-



13 Aug

Patrol Reports

Patrol reports received today yield very little further information.

One 2/13 Bn patrol reports that Fig Tree area is more strongly wired than was previously thought.

Another reports that enemy positions appear to be more strongly held - (possibly due to too frequent attempts by patrols to penetrate the defenses there).

The 2/15 Bn daylight OP report yields little useful information, partly through bad reporting. They report bearings only, and no distances; moreover the position of the OP from which the bearings are taken is not fixed accurately.

Dwight Thompson
Lieut.

I have taken back the torch

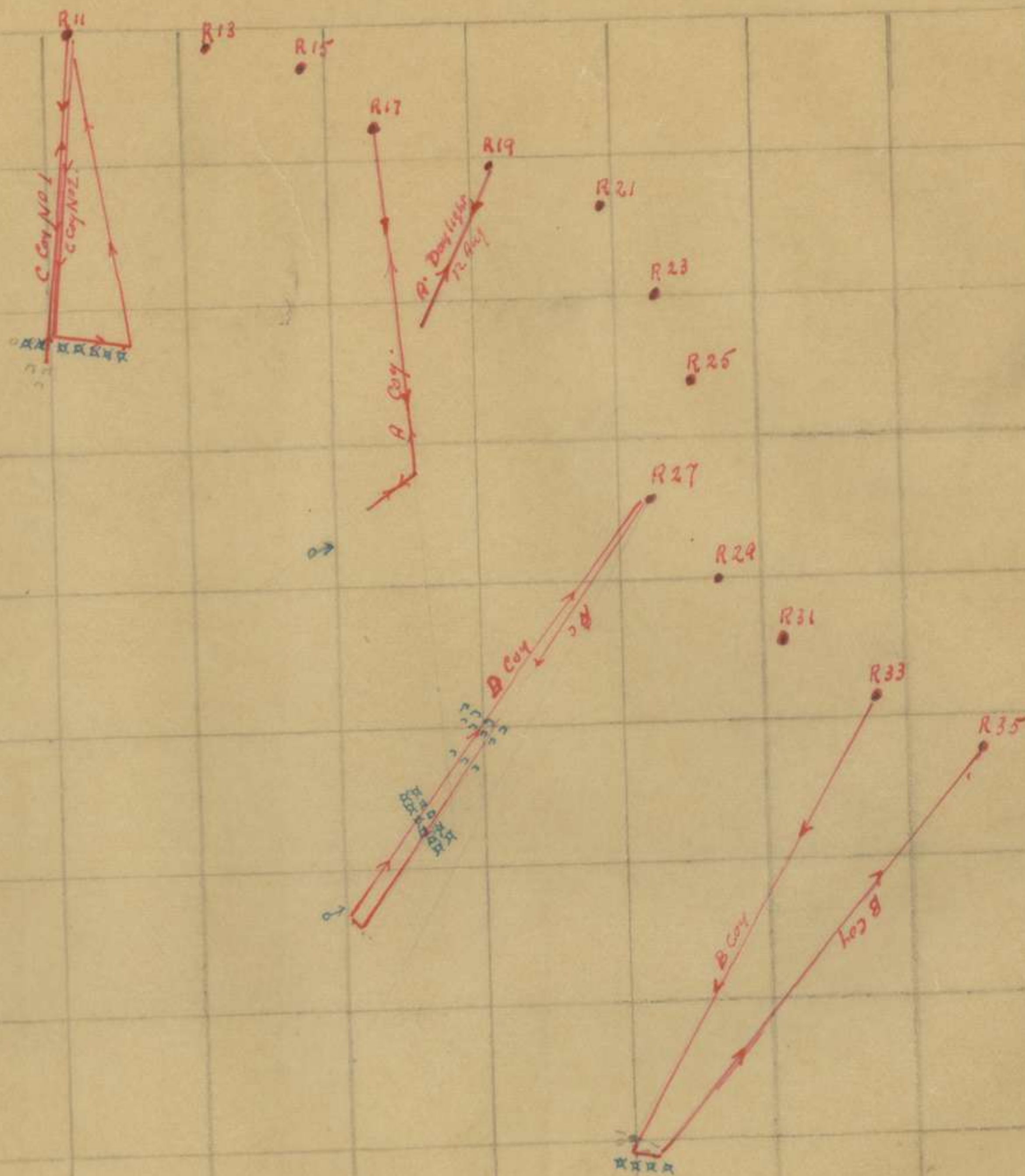
Dwight

AK

TUNE Patrol Map

12/13 Aug 41.

Over lay TOBRUCH SHEET 1.50000.



Tune 1 sec.
13-Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2115	0030	1 Offr 1 NCO 3 ORs	From R.17 on brng 175° 2650x then on 235° - 400x and return.	Purpose of patrol to recce FIG TREE area. On the original bearing no mines were encountered. When est 2650x from our wire the sound of MT was heard to the South. After changing direction and proceeding for approx 400x an LMG commenced firing from the immediate front. The sound of voices could be heard and the noise made by the scraping of a dish. These sounds came from the right front. LMG continued to fire and the moon was by this time bright. Patrol returned.
	A	0800 12 Aug	1000	1 Offr 1 OR	From R.19 1200x to immediate front	Patrol moved out in daylight to distance of 1200x without opposition of enemy. From this distance observation of the FIG TREE area was carried out with the aid of Field Glasses. Area FIG TREE and sangars on escarpment seen to be strongly wired. Two men were observed looking in the direction of the patrol from one of the sangars. NO other movement was seen. As soon as patrol was seen to move back rifle fire was directed at them without success.
	B	2205	0325	1 NCO 6 OR	Out R.33 on 210° back R.35.	Patrol to intercept enemy seen to take up position at last light. Patrol moved on bearing for distance of 3850 paces without incident. At this point minefield was encountered and patrol which had moved too far to the right turned left along the minefield to pick up direction. At this point about ten yds from the trip wire protecting the minefield, was a petrol drum surrounded by stones. While investigating this drum a single LMG opened up from the immediate front. Patrol moved to the rear and to the left in an endeavour to outflank this weapon. As soon as movement was made at least four MGs and rifles opened fire together with one 20mm Breda. During lulls in the fire voices could be heard and the sound of a Diesel truck moving away. Flares were fired by the enemy. Patrol returned. It is considered that the enemy has considerably thickened his defences in this locality.
	C	2100	0300	2 Offrs 2 OR	R.11 brng 186°	When est 400x on our side of the enemy minefield some movement was heard and while endeavouring to locate it two rifle shots were fired. All efforts to locate what was taken to be an enemy listening post were unsuccessful. It is

REMARKS-

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	C	(Continued)				considered that after firing the two shots the listening post withdrew. Patrol continued on bearing, crossing the minefield and approaching sangars where digging could be heard. Patrol studied location of the enemy posns and could see the figure of a sentry watching from one of the sangars. Patrol withdrew making further attempt to locate listening post without success.
	C	0130	0415	1 NCO 5 OR	Gen Coy front to depth 2000x	Patrolled Coy front between wire and enemy minefield. Nothing to report.
	D	2100	0200	2 NCO 6 OR	From R.27 on 215° for 4300paces.	When at the minefield on this bearing some enemy movement was heard to the right front. After continuing for est 1000x patrol came on a well defined defined track running parallel to the field. There were fairly fresh MT tracks on the road but it did not have the appearance of very regular use. After a further distance of 100x movement was heard on the right and patrol moved in that direction to investigate. When est within 150x of the enemy two flares were fired over patrol and it came under MG fire from the front and right flank. The fire regular and accurate. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
GOLD.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2115	0030	1 Offr 1 NCO 3 ORs	From R.17 on brng 175° 2650x then on 235° - 400x and return.	Purpose of patrol to recce FIG TREE area. On the original bearing no mine were encountered. When est 2650x from our wire the sound of MT was heard to the South. After changing direction and proceeding for approx 400x an LMG commenced firing from the immediate front. The sound of voices could be heard and the noise made by the scraping of a dish. These sound came from the right front. LMG continued to fire and the moon was by thi time bright. Patrol returned.
	A	0800 12 Aug	1000	1 Offr 1 OR	From R.19 1200x to immediate front	Patrol moved out in daylight to distance of 1200x without opposition of enemy. From this distance observation of the FIG TREE area was carried ou with the aid of Field Glasses. Area FIG TREE and sangars on escarpment seen to be strongly wired. Two men were observed looking in the directio of the patrol from one of the sangars. NO other movement was seen. As soon as patrol was seen to move back rifle fire was directed at them with success.
	B	2205	0325	1 NCO 6 OR	Out R.33 on 210° back R.35.	Patrol to intercept enemy seen to take up position at last light. Patrol moved on bearing for distance of 3850 paces without incident. At this point minefield was encountered and patrol which had moved too far to the right turned left along the minefield to pick up direction. At this point about ten yds from the trip wire protecting the minefield, was a petrol drum surrounded by stones. While investigating this drum a single LMG opened up from the immediate front. Patrol moved to the rear and to the left in an endeavour to outflank this weapon. As soon as movement was ma at least four MGs and rifles opened fire together with one 20mm Breda. During lulls in the fire voices could be heard and the sound of a Diesel truck moving away. Flares were fired by the enemy. Patrol returned. It considered that the enemy has considerably thickened his defences in this locality.
	C	2100	0800	2 Offrs 2 OR	R.11 brng 186°	When est 400x on our side of the enemy minefield some movement was heard or while endeavouring to locate it two rifle shots were fired. All efforts to locate what was taken to be an enemy listening post were unsuccessful. It

REMARKS-

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	C	(Continued)				considered that after firing the two shots the listening post withdrew. Patrol continued on bearing, crossing the minefield and approaching sangars where digging could be heard. Patrol studied location of the enemy posns and could see the figure of a sentry watching from one of the sangars. Patrol withdrew making further attempt to locate listening post without success.
	C	0130	0415	1 NCO 5 OR	Gen Coy front to depth 2000x	Patrolled Coy front between wire and enemy minefield. Nothing to report.
	D	2100	0200	2 NCO 6 OR	From R.27 on 215° for 4300paces.	When at the minefield on this bearing some enemy movement was heard to the right front. After continuing for est 1000x patrol came on a well defined track running parallel to the field. There were fairly fresh MI tracks on the road but it did not have the appearance of very regular use. After a further distance of 100x movement was heard on the right and patrol moved in that direction to investigate. When est within 150x of the enemy two flares were fired over patrol and it came under MG fire from the front and right flank. The fire regular and accurate. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

Glynn D. Evans
GOLD.

SECRET.

Copy No 6

14 Aug 41.

PATROLS - 2/13 AUST INF BN - NIGHT 14/15 AUG.

1. OBJECT. (a) To capture prisoners
(b) Capture enemy MG posns.
(c) Obtain indentification.

2. PATROL BY C COY.

- (a) Strength: 2 Offrs and 2 ORs.
(b) Time and Place of Start: 2100 hrs from Post R.11.
(c) Time and Place of Return: 0100 hrs = Post R.11.
(d) Route: Post R.11 on bearing of 184 degrees.

3. PATROL BY A COY.

- (a) Strength: 1 Offr and 13 ORs.
(b) Time and Place of Start: 2100 hrs from Post R.21
(c) Time and Place of Return: 0100 hrs - Post R.21.
(d) Route: Post R.21 on bearing of 221 degrees to 40334234

4. PATROL BY D COY.

- (a) Strength: 1 Offr and 6 ORs.
(b) Time and Place of Start: 2200 hrs from Post R.27.
(c) Time and Place of Return: 0230 hrs - Post R.27.
(d) Route: To area 40304210.

5. PATROL BY B COY.

- (a) Strength: 1 Offr and 6 ORs.
(b) Time and Place of Start: 2200 hrs Post R.31.
(c) Time and Place of Return: 0300 hrs.
(d) Route: Area 404419.

TIME OF SIGNATURE -----Hrs.

METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION--DR

Clyde Stewart Jones
for Adjnt 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
(J.L.A.Kelly)

<u>DISTRIBUTION.</u>	<u>Copy No</u>
C Coy	1
A "	2
D "	3
B "	4
107 RHA	5
20 Aust Inf Bde	6
Comd	7
Adjnt	8
File	9
War Diary	10.

Ser No	Sub Unit Repte	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2230	0100	1 Offr 3 ORs	From R.21 on 221° 2600x. East 300x and return.	At 2600x on this bearing patrol struck the eastern side of a small waddi and an LMG was heard to fire from the head of this waddi in the est direction of R.27. The sound of a truck and a working party driving stakes was heard from the direction of Pt. 174. At this point there was a cable running in a easterly direction apparently from Pt. 174. This sig wire was followed and finished in a cleaned out shell hole probably used as a fwd OP or listening post. From this point (40374238) bearing of 241° was taken on gunflashes which appeared to be shelling TOBRUCH town. The guns were estimated to be 4000 - 5000x distant. Patrol returned.
	B	2205	0150	1 Offr 2 NCO 16 ORs	From R.35 on 235° to minefield. East to track - west along track approx 900x and return.	Patrol with decoy party of 1 NCO and 2 ORs moved out with the intention of inducing the enemy to disclose his posns before attacking. Main patrol moved on bearing striking the minefield at 4400 paces. Here they waited until the decoy party opened fire which they did at 2245hrs. Despite 15 mins of intermittent fire no return fire came from the enemy. Main patrol moved east along the minefield to the track then followed the track in a westerly direction for 1100 paces crossing the field. This was behind the posns known to have been previously occupied by enemy. At this point patrol observed but nothing could be seen or heard of the enemy. Patrol then moved north and crossed the minefield again after 200 paces. At this stage a flare was fired from enemy territory well to their rear. On the way back patrol came accros a posn that had been occupied xrecently. From this posn patrol fired 1 mag of Bren in the general direction of the enemy lines in the final hope of drawing fire. There was no response. Patrol returned.
	C	2100	0130	1 NCO 3 OR	From R.13 198° vicinity m/field and return.	When in the act of crossing the minefield the patrol came under fire of an LMG to its immediate front. Patrol moved to the rear and then to a flank in an endeavour to get to the rear of the gun that fired on them. When patrol moved fwd of the minefield it was again fired on by the same gun and another gun further to the right of the first one. Any movement by the patrol brought down fire on itself and it was assumed that they were under observation. Patrol returned.
	C	0130	0400	1 NCO 5 or	Gen Coy Front.	Protective recce patrol - NMS

REMARKS-

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

PATROL REPORT

SECRET. Sheet No. 2

For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 14 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Repts	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	D	2100	0130	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 OR	From R.27 on 210° 4300x. Back R.29	Patrol crossed minefield and moved on same bearing for a further 1000x to well defined track running parallel with the minefield. Moved 400x to the right along this road but could see nor hear no sign of the enemy. Moved back over the minefield and searched the sangars in the vicinity. Could find no signs of occupation. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

Normal wire and ditch patrols were maintained by all Coys.

Sydney Howard
GOLD

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2230	0100	1 Offr 3 ORs	From R.21 on 221° 2600x. East 300x and return.	At 2600x on this bearing patrol struck the eastern side of a small waddi and an LMG was heard to fire from the head of this waddi in the est direction of R.27. The sound of a truck and a working party driving stakes was heard from the direction of Pt. 174. At this point there was a cable running in a easterly direction apparently from Pt. 174. This sig wire was followed and finished in a cleaned out shell hole probably used as a fwd OP or listening post. From this point (40374238) bearing of 241° was taken on gunflashes which appeared to be shelling TOBRUCH town. The guns were estimated to be 4000 - 5000x distant. Patrol returned.
	B	2205	0150	1 Offr 2 NCO 16 ORs	From R.35 on 235° to minefield. East to track - west along track approx 900x and return.	Patrol with decoy party of 1 NCO and 2 ORs moved out with the intention of inducing the enemy to disclose his posns before attacking. Main patrol moved on bearing striking the minefield at 4400 paces. Here they waited until the decoy party opened fire which they did at 2245hrs. Despite 15 mins of intermittent fire no return fire came from the enemy. Main patrol moved east along the minefield to the track then followed the track in a westerly direction for 1100 paces crossing the field. This was behind the posns known to have been previously occupied by enemy. At this point patrol observed but nothing could be seen or heard of the enemy. Patrol then moved north and crossed the minefield again after 200 paces. At this stage a flare was fired from enemy territory well to their rear. On the way back patrol came accros a posn that had been occupied xrecently. From this posn patrol fired 1 mag of Bren in the general direction of the enemy lines in the final hope of drawing fire. There was no response. Patrol returned.
	C	2100	0130	1 NCO 3 OR	From R.13 198° vicinity m/field and return.	When in the act of crossing the minefield the patrol came under fire of an LMG to its immediate front. Patrol moved to the rear and then to a flank in an endeavour to get to the rear of the gun that fired on them. When patrol moved fwd of the f minefield it was again fired on by the same gun and another gun further to the right of the first one. Any movement by the patrol brought down fire on itself and it was assumed that they were under observation. Patrol returned.
	C	0130	0400	1 NCO 5 or	Gen Coy Front.	Protective recce patrol - NMS

REMARKS-

N Y A

PATROL REPORT

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

SECRET. Sheet No. 2
 For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 14 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Repts	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	D	2100	0130	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 OR	From R.27 on 210° 4300x. Back R.29	Patrol crossed minefield and moved on same bearing for a further 1000x to well defined track running parallel with the minefield. Moved 400x to the right along this road but could see nor hear no sign of the enemy. Moved back over the minefield and searched the sangars in the vicinity. Could find no signs of occupation. Patrol returned.

REMARKS-

Normal wire and ditch patrols were maintained by all Coys.

[Signature]
 GOLD.

SECRET.

COPY NO. 9...
15 Aug 41.

PATROLS BY 2/13 AUST INF BN NIGHT 15/16 AUG.

- OBJECT: (a) CAPTURE PRISONERS.
 (b) INFLICT CASUALTIES ON THE ENEMY.
 (c) OBTAIN INFORMATION.

SPECIAL PATROL BY "C" COY.

Strength: ~~12~~ OFFR, ~~4~~ ORS.
Time and place of start: 2230 - R11.
Time and place of return: 0430 - R11.
Route: On a bearing of 185 degrees from R11 to enemy sangars, vicinity 40094244.

PATROL BY "A" COY.

Strength: 1 OFFR, 6 ORS.
Time and place of start: 2230 - R19
Time and place of return: 0400 - R19
Route: On a bearing of 233 degrees from R19, enemy posns vicinity Pt 171.

PATROL BY "D" COY.

Strength: 1 OFFR, 6 ORS.
Time and place of start: 2230 - R27.
Time and place of return: 0400 - R27.
Route: Bearing of 210 degrees from R27 - *To area 40344207*
~~penetrate as far as possible in direction of BIR SCERIF.~~

PATROL BY "B" COY.

Strength: 1 OFFR, 6 ORS.
Time and place of start: 2230 - R33.
Time and place of return: 0430 - R33.
Route: Bearing of 215 degrees from R33 to vicinity 40484189 then NORTH WEST to vicinity 40404196.

RECCE. PATROL by Lieut BUCKNELL and 2 ORS.

2230 0400 This patrol will move out from R25 and operate in vicinity BIR EL CARMUSA.
 (Special instns will be issued to patrol leader from these HQ).

J.L.A. Kelly
 Adj. 2/13 AUST INF BN.
 (J.L.A. KELLY.)
 Capt.

TIME OF SIGNATURE... *1430* Hrs.
 METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION DR.

DISTRIBUTION:	COPY NO.	DISTRIBUTION	COPY NO.
A Coy	1	xxxxxx	
B "	2	Adjutant	6
C "	3	Commanding Offr	7
D "	4	I.O.	8
Lt. Bucknell	5	20 AUS INF BDE	9
		1 RHA	10
		File	11

PATROL REPORT

SECRET. Sheet No. 1.

For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 15 Aug 41.

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

Ser No	Sub Unit Repts	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A		2050	0100	1 Offr 13OR	From R.21 on 221° 2600x then 232° 900x then 70° and return.	Patrol moved out striking the foot of the escarpment at a distance of 2600x. Bearing was changed to 232° and patrol continued on for a further 900x. From this point MF movement heard to the SW. The sound of voices and clatter of dixies from a point on the right of the patrol and on the left an LMG was occasionally firing. Patrol leader decided to move in the direction of the LMG. Despite careful combing of the area the gun posn could not be found. Patrol moved to the foot of the escarpment and searched that area also for enemy posn without success. Patrol returned.
B		2140	0245	1 Offr 1NCO 6ORs	From R.33 198° for 5016 paces to m/fd 500 paces on same brng. 317° 1000x and return R.33	At 3940 paces the track was crossed. The minefield at distance 5016 paces consisted of furrow, two rows "S" mines, two rows TELLER mines, furrow and protective wire 2' from the ground on wooden stakes. A further 500 paces was traversed on the same bearing but there was no sign of enemy. Sangars and posns in the vicinity showed no signs of occupation. Patrol returned.
C		2130	0130	2 Offrs 2OR	From R.11 on 184° return R.11	Patrol to obtain information of enemy posn with a view to later offensive action. Patrol moved straight to the sangars previously located just on the enemy side of the minefield. These were skirted and a track in their rear which had the appearance of being in use was followed for a distance of 300x. Patrol returned by same route taking all necessary bearings on the return journey.
C		0245	0445	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R.15 on 200° return R.15.	Deep protective patrol on general Coy front - Nothing of importance to report.
D		2030	0205	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 ORs	From R.27 on 210°	In the vicinity 40434218 six freshly dug slit trenches were found and two square pits 2' square and 2'6" deep. Patrol estimates that they were dug some time yesterday 14 Aug. After crossing minefield and continuing for approx 1000x the track was struck and followed in a NW direction for est 1100x. There was a sign post in the centre of the road showing "PERICOLO - CAMPO MINATO" and pointing in a SE direction. A further 25x from the signpost two sig cables one thick and the other thin crossed the road at

REMARKS-

right angles. 350 paces further was a road junction the new road coming in from the east. Radius of 150x from this spot was searched but nothing could be found neither was anything heard. Flares were observed well to the north at this stage and these flares were the only evidence of enemy. Patrol returned.

Signature
GOLD.

Ser No	Sub Unit Repts	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A		2050	0100	1 Offr 13OR	From R.21 on 221° 2600x then 232° 900x then 70° and return.	Patrol moved out striking the foot of the escarpment at a distance of 2600x. Bearing was changed to 232° and patrol continued on for a further 900x. From this point MT movement heard to the SW. The sound of voices and clatter of dixies from a point on the right of the patrol and on the left an LMG was occasionally firing. Patrol leader decided to move in the direction of the LMG. Despite careful combing of the area the gun posn could not be found. Patrol moved to the foot of the escarpment and searched that area also for enemy posn without success. Patrol returned.
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C		0245	0445	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R.15 on 200° return R.15.	Deep protective patrol on general Coy front - Nothing of importance to report.
D		2030	0205	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 ORs	From R.27 on 210°	In the vicinity 40434218 six freshly dug slit trenches were found and two square pits 2' square and 2'6" deep. Patrol estimates that they were dug some time yesterday 14 Aug. After crossing minefield and continuing for approx 1000x the track was struck and followed in a NW direction for est 1100x. There was a sign post in the centre of the road showing "PERICOLO - CAMPO MINATO" and pointing in a SE direction. A further 25x from the signpost two sig cables one thick and the other thin crossed the road at

REMARKS-

right angles. 350 paces further was a road junction the new road coming in from the east. Radius of 150x from this spot was searched but nothing could be found neither was anything heard. Flares were observed well to the north at this stage and these flares were the only evidence of enemy. Patrol returned.

[Signature]
 GOLD.

SECRET.

Copy No. ⁹.....
H.Q. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
16 Aug 41.

Patrols by 2/13 Bn on night of 16/17 August 41.

OBJECT.

1. (a) To capture prisoners.
(b) To take offensive action against any enemy MG posts encountered.
(c) To obtain information.

2. PATROL BY "C" COY.

Strength- 2 Offrs 12 ORs.
 Time & place of start- 2230- R.11.
 Time & place of return- 0430- R.11.
ROUTE. On a bearing of 185° R.11 to enemy sangars vicinity 40094244.

3. PATROL BY "A" COY.

Strengths:- 1 Offr 6 ORs.
 Time & Place of start- 2230 - R.17
 Time & Place of return 0430 - R.17.
ROUTE. Bearing of 215° from R.17. Endeavour to engage working party vicinity 40204243.

4. PATROL BY "D" COY.

Strengths:- 1 Offr 6 ORs.
 Time & Place of start: 2230 - R.27.
 Time & place of return. 0400 - R.27.
ROUTE. Bearing of 215° from post R.27 enemy sangars vicinity 40444217.

5. PATROLS- "B" COY. Normal - Tank and wire.

Deep patrols will NOT move WEST of ^{CR10} line 404. Patrols will not leave before 2200 hours, nor return later than 0400 hours.

Time of signature..... 1540

Method of Distribution. D/R

J. Kelly
 Adj. 2/13 Bn. A.I.P. Capt.

DISTRIBUTION.

All Coys.	Nos 1 to ⁴ X	A1, B2, C3, D4 Spare 5
Adj.	No 6.	
C.O.	No 7/	
I.O.	No 8.	
20 Aust Inf Bde.	No 9	
File.	No 10	
War Diary.	No 11.	

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 8

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

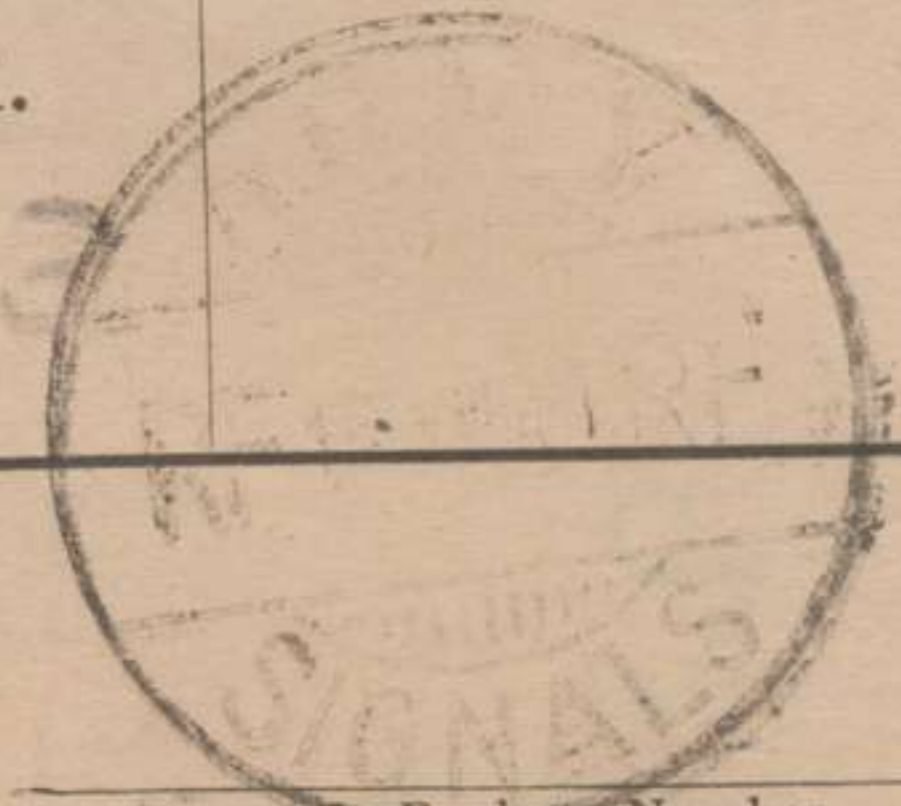
IN

C917P R46 138 X 034 TYZ-10W

OUT

No. of Groups
GR. 13

OFFICE DATE STAMP



(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

RAFO TUNE GALE PAID

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

FROM

HOPA

156

16

Patrols night- 16/17 only protective

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

IMMEDIATE

TIME OF ORIGIN.

1705

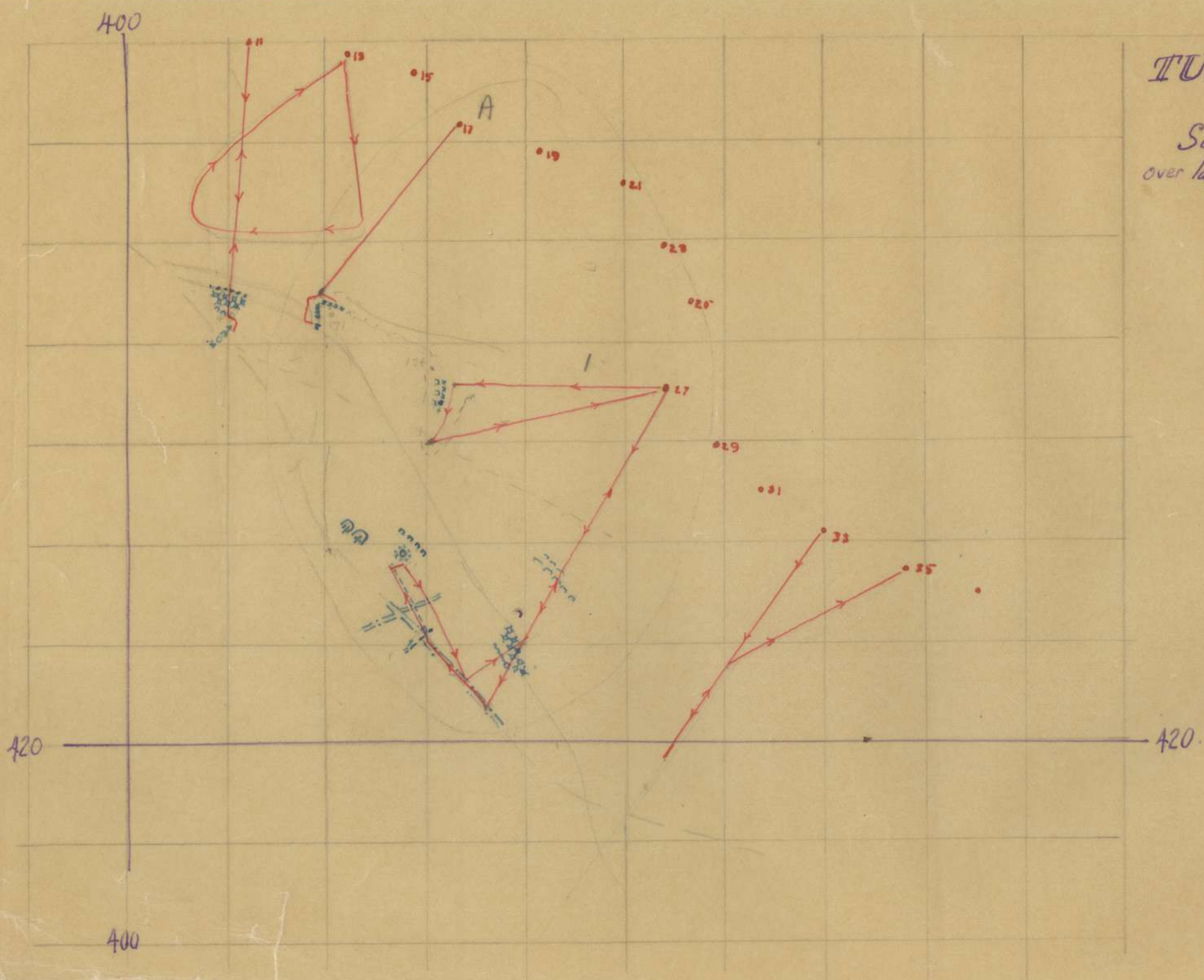
SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I. 1757

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

T.O.R.



TUNE Patrol Map
 15/17 Aug 41.
 Scale 1:50000.
 overlay for TOBRUCH Sheet 1:50000.

Tune Isce.
 16 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Rptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	Special Patrol	2030	0215	1 Offr 20R	From R.27 direction FIG TREE.	<p>Moved out from R.27 and after a distance of 2350x came to waddi running approx SSW and followed this waddi for about 400x. Observed on the way at a distance of 300x from the enemy. There was the continuous noise digging talking and the driving of stakes. There was constant MG fire from est vicinity pt. 174. At the head of the waddi a sentry 70x from the patrol rose from the ground and moved back in the direction of the enemy. MG opened up in the general direction of patrol. Patrol continued for another 400x. Digging and wiring was in progress all along the front and from the light of flares sent up from pt. 171 men appeared to be working in waist deep trenches on double apron wire fence all the way from pt.174 to pt.171. Truck was heard to approach pt. 174 at 2210 hrs. Enemy arty opened up with two heavy guns at about 2400 hrs. Our arty replied and last shell appeared to hit something sending up a shower of sparks, previous shells appeared to be falling to left of target. Shells est to be falling 700 to 800x half left of patrol. Patrol returned to R.27.</p>
A		2200	0230	2 Sjts 90R	R.17 on 215° to vicinity pt.171.	<p>Struck foot of escarpment on this bearing and after moving up hill for 150x struck a mass of loose tangled barbed wire. Moving to the left the tangled wire was found to be connected to a 3' double apron fence and on the right the tangled wire ran straight up the escarpment. It was decided to follow the wire to the right. At the top of the escarpment two completely wired sangars were found with party heard to be working in the rear. On attempting to move closer to the party patrol came under MG fire. Patrol moved to the right striking a waddi along which they moved bringing them to the right flank of the working party. By careful crawling patrol was able to discern party of about 12 enemy. Patrol advanced to within 30x and attacked with hand grenades. Four grenades were thrown amongst the party and immediately flares were fired. Flares were fired almost constantly but patrol managed to withdraw safely under fire in the short periods of darkness between the flares. Patrol is unable to give accurate estimate of casualties inflicted on the enemy, who immediately went to ground in the diggings.</p>

REMARKS-

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

PATROL REPORT

SECRET. Sheet No. 2
For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 16 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	B	2230	0230	1 Offr 6OR	From R.33 on 215° 3400 paces - 35° 1700 paces - 63° to R.35	Moved to 3400 paces but the only observations were flares and MG fire from the right front estimated posn well to the rear of the enemy minefield. At this stage patrol leader suffered severe stomach cramps and as he considered none of the patrol capable of taking charge patrol returned with him.
	C	2230	0200	2 Offrs 4OR	From R.11 on 184° to escarpment area	After crossing minefield ^{at 4010 4243} on this bearing patrol located and searched three unoccupied sangars which were considered NOT to have been recently occupied. Moving east for about 150x two sangars were sighted just below the crest and patrol moved to investigate. Plan was to move to the rear of the posns but the distance was deceptive and a grenade was thrown at the patrol from close quarters exploding within a few yards without damage. The task of the patrol was purely recce they took cover while the enemy fired flares and opened fire with four MGs. Patrol withdrew under fire - fire lasting until they were well clear of the minefield, but without casualty to us. Patrol leader considers posns are NOT those located last night but additional occupied posns.
	D	2045	0315	1 Offr 13OR	From R.27 on 210° to rd in 403420 thence NW to est 40284218 .	Patrol struck road contacted last night at est 1000x yds through minefield and continued along road in NW direction until cable reported previously was struck and followed in a northerly direction for 70x thence NNW for 800x when two men were observed in northerly direction. After a further 70x patrol leader and three men moved fwd to endeavour to capture the two men seen ahead. When still some distance from the men flare was fired from vicinity of minefield showing the two men to be sentries in a wired sangar. Fifteen sangars were counted between the flare and the patrol approx 150x to the north of the wired sangar. Four men were seen to move from a sangar on the right towards the wired posn, they were challenged by the sentry and allowed to enter. A number of men were seen to be moving about the sangars. At this stage the patrol was undiscovered but as the patrol leader and his three men moved back to rejoin the main patrol accidental noise brought a challenge from one of the two sentries which in turn brought fire from three points along the sangars. This MG fire although ineffective was directed at the patrol and the patrol leader considering his party too small to be effective now that surprise was lost withdrew under fire to the track and thence to R.27 without further incident. When at est 40274217 enemy arty was observed to fire from approx 40234221. Our arty replied, Shells appeared to be landing a little to the south though some appeared to land amongst the flares of the enemy guns.

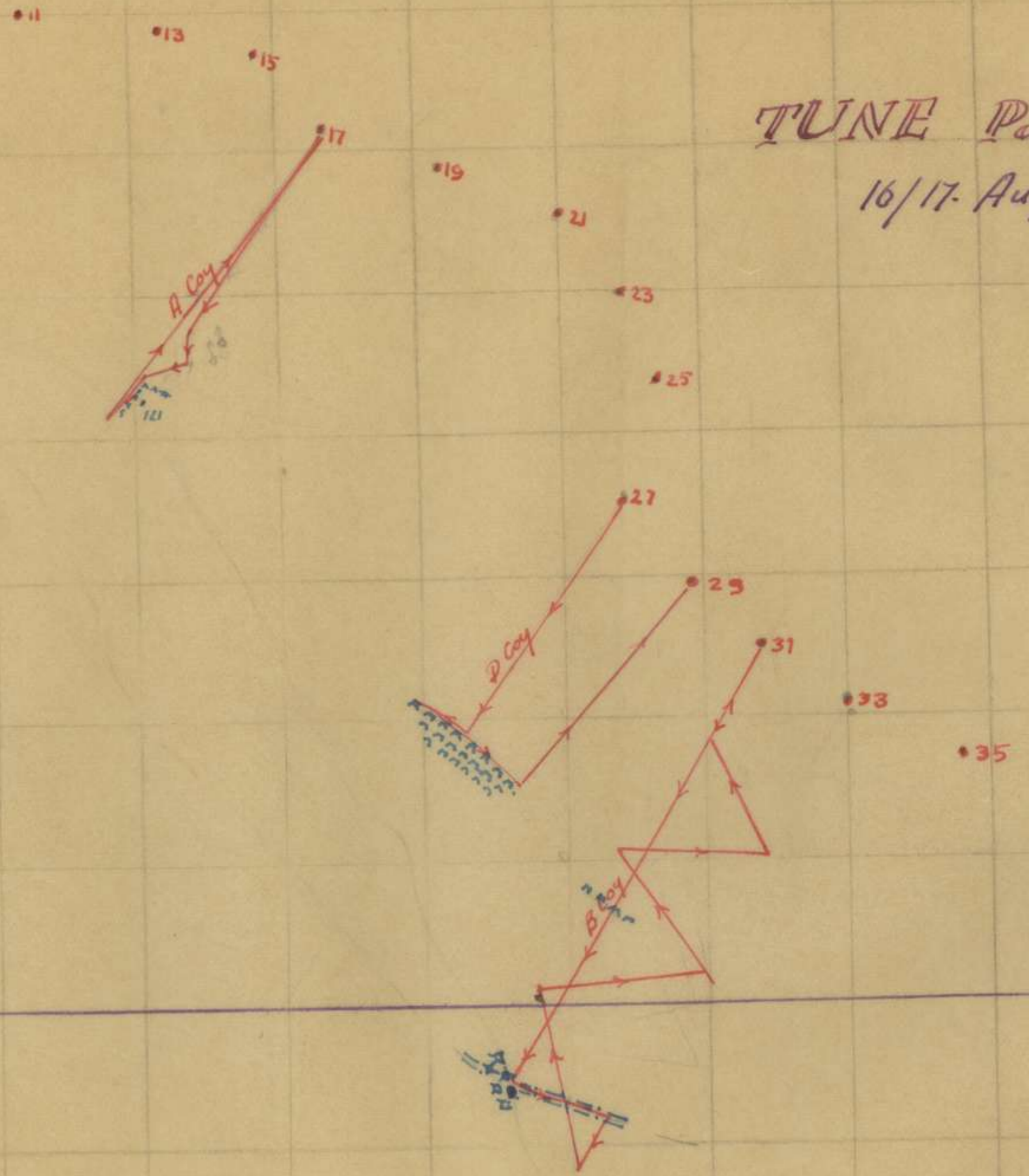
REMARKS-

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Sydney Stewart
GOLD

TUNE Patrol Map

16/17 Aug. 41.



420

420

400

410

HQ 2/13 AUST INF BN
17 Aug 41.

HQ. 20 AUST INF BDE.

A fighting patrol of 2 OFFRS and 12 ORS (Lieut M. WOODS, Leader) on moving across a slight rise in the ground, unexpectedly came under heavy MG and rifle fire and light Mortar or Hand Grenades. It was immediately seen that they were sky-lined from a large E Sangar only about 80 yds away. This fire did not cause any casualties, and the patrol moved forward off the sky-line. After lying quiet until the fire died down, the leader decided to assault the post and moved a covering party with Bren gun under Lieut Walker to the flank, while he himself with the remainder of the patrol endeavoured to crawl forward to within assaulting distance.

After progressing a few yards, some say 5, others affirm that it was about 12 yds, strong fire was again opened on the patrol. The first volley of Hand Grenades in this position knocked out the Bren Gun and Nos 1 and 2. Any attempt to move forward was met with extremely heavy fire, so that the rush of the assaulting party did not succeed in reaching the Sangar. The leader ordered his men to engage the enemy with Hand Grenades. At this stage the Patrol Leader and 1 OR were known to have been wounded by heavy Breda MG fire, and command of the assaulting party was taken over by a Cpl. The party continued to fight the enemy until their supply of Grenades was exhausted and then withdrew. The Cpl was wounded but continued his efforts to disengage his party.

Lieut Walker and his party, unaware of what was happening on the flank, except that the party was withdrawing covered them by firing at the Sangar, and throwing Hand Grenades into it. At this stage Lieut Walker joined the assaulting party in a slight depression and on checking it was found that Lieut Wood and 2 ORS were missing and the Cpl wounded. It was learnt from the Cpl that he was alongside Lieut Wood and Pte G. Campbell when they were hit by heavy Breda MG fire. As the Cpl was wounded he himself could not bring in these two and concentrated on getting the remainder of the assaulting party out.

A search was immediately made for the missing but any movement towards the enemy Sangar brought down such heavy fire that fwd movement was impossible. Another patrol was sent out but because of approaching daylight they had to confine their search to our side of the enemy minefield. Our total casualties were 3 ORS wounded and 1 OFFR and 2 ORs missing.

It is confirmed that the enemy posn consisted of a large stone surface dug-out, surrounded by a stone wall. This post contained 3 MG and 12 men were seen behind the wall. Some of our bombs were actually seen to explode behind the wall and it is known definitely that 4 casualties were inflicted on the enemy. This number is known, but the number of enemy casualties may have been higher.

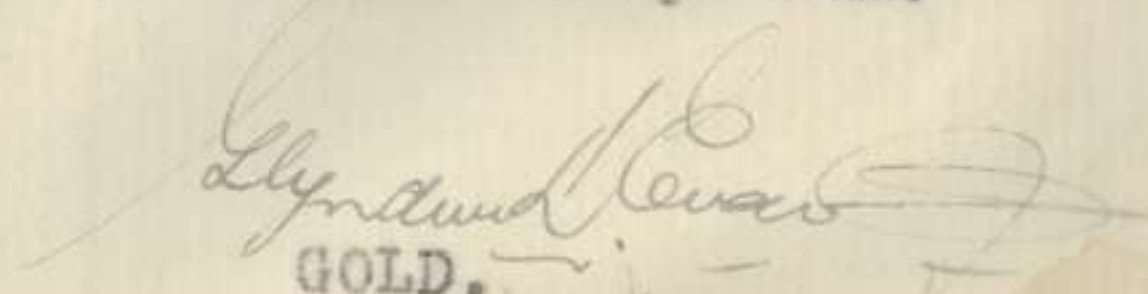
One of the men on the flank of the patrol now states that when about 200 yds from the enemy posn, he heard a noise like men running or moving very quickly. It is considered that this may have been a listening post moving back to warn the enemy in the post. Another man stated that some of the men in the post were wearing steel helmets of a type similar to that worn by Germans. The suggestion that Germans occupied the post is not substantiated, but it was definitely established that Italian hand grenades were used by the enemy.

F.A. Burrows
Lt-Col.
Comd 2/13 AUST INF BN.
(F.A. BURROWS).

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2200	0145	1 Offr 13 OR	From R.17 on 215° 2000x thence to wired sangarx on escarpment and return.	After moving 2000x on the bearing patrol was fired on by an LMG from the left flank. It is thought the patrol had been outlined by flares which were being fired in the salient. When an attempt was made to outflank this gun patrol was fired on again from a point further to its front, suggesting that the enemy was withdrawing in the direction of the escarpment. After 400x of fwd movement patrol fired on for the third time, this time from the foot of the escarpment strengthening the assumption that the enemy LMG was moving back. Patrol endeavoured to move between the enemy and the escarpment but they could not be contacted. Patrol moved towards the west side of pt. 171 and leaving the main party at the foot of the escarpment patrol leader and Sjt moved fwd to investigate. The wire reported last night was again encountered and followed towards the top of the rise. This wire defence is a tangled mass of commercial barb laid in irregular manner to front and rear of pt. 171. Patrol leader and Sjt crawled to the edge of the wire surrounding the first sangar but after observing for est half an hour could see nor hear nothing. About 0100 hrs a burst of MG fire and about 50 explosions resembling grenades or booby traps were heard from a point along the escarpment est about 2000x west of pt. 171. The absence of MG fire from pts 171 and 174 although rifle fire was heard from both these points. NO anti personnel mines were encountered by this patrol. Patrol returned.
	B	2230	0420	1 Offr 1 NCO 6 ORs	From R. 21 ³¹ on 211° to junct rd and m field. Along rd and return.	After covering 1980 paces on the first bearing patrol came across 30 constructed posns dug and sandbagged but unoccupied and giving no sign of recent occupation. Patrol crossed minefield to track previously reported but despite deep penetration along line of track there was no sign of enemy. Several bird calls were heard but patrol after moving in their direction could find nothing considers they were genuine.
	C					
	D	2230	0400	2 NCO 6 OR	From R.27 on 215°	Duty of patrol to investigate sangars located between our lines and the enemy minefield and also to act as protective patrol on Coy front. Sangars were located without difficulty and thoroughly investigated. They were completely unoccupied nor was there any sign of recent occupation.

REMARKS-

SPECIAL REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE COY.



GOLD.

*Added as appx
to Bde I Summary
of 18 Aug*

HQ. 20 AUST INF BDE.

HQ 2/13 AUST INF BN
17 Aug 41.

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F.A. Burrows
Lt-Col.
Comd 2/13 AUST INF BN.
(F.A. BURROWS).

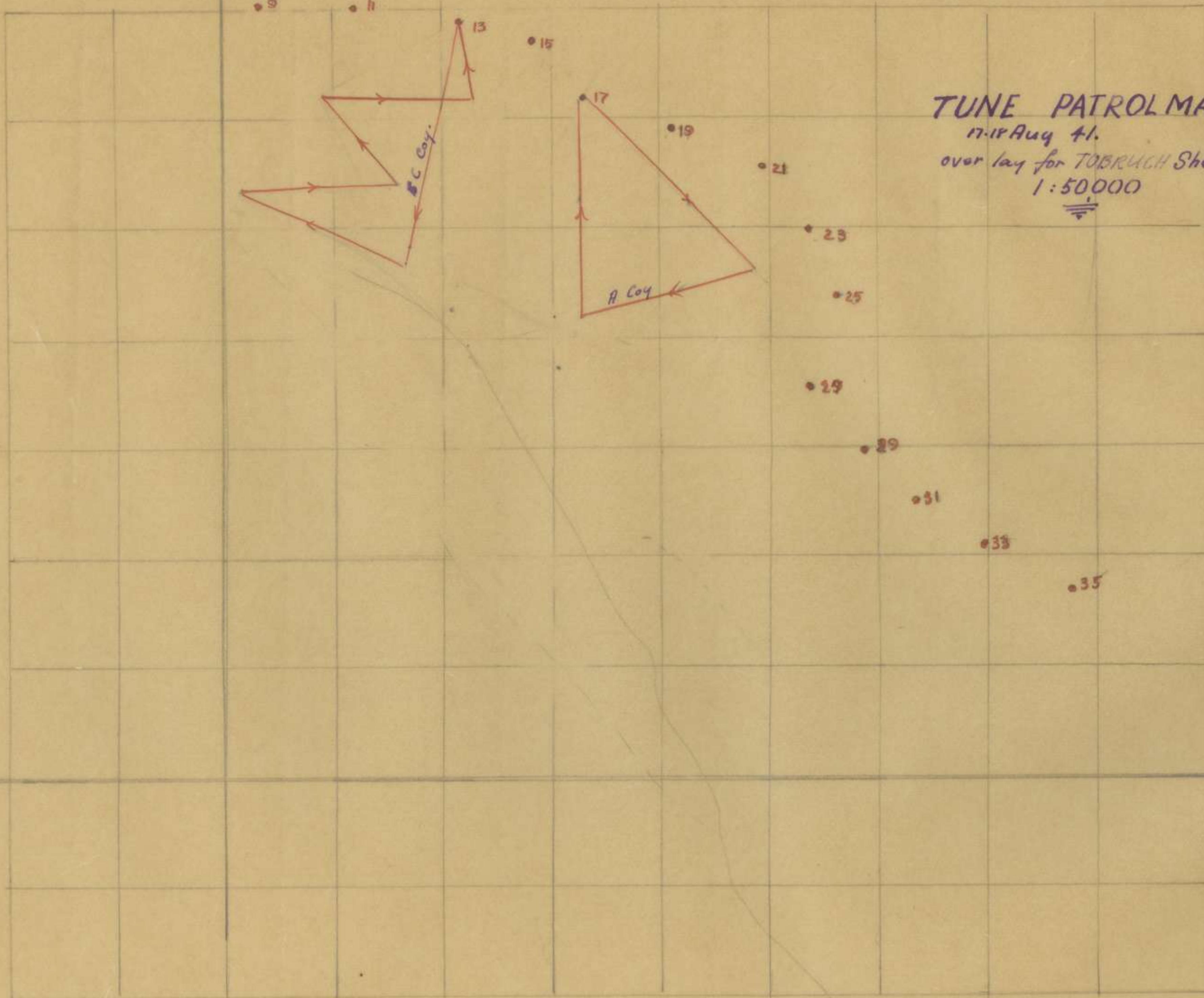
Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2200	0145	1 Offr 13 OR	From R.17 on 215° 2000x thence to wired sangar on escarpment and return.	After moving 2000x on the bearing patrol was fired on by an LMG from the left flank. It is thought the patrol had been outlined by flares which were being fired in the salient. When an attempt was made to outflank this gun patrol was fired on again from a point further to its front, suggesting that the enemy was withdrawing in the direction of the escarpment. After 400x of fwd movement patrol fired on for the third time, this time from the foot of the escarpment strengthening the assumption that the enemy LMG was moving back. Patrol endeavoured to move between the enemy and the escarpment but they could not be contacted. Patrol moved towards the west side of pt. 171 and leaving the main party at the foot of the escarpment patrol leader and Sjt moved fwd to investigate. The wire reported last night was again encountered and followed towards the top of the rise. This wire defence is a tangled mass of commercial barb laid in irregular manner to front and rear of pt. 171. Patrol leader and Sjt crawled to the edge of the wire surrounding the first sangar but after observing for est half an hour could see nor hear nothing. About 0100 hrs a burst of MG fire and about 50 explosions resembling grenades or booby traps were heard from a point along the escarpment est about 2000x west of pt. 171. The absence of MG fire from pts 171 and 174 although rifle fire was heard from both these points. NO anti personnel mines were encountered by this patrol. Patrol returned.
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REMARKS-

WYA

Glynn B. ...
GOLD.

410

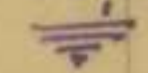


TUNE PATROL MAP

17-18 Aug 41.

over lay for TOBRUGH Sheet

1:50000



420

420

410

Tune.
I Sec.
18 Aug 41.

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

PATROL REPORT

SECRET. Sheet No. 1
 For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 18 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2230	0230	1 Offr 1 NCO 4 OR	Gen Coy Front to depth 1500x	LMG fire heard from vicinity pt. 174. Flares seen to be fired from behind escarpment otherwise nothing of importance to report.
	B	2230	0430	2 ORs	Listening posts at depth 2000x at three points.	Three groups of two man listening post maintained during the night for protection. Nothing to report.
	C	2300	0445	1 Offr 8OR	Gen Coy front to depth 2000x	Fire and vehicular movement heard well back behind escarpment. At 0415 hrs heavy fire broke out in the vicinity of pt.166 the place of this Coy's raid of last night, for no apparent reason.
	D	2130	0430	Section	Gen Coy front - empty sangars.	Standing patrol in posn throughout the night in the unused sangars between our lines and the enemy minefield. Nothing of importance to report. <i>This patrol acted as early protection for the raiding party.</i>

REMARKS-

Raiding party the subject of a special report.

Sydney Newell
 GOLD.

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

PATROL REPORT

SECRET. Sheet No. 1
For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 18 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
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	D	2130	0430	Section	Gen Coy front - empty sangars.	Standing patrol in posn throughout the night in the unused sangars between our lines and the enemy minefield. Nothing of importance to report. <i>This patrol acted as early protection for the raiding party</i>

REMARKS-

Raiding party the subject of a special report.

Glyn Owen Lewis
GOLD.

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

PATROL REPORT

SECRET.

Sheet No. 1

For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 19 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Repts	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
A		2200	0400	1 MCO 2 OR	Gen Coy front to depth 1500x	Patrol relieved at two hourly intervals. At 0320 hrs red flash reported to the SW which developed into a steady blaze. Otherwise nothing of importance to report.
B		2130	0515	Sec patrols	Gen Coy front.	Nothing to report. Stand Standing patrols only.
C		2200	0430	Sec patrols	Gen Coy front	Protective patrols - Nothing to report.
D		2200	0400	Sec patrols	Gen Coy front.	Patrolled to depth 1000x Nothing of importance to report.

Glyndwr I. Pearce
GOLD.

REMARKS-

SECRET.

HOSTILE SHELLING REPORT.

UNIT 2/13 AUST INF BN.

For 24 hrs ended 0700 hrs 19 Aug 41.

Coy	Location of reftag point	Bearing of Flash or sound (or of groove made by unexploded (Shell))	No of secs from flash to report	Area shelled	Damage done	No of guns	Cal-ibre	Time of Shelling		No of Shells	Date.
								From	To		
A	R.20	-	-	R.19	NIL	2	75mm	1800	1830	10	
B	No Report of Shelling on this Area.										
C	R.14	-	-	R.11 - 13 - 15	1 OR was wounded at R.15	4	105mm	1600	1800	21	
D	NO SHELLING IN AREA.										

REMARKS.

Sydney Howard
GOLD.

2/13 AUST INF BN AIF

PATROL REPORT

SECRET. Sheet No. 1
 For 24 hours ended 0700 hrs 19 Aug 41.

Ser No	Sub Unit Reptg	T I M E		Strength	Route and area patrolled	REPORT
		Out	In			
	A	2200	0400	1 NCO 2 OR	Gen Coy front to depth 1500x	Patrol relieved at two hourly intervals. At 0320 hrs red flash reported to the SW which developed into a steady blzaze. Otherwise nothing of importance to report.
	B	2130	0515	Sec patrols	Gen Coy front.	Nothing to report. xxxx Standing patrols only.
	C	2200	0430	Sec patrols	Gen Coy front	Protective patrols - Nothing to report.
	D	2200	0400	Sec parols	Gen Coy front.	Patrolled to depth 1000x Nothing of importance to report.

G. J. ...
 GOLD.

REMARKS-

AUG



PATROL REPORTS

2/15 Bn

HOPA INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 12
Up till 0600 hrs 9 Aug 41.

GENERAL. The period under review was particularly quiet with a reduction in shelling and air activity.

ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

- a. Shelling. The only shells to fall within the unit were, 8 in 10 Pl area at 0900 hrs, with a further 12 forward of 11pl area at 2000 hrs.
- b. Observed movement. At 1010 hrs 60 MT were seen running EAST to WEST along escarpment. 2/23 Bn reported seeing more ME movement than usual, viz, 194 MT WEST and 168 MT EAST.

OWN PATROLS.

Carriers. Three carriers made a recce in the afternoon of yesterday, Fire was drawn 2000 yds out on WESTERN flank. WALLED VILLAGE observed from 800 yds N M S.

ALL Coys. Protective patrols only to a depth of 2000 yds.

AIR ACTIVITIES. One EA seen to fly on recce North to SOUTH.
1845 HS126 over the area.

G. G. G. G. G.
.....
I O HOPA Lieut.

Distribution.

RAFO	No1
TUNE	2
TOBO	3
GALE	4
KUPE	5&6
HEAD	7
FILE	8

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 9 AUG
JULY 41

Serial No	Unit	Time In	Time Out	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
	A Coy	2100	0100	1 offr 10 ORs	From R 49 180° fro 2750 YDS Returned 30° to R 53	180° from R49 to Bir el AZAZI (1500 yds). 3 wells, 2 mi only with water at depth of 20ft approx. Road at 1750 yds from R49 (315° - 135°). SOUTH a further 1000 yds NMS. MONUMENT 25 struck on same road 670 yds on way home. Road here(320°-140°)
	A Coy	0100	0500	1 offr 10 ORs	R53 at 210°	Inspected Monument area AZAZi area, confirmed above NMS
	C Coy	0135	0505	1 WO 1 NCO 9 ORs	40844204 to 40764190 to 40844188 to 40834186 to 40944190 to 40984199 to R39	N M S
	C Coy	2200	0130	1 offr 1Cpl 10 ORs	40844204 to 40814191 back same route	N M S digging heard

10 Aug 41

SECRET

PROPOSED PATROLS.

1. STRENGTH Each patrol of 1 Ofcr, or NCO and 3 ORs.
2. ROUTES
 - A Coy. Two patrols to minefield approx 41304170. Separate on minefield and investigate field 1000 yds EAST and WEST.
 - B Coy. To strike minefield at junction PIPELINE. Continue traverse to WEST, care will be needed on this patrol as enemy is astride EL ADEM RD.
 - C Coy. To investigate sangars in sq 408418 thence to derelict truck approx 40934188. Return parallel to Road.
3. Time out 2130
Time In ~~0010~~
0400

Other patrols.

- (a) 2/23 Bn Standing Patrol of 1 Ofcr, 5 ORs at 41704170
- (b) OP manned at 41534173 with 1 NCO, 5 ORs .
Mine lifting party of 10 ORs to this pt in MT at 2130 hrs.

R.A. Suthers

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

A Coy
B Coy
C Coy
D Coy
Bn Hq
Bde
2/13 Bn

2/15AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ending 0800 hrs 10 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2100	0150	1 Offr 1 NCO 9 ORs	180° from R49 4150 yds then back Pt reached 41304165	N M S
2	A Coy	0030	0330	1 Offr 2 ORs	To 41424173 from R49 thence along rd to derelict truck NORTH of WALLED VILLAGE	Digging heard from this point. Possibly 2/23 Bn.
3	B Coy	2115	0230	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R45 TO 41114170 thence to 41034169 to 41014176 back to R45	Mines struck at first point. Minefield followed WEST 1000 yds. Many mines found lifted or dis-armed.
4	C Coy	2130	0300	1 Offr 3 ORs	R41 to TWIN TRUCKS to 40744192 to 40794183 back to R41	I See men left at 40744192. At 40784184, eight men observed from front and four from flank approaching in form of "U", apparently from number of sangars about 100 yds ahead. Withdrew 200 yds, two men seen to EAST. Diggings seen in this vicinity. Patrol withdrew without incident. No shots fired.

2/15 AUST INF BN;

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 11 Aug 41.

Serial No	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1 A Coy	2200	0400	2 patrols each 2 NCO 8 ORS.	From R49 180° to minefield 3700 yds	Patrols divided at minefield, one group going EAST and one going WEST. Both patrols re-established minefield as located by 18 Bde. N.M.S.
2 B Coy	2200	0300	1 NCO 3 ORS	From junction of minefield pipeline; WEST 1380 yds returned same route	Surveyed minefield commencing 300 yds WEST pipeline. From 400 yds mark all mines were armed. 0 to 400 yds bearing 310°, 500 yds to 1300 yds 300°. 1370 yds from pipeline ITALIAN minefield "BOX" type crosses original minefield, bearing 10° for 50 yds then turns in direction 330°. This consists of 2 rows of "BOX" mines staggered, 5ft between rows, then one row of "TELLER" mines 10 ft behind. Patrol 6 men sighted here approach- ing 300 yds away. withdrew 100 yds. (CONTINUED BELOW.)
3 C Coy	2240	0315	1 WO 3 ORS	FROM R39 to Derelict truck 41934188	From Derelict truck patrol moved to road through minefield (ITALIAN Box mines, 600 yds from truck). Enemy seen in sangars astride road 40884178 started to move out in "U" formation. patrol withdrew to truck. Investigated area SW of truck. Fired on by 5 Bredas EAST of road and 1 Berstag WEST of road. Sig wire located 41804186 running at 215) followed down 300yds. No 2 B. Coy Patrol continued. 2 flares went up approx 350° about 400 yds. Mortar and MG opened up fi firing NORTH (see patrol 3) After 500 yds along pipeline on way home subjected to LMG fire, 1 Gun and Mortars 3 bombs. patrol returned safely

GL

no 8.

HQPA HQ 11 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS - Night 11/12 Aug 41.

A Coy.

Object: To investigate gangara in area 411416.

Strength: 1 Officer 7 ORs.

Time Out: 2100 hrs. Time In: 0400 hrs.

Route: From R49 to 411416. Two ORs will remain in area 411416 throughout the day and will return at 2330 hrs night 12 Aug. through post R40.

B Coy.

Object: To traverse minefield from 1500 yds to EAST.

Strength: 1 NCO 3 ORs.

Time out: 2230 hrs. Time in: 0400 hrs.

Route: Out R45 to junction PIPELINE- MINEFIELD then EAST along minefield.

C Coy.

Object: To investigate gangara and posts 40804190.

Strength: 1 Officer 2 ORs.

Time Out: 2100 hrs Time In: 0200 hrs.

Route: From R59 to ~~DEVELOP TRUCK~~ to 40804190. Return to R59.

40934188

G. L. ...
.....
I O HQPA. Lieut

Distribution.

BH	No 1
A Coy	2
B "	3
C "	4
KIPA	5
GALE	6
TUNE	7
RAFO	8

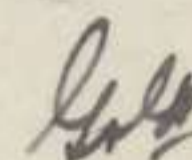


2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT ~~for~~ for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 12 Aug 41

AT

SERIAL No	UNIT	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	Carriers	1332	1424	2 Carriers	SE to minefield by WALLED VILLAGE, NORTH to R53 WEST to TWIN TANKS. In at R43	<i>Out when</i> One carrier covered at 41074198. The recce carrier was fired on whilst in vicinity 41304198 on way home. Covering carrier fired MMG to where the fire was thought to have come, viz. DERELICT TRUCK. Fire ceased. Dead ITALIAN found in slit trench approx 40974200. Face showed beard growth about one day. Killed by bullet, possibly own fire of previous night - no identification.
2	B Coy	2230	0400	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R45 to 41034170 to 41214170 and back.	Minefield traversed. Freshly laid mines were disarmed in vicinity of "V for Victory" made on ground by TELLER MINE
3	C Coy	2130	0230	1 offr 3 ORs	From R39 DERELICT TRUCK to Kilo 9 peg. 130 yds to minefield, 130 yds at 310° 1000 yds at 290° then 400 yds at 34° then back R37	Minefield found to run on bearing of 310° for 130 yds then finish completely. Search failed to reveal continuation from end of field 1000 yds on 290°, then 400 yds on 34° in hope of locating THOMPSON'S POST. N M S. Returned 20° to R37. From end of minefield at 0300 hrs Mortars observed firing on bearing 303° approx 1000 yds.
4	A Coy	2115	0130	1 offr 7 ORs	From R49 to minefield 41314166 along field to 41184172 to 41194162 to 41164192 returned to R49	At 41194162 5 Old gun pits seen with piles of empty shell cases (no estimate of size as yet). At 41164192 wrecked two-engined bomber found. O P established at gun pits. (Accurate placing of gun pits and wrecked BOMBER would be appreciated). N M S.



NOT

HOPA HQ 12 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS - Night 12/13 Aug 41.

B Coy.

Object. To investigate enemy dispositions between 40884185 and 40894175.
Strength. One Offr, one Sgt and 3 ORs from B Coy.
Route: To WRECKED BOMBER (approx) 4116462, thence WEST to area for investigation.
Time Out: 2100 hrs. Time In: 0430 hrs.
NOTE: There are two men in OP in the area of the BOMBER and these will be returning after dusk. Care will therefore, be needed on the way out. A/Tk guns from Posts R41, 43, 45 and 47 will harass enemy positions at 40884174, 40884180 and 40944183. They will fire intermittently until mid-night and recommence at 0300 hrs.

C Coy.

Object: To investigate enemy dispositions in Sq 406418.
Strength: One Offr or NCO and 3 ORs from C Coy.
Route: From C Coy to TWIN LAKES to 40654185, then NORTH to 40654185, then return.
Time Out: 2130 hrs Time In: 0400 hrs.

Company Commanders to report to HOPA at 1400 hrs 13 Aug.

John

 Adj. HOPA. Capt.

Distribution.

SIN	No	1
A Coy		2
B "		3
C "		4
KUBA		5
CHE HEAD		6
TUNE		7
RAFC		8

HQ. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
13 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS.

1. Strength : 1 Off and 4 OR's of B Coy.

Time Out : 2130 hrs

Time In : 0400 hrs

ROUTE : Out 45, down PIPELINE to WRECKED PLANE then WEST to 409 grid.

OBJECT : To investigate enemy's dispositions from 40894163 to 40934173
thence EAST to PIPELINE and in a t 45.

2. Strength : 1 NCO and 8 ORs of C Coy.

Time Out : 2200 Hrs

Time In : 0130 hrs

ROUTE : R 39 to 408419 then E 1200 yds thence to R 39.

OBJECT : To locate THOMPSON'S POST.

3. STRENGTH : 1 NCO and 8 of C Coy.

OUT AT : 0130 hrs, in 0500 hrs.

ROUTE : R39 to DERELICT TRUCK (40944188) then 1200 yds WEST then back
R39.

OBJECT : As for 2 above.

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

BN HQ	RAFO
A Coy	TUNE
B Coy	PA ID.
C Coy	
D Coy	

HQ. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
13 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS.

1. Strength : 1 Off and 4 OR's of B Coy.

Time Out : 2130 hrs

Time In : 0400 hrs

ROUTE : Out 45, down PIPELINE to WRECKED PLANE then WEST to 409 grid.

OBJECT : To investigate enemy's dispositions from 40894163 to 40934173
thence EAST to PIPELINE and in a t 45.

AM

2. Strength : 1 NCO and 8 ORs of C Coy.

Time Out : 2200 Hrs

Time In : 0130 hrs

ROUTE : R 39 to 408419 then E 1200 yds thence to R 39.

OBJECT : To locate THOMPSON'S POST.

3. STRENGTH : 1 NCO and 8 of C Coy.

OUT AT : 0130 hrs, in 0500 hrs.

ROUTE : R39 to DERELICT TRUCK (40944188) then 1200 yds WEST then back
R39.

OBJECT : As for 2 above.

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

BN HQ	RAFO
A Coy	TUNE
B Coy	PA ID.
C Coy	
D Coy	

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 13 Aug 41.

Serial No	UNIT Reporting Out	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2100 11 Aug	2220 12 Aug	2 ORs	out R49 in R51 (see patrol report No 4 12 Aug)	<p>Arrived 2350 hrs in 25 pdr pits at ^{APPROX} (4113 4167) many old amm cases around. 0130hrs 293° MMG, 0600 hrs One MT heard start start up at 270° and move SOUTH. OP tower on escarpment 191°, 235°. Man on bicycle moving along escarpment stopped at dug-out 220°. Observed sangars all along face of escarpment, main concentration immediately WEST of PIPELINE at foot of escarpment. Main enemy concentrations on bearings of 298° (appears to be H.) and 305°. Most men seen at one time 24, but many more estimated. AT 1520 hrs 9 men went NORTH out of sight from strongpost, not seen to return. Only little movement seen on escarpment during day, only 2 covered trucks going EAST. Other bearings taken, OPs on escarpment 191°, 235°, WRECKED BOMBER 278° approx 150 yds, PIPELINE over escarpment 208°, MONUMENT 322°.</p>
						<p>(Note Enemy seen to have breakfast at 0730 hrs in small groups and tea at 2020 hrs. Six gazelles were grazing within 200 yds of Op during afternoon)</p>
2	B Coy	2100	0340	1 offr 3 ORs	From R47 to pipeline down minefield to old 25 pdr posns (as in No 1) to 41044170 N M S along pipeline back to R45	This patrol investigated the area EAST of PIPELINE which was covered by No 1 above. The tank was WEST of PIPELINE
3	C Coy	2130	0230	1 offr 3 ORs	From R41 to TWIN TANKS to 40634194	<p>AT 40704198 arty opened up (possibly Mortar) at 212°. Continued to 40634194. At this point moon rose and patrol was skylined. LMG opened on patrol from within 40 yds, muzzle blast very pronounced. patrol went to ground to wait until moon was well up. Enemy were seen to move from post and crawl towards our patrol. No further firing and scouts closed in. Two within 15 yds of patrol leader who considers they could not see him. Lay about one hour and decided to withdraw as several enemy very close. Own patrol withdrew by crawling in bounds of about 100 yds and were followed by 3 men on front and unknown number on flank. The 3 ORs of own patrol withdrew singly then patrol</p>

Patrol No 3 Continued.

leader threw grenade into centre of the enemy about 30 yds distant. It landed almost on top of one. When it exploded our patrol scattered. Rifle and D F fire by LMGS followed from WEST of ~~the~~^{pat.} contacted. Estimated strength of post 10 Men.

Report on Mortar Shoot.

No 3 Pl using two GERMAN 8 cm Mortars with Italian 8 pound bombs.

No 1 Det

Firing from R 36 with maximum range 3800 yards at 1830 hrs

Target Enemy strongposts astride TOBRUCH - EL ADEM RD sq 408417.

Result Most of bombs appeared to fall approx on enemy's DF tank on road

No 2 Det

Firing from PIPE LINE 41124202 range 3500 yds at 1910 hrs.

Target As above

Result 50 rounds fired. Arty OP reported many rounds fell in area of target but NO estimate of any casualties could be made.

W

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field.
14 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS.

- A Coy. 1. To investigate track of minefield EAST from 41304166.
2. To square 413415 to investigate digging seen 13 Aug.
-

B Coy. Protective patrols only.

- C Coy. 1. To square 408419 then EAST 1200 yds to locate THOMPSON'S post.
2. To DERELICT TRUCK (40944188) then 1200 yds WEST, to locate THOMPSON'S Post.
-

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

A. L. Ralston 1/ Aug

Distribution.

Bn HQ
A Coy
B Coy
C Coy
D Coy
RAFO
TUNE
PA ID

[Handwritten signature]

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	Carrier	1500	1555	3 carriers	Out R43 crossed PIPELINE to 41154180 then EAST along minefield to 41424166 then NORTH to 419 grid, then NW to crossing across the el ADEM rd to 40904195 to 40884198 to 40734193 to 40824204 to 40904195 then EL ADEM rd and in R43	One CARRIER remained at about 41154190 to cover the other two. From 41154180 saw about 6 men approx 40954174. These immediately went to ground. Diggings seen about 1000 yds SW WALLED VILLAGE Suspected booby trap field approx 40894196. This latter will be investigated today.
2	B Coy	2100	0330	1 offr 3 ORS	From R45 down PIPELINE SW at minefield to WRECKED BOMBER area, then to minefield SOUTH down Pipeline to 41014160 then 270° to 40944160 to 40984164 then to PIPELINE, back to R45	From 40994160 telephone lines were seen to run N N W. Crossed under telephone line 40964160. At 40944160 bird calls heard and (patrol went to ground) . Observed nothing, moved 400 yds NW in direction of bird call. It was estimated that the patrol was then near the birdcall. patrol observed and listened. On moving out the patrol was fired on by automatics light and heavy Mortar and A/Tk rifle. Enemy appeared to have two posns forward about 250 yds apart and one in depth 150-200 yds back. Enemy estimated to have 30 automatics on 1000 yds frontage. patrol moved to PIPELINE . Enemy's fire lasted 25 mins. A tracked vehicle was heard to be moving towards patrol whilst at minefield. The majority of automatics were on fixed lines, suggesting a small proportion of light BREDA. Other weapons were also on fixed lines All patrol returned safely.
OTHER PATROLS						Nothing to report.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 15 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	Nol A Coy	2100	0100 0100	1 NCO 2 ORs	180° from R49 to 41354155 to R53	SQ413415 investigated for diggings seen by carriers patrol. No sanga rs found and N M S.
2	A Coy	2100	0115	1 Offr 1 NCO 5 ORs	From R49 to 41304166 EAST along minefield for 1920 yds Back to R49	Traverse of minefield made from 41304166 to 41324167 to 41394165 to 41414165 to 41444164 to 41484165. This point is on the road NORTH of WALLED VILLAGE. There is a TRUCK on minefield at 41464166.
3	C Coy	2110	0310	1 WO ii 3 ORs	From R39 to DERELICT TRUCK (40934188) to 40894181, back 100 yds along rd, to 40894186 40724183 to 40714185 to WHITE POST (40734200) thence TANK Ditch at R35 to R39	When at 40894183 patrol was fired on by one LMG. When at 40884182 6 to 8 automatics, 1 A/Tk gun and 2 Mortars opened up with the searchlight and flares. On the WESTERLY leg of the traverse a barbed trip wire was struck between telegraph posts and a plain trip wire 625 yds from TRUCK. Nothing further to report.

2/15 Bn Patrols

15 Aug 41

These will consist tonight
of protective patrols only - which
will not penetrate deeper than
1000 yds.

Bruck.

2/13 Patrols

D Coy Patrol — Object is to investigate
sig. wires found by last night's patrol
(report attached)
Reece Patrol — This is to investigate
the Fig Tree Area.

2/15 AUST INF BN.

Patrol report for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 16 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	CARRIERS	1605	1628	2	R43 to 40884198 to 40684184 to 40684190 to 40924196 to 43	When at 40684184 an enemy strongpost seen about 600 yds ahead approx 30 men. The enemy were standing in a trench system probably about 100 yds long in the vicinity of 40654175. They were chest high and too far away for identification. One man was seen to hop up and run and was seen to wear a dull grey uniform, with full length loose trousers. The carriers moved to approx 40684190 and came into a well down position from where it fired about 100 rounds into the sanga rs at range of 1200 metres. No estimate of casualties could be made. When the carriers were about 1000 yds away on the return journey, the enemy arty opened on to the dead ground from where the carrier fired. The carriers investigated the suspected booby trap field at 40894196 but found it to be a position from where a number of parachute flares had been fired.
2	A Coy	2100	2300	1 Offr 6 ORS	Standing patrol. Out R51 to Bir AZAZI in R51	One NCO 3 ORs left at Bir AZAZI. Well at Bir AZAZI investigated. The entrance is a bottleneck for 3' then opens to cavern 50' x 30' mostly covered with 18" to 2ft of water. Bearings from AZAZI, Searchlight 202°, three guns 210°, More guns 265°. Former ones are closer. This OP will be known as PLONK.

2/15 AUST INF BN.

patrol report for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 16 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	CARRIERS	1605	1628	2	R43 to 40884198 to 40684184 to 40684190 to 40924196 to 43	<p>When at 40684184 an enemy strongpost seen about 600 yds ahead approx 30 men. The enemy were standing in a trench system probably about 100 yds long in the vicinity of 40654175. They were chest high and too far away for identification. One man was seen to hop up and run and was seen to wear a dull grey uniform, with full length loose trousers. The carriers moved to approx 40684190 and came into a well down position from where it fired about 100 rounds into the sanga rs at range of 1200 metres. No estimate of casualties could be made. When the carriers were about 1000 yds away on the return journey, the enemy arty opened on to the dead ground from where the carrier fired. The carriers investigated the suspected booby trap field at 40894196 but found it to be a position from where a number of parachute flares had been fired.</p>
2	A Coy	2100	2300	1 Offr 6 ORS	Standing patrol. Out R51 to Bir AZAZI in R51	<p>One NCO 3 ORs left at Bir AZAZI. Well at Bir AZAZI investigated. The entrance is a bottleneck for 3' then opens to cavern 50' x 30' mostly covered with 18" to 2ft of water. Bearings from AZAZI, searchlight 202°, three guns 210°, more guns 265°. Former ones are closer. This OP will be known as PLONK.</p>

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2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 17 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report.
						PROTECTIVE PATROLS ONLY ALL COYS.

W J O A

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field.
17 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS.

A Coy: Protective only, out 2000 yds.

B Coy: 1. Protective only, out 2000 yds.

2. STRENGTH: 2 Offrs, 5 ORs.

ROUTE: Out R45 down PIPELINE to 41044173. One offr and 1 OR will remain here to observe. Remainder will move on 235° to investigate enemy positions. Back PIPELINE to R45.

TIME OUT: 2130 hrs.

TIME IN: 0230 hrs.

C Coy: 1. Protective patrol only, out 2000 yds.

2. STRENGTH: 1 OFFR, 12 ORs.

ROUTE: Out R57 to TWIN TANKS to 40774190 to 40854188. Main party to remain here and scouts to move forward to investigate enemy positions.

TIME OUT: 2200 hrs

TIME IN: 0430 hrs.

Jr. Colman Smith Lewis
.....
Adj 2/15 Bn. Capt.

Distribution.

BIR (2)

A Coy

B "

C "

~~HAFO~~ PAID

HAFO

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field
18 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS

A Coy. 1. Protective patrol, along Coy front to a depth of 2000 yds.
2. Deep patrol.
STRENGTH. 1 Offr 4 ORs.
OBJECT. To investigate the area of camps at 41254145.
TIME OUT: 2100 hrs. TIME IN: 0300 hrs.

B Coy. Protective patrols only, to depth of 2000 yds along Coy front.

C Coy. 1. Protective patrols along coy front.
2. SPECIAL patrol to erect "V for VICTORY" sign in the enemy's D F area.
N B. This sign will not be lit before 0200 hrs to allow the relief of TUNE by TOBO to be completed.

R. S. Sutherland
.....
Adj 2/15 Aust Inf Bn Capt

Distribution.

BHQ
A Coy
B "
C "
RAFO
TUNE
TOBO
PA ID

(2)

W. Y. V.

[Large handwritten flourish]

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 24 hrs 18 May 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
						Protective patrols all Coys- N M S.
1	B Coy	2130	0230	2 offr 5 ORs	Out R45 down PIPELINE to 41044173. One offr 1 OR remained here. One OFFR 4 ORS to 40994169. Returned same route	The patrol leader returned on account of an injured ankle. N M S.
2	C Coy	2200	0500	1 offr 12 ORs	Out R37 to TWIN TANKS to 40774190 to 40854188 thence to R37	The patrol remained at 40854188 and sent single scouts around the area. The 9 Kilo peg area was investigated, also the minefield. N M S.

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2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 24 hrs 18 ^{Aug} 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2130	0230	2 Offr 5 ORs	Out R45 down PIPELINE to 41044173. One offr 1 OR remained here. One OFFr 4 ORs to 40994169. Returned same route	Protective patrols all Coys- N M S. The patrol leader returned on account of an injured ankle. N M S.
2	C Coy	2200	0500	1 Offr 12 ORs	Out R37 to TWIN TANKS to 40774190 to 40854188 thence to R37	The patrol remained at 40854188 and sent single scouts around the area. The 9 Kilo peg area was investigated, also the minefield. N M S.

Ge

2/15 AUST BN

HOSTILE SHELLING REPORT

UNIT Serial No	Location of Reporting Pt	Bearing p	No of secs from flash to report	Area Shelled	Damage Done	No of Guns	Calibre	Time of shelling.		No of Rounds	Date
								From	To		
B Coy	R42			10 Pl	Nil		Arty	1750		10	18 Aug

Ray

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 19 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	TIME out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2005	0125	1 NCO 2 ORs	From R51 To Bir el AZAZI, south to minefield, then to 41254146, then to R51	Protective patrols all coys. N.M.S. AT 41254146 found O P constructed of galvanised iron on a wood framework, with tent sites and unoccupied dugouts to the SOUTH. N M S. Road parallel to minefield at 41284165 and unused road running 235° at 41284156 and another unused road running 140° at 41274152. Large wooden structure like a "V" sign found near side of first road. M M S/H.
2	C Coy	0130	0530	1 offr 8 ORs	Out R41 on normal protective duties 2000 yds fwd, back R41	"V" for VICTORY sign put up and fired at approx 0355 hrs. One flare fired. N M S.

[Handwritten signature]

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 19 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	TIME out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2005	0125	1 NCO 2 ORs	From R51 To Bir el AZAZI, South to minefield, then to 41254146, then to R51	Protective patrols all coys. <i>N.M.S.</i> AT 41254146 found O P constructed of galvanised iron on a wood framework, with tent sites and unoccupied dugouts to the SOUTH. N M S. Road parallel to minefield at 41284165 and unused road running 235° at 41284156 and another unused road running 140° at 41274152. Large wooden structure like a "V" sign found near side of first road. N M S/H.
2	C Coy	0130	0530	1 offr 8 ORs	Out R41 on normal protective duties 2000 yds fwd, back R41	"V" for VICTORY sign put up and fired at approx 0355 hrs. One flare fired. N M S.

Walt

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
19 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS.

A COY Protective patrols only out to 2000 yds.

B COY Objective - To attempt to tap enemy communication.
Strength - 2 Offrs and 6 ORs.
Route - Out R45 down PIPELINE 5500 yds through minefield. Then on bearing
270° approx 600 yds till enemy sig wire contacted.
Time Out - 2130
Time In - 0330

C COY Object - To attempt to locate enemy posns and if possible obtain a prisoner.
Strength - 1 Offr and 14 ORs.
Route - Out R41 to 40834183, return same route.
Time Out - 2200
Time In - 0430.

R.A. Suthers

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

AYM

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROLREPORT for 24 hrs ended 20 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2130	0002	1 Offr 1 Sgt 5 ORS	Out R45 down PIPELINE to junction with minefield, the n bearing 235° to 4024170, back same route	Three sets of sig wire investigated. The first was a metallic circuit, found to be in circuit but nothing else heard in $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour. The same applies to the second circuit. The first was cut and 30 ft taken out of the second. Third line was apparently earth return, again nothing was heard for 10 mins. This wire was cut. A join was found, the insulation consisting of a strip of old blanket. It would appear that he is short of stores. The wire brought in was 7 strand copper, light quality. The Sig Offr does NOT consider interception possible from our lines on the enemy's in this sector, due to the distances. N M S.
2	C Coy	2215	0330	1 Offr 14 ORS	Out R41 to 40594183. Returned same route	The main objective was missed in the dark due to loss of direction. Flares went up and firing opened and the position astride the road appeared strongly held and about 150 yds away. Patrol withdrew some distance and observed. Suddenly a period of heavy firing broke out for no apparent reason. patrol returned safely. Protective patrols from all coys. N.M.S

W. S.

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROLREPORT for 24 hrs ended 20 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2130	0002	1 Offr 1 Sgt 5 ORS	Out R45 down PIPELINE to junction with minefield, the n bearing 235° to 40124170, back same route	Three sets of sig wire investigated. The first was a metallic circuit, found to be in circuit but nothing else heard in $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour. The same applies to the second circuit. The first was cut and 30 ft taken out of the second. Third line was apparently earth return, again nothing was heard for 10 mins. This wire was cut. A join was found, the insulation consisting of a strip of old blanket. It would appear that he is short of stores. The wire brought in was 7 strand copper, light quality. The Sig Offr does NOT consider interception possible from our lines on the enemy's in this sector, due to the distances. N M S.
2	C Coy	2215	0330	1 Offr 14 ORs	Out R41 to 40894183. Returned same route	The main objective was missed in the dark due to loss of direction. Flares went up and firing opened and the position astride the road appeared strongly held and about 150 yds away. Patrol withdrew some distance and observed. Suddenly a period of heavy firing broke out for no apparent reason. Patrol returned safely. Protective patrols from all coys. N.M.S.

File.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
In the field.
21 Aug 41.

Proposed Patrols.

- BHQ. Special patrol of 1 Offr, 1 NCO and 3 ORs from OP in WALLED VILLAGE to escarpment vicinity 41254130.
- A COY Protective patrols only, to depth 2000 yds.
- C COY 1. Protective patrols to depth 2000 yds.
2. patrol of 1 NCO and 3 ORs to area 40724182.
- D Coy. 1. Protective patrols to depth 2000 yds.
2. patrol of 1 Offr and 3 ORs along PIPELINE to minefield and EAST along minefield.

R A Suthers

(R A SUTHERS) Capt.
Adjt 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 21 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength y	Route and area patrolled	Report
						Protective patrols from all coys- N M S. A standing patrol of 4 OFFR and 4 ORs went out to the WALLED VILLAGE and is remaining there all day and returning tonight.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 21 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
						Protective patrols from all coys- N M S. A standing patrol of 1 OFFR and 4 ORs went out to the WALLED VILLAGE and is remaining there all day and returning tonight.

W-5-4

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field.
22 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS - Night 22/23 Aug

- A COY Protective patrols to minefield
C COY patrol to investigate possible minefield, area 40754185.
D COY Recce and protective patrols along pipeline to minefield.

R A Suthers

(R A SUTHERS) capt
Adjnt 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	CARRIERS	1030	1130	3 Carriers	Out R43 to 41154195 then to 41104179, where hull-down posn taken up as OP for Arty.	4 Ranging shots and 16 rds gunfire laid down in sangars running from 40834179 to 40904177. About 30 men seen there before fire and not seen after. Shells landed right in sangars. Unable to estimate No. of enemy casualties. Fired on by enemy with at least 3 MMGs, 1 A Tk Gun and Arty. 1 Offr slightly wounded by MMG fire.
2	ACOEY					Protective patrols only. N M S .
3	C COY	2100	0145	1 Offr 1 NCO 4 ORs	Out R39 to 40824184 then to 40804182 then 150 yds WEST then back along same route	At 40824184 met single row of "S" type push in mines in a furrow then 2 rows 'teller' A Tk mines, all at varied intervals and then trip wire. The minefield runs in general direction of 307°. At 40804182 voices heard to WEST. Went 150 yds in this direction and saw numerous figures apparently in line of sangars from 40794182 TO 40814184. Decided to withdraw owing to being heavily outnumbered. Voices heard appeared to be ITALIAN.
4	D COY	2115	0100	1 Offr 3 ORs	Out R45 - 3400yds along PIPELINE to 41054174 then EAST 2000 yds along minefield and back to R45	Minefield investigated. N M S
5	B HQ	2050	0130	1 Offr 4 ORs	From 41474161 to 41384131 to 40404133 then NORTH via Bir AZAZI.	At about 1800 hrs 12 men were seen to take up a position on NORTH edge of SGHIFET on bearing of 200°. The patrol moved on bearing of 203° and at 41404144 a road (used) was crossed and patrol proceeded to 41354131 which is in a re-entrant in the low grd of the SGHIFET, thus getting below and behind the enemy. At 41384131 a telephone cable was found and cut. The wire was followed to 41404133, when enemy opened up on patrol with a BR BRENDA. patrol ordered to advance 20 paces, throw a grenade and go in with the bayonet. At this point 3 BRENDA's opened and patrol fell on a trip wire. Grenades were thrown, but pte BUTTEN SINGH was badly hit in chest and patrol withdrew. Heavy MMG fire was going on and it was found impossible to bring back wounded man who was unconscious and bleeding profusely. Patrol came home

2/15 AUST INF BN

Patrol report for 24 Hrs ended 0600 hrs 22 Aug 44

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	CARRIERS	1030	1130	3 Carriers	Out R43 to 41154195 then to 41104179, where hull-down posn taken up as OP for Arty.	4 Ranging shots and 16 rds gunfire laid down in sangars running from 40834179 to 40904177. About 30 men seen there before fire and not seen after. Shells landed right in sangars. Unable to estimate No. of enemy casualties. Fired on by enemy with at least 3 MMGs, 1 A Tk Gun and Arty. 1 Offr slightly wounded by MMG fire.
2	ACOFY					Protective patrols only. N M S .
3	C COY	2100	0145	1 offr 1 NCO 4 ORs	Out R39 to 40824184 then to 40804182 then 150 yds WEST then back along same route	At 40824184 met single row of "s" type push in mines in a furrow then 2 rows 'Teller' A Tk mines, all at varied intervals and then trip wire. The minefield runs in general direction of 307°. At 40804182 voices heard to WEST. Went 150 yds in this direction and saw numerous figures apparently in line of sangars from 40794182 TO 40814184. Decided to withdraw owing to being heavily outnumbered. Voices heard appeared to be ITALIAN.
4	D COY	2115	0100	1 Offr 3 ORs	Out R45 - 3400yds along PIPELINE to 41054174 then EAST 2000 yds along minefield and back to R45	Minefield investigated. N M S
5	B HQ	2050	0130	1 Offr 4 ORs	From 41474161 to 41384131 to 40404133 then NORTH via Bir AZAZI.	At about 1800 hrs 12 men were seen to take up a position on NORTH edge of SGHIFET on bearing of 200°. The patrol moved on bearing of 203° and at 41404144 a road (used) was crossed and patrol proceeded to 41354131 which is in a re-entrant in the low grd of the SGHIFET, thus getting below and behind the enemy. At 41384131 a telephone cable was found and cut. The wire was followed to 41404133, when enemy opened up on patrol with a ER BREDA. patrol ordered to advance 20 paces, throw a grenade and go in with the bayonet. At this point 3 BREDAS opened and patrol fell on a trip wire. Grenades were thrown, but Pte BUTTEN SINGH was badly hit in chest and patrol withdrew. Heavy MMG fire was going on and it was found impossible to bring back wounded man who was unconscious and bleeding profusely. patrol came home

2.

No 5 patrol continued.

without further incident. Pte Batten Singh missing believed killed. The patrol came in well behind the post and moved very quietly but still could NOT surprise the enemy. Eleven grenades were thrown into the position, but no estimate of casualties can be made, and the LMGs were still firing as party left.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	CARRIERS	1030	1130	3 carriers	Out R43 to 41154195 then to 41104179, where hull-down posn taken up as OP for Arty.	4 Ranging shots and 16 rds gunfire laid down in sangars running from 40834179 to 40904177. About 30 men seen there before fire and not seen after. Shells landed right in sangars. Unable to estimate No. of enemy casualties. Fired on by enemy with at least 3 MMGs, 1 A Tk Gun and Arty. 1 Offr slightly wounded by MMG fire.
2	ACOEY					Protective patrols only. N M S .
3	C COY	2100	0145	1 offr 1 NCO 4 ORs	Out R39 to 40824184 then to 40804182 then 150 yds WEST then back along same route.	At 40824184 met single row of "S" type push in mines in a furrow then 2 rows 'Teller' A Tk mines, all at varied intervals and then trip wire. The minefield runs in general direction of 307°. At 40804182 voices heard to WEST. Went 150 yds in this direction and saw numerous figures apparently in line of sangars from 40794182 TO 40814184. Decided to withdraw owing to being heavily outnumbered. Voices heard appeared to be ITALIAN.
4	D COY	2115Z	0100	1 Offr 3 ORs	Out R45 - 3400yds along PIPELINE to 41054174 then EAST 2000 yds along minefield and back to R45	Minefield investigated. N M S
5	B HQ	2050	0130	1 Offr 4 ORs	From 41474161 to 41384131 to 40404133 then NORTH via Bir AZAZI.	At about 1800 hrs 12 men were seen to take up a position on NORTH edge of SGHIFET on bearing of 200°. The patrol moved on bearing of 203° and at 41404144 a road (used) was crossed and patrol proceeded to 41354131 which is in a re-entrant in the low gnd of the SGHIFET, thus getting below and behind the enemy. At 41384131 a telephone cable was found and cut. The wire was followed to 41404133, when enemy opened up on patrol with a RE BREDA. patrol ordered to advance 20 paces, throw a grenade and go in with the bayonet. At this point 3 BREDAS opened and patrol fell on a trip wire. Grenades were thrown, but Pte BUTTEN SINGH was badly hit in chest and patrol withdrew. Heavy MMG fire was going on and it was found impossible to bring back wounded man who was unconscious and bleeding profusely. Patrol came home

2.

No 5 Patrol continued.

without further incident. Pte Batten Singh missing believed killed. The patrol came in well behind the post and moved very quietly but still could NOT surprise the enemy. Eleven grenades were thrown into the position, but no estimate of casualties can be made, and the LMGs were still firing as party left.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the Field
23 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS.

A and C Coys. - Protective only. Out to 3000 yds.

D Coy. -

STRENGTH - 1 offr, 1 Sjt, 3 ORs.

Time Out - 2115

Time In - 0400.

Route - From R45 down PIPELINE to minefield. Two men to remain at junction PIPELINE and minefield. Remainder to investigate area around WRECKED BOMBER (41114164).
Return by the same route, collecting the two ORs on the way.

A. E. Ralston Jones

(R. A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 23 Aug 41.

SERIAL NO	UNIT	TIME OUT	TIME IN	STRENGTH	ROUTE AND AREA PATROLLED	REPORT
1	A COY					Protective patrols only to minefield. N M S.
2	C Coy	2100	0200	1 NCO 3 ORs	From R39 to TWIN TANKS then on bearing of 190° to 40794186, back to R39	AT 40794186 minefield encountered running indefinitely to WEST at bearing of 240°. Followed field to EAST for 150 yds, when voices heard. Enemy appeared to be working on field in this direction.
3	B Coy	0120	0440	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R39 to 40894205 then to 40894190 then EAST to 41104190 and back to R39	N M S/H.
4	D Coy	2115	0255	1 Offr 3 ORs	From R45 to 41164173 then WEST along minefield to 41104175, back to R45	"S" Type mines (deloused) found at first first point and intact "Teller" mines. No mines found in field between 41004174 and 41104175 on a check every 100 yds. N M S/H. <i>Mines have previously found in this area and it would appear the enemy is removing them for his own use.</i>

Self

2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
In the field
24 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS - Night 24/25 Aug 41.

A & C COYS

Protective only to 3500 yds.

D COY

1. STRENGTH: 1 Offr, 1 NCO and 2 ORs.
Out: 2130 hrs. IN: 0400 hrs.
ROUTE: From R45 down PIPELINE to junction PIPELINE- MINEFIELD,
then SOUTH to digging in square 411416.
OBJECT: To locate diggings and investigate telephone cable
discovered last night.
2. STRENGTH: 1 Sgt, 2 ORs.
Out: 2115 hrs IN: 0200 hrs.
ROUTE: Out R45 down PIPELINE to area MONUMENT approx 40994179.
OBJECT: To locate MONUMENT and observe enemy dispositions if any.

R. A. Suthers

(R A SUTHERS) capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

J
2/15

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 24 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and Route patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective patrols only- N T R.
2	C "					Protective patrols only- N T R.
3	D "	2115	0230	1 Offr 1 NCO 3 ORs	Along PIPELINE for 3500 yds to minefield, then on bearing of 155° for 1000 yds to WRECKED BOMBER. Then NORTH to minefield, back along it to PIPELINE and along pipeline to R45	Minefield investigated for 200 yds WEST of PIPELINE and found clean of mines. Cable found 500 yds NORTH of BOMBER, running from EAST to WEST. N M S.

Leah

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 24 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and Route patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective patrols only- N T R.
2	C "					Protective patrols only- N T R.
5	D "	2115	0230	1 Offr 1 NCO 3 ORs	Along PIPELINE for 3500 yds to minefield, then on bearing of 155° for 1000 yds to WRECKED BOMBER. Then NORTH to minefield, back along it to PIPELINE and along pipeline to R45	Minefield investigated for 200 yds WEST of PIPELINE and found clean of mines. Cable found 500 yds NORTH of BOMBER, running from EAST to WEST. N M S.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 25 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective patrols only to 3500 yds N M S
2	C "					Protective patrols only to 3500 yds. N M S
3	C "	2100	0205	1 offr 4 ORs	Out R41 on bearing 220° to minefield	On reaching the minefield a large party of enemy seen to move from posts in rear of field in three groups ^{and} close in on patrol. patrol withdrew with otherwise nothing to report.
4	D "	2115	0200	1 offr 1 NCO 2 ORs	From R45 on bearing 175° to minefield, on bearing 215° through field to 41134165, to investigate diggings, back to Pipeline and in to R45	From 41174172 EAST testing every 100 yds for 400 yds, only one "S" Type mine found deloused. From the same point going WEST only one Teller mine found. At 41144168 double row of mine cable found running at 280°. N M S/H.
5	D "	2115	0130	1 NCO 2 ORs	Out R45 along pipeline to 41084186 then on to vicinity of monument. Back on bearing of 90° to Pipeline - in R45	N M S/H

Lives

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 25 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective patrols only to 3500 yds N M S
2	C "					protective patrols only to 3500 yds. N M S
3	C "	2100	0205	1 offr 4 ORs	Out R41 on bearing 220° to minefield	On reaching the minefield a large party of enemy seen to move from posts in rear of field in three groups ^{and} /close in on patrol. patrol withdrew with otherwise nothing to report.
4	D "	2115	0200	1 Offr 1 NCO 2 ORs	From R45 on bearing 175° to minefield, on bearing 215° through field to 41134165, to investigate diggings, back to pipeline and in to R45	From 41174172 EAST testing every 100 yds for 400 yds, only one "S" Type mine found deloused. From the same point going WEST only one Teller mine found. At 41144168 double row of mine cable found running at 280°. N M S/H.
5	D "	2115	0130	1 NCO 2 ORs	Out R45 along pipeline to 41084186 then on to vicinity of monument. Back on bearing of 90° to pipeline - in R45	N M S/H

Seen by Bing.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 25 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy					Protective patrols only to 3500 yds N M S
2	C "					Protective patrols only to 3500 yds. N M S
3	C "	2100	0205	1 offr 4 ORs	Out R41 on bearing 220° to minefield	On reaching the minefield a large party of enemy seen to move from posts in rear of field in three groups and close in on patrol. Patrol withdrew with otherwise nothing to report.
4	D "	2115	0200	1 Offr 1 NCO 2 ORs	From R45 on bearing 175° to minefield, on bearing 215° through field to 41134165, to investigate diggings, back to Pipeline and in to R45	From 41174172 EAST testing every 100 yds for 400 yds, only one "S" Type mine found deloused. From the same point going WEST only one Teller mine found. At 41144168 double row of mine cable found running at 280°. N M S/H.
5	D "	2115	0130	1 NCO 2 ORs	Out R45 along pipeline to 41084186 then on to vicinity of monument. Back on bearing of 90° to Pipeline - in R45	N M S/H

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2/ 15 Aust Inf Bn,
In the field.
25 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS - Night 25/26 Aug 41.

A COY Protective patrols to minefield.

D COY 1. Strength: 1 Offr or Sgt and 8 ORs.

Time out: 2100 hrs Time In: 0400 hrs.

Route: Out R45 to 41104190 thence through minefield at 41194171, thence SW to sangars. Return due NORTH to R45.

OBJECT: To investigate sangars in 411416 and see if occupied.

C COY STRENGTH: 1 Sgt 8 ORs.

TIME OUT: 2100 hrs TIME IN: 0330 hrs.

ROUTE: Out R39 to vicinity 40804190 thence due SOUTH to investigate enemy position 40804185. The final stage to be covered by flank parties to prevent enemy encirclement, and if opportunity offers to engage an encircling party and capture a prisoner.

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROLREPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 26 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY					protective only- N M S/H.
2	D COY	2100	0240	1 Offr 8 ORs	Out to minefield and sangars to SOUTH	N M S.
3	C COY	2200	0030	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R37 to TWIN TANKS then due SOUTH to 40824190 then EAST to 40984190. back to R37	At 40984190 an enemy patrol en-counterred which opened up with MG and SA and then Grenades. As patrol outnumbered it withdrew with one man missing. This man subsequently turned up in 2/17 Bn Area.
4	C COY	2100	0300	3 NCOs 8 ORs	From R39 to 40794191 area and back to R39	At 40794191 patrol divided into three parties and spread them out, while Sgt and 2 ORs went forward. Met enemy patrol and threw 2 grenades amongst them, wounding at least one and splitting up the patrol. Withdrew to remainder of the patrol but unable to contact them, so returned to R39. The other two parties observed enemy movement, opened fire but unable to estimate casualties. Withdrew when Tommygun jammed and waited for other party for 1 1/2 hrs then returned to R39.

Geiss

PAID

2/15 AUSTRALIAN INF BN.

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 26 Aug 41.

Serail No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY					protective only- N M S/H.
2	D COY	2100	0240	1 Offr 8 ORs	Out to minefield and sangars to SOUTH	N M S.
3	C COY	2200	0030	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R37 to TWIN TANKS then due SOUTH to 40824190 then EAST to 40984190. back to R37	At 40984190 an enemy patrol encountered which opened up with MG and SA and then Grenades. As patrol outnumbered it withdrew with one man missing. This man subsequently turned up in 2/17 Bn Area.
4	C COY	2100	0300	3 NCOs 8 ORs	From R39 to 40794191 area and back to R39	At 40794191 patrol divided into three parties and spread them out, while Sgt and 2 ORs went forward. Met enemy patrol and threw 2 grenades amongst them, wounding at least one and splitting up the patrol. Withdrew to remainder of the patrol but unable to contact them, so returned to R39. The other two parties observed enemy movement, opened fire but unable to estimate casualties. Withdrew when Tommygun jammed and waited for other party for 1 1/2 hrs then returned to R39.

Lee

2/15 AUST INF BN.

PATROLREPORT for 24 hrs ended 0800 hrs 26 Aug 41.

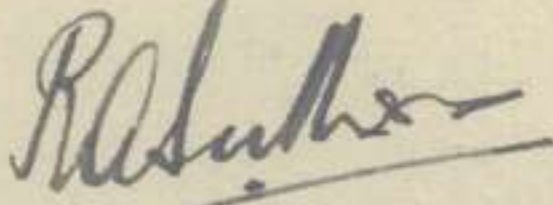
Serail No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	A COY					protective only- N M S/H.
2	D COY	2100	0240	1 Offr 8 ORs	Out to minefield and sangars to SOUTH	N M S.
3	C COY	2200	0030	1 NCO 6 ORs	From R37 to TWIN TANKS then due SOUTH to 40824190 then EAST to 40984190. back to R37	At 40984190 an enemy patrol en-counterred which opened up with MG and SA and then Grenades. As patrol outnumbered it withdrew with one man missing. This man subsequently turned up in 2/17 Bn Area.
4	C COY	2100	0300	3 NCOs 8 ORs	From R39 to 40794191 area and back to R39	At 40794191 patrol divided into three parties and spread them out, while Sgt and 2 ORs went forward. Met enemy patrol and threw 2 grenades amongst them, wounding at least one and splitting up the patrol. Withdrew to remainder of the patrol but unable to contact them, so returned to R39. The other two parties observed enemy movement, opened fire but unable to estimate casualties. Withdrew when Tommygun jammed and waited for other party for 1½ hrs then returned to R39.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field
26 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS- Night 26/27 Aug 41.

C Coy Object: To endeavour to capture a prisoner.
Strength: 1 Sgt 10 ORs.
Route: To vicinity DERELICT TRUCK, lie there to endeavour to intercept an enemy patrol.
Time out: 2030 hrs Time in: 0430 hrs.

D Coy Object: Recce enemy dispositions and if conditions favourable, capture a prisoner.
Strength: 1 Ofpr 10 ORs
ROUTE: Out R45 Ave SOUTH to minefield. From minefield on bearing of 250° for approx 3000 yds. Return through gap in minefield at PIPELINE, then move on EASTERN side and parallel to PIPELINE in R45.
Time out: 2030 hrs Time In: 0430 hrs.


(R A SUTHERS) Capt
Adjt 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 27 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	C Coy	2030	0200	2 Offrs 20 ORs	From R39 to 40714185 then to 40684189, cak to R39	patrol moved out from both points in general sweeps of 300 yds, but failed to contact enemy.
2	D Coy	2030	0330	1 Offr 10 ORs	From R45 to minefield at 41144174 then on bearing of 250° to 40894167, back to PIPELINE and in to R45	Sounds of MT heard to SOUTH of final point and of hammering like driving pickets to NORTH. Double telephone cable- apparently GERMAN- crossed at 41034171. N M S.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 27 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	C Coy	2030	0200	2 Offrs 20 ORs	From R39 to 40714185 then to 40684189, cak to R39	Patrol moved out from both points in general sweeps of 300 yds, but failed to contact enemy.
2	D Coy	2030	0330	1 Offr 10 ORs	From R45 to minefield at 41144174 then on bearing of 250° to 40894167, back to PIPELINE and in to R45	Sounds of MT heard to SOUTH of final point and of hammering like driving pickets to NORTH. Double telephone cable- apparently GERMAN- crossed at 41034171. N M S.

2/15 AUST INF BN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 27 Aug 41.

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
<i>Capt Poole</i>	C Coy	2030	0200	2 Offrs 20 ORs	From R39 to 40714185 then to 40684189, cak to R39	Patrol moved out from both points in general sweeps of 300 yds, but failed to contact enemy.
<i>Leut Osborne</i> 2	D Coy	2030	0330	1 Offr 10 ORs	From R45 to minefield at 41144174 then on bearing of 250° to 40894167, back to PIPELINE and in to R45	Sounds of MT heard to SOUTH of final point and of hammering like driving pickets to NORTH. Double telephone cable- apparently GERMAN- crossed at 41034171. N M S.

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
27 Aug 41

107 RHA

PROPOSED PATROLS- Night 27/28 Aug.

C COY OBJECT To capture a prisoner
STRENGTH 1 Offr and 10 ORs
ROUTE From R37 due south to minefield about 40864184
 thence follow minefield in WESTERLY direction
to 40804187, then to vicinity 40754183 and lie up for about two
hrs. Return direct to R37.
TIME OUT 2030. Time in 0400.

B COY OBJECT To capture a prisoner
STRENGTH 1 Offr, 10 ORs. (B COY)
ROUTE Out R45 parallel to pipeline 200yds on
WESTERN side to MINEFIELD; Thence on bearing
240° for 2200yds to 40874164. This point is
a suspected enemy strongpost. Return due WEST
to PIPELINE thence on bearing ~~240~~²⁴⁰ to cross
MINEFIELD at approx 41104175 thence to R45.
TIME OUT 2030. Time in 0400.

PROTECTIVE PATROLS A and D Coys SOUTH to MINEFIELD.
 C Coy out 1500 yds.

R.A. Suthers

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION

A COY
B COY
C COY
D COY
20 AUST INF BDE
107 RHA

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2/15 AUST INF BN

Patrol Report

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2030	0345	1 OBER 10 Ors	FROM R45 to junction minefield and pipeline, then on 240° to 40914168 - back to pipeline and R45.	<p><u>Lieut BEATTY. Leader.</u> Ground between pipeline and 40914168 modulating and giving plenty of dead ground. At this point came to enemy trip wire - barbed from 9" to 12" above ground, supported by iron stakes. Trip wire is about 50/60 yds from main wire which is D.A. No booby traps found. Area about this point investigated and minefield - consisting of apparently our own anti-personnel mines found. The mines had no detonator on the side and four nipples on the top. Minefield appeared to be 6 rows in depth. A mine exploded on far side of post seriously injuring one of the enemy, who was taken into the post and woke up all the others. Only ITALIAN voices heard. A shell landed 1500 yds away and trucks were heard. Waited 3 hrs for enemy patrol but none came out. As post appeared very strongly held decided not to attack and withdrew along route. Desert boots and clothes found to be of great assistance</p>
2	A Coy					<p>Protective only - N M S/H. <u>Sgt Starmer leader.</u></p>
3	C Coy	2030	20245	1 Sgt 14 ORs	From R37 to 40854183 to 40814186 to 40804185 thence NORTH to R37	<p>At 40854183 trip wire encountered and patrol leader went fwd with 3 men to minefield N MS. Whole patrol moved WEST along minefield. Fence was seen with main posts visible through the minefield. Patrol moved to 40804185. Corner of fence approx 40794184, running on bearings of 127° and 220°. Minefield found to contain 2 rows of STEELER "TELLER" and Push Type 'S' mines, the field running on a bearing of 280°. Match was seen lighted and voices heard but in the patrol's area N M S/H. Returned to R37.</p>

Guys

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2030	0345	1 OBER 10 ORs	FROM R45 to junction mine-field and pipeline, then on 240° to 40914168 - back to pipeline and R45.	<p><u>Lieut BEATTY, Leader.</u> Ground between pipeline and 40914168 modulating and giving plenty of dead ground. At this point came to enemy trip wire- barbed from 9" to 12" above ground, supported by iron stakes. Trip wire is about 50/60 yds from main wire which is D.A. No booby traps found. Area about this point investigated and minefield - consisting of apparently our own anti-personnel mines found. The mines had no detonator on the side and four nipples on the top. Minefield appeared to be 6 rows in depth. A mine exploded on far side of post seriously injuring one of the enemy, who was taken into the post and woke up all the others. Only ITALIAN voices heard. A shell landed 1500 yds away and trucks were heard. Waited 3 hrs for enemy patrol but none came out. As post appeared very strongly held decided not to attack and withdrew along route. Desert boots and clothes found to be of great assistance</p>
2	A Coy					<p>Protective only- N M S/H. <u>Sgt Starmer leader.</u></p>
3	C Coy	2030	0245	1 Sgt 14 ORs	From R37 to 40854183 to 40814186 to 40804185 thence NORTH to R37	<p>At 40854183 trip wire encountered and patrol leader went fwd with 3 men to minefield N MS. Whole patrol moved WEST along minefield. Fence was seen with main posts visible through the minefield. Patrol moved to 40804185. Corner of fence approx 40794184, running on bearings of 127° and 220°. Minefield found to contain 2 rows of STEELER "TELLER" and Push Type 'S' mines, the field running on a bearing of 260°. Match was seen lighted and voices heard but in the patrol's area N M S/H. Returned to R37.</p>

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Patrol Report

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time in	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	B Coy	2030	0345	1 OEDR 10 Ors	FROM R45 to junction minefield and pipeline, then on 240° to 40914168 - back to pipeline and R45.	<p><u>Lieut BEATTY. Leader.</u> Ground between pipeline and 40914168 modulating and giving plenty of dead ground. At this point came to enemy trip wire- barbed from 9" to 12" above ground, supported by iron stakes. Trip wire is about 50/60 yds from main wire which is D A. No booby traps found. Area about this point investigated and minefield - consisting of apparently our own anti-personnel mines found. The mines had no detonator on the side and four nipples on the top. Minefield appeared to be 6 rows in depth. A mine exploded on far side of post seriously injuring one of the enemy, who was taken into the post and woke up all the others. Only ITALIAN voices heard. A shell landed 1500 yds away and trucks were heard. Waited 3 hrs for enemy patrol but none came out. As post appeared very strongly held decided not to attack and withdrew along route. Desert boots and clothes found to be of great assistance</p>
2	A Coy					<p>Protective only- N M S/H. <u>Sgt Starmer leader.</u></p>
3	C Coy	2030	0245	1 Sgt 14 ORs	From R37 to 40854183 to 40814186 to 40804185 thence NORTH to R37	<p>At 40854183 trip wire encountered and patrol leader went fwd with 3 men to minefield N MS. Whole patrol moved WEST along minefield. Fence was seen with main posts visible through the minefield. patrol moved to 40804185. Corner of fence approx 40794184, running on bearings of 127° and 220°. Minefield found to contain 2 rows of XXXXXX "TELLER" and Push Type 'S' mines, the field running on a bearing of 280°. Match was seen lighted and voices heard but in the patrol's area N M S/H. Returned to R37.</p>

G. H.

HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
27 Aug 41

20 Bde

PROPOSED PATROLS - Night 27/28 Aug.

C COY OBJECT To capture a prisoner
STRENGTH 1 Offr and 10 ORs
ROUTE From R37 due SOUTH to minefield about 40864184
thence follow minefield in WESTERN direction to
40804187, thence to vicinity 40754183 and lie up
for about two hrs. Return direct to R37.
TIME OUT 2030. Time in 0400.

B COY OBJECT To capture a prisoner
STRENGTH 1 Offr, 10 ORs (B COY)
ROUTE Out R45 parallel to pipeline 200 yds on WESTERN side
to MINEFIELD. Thence on bearing 240° for 2200 yds
to 40874164. This point is a suspected enemy
strongpost. Return due WEST to PIPELINE thence on
bearing ~~240~~ 330° to cross MINEFIELD at approx 41104175
then to R45.
TIME OUT 2030 Time in 0400.

PROTECTIVE PATROLS A and D Coys SOUTH to MINEFIELD
C Coy out 1500 yds.

R. A. Suthers (R;A; SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

DISTRIBUTION
A COY
B COY
C COY
D COY
20 AUST INF BDE
107 RHA

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field
28 Aug 41

PROPOSED PATROLS

PATROL; Lieut. SCOGGINS.

OBJECT : To capture a prisoner.
STRENGTH : 1 Offr, 1 NCO, 9 ORs.
ROUTE : To 41184172 by truck. patrol to de-bus, thence on a bearing of 195° for 4000yds. (At 3000yds map shows strong post probably unoccupied).
Return by moving 1000yds EAST thence due NORTH to truck.
NOTE Dvr and one OR to remain with truck and these will be supplemented later by 2 ORs from protective patrol.
TIME OUT 2030. Time in 0400.

DON COY PTE. OSTBERG

OBJECT To investigate enemy disposition.
STRENGTH One I Sec. and 1 OR. 4179
ROUTE From R43 to MONUMENT (4099~~79~~ approx). Return same route.
TIME OUT 0001 29 Aug. In 0430.

A COY LIEUT WATES;

OBJECT To capture a prisoner.
STRENGTH One Offr, 1 NCO, 9 ORs plus 1 S.B. to wait at WALLED VILLAGE.
ROUTE 28/29 Aug. To WALLED VILLAGE. Night 29/30 to investigate SCHIFET EL ADEM.
TIME OUT Through R57 at 2130. Back in A COY 29/30 Aug. 0400 hrs.

R.A. Suthers
(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	1 Sec	1045	1315	2 ORs	R43 TO SANGARS at 40974192 back to R43	<p><u>Pte Ostberg leader:</u> Patrol moved out with each man about 10 yds to the EAST of the first and second telegraph lines on the EAST of the road. They moved forward together, parallel to each other. At 41024198 one ITALIAN was seen running crouched, about 200 yds in front of the patrol, and two men were seen at approx 40934187. patrol moved on to 41004191 and saw enemy standing in the positions each side of the old road in their posns area 40904177. patrol moved on to 40934189, from where 40 men were seen to EAST of road in sangars at approx 40934177, 30 men in sangars running WEST from here across road and only 4 men to the WEST of the el ADEM Rd, where the ground slopes away preventing observation. patrol then moved back and found sangars at 40954190 in 'V' form. Many samples of Shrapnel from A P mines were seen over the last 100 yds of the patrol's most SOUTHERN Points</p> <p><u>Lieut Scoggins Leader.</u> At 41114144 patrol crossed a well used dirt road running EAST and WEST. patrol proceeded to 41084134 where 3 enemy were seen to the WEST apparently moving towards patrol, which spread out facing them, and started to crawl to cut them off. Noise was evidently heard by the enemy who challenged in ITALIAN and upon not being answered, ran off to the SOUTH. patrol was unable to intercept them. patrol then with drew back along their route.</p> <p><u>Pte Ostberg leader</u> At 41054178 patrol thought it was being followed by 2 men. It moved on another 150 yds to 41034177, when several men were seen in front, and more were seen to the left of the patrol, which seemed to be surrounded at this stage. Patrol moved back 450 yds on a bearing of 80° and went to ground for 1 hour, until enemy's movement ceased. patrol believed that enemy consisted of 2 GERMANS and about 10 others.</p>
2	A Coy	2030	0145	LDFFR 1 N CO 10 ORS	From R45 by truck to Rd at 41314169, along road to 41184171 where patrol debussed and proceeded on foot to 41084134, then due EAST to 41184134, thence NORTH to truck, returning through R49	<p><u>Pte Ostberg leader</u> At 41054178 patrol thought it was being followed by 2 men. It moved on another 150 yds to 41034177, when several men were seen in front, and more were seen to the left of the patrol, which seemed to be surrounded at this stage. Patrol moved back 450 yds on a bearing of 80° and went to ground for 1 hour, until enemy's movement ceased. patrol believed that enemy consisted of 2 GERMANS and about 10 others.</p>
3	1 Sec	0030	0525	2 ORs	R45 down PIPELINE to 41084179 then on bearing of 265° to 41034177, back NORTH TO ROAD Blk.	<p><u>Pte Ostberg leader</u> At 41054178 patrol thought it was being followed by 2 men. It moved on another 150 yds to 41034177, when several men were seen in front, and more were seen to the left of the patrol, which seemed to be surrounded at this stage. Patrol moved back 450 yds on a bearing of 80° and went to ground for 1 hour, until enemy's movement ceased. patrol believed that enemy consisted of 2 GERMANS and about 10 others.</p>

Leah

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	1 Sec	1045	1315	2 ORs	R43 TO SANGARS at 40974192 back to R43	<p><u>Pte Ostberg leader:</u> Patrol moved out with each man about 10 yds to the EAST of the first and second telegraph lines on the EAST of the road. They moved forward together, parallel to each other. At 41024198 one ITALIAN was seen running crouched, about 200 yds in front of the patrol, and two men were seen at approx 40934187. patrol moved on to 41004191 and saw enemy standing in the positions each side of the old road in their posns area 40904177. patrol moved on to 40934189, from where 40 men were seen to EAST of road in sangars at approx 40934177, 30 men in sangars running WEST from here across road and only 4 men to the WEST of the el ADEM Rd, where the ground slopes away preventing observation. patrol then moved back and found sangars at 40954190 in 'v' form. Many samples of Shrapnel from A P mines were seen over the last 100 yds of the patrol's most SOUTHERN Points.</p> <p><u>Lieut Scoggins Leader.</u> At 41114144 patrol crossed a well used dirt road running EAST and WEST. patrol proceeded to 41084134 where 3 enemy were seen to the WEST apparently moving towards patrol, which spread out facing them, and started to crawl to cut them off. Noise was evidently heard by the enemy who challenged in ITALIAN and upon not being answered, ran off to the SOUTH. patrol was unable to intercept them. patrol then with drew back along their route.</p> <p><u>Pte Ostberg leader</u> At 41054178 patrol thought it was being followed by 2 men. It moved on another 150 yds to 41034177, when several men were seen in front, and more were seen to the left of the patrol, which seemed to be surrounded at this stage. Patrol moved back 450 yds on a bearing of 80° and went to ground for 1 hour, until enemy's movement ceased. patrol believed that enemy consisted of 2 GERMANS and about 10 others.</p>
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2/15 Aust Inf Bn
29 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS NIGHT 29/30 AUG

B COY

- (1) Protective Patrols to depth of 1500 yds
- (2) Fighting Patrol.

Object

To capture prisoners

Strength

2 Offrs (Lieut GUEST commanding, also one offr relieving unit) and 10 ORs

Time Out

2100 hrs. In 0400 hrs.

Route

Out R45 for 3500 yds on bearing 212° to MONUMENT then on bearing of 104° skirting minefield for 1900 yds, then due N to R45.

Method

Advance with point and interconnecting file and lie up in vicinity of MONUMENT for about 2 hrs. Also lie up vicinity of crossing of MINEFIELD and PIPELINE for 1 hr.

C COY

- (1) Protective Patrols to depth of 1500 yds.
- (2) Special Patrol.

Object

To gain following information about enemy post in vicinity of 40784182

- (a) Is the Southern flank of posn an open flank or is it connected to defences to the SOUTH running E - W.
- (b) What is the nature of any wire obstacles surrounding the posts
- (c) Are there any booby traps in front of posts.
- (d) If possible determine approx posn of neighbouring MG Posts.

Strength

One offr (relieving unit) 1 NCO (Sjt. PATRICK, commanding) and 10 ORs

Time Out

2130 hrs. In 0400 hrs.

Route

From R39 to TWIN TANKS then on 195° for 2700 yds then due NORTH for 750 yds then due EAST for 1200 yds. Returning due NORTH to R37

Method

Movement during patrol to be in formation suitable for prevention of surprise of patrol. Patrol is to be prepared to fight.

A COY

- (1) Usual protective patrols.
- (2) Special fighting patrol under Lieut YATES - which will leave Walled Village and operate in the SCHEFIT EL ADEM area from approx 41334129 to 41234131 (See proposed patrols 27 Aug 41)

R.A. Suthers

(R.A. SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Plot in Twin Tanks 4082 4205

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Rout and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2100 28 Aug	0200 30 Aug	1 Offr 1 Cpl 8 ORs	From R57 to WALLED VILLAGE (remained there during day 29 Aug), thence bearing 234° to OP at 41184140 thence to 41184135 to 41274135 NORTH to BIR AZAZI in at R51	<p><u>Lieut Yates leader</u> Observations from WALLED VILLAGE (BOB), showed at daylight an OP at 234°, manned by 3 men, one on the tower and two on the ground. These were relieved at 0830 hrs, and at 1100hrs the old relief disappearing into dead ground at 240° from BOB. At 1400 hrs one man seen digging to left rear of OP. OP re-occupied at 1900hrs. From 1800 hrs two men seen in diggings at 201°, probably the same post a previous patrol had attacked. Concentrations of men seen at foot and on the side of escarpment. The largest concentration, about 200, were seen to the EAST of rd which runs down escarpment at 210°. patrol moved to the OP where men had been seen but the OP and diggings were found un-occupied. The patrol moved SOUTH for 500 yds the nEAST 1000 yds. Due to the exhaustion of the men caused by duties the previous night and lack of sleep in the daytime, it was considered advisable to return, which the patrol did through PLONK. N M S/H</p> <p><u>Sgt. Patrick Leader</u> At 40794188 patrol decided to wait until the moon set, then moved on to 40764184 where main body left, while the leader and 3 men moved to the minefield 70 yds away due EAST, which ran on a bearing of 243°. The EASTERN leg was followed for 210yds when it turned and seemed to run straight on a bearing of 116°. At 40774184 on this leg a very light was fired from 40784183. A line of stakes was found running parallel to the field about 25 yds in side. The stakes were 2'6" high with barbed wire. The other leg of the field was followed on 243° for 165 yds and appeared to run on. Crossed 4 tracks- not recently used. The minefield examined contained only 'S' type anti-personnel mines, which appeared to be freshly laid, but no booby traps. Voices were heard from the strong post inside but were indistinguishable. N M S</p>
2	C Coy	2045	0430	1 NCO 10 ORs 1 Off (from relieving Bn)	From R39 to 40944210 then on bearing of 215° and back to R39	<p><u>Sgt. Patrick Leader</u> At 40794188 patrol decided to wait until the moon set, then moved on to 40764184 where main body left, while the leader and 3 men moved to the minefield 70 yds away due EAST, which ran on a bearing of 243°. The EASTERN leg was followed for 210yds when it turned and seemed to run straight on a bearing of 116°. At 40774184 on this leg a very light was fired from 40784183. A line of stakes was found running parallel to the field about 25 yds in side. The stakes were 2'6" high with barbed wire. The other leg of the field was followed on 243° for 165 yds and appeared to run on. Crossed 4 tracks- not recently used. The minefield examined contained only 'S' type anti-personnel mines, which appeared to be freshly laid, but no booby traps. Voices were heard from the strong post inside but were indistinguishable. N M S</p>
3	D Coy	2100	0315	1 Offr 1 Relief Offr 10 ORs	From LP of R45 on bearing 212° for 3500 yds thence on bearing of 104° for 1900 yds thence NORTH to R45	Report next page

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

Patrol Report page 2

D Coy

Lieut Guest Leader.

On bearing of 212° from LP: at 2500 yds heard 1 single rifle shot approx 300°, approx 1000 yds. At 3220 yds bearing 270° enemy LMG (FIAT) fired three bursts in direction of patrol. Bullets passed high over head. patrol was not observed. Flash of LMG clearly seen. Unable to judge distance. Area of MONUMENT searched at 3640 yds. patrol laid up in this area for nearly two hours. Digging heard at bearing 270° approx, distance about 600 yds, time MIDNIGHT. Digging heard only the last 10 minutes, search made NOT located. On bearing 104° from MONUMENT Area, patrol completed
Nm S/H

Guest

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Rout and area patrolled	Report
1	A Coy	2100 28 Aug	0200 30 Aug	1 Offr 1 Cpl 8 ORs	From R57 to WALLED VILLAGE (remained there during day 29 Aug), thence bearing 234° to OP at 41184140 thence to 41184135 to 41274135 NORTH to BIR AZAZI in at R51	<p><u>Lieut Yates leader</u> Observations from WALLED VILLAGE (BOB), showed at daylight an OP at 234°, manned by 3 men, one on the tower and two on the ground. These were relieved at 0830 hrs, and at 1100hrs the old relief disappearing into dead ground at 240° from BOB. At 1400 hrs one man seen digging to left rear of OP. OP re-occupied at 1900hrs. From 1800 hrs two men seen in diggings at 201°, probably the same post a previous patrol had attacked. Concentrations of men seen at foot and on the side of escarpment. The largest concentration, about 200, were seen to the EAST of rd which runs down escarpment at 210°. patrol moved to the OP where men had been seen but the OP and diggings were found un-occupied. The patrol moved SOUTH for 500 yds the nEAST 1000 yds. Due to the exhaustion of the men caused by duties the previous night and lack of sleep in the daytime, it was considered advisable to return, which the patrol did through PLONK. N M S/H</p> <p><u>Sgt. Patrick Leader</u> At 40794188 patrol decided to wait until the moon set, then moved on to 40764184 where main body left, while the leader and 3 men moved to the minefield 70 yds away due EAST, which ran on a bearing of 243°. The EASTERN leg was followed for 210yds when it turned and seemed to run straight on a bearing of 116°. At 40774184 on this leg a very light was fired from 40784183. A line of stakes was found running parallel to the field about 25 yds in side. The stakes were 2'6" high with barbed wire. The other leg of the field was followed on 243° for 165 yds and appeared to run on. Crossed 4 tracks- not recently used. The minefield examined contained only 'S' type anti-personnel mines, which appeared to be freshly laid, but no booby traps. Voices were heard from the strong post inside but were indistinguishable. N M S</p>
2	C Coy	2045x	0430	1 NCO 10 ORs 1 off (from relieving Bn)	From R39 to 40944210 then on bearing of 215° and back to R39	Report next page
3	D Coy	2100	0315	1 Offr 1 Relief offr 10 ORs	From LP of R45 on bearing 212° for 3500 yds thence on bearing of 104° for 1900 yds thence NORTH to R45	Report next page

2/15 Aust Inf Bn

patrol Report page 2

D Coy

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Nm S/H

Guest

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field.
30 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS - Night 30/31 Aug

- A COY Protective patrols only.
- B COY Working party under Lieut Logan
Object: To make 2 gaps in minefield for carriers.
Strength: 1 Offr, 2 sappers, 12 ORs.
Route: From R47 at 186° to junction MINEFIELD- TRACK. gap to be made 20ft v wide. Thence EAST along minefield 1200 paces to make second gap, also 20ft wide. Gaps to be marked by tape passing through the centre of the gap.
Time Out: 2100 hrs. patrol will remain in area of gaps until 0530 hrs. Check in through PLONK at 0600 hrs, from where guide will conduct party to R49.
- C COY
No 1. Protective patrol to 1500 yds.
No 2. Fighting patrol under Capt Bode.
Object: To engage enemy strong post at 40804186 and attempt to capture a prisoner.
Strength: 1 Offr, 10 ORs.
Route: Out R39 to a point SOUTH of enemy post, then after engaging enemy back to R39.
Time out: Midnight Time in: 0430 hrs.
- D COY
No 1. Protective patrol to 1500 yds.
No 2. Fighting patrol under Lieut Osborne.
Object: To attack suspected enemy position and capture a prisoner.
Strength: 2 Offrs, 10 ORs.
Route: From R47 on bearing of 187° through gap in minefield. Move SOUTH from minefield 500 yds, thence due WEST to PIPELINE and continue for 200 yds. Then move parallel to PIPELINE bearing 13°, cross minefield and engage suspected enemy position at 41044175. Return in R45.
Time Out: 2230 hrs Time IN: 0430 hrs.

CARRIER PATROL: Day 31 Aug 41.

- Carriers Under command of Sgt Christensen.
OBJECT: To investigate sangars in square 411416.
Strength: 3 Carriers.
ROUTE: From R43 through gap in minefield at 41194171 and investigate sangars WEST of WRECKED BOMBER at 41124165. Recross minefield gap 41264167 return through R49.
Time out: 1030 hrs Time in: 1200 hrs.

Colony
(R A SUTHERS) Capt.
Adj. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

2/15 AUST INFBN

PATROL REPORT for 24 hrs ended 0600 hrs 31 Aug 41

Serial No	Unit	Time Out	Time In	Strength	Route and area patrolled	Report
1	D Coy	2230	0345	2 Offrs 10 ORs	From R47 on 187° to Minefield, then due SOUTH 500 yds, due WEST 200 yds beyond PIPELINE xxxxxx xxxxxx Thence on 13° across minefield to enemy sangars, 350 yds NORTH of minefield. This area searched then back to R45	<u>Lieut Osborne Leader</u> The area of the suspected enemy positions was thoroughly searched and NO sangars could be found N M S.
2	C Coy NoL					Protective only N MS <u>Pte Ostberg Leader</u>
3	I Sec	1200	1405	2 ORs	From R45 and back to R43	patrol proceeded along pipeline 2250 yds to a sangar which appears to have been recently used by us as L P. Further 825 yds to point 41074178, where bearing were taken on MONUMENT- 450 yds 280°- which was being used as an OP by 2 men. patrol was fired on from two sangars ^{sangars} (approx 41054175) by 3 MMGs which fired at least 3 bursts each. Considerable movement was noticed in the area and sangars ^{sangars} are estimated to be used by 10 men. Returned along Pipeline without further incident and arrived at R43.

low

C Coy C APT BODE Leader

Strength: 1 Officer and 10 ORs

Time Out: 2230 hrs

Time In: 0500 hrs.

Route: From S P 40944210 on bearing of 206° and then WEST to approx to 40764184, at this stage the patrol moved through the enemy minefield in single file to a point behind the enemy position, then received a left turn. Then through the enemy position back to Coy area.


Report: At 40774184 patrol spread out for the attack, moved through the minefield in single file for about 150 to 200 yds, then turned left and advanced on the post from the rear in extended line. They were apparently seen at this stage, for a very light went up from the post and 4 Bredas opened up on them. At the same time the enemy threw a volley of grenades the flash of which, temporarily blinded the patrol. Patrol maneuvered for the attack and went in with grenades and bayonets. The enemy were estimated at between 40 and 50 strong, and the post was a proper trench system in the form of a horse shoe; all pits being connected by crawl trenches about 4 to 5 ft deep, with further crawl trenches to sleeping quarters. At least one Breda was at each extremity of the post, and two in the centre. The right hand Breda was definitely silenced and its crew killed. Enemy fire was also met from positions from SOUTH and EAST. Grenades were thrown in all the posts and sleeping quarters and the bayonet used freely. Estimated enemy killed at least 15, but unable to estimate number wounded. Patrol withdrew through minefield to NORTH, but were unable to obtain any prisoner. The patrol leader with a bullet wound in the hip, at one stage had two prisoners by the neck, attempting to pull them out of the trenches, which were about 5 ft deep at this spot. His Tommy Gun was empty and he could not use his pistol as both hands were fully occupied. He released the prisoners when he was hit in the face by a grenade. The line of defence of the post at 40834185 consists of a row of '3' type mines, then three rows of trip wire, then a single row of dunnart. After passing through the field on the way out the patrol was pinned down by fixed line of fire, from MMGs and A Tk guns and while there observed an enemy patrol come out after them. One of the patrol, Pte Randall, tripped in to a post and was temporarily stunned. He remained in the post after the patrol had passed through. He states the ENEMY-ALL ITALIANS-were very excited and rushed about the post shouting wildly. He managed to make his way out along the route he came in and at daylight was still in sight of the post. He saw 3 empty enemy MT pull off the el ADEM Rd and move into the post. After daylight 20 enemy were observed, approx 750 yds NORTH of the position apparently searching the ground. They were dispersed by our arty fire. Our total casualties, one missing believed killed, two missing, three wounded (two slightly, none seriously). One L/Cpl and two ORs are the personnel missing.

G. G. G.

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
In the field
31 Aug 41.

PROPOSED PATROLS- Night 31 Aug/ 1Sept 41.

- A COY Protective patrol to MINEFIELD.
- C COY Protective patrol of 1 Offr and 10 ORs to 2500 yds. This patrol is to be prepared to engage any enemy patrols which may be sent out as the result of activities, night 30/31 Aug.
- D COY Combination fighting and protective patrols.
Object: To ambush any enemy patrol attempting to relay the mines in the gaps made, night 30/31 Aug.
Strength: 1 Offr or Sgt and 14 ORs.
Route: From D Coy to gap in minefield 41194171. Return same route
Method: At the gap the patrol will take up position to ambush enemy patrols in vicinity of gap. One NCO and 3 ORs will be detached here to act as protective patrol on Coy front. The relief of the patrol will be made on the minefield in order that the gap will be watched throughout the night.
It is recommended that distinctive whistle or call sign be arranged between the standing patrol and the relieving patrols and also the detached protective party.
Time Out: 2025 Hrs Time In: 0615 hrs.



R. A. Suthers

(R A SUTHERS) Capt.
Adjt 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

- (a) Routine Patrolling as advised.
- (b) Special.

Coy.	Strength.		Time.		Task.	Route and Remarks.
	Off.	ORs.	Out.	In.		
<i>A</i> BREN.	1	4	R21. 2200	R19. 0330	Locate-NW-end-of minefield and report on dead ground SW of Coy's front.	Out to E of FField 40254242 thence in R19.
<i>B</i> DRIC.	1	4	R35 2130	R35A. 0300	Locate and trace track thence NE to minefield square 404419. Avoid contact with enemy post approx 300 yds NORTH of track and minefield. Thence in to R35(a).	Incl in task.
<i>B</i> DRIC	1 NCO. 2		R31 2100	R31. As soon as task completed.	Investigate 30 new pits reported last night. Immediate report on same to Silver.	Patrol not Repta. offensive. NOT to engage if working party xxx is in pits as this will be task of sp special fighting patrol.
<i>C</i> WYND	1 off. 1 NCO. 8 O.RS.		¹³ R21 2100	¹⁵ R35 0330	Locate gap previously reported 40154245. On arrival at gap, party to occupy position at Eastern end of gap. Coy's note -bludgeon will be taken.	GAGS Rope.
<i>D</i> KING	1 Off. 1 NCO. 7 ORs.		R29(a)	R29.	Locate principal gap in minefield-thence to Rd. Junc. 402421. Thereafter to act as covering party to I.O. and 1 OR. who will investigate suspected Camp (Air Photo 12 Aug. square 401420).	Timetable to be advised to D Coy later. To be fixed in conjunction with 2/13 Offr. who will command.

Distribution.

- All Companies.
- Comd. Post.
- EMBA.
- RAFO.
- HOPA.
- TRIP.

C.G. Pitman Lieut.
C. G. Pitman. Adjt.
TOBO BN.

2080 AVST INF BN.

SECRET.

COPY NO.

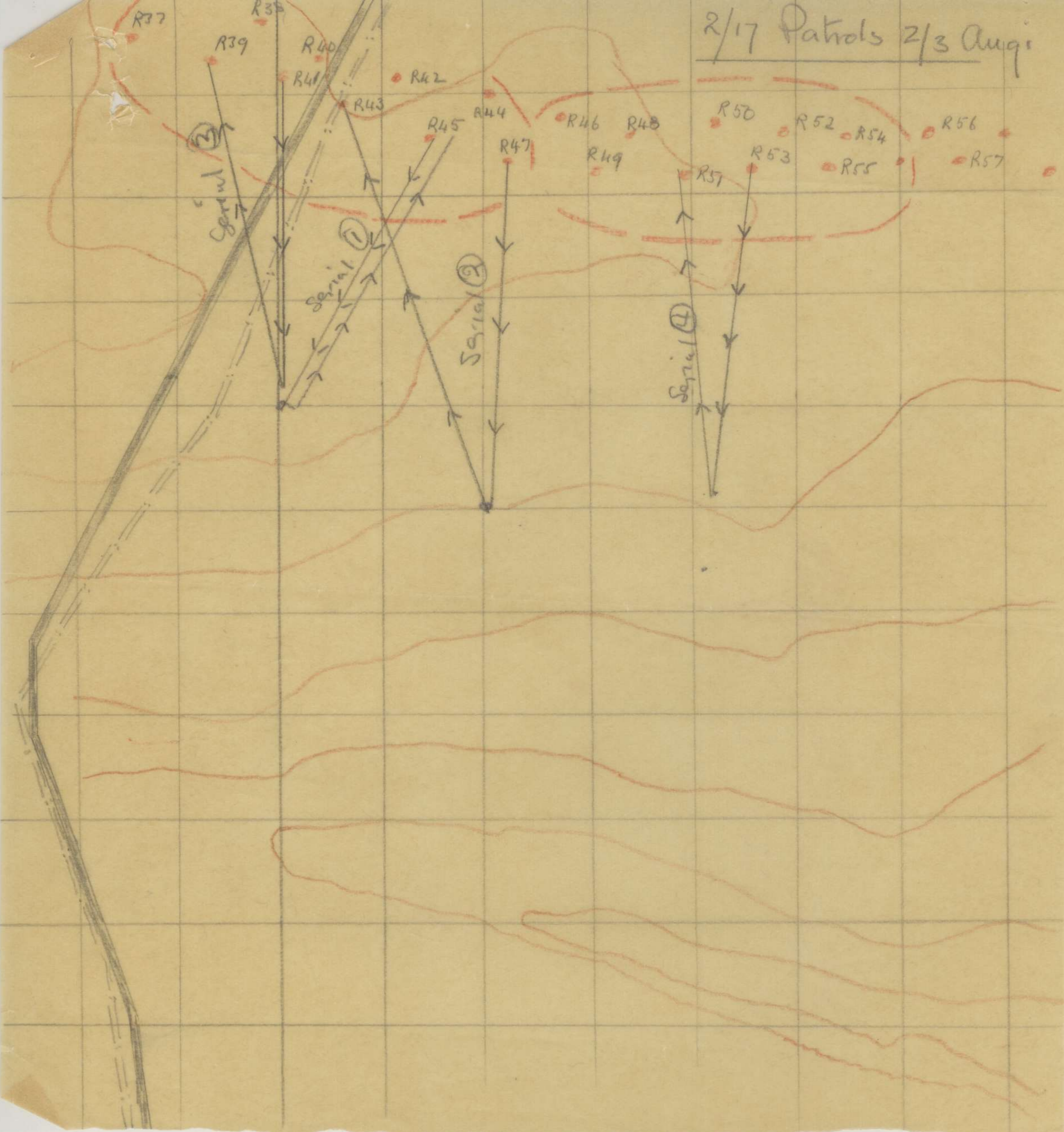
PROPOSED PATROLS.

COY.	STRENGTH.	TIMES OUT	IN.	ROUTE AND REMARKS.
BRN.	1 off 4 ORs	R17 2230	R17 0330	Out R17 on bearing 205 deg. to report on minefield. If no minefield contacted, no penetration beyond 2500 yds.
DRIC.	1 off 4 ORs	R31 2200	R35 0330	Out at R31 on bearing 22 ⁴ deg 40404200. In at R35. To locate minefield which should be approx. 3300 yds out on first leg and to penetrate not more than 200 yards.
WEND.	1 off 2 ORs	R13 2130	R13 0130	Out to O.P. 4015425 ⁴ thence on bearing 207 deg. to pegs reported as possible entrance to minefield.
KING.	1 off 4 ORs	R29(a)	R29(a)	Recco party on route detailed in yesterday's proposals. Special attention to Sappers reported 20/21.

[Signature] Lieut.
(C. G. Pitman).
Adj. 2080 AVST INF. BN.

[Handwritten signature]

2/17 Patrols 2/3 Augi



PATROL REPORT.

2/17 Aust Inf Bn.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0500 hrs hrs. 2 Aug 41.

To 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	C. Coy	2350	0400	1 Offr. 1 N.C.D. 8 O.R's	Out R. 37 In R. 41	As soon as we left R. 37 saw 5 enemy near twin tanks. Divided patrol to outflank enemy. On reaching tanks enemy had disappeared having apparently seen our patrol. Found white obelisk with open sangar beneath it. Could be used as O.P. Area when searched for enemy. N.M.S.
2	D. Coy.	2130	0030	1 Offr. 10 O.R's	Out R. 49 In R. 59	Moved out to area 41304175 where we crossed a road running East and West. A further 350x struck minefield at 41304172. Minefield was followed to point 41254175.
3	B. Coy.	2250	0230	1 Offr. 10 O.R's.	Out R. 45 In R. 43	Out to point 41054170 where minefield was located. Usual furrow and wire. Two rows of mines staggered and mines 15' apart and rows 12' apart. From point of contact and pipe line mines had not been laid but was in readiness. No sign of enemy seen or heard.

P A T R O L R E P O R T.

SECRET.

To

for 24 hrs. ended 0500 hrs. 3 Aug 41.

20 Aust Inf Bde

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	2/17 Bn B Coy	0100	0500	1 Offr 10 ORs	Out R45 In R45	Party moved out to square 410418 to create diversion. At 0335 10 rockets were lit. Some exploded on the ground and others some 15 feet up. The rockets illuminated the area we were in and showed us up clearly. Were heavily engaged by MG and A/Tk guns. Fire slackened at 0415 hrs.
2	B Coy	2130	0200	1 WO 10 ORs	Out R47 In R43	Patrol moved to point 41204170 and traced minefield from 41204170 to 41244169. No sign of enemy seen.
3.	C Coy	0130	0500	1 NCO 4 OR	Out R41 In R39	Covering party for rocket section. Moved to area 41004180. Nine rockets lit and 3 failed to function. After firing of rockets party moved back to observe enemy fire. MG and A/Tk fire on EL ADEM rd, fire coming from 170° from our posn.
4	D Coy	2359	0400	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R54 In R51	Patrol moved out to area 41424171. Apart from fireworks on left nothing was seen.

PATROL REPORT.

2/17BN SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0500 hrs. 4.8.41.

To 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	HQ COY	1630	1800	4 carriers	Out 53. In 43.	Carriers moved through R.53 and patrolled west of BIR EL AZAZI to approx. 41184177 from here, saw a small white flag at approx. 41144174 - this was not investigated as it meant exposing the patrol over a ridge. Patrol moved then NW to a point approx. 41044188, there saw rocket dischargers on the ground. Then in through 43 at 1800 hrs.
2.	B COY	2059	0350	1 Offr. 10 ORs.	Out 43. In 43.	Party was intercepted by a runner who informed me that a deep patrol had located an enemy patrol of not less than 20. Engineers and truck were sent to a place of safety, and patrol moved out to locate and engage enemy. However, the enemy patrol could not be found. Our original objective was to secure for our own use mines from enemy minefield.
3.	EX B COY	2130	0315	1 NCO. 4 ORs.	Out 45. In 45.	Moved through gap at minefield 41054169, then back along pipe line for 1000 paces at 2330 hrs. an enemy patrol of some 20 strong. Both patrols went to ground, and when we noticed that that the enemy were endeavouring to encircle us, we decided to withdraw. We returned to minefield, and thence in through 45 at 0315 hrs.
4.	A COY	2245	0245	2 Sjts. 6 ORs.	Out 49. In 51.	Patrol moved to BIR EL AZAZI. Inspected wells, which were dry. Patrol then surveyed road which runs from junction 41384172 West on bearing of 320 deg. Followed rd. on this bearing for 1000 yds. and road runs 1000 yds on a general bearing of from 248 deg. to 267 deg. Road was traced for 1000 yds. and from point returned in through R.51.
5.	C COY	2200	0245	2 NCO. 7 ORs.	Out 37. In 37.	Patrol moved to twin tanks at 40814203, from here moved to 4084-4198 and established listening post. NMS.

[Handwritten signature]

↳ a short distance. Our patrol then moved fwd and enemy withdrew.

MESSAGE FORM.

Serial No. 17

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	Z ICW X03H	No. of Groups.	OFFICE DATE STAMP.
	OUT		G.R. 141	

(Above this line is for Signals use only).

TO RAFO TUNK KUPA WVES



FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number.
TOBO	← GOLD	H	

A	boy	patrol	4/5	Clug	15	6
lift	and	stack	mines	south	of	12
rel	func	41374173	out	R51	2200	18
hrs	in	R49	0300	hrs	strength	24
1	offr	5	OR's	0	B	30
boy	to	recover	time	in	square	36
411417	out	R43	at	R359	hrs	42
in	R43	0430	hrs	strength	1	48
offr	10	OR's	0	B	boy	54
increase	depth	of	ford	protective	patrols	60
0	C	boy	patrol	to	establish	66
listening	post	at	40734197	to	40874190	72
strength	1	HCO	10	OR's	out	78
R37	at	2230	hrs	in	R41	84
at	0130	hrs	out	R41	0130	90
hrs	in	R37	at	0530	hrs	96
0	special	patrol	out	at	R47	102
R125	in	R45	at	0400	hrs	108
to	41234140	strength	1	offr	2	114
OR's	0	signal	to	recall	patrols	120
is	R	parachute	flares	at	5	126
min	intervals	0	Rhh	ACK		132
						138
						144
						150
						156
						162

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means.		If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER		Originator's instructions Degree of periority		Time of origin. 1515			
Signed		Signed (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)						T.H.I. 1555	
System in	Time in	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	T.O.R.	
H	1658							C.E.A. 8/40. 4000 pads.	

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended _____ hrs. 5 Aug. 41. 41.

2/17 BN

to

20 Aust Inf Bde.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1.	TOBO	2100	0530	1 Offr. 2 ORs.	Out 47. In 45.	<p><u>Object.</u> To investigate suspected enemy strong post 41104145 and posns in 408414 and rear of posns astride EL ADEM rd.</p> <p><u>Narrative.</u> At 41224172 crossed the minefield which is exactly in posn. plotted by previous patrols. Visited arty OP at 41254146, which was found to be unoccupied. Could find NO sign of E strong post previously reported at 41124144 and reached well used road at 41104140. Crossing this we followed foot-marks, but these disappeared suddenly as though party had been embarked into MT. We then followed road mentioned to PIPE LINE where we found X-roads formed by a road parallel to PIPELINE, and the road we were on. All rds except that leading to perimeter, had been recently used and this was marked with a sign-board "VERBOTEN" and also in ITALIAN to the same effect. Patrol then divided and moved back, one party EAST and one WEST of pipeline. No enemy posns were found.</p>
2.	B Coy	2330	0345	1 Offr 10 ORs	Out R 43 In R 43	<p>Out to 41034170 to minefield where 134 mines were lifted and brought back to own lines. These were taken from beginning of gap in field to approx 600^x EAST and from pipeline. Only the first row of mines were touched, the second row being left intact. In area worked on some 20 mines were found to be without detonators possibly having been deloused by previous patrols.</p>
3.	C Coy	2130	0530	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R 37 In R 37	<p>Out own Coy front 2500^x. NMS</p>
4.	B Coy				Out R 45 In 45	<p>Went out to cover mine-lifting party. During trip out and return no sign of enemy or any activity. A telephone cable was found at 41034176. A portion was cut and brought in.</p>
5.	A Coy	2200	0310	1 Offr 13 ORs	Out R 51 In R 49	<p>Left post on bearing of 180° and when 1500^x out saw movement at approx 500^x S E. On investigation found movement consisted of 4 enemy in line. They were continually skylined but had evidently seen us and moved back SSE. We followed as fast as possible for 800^x but eventually lost them. Returned to a posn some 400^x EAST of walled camp. Here located minefield with usual furrows - no teller or S mines - but push-type (Anti-personnel). Deloused 27 of these bringing back the igniter sets. The deloused mines were laid out in field in "V" formation. Area Deloused was approx 100^x long.</p>

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended _____ hrs. _____ 41.

5 Aug

12

Page 2

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
6	2/17 Bn A Coy	2130	0100	1 Sjt 10 ORs	Out R 49 In R 53	Out to point 41424174 where found white obelisk. A "V" was scratched on it and the word "AUST". No sign of enemy. Visibility good to 500 ^x

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0530 hrs. 6 Aug 41.

To 20 Aust Inf Bde.

2/17 BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	2/17 Bn A Coy	2130	0015	1 offr 10 ORs	Out R 53 In R 49	Out on bearing of 180° to a distance of 2000 ^x to BIR EL AZAZI. No movement seen or heard. NMS
2	A Coy	0130	0435	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R 51 In R 49	Patrolled Coy front to depth of 2000 ^x . NMS. As patrol was leaving wire a plane flying WEST to EAST dived and dropped a stick of bombs. No Damage. NMS
3.	B Coy	2130	0400	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R 43 In R 43	Patrolled Coy front to depth of 2000 ^x . NMS
4.	C Coy				Out R 41 In R 41	Patrolled Coy front to depth of 2000 ^x . Paybook of VX40795 Sjt Robert Hunter GOLDIE found in area 40804190.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0500 hrs. 7 Aug 41.

2/17BN.

To _____

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	A Coy	2130	0115	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R 53 In R 49	Covered front to 2000 ^x . NMS
2	A Coy	0115	0415	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R 51 In R 51	Out to depth of 2000 ^x . NMS
3.	B Coy	2130	0530	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R 43 In R 47	Out to 2000 ^x covering Coy front. NMS
4.	C Coy	2130	0515	1 NCO 10 ORs	Out R 37 In R 39	Patrolled Coy front to 2000 ^x . NMS
5	Special	2100	0615	1 Offr 1 OR	Out R 45 In R 45	Party was sent out to locate enemy posns EAST of EL ADEM rd in squares 408414, 409414. Patrol moved down pipeline reaching point 41014146 where three sangars were investigated. They had not recently been used. Then crossed rd at x-rds 40984144. Three unoccupied sangars were found at 40994142. Then crossed rd which runs parallel to pipeline, moved to sangar containing derelict truck at 40934139. Here fresh excreta not more than 3 hrs old was found with tracks leading approx 270°; these were followed and enemy posns were found at 40884140 to 40874145. These posns consisted of continuous line of sangars apparently laid out in depth with 3 rows of trip wires, approx 50 ^x in front of leading sangars. There was sufficient movement in these sangars to indicate that they were all occupied. On right flank of posn was a medium tank which was thought to be ITALIAN. The patrol then withdrew and returned by R 45. NB. Three rifle shots apparently fired by sentries at random came from XXXXXX points approx at foot of escarpment SOUTH of patrol and about 500 ^x SW of patrol and from the posn already referred to.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 8 Aug 41. 41.

To 20 Aust Inf Bde.

2/17 BN

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	A. Coy.	2130	0530	1 Offr. 10 ORs	Out 51 In 49	Out 2000x Protective Patrol NMS.
2	B. Coy.	"	"	"	Out 45 In 43	" " " " "
3	C. Coy.	"	"	"	Out 41 In 39	" " " " "

PATROL PROPOSALS - NIGHT 19/20

(a) ROUTINE PATROLS. will consist of wire and ditch patrols.
Protective Patrols BRENN, WYND, KING to 1200 yds.
 DRIC--to-1500-yds.

(b) DEEP PATROLS. - DRIC to 1500 Yds.

(1) Task of all Coy Patrols.

(1) Contact and familiarize themselves with minefield to assist future patrolling.

(2) To take offensive action if the opportunity presents itself.

3. Bearings and distances are in accordance with latest information from TUNE. M.G. posts indicated are believed to be occupied, but may be alternative positions.

4. ~~Frip-wire-beehy-traps-have-been-reported-on-our-side-of-all-minefields~~

"S" type mines are stated to exist on our side of all enemy minefields.

(52)

Coy.	Strength.		Time		Route.	Remarks.
	Off.	O.Gs	Out	In.		
BRENN. A	1	4	2200	0130	Leave R17 bearing 187 deg. for 2300 yds. to minefield. In R17.	M.Gs have been reported 400 yds. forward of point of contact with minefield on bearing 180 deg.
DRIC. B	1	4	2145	0400	Out R33. 243 deg. for 3800 yds to minefield. In R.31.	
WYND. C	1	4	2300	0300	Out R13 198 deg. to minefield 2650 yds. In R13.	M.Gs reported 500 Yds 110 deg, 400 yds. 180 deg. from point of contact with minefield
KING. D	1	4	2230	0300	Out R27 245 deg to minefield 2900 yds. In R27.	M.Gs reported rear of minefield 350 yds N.W. and 350 yds SOUTH of point of contact.

C. G. Pitman Lieut.

 C. G. Pitman, Adj. TOBO Bn.

Distribution:-
 All Companies
 Comd. Post.
 EMBA
 RAFO
 HOPA
 File.

PATROL REPORT.

2/17 Aust. Inf. Bn.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0500 hrs. 20 Aug, 41.

To 20 Aust. Inf. Bde.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	A Coy.	2200	0130	10ff.4 ORs	Out Post 17 to 40324241 in Post 17.	At this point, contact was made with minefield, which has no furrow in front but line of beebie traps. Flares went up from Pt 174 and four M.Gs opened up from same area. Two to east of 174 and two to West. Guns consist of one Spandau, one Bren and two unidentified. A mortar was also fired.
2	B Coy.	2145	0400	10ff.4 O.Rs	Out R33 to 40394207 in R31.	Patrol was sent out to locate minefield. 3 Sangers were found at 40574215 and others at 40524212. Sangers appear to be freshly dug and a new telephone line running on general bearing of 250 deg. which was followed for 50 yds and was found to be cut. Minefield was contacted at 40394207 and composition was as previously reported.
3	C Coy	2300	0300	10ff.4 ORs.	Out R.13 bearing 198deg. for 3000 yds in R.13.	Located minefield running WEST-EAST consisting of three rows of mines ("S" type and Teller mines). Followed Field WEST for 160 yds. where a gap was found marked marked by two short pickets on each side. The pickets were joined by a double strand of Sig. wire. A small row of stones was laid along edge of gap. Row of mines were 8 ¹ / ₂ ft apart.
4	D Coy.	2230	0300	10ff.4 ORs.	Out R27 to 40314225 thence 40284229. In R27.	Object to contact minefield. Minefield consisted of furrows row of "S" mines, two rows of "TELLER" mines, a furrow and trip wire on enemy side of Minefield. Followed minefield to 40294229 where Bird Calls were immediately followed by two Verrey lights on bearing of 285 deg. A M.G. then opened up from NORTH of this point firing EAST. Working parties were heard from this point, but Patrol leader is unable to pin-point the positions. Road was then followed S.E. to 40384225.
5	B Coy.					Protective Patrol reports finding 30 pits each 6ft long by 2 ¹ / ₂ ft wide by 3 ft deep at 40594211.

2/17 Aust. Inf. Bn.

PATROL REPORT.SECRET.for 24 hrs. ended 0500 hrs. 20 AUG, 41.

2/17

To 20 Aust. Inf. Bde.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	A Coy.	2000	0130	1 off. 4 ORs	Out Post 17 to 40324241 in Post 17.	At this point, contact was made with minefield, which has no furrow in front but line of beehy traps. Flares went up from Pt 174 and four M.Gs opened up from same area. Two to east of 174 and two to West. Guns consist of one Spandau, one Bren and two unidentified. A mortar was also fired.
2	B Coy.	2145	0400	1 off. 4 O.Rs	Out R33 to 40394207 in R31.	Patrol was sent out to locate minefield. 3 Sangers were found at 40574215 and others at 40524212. Sangers appear to be freshly dug and a new telephone line running on general bearing of 250 deg. which was followed for 50 yds and was found to be cut. Minefield was contacted at 40394207 and composition was as previously reported.
3	C Coy	2300	0300	1 off. 4 ORs.	Out R.13 bearing 198deg. for 3000 yds. in R.13.	Located minefield running WEST-EAST consisting of three rows of mines ("S" type and Teller mines). Followed field WEST for 160 yds. where a gap was found marked marked by two short pickets on each side. The pickets were joined by a double strand of Sig. wire. A small row of stones was laid along edge of gap. Row of mines were 8" ft apart.
4	D Coy.	2230	0300	1 off. 4 ORs.	Out R27 to 40314225 thence 40284229. in R27.	Object to contact minefield. Minefield consisted of furrows row of "S" mines, two rows of "TELLER" mines, a furrow and trip wire on enemy side of minefield. Followed minefield to 40294229 where Bird Calls were immediately followed by two Verrey lights on bearing of 285 deg. A M.G. then opened up from NORTH of this point firing EAST. Working parties were heard from this point, but Patrol leader is unable to pin-point the positions. Road was then followed S.E. to 40384225.
5	B Coy.					Protective Patrol reports finding 30 pits each 6ft long by 2 1/2 ft wide by 3 ft deep at 40594211.

5
WMA

427

402

R.13. 2/17 Bn
C Coy

Patrols.
NIGHT 19/20

Gap.

R.17 A Coy

Mine field

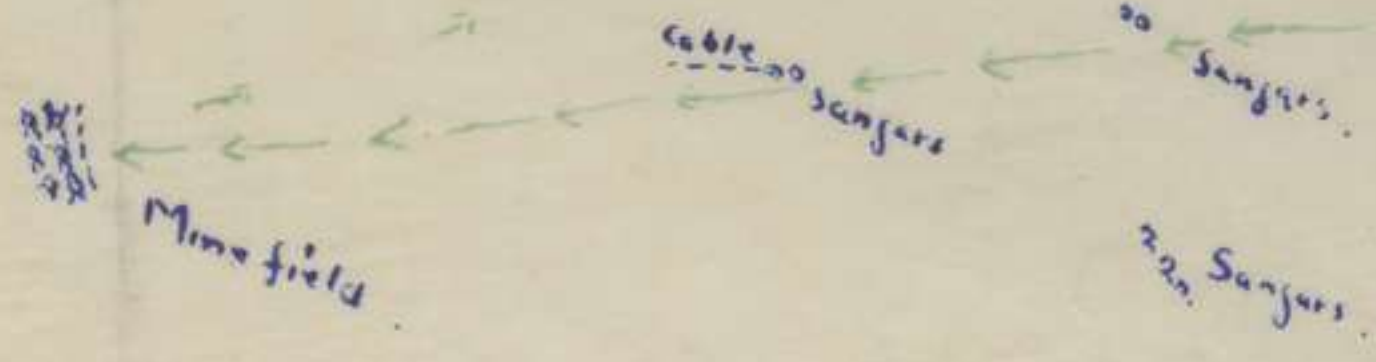
33
32



R.27
B Coy

R.31

R.33



Mine field

Cable 200 Sangars

20 Sangars

220 Sangars

R.F. 1/25

To superimpose
of on on TORRUCH 1/25



427

405

(a) Routine Patrolling as advised.

(b) Special.

Coy.	Strength.		Time. In.		Task.	Route and Remarks.
	Off.	ORs.	OWR	OWK.		
1 BREN.	1 or Sgt.	5	R19 2130	R17 0300	Out on bearing 221 deg. to check locate gap and investigate minefield. Return on bearing 19 deg. to R17.	
2 DRIC.	1 or Sgt.	5	2100	0330	Out R33 at 224 deg. to investigate A.A. Pit 3500 yds. previously reported unoccupied. Continue for 300 yds locate, check and investigate minefield.	Several Sangers have been reported in vicinity of A.A. Pit by TUNE as being unoccupied. M/R 40484198.
3 WYND.	1	4	2100	0330	Out R11-180 deg. Locate gap prev. reported 40154245. Penetrate gap for approx. 150 yds and investigate. Return R11.	This Patrol to avoid all contact with E in vicinity of minefield.
4 KING.	1 or Sgt.	5	2130	0330	Out R27 bearing 240 deg. for approx. 2800 yds to minefield. Check and investigate minefield at this point and, if possible, further SE. Return R27.	

Distribution.

All Coys.
Cond. Post.
EMBA.
RAFO.
HOPA.
TRIP.
FILE.

C. G. Pitman Lieut.
(C. G. Pitman.)
Adj. TOBO AUST INF. BN.
21. Aug, 41.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0800 hrs. 21 Aug, 41.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

To 20 Aust Inf. Bde.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
6	TOBO	1000 at R27atR29	0330	1 Off. 1 NCO 8 ORs.	Out to 40364204 thence to 40294209.	<p>Patrol moved out finding earth rd, unoccupied sangers and minefield as previously described and plotted. One SSG and 7 O.Rs were then sent back for the following reasons</p> <p>(1) They had no sandshoes and would, therefore, attract attention.</p> <p>(2) It was felt that since the object was purely recce, two men would be more suitable from this point on.</p> <p>Patrol moved to road at 40374204 and thence moved parallel to road and about 100 yds from it. After crossing cable at 40304209, a flare was fired from 40294208 and a M.G. opened up from same point. A Flare was also fired from approx 40314215. Two trucks came from E^{OR} direction along road and pulled up opposite patrol, disembussing a party of about 20 men and leaving a covering party in the trucks. This party searched area EAST of cable for at least 1000 yds, but were eluded by patrol. The trucks returned opposite patrol and within 75 yds of them and party disembarked and talked quietly for a time. The patrol then crawled off, but when passing second truck, were again heard and flares were put up from 40294208. E. M.T. patrol again formed up in direction of our patrol who were forced to make a break running in westerly direction and becoming separated. Observing our movement, M.T patrol ambushed and followed. Many flares and intense S.A.F. forced us to ground. Patrol leader thinks he went to ground at about 40344209. After 15 minutes intense S.A. and M^{OR} fire which was on fixed line, and enfilading all ground forward of the road. Patrol leader heard the voice of second member of Patrol saying that he wished to surrender and was alone. It is believed that Pte Ford is P.O.W. and probably wounded. This continued until fire eased and E. M.T. patrol assisted by flares took Pte. Ford prisoner. Patrol leader could not observe this but bases statement on sounds heard. After being pinned down for a further 30 minutes at 40364209 and again when crossing minefield. Patrol leader returned.</p> <p><u>NOTE.</u> Rockets were used continuously to assist M.T Patrol.</p>

29 Yes

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0800 hrs. 21 Aug. 41. 2/17 AUST INF. BN.

To

20 AUST INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	TOBO "A" Coy	2200	0330	1 NCO 4 ORs.	Out R21 to 40334248 in R17.	This Patrol heard spasmodic M.G. Fire in the distance and heard "Bird Call" whistle" but were unable to locate any enemy.
2	"B" Coy	2145	0230	1 Offr. 4 ORs	Out R35 to 40534192 in R35.	At 1400 yds patrol crossed single strand yellow telephone cable crossing route on bearing 100 degrees. At 1750 yds 6 disused enemy slit trenches were passed. Unused track on bearing of 300 degrees was passed at 3450 yds. This track was followed for 225 yds where road running north was found with two metallic telephone lines running parallel. Patrol continued for 300 yds to minefield which was 15 yds across, furrows on either side & row of "S" mines on outside edges of double row of "Teller".
3	"	2100		1 Officer 9 O.Rs.	R31 and in R31.	Diggings at 40594211 reported yesterday as freshly dug were investigated and found to be old and there were no enemy in the vicinity.
4	"C" Coy	2130	0315	2 NCOs 8 men.	R13 to 40124239 in R13.	Patrol did not locate minefield and although forming a listening Post for three hours MMS, Mortar and M.G. were heard, but were not fired at Patrol and were not near enough for Patrol to investigate.
5	TOBO	0615	0715	4 Lice	Due South from Post R33 for 3000 yds NW for 2000 yds to 4047215. Returned through Post R33.	Approx 6 men observed in positions at approx 40704170 who disappeared on sighting the Patrol. 3 dead Italians passed by Patrol on second leg. These have been dead some time. Diggings 40504200 reported unoccupied 17. Aug, 41 still unoccupied. Diggings 40484215 unoccupied. Lone sentry observed approx 40404220. The Patrol was not fired upon outside the wire but was fired upon by enemy arty between posts R33 and R32.

(For continuation see Page 2).

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0800 hrs. 21 Aug. 41. 2/17 AUST INF. BN.

To
20 AUST INF. BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	TOBO "A" Coy.	2200	0330	1 NCO 4 ORs.	Out R21 to 40334248 in R17.	This Patrol heard spasmodic M.G. Fire in the distance and heard "Bird Call" whistle" but were unable to locate any enemy.
2	"B" Coy	2145	0230	1 Offr. 4 ORs	Out R35 to 40534192 in R35.	At 1400 yds patrol crossed single strand yellow telephone cable crossing route on bearing 100 degrees. At 1750 yds 6 disused enemy slit trenches were passed. Unused track on bearing of 300 degrees was passed at 3450 yds. This track was followed for 225 yds where road running north was found with two metallic telephone lines running parallel. Patrol continued for 300 yds to minefield which was 15 yds across, furrows on either side & row of "S" mines on outside edges of double row of "Teller".
3	"	2100		1 Officer 9 O.Rs.	R31 and in R31.	Diggings at 40594211 reported yesterday as freshly dug were investigated and found to be old and there were no enemy in the vicinity.
4	"C" Coy	2130	0315	2 NCOs 8 men.	R13 to 40124239 in R13.	Patrol did not locate minefield and although forming a listening Post for three hours NMS. Mortar and M.G. were heard, but were not fired at Patrol and were not near enough for Patrol to investigate.
5	TOBO	0615	0715	4 Lice	Due South from Post R33 for 300 3000 yds NW for 2000 yds to 4047215. Returned through Post R33.	Approx 6 men observed in positions at approx 40704170 who disappeared on sighting the Patrol. 3 dead Italians passed by Patrol on second leg. These have been dead some time. Diggings 40504200 reported unoccupied 17. Aug, 41 still unoccupied. Diggings 40484215 unoccupied. Lone sentry observed approx 40404220. The Patrol was not fired upon outside the wire but was fired upon by enemy arty between posts R33 and R32.

(For continuation see Page 2).

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

To 20 Aust Inf. Bde.

for 24 hrs. ended 0800 hrs. 21 Aug,

417 AUST INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
6	TOBO	1000 at R27	0330 at R29.	1 Off. 1 NCO 3 ORs.	Out to 40364204 thence to 40294209.	<p>Patrol moved out finding earth rd, unoccupied sangers and minefield as previously described and plotted. One NCO and 7 O.Rs were then sent back for the following reasons</p> <p>(1) They had no sandshoes and would, therefore, attract attention.</p> <p>(2) It was felt that since the object was purely recce, two men would be more suitable from this point on.</p> <p>Patrol moved to road at 40374204 and thence moved parallel to road and about 100 yds from it. After crossing cable at 40304209, a flare was fired from 40294208 and a M.G. opened up from same point. A Flare was also fired from approx 40314215. Two trucks came from N^{ORTH} direction along road and pulled up opposite patrol, disembussing a party of about 20 men and leaving a covering party in the trucks. This party searched area EAST of cable for at least 1000 yds, but were eluded by patrol. The trucks returned opposite patrol and within 75 yds of them and party disembarked and talked quietly for a time. The patrol then crawled off, but when passing second truck, were again heard and flares were put up from 40294208. E M.T. patrol again formed up in direction of our patrol who were forced to make a break running in westerly direction and becoming separated. Observing our movement, M.T patrol embussed and followed. Many flares and intense S.A.F. forced us to ground. Patrol leader thinks he went to ground at about 40344209. After 15 minutes intense S.A. and M^{ORTAR} fire which was on fixed lines and enfilading all ground forward of the road. Patrol leader heard the voice of second member of Patrol saying that he wished to surrender and was alone. It is believed that Pte Ford is P.O.W. and probably wounded. This continued until fire eased and E M.T. patrol assisted by flares took Pte. Ford prisoner. Patrol leader could not observe this but bases statement on sounds heard. After being pinned down for a further 30 minutes at 40364209 and again when crossing minefield. Patrol leader returned.</p> <p><u>NOTE.</u> Rockets were used continuously to assist M.T Patrol.</p>

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0800 hrs. 21 Aug. 41.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

To 20 Aust Inf. Bde.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
6	TOBO	1000 at R27	0330 at R29.	1 Off. 1 NCO 8 ORs.	Out to 40364204 thence to 40294209.	<p>Patrol moved out finding earth rd, unoccupied sangers and minefield as previously described and plotted. One NCO and 7 O.Rs were then sent back for the following reasons (1) They had no sandshoes and would, therefore, attract attention. (2) It was felt that since the object was purely recce, two men would be more suitable from this point on.</p> <p>Patrol moved to road at 40374204 and thence moved parallel to road and about 100 yds from it. After crossing cable at 40304209, a flare was fired from 40294208 and a M.G. opened up from same point. A Flare was also fired from approx 40314215. Two trucks came from ^{NORTH} direction along road and pulled up opposite patrol, disembussing a party of about 20 men and leaving a covering party in the trucks. This party searched area EAST of cable for at least 1000 yds, but were eluded by patrol. The trucks returned opposite patrol and within 75 yds of them and party disembarked and talked quietly for a time. The patrol then crawled off, but when passing second truck, were again heard and flares were put up from 40294208. E M.T. patrol again formed up in direction of our patrol who were forced to make a break running in westerly direction and becoming separated. Observing our movement, M.T patrol embussed and followed. Many flares and intense S.A.F. forced us to ground. Patrol leader thinks he went to ground at about 40344209. After 15 minutes intense S.A. and ^{MORTAR} fire which was on fixed lines and enfilading all ground forward of the road. Patrol leader heard the voice of second member of Patrol saying that he wished to surrender and was alone. It is believed that Pte Ford is P.O.W. and probably wounded. This continued until fire eased and E M.T. patrol assisted by flares took Pte. Ford prisoner. Patrol leader could not observe this but bases statement on sounds heard. After being pinned down for a further 30 minutes at 40364209 and again when crossing minefield. Patrol leader returned.</p> <p><u>NOTE.</u> Rockets were used continuously to assist M.T Patrol.</p>

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

To

for 24 hrs. ended 0800 hrs. 21 Aug. 41.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

20 AUST INF BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	TOBO "A" Coy	2200	0330	1 NCO 4 ORs.	Out R21 to 40334248 in R17.	This Patrol heard spasmodic M.G. Fire in the distance and heard "Bird Call" whistle" but were unable to locate any enemy.
2	"B" Coy	2145	0230	1 Offr. 4 ORs	Out R35 to 40534192 in R35.	At 1400 yds patrol crossed single strand yellow telephone cable crossing route on bearing 100 degrees. At 1750 yds 6 disused enemy slit trenches were passed. Unused track on bearing of 300 degrees was passed at 3450 yds. This track was followed for 225 yds where road running north was found with two metallic telephone lines running parallel. Patrol continued for 300 yds to minefield which was 15 yds across, furrows on either side & row of "S" mines on outside edges of double row of "Teller".
3	"	2100		1 Officer 9 O.Rs.	R31 and in R31.	Diggings at 40594211 reported yesterday as freshly dug were investigated and found to be old and there were no enemy in the vicinity.
4	"C" Coy	2130	0315	2 NCOs 8 men.	R13 to 40124239 in R13.	Patrol did not locate minefield and although forming a listening Post for three hours NMS. Mortar and M.G. were heard, but were not fired at Patrol and were not near enough for Patrol to investigate.
5	TOBO	0615	0715	4 Lice	Due South from Post R33 for 3 3000 yds NW for 2000 yds to 4047215. Returned through Post R33.	Approx 6 men observed in positions at approx 40704170 who disappeared on sighting the Patrol. 3 dead Italians passed by Patrol on second leg. These have been dead some time. Diggings 40504200 reported unoccupied 17. Aug, 41 still unoccupied. Diggings 40484215 unoccupied. Lone sentry observed approx 40404220. The Patrol was not fired upon outside the wire but was fired upon by enemy arty between posts R33 and R32.

(For continuation see Page 2).

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 22 Aug, 41.

2/17

To 20 AUST INF. BDE.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1.	'A" Coy	2145	0310	1 Off 50Rs	FROM R19 Out to 4027 4242. on bearing 221 deg IN R17	From observation of enemy flares, and M.G. fire at 1950 hours XXXXXXXX I estimated that we had penetrated the enemy's forward position. Advancing a further 300 yds. the foot of the escarpment was reached. No minefield was seen and as E M.G. bursts indicated that he had seen us so we returned on a direct bearing of 19 deg. to Post. 17. During the Patrol a Bren, Fiat and Breda were identified firing from and below Pt 174. At 1250 yds out, our transport was plainly audible. At 1450 yds, area was heavily pitted with comparatively new shell holes
2.	'B" Coy	R33 2100	0230	1Sgt 40Rs	Out R33 bearing 224 deg to 40484198 and 700 yds further on same bearing. IN R33	A.A. Pit at 40484198 previously reported was thoroughly examined. A Sanger nearby was found to contain Booby traps in the form of filled beer bottles connected to mines by cord. The Post was surrounded by two rows of trip wires with a shallow ditch between them. Excavations showed that the post had been recently occupied. Telephone wire led to dugouts. Patrol continued along track discovering further wires. Two rows of metallic circuit wire ran along one side. 300 yds from A.A. Pit, Patrol crossed a track running EAST WEST. No further incident occurred.
3.	'C" Coy	2130	0300	10 off 40Rs	FROM R11 Out to 4013 4241. Thence to 40144243. In through R11.	Patrol moved to Pt 40134241 and was fired on by M.G. at approx. 40174238. Patrol leader moved on a bearing of 180 deg for 150 yds and then returned to his Patrol. Patrol was then fired on by M.G. on a bearing of 150 degrees and moved to 40144243. While returning to Post R11, Patrol was subjected to spasmodic fire. Mortars were used on the Wadis 40114248, 40114244, 40234245, 40234242. Patrol did not locate the minefield either on outward or inward journeys
4	'D" Coy	2130	0200	10 off 50Rs	Out R27 on to 40384226 In R27.	Patrol moved to 40444229 where digging was heard some distance on right flank of Patrol. At approx. 1900 yds 40394226, Sangers were seen on the right and left flanks at about 300 yds. Distance. Patrol observed for some time, then moved forward between the two positions about 150 yds, when L.M.Gs opened up on immediate front and left flank at distance of 100 yds approx. Patrol went to ground, withdrew approx 300 yds, took up a defensive position, expecting the enemy to try to cut them off since movement had

PATROL REPORT.

PAGE 2.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 22. Aug. 41.

Is 20 AUST INF. BDE.

2/L7 AUST. INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
4.	"D" Coy.	2130	0200	1 Off 5 O.Rs.	Patrol from Page 1. cont'd.	<p>previously been seen in Sangers on the left. Patrol maintained this position for 1 hour during which time, enemy sent up one white flare which Patrol leader considered may have been signal for reinforcements. The Patrol withdrew 200 yds. to await developments. Nothing further occurred. Patrol leader considered distance to flanks of Sangers too great for him to carry out a flanking movement.</p> <p><u>NOTES BY PATROL LEADER.</u></p> <p>XXXX at 40444229 blasting heard on bearing of 310 degrees. Following guns heard on right flank of Patrol - Bren, Breda, Spandau.</p> <p>Frontage of Sangers approx. 600 yds based on a "U" shape.</p>

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

To for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 22. Aug, 41.

217
2/17 AUST INF. BN.

20 AUST INF. BDR.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1.	"A" Coy	2145	0310	1 Off 50Rs	From R17 Out to 4027 4242. on bearing 221 deg R17	From observation of enemy flares, and M.G. fire at 1950 hours onxxxxix I estimated that we had penetrated the enemy's forward position. Advancing a further 300 yds. the foot of the escarpment was reached. No minefield was seen and as B M.G. bursts indicated that he had seen us so we returned on a direct bearing of 19 deg. to Post. 17. During the Patrol a Bren, Fiat and Breda were identified firing from and below Pt 174. At 1250 yds out, our transport was plainly audible. At 1450 yds, area was heavily pitted with comparatively new shell holes
2.	"B" COY	R33 2100	0230	1Sgt 40Rs	Out R33 bearing 224 deg to 40484198 and 700 yds further same bearing. in at 33. R11	A.A. Pit at 40484198 previously reported was thoroughly examined. A Sanger nearby was found to contain Beeby traps in the form of filled beer bottles connected to mines by cord. The Post was surrounded by two rows of trip wires with a shallow ditch between them. Excreta showed that the post had been recently occupied. Telephone wire led to dugouts. Patrol continued along track discovering further wires. Two rows of metallic circuit wire ran along one side. 300 yds from A.A. Pit, Patrol crossed a track running EAST WEST. No further incident occurred.
3.	"C" Coy	2130	0300	10ff 40Rs	Out to 4013 4241. Thence to 40144243. In through R11. R11	Patrol moved to Pt 40134241 and was fired on by M.G. at approx. 40174238. Patrol leader moved on a bearing of 180 deg for 150 yds and then returned to his Patrol. Patrol was then fired on by M.G. on a bearing of 150 degrees and moved to 40144243. While returning to Post R11, Patrol was subjected to spasmodic fire. Mortars were used on the Wadis 40114248, 40114244, 40234245, 40234242. Patrol did not locate the minefield either on outward or inward journeys
	"D" Coy	2130	0200	10ff 50Rs	Out R27 on to 40384226 In R27.	Patrol moved to 40444229 where digging was heard some distance on right flank of Patrol. At approx. 1900 yds 40394226, Sangers were seen on the right and left flanks at about 300 yds. Distance Patrol observed for some time, then moved forward between the two positions about 150 yds, when L.M.Gs opened up on immediate front and left flank at distance of 100 yds approx. Patrol went to ground, withdrew approx 300 yds, took up a defensive position, expecting the enemy to try to cut them off since movement had

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PATROL REPORT.

PAGE 2.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 22. Aug. 41.

In 20 AUST INF. BDE.

2/17 AUST. INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
4.	"D" Coy.	2130	0200	1 Off 5 O.Ns.	Patrol from Page 1. cont'd.	<p>previously been seen in Sangers on the left. Patrol maintained this position for 1 hour during which time, enemy sent up one white flare which Patrol leader considered may have been signal for reinforcements. The Patrol withdrew 200 yds. to await developments. Nothing further occurred. Patrol leader considered distance to flanks of Sangers too great for him to carry out a flanking movement.</p> <p><u>NOTES BY PATROL LEADER.</u> 1400 yds at 40444229 blasting heard on bearing of 310 degrees. Following guns heard on right flank of Patrol - Bren, Breda, Spandau. Frontage of Sangers approx. 600 yds based on a "U" shape.</p>

PROPOSED PATROLS. 22/23 AUG, 41. COPY NO.....

Coy.	Strength.	Times		Route and Remarks.
		In	Out	
A	1 Off 4 ORs	R21 2200	R19 0300	Contact minefield at 40304241 and to report on nature of dead ground between that point and R21.
B	1 Off 8 ORs	R35 2130	R33 0400	Report on minefield at 40464191 thence move to A.A. Pits 40464198 and ascertain whether or not they are occupied.
C	Discretion of Patrol Leader.	R13 2230	In R13.	1. Locate gap in minefield. 2. Plot size of gap and describe minefield in area giving type of mines etc. To assist plotting, Patrol leader will take bearings in a series of white Verrey Lights which Coy Commanders will arrange to have fixed as under:- R25. 0115hrs 0125Hrs. R11. 0200hrs 0210Hrs. It is suggested that not less than 6 flares be fired. Time will be obtained from Bn.Sigs.
D	1 Off 4 ORs	R29(a)R29 2230	R29 0400	report if To 40334217 and/minefield contacted. Report on general bearing of minefield at this point, but NO penetration past it to be made.

Through daylight 23.Aug. an O. P. will be maintained in square 401425.
~~XXXX~~

.....C.G. Pitman.....Lieut.
 (C. G. Pitman).
 Adj. 2/17 Aust Inf. Bn.

Distribution.

- All Coys.
- Comd. Post.
- EMBA.
- RAFO.
- HOPA.
- TRIP.
- FILE.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 23 AUG, 41.

20 20 AUST INF. BDE.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"D" Coy	2230	0400	1 Off 40Rs	Out R29(a) 243 deg. to 4034 4220. In R29 65 deg.	Patrol at 1630 yds out passed track (100 deg), 1st line Sangars at 2030 and 2nd line 2200 yds. These were thoroughly examined and found to be fairly freshly dug and unoccupied. Three shallow pits were passed at 2415 and one was 10 ft across and may have been A/Tk. emplacements. Minefield was found at 2535 yds. which ran at a bearing of 330 deg. and comprised of (a) broad furrow. (b) row of "S" mines, (c) three rows TELLER, (d) furrow and trip wire; whole width of the field 14 yds. On return journey Sangars previously passed were searched for 500 yards to the SOUTH. No signs of occupation or Booby Traps found. During the Patrol fixed lines were observed firing <u>==from 40394226.</u>
2	"B" Coy	2130	0245	1 NCO 70Rs	Out R33 Bear. 225 deg. In R33 R33.	At 1000 yds. enemy arty flashes were seen at 290 deg. At 1500 yds. wired Firebay passed. A.A. Pits reached at 40484199 and found to be unoccupied. 300 yds further on, minefield was investigated and found to be as previously reported. Patrol returned.
3	"C" Coy	2230	0300	1 off 2 ORs	Out R13. to 40144244. Thence to 40144243. to 40154246. to 40124244. In R11.	Patrol went out to investigate gap as reported in minefield. Patrol moved to 40144244 without locating minefield. Leader left Patrol and moved forward a further 100 yds. seeing Sangars on the Escarpment. An M.G. opened up on a bearing of 101 deg. and a man was heard to cough due EAST. Patrol moved to 40154246 and then to 40124244. No minefield or signs were encountered. Patrol returned.
4	"A" Coy	2200	0305	1 off 40Rs	Left Post R19 to 40334245. In R21.	Patrol moved out on bearing of 231 deg. 213 deg for 1500 yds. going to ground for 10 minutes and hearing no movement. At 1700 yds., a tracer went up from the right flank, and at 1820 yds, a series of flares followed by M.G fire came from the left flank and slightly behind to Patrol. Patrol was pinned to ground for approx. 45 minutes, while flares and intermittent M.G. fire was maintained. Patrol withdrew at 0155 hours. <u>NOTES:-</u> A considerable amount of dead ground exists around 40344244, and, in Patrol leader's opinion, would conceal M.T. Coy Commander, who was observing from forward post, considers that the volume of M.G. fire was considerable.

PATROL REPORT.

23 AUG,

SECRET.

To 20 AUST INF. BDE.

for 24 hrs. ended _____ hrs.

41
2717 AUST INF. BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"D" Coy	2230	0400	1 Off 40Rs	Out R29(a) 245 deg. to 4034 4220. In R29 65 deg.	Patrol at 1630 yds out passed track (100 deg), 1st line Sangars at 2030 and 2nd line 2200 yds. These were thoroughly examined and found to be fairly freshly dug and unoccupied. Three shallow pits were passed at 2415 and one was 10 ft across and may have been A/Tk. emplacements. Minefield was found at 2535 yds. which ran at a bearing of 330 deg. and comprised of (a) broad furrow. (b) row of "S" mines, (c) three rows TELLER, (d) furrow and trip wire; whole width of the field 14 yds. On return journey Sangars previously passed were searched for 500 yards to the SOUTH. No signs of occupation or Booby Traps found. During the Patrol fixed lines were observed firing from 40394226.
2	"B" Coy	2130	0245	1 NCO 70RS	Out R33 Bear. 225 deg. In R33 R33.	At 1000 yds. enemy arty flashes were seen at 290 deg. At 1500 yds. wired firebay passed. A.A. Pits reached at 40484199 and found to be unoccupied. 300 yds further on, minefield was investigated and found to be as previously reported. Patrol returned.
3	"C" Coy	2230	0300	1 Off 2 ORs	Out R13. to 40144244. Thence to 40144243. to 40154246. to 40124244. In R11.	Patrol went out to investigate gap as reported in minefield. Patrol moved to 40144244 without locating minefield. Leader left Patrol and moved forward a further 100 yds. seeing Sangars on the Escarpment. An M.G. opened up on a bearing of 101 deg. and a man was heard to cough due EAST. Patrol moved to 40154246 and then to 40124244. No minefield or signs were encountered. Patrol returned.
4	"A" Coy	2200	0305	1 Off 40Rs	Left Post R19 to 40334245. In R21.	Patrol moved out on bearing of 231 deg. 213 deg for 1500 yds. going to ground for 10 minutes and hearing no movement. At 1700 yds., a tracer went up from the right flank, and at 1820 yds, a series of flares followed by M.G fire came from the left flank and slightly behind to Patrol. Patrol was pinned to ground for approx. 45 minutes, while flares and intermittent M.G. fire was maintained. Patrol withdrew at 0155 hours. NOTES:- A considerable amount of dead ground exists around 40344244, and, in Patrol leader's opinion, would conceal M.F. Coy Commander, who was observing from forward post, considers that the volume of M.G. fire was considerable.

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PROPOSED PATROLS 23/24 AUG, 41.

Coy.	Strength.	Times		Route and Remarks.
		IK Out	WXX In.	
A BREN.	10ff.3ORs.	R17 0100	R17 --	Feeler Party to investigate area 40334244. NO penetration of minefield. In event of feeler party being pinned down NO forward movement. Feeler Party will withdraw as soon as covering party goes in, and withdrawal is possible. Covering party to assault and capture prisoners inflicting maximum casualties. Coy Commanders will consider use of double connecting file from covering force. 1 NCO being (with first file.
B DRIC	10ff 4 ORs	R39 2130	R35 --	Out R39 on bearing of 222 deg. Report on any enemy weapon Pits fixed passed. NO penetration beyond 40404200. In at R35. Protective Patrols to report on "Firebay" and weapon pit found last night.
C WYND.	10ff 4ORs	R15 2100	R13 0200	Out on bearing 207 deg. to locate and obtain bearing of minefield believed to exist at 40174244. Coy. Commanders will arrange a series of two white flares at 5 minute intervals to be fired as under commencing;- R25 -2330 hours. R12 -2345 hours. Time from Bn. Sigs.
D KING	10ff 3ORs	R29(a) 0100	R29(a) --	Out on bearing 250 deg. to minefield. NO penetration to be made. This will be similar in type wixx to "A" Coy's Patrol.

Details of strength of covering and "Assault" party and it's conduct are left to the discretion of Company Commanders. Suggested size for patrol 12 men. (Also see attached sketch).

CSP Pitman Lieut.
(C. G. Pitman).
Adj. 2/17 Aust. Inf. Br

Distribution.
All Companies. 1-5.
Comd Post. 6
HOPA. 7
TRIP. 8
EMBA. 9
FILE. 10

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 24 - AUG. 41.

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	A Coy	0040	0410	10 off 16 ORs	Out R17 to 40324244 in R17.	This patrol was sent out to attack any M.G. post in it's area and north of the minefield, to inflict casualties and to bring back prisoners. Patrol moved to 40324244 during which time it was subjected to intermittent fire. At this point, it was opened on by (1) A fast firing M.G. of a type not previously heard from approx 500 yds to the right front. (2) Another M.G. from the left front. The M.G. first referred to was firing into the covering party, and Cpl. Oakley was hit in the right forearm. The covering party withdrew to 40314246, and Cpl. Oakley was sent back to our lines with one man. Patrol leader heard movement to the right and investigated for 150 yds, but could locate none. He then consolidated the patrol into one party. No muzzle flashes were seen at any time and it was now too late for further movement, so the Patrol withdrew.
2	B Coy	2130	0200	1 Sgt 40Rs	Out R33 to 40434212 thence to minefield. In R.35	Unoccupied pits were found at 40544215. Old weapon pit was discovered at 40434212 NORTH of the minefield, and on the SOUTH side of the minefield, a dark object was seen on skyline. Tepephone line at 40484214 was found to be cut. At 40504214, a large Sandbagged Firing Bay with two pits nearby was found. The sandbags were new. Old diggings were found at 40574218 containing blankets and mackintosh, all very old.
3	"C"	2150	0345	1 Sgt 2 ORs	Out from Post R15 to 40154240. In through R13.	This Patrol was sent out to locate minefield and report on the area. At 40184247, a stench was encountered, but patrol did not investigate. At 40174245 bearings were taken on flares as arranged and position of Patrol found to be correct as plotted. Patrol then moved on to 40154240, but did not contact minefield. Numerous fresh shellholes were observed at 3200 yds. and the ruins of an old native settlement were passed. Patrol was unobserved and the area very quiet.
4	"D"	0100	0345	1000 1W.0 1 Sgt 12 ORs.	Out between R29 and R29(a) to 40394224. In Post R29.	This Patrol was sent out to locate and engage any M.Gs on it's route. Patrol moved to a point 1800 yds out on a bearing of 250 deg, when the beating of a can was heard approx 500 yds. in front. The Road was reached at 2000 yds and beating was again heard this time well to the right of patrol. As no enemy sangers were encountered, the Patrol leader considered that he was too far to the right, he turned to the left and followed the road 500

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 24 AUG. 41.

To 20 AUST INF. BDE.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
4	"D"Coy	0100	0345	1W.O. 1Sgt 12 ORs.	(Cont'd).	yds., hoping to strike the right edge of the Sangers. This was not the case and Patrol returned. The beating noise heard was taken by the Patrol leader to be a decoy, and was therefore, not followed. <u>NOTE.</u> Subsequent plotting of this patrol indicates that the Patrol passed to the SE of the Sangers reported night 20/21/22
	"C"Coy	Daylight	Patrol.	Established at <u>40154244</u>		Before first light a voice was heard, well out, to call out in German and a man was seen to walk between sangars near pt.174 with a distinct stoop as if expecting fire. NMS until between 1314 hours and 1443 hrs during which period, our Mortars and Arty were seen to register on diggings on area Pt.174. and at top of hill. At 1840 hours an Enemy Gun was heard firing from approx. 170 degrees 2000 yds away. Otherwise NMS.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 24 AUG, 41.

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17
2/17 AUST INF BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	A Coy	0040	0410	10 off 16 ORs	Out R17 to 40324244 En. R17.	This patrol was sent out to attack any M.G. post in it's area and NORTH of the minefield, to inflict casualties and to bring back prisoners. Patrol moved to 40324244 during which time it was subjected to intermittent fire. At this point, it was opened on by (1) A fast firing M.G. of a type not previously heard from approx 500 yds to the right front. (2) Another M.G. from the left front. The M.G. first referred to was firing into the covering party, and Cpl. Oakley was hit in the right forearm. The covering party withdrew to 40314246, and Cpl. Oakley was sent back to our lines with one man. Patrol leader heard movement to the right and investigated for 150 yds, but could locate none. He then consolidated the patrol into one party. No muzzle flashes were seen at any time and it was now too late for further movement, so the Patrol withdrew.
2	B Coy	2130	0200	1 Sgt 4 ORs	Out R33 to 40434212 thence to minefield. In R.35	Unoccupied pits were found at 40544215. Old weapon pit was discovered at 40434212 NORTH of the minefield, and on the SOUTH side of the minefield, a dark object was seen on skyline. Telephone line at 40484214 was found to be cut. At 40504214, a large Sandbagged Firing Bay with two pits nearby was found. The sandbags were new. Old diggings were found at 40574218 containing blankets and mackintosh, all very old.
3	"C"	2150	0345	1 Sgt 2 ORs	Out from Post R15 to 40154240. In through R13.	This Patrol was sent out to locate minefield and report on the area. At 40184247, a stench was encountered, but patrol did not investigate. At 40174245 bearings were taken on flares as arranged and position of Patrol found to be correct as plotted. Patrol then moved on to 40154240, but did not contact minefield. Numerous fresh shellholes were observed at 3200 yds. and the ruins of an old native settlement were passed. Patrol was unobserved and the area very quiet.
4	"D"	0100	0345	10 off 1 W.O 1 Sgt 12 ORs.	Out between R29 and R29(a) to 40394224. In Post R29.	This Patrol was sent out to locate and engage any M.Gs on it's route. Patrol moved to a point 1800 yds out on a bearing of 250 deg, when the beating of a can was heard approx 500 yds. in front. The Road was reached at 2000 yds and beating was again heard this time well to the right of patrol. As no enemy sangers were encountered, the Patrol leader considered that he was too far to the right, he turned to the left and followed the road 500

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 24 AUG. 41.

To 20 AUST INF. BDE.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
4	"D" Coy	0100	0345	1W.O. 1Sgt 12 ORs.	(Cont'd).	<p>yds., hoping to strike the right edge of the Sangars. This was not the case and Patrol returned. The beating noise heard was taken by the Patrol leader to be a decoy, and was therefore, not followed.</p> <p><u>NOTE.</u> Subsequent plotting of this patrol indicates that the Patrol passed to the SE of the Sangars reported night 20/21/22</p>
	"C" Coy	Daylight	Patrol.	Established at <u>40154244</u>		<p>Before first light a voice was heard, well out, to call out in German and a man was seen to walk between sangars near pt.174 with a distinct stoop as if expecting fire. NMS until between 1314 hours and 1443 hrs during which period, our Mortars and Arty were seen to register on diggings on area Pt.174. and at top of hill. At 1840 hours an Enemy Gun was heard firing from approx. 170 degrees 2000 yds away. Otherwise NMS.</p>

Coy.	Strength.	Times.		Route and remarks.
		Out	In.	
NRBN N ^o 1 A		2300		Out R17 on bearing 193 deg. to 40284243. - Fighting Patrol as carried out night 23/24. See Note to all Coys at end of sheet.
DRIC. N ^o 2 B	10ff 4 ORs.	2200		Out R35(a) to 40554193. Thence bear to sangars 40594210. Thence in Post 35(a). Object- General recce. See Note to all Coys at foot of sheet.
WIND. N ^o 3 C	10FF 4ORS.	2130		Out R13 on bearing 180 deg. to 40224244. I. O. and 1 OR will move with the party to 40224283 and will then follow route of Patrol of night 23/24. Object of both patrols recce. with particular attention to ground markings. See note to all Coys at foot of sheet.
KING. N ^o 4 D	10ff 4ORS.	2130		Out R23 to feet of escarpment 40404237. In R23(a) - Object Recce
KING. N ^o 5 D	10ff. 2ORS.	2130		Out R29(a) to white mark and Sangars, to keep them under observation and make early report to Silver. See Note to all Coys below).
GRAN. N ^o 6 HQ Coy	10ff. 4ORS.	2230		Out R35(b) to 40754194. Object general recce. See note to all Coys below.

BW

NOTES TO ALL COYS.

ALL PATROLS MUST BE IN BEFORE 0530 HOURS.

Distribution.

- All Companies.
- Cond Post.
- RMBA.
- RAFO.
- HOPA.
- TRIP.
- FILE.

41194228

C. G. Pitman Lieut.
.....
(C. G. Pitman).
Adj. 2/17 Aust. Inf. B.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

To

20 AUST INF REGS.

for 24 hrs. ended

0600

hrs.

25

AUG,

41.

2/13

AUST INF REGS.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"A" Coy Sgt McLachlan.	2200	0200	1Sgt 50Rs	Out R17 bearing 205 deg for 2350 yds. In R19.	This patrol went out to locate minefield - NO penetration beyond 2500 yds. The patrol moved out to 1800 yds where a large "V" was seen on the ground comprising of very fine sandy loam which is foreign to this locality. The "V" faces EAST to WEST with the apex to the WEST. Patrol moved on to 2200 yds. where patches of broken ground indicated possibility of minefield, but, on investigation, no mines were found. Patrol leader moved on 200 paces where enemy fire and large number of flares made further progress impossible. Patrol withdrew.
2	"B" Coy Sgt. West.	2130		1Sgt 40Rs	Out R31 to 40434200. In R33.	At 40534212, old diggings were passed. Minefield was reached without further incident. While inspecting field, a sound like a cymbal was heard followed by low whistle 150 yds. Patrol moved through the field where another whistle and voices were heard. Patrol went to ground, listened for some time and then withdrew. Minefield was found to be as previously reported.
3	"C" Coy Lieut Reid.	2130	0330	10ff 20Rs	Out R13 in R13.	Patrol went out to try and locate gap in minefield. Patrol moved out on bearing 196 deg for 1500 yds., turned on bearing 209 degrees for further 1200 yds. where some white spots dabbed on recently with whitening or waterpaint. At first Patrol leader assumed that it was markings for a minefield. The largest marks were in the shape of an arrow 2 inches across. Smaller ones half inch dots. Marks were followed EAST for 60 paces and lost in some fallow. At this point Patrol was subjected to heavy M.G. and Mortar fire from approx. 600 yds in front. A rifle fired from approx. 100 yds. Bearings taken on flares from R25 and R11 were respectively 93 and 347 deg. After further investigation of area at bottom of escarpment, Patrol returned.
4	"D" Coy Lieut Denning.	0100	0430	10ff 40Rs	Out R29(a) In R29(a).	Patrol moved out to 40444225 where 3 small white patches on the ground 3 ft apart running NORTH and SOUTH were found. Patches 3 inches in diameter and appeared to be quite fresh. At 40414225 Patrol went to ground for half an hour. As Patrol went to move, a white Verrey light from Sanger immediate front was sent up simultaneously with one from 600 yds to left and one from other positions to left and right - distance 1000 yds, time

Patrol remained for half an hour and then withdrew.

REMARKS:-

(a) Patrol leader considers this position to be three strong M.G. Posts or (b) Strong and positions.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 25 AUG. 41.

20
20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17 AUST INF BN

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"A" Coy Sgt McLachlan.	2200	0200	1Sgt 50Rs	Out R17 bearing 205 deg for 2850 yds. In R19.	This patrol went out to locate minefield - NO penetration beyond 2500 yds. The patrol moved out to 1800 yds where a large "V" was seen on the ground comprising of very fine sandy loam which is foreign to this locality. The "V" faced EAST to WEST with the apex to the WEST. Patrol moved on to 2200 yds. where patches of broken ground indicated possibility of minefield, but, on investigation, no mines were found. Patrol leader moved on 200 paces where enemy fire and large number of flares made further progress impossible. Patrol withdrew.
2	"B" Coy Sgt. West.	2130		1Sgt 40Rs	Out R31 to 40434200. In R33.	At 40534212, old diggings were passed. Minefield was reached without further incident. While inspecting field, a sound like a cymbal was heard followed by low whistle 150 yds. Patrol moved through the field where another whistle and voices were heard. Patrol went to ground, listened for some time and then withdrew. Minefield was found to be as previously reported.
3	"C" Coy Lieut. Reid.	2130	0330	10ff 20Rs	Out R13 in R13.	Patrol went out to try and locate gap in minefield. Patrol moved out on bearing 196 deg for 1550 yds., turned on bearing 209 degrees for further 1200 yds., where some white spots dabbed on recently with whitening or waterpaint. At first Patrol leader assumed that it was markings for a minefield. The largest marks were in the shape of an arrow 2 inches across. Smaller ones half inch dots. Marks were followed EAST for 60 paces and lost in some fallow. At this point Patrol was subjected to heavy M.G. and Mortar fire from approx. 600 yds in front. A rifle fired from approx. 100 yds. Bearings taken on flares from R25 and R11 were respectively 93 and 347 deg. After further investigation of area at bottom of escarpment, Patrol returned.
4	"D" Coy Lieut. Denning.	2200 0100	0430	10ff 40Rs	Out R29(a) In R29(a).	Patrol moved out to 40444225 40444225 where 3 small white patches on the ground 3 ft apart running NORTH and SOUTH were found. Patches 3 inches in diameter and appeared to be quite fresh. At 40414225 Patrol went to ground for half an hour. As Patrol went to move, a white Verrey light from Sanger immediate front was sent up simultaneously with one from 600 yds to left and from other positions to left and right - distance 1000 yds, time

Patrol remained for half an hour and then withdrew. *NMS*
REMARKS:
 (a) Patrol leader considers this position to be three strong M.G. Posts or (b) Strong fwd positions.

2/17

0300

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 25 AUG, 41. 2/17

AUST INF BN

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"A" Coy Sgt McLachlan.	2200	0200	1Sgt 50Rs	Out R17 bearing 205 deg for 2850 yds. In R19.	This patrol went out to locate minefield - NO penetration beyond 2500 yds. The patrol moved out to 1800 yds where a large "V" was seen on the ground comprising of very fine sandy loam which is foreign to this locality. The "V" faces EAST to WEST with the apex to the WEST. Patrol moved on to 2200 yds. where patches of broken ground indicated possibility of minefield, but, on investigation, no mines were found. Patrol leader moved on 200 paces where enemy fire and large number of flares made further progress impossible. Patrol withdrew.
2	"B" Coy Sgt. West.	2130		1Sgt 40Rs	Out R31 to 40434200. In R33.	At 40534212, old diggings were passed. Minefield was reached without further incident. While inspecting field, a sound like a cymbal was heard followed by low whistle 150 yds. Patrol moved through the field where another whistle and voices were heard. Patrol went to ground, listened for some time and then withdrew. Minefield was found to be as previously reported.
3	"C" Coy Lieut Reid.	2130	0330	10ff 20Rs	Out R13 in R13.	Patrol went out to try and locate gap in minefield. Patrol moved out on bearing 196 deg for 1550 yds., turned on bearing 209 degrees for further 1200 yds., where some white spots dabbed on recently with whitening or waterpaint. At first Patrol leader assumed that it was markings for a minefield. The largest marks were in the shape of an arrow 2 inches across. Smaller ones half inch dots. Marks were followed EAST for 60 paces and lost in some fallow. At this point Patrol was subjected to heavy M.G. and Mortar fire from approx. 600 yds in front. A rifle fired from approx. 100 yds. Bearings taken on flares from R25 and R11 were respectively 93 and 347 deg. After further investigation of area at bottom of escarpment, Patrol returned.
4	"D" Coy Lieut Denning.	0100	0430	10ff 40Rs	Out R29(a) In R29(a).	Patrol moved out to 40444222 40444225 where 3 small white patches on the ground 3 ft apart running NORTH and SOUTH were found. Patches 3 inches in diameter and appeared to be quite fresh. At 40414225 Patrol went to ground for half an hour. As Patrol went to move, a white Verrey light from Sanger immediate front was sent up simultaneously with one from 600 yds to left and from other positions to left and right - distance 1000 yds, time

4026 4246
40454248

Patrol remained for half an hour and then withdrew.
REMARKS:-
(a) Patrol leader considers this position to be three strong M.G. Posts or (b) strong fwd positions.

0300

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 26 AUG. 41.

2/17

To

20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"A" Coy Lieut. W. J. Cartledge.	2300	0245	10 off 19 ORs.	Out R17 to 40284241. In Post R21.	Patrol moved to 1900 paces, Main body and feeler party keeping in contact. Main body went to ground at 40294247, and Feeler party then moved forward to the minefield at 40284242. At XXXXXXXX this pt one M.G. opened up slightly to the right about 300 yds behind the minefield. The Feeler party then returned to the main party. Here they were pinned down for some time. As they had been ordered not to pass minefield, Patrol withdrew.
2	"B" Coy W.O.11. Halloway, R A.	2200	XXXX 0330	10 off 40Rs	Out R35 to 40554195. Thence to 40604214. In R35.	NMS on first leg. On second leg, at 40574204, Two boxes of shells were found. Simultaneously three men were noticed approaching from a flank and Patrol went to ground. One of the observed party went to ground. The other two continued parallel to our line of march in the direction of the minefield. 12 to 15 men followed these. Our Patrol took up a position of observation and seven more men were observed. As our patrol was in an unfavourable position to engage the enemy, it was decided to withdraw. Patrol leader believes slit trenches may be workings for a Field Gun position and that enemy party were probably posting outposts. The slit trenches are similar in design to those previously found in this area.
3	"C" Coy Lieut. G. T. Reid.	2145 XXXX	0330	2 Off 20Rs	Out R13 to 40104245. In R13.	Patrol moved to O.P. at 40154254 and thence to 40114246. Here white spots similar to those previously described night 24/25 but only four in number, were found and patrol was fired on by a sentry at 40094244 about three hundred yards from the patrol. The two Officers then moved forward a further 100 yds. to a position where the white spots reported night 24/25 could be kept under observation, but there was no working party in the area. After observing for some time the patrol withdrew.
4	"D" Coy Lieut. Norris.	2130	0430	10 off 20Rs	Out R29(a) to 40414227.	To investigate line patches and sangers reported 24/25. Out on bearing of 255 deg. past burnt out truck at 327 yds. and picked up white line patches at 40444228. Three small 3" patches form crescent moon. Various smaller patches few in number and apparently not linked together were seen.

P A T R O L R E P O R T.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 26 AUG, 41.

2/17

2

20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
4	"D" Coy	(continued).				Unable to deduct reason for these patches. A sample of lime was taken, but it crumbled away, and only earth remained. Numerous old carrier tracks in the area. Patrol moved to 40414227 where patrol leader went forward 100 yds to investigate. He heard low voices, then moved several hundred yds. to the left where hammering on wood lasting only a few minutes was heard. Patrol leader rejoined patrol. Whole patrol moved forward 100 yds where approx. 10 men in single file began to move 70 yds across our front. A Parachute flare was sent up a little to our left and deeper than the two positions on our front. The men did not go to ground, but moved straight in the direction of the flare. A Flare and six green Verey lights went up approx. 60 degrees- impossible to estimate distance - immediately followed by L.M.G. fire from Fig Tree on fixed lines 15yds in front of us. Vereys (white) were sent up on our right and left. Patrol withdrew 300 yds. Irregular and infrequent L.M.G. occurred throughout the Patrol. Patrol returned.
5	"D" Coy	Listening Post.		1200 Yds	WEST of Wire.	At 2400 hours, enemy patrol of six men came around us from SW headed NORTH then WEST. All of Patrol were dressed in Greatcoats, peaked caps and soft soled shoes. They moved very quickly about three yds apart and did not go to ground. Each man carried T.S.M.G.
		Cpl. MacDonald.				
5x 6	"D" Coy	2100	0100	1 NCO 7 ORS.	Out R29 to 40534223. Thence 40424237. In R23.	Throughout whole patrol NMS.
		Sgt Smith.				
7.	HQ COY	2300	0130	10 off 40Rs	Out R35 to 40784193. In R35.	The Patrol was completely without incident.
		Lieut. Rudkin.				

PATROL REPORT.

26 AUG,

SECRET.

2/17

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

for 24 hrs. ended _____ hrs.

41.

2717 AUST INF BN.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"A" Coy Lieut. W. J. Cartledge.	2300	0245	1 off 19 ORs.	Out R17 to 40284241. In Post R21.	Patrol moved to 1900 paces. Main body and feeler party keeping in contact. Main body went to ground at 40294247, and Feeler party then moved forward to the minefield at 40284242. At XXXXXXXXX this pt one M.G. opened up slightly to the right about 300 yds behind the minefield. The Feeler party then returned to the main party. Here they were pinned down for some time. As they had been ordered not to pass minefield, Patrol withdrew.
2	"B" Coy W.O.11. Halloway, R. A.	2200	0330 XXXX	1 off 40Rs.	Out R35 to 40554195. Thence to 40604214. In R35.	NMS on first leg. On second leg, at 40574204, Two boxes of shells were found. Simultaneously three men were noticed approaching from a flank and Patrol went to ground. One of the observed party went to ground. The other two continued parallel to our line of march in the direction of the minefield. 12 to 15 men followed these. Our Patrol took up a position of observation and seven more men were observed. As our patrol was in an unfavourable position to engage the enemy, it was decided to withdraw. Patrol leader believes slit trenches may be workings for a Field Gun position and that enemy party were probably posting outposts. The slit trenches are similar in design to those previously found in this area.
3	"C" Coy Lieut. G. T. Reid.	2145 XXXX	0330	2 off 20Rs	Out R13 to 40104245. In R13.	Patrol moved to O.P. at 40154254 and thence to 40114246. Here white spots similar to those previously described night 24/25 but only four in number, were found and patrol was fired on by a sentry at 40094244 about three hundred yards from the patrol. The two Officers then moved forward a further 100 yds. to a position where the white spots reported night 24/25 could be kept under observation, but there was no working party in the area. After observing for some time the patrol withdrew.
4	"D" Coy Lieut. Norris.	2130	0430	1 off 20Rs	Out R29(a) to 40414227.	To investigate lime patches and sangers reported 24/25. Out on bearing of 255 deg. past burnt out truck at 327 yds. and picked up white lime patches at 40444228. Three small 3" patches form crescent moon. Various smaller patches few in number and apparently not linked together were seen.

PATROL REPORT.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

SECRET.

217

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 27 AUG. 41.

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"B" Coy Sgt. Ikin.	2200	0355	10FF 10 ORs	Out R31 to 40484198. In R31.	Out on a bearing of 207 degrees for 2000 yds where sangers and gun positions were examined. NMS. Saw foottracks which appeared to be fresh in this vicinity. Patrol continued to A.A. Pit at 40484198. Visibility owing to ground fog reduced to zero. Patrol remained in this position for some considerable time. Patrol withdrew.
2	"D" Coy. Sgt. Hambling.	2200	0330	10FF 10 ORs	Out R29(a) on bearing of 250 deg to approx. 1900 yds In R29(a).	1400 yds out, Patrol stopped and listened and thereafter, continued in one hundred yd stages listening about 15 minutes at each halt. At 1900 yds the dirt road was reached. The patrol continued along the road for 100 yds then turned SOUTH for 100 yds, then returned to the road. At 0100 hrs. a ground mist arose and gave very bad visibility which was, by this time reduced to nil. The patrol leader decided not to patrol further and, prior to returning fired two bursts from a T.S.M.G. in a SOUTHERLY direction. After an interval of three or four minutes, fire was returned by the enemy from approx. 6 Sub machine guns and two Bredas. All shots were in the direction of the patrol, and one O.R was wounded through both feet. Hampered by the wounded man, the Patrol was unable to manoeuvre and withdrew. Two white patches 3" in diameter and four feet apart were found on the road.
<p><u>NOTE.</u> While at 40444285, "D" Coy protective Patrol report a Morse light signalling within the perimetre on a bearing of approx. 19 deg EAST of NORTH. Time 2300 hrs.</p>						
3	"C" Coy Sgt. Hannaford.	2200	0430	1Sgt 4ORs	Out to 4008 4248. In R11.	Patrol left R13 on bearing 192 deg. for 2600 yds. No movement or unusual sounds were heard and the area was very quiet. Although patrol was caught twice by flares from it's right rear, it was, apparently unobserved. At 2,500 yds, a dog was observed by the draman. There was no indication of a minefield nor of a minefield having been lifted.
4	"A" Coy Sgt. Dick.	2200	0430	1Sgt 10ORs	Out R10 to 40424241. In R17. WSWNWNW8	Patrol moved out to 40424243 where it investigated 3 white spots in line about one yd apart bearing 225 deg. At 40424241, Patrol went to ground and adopted a fighting position, where it remained for one hour when patrol leader moved forward 200 yds and listened. NMS. Patrol then returned making a sweep across the front and stopping every two hundred yds. The enemy lines were particularly quiet.

(19)

[Handwritten signature]

PATROL REPORT.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 27 AUG, 41.

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"B" Coy. Sgt. Ikin.	2200	0355	10ff 10 ORs.	Out R31 to 40484198. In R31.	Out on a bearing of 207 degrees for 2000 yds where sangers and gun positions were examined. NMS. Saw foottracks which appeared to be fresh in this vicinity. Patrol continued to A.A. Pit at 40484198. Visibility owing to ground fog reduced to zero. Patrol remained in this position for some considerable time. Patrol withdrew.
2	"D" Coy. Sgt. Hambling.	2200	0330	Sgt. 10ff 10 ORs	Out R29(a) on bearing of 250 deg to approx. 1900 yds in R29(a).	1400 yds out, Patrol stopped and listened and thereafter, continued in one hundred yd stages listening about 15 minutes at each halt. At 1900 yds the dirt road was reached. The patrol continued along the road for 100 yds then turned SOUTH for 100 yds, then returned to the road. At 0100 hrs. a ground mist arose and gave very bad visibility which was, by this time reduced to nil. The patrol leader decided not to patrol further and, prior to returning fired two bursts from a T.S.M.G. in a SOUTHERLY direction. After an interval of three or four minutes, fire was returned by the enemy from approx. 6 Sub machine guns and two Bredas. All shots were in the direction of the patrol, and one O.R. was wounded through both feet. Hampered by the wounded man, the Patrol was unable to manoeuvre and withdrew. Two white patches 3" in diameter and four feet apart were found on the road.
<p><u>NOTE.</u> While at 40444235, "D" Coy protective Patrol report a Morse light signalling within the perimeter on a bearing of approx. 19 deg EAST of NORTH. Time 2300 hrs.</p>						
3	"C" Coy Sgt. Hannaford.	2200	0430	1Sgt 40Rs	Out to 4008 4248. In R11.	Patrol left R13 on bearing 192 deg. for 2600 yds. No movement or unusual sounds were heard and the area was very quiet. Although patrol was caught twice by flares from it's right rear, it was, apparently unobserved. At 2,500 yds, a dog was observed by the dragman. There was no indication of a minefield nor of a minefield having been lifted.
4	"A" Coy Sgt. Dick.	2200	0430	1Sgt 10ORs	Out R10 to 40424241. In R17.	Patrol moved out to 40424243 where it investigated 3 white spots in line about one yd apart bearing 225 deg. At 40424241, Patrol went to ground and adopted a fighting position, where it remained for one hour when patrol leader moved forward 200 yds and listened. NMS. Patrol then returned making a sweep across the front and stopping every two hundred yds. The enemy lines were particularly quiet.

TOBO AUST INF BN.

SECRET.
COPY NO.....

PROPOSED PATROLS.

27/28 AUG. 41.

COY	STRENGTH.	TIMES		ROUTE AND REMARKS.
		In	OUT	
WYND. <i>2</i>	1 10	2200	0400	Out R13 on 180 deg. bearing for 2300 yds to lie in wait for possible enemy patrols which they will engage if the opportunity arises. In R15.
<u>See Footnote.</u>				
BREN. <i>A</i>	1 4	2200	0400	Out R19 on 178 deg bearing for 2200 2850 yds. While on this leg, Patrol will endeavour to locate white patches. Thence on bearing of 270 degrees to endeavour to locate enemy positions in square 403423. In through R19. It is suggested that Patrol sweeps back eastwards on return journey to avoid fire from Bir El Carnusa.
<u>See Footnote.</u>				
KING. <i>0</i>	1 10 X	2200	0400	Out R29 220 deg for 2000 yds. to lie in wait for possible enemy patrols which they will engage if the opportunity arises. In R29.
<u>See Footnote.</u>				
DRIC. <i>B</i>	1 10	2200	0400	Out R35 on bearing 194 deg for 3000 yds thence for 700 yds on bearing 90 deg. To lie in wait for possible enemy patrols which they will engage if the opportunity arises. Return on bearing of 180 deg. to R.35.
<u>See Footnote.</u>				
GRAN. <i>HR</i>	1 10	2130	0430	Out R29(a) on bearing 235 deg. for 2000 yds. Thence for a further distance of 900 yds on 312 deg. bearing. In through R29.
<u>See Footnote.</u>				

NOTE TO ALL COYS.

As patrols will be crossing into flanking Coy. Fronts, liason between coys regarding Protective Patrols MUST be made.

C. G. Pitman.....Lieut.
(C. G. Pitman).
Adj. TOBO INF BN.

Distribution:-

RAFO. Copy. 1.
All Coys. 2-6
EMBA 7
HOPA. 8
TRIP. 9
COMD POST. 10.
FILE. 11.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

To 29 AUGST INF BD. for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 26 AUG, 41.

2/17

2/17 AUGST INF BD.

Report.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
4	"D" Coy	(continued).				Unable to deduct reason for these patches. A sample of lime was taken, but it crumbled away, and only earth remained. Numerous old carrier tracks in the area. Patrol moved to 40414227 where patrol leader went forward 100 yds to investigate. He heard low voices, then moved several hundred yds. to the left where hammering on wood lasting only a few minutes was heard. Patrol leader rejoined patrol. Whole patrol moved forward 100 yds where approx. 10 men in single file began to move 70 yds across our front. A Parachute flare was sent up a little to our left and deeper than the two positions on our front. The men did not go to ground, but moved straight in the direction of the flare. A Flare and six green Verey lights went up approx. 60 degrees- impossible to estimate distance - immediately followed by L.M.G. fire from Fig Tree on fixed lines 15yds in front of us. Verceys (white) were sent up on our right and left. Patrol withdrew 300 yds. Irregular and infrequent L.M.G. occurred throughout the Patrol. Patrol returned.
5	"D" Coy	Listening Post.			1200 Yds WEST of wire.	At 2400 hours, enemy patrol of six men came around us from SW headed NORTH then WEST. All of Patrol were dressed in Greatcoats, peaked caps and soft soled shoes. They moved very quickly about three yds apart and did not go to ground. Each man carried T.S.M.G.
6	"D" Coy	2100	0100	1 NCO 7 ORS.	Out R29 to 40534223. Thence 40424237. In R23.	Throughout whole patrol NMS.
7.	HQ COY	2300	0130	1 off 4 ORS	Out R35 to 40784193 . In R35.	The Patrol was completely without incident.

PATROL REPORT.

for 24 hrs. ended _____ hrs. _____ 41.

To

0600

28 AUG,

2/17

20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17 AUST INF BN.
Report.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	
1.	"C" COY 0442 W.O.1. BARNETT.		2048	1Sgt 1OR	OP at 4019 4259	Very little enemy movement throughout the day. M.T. movement on the escarpment heard up to 0712 hrs. At 0805 hrs and 0930 hrs. bearings of 195 and 205 deg. were taken on a gun firing. At 1315 hrs observed heavy heavy Breda fire apparently getting direct hits on enemy mortar positions and sangers. NMS. At 1750 hrs enemy gun shelling from bearing 213 deg. At 1800 hrs. 2 or 3 men keep bobbing up and down as if making observations from dugouts on escarpment 186 degrees from O.P. Two white dogs were seen at 1905 hrs and, later, four more, all in area 220 deg. from O.P. and not far from enemy positions at pt KIK 166. One dog remained there even during our Arty ranging shots at 1950 hrs and, it would appear, that well camouflaged dugouts must exist at this spot. The enemy positions on escarpment do not appear to extend below Pt 166.
2.	"B" COY 1600 Capt. Mackle.			2 parties each 5 in number.		At 1530 hrs. enemy working party observed at approx 40424221. A fighting patrol hastily organised with covering party was sent out from Post 31 and 33 at 1600 hrs. Patrol moved to 40464218 before being observed. The enemy, at once commenced to withdraw and were engaged by one party only which expended all it's ammunition (8 magazines). The covering party was defiladed from the enemy and could not engage. Patrol withdrew, being fired upon by enemy MMG during it's withdrawal. While Patrol was out, a carrier patrol had moved to Coy area, but, unfortunately, they came under view while it's officer was receiving his orders and was engaged and bracketed within our own wire, As all surprise effect was lost patrol returned.

PATROL REPORT.

28 AUG,

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended _____ hrs. _____ 41.

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
3	"A" COY 2200 Lieut. K. M. Sabine.	2200	0420	10ff 40NS.	Out R19 to 40434232. Thence 40364232. In R19.	Patrol proceeded on bearing 178 deg. Unused road crossed at 2275 yds. At 2850 yds, L.M.G. was observed firing from approx. 90 degrees. Patrol crossed a track at 40404232 running in direction of re-entrant on escarpment. Nine single shots were fired from 350 deg which sounded like Tank guns. Spasmodic M.G. fire from pt.174. No mines were found. Otherwise NMS.
4	"C" Coy 2200 Lieut. J. K. Thompson.	2200	0345	10ff 100NS	Out R13 to 40224246. In R15.	Patrol took up fire position and waited until 0245h hrs. Three rifle shots and one M.G. burst were fired in our direction. Otherwise NMS.
5	"B" COY 2200 L/Sgt. West.	2200	0330	10ff 10 OR	Out R35 to 40724190. Thence 40784190. In R35.	While on second leg, three white flares were seen at intervals bearing 190 degrees 1200 yds. At 40784190 searchlight was seen bearing 75 degrees and shining between Patrol and our own lines. NMS of enemy or diggins throughout the patrol. Patrol returned.
6	"D" COY 2200 Sgt. J. Smith.	2200	0400	1NCO 10 OR	Out to 40484215. Out and In R29.	At 40524220, patrol found the tracks of a large tank in running parallel to road. Between the tracks of the tank, at about every five yds. a white dot was found about three inches in diameter. The road was crossed 150 yds further on. Proceeding further, patrol leader found a circle of white dots eight ft in diameter, and a freshly dug position in the centre. At 1800 yds. the main line of sangers was encountered. Patrol then moved to a position 200 yds through the sangers (40484215) and patrol leader and two other ORs investigated the sangers 500 yds on either side of patrol, from 40454218 to 40514215. The following observations were made. (1) A number of new sangers had been dug within the last 24 hours mainly in the front row. (2) Wherever a new sanger had been dug, it's layout had been marked with white dots. (3) One sanger that had been freshly dug had the following lettering beside it EA and under that MG. (4) Some of the Sangers were so large that they might have been meant for sleeping quarters.

PATROL REPORT

2/17 AUST INF BN.

SECRET

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 28 AUG, 41.

PAGE 3. *2/17*

To 20 AUST INF. BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	me t.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
6.	"D" COY			(continued)		<p>(5) Some large sangers were $\frac{4}{8}$ ft deep, and three sided with a runway facing SOUTH These were all in the third row. (6) These large sangers were all in the third row.</p> <p><u>NOTES.</u> These sangers are a continuation of the sangers in which an enemy working party was engaged during daylight 27. From time to time, a few fresh sangers had been noticed by patrols, but the sangers have never been reported occupied at night by either our own patrols, or by those of the 2/13 Bn., nor has any previous report of such extensive additions been made.</p>
7.	<u>"D" COY PROTECTIVE PATROL.</u>					<p>reports that at 40474239, two pieces of deal board forming a "V" pointing WEST were seen. At 40484224, white spots or splashes were seen on the ground irregular in shape. Another white mark was seen near tank ditch on return journey.</p>
8.	<u>"A" COY PROTECTIVE PATROL.</u>					<p>suffered one slight casualty caused by one of the patrol stepping on one of our own Beeby Traps.</p>

HOSTILE SHELLING REPORT.

SECRET.

To 20 AUST INF BDE. for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 28 AUG, 41.

Sheet No. 417

Unit Reporting.	Ser. No.	Location of reporting point.	Bearing of flash or sound (or of groove made by unexploded shell).	No. of secs from flash to report.	Area shelled.	Damage done.	No. of guns.	Calibre.	Time of shelling.		State of fire No. of shells	Date
									From	to.		
2/17 Bn. "A" COY.	1 2	R20	220 deg.	--	R17 R20A R20 and R21	Nil.	1	75mm.	1250 1845	1255 1938	2 10	27
"B" COY.	1 2 3	R28	192	--	R28 and R30	Nil.	-	75mm.	0800 1745 1945	1400	50 12 40	
"C" COY.	1	R14	188 and 270 deg.	--	1 direct hit bn R14 and Coy area (R14)	Nil.	1 and 3	105mm.	1340	1550	4	
"D" COY.	1	40634239.	193 deg.	--	R21, R23 R23, R25 and XXXXXXXX 40634239.	Nil.	-	75 and 105mm.	1800	2005	21	

INF. ARTY.

1100 Hrs. 51 rounds fired at party of men in immediate front - men went to ground.
 1230 " 2 rounds fired at Sangers in El Adem Sector.
 1945 " 14 rounds fired at party of men in immediate front.- result not known.
 2000 " 32 rounds fired at O.P in Fig Tree area. . One shell appeared to be a direct hit on the O.P, but full extent of the damage could not be ascertained.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

24 hrs. ended _____ hrs. _____ 41.

To

0600

28 AUG,

2/17

20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17 AUST INF BN.
Report.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	
1.	"C" COY 0442 W.O.11 BARNETT.		2048	1Sgt 1OR	OP at 4019 4259	Very little enemy movement throughout the day. M.T. movement on the escarpment heard up to 0712 hrs. & 0805 hrs and 0930 hrs. bearings of 195 and 205 deg. were taken on a gun firing. At 1315 hrs observed heavy heavy Breda fire apparently getting direct hits on enemy mortar positions and sangers. NMS. At 1750 hrs enemy gun shelling from bearing 213 deg. At 1800 hrs. 2 or 3 men keep bobbing up and down as if making observations from dugouts on escarpment 186 degrees from O.P. Two white dogs were seen at 1905 hrs and, later, four more, all in area 220 deg. from O.P. and not far from enemy positions at pt 166 166. One dog remained there even during our Arty ranging shots at 1950 hrs and, it would appear, that well camouflaged dugouts must exist at this spot. The enemy positions on escarpment do not appear to extend below Pt 166.
2.	"B" COY 1600 Capt. Mackle.			2 parties each 5 in. number.		At 1530 hrs. enemy working party observed at approx 40424221. A fighting patrol hastily organised with covering party was sent out from Post 31 and 33 at 1600 hrs. Patrol moved to 40464218 before being observed. The enemy, at once commenced to withdraw and were engaged by one party only, which expended all it's ammunition (8 magazines). The covering party was defiladed from the enemy and could not engage. Patrol withdrew, being fired upon by enemy MMG during it's withdrawal. While Patrol was out, a carrier patrol had moved to Coy area, but, unfortunately, they came under view while it's officer was receiving his orders and was engaged and bracketed within our own wire, As all surprise effect was lost patrol returned.

2.17 AUST INF BDE.

PATROL REPORT

28 AUG,

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended

hrs.

41.

To

20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and Area patrolled.	Report.
3	"A" COY Lieut. K. B. Sabine.	2200	0420	10 off 40Rs.	Out R19 to 40434232. Thence 40364232. In R19.	Patrol proceeded on bearing 178 deg. Unused road crossed at 2275 yds. At 2850 yds, L.M.G. was observed firing from approx. 90 degrees. Patrol crossed a track at 40404232 running in direction of re-entrant on escarpment. Nine single shots were fired from 350 deg which sounded like Tank guns. Spasmodic M.G. fire from pt.174. No mines were found. Otherwise NMS.
4	"C" Coy Lieut. J. K. Thompson.	2200	0345	10 off 100Rs	Out R13 to 40224248. In R15.	Patrol took up fire position and waited until 0245 hrs. Three rifle shots and one M.G. burst were fired in our direction. Otherwise NMS.
5	"B" COY L/Sgt. West.	2200	0330	10 off 10 OR	Out R35 to 40724190. Thence 40784190. In R35.	While on second leg, three white flares were seen at intervals bearing 190 degrees 1200 yds. At 40784190 searchlight was seen bearing 75 degrees and shining between Patrol and our own lines. NMS of enemy or digging throughout the patrol. Patrol returned.
6	"D" COY Sgt. J. Smith.	2200	0400	1 NCO 10 OR	Out to 4048 4215. Out and in R29.	At 40524220, patrol found the tracks of a large tank running parallel to road. Between the tracks of the tank, at about every five yds. a white dot was found about three inches in diameter. The road was crossed 150 yds further on. Preceding further, patrol leader found a circle of white dots eight ft in diameter, and a freshly dug position in the centre. At 1800 yds. the main line of sangers was encountered. Patrol then moved to a position 200 yds through the sangers (40484215) and patrol leader and two other ORs investigated the sangers 500 yds on either side of patrol, from 40454218 to 40514215. The following observations were made. (1) A number of new sangers had been dug within the last 24 hours mainly in the front row. (2) Wherever a new sanger had been dug, it's layout had been marked with white dots. (3) One sanger that had been freshly dug had the following lettering beside it EA and under that MG. (4) Some of the Sangers were so large that they might have been meant for sleeping quarters.

PATROL REPORT.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600

hrs. 28 AUG. 41.

PAGE 3.

2/17

To

20 AUST INF. BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
6.	"D" COY	(continued)				<p>(5) Some large sangers were $\frac{4}{3}$ ft deep, and three sided with a runway facing SOUTH These were all in the third row. (6) These large sangers were all in the third row.</p> <p><u>NOTES.</u> These sangers are a continuation of the sangers in which an enemy working party was engaged during daylight 27. From time to time, a few fresh sangers had been noticed by patrols, but the sangers have never been reported occupied at night by either our own patrols or by those of the 2/13 Bn., nor has any previous report of such extensive additions been made.</p>
7.	"D" COY PROTECTIVE PATROL.					<p>reports that at 40474239, two pieces of deal board forming a "V" pointing WEST were seen. At 40484224, white spots or splashes were seen on the ground irregular in shape. Another white mark was seen near tank ditch on return journey.</p>
8.	"A" COY PROTECTIVE PATROL.					<p>suffered one slight casualty caused by one of the patrol stepping on one of our own Baby Traps.</p>

[Handwritten scribble]

T O B O A U S T I N F B N.

PROPOSED PATROLS
NIGHT 28/29 AUG, 41.

SECRET.
COPY NO.....

COY.	STRENGTH.	TIME.		ROUTE AND REMARKS.
		OUT	IN	
WIND.	1. 4	2130	0330	Out R13 bearing 192 deg. In R15. To investigate enemy positions between pts. 166 and 171. Object - race only.
<u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>				
BREN.	1off 10	2200	0400	Out R19 bearing 214 degrees for 1400 yds. Turn 143 deg. for 1200 yds. In bearing 360 degrees to R19. Object - To lie in wait for enemy patrols, and if the opportunity arises to engage and inflict maximum casualties.
<u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>				
XING.	1off.120rs.1200	0430	0430	Out R29 bearing 238 degrees 2700 yds; turn on bearing 331 degrees. In by post R29. NOTE. Not to clear pt 40444220 before 0100 hours. Object to locate and engage any enemy patrol or post of suitable size outside the minefield in the area indicated.
<u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>				
DRIG.	1off 10.	2345	0430	Out R35(a) on bearing 205 degrees for 3800 yds. In R33. NOTE. Not to pass EAST WEST GRID 420 before 0030 hours. Object to locate and engage any enemy patrol or post of suitable size outside the minefield in the area indicated.
<u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>				

NOTE TO ALL COYS.

Company protective patrols MUST know full details of deep patrols and, where necessary, liason with flanking coys MUST be carried out.

Distribution.

RAFO.
ALL COYS.
EMBA.
HOPA.
TRIP.
COMD POST.
FILE.

C. G. Pitman, Lieut.
(C. G. Pitman).
Adj. T. B. AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT.SECRET.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 29 AUG. 41.

To

20 AUST INF BDE

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and Area patrolled.	Report.
3	"A" COY Lieut. Cartledge.	2200	0405	1 off 12 QRs.	Out R19 to 40344248. Thence 4042 4240. In R21.	Patrol spent a great deal of time listening whilst on 2nd leg and the only things heard throughout patrol were the baying of dogs over the escarpment and an M.G burst from pt. 174.
4	"C" COY Lieut G. Reid.	2130	0330	1 off 40Rs	Out R13 to 40184246 In R15	Patrol went out on bearing 192 deg. and at 40484253, saw white spots and markings, very fresh and similar to those reported previously. At 40184250, deep shell holes were seen, some of which had been used as weapon pits, but appear to be disused. At 40184246, single shots and occasional M.G bursts were fired from S.P. 171 and 166. Patrol returned. Patrol leader considers that more than two QRs make a recce patrol too noisy.
5	"HQ" Lieut. RUDKIN.	0600	0715	3 lice.	Out R35 to approx. 4050 4210. Thence : 40704190 . In R33.	NMS seen forward of minefield on first leg or where working party was engaged 1600 hrs. 27. At 40504210, groups of men at about 270 degrees were engaged with M.G fire. Here, the patrol was shelled, but inaccurately owing to our advantage of being in dead ground and having the dust haze caused by the carriers. From 40704190, enemy 1500 yds due SOUTH, were engaged by M.G fire which was observed to be most effective. the enemy immediately took cover and did not retaliate. Patrol returned.
6.						A protective patrol from "D" Coy while at approximately 40474237 at 0345 hours, heard the report of one round fired from the enemy's big gun which seemed to be about 1000 yds in a WESTERLY direction.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT.SECRET.for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 29 AUG 41.To 20 AUST INF BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"D" COY Lieut. R. GARNSEY. Lieut. NORRIS.	2400	0530	20 off ¹² X 4 ORs	Out and in R27.	<p>This patrol was sent out to attack sanger reported at 40404235. The senior NCO who brought the party in made the following report. We moved to roadway 1400 yds out on bearing of 225 degrees from angle of Tk ditch between R27 and R29. Patrol halted here and I.O. and one O.R. investigated sangers at 40424218. After waiting 20 minutes, he returned, reporting sangers clear and the patrol moved forward and occupied the right end of the sangers. He then left with one OR to make a recce of the Sangers for an attack. He did not return to the patrol and at 0445 hrs I was given orders by Lieut Norris to return with 10 men which I did.</p> <p><u>REPORT BY LIEUT. NORRIS.</u> When I. o. did not return, I moved patrol 200 yds towards the sangers reported and made a thorough search of that area, but did not find signs of either enemy or of own recce party. I sent the patrol back and remained with one O. R in the area until first light.</p> <p><u>REPORT BY I.O.</u> I.O. states.. I did not find the sanger where previously reported, but heard slight sounds of enemy activity which were too far away to investigate. In returning to the patrol, I passed slightly to the EAST of their position, missing them and reaching the minefield. Apparently we were seen on the minefield as an enemy patrol approx. 15 in number attempted to cut us off. We evaded them after some considerable time, and, as it was very late, returned to R27. The enemy patrol wore greatcoats, soft shoes, did not challenge, and invariably had half their number on the ground to give covering fire. Although within 15 yds of us I cannot state their nationality.</p> <p>At 40644190, Road was passed and at 40634187, an O.P 400 yds to our left was investigated. NMS throughout patrol. and patrol returned through R33.</p>
2	"B" COY Sgt McElroy.	2345	0300	1 Sgt 10 ORs	Out R35 to 40634187. In R33.	

2/17 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT.SECRET.for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 29 AUG 41.To 20 AUST INF BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	D th COY Lieut. R. GARNSEY. Lieut. NORRIS.	2400	0530	20 off ¹² 4 ORs	Out and in R27.	<p>This patrol was sent out to attack sanger reported at 40404235. The senior NCO who brought the party in made the following report. We moved to roadway 1400 yds out on bearing of 225 degrees from angle of Tk ditch between R27 and R29. Patrol halted here and I.O and one O.R. investigated sangers at 40424218. After waiting 20 minutes, he returned, reporting sangers clear and the patrol moved forward and occupied the right end of the sangers. He then left with one OR to make a recce of the Sangers for an attack. He did not return to the patrol and at 0445 hrs I was given orders by Lieut Norris to return with 10 men which I did.</p> <p><u>REPORT BY LIEUT. NORRIS.</u> When I. o. did not return, I moved patrol 200 yds towards the sangers reported and made a thorough search of that area, but did not find signs of either enemy or of own recce party. I sent the patrol back and remained with one O. R in the area until first light.</p> <p><u>REPORT BY I.O.</u> I.O. states. I did not find the sanger where previously reported, but heard slight sounds of enemy activity which were too far away to investigate. In returning to the patrol, I passed slightly to the EAST of their position, missing them and reaching the minefield. Apparently we were seen on the minefield as an enemy patrol approx. 15 in number attempted to cut us off. We evaded them after some considerable time, and, as it was very late, returned to R27. The enemy patrol wore greatcoats, soft shoes, did not challenge, and invariably had half their number on the ground to give covering fire. Although within 15 yds of us I cannot state their nationality.</p>
2	B th COY Sgt McElroy.	2345	0300	1 Sgt 10 ORs	Out R35 to 40634187. In R33.	<p>At 40644190, Road was passed and at 40634187, an O.P 400 yds to our left was investigated. NMS throughout patrol and patrol returned through R33.</p>

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600hrs. 29 AUG. 41.

To

20 AUST INF BDE.

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
3	"A" COY Lieut. Cartledge.	2200	0405	10 off 12 ORs.	Out R19 to 40344248. Thence 4042 4240. In R21.	Patrol spent a great deal of time listening whilst on 2nd leg and the only things heard throughout patrol were heard were the baying of dogs over the escarpment and an M.G burst from pt. 174.
4	"C" COY Lieut. G. Reid.	2130	0330	10 off 40R	Out R13 to 40184246 In R15	Patrol went out on bearing 192 deg. and at 40484253, saw white spots and markings, very fresh and similar to those reported previously. At 40184250, deep shell holes were seen, some of which had been used as weapon pits, but appear to be disused. At 40184246, single shots and occasional M.G bursts were fired from S.P. 171 and 166. Patrol returned. Patrol leader considers that more than two ORs make a recce patrol too noisy.
5	"HQ" Lieut. RUDMIN.	0600	0715	3 lice.	Out R35 to approx. 4050 4210. Thence 40704190. In R33.	NMS seen forward of minefield on first leg or where working party was engaged 1600 hrs. 27. At 40504210, groups of men at about 270 degrees were engaged with M.G fire. Here, the patrol was shelled, but inaccurately owing to our advantage of being in dead ground and having the dust haze caused by the carriers. From 40704190, enemy 1500 yds due SOUTH, were engaged by M.G fire which was observed to be most effective. The enemy immediately took cover and did not retaliate. Patrol returned.
6.						A protective patrol from "D" Coy while at approximately 40474237 at 0345 hours, heard the report of one round fired from the enemy's big gun which seemed to be about 1000 yds in a WESTERLY direction.

PROPOSED PATROLS 29/30 AUG, 41.

Coy.	Strength.	Times.		Route and Remarks.
		Out.	In.	
BRAC A	10ff 10 ORs	0200	0530	Out R17 bearing 172 deg. 2300 yds to 40364241. To patrol between this point and 40434240. To engage any enemy patrols encountered and to inflict casualties and, if possible, capture a prisoner.
<u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>				
CUMA B	1. 4	2330 2330	0500	Out R31 bearing 195 degrees. Not to pass Sangers approx. 40594210 before 2359. Continue to road approx. 3900 yds out at 40554190. Patrol to trace and make general recce of road in an EASTERLY direction. Return R33.
<u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>				
FRIP. C	1 10	2330	0330	Out R11 170 degrees 2,200 yds. to 40164249. To patrol from this point to 40264249. To engage any enemy patrols encountered, to inflict casualties and, if possible, capture a prisoner. Return R15.
<u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>				
MAGA. D	- Protective patrols only. Arrangements to be made by Company Commander. - <u>SEE FOOTNOTE.</u>			

NOTE TO ALL COMPANIES.

Coy protective patrols MUST know full details of deep patrols and, where necessary, liason with flanking Coys MUST be carried out

DISTRIBUTION.

TURK.
ALL COYS.
IFIT.
FEBE.
MKKR.
HUTA.
COMD POST.
FILE.

C. G. Pitman Lieut.
A. G. Pitman).
Adjut ALBO AUST INF. BN.

2/17 AUST INF. BN.

PATROL REPORTSECRET.for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 30 AUG, 41.

To

20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"A" COY.	0100	0545	10FF 8 ORs and 1 20ff 10R (POLISH)	Out R17 to 40364239 . Thence 4042 4240. In R17.	At 40364243, a Bren gun fired five or six bursts from direction Pt. 174. For the remainder of the patrol no enemy movement, no flares and practically no M.G fire was seen or heard.
	Lieut. Mathias.					
2	"D" COY.	0130	0500	1NCO 4ORs 10FF 20Rs (POLISH)	Protective patrol attached. Coy Front.	At 40534226., a sig. wire running NORTH EAST was passed. This wire ended abruptly near a large pile of stones. XXXXXXXX At 40514228, burst of M.G. fire passed very close to patrol, and this was followed by two distinct bird calls. Otherwise NMS.
	L/Cpl Moncreef.					
3	"B" COY.	2330	0440	1W.O and 3 ORs plus 2 Polish attached.	Out R31 to 40564193. Thence EAST along road. In R33.	At 40584204, a waggon limber which appeared to have been discarded for some time was examined. Patrol continued to road at 40564193 and running on bearing 155 degrees. Patrol moved EASTWARD along road for a few hundred yds. when it was found that the minefield was NORTH of patrol. A gap evidently exists on the patrol's line of march. A general recce of the area was made. NMS. Patrol returned.
	W.O. Hallaway.					
4	"C" COY.	2330	0330	1NCO and 5ORs (1 Sgt and 10ff Polish)	Out R11 to 40164248 Thence 4025 4248. In R15.	At 40154256 light flashed on a bearing of 173 deg. At 40164248, Patrol turned EAST, continued for 300 yds, where a number of white spots were found forming a semi circle approx. 3 ft in diameter, the apex pointing towards our lines. Patrol moved a further 200 yds, found two rows of white spots pointing due EAST, which continued for 300 yds. Patrol continued to 40254248. Then patrol returned to R15.
	Sgt. R. Hannaford.					

2/17 AUST INF BN.

HOSTILE SHELLING REPORT.

SECRET

2/17

To 20 AUST INF BDE

for 4 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 30 AUG.

Sheet No.

Unit Reporting.	Ser. No.	Location of reporting point.	Bearing of flash or sound (or of groove made by unexploded shell).	No. of secs from flash to report.	Area shelled.	Damage done.	No. of guns.	Calibre.	Time of shell- ing.		State of fire No. of shells	Date
									From	to.		
2/17 Bn. "A" COY.	1	R20.	225 deg.	--	R17	Nil.	1	75mm.	1420	1422	6	29
"B" COY.	1 2 3	R32.	192	--	R28, rear R31, R32 and rear of R35 at O.P.	Nil.	-	75mm.	0730 1200 1800	1200 1800 2015	122 136 46	
"C" COY.	1	R14.	194 and 270 deg.	--	R14.	Nil.	4	105mm.	1900	2012	36	
"D" COY.	1	40634239.	233	--	40674237	Nil.	1	75mm.	0700 1800	1200 2000	4 4	
<u>INF ARTY.</u>												
0730 HOURS.	1	25 rounds directed at Enemy C.P. 405416.										
1100 "	2	10 " " Pt. 174.										
1200 "	3	20 " " Pt. 171.										
1915. "	4	53 " " Enemy Battery.										
1916. "	5	28 " " Enemy O.P.										
<u>TOTAL.</u>		<u>136</u>	shells in all. - damage caused not known but targets appeared to be hit.									

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

To 2/17 AUST INF. BN.

for 24 hrs. ended

0600

hrs.

41.

30 AUG,

7/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"A" COY.	0100	0545	10FF 8 ORs and 20ff 10R (POLISH)	Out R17 to 40364239. Thence 40424240. In R17.	At 40364243, a Bren gun fired five or six bursts from direction Pt. 174. For the remainder of the patrol no enemy movement, no flares and practically no M.G fire was seen or heard.
	Lieut. Mathias.					
2	"D" COY.	0130	0500	INCO 40RSs 10FF 20Rs (POLISH)	Protective patrol attached. Coy Front.	At 40534226., a sig. wire running NORTH EAST was passed. This wire ended abruptly near a large pile of stones. XXXXXXXX At 40514228, burst of M.G. fire passed very close to patrol, and this was followed by two distinct bird calls. Otherwise NMS.
	L/Cpl. Menckhof.					
3	"B" COY.	2330	0440	1W.O and 3 ORs plus 2 Polish attached.	Out R31 to 40564193. Thence EAST along road. In R33.	At 40584204, a waggon limber which appeared to have been discarded for some time was examined. Patrol continued to road at 40564193 and running on bearing 155 degrees. Patrol moved EASTWARD along road for a few hundred yds. when it was found that the minefield was NORTH of patrol. A gap evidently exists on the patrol's line of march. A general recce of the area was made. NMS. Patrol returned.
	W.O.11 Halloway.					
4	"C" COY.	2330	0330	INCO and 10ff Polish	50Rs Out R11 to 40164248 Thence 40254248. In R15.	At 40154256 light flashed on a bearing of 173 deg. At 40164248, Patrol turned EAST, continued for 300 yds, where a number of white spots were found forming a semi circle approx. 3 ft in diameter, the apex pointing towards our lines. Patrol moved a further 200 yds, found two rows of white spots pointing due EAST, which continued for 300 yds. Patrol continued to 40254248. Then patrol returned to R15.
	Sgt. R. Hannaford.					

PROPOSED PATROLS.
NIGHT 30/31 AUG, 41.

COPY NO. 2.....

COY.	STRENGTH.	TIMES		ROUTE AND REMARKS.
		OUT	IN.	

BRAC COY. Usual protective patrols only.

See footnote.

CUMM COY. 1. 4 2330 0530

B

Note. Details taken from Air photograph differ with patrol reports of this area and rechecking of this area is desired, and, as a special precaution, patrol to come back in a direct route. The bearing and EXACT position and distance that the patrol ^{has} our wire to be included in patrol report.

Out R33, 215 degrees to Wagon limber at 4058424⁰⁴ found by last night's patrol. Pt. 40604206 not to be passed before 2359 hours. From limber bearing 177 degrees 1100 yds to minefield in vicinity 40584193. From here, patrol to check bearings, distances, markings etc. of minefield and road to approx. 40494191.

FRIP. 10ff 100Rs 0100 0530

C

See footnote.

Out R13, 186 degrees for 2300 yds. to 40104247 (area of white spots found last night). Turn 202 degrees 500 yds to 40184243. Patrol to lie "doggo", to engage enemy patrols if the opportunity occurs inflict casualties and, if possible, bring back a prisoner. Return 334 degrees for 1300 yds to 40134254. Thence in R11 at 360 degrees.

MAGA. 10ff 10 ORs 2400 0530

D

NOTE. Enemy patrol of approx. 15 men encountered in this area night 28/29 and mobile patrol encountered on enemy side of minefield night 20/21. Enemy patrol of night 28/29 adopted the method of leaving half their party to listen and act as a covering party, while the other half moved.

Out from corner of A/Tk ditch near R29(a) bearing 230 degrees for 1800 yds to sangers. Investigate sangers, pass through them and patrol area from rear of sangers to minefield. To engage enemy patrols if the opportunity occurs, to inflict casualties and, if possible, bring back a prisoner.

NOTE TO ALL COYS. Protective Patrols MUST be informed of all details of deep patrols and liason where necessary, MUST be carried out by Companies.

.....C. G. Pitman..... Lieut.
(C. G. Pitman).

Adj. ALBO AUST INF BN.

Distribution.

All Coys.
TURK.
IFIT.
FEBE.
HUTA.
COMD POST.
FILE.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT.SECRET.for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 31 AUG. 41.To 20 AUST INF BDE.

217

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and Area patrolled.	Report.
1	"D" Coy W.O.I. BROWN.	1130	1220	1WO. 9 ORS.	Out R29 to white obelisk.	Patrol, after reaching white obelisk moved forward a further 200 yds. At this pt. enemy working party were 900 yards ahead and they fired on our patrol with an A/Tk. gun, bearing approx. 210 degrees. Four shots from this gun were fired on the left flank of patrol which went to ground. Working party consisted of approx. 20 groups, each of five men and were working in Sangers approx. 40454215. Enemy took cover and opened up with rifles. Patrol moved right 200 yds. and fwd. out of field of fire of A/Tk. gun, with the intention of engaging working party. Three Fiat M.Gs opened up on us and because of the extremely heavy and accurate fire, patrol withdrew. At this point, two planes moving EAST to WEST over enemy lines were seen.
2	"C" COY Lieut. G. Reid.	0100	0530	10ff 10 ORS.	Out R13 to 40194248. In R11.	At 40214252, white spots, arrows and dots were found running approx. NORTH and SOUTH for 400 yds, the band of spots being 15 ft wide and of no particular pattern. Arrowheads were pointing at 45 degrees. At 40194248, patrol went to ground for 45 minutes. Flares were sent up, a flashlight was seen on bearing of 93 degrees and searchlight 150 degrees. Patrol frightened a duck which ran quacking up the escarpment. Four M.Gs opened up, one well to our left, one 135 degrees, one 180 degrees and one 212 degrees, also rifles and zollothern, fire falling 200 yds behind patrol. Patrol leader, before this incident, distinctly heard a man call "soorah" twice. Shortly after finding white spots, patrol leader noticed a piece of paper crumbled up and pushed into a bush, as if it was used as a marking. Later another piece was found placed in the same way. There was no variation in the white spot markings near these paper markings. Patrol returned R11. NOTE. I think it is quite clear from the position of the white spots that they are not markings for diggings, as the ground is is tactically unsuitable.

PATROL REPORTSECRET.for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 21 WIG. 41.

To

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
3	"D" Coy Sgt. Smith.	2330	0515	1 Sgt 10 ORs.	Out to 40414219. Thence to 40494213. Thence to 40404210. Thence to 40294230. In R27.	Patrol moved to sangers at 40414219 which were found to be unoccupied. They traced them for 500 yds NW for 400 yds. Thence to 40494213 SE 1600 yds to 40494213. They were found to be fresh diggings but were not closely investigated, as the task of patrol was to engage any enemy this side of the minefield. Patrol then moved to the minefield and traced it for 3000 yds to 40294230, crossing the dirt road at 40294229. During this leg, three men crossed the minefield at 5 separate points to observe. They penetrated approx. 150 yds. During the latter part of patrol, patrol leader believes he was directly behind Bir El Carmusa, from which several bursts of M.G. were fired. Patrol then returned to R27. No enemy patrols or working parties were encountered during the patrol, although fresh diggings were encountered on the NORTH side of the minefield at frequent intervals.
4	"B" COY Sgt. West.	2300	0445	1 4 ORs plus 3 Poles att.	Out R33 to 40594206. Thence to 40514194. Thence to 40574200. To 40744197. In R35. Note. The accuracy of this course is doubted in view of findings of previous patrols.	This patrol moved on the course shown, but was unable to locate either limber, road or minefield which were allotted to it as a task. On the return, heavy firing was heard SOUTH of the patrol, but no enemy were encountered.

2/17 AUST INF BN.

HOSTILE SHELLING REPORT.S E C R E T.for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 31 AUG, 41.

Sheet No. _____

To 20 AUST INF BDE.

Unit Reporting.	Ser. No.	Location of reporting point.	Bearing of flash or sound (or of groove made by unexploded shell).	No. of secs from flash to report.	Area shelled.	Damage done.	No. of guns.	Calibre.	Time of shell- ing.		State of fire No. of shells	Date.
									From	to.		
2/17 Bn. "A" COY.	1	R20	215	-----	R21.	Nil	1	75mm	1950	1955	4	31
"B" COY.	2 2	R32	192	-----	R28 and R32.	Nil.	-	75mm	0700 1525	1030 1530	28 138	
"C" COY.	1 2 3	R14.	188, 194 and 270 deg.	-----	R14.	1 OR. killed.	1 1 3	105mm.	0715 1345 1815	1030 1410 1905	7) 18) 8 17	
"D" COY.	1	40634239	193 and 238 degrees.	-----	Between 40634239 and O.P. rear of Post R32.	---	-	75	1515	1520	80	
BHQ <u>INF ARTY.</u> 0757-1910	1	40754269	-----	-----	40684273	---	4	75 mm.	1540	1541	8	
303 shells directed at enemy O.P. enemy battery. No damage caused as far as could be ascertained												

2/17 AUST INF BN.

PATROL REPORT.SECRET.for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 31 AUG. 41.To 20 AUST INF BDE.

2/17

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and area patrolled.	Report.
1	"D" Coy W.O.I. BROWN.	1130	1220	1WO. 9 ORS.	Out R29 to white obelisk.	Patrol, after reaching white obelisk moved forward a further 200 yds. At this pt. enemy working party were 900 yards ahead and they fired on our patrol with an A/Tk. gun, bearing approx. 210 degrees. Four shots from this gun were fired on the left flank of patrol which went to ground. Working party consisted of approx. 20 groups, each of five men and were working in Sangers approx. 40454215. Enemy took cover and opened up with rifles. Patrol moved right 200 yds. and fwd. out of field of fire of A/Tk. gun, with the intention of engaging working party. Three Flat M.Gs opened up on us and because of the extremely heavy and accurate fire, patrol withdrew. At this point, two planes moving EAST to EST over enemy lines were seen.
2	"C" COY Lieut. G. Reid.	0100	0530	10ff 10 ORS.	Out R13g to 40194246. In R11.	At 40214252, white spots, arrows and dots were found running approx. NORTH and SOUTH for 400 yds, the band of spots being 15 ft wide and of no particular pattern. Arrowsheads were pointing at 45 degrees. At 40194246, patrol went to ground for 47 minutes. Rifles were sent up; a flashlight was seen on bearing of 93 degrees and searchlight 150 degrees. Patrol frightened a duck which ran quacking up the escarpment. Four M.Gs opened up, one well to our left, one 135 degrees, one 180 degrees and one 212 degrees, also rifles and zollotheras, fire falling 200 yds behind patrol. Patrol leader, before this incident, distinctly heard a man call "soorah" twice. Shortly after finding white spots, patrol leader noticed a piece of paper crumbled up and pushed into a bush, as if it was used as a marking. Later another piece was found placed in the same way. There was no variation in the white spot markings near these paper markings. Patrol returned R11. NOTE. I think it is quite clear from the position of the white spots that they are not markings for diggings, as the ground is tactically unsuitable.

PATROL REPORT.

SECRET.

for 24 hrs. ended 0600 hrs. 31 AUG 41.

To

Ser. No.	Unit	Time Out.	Time In.	Strength.	Route and Area patrolled.	Report.
3	"D" Coy 2330 Sgt. Smith.	0515		1 Sgt 10 ORs.	Out to 40414219. Thence to 40494213. Thence to 40404210. Thence to 40294230. In R27.	Patrol moved to sangers at 40414219 which were found to be unoccupied. They traced them NW for 400 yds. Thence NE SE XXXXXXXXXX 1500 yds to 40494213. They were found to be fresh diggings but were not closely investigated, as the task of patrol was to engage any enemy this side of the minefield. Patrol then moved to the minefield and traced it for 3000 yds to 40294230, crossing the dirt road at 40294229. During this leg, three men crossed the minefield at 5 separate points to observe. They penetrated approx. 150 yds. During the latter part of patrol, patrol leader believes he was directly behind Bir Ml Carassa, from which several bursts of M.C. were fired. Patrol then returned to R27. No enemy patrols or working parties were encountered during the patrol, although fresh diggings were encountered on the NORTH side of the minefield at frequent intervals.
4	"B" Coy 2300 Sgt. West.	0445		1 4 ORs plus 3 Poles att.	Out R33 to 40594206. Thence to 40514194. Thence to 40574200. To 40744197. In R35. Note. The accuracy of this course is doubted in view of findings of previous patrols.	This patrol moved on the course shown, but was unable to locate either timber, road or minefield which were allotted to it as task. On the return, heavy firing was heard SOUTH of the patrol, but no enemy were encountered.