

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

**Item number: 8/2/20**

**20 Infantry Brigade**  
**July 1942**



MOVEMENT

LEFT ALEPPO with most of Bde Gp 1 JUL.42 and went 20 AUST INF  
by Basalbeck, Gaza, Canal & Alex. arr. 4 JUL. BDE JUL42

ARRIVED ELAYID 9 JUL. 42. Apps. C1, C5  
(western desert) Then. Musarik Tomb 15/16 JUL., Alamein 17 JUL.

COASTAL SECTOR to relieve 26 Bde 1/2 AUG.42.

INTELLIGENCE

ENEMY DIGGING IN  
26 JUL.42

Patrols from 24 & 26 Bdes find enemy  
digging in all along Tel el Eisa  
front(wire & minefds)

20 AU T INF  
BDE JUL42

I SUMMARIES

Appd. C4.  
AIR ACTION

FOUR CASUALTIES  
10 JUL 42

from 2/15 Bn. while evacuating POW  
at Alamein. Due to Stuka raid.

20 AUST INF  
BDE JUL42

TRAINING

NIGHT ATTACK  
TRAINING  
28 JUL.42

Bde comd visited 2/13 & 2/15 in tng  
carrying consolidated stores into  
battle, making gaps in minefds, marking  
them etc. Important for night ops.  
Two recent attacks have been prejudiced  
by lack of observed arty support &  
comms unreliable.

20 AUST INF  
BDE JUL42

MAPS

Trace of

20 Bde's dispositions. 5 JUL. 42

20 AU T INF  
BDE JUL42

OPERATIONS

GERMAN ATTACK  
EXPECTED 15/16 JUL

Bde moved southwards to Musarik Tomb as German  
attack expected along Ruweisat Ridge, held by M.Z  
and Indians. Then after a number of confusing  
messages from a British Bde re moving and changing  
postn 20 Bde comd decided not to go until morning  
17 JUL. Finally went into 9 Div Reserve (Alamein) later  
that day. Learned attacks repulsed at Ruweisat.  
Learned on 18 Jul. that Bde role may change to an  
advance. Bde comd inspected 2/15 & 2/17 in Fortress A  
and decided that work should be proceeded with --  
Lesson learned from fall of Tobruk: failure to prepare  
defence because attack being planned.

FROM DEFENCE  
TO OFFENCE

DEPTH IN  
DEFENCE

PURSUIT ROLE  
20 JUL.42

Plans for 20 Bde to act in pursuit role should break  
through of other Bdes 24 & 26 be successful (22 JUL)  
8th Army's plan to destroy enemy in his present location  
This Bde to be spearhead of pursuit force - 24 Bde from  
front. (2/13 to relieve 2/28 - to release it for ops.

ATTACKS  
UNSUCCESSFUL

but attacks 24 & 26 Bdes not entirely successful so  
20 Bde could not go on with role.

MITEIRIYA OR  
RUIN RIDGE

26/27 JUL. Role again to exploit or pursue, but (27 JUL)  
no chance as attack (2/28 on Miteiriya Ridge)  
unsupported and failed. 69 Bde (British) was support.

BDE TO COASTAL  
SECTOR 1/2 AUG.

20 Bde to relieve 26 Bde on Coastal Sector.



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WAR DIARY

# INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

24 OCT 1942

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
ALEPPO - BAALBECK	1 Jul 42		20 Aust Inf Bde Gp moved onto ALEPPO rd at 0640 hrs. Reached BAALBECK at 1800 hrs approx and spent night in staging camp. Message received from <del>Main</del> NINTHE ARMY stating that staging at TULKARM and ASLUJ was cancelled and that Bde Gp would move direct to GAZA, halt and stage night 1/2 there instead. This was to accelerate move so that Bde could arrive one day earlier at CANAL. 2/15 Bn and DIV CAV were similarly accelerated under arrangements MOV MILPAL.	C 5 D
GAZA HALT		2	Reveille 0445 hrs - Move off at 0600 hrs. Convoy proceeded as under above orders and continued through PALESTINE to GAZA halt, arriving at 2145 hrs approx. The presence of a Canteen Service Truck at this camping spot was very much welcomed by the tps.	C 5 D
ISMAILIA		3	Reveille 0445 hrs. Move off at 0600 hrs. Convoy proceeded through SINAI desert to ISMAILIA Staging Camp. Arrived there at 1700 hrs approx. Facilities for changing money were provided also showers and swimming.	C 3 C 5
WEST OF ALEXANDRIA		4	Reveille 0345 hrs, move off at 0500 hrs. Waited at Canal for 3/4 hrs for pontoon bridge to be brought into position. This was swing open owing to the presence of EA. Bde Gp proceeded to ALEXANDRIA following the DELTA Rd. Road exceedingly dusty in parts and some difficulty experienced in keeping clear of other convoys trucks. Much time lost in trying to separate out.. On outskirts of ALEXANDRIA, 2/8 Fd Amb was detached from convoy to proceed <del>in</del> independently and 2/17 Bn was attached, at approx 1800 hrs. Convoy proceeded through ALEXANDRIA and out onto the MERSA MATRUH rd, proceeding to a point about 10-12 miles further, to the area previously occupied by 24 Bde, which it moved into at approx 2100 hrs. (See Location Statement)	B C 5
		5 1200	Brig WINDEYER and BM (Maj WILSON) met the Commissioner for the ME, Mr R.G. CASEY. Mr CASEY met offrs and Senior NCO's of 2/17 Bn, inspected a Coy of 2/13 Bn on the Tk Ditch, called on Lt Col OGLE (CO 2/15 Bn) and inspected some A Tk Gunners before leaving at 1230 hrs.	C 1 C 5
		1800	Throughout the day preparations were made for the move forward. Equipment was drawn from Ordnance and in the <del>am</del> brens, TSMGs and other equipment was issued. In the afternoon, Brig WINDEYER called at DIV and saw the GOC with whom he discussed the future Bde role and the move fwd. Maps were received from DIV HQ.	
		6 0900	2/7 Aust Fd Regt, 9 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt and 11 Bty 4 Aust Lt AA Regt came under comd as units of the Bde Gp. Preparations continued for impending move. Brig WINDEYER held a conference at which were all unit comds of the Bde Gp including those NOT yet under comd. The conference was to allow the unit comds to know each other,	A C 3 C 5 C 6



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			<i>Gen.</i>	
			also to put <sup>an fait</sup> them with the tactical situation and to discuss HQ Adm details. Brig WINDEYER, Capt HAMER (BM) Lieut GEMMEL-SMITH (IO) accompanied the GOC, LtGen MORSHEAD to the battle area at EL AMAMEIN. The CCRA EIGHTH Army joined the party en route to 1 SA Div HQ under Maj/Guy PIENHR. Lt Gen NORRIE GOC 30 Corps arrived at this stage and after a short conference at which the tactical situation was discussed the party continued to the box defence of 3 SA Bde at EL ALAMEIN. Whilst at 1 SA Div HQ 3 JU 88s flew over and dropped four dud bombs. Throughout the stay of the party there was heavy shelling to the South. The Brig returned to his HQ at 2000 hrs. During the late afternoon the 2/3 Pnr Bn relieved the 2/15 Aust Inf Bn from the left fwd posn. (See location statement No 1) relief completed 1700 hrs.	
	7		The process of equipping continued. 1640 hrs warning received from Rear 9 Aust Div for 2/7 Fd Regt to move up to 26 Aust Inf Bde. 1740 hrs order was received for 9 Aust A Tk Bty to accompany 2/7 Fd Regt. 2330 hrs tp tpt from 345 Gen Tpt Coy moved in to 2/15 And 2/17 lines.	B C1 C5
	8		Final issue of equipment arrived at midday. Initial packing done and preparation for move.	C5 D
	9		0230 hrs order received from Rear 9 Aust Div for 20 Bde battle group to move to EL -IMAYID during the day. Brig WINDEYER to report as early as possible to Main HQ 9 Aust Div. For movt order see appx. Zero time laid down as 0900 hrs. Movt completed without incident and Bde Gp in posn. (see location statement 2) by 1600 hrs. 0725 hrs acting on the notification of CQMS 24 Bde the 2/15 dispatched Lt PARKER and some tps to investigate the report that the crew of a bomber thought to be GERMAN or FRENCH was landing 9 to 10 miles along the MATRUH Rd. Lieut PARKER returned with 9 British airmen from a HALIFAX bomber which forced landed into the sea.	C1 C3 C5 D
EL IMAYID	10		0655 hrs the escort of a HURRICANE Tac R forced landed in 2/17 Bn area. Pilot was unhurt and returned to BURG EL ARAB the plane was guarded. Welcome news received of success of 26 Aust Inf Bde. 1330 hrs 260 A Tk Bty BEF which had been placed under Comd moved in on left flank of Bde HQ. OC Maj BARCLAY. Capt B WILLIAMS LO(1) spent the day fwd in the EL ALAMEIN box organising the evacuation of prisoners. He was assisted by men from 2/15 Bn. During an air-raid one OR of 2/15 Bn was killed and 3 wounded also 2 drivers of RASC wounded.	C3 C5



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	11		A recce party consisting of Comds and 10's of 20 Bde HQ, 2/15 Bn and 2/17 Bn also Maj MULLER (2/3 Fd Coy and Maj GREEN 2/8 Fd Regt) proceeded to vicinity BIR ABU SHINEINA 442894. The recce involved the siting of a box defense to contain 2 Bns, one Bty Arty some A Tk guns and minefields in accordance with an instruction from 30 Corps. 26 JU88s dropped a string of bombs in the vicinity during the afternoon. Recce party returned 1700 hrs.	A C 5 D
	12		1630 hrs 2/13 Aust Inf Bn arrived from ALEXANDRIA on tpt provided by 10 Coy AASC 345 Pl RASC being used to tpt amn for 25 pdr. Brig WINDEYER went to main 9 Div HQ for the purpose of obtaining information and warning of further ops. A warning order was received for the Bde to be prepared to move south to relieve Squeak col and <del>Red</del> Ack col.	C 5
	13		In the afternoon Brig WINDEYER and Lieut GEMMELL-SMITH (IO) visited 9 Aust Div (Tac HQ) in the EL ALAMEIN box where the Brig conferred with Lt-Gen Sir Leslie MORSHEAD (GOC) At the time part or all of the GERMAN 21 Armd Div was attacking the SW of the EL ALAMEIN box, the battle being confined mainly to Arty and air forces. The Brig received the latest information regarding the tactical situation and was also notified that the latest developments had caused an alteration of plan and that the Bde would not now relieve SQUEAK col and ACK Col. The Brig and IO returned at 1530 and the Brig held a conference at 1600 hrs at which all unit comds were present. The Comds were put in the picture. It was decided that Capt HAMER (BM) who had been on liaison duty at Main 9 Aust Div HQ since the commencement of 26 Aust Inf Bde attack should move to 9 Div Tac HQ and thereby be more up to date in the infm and expedite its transmission to 20 Bde HQ.	C 5
	14		Brig WINDEYER and Lieut HAMILTON (LO11) went with Lt-col OGLE CO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn to inspect the progress layout and digging of the box at EL SHINEINA 442894. The Bde was responsible for the layout of the box which was to be dug by 2/3 Aust Pnr Bn. 1930 hrs Bde Gp placed on 4 hrs notice to move. 2300 hrs Capt HAMER (BM) returned from 9 Aust Div HQ with further orders to move. Brig WINDEYER and R Gp were to report to EIGHTH ARMY HQ at 0800 hrs 15 Jun, calling at 30 Corps HQ for a guide enroute.	C 5 D
	15		After receiving a <sup>map</sup> <del>map</del> ref from 30 Corps HQ Brig WINDEYER and Lieut GEMMELL-SMITH (IO) arrived at EIGHTH Army HQ at 0810 hrs. Gen AUCHENLECH had a few words with the Brig	C 5



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TRIG 104 TRIG 112			<p>who received instns from BGS to move the Bde to occupy posns around Trig 132 437885 and Trig 104 441884 as well as be able to provide a mobile column of 1 Bn plus 1 fd Bty with sp arms. The O Gp was picked up and the party proceeded to Trig 104, when the Brig was informed by the CCRE 30 Corps that a New Zealand Bn was in occupation of Trig 132 the Brig decided to occupy Trig 104 with the 2/15 Bn and Trig <del>with</del> 112 446886 with the 2/13 and 2/17 Bns. The CCRE liaised with the BGS about the alteration in plans. The orders for the Bde move were verbal. Move commenced at 1200 hrs. The 2/17 Bn Gp moved across country via EL IMAYID sta 443899. The remainder of the Bde Gp went via EL HAMMAM 402904 thence across country to the destination. A minefd around the Trig 112 posn made the movt into the dispersal area more difficult. Bde HQ was established at 44558881 2/13 Bn Gp in area 44508895 - 44658876 - 44408867 - 44408892. The 2/17 Bn Gp in area 44658876 - 44678860 - 44308830 - 44408867 and the 2/15 Bn Gp in area 44208850 - 44108830 44058835 - 44158852. The latter posn was designed for a two coy locality mined in with the remainder of the Bn to be mobile in a larger area nearby. The posn around Trig 112 was wired in. The 2/8 Fd Amb sq 446890. 10 coy AASC in area BIR EL SADI sq 448889 whilst the rec sec Ord Fd Pk and LAD in area sq 447891. B Coy 2/2 MMG Bn was with 2/15 Bn. The last elements moved into posn at approximately 2000 hrs.</p>	
	16		<p>At 0335 a message was received from EIGHTH Army for the Bde Gp to be ready to move at 0530 hrs to vicinity MUSARIK Tomb 890280 and to place a light out for an LO. The LO arrived at approx 0445 with further instns that a fd regt would come under comd and that a 20 Bde offr was to meet a representative of the 11 Fd Regt at MUSARIK Tomb at 0600 hrs. A further written message stated that an attack <sup>was</sup> expected by the combined GERMAN forces along RUWEISAT ridge and that the present posns held by NZ and Indian forces must NOT be overrun. The Bde Gp could not move on time due to the late arrival of the message and the bad state of comms to sub units then existing. The Bns were ordered to move as soon as ready direct by dead reckoning to the tomb. Capt HAMER left at 0545 hrs to meet the 2/11 Fd Regt Arty Offr. Brig WINDEYER and Lieut GEMMEL-SMITH Bde IO left at 0615 hrs to make a recce arriving at destination at 0900 hrs. The move of the 2/17 Bn was very good as they selected a firm route throughout, the other units went direct and had much trouble due to bogging in the sand. The navigation throughout was good.</p>	C 5



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MUSARIK TOMB			<p>was good. /</p> <p>The remainder of Bde HQ left after 2/13 Bn and arrived at 1230 hrs. Bns went into posns along the ridge about 1500 yds apart with the right fwd bn the 2/17 behind a minefd from 88802795 to 89002800 right rear the 2/15 Bn from 89652800 to 42408905 and the left fwd 2/13 Bn from 88902775 to Trig 79 891278.</p> <p>The 2/7 Fd Regt were in a 3 Bty posn to South and South East Trig 79 with primary task of covering Bde front with DF fire and secondary task an A Tk role. The remaining sp arms were distributed amongst the Bns equally. The gunfire in the fwd area was intense during the morning but quietened down about 1130 hrs after the fwd tps had succeeded in beating off a strong attack. - By GERMAN armour. At 1430 hrs Brig _____ comd 69 British Bde arrived and informed Brig WINDEYER that 69 Bde was along the rd waiting to relieve the 20 Aust Inf Bde. This was the first intimation of a relief except a rather cryptic message from EIGHTH Army by R/T via a LO that on relief the 260 Bty was to pass to comd the incoming Bde. Our Bde had experienced much difficulty moving in due to loose sand and the area was very congested with MT. <del>Brig</del> Comd 69 Bde required 20 Bde to move out before the 69 Bde would move in. Arrangements were immediately made for the move to commence Zero for the move was 1730 hrs. 10 coy AASC moved on time but were halted by Capt ELLIOTT (BASCO) EIGHTH ARMY was contacted through R/T by an army LO and orders were received that the relief was to be made on the ground.</p> <p>Lieut SHELDON (LO) was sent ot contact comd 69 Bde <del>Brig</del> but could not find him. This was made more difficult as the message received named the comd of 69 Bde as Brig HASSEL and NOT <del>Brig</del> Comd 69 Bde whose name was never discovered.</p> <p>It was then decided that the Bde would remain in posn until dawn 17 Jul at least. In the late evening when a further heavy attack developed to the west along RUWEISAT RIDGE, Brig WINDEYER order the return of 10 coy AASC which had stopped 10 miles to the east. It was considered the amn may be required. By dark the attack had been beaten off and a quiet night followed except when arty and MMGs of 5 Indian Bde engaged a party of GERMANS employed in recovering damaged trucks.</p>	



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SHAMMAMA AREA	17		By 0800 hrs there was still no sign of 69 Bde so Brig WINDEYER called on 5 Indian Bde Div HQ where he was informed that 69 Bde was not occupying our posns but had moved into others further to the West. No attempt had been made to notify this Bde of the change in places. After notifying EIGHTH ARMY of the situation the Bde commenced to move at 1030 hrs. It had been decided to send a Tactical HQ forward early on future moves so that it could be established and working when the main body arrived. Maj WILSON (BM) took fwd the Tac HQ consisting of the Intelligence office, comd veh and a det of sigs. Brig WINDEYER and the Bde IO left at 1045 hrs and proceeded direct to Tac HQ 9 Div where Brig WINDEYER conferred with Lt-Gen Sir Leslie MORSHEAD and Col WELLS(GSOL). The Bde was to occupy posns recently vacated by 24 Aust Inf Bde (see location statement) and be in 9 Div reserve. Brig WINDEYER and the Bde IO then went to 26 Bde and later accompanied Lt-col HAMMER (CO 2/48 Bn) to this HQ. A fine view of the EL ALAMEIN sta area and country to the south was had from an OP at Trig 26 879300. Whilst in the OP, the GERMAN counter attack which drove 24 Bde off Trig 22 feature developed although too distant to follow. The party then called on 24 Bde HQ and had a look at the country returning to 20 Bde HQ at 1830 hrs.	C 3 C 5
	18		At 0930 hrs a conference was held of all officers on Bde HQ to discuss the lessons learned on the recent series of moves. This was followed by a further conference held by Brig WINDEYER of sub unit commanders on the same subject. During the afternoon the Bde was informed of the northward move of the GERMAN 90 Lt Div and an attack was expected by them in the evening. At 1700 hrs the Bde was placed on 2 hrs notice to move and the 2/15 Bn on one hours notice. Brig WINDEYER Capt HAMER (BML) Lieut GEMMEL-SMITH (BdeIO) together with Bde Orders Gp went forward to recce the country with the view to finding de-bussing areas for a counter attack by the Bde either NW along the coast or SW along KATTARA ROAD for both day and night, and <del>for</del> also to recce posns in the EL ALAMEIN Box to provide depth in defence. Posns for the latter were decided on this ridge north of the EL ALAMEIN station. The party returned at 2030 hrs. At 2300 hrs the Bde was informed that the enemy appeared to be withdrawing and it was considered <del>to</del> that the northward movement of the enemy was for the purpose of withdrawal. SA patrol reported no enemy east of 87 easting grid and north of 29 northing grid.	A C 5 D



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	19		<p>Brig WINDEYER was warned that an early recce may be necessary and that the Bde role may change to an advance. Further patrols from 24 and 26 Bdes were to be sent out.</p> <p>The night was extremely quiet. At 0900hrs the Bde was placed on 3 hrs instead of 2 hrs notice and the 2/15 Bn Gp on 2 hrs instead of one hr. Later the whole Bde Gp was placed on 4 hrs notice. Situation reports made it clear that the formation of the AUSTRALIAN salient at TELL EL EISA and the recapture by 5 Ind Div of the RUWEISAT RIDGE some 10 miles to the south had forced the enemy to withdraw his tps, mainly ITALIAN from the low and exposed ground putting forward between the ridges. He appeared to have withdrawn in the centre to 878 easting grid, and to have placed the bulk of his GERMAN inf on the northern sector opposite 9 Aust Div, with the GERMAN armour facing SW our armour in the centre. During the afternoon, Bde Comd, BM(1) and Maj MULLER OC 2/3 Aust Fd Coy made an inspection of 2/17Bn and 2/15 Bn areas in known as "Fortress "A"" in EIGHTH Army plan of defence of this line. The planning of 24 Aust Inf Bde seemed in general to be sound, and much work in wiring, digging inf posns and laying the fwd minefds had already been done. The Fortress is fightable, and the Bde Comd decided that the work should be proceeded with. The failure to prepare TOBRUK for defence because an attack was being planned teaches a salutary lesson. Infm was received that 8 GHURKA Regt 21 Ind Inf Bde would be made available to do much of the work. The day was very quiet, with a little harassing shell fire by both sides in the evening.</p>	c 5
	20		<p>Another quiet night. Patrols on 26 Bde front located various enemy posts, and the FDLs appeared to run in general about one mile west of ours. Patrols on 24 Bde front reported enemy digging in all along the front, erecting wire and minefds. There were several skirmishes and a sapper on one patrol stalked an enemy tk and destroyed it with an A Tk grenade. Lieut GEMMELL-SMITH (IO) and Lieut SHELDON (LO) were evacuated sick. Capt HAMER (BML) took over temporarily the additional duties of Bde IO. During the day tentative plans were formulated for a break through NW from 26 Bde area, to be carried out by Bn comds and their coy comds and 2/7 Aust Fd Regt reced and surveyed gun areas and OPs, and routes fwd and debussing areas reced by LOs and Bn IOs.</p>	c 4 c 5



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			<p>The day was extremely quiet, enemy air activity was negligible, except from a few small bombs near DIV HQ and our own noticeably reduced.</p> <p>At 2300 hrs, the Bde comd and BM(L) were summoned to Div HQ, where G1 informed them of EIGHTH ARMY's plan to destroy the enemy in his present locations. This Bde was to constitute the spearhead of the pursuit force, and was to be made fully mob. with priority for equipment. It was not thought that the new pursuit role would automatically cancel the planned <del>role</del> <del>work</del> attack against 382 Lt Inf Regt (GERMAN) in the coastal sector, because it was <sup>thought</sup> that the enemy would try to hold that posn astride the rd and <del>ty</del>, at least as a rearguard posn as long as possible, and the Bde might have to break through as planned in order to set the pursuit moving.</p> <p>During the afternoon Lt Col CLARK comd 8 GHURKAS, called at Bde HQ and the layout of FORTRESS A was explained to him. His tps moved in this afternoon and are to commence work of the defences tomorrow.</p>	
	21		<p>Bde Comd, BM and SC visited Div HQ and made ADM arrangements for Bde role. During afternoon conference of Bn comds supporting arms and Bde staff - plan explained and discussed and preparations made, 2/13 Aust Inf Bn to relieve 2/28 Bn to release it for the op. 2030 hrs attack begins in south - intense arty fire on whole front all night.</p>	C1 C5
	22		<p>0530 hrs zero hr for 9 Aust Div attack; hy arty bombardment and bombers flying overhead to give air sp. 1015 Bde Comd and BM go fwd to tac 9 Div to find out the situation. 1115 phone message from Bde Comd - 26 Bde attack on Ring Contour 873302 initially successful but pushed off by counter attack. 2/15 Bn to move fwd immediately and be prepared for counter attack role on 26 Bde front. 1200 hrs Sitrep states 2/32 Bn reached objective between cairn and Trig 22 area 876296, captured 100 GERMAN PW but exploitation by 1 army tk bde and rest of 24 Bde held up by hy arty fire. 24 Bde second objective now changed and 2/28 Bn with in sp 1 army Tk Bde to attack southward and capture MITEIRIYA ridge in RUIN area <del>87220</del> 875290 (latter part verbal infm to Bde comd, confirmed by message). 1730 hy arty fire in SW as 8/28 Bn attack begins.</p>	C4 C5
	23.		<p>0900 Sitrep states 50 RTR reached objective in last nights attack but 2/28 Bn stopped short, owing to a mistake in timing and co-ordination, and now astride QATTARA track about 1 mile fwd of our 2/13 Bn.</p>	C5



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	24		Very quiet and night. Enemy have withdrawn an average distance of 3 kilos on 24 Bde front and appear to be digging in, wiring and minefds. After his hy losses in inf in costly attacks on ALAMEIN and counter attacks against 9 Aust Div in the north and NZ and 5 Ind Div in the centre and his shortage of tks, the enemy's policy is to dig in hold and await reinforcements.	C 5 D
	25		Very quiet day and night preparations for another attack. Bde now reduced to 2/17 Bn 2/3 Fd Coy 2/8 Fd Amb 2 Rec Sec 10 Coy AASC. 2/13 Bn still under comd 24 Bde SW of ALAMEIN. 2/15 Bn in Div res near ALAMEIN sta. 2/7 Fd Regt moved fwd to support the attack with 11 AA Bty & 9 A Tk Bty still under comd 26 Bde.	C 5
	26		9 Aust Div 009. Details of attack - an attempted break throug by 1 Armd Div just south of MITEIRIYA ridge. 9 Aust Div with 24 Bde to capture ridge from QATTARA track west for 3 kilo's, 69 British Bde to advance to the line of QATTARA track from K13 to K16 and clear the minefds for the attack of one Armd Div. 2/13 Bn to remain in defensive posn and watch W and SW. 2/15 Bn to remain in Div Res. Role of 20 Bde - to remain in res and be prepared to exploit or pursue. Conferences and plans to take minimum of personnel and tpt fwd. Comds of sp arms informed of coming ops. to enable them to prepare. Bde comd visited all units.	C 1 C 4 C 5
	27		24 Bde attacked on MITEIRIYA ridge begins. Hy arty fire throughout night and morning 1000 hrs Bde Comd and Bm L visit Div HQ. 2/28 Bn have taken about 130 PW mostly GERMANS and reported on obj ctive 0230 hrs but advanced by 69 inf bde not going according to plan. No <del>details</del> details. No chance of role for 20 Bde today. 1500 hrs hy arty fire continues. Infm from Div that 2/28 Bn is in difficulties because amn trucks and A Ech vehs held up at gap in minefd by undisclosed enemy strong point. Have been heavily counter attacked by Tks and inf. No news since 1003 hrs. 2100 hrs Message that 1 Armd Div and 69 Inf Bde are to withdraw, Attacked by 1 Armd Tk Bde to assist 2/28 Bn failed owing to hy arty and A Tk fire. No further news. the outlook is not good.	C 5
	28		0930 hrs Bde Comd and BM(L) visited Div HQ. Little further news but 2/28 Bn presumed overrun after fighting till their amn was exhausted.	A C 1 C 5



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

WAR DIARY  
or  
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.  
(Erase heading not required).

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
	Jul 28	1930	Bde Comd and BM (L) visited 2/13 and 2/15 Bns. Both busy trg especially at carrying consolidated stores into battle making gaps in minefds and marking them, and disposal of PW. Trg proceeded rapidly in new A Tk Pl in each Bn, and gun crews very keen. Recent ops emphasise the great value and importance of night ops, necessity of getting consolidated stores incl mines fwd by some fool-proof method, and timing attacks to allow consolidation, especially organisation of A Tk defences on objective, to take place before daylight. Enemy counter-attack at first usually with tks alone, will come soon after first light. Two recent attacks have been <del>repeated</del> prejudiced by lack of observed arty sp - i.e. by casualties to FOOs line comms are not reliable, but W T is, unless the W/T veh is knocked out.	
	29	0930	Bde comd and BM visited Div HQ and then 26 Aust Inf Bde in view of possible relief of that Bde by this Bde.	
		1600	Bde comd and BM(L) visited 2/13 Bn and discussed defence of the area, with special reference to line of strongpts linking 2/13 bn with 2/48 Bn posn at pt 26.	
	30		Very quiet night. Bde comd visited Div HQ twice, but <sup>NO</sup> <del>as</del> infm as to role for this Bde in near future BM called on 2/8 Fd Amb and 2 Rec Sec and J Div Sec, Aust Ord Fd Pk and several coys of 2/17 Bn. Trg proceeding with mine lifting and mine laying, and night ops. Quiet day very little air activity. Some arty exchanged in evening.	
	31	1100	Phone message from G that 20 bde will relieve 26 bde nights 1/2 Aug.	
		1400	Brig WINDEYER and Capt HAMER go to Div HQ and receive instns from G then proceed to HQ 26 Bde, 2/23 Bn HQ and 2/24 Bn HQ and make arrangements about relief.	

*W. J. W. W.*  
*W. J. W. W.*  
Comd. 20 Inf. Bde. Brig.



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

(Unit.) For Week Ending 4 Jul 42.

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

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*	1		
Brigadier				
Lieut.-Colonels	...			
Majors...	...	1		
Captains	...	6		
Lieutenants	...	3		
2nd Lieutenants	...			
Quartermasters	...			
District Officers	...			
	TOTALS ...	11		

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

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

### Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	L. R. RUMNEY	AIF	28.6.42	Attached for duty as B 1/c J Sec 9 Aust Div Sigs

### Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	R. R. KEED	AIF	28.6.42	Ceased to be attached as B 1/c J Sec 9 Aust Div Sigs
Lieut.	W. J. ELLIS	AIF	5.7.42	Ceased to be attached to J Sec 9 Aust Div Sigs.

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

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



PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.  ARMY No.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.  RANK.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1	NX	396	Brig.	W. J. V. WINDEYER	A. I. F.	Yes		Comd.
2								
3	NX	328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	"	"		B.M.
4								
5	NX	375	Capt.	T. W. YOUNG	"	"		S.C.
6								
7	QX	6200	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	"		L.O. I.
8								
9	NX	35094	Capt.	J. H. ELLIOTT	"	"		Bde Sup, O.- A.A.S.C.
10								
11	VX	48589	Capt.	W. F. BROWN	"	"		S.C. Learner
12								
13	VX	13528	T/Capt.	R. J. HAMER	"	"		B.M. Learner
14								
15	NX	15590	T/Capt.	M. V. PICKERING	"	"		T.O.
16								
17	NX	13867	Lieut.	M. D. VINCENT	"	No		Detached to 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
18								
19	VX	15146	Lieut.	K. M. HAMILTON	"	Yes		L.O. ll.
20								
21	NX	28145	Lieut.	T. C. HELDON	"	"		L.O. lll.
22								
23				OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.				
24	NX	39407	Lieut.	G. F. J. HOLTSBAUM	A. I. F.	3.6.42		Amenities Offr.
25	QX	8571	Lieut.	G. A. GEMMEL-SMITH	"	4.6.42		Acting I.O.
26	NX	57320	Capt.	E. C. LECKY	"	6.9.41		OC J Sec Sigs.
27	TX	6056	Lieut.	L. R. RUMNEY	"	28.6.42		2 i/c J Sec Sigs.
28	NX	18932	Lieut.	A. I. MORRISBY	"	11.1.42		OC 58 L. A. D.
29	NX	13029	Lieut.	H. J. WINSLOW	"	21.1.42		OC 1 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn.
30								
31	NX	13863	Lieut.	P. B. MARTIN	"	26.6.42		Acting I.O.
32								
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
SX 12188	Chap.	A. J. ROBJOHNS	AACHD	19.11.41 to 2/13 Bn for duty	
QX 6391	Chap.	G. R. GIBSON	"	21.11.41 to 2/15 Bn for duty	
VX 47364	Chap.	W. L. BYRNE	"	21. 4.42 to 2/17 Bn for duty	

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

6 Jul 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

SC 20 Aust Inf Bde.

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

Capt.

(Signature of Commander.)

9 Aust Div.







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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, Etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS
	W.Os. Class I.	W. Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W. Os. Class I	W. Os. Class II.	W Os Class III	S.Q.M.S., C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Sergeants	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	
Bricklayers ... ..																			
Butchers. ... ..																			
Carpenters and Joiners..																			
Clerks ... ..						1	1			2									
Cooks ... ..																			
Despatch Riders ...																			
Drivers I.C. (Tracked)..																			
"    (Wheeled) .																			
Driver-Mechanics ...																			
Driver-Operators. ...																			
Electricians ... ..																			
Equipment Repairers ...																			
Farriers.. ... ..																			
Fitters ... ..																			
Machine Gunners ...																			
Masons .. ... ..																			
Motor Mechanics ...																			
Pioneer, Infantry ... (other than tradesmen)																			
Plumbers and Pipefitters.																			
Range Takers ... ..																			
Saddlers & Harness Makers																			
Saddle Tree Makers ...																			
Sanitary & Water Duties.																			
Signallers ... ..																			
Storemen technical ...																			
Tailors. . ... ..																			
Wheelers ... ..																			
MT Sgt						1				1									
General duty personnel .									1	1									
Totals ( to agree with Columns 3 & 4 of Part A)						2	1	1		4									

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Unit.

Date of Despatch 6 Jul 42.

SC 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Signature of Commander.

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



FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

Hq 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
Brigadier	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	6		
Lieutenants ...	4	1	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	12	1	

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

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

Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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



PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank. Army No.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. RANK	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
NX 396	Brig.	W. J. V. WINDEYER	A.I.F.	Yes	Comd.
NX 328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	"	"	B.M.
NX 375	Capt.	T. W. YOUNG	"	"	S.C.
QX 6200	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	"	L.O. 1.
NX 35094	Capt.	J. H. ELLIOTT	"	"	Bde Sup O - A.A.S.C.
VX 48589	Capt.	W. P. BROWN	"	"	S.C. Learner.
VX 13528	T/Capt.	R. J. HAWER	"	"	B.M. Learner.
NX 15890	T/Capt.	M. V. PICKERING	"	"	T.O.
NX 13867	Lieut.	M. D. VINCENT	"	No.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.
VX 15146	Lieut.	H. M. HAMILTON	"	Yes	L.O. 11.
NX 28145	Lieut.	T. C. SHULDON	"	"	IO. 111.
NX 29407	Lieut.	G. F. J. HOLTSBAUM	"	"	Amenities Offr.
OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.					
NX 13863	Lieut.	P. B. MARTIN	A.I.F.	26.6.42	Acting L.O.
QX 8871	Lieut.	G. A. GEMMEL-SMITH	A.I.F.	3.6.42	Acting IO.
NX 57320	Capt.	E. C. LECKY	"	6.9.41	OC J Sec Sigs.
TX 6056	Lieut.	L. R. RUMNEY	"	25.6.42	S 1/c do
NX 18932	Lieut.	A. I. MORRISBY	"	11.1.42	OC 58 L.A.D.
NX 13029	Lieut.	H. J. WINBLOW	"	21.1.42	OC 1 Pl Aust HQ OC Bn.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
SX 12188	Chap.	A. J. ROBJOHN	AACHD	19.11.41 to 2/13 Bn	for duty
QX 6391	Chap.	G. R. GIBSON	"	21.11.41 to 2/15	"
VX 47864	Chap.	W. L. BYRNE	"	21. 4.42 to 2/17	"

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

11 Jul 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

 Capt.  
SG 20 Aust Inf Bde. 9 Aust Div.  
(Signature of Commander.)

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



HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde (Unit). 11 Jul 1942. (Date)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os Class I.			
W.Os Class II.	2		
W.Os Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Sergeants OR Colour-Sergeants.			
Staff Sergeants.	1		
Sergeants.	4	2	1
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals.	6	1	
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	55	1	
TOTALS.	68	* 4	* 1

**Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.**

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Cpl. HAVERCROFT, G.	1 Aust Corps Int Sec	58 Aust L. A. D.	13 ORs.
L/Cpl. JOHN, H. K.	do	J Sec 9 Div Sigs	45 ORs.
Sgt. NEWTON, P. E. S.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	1 Pl Aust Hq Gd Bn	39 ORs.
Pte. McEWEN, R.	do	Det 9 Aust Div Pro	
Pte. PORTEOUS, W.	do	Coy	13 ORs.
Pte. SMITH, A.	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.		
Pte. KENNEDY, J.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.		
Pte. SCHELLACK, P. C.	do		
Sgt. ATTWOOD, R. S.	DADOS, 9 Aust Div.		
Pte. BYRNE, F. J.	10 Coy A. A. S. C.		
Pte. MAWSON, J. O.	do		

[illegible]



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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, Etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.									REMARKS	
	W.Os. Class I.	W. Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals	Troopers, Privates Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W. Os. Class I	W. Os. Class II.	W Os Class III	S.Q.M.S., C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Sergeants	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.		TOTAL.
Bricklayers ... ..																				
Butchers. ... ..																				
Carpenters and Joiners..																				
Clerks... ..						1		1		2										
Cooks ... ..																				
Despatch Riders ...																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																				
"    (Wheeled) .																				
Driver-Mechanics ...																				
Driver-Operators. ...																				
Electricians ... ..																				
Equipment Repairers ...																				
Farriers.. ... ..																				
Fitters... ..																				
Machine Gunners ...																				
Masons.. ... ..																				
Motor Mechanics ...																				
Pioneer, Infantry ...																				
(other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters.																				
Range Takers ... ..																				
Saddlers & Harness Makers																				
Saddle Tree Makers ...																				
Sanitary & Water Duties.																				
Signallers ... ..																				
Storemen technical ...																				
Tailors, . ... ..																				
Wheelers ... ..																				
M.T.						1				1										
Armourer															1				1	
General duty personnel .									1	1										
Totals ( to agree with Columns 3 & 4 of Part A)						2		1	0	4					1				2	

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Unit.

Date of Despatch 11 Jul 42

for *[Signature]*  
SG 20 Aust Inf Bde.Signature of Commander, *[Signature]*

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



**PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.**

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank. Army No.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
NX 396	Brig.	W. J. V. WINDEYER	A. I. F.	Yes	Comd
NX 328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	"	"	B.M.
NX 375	Capt.	T. W. YOUNG	"	"	S.C.
QX 6200	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	"	L.O. 1.
NX 35094	Capt.	J. H. ELLIOTT	"	"	Bde Sup O - A.A.S.C.
VX 48589	Capt.	W. F. BROWN	"	"	S.C. Learner
VX 13528	T/Capt.	R. J. HAMER	"	"	B.M. Learner
NX 15590	T/Capt.	M. V. PICKERING	"	"	T.O.
NX 13867	Lieut.	M. D. VINCENT	"	No.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.
VX 15146	Lieut.	H. M. HAMILTON	"	Yes.	L.O. 11.
NX 28145	Lieut.	T. C. SHELDON	"	"	L.O. 111.
NX 29407	Lieut.	G. F. J. HOLTSBAUM	"	"	Amenities Offr.
<b>OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.</b>					
NX 13863	Lieut.	P. B. MARTIN	A. I. F.	26.6.42	Acting L.O.
QX 8571	Lieut.	G. A. GEMMEL-SMITH	"	4.6.42	Acting I.O.
NX 57320	Capt.	E. C. LECKY	"	6.9.41	OC J Sec Sigs
TX 6056	Lieut.	L. R. RUMNEY	"	28.6.42	2 i/c do
NX 18932	Lieut.	A. I. MORRISBY	"	11.1.42	OC 59 L.A.D.
NX 13029	Lieut.	H. J. WINSLOW	"	21.1.42	OC 1 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn.

**(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.**

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
SX 12188	Chap.	A. J. ROBJOHN	AACHD	19.11.41	to 2/13 Bn for
QX 6391	Chap.	G. R. GIBSON	"	21.11.41	to 2/15 Bn duty
VX 47864	Chap.	W. L. BYRNE	"	21. 4.42	to 2/17 Bn "

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

18 Jul 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

SC 20 Aust Inf Bde.

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

*W. J. V. Windeyer*

Capt.

(Signature of Commander.)

9 Aust Div.



**FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.**

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

(Unit.)

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

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
Brigadier	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	6		
Lieutenants ...	4	1	
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	12	1	

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

**PART B.—PARTICULARS OF OFFICERS JOINED OR QUITTED DURING WEEK.****Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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



HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde (Unit). 18 Jul 1942. (Date)

Part A. Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements required.

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

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pl. HAVERCROFT, G.	1 Aust Corps Int Sec.	58 Aust LA.D.	13 ORs.
Cpl. JOHN, H.K.	do	J Sec 9 Div Sigs	45 ORs.
lt. NEWTON, P.E.S.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.		
ce. McEWEN, R.	do	1 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn	37 ORs.
ce. PORTEOUS, W.	do		
ce. SMITH, A.	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	9 Aust Div Postal Unit.	4 ORs.
ce. KENNEDY, J.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.		
ce. SCHELLACK, F.C.	do	Det 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.	12 ORs.
lt. ATTWOOD, R.	S. DADOS 9 Aust Div.		
ce. BYRNE, F. J.	10 Coy A.A.S.C.		
ce. WADDLE, L.S.	do		

[illegible]



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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, Etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.								REMARKS	
	W.Os. Class I.	W. Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Staff-Sergeants.	Sergeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL	W. Os. Class I	W. Os. Class II.	W Os Class III	S.Q.M.S., C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Sergeants.	Sergeants	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.		Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.
Bricklayers ... ..																			
Butchers. ... ..																			
Carpenters and Joiners..									1	1									
Clerks... ..																			
Cooks ... ..																			
Despatch Riders ...																			
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ..																			
"    (Wheeled) .																			
Driver-Mechanics ...																			
Driver-Operators. ...																			
Electricians ... ..																			
Equipment Repairers ...																			
Farriers.. ... ..																			
Fitters... ..																			
Machine Gunners ...																			
Masons.. ... ..																			
Motor Mechanics ...																			
Pioneer, Infantry ... (other than tradesmen)																			
Plumbers and Pipefitters.																			
Range Takers ... ..																			
Saddlers & Harness Makers																			
Saddle Tree Makers ...																			
Sanitary & Water Duties.																			
Signallers ... ..																			
Storemen technical ...																			
Tailors. . ... ..																			
Wheelers ... ..																			
M.T. Sjt.						1				1									
AAOC - Ordnance																			
Conductor											1								1
Armourer															1				1
General duty personnel .									2	2									
Totals ( to agree with Columns 3 & 4 of Part A)						1		1	2	4	1				1				2

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

Unit.

Date of Despatch 18 Jul 42

SC 20 Aust Inf Bde.

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

*Lucy Young* Capt.  
Signature of Commander,

9 Aust Div.



FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde (Unit.)

PART A.—STRENGTH, SURPLUS OR REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.

1	2	3	4
Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits one establishment)
Brigadier	1		
Lieut.-Colonels ...			
Majors ...	1		
Captains ...	6		
Lieutenants ...	3		
2nd Lieutenants ...			
Quartermasters ...			
District Officers ...			
Totals ...	11		

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

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

Officers JOINED during week.				
Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Officers QUITTED during week.				
Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	G. A. GEMMEL-SMITH	A. I. B.	19.7.42	Evacuated to 2/3 Aust Fd Amb.
Lieut.	T. C. SHELTON	A. I. B.	20.7.42	Evacuated to 2/3 Aust Fd Amb.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known.)
Lieut	G. A. Gemmel-Smith	A.I.B.	M.D.D.
	T. C. Sheldon		M.D.D.



P/RT 3.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON STRENGTH.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6
Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No.)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
ARMY NO.	RANK				
NX 396	Brig.	H. J. V. WINDEYER	A.I.F.	Yes	Comd.
NX 328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	"	"	P.M.
NX 375	Capt.	T. W. YOUNG	"	"	S.O.
NX 6200	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	"	L.O. 1.
NX 35024	Capt.	J. H. ELLIOTT	"	"	Bde Sup O - AASO.
VX 13528	T/Capt.	E. J. HAMER	"	"	B.M. Learner
VX 48589	Capt.	H. F. BROWN	"	"	T.O. Learner
NX 15530	T/Capt.	H. V. PICKERING	"	"	T.O.
NX 13867	Lieut.	H. D. VINCENT	"	No.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.
VX 15146	Lieut.	H. M. HAMILTON	"	Yes	L.O. 11.
NX 29407	Lieut.	G. F. J. HOLTSBAUM	"	"	Amenities Offr.
OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.					
NX 13863	Lieut.	P. B. MARTIN	A.I.F.	26.6.42	Acting L.O.
NX 57320	Capt.	E. C. LECKY	"	8.9.41	OC 3 Sec Sigs.
TX 6056	Lieut.	L. R. RUMNEY	"	28.8.42	2 1/2 do
NX 13932	Lieut.	A. J. MORRISBY	"	11.1.42	OC 53 L.A.D.
NX 13029	Lieut.	H. J. WINDLOW	"	21.1.42	OC 1 Pl Aust Hq Cd Bn.

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
EX 18188	Chap.	A. J. ROBERTSON	AASO	19.11.41	to 2/13 Bn for
EX 6391	Chap.	G. A. GIBSON	"	21.11.41	to 2/15 Bn.
VX 47864	Chap.	H. L. DYANE	"	21. 4.42	to 2/17 "

Hq 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

25 Jul 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

*J. Young*

(Signature of Commander.)

30 20 Aust Inf Bde.

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



NO 30 Aust Inf Bde  
valry, Royal Armoured Corps, I

.....(Unit).....194.....(Date)

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

1	2	3	4
Detail.	Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached)	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments),
W.Os Class I.			
W.Os Class II.	1		
W.Os Class III.	1		
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Sergeants OR Colour-Sergeants.			
Staff Sergeants.			
Sergeants.	1		
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.	4	1	1
Corporals.			
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	6	1	
	53	1	1
TOTALS.		*	*
	66	2	2

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

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Pl. Havercroft	G. 1 Aust Corps Int Sec	58 Aust L.A.D.	13 ORs.
Cpl. John, H. A.	do	J Sec 9 Div Sigs	48 ORs.
lt. Newton, P.E.S.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	1 Pl Aust Hq Gd Bn.	38 ORs.
te. McEwen, R.	do		
te. Porteous, W.	do		
te. SMITH, A.	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	9 Aust Div Postal Unit	4 ORs.
te. Schellack, F.G.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	Det 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.	12 ORs.
te. Kennedy, J.	do		
lt. Attwood, R.S.	DADOS - 9 Aust Div.		
te. Byrne, F.J.	10 Coy A.A.S.C.	Pte. HARRISON, J.R.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.
te. Waddle, L.S.	do		

[illegible]



Unit.

Date of Despatch

SC 20 Aust Inf Bde

Signature of Commander,  
Aust Div.

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



Copy No. 11

SUMMARY OF ALLOTMENT OF ARTY  
at 1500 hrs 4 Jul

- H. C. Williams Maj  
EMRA 9 Aust Div.

Cond. | hmi.  
Dm. | R.



I. 3/15/135.

MOST SECRET.

W 9

COPY NO 27.

20 Aust Inf Bde.  
7 Jul 42.20 AUST INF BDE GP.CALL SIGN DIRECTORY

The following call signs will be used between Bde and Regt HQs and down to Bns and Btys on L/T and R/T when within 3000 yds of the enemy.

Period covered 8-16 Jul 42.

UNIT.	DATE.	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16.
HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde.	Jul.	IMD	AXG	WQP	SQY	KAQ	HHD	NFZ	BGG	LEN.
2/13 Bn.		RUG	VBX	DYW	POR	UFQ	JMB	LEY	OHC	VNR
2/15 Bn.		VAZ	JXI	ILQ	TRK	XIB	XIF	FKT	SLB	XQH
2/17 Bn.		UKN	IPT	ZPJ	UMZ	NEB	FUH	OQJ	FTM	XTH

FOUR LETTER CODE NAMES.

The following code names will be used for all L/T and R/T conversation fwd and laterally of Bn and equivalent HQs when within 3000 yds of the enemy.

2/13 Bn. HQ	HUMS	2/15 Bn. HQ	INRO	2/17 Bn. HQ	UDER.
HQ Coy	FLOP	HQ Coy	VICE	HQ Coy	DASH
A Coy	ESAY	A Coy	CAVY	A Coy	RAMA
B Coy	WETS	B Coy	GINS	B Coy	VEPA
C Coy	LOMA	C Coy	ISDO	C Coy	PELO
D Coy	PAVE	D Coy	JOMA	D Coy	ARTS
11 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt			GOKE		
2/3 Aust Fd Coy			DUNT		
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.			BAFN		
10 Coy AASC.			BRAN		
Gen Tpt Coy.			SIRO		
2 Rec Sec 2/1 AAFW.			ROMI		
58 Aust LAD.			FOFE.		

DISTRIBUTION:Copy No.

2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	1-3.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	4-6
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	7-9.
11 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt.	10.
2/3 Aust Fd Coy.	11.
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.	12.
10 Coy AASC.	13.
Gen Tpt Coy.	14.
2 Rec Sec 2/1 AAFW.	15.
58 Aust LAD.	16.
Comd.	17.
BM.	18.
SC.	19.
IO.	20.
Sigs.	22-24.
File.	25-26.
War Diary.	27-28.

*R. J. Haper Cert.*  
BM, 20 Aust Inf Bde.



MOST SECRET.  
20 AUST INF BDE H.Q.  
30 JULY 42.

COPY NO. 49

20 AUST INF BDE GP CALL SIGN DIRECTORY.

The following call signs will be taken into use by units of 20<sup>th</sup> Aust Inf Bde Gp. for the period 1-7 Aug 42 inclusive, on all R/T and L/T conversations :-

UNIT	DATE						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(Main)							
HQ. 20 AUST INF BDE	DLJ	IXY	ARS	OOQ	FPL	URG	CJY
(Rear)							
HQ. 20 AUST INF BDE	KKJ	HQA	WGD	KRD	UOK	AXQ	VHL
(W/T Control)							
HQ. 20 AUST INF BDE	ISP	GNI	XFA	PSI	BKO	BQZ	UTB
W/T COND.	AMJ	OLC	UIQ	WFR	WTY	ABL	YHF
2/13 AUST INF BN	WZV	ZRE	MXU	OVY	CHM	VAX	TJS
2/15 AUST INF BN	TYO	HTE	WPH	EYQ	HRX	JXI	IRX
2/17 AUST INF BN	GAC	JPE	EZX	BIZ	DSM	IFT	PZX
(W/T Control)							
2/7 AUST PD REGT	VAV	AGD	ZTG	XNN	LKI	BOU	KFZ
2/7 AUST PD REGT	RHA	YVE	RPK	UJR	CWV	BQF	ULD
13 BTY 2/7 PD REGT	JJV	CYW	QQF	AJK	JGD	JAC	GBZ
14 BTY 2/7 PD REGT	VZN	EHK	EQX	PWX	BNB	NNJ	FIZ
57 BTY 2/7 PD REGT	WHE	TJO	JDE	FLJ	IUU	DPN	PTW
2/3 AUST PD COY	UHN	TUP	RRX	NYW	HKG	AAP	MPP
"B" COY 2/2 MG. BN.	VYX	ENH					
		LCS	OUF	CHZ	RSY	CIC	AOM
58 L. A. D.	GAE	UHM	COL	EGC	HYH	VQJ	LNU
10 COY AASC	REE	VRL	AZW	EWG	OUB	ZDX	PHG
345 GEN. TFC. COY	PRA	LET	PQX	BPF	YMO	VRC	KAD
11 BTY 4 LAA REGT.	IQV	API	AMP	BFA	LJZ	ACU	HKU

This directory supersedes all previous lists, which will be destroyed upon receipt of this directory.

DISTRIBUTION:      Copy No.

2/13 BN	1-4
2/15 BN	5-8
2/17 BN	9-12
2/3 P <sup>a</sup> Coy	13
"B" Coy MG. BN.	14
58 LAD	15
10 Coy AASC	16
345 CT Coy	17
No 2 Rec Sec	18
2/8 P <sup>a</sup> Amb	19
11 Bty 4 LAA Regt	20-20
2/7 P <sup>a</sup> Regt	22-32
HQ 20 Inf Bde	33-35
J Sec Sigs	40-43
Spares	44-46
War Diary	47-48
File	49-50

*Ambsen V.*  
BN 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Maj.



*RJA* *my* **SECRET**

Copy No. .... 7

5 Jul 42

2/7 AUST FD REGT O.O. No. 12

Ref Map ALEXANDRIA 1/100000

**INFORMATION**

No change from verbal orders

1. Enemy : as per latest "I" Summaries
2. Own Tro 24 Bde Op fwd under EIGHTH ARMY  
20 & 26 BDES in ALEX def posn  
20 BDE RIGHT  
24 BDE LEFT

**INTENTION**

3. 2/7 AUST FD REGT will support 20 INF BDE

**METHOD**

4. Support 13 BTY will support 13 BN  
14 BTY will support 15 BN  
57 BTY will be superimposed over 13 and 15 BN  
Areas and liaise with 17 BN
5. Additional Support On withdrawal 26 BDE OP 2/7 AUST FD REGT  
will support 26 BN on S.W. Sector
6. Boundaries & F.D.Ls - As per trace att
7. Zones
  - (a) Fire - 13 & 57 BTYS Whole Bde front with at least  
2 guns per Tp able to fire to the main  
ALEX-CAIRO rd incl.  
14 BTY: from coast to main ALEX-CAIRO rd  
incl
  - (b) Oban - 1, 13 & 14 BTYS as per trace att  
11, 57 BTY Whole BDE front
  - (c) A.TK - Tps within Btys sited to give mutual  
support
8. O.P. Areas  
13 & 14 BTYS - as per trace att  
57 BTY - as for 13 & 14 BTYS
9. BTY Areas - See trace att  
Shoot down to F.D.Ls
10. Registration - Silent
11. Zero Lines - Bty
12. Survey

Priority	(a)	P.Gs
	(b)	A.TK ditch
	(c)	D.F. Tasks
	(d)	O.Ps
13. F.O.Os - O.Ps will be sited in depth
14. Time to be ready - 1600 hrs 5 JUL 42
15. Tasks : B.Cs will fix D.F. tasks with En Comd  
co-ordinated by R.H.Q.
16. W.Ls - In rear of Bty areas until BDE make allotment
17. B Ech - Under Bty control
18. A.P. - 4 A.A.D. 014344

AMM



19. P.O.L. - (a) No. 8 Pet Depot 1 mile South AMIRIYA  
(b) Pet Depot 990330
20. Water - (a) AMIRIYA Area  
(b) W.P. 983322  
(c) EL DIKHEILA Aerodrome 0035
21. Medical - (a) RAP Orderly with each Bty  
(b) RMO visit Btys each day

INTERCOMB

22. 20 BDE HQ - Square 492 928
23. RHQ at 497260 932460
24. Sig Layout: Btys & RHQ Line & Wireless Frequencies to be advised
25. Code Word - for this order "RAINBOW"

ACK.

*W. E. Stevens* Capt  
Adj't 2/7 AUST ID REGT

Time of Signature 1515 hrs

Issued by Sigs

O.O.No. 12 & Appx 'A'  
Copy No.

DISTRIBUTION

13 FD BTY	1
14 FD BTY	2
57 FD BTY	3
9 A.TK BTY	4
11 Lt A.A. BTY	5
HQ RAA	6
20 INF BDE	7
C.O.	8
2 i/c	9
ADJT	10
R.S.O.	11
WAR DIARY	12-13
FILE	14



SECRET

Appx. "A"  
Copy No. 7.

Ref Map ALEXANDRIA  
Scale 1: 100,000

480  
930

TARGET TRACE.

Date.....	No.....	Survey Co., R.A. Ref. No.....			
Target.....					
Battery .....					
Post.....	Computed Bearing.	Chart Bearing.	Range.	A. of S.	
		510			
Bty.					

LEGEND

F.D.L.s .....  
13 Bty Zone Obs .....  
14 " " .....  
Bde Boundary .....  
Bn " " .....

Wt. 39240/162 3500 pads 1/40 C. N. & Co. Ltd. 51-5774 Forms B.2541/5

Army Form B.2541  
(in pads of 50)



7 Jul 42.

20 AUST INF BDE GP- CO No 16.

Ref Maps: ALEXANDRIA, EL HAMMAM, EL DABA sheets 1: 100,000.

INFORMATION.

1. Enemy. As per Sitrep and Intelligence Summary. The enemy are holding the general line from the coast about 883298 to area 888278 then west along the ridge. Enemy divs are tired and very under strength both in men and material.
2. Own tps. 9 Aust Div less one Bde is in corps res. The 24 Aust Inf Bde is in posn along the ridge from approx Trig 93 Sq 431891 to Trig 101 sq 440894 and the 26 Aust Inf Bde Gp is astride the rd and tracks in area between 43 and 44 northings grids and between 897 and 903 easting grids.
3. Air. Fwd tps and L of C have been subjected to some air attacks, but generally speaking the RAF is maintaining air supremacy.

INTENTION.

4. 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp (less 2/13 Aust Inf Bn) will move to 9 Aust Div area.

METHOD.

5. General. Preceded by a Bde Recce Party, the Bde Gp will move in four gps, with protective dets, on two rds to the area DAUWAR MUH ABU SHINEINA 44859044- EL GASIMIYA 45209018.
6. Date and Time of move will be notified by signal.
7. Composition of 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp.  
 HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde, Sigs Sec, 58 LAD and Gd Pl.  
 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.  
 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.  
 2/7 Aust Fd Regt, Sig Sec, 63 LAD.  
 9 Bty 3 Aust Atk Regt.  
 11 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt.  
 2/3 Aust Fd Coy.  
 B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.  
 10 Coy AASC.  
 Two Pls Gen Tpt Coy.  
 2/8 Aust Fd Amb (less details)  
 2 Rec Sec 2/1 AAFW.  
 J Div Sec 1 Ord Fd Pk.  
 Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.
8. Adv Gds. Route A. Comd- Capt W.W. COBB, 2/15 Bn.  
 Carrier Pl (less one sec)-2/15 Bn.  
 FOO- 14 Fd Bty.  
 one Tp- 9 Atk Bty.  
 "A" Coy- 2/15 Bn.  
 one Pl-"B" Coy 2/2 MG Bn.  
 14 Bty- 2/7 Aust Fd Regt  
  
Route B. Comd- Capt I.F. McMASTER, 2/17 Bn.  
 Two secs carriers- 2/17 Bn.  
 FOO- 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.  
 one Tp 9 Atk Bty.  
 "D" Coy- 2/17 Bn.
9. Grouping. Grouping and order of March-Appx "A".



10. Routes-Timings. see Appx "A".

11. Preliminary Moves.

- (a) Initial concentrations to be completed by 2000 hrs 7 Jul.  
see Appx "B".
- (b) Coln B conforms to movement of Coln A to provide flank protection to the latter coln.

12. AA.

- (a) Individual guns of Lt AA Bty will be distributed throughout the colns with the following priority for AA protection:-

- (i) Fd Arty.
- (ii) Remainder of coln.

- (b) AA LMGs, one per pl or equivalent will be mounted.

- (c) One AA Sentry per veh.

13. Harbouring.

On arrival in new area units will form open harbour with NOT less than 100 x between vehs.

AMM.

14. Sups.

- (a) Units will move with:- 2 days dry rations.  
3 days hard veh rations.

- (b) Res rations will be carried distributed among vehs.

- (c) Further sups will be drawn by 2nd line tpt from 9 BSD AMERIYA. SPs will be notified by signal.

15. Water.

- (a) All water carts, water trailers, water containers and water bottles will be filled.

- (b) Replenishment will be by 1st line tpt from EL HAMMAM at a scale of 1 gal per man per day. This scale will NOT be exceeded.

16. POL.

- (a) All vehs will move with sufficient POL for 150 miles.

- (b) All empty 10 Coy AASC vehs will be loaded with cased petrol.

- (c) Subsequent drawings will be made by 2nd line tpt from BURG EL ARAB. PPs will be notified by signal.

17. AMM.

- (a) All units will move with complete 1st line scale.

- (b) One complete 2nd line refill will be carried by 10 Coy AASC.

- (c) Replenishment will be drawn in 2nd line from BURG EL ARAB. APs will be notified

18. Allotment Tp Carrying Tpt.

Two pls Gen Tpt Coy will be allotted as follows and will report to their respective Bns by 2000 hrs 7 Jul 42:-

2/15 Bn- one pl.

2/17 Bn- one pl.



19. Anti-Gas Eqpt.  
The following personal anti-gas eqpt will be carried on the man:-  
Respirators, Eyeshields, Ointment and cotton waste, capes, Detectors.
20. Surplus Baggage.  
Surplus baggage still in possession of units will be left with  
'out of battle' personnel
21. Picks and Shovels.  
(a) All vehs will be equipped with pick and shovel.  
(b) Spares will be carried distributed throughout the coln.
22. A Tk Mines.  
10 Coy AASC will load 1500 ATK mines which will be carried as  
follows, the trucks reporting by the times stated:-  
2/15 Bn- 1 x 3 ton (600 mines) 2000 hrs 7 Jul.  
2/17 Bn- 1 x 3 ton (600 mines) 2000 hrs 7 Jul.  
Balance with 10 Coy AASC.
23. Medical.  
Casualties will be cleared from MDS to 14 CCS 465910 (red grid),  
one mile north of GYPSUM FACTORY.
24. Traffic.  
(a) Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy will be responsible for general  
traffic direction on the move.  
(b) TP will be est at Junc Coast rd EL HAMMAM turnoff 45879087.  
(c) A Traffic Control pt will be est by this HQ on the main  
Coast rd in the 2/15 Bn area. The TCP will be marked by  
two RED flags on either side of the rd.  
(d) All MT drawing sups from AMIRIYA will proceed there by the  
DESERT ROUTE along the ry and return by the main rd  
ALEXANDRIA-MAIRUH.
25. Intercomm.  
(a) Bde HQ closes present location at time to be notified, then  
moves at head of Gp 111.  
(b) Bde Report centre will fly the BLUE Bde pennant on veh.
26. Synchronisation of watches BDE time 2100 hrs daily unless other-  
wise ordered by this HQ.

ACK.

Signed at 1200 hrs.  
Issued through Sigs and LOS.

*[Signature]* Maj.  
BM, 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:	Copy No.		
2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	1.	2 Rec Sec 2/1 AAFW.	15.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	2.	J Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk.	16.
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	3.	Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.	17.
"J" Sec Sigs.	4.	9 Aust Div.	18.
1 Pl A Coy Aust HQ Gd Bn.	5.	Comd.	19.
58 Aust LAD.	6.	HM.	20.
2/7 Aust Fd Regt.	7.	SC.	21.
9 Bty 3 Aust ATK Regt.	8.	IO.	22.
11 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt.	9.	TO.	23.
2/3 Aust Fd Coy.	10.	LOS.	24- 25.
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.	11.	RASCO.	27.
10 Coy AASC.	12.	War Diary.	28- 29.
Gen Tpt Coy.	13.	File.	30- 31.
2/8 Aust Fd Amb.	14.	Spares.	32- 37.



APPX "A" MOVEMENT TABLE.

Issued in conjunction with 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp- 00 No 16.

INITIAL CONCENTRATIONS: To be completed by 2000 hrs 7 Jul 42.

ROUTE "A" : Main Coast rd.

ROUTE "B" : CAIRO RD-rd junc 49899251-BURG EL ARAB-track north of ry line to EL HAMMAM.

SPEED- DENSITY : 10 MIH; 20 VTM.

HALFS : 10 mins to each even hr for 10 mins.

START Pts. : ROUTE "A" flagged pt on CAIRO rd about 49469303.

ROUTE "B" flagged pt on Coast rd 1 mile SW of fwd ATK ditch.

Serial No.	Group.	Units.	Timings.		Route.	Remarks.
			Past Head.	SP Tail.		
1.	Adv Gd. Route "B"	Two secs carriers, 2/17 Bn. FOO- 57 Bty 2/7 Fd Regt. one Tp-9 ATK Bty. "D" Coy. 2/17 Bn.	-	-	B.	
2.	Left Flank Gd.	Carrier Pl (less two secs) 2/17 Bn.	Z.	Z + 3.	B.	
3.	Gp 1.	2/17 Bn (less one coy and Carrier Pl). 57 Fd Bty. one Sec 2/3 Aust Fd Coy. one Tp- 11 AA Bty. one Pl "B" Coy 2/2 MG Bn. two Pls 10 Coy AASC. Mob Sec 2/8 Aust Fd Amb. one Ambulance Car. 58 Aust LAD. one Rec Veh- 2 Rec Sec. one Tp 9 ATK Bty.	Z +	Z + 90.	B.	Det of 4 Pro on MCs will accompany gp for rd control.
4.	Adv Gd. Route "A"	Carrier Pl (less one sec)-2/15 Bn. FOO. 14 Fd Bty. One Tp 9 ATK Bty. "A" Coy 2/15 Bn. one Pl "B" Coy 2/2 MG Bn. 14 Fd Bty.	-	-	A.	

(over)



Serial No.	Group.	Units.	T i m i n g s		Route.	Remarks.
			Past Head.	SP. Tail.		
5.	Gp 11.	2/15 Bn (less one coy and Carriers) 2/7 Fd Regt (less two Btys) HQ 9 ATK Bty. "B" Coy 2/2 MG Bn (less two PIs) Mob sec 2/8 Aust Fd Amb. One Ambulance Car.	Z.	Z + 60.	A.	2/7 Fd Regt (less two Btys) will move fwd on morning of move from present location and join coln at TCP.
6.	Gp 111.	Main HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde. "J" Sec Sigs. 1 Pl A Coy HQ Gd Bn. Sec 9 Div Pro Coy (less det) HQ 11 A. Bty. 2/3 Fd Coy (less one sec) 2/8 Fd Amb (less two Mob secs).	Z + 65.	Z + 110	A.	
7.	Gp 11.	"B" Ech Arty Gp. 10 Coy AASC (less two pla). J Div Sec 1 Ord Fd Pk. 2 Rec Sec 2/1 AAFW. one Tp 9 ATK Bty.	Z + 120.	Z + 180.	A.	

NOTE: Lt A. secs will be dispersed throughout coln under arrangements made by CO 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.



931. 490.

INITIAL CONCENTRATION AREAS.

Superimpose over maps  
KREIR, EL DEIR, EL MEX and  
EL AMIRIYA Sheets 1:25,000.

S E C R E T.

APPX "B"

COPY NO 29

SP.

2/17 Bn. Gp 1 and  
Adv Gd "B" Route.

20 Bde Hq.  
Gp 111.

TCP.

928 490.

928.  
496.

2/15 Bn. Gp 11. and  
Adv Gd "A" Route.

SP. 1 mile SW of  
fwd ATK ditch.

NOTE:  
Gp 1V in 2/7 Fd Regt "B" Ech area.



PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

To:

1 PlsA Coy HQ Gd Bn, "J" Sec Sigs, 58 Aust LAD, 2/13 Bn, 2/15 Bn, 2/17 Bn,  
2/3 Aust Fd Coy, 2 Coy 2 /2 Aust MG Bn , 10 Coy AASC, 2 Rec Sec 2/1 AAFW, 345  
Gen Tpt Coy, 2/8 Aust Fd Amb.

FROM: 20 AUST INF BDE. 0.33. 21. --

ref this HQ signal 0.32 (.) no move tonight except 2/13 bn and  
one pl MMGS after dusk (.) all other units remain 4 hrs notice (.)  
all informed .

Except  
Wireless.

*R. J. Hamer Capt*

PHONE & SDR. Time of  
IMMEDIATE. origin. 1410 hrs.



PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM.

To:

1 Pl "A" Coy HQ Gd Bn, "J" Sec Sigs, 58 Aust LAD, 2/13 Bn, 2/15 Bn, 2/17 Bn,  
~~11 Bn, 2/19 Bn, 2/21 Bn, 2/23 Bn, 2/25 Bn, 2/27 Bn, 2/29 Bn, 3/1 Bn, 3/3 Bn, 3/5 Bn, 3/7 Bn, 3/9 Bn, 3/11 Bn, 3/13 Bn, 3/15 Bn, 3/17 Bn, 3/19 Bn, 3/21 Bn, 3/23 Bn, 3/25 Bn, 3/27 Bn, 3/29 Bn, 3/31 Bn, 4/1 Bn, 4/3 Bn, 4/5 Bn, 4/7 Bn, 4/9 Bn, 4/11 Bn, 4/13 Bn, 4/15 Bn, 4/17 Bn, 4/19 Bn, 4/21 Bn, 4/23 Bn, 4/25 Bn, 4/27 Bn, 4/29 Bn, 4/31 Bn, 5/1 Bn, 5/3 Bn, 5/5 Bn, 5/7 Bn, 5/9 Bn, 5/11 Bn, 5/13 Bn, 5/15 Bn, 5/17 Bn, 5/19 Bn, 5/21 Bn, 5/23 Bn, 5/25 Bn, 5/27 Bn, 5/29 Bn, 5/31 Bn, 6/1 Bn, 6/3 Bn, 6/5 Bn, 6/7 Bn, 6/9 Bn, 6/11 Bn, 6/13 Bn, 6/15 Bn, 6/17 Bn, 6/19 Bn, 6/21 Bn, 6/23 Bn, 6/25 Bn, 6/27 Bn, 6/29 Bn, 6/31 Bn, 7/1 Bn, 7/3 Bn, 7/5 Bn, 7/7 Bn, 7/9 Bn, 7/11 Bn, 7/13 Bn, 7/15 Bn, 7/17 Bn, 7/19 Bn, 7/21 Bn, 7/23 Bn, 7/25 Bn, 7/27 Bn, 7/29 Bn, 7/31 Bn, 8/1 Bn, 8/3 Bn, 8/5 Bn, 8/7 Bn, 8/9 Bn, 8/11 Bn, 8/13 Bn, 8/15 Bn, 8/17 Bn, 8/19 Bn, 8/21 Bn, 8/23 Bn, 8/25 Bn, 8/27 Bn, 8/29 Bn, 8/31 Bn, 9/1 Bn, 9/3 Bn, 9/5 Bn, 9/7 Bn, 9/9 Bn, 9/11 Bn, 9/13 Bn, 9/15 Bn, 9/17 Bn, 9/19 Bn, 9/21 Bn, 9/23 Bn, 9/25 Bn, 9/27 Bn, 9/29 Bn, 9/31 Bn, 10/1 Bn, 10/3 Bn, 10/5 Bn, 10/7 Bn, 10/9 Bn, 10/11 Bn, 10/13 Bn, 10/15 Bn, 10/17 Bn, 10/19 Bn, 10/21 Bn, 10/23 Bn, 10/25 Bn, 10/27 Bn, 10/29 Bn, 10/31 Bn, 11/1 Bn, 11/3 Bn, 11/5 Bn, 11/7 Bn, 11/9 Bn, 11/11 Bn, 11/13 Bn, 11/15 Bn, 11/17 Bn, 11/19 Bn, 11/21 Bn, 11/23 Bn, 11/25 Bn, 11/27 Bn, 11/29 Bn, 11/31 Bn, 12/1 Bn, 12/3 Bn, 12/5 Bn, 12/7 Bn, 12/9 Bn, 12/11 Bn, 12/13 Bn, 12/15 Bn, 12/17 Bn, 12/19 Bn, 12/21 Bn, 12/23 Bn, 12/25 Bn, 12/27 Bn, 12/29 Bn, 12/31 Bn~~  
11 Bn, 2/3 Aust Fd Coy, B Coy 2/2 MG Bn,  
10 Coy AASC, 2 Rec Sec 2/1 AAPW, 1 Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk, 345 Gen Tpt Coy  
2/8 Aust Fd Amb.

FROM: 20 AUST INF BDE.

No. 32.

21.

WARNING ORDER (.) no movement before 1630 hrs (.)  
cmds conference this HQ 1430 hrs (.) all informed.

Except  
Wireless.

PHONE & SDR.  
Maj. IMMEDIATE

Time of  
origin. 1300. hrs.



PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM.

To:  
2/13 BN, 2/15 BN, 2/17 BN, 11 BTY 4 LT AA REGT, 2/3 FD COY, B COY 2/2 MG BN,  
10 COY AASC, ~~2/13 BN, 2/15 BN, 2/17 BN, 11 BTY 4 LT AA REGT, 2/3 FD COY, B COY 2/2 MG BN,~~  
2 REC SEC 2/1 AAFW, 58 LAD,  
J SEC SIGS, 1 PL HQ GD BN, 345 GEN TPT COY, J DIV SEC ORD FD PK,  
2/7 AUST FD REGT. 2/8 AUST FD AMB(FOR INFORMATION).

FROM: 20 AUST INF BDE. No. 0.30. ~~Box~~ 19. --

WARNING ORDER (.) 2/15 bn gp are placed on two hrs notice to move (.)  
remaining bde units 3 hrs notice (.) swimming parties may continue (.)  
all informed (.) ~~ack~~

Except wireless. Maj. PHONE &  
DRLS. TOB. 0925.hrs.

THI.  
TOR.





## MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL  
AND  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

2/13 BN, 2/15 BN, 2/17 BN, 11 BTY 4 Lt AA REGT, 2/3 FD COY, B COY 2/2 MG BN  
 10 COY AASC, 2/8 AUST FD AMB, 2 REC SEC 2/1 AAFW, 2/7 AUST FD REGT,  
 58 AUST LAD, 1 PL A COY HQ GD BN, "J" SEC SIG.

FROM

20 AUST INF BDE.

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

WARNING ORDER

(..)

2/15 bn, 14 fd bty,

1 pl B COY 2/2 MG Bn ,

on

one

hrs

notice

to

move

(..)

all

other

units

on

two

hrs

notice

(..)

swimming

parties

to

return

immediately

(..)

all

informed

(..)

ack

(F) THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY  
 ANY MEANS \*..... WIRELESS.

except

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

Signed

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
 DEGREE OF PRIORITY

IMMEDIATE.

TIME OF ORIGIN

Signed

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

\* Originator to insert "including" or "except" according to whether the message may or may NOT be sent by wireless.



SECRET

Copy No. 2.3

9 Jul 42

26 AUST INF BDE GP ADM INSTN NO 4

(Issued in conjunction with 26 Aust Inf Bde OO No 10 of 9 Jul 42)

Ref Maps EL QASABA }  
EL ALAMEIN } 1/50,000

1. GENERAL

This order includes general adm infm for 26 Aust Inf Bde Gp whilst in present area and also special additional details for operation REEFKNOT.

2. SUPS

- (a) Draw in 2nd line tpt (12 coy AASC) from BSD EL HAMMAM.
- (b) All units and sub-units in bde gp will continue to draw from same Bde Gp Pt as for 8 and 9 Jul opening 1900 hrs closing 2000 hrs daily.
- (c) 3 Days veh rations now carried WILL NOT be consumed, except in case of emergency only.

3. AMN

- (a) Draw in 2nd line tpt (12 coy AASC) from FAD, BURG EL ARAB.
- (b) Present AP for all units and sub units in 26 Bde Gp on SOUTH of MAIN MATRUH rd closes 2200 hrs 9 Jul.
- (c) New AP for all units and sub units (excl fd arty) opens continuously from 0400 hrs 10 Jul in general area 88039036. / (purple grid)
- (d) AP for 2/12 Fd Regt will be notified direct from HQ RAA 9 Aust Div.
- (e) Demands on 26 Bde Gp AP may be made direct when replenishment necessary in normal manner.
- (f) In emergency, only in the event of a breakdown of amn sup in 2nd line from BURG EL ARAB amn of all natures may be obtained from EL ALAMEIN fortress res at area 88652939 (purple grid).

4. FUEL

- (a) Draw in 2nd line tpt (12 coy AASC) from P&P, BAHIG sta.
- (b) Units and sub units in bde gp will continue to draw daily requirements from same Bde Gp PP as for 8 and 9 Jul, opening 1900 hrs closing 2000 hrs daily.
- (c) Vehs in bde gp must have full tanks at all times plus a reasonable cased res. Indents on AB 55s signed by COs or OSC, required.



- (d) POL for all vehs in bde gp for 100 miles only will be held in 2nd line tpt. All other POL to be returned PSP at BAHIG sta.

#### 5. WATER

- (a) Normal WP at EL HAMMAM drawn in 1st line tpt. In emergency from EL ALAMEIN. AB 55s signed by COs or OSG, required at EL HAMMAM.
- (b) Water ration remains at one gall per man per day (all purposes) with the following additions -
- on RAP - 5 gallons per day
  - ADS - 10 gallons per day
  - MDS - 20 gallons per day
  - Rec Secs - 20 gallons per day
  - LADs - 20 gallons per day

#### 6. VEH CASUALTIES

Attention is drawn to 9 Aust Div Adm Instn No 86 para 9 for correct procedure.

#### 7. CASUALTIES IN CONTROLLED STORES OTHER THAN MT

Attention is drawn to 9 Aust Div Adm Instn No 86 para 10 for correct procedure.

#### 8. MEDICAL

- (a) RAPs of each e/24 and 2/48 Aust Inf Bns will have att to them one amb waggon and one stretcher squad from 2/11 Aust Fd Amb by 2000 hrs 9 Jul.
- (b) For infm of all concerned RAPs of 2/7, 2/8 and 2/12 Aust Fd Regts will also have one amb waggon att by 2000 hrs 9 Jul.
- (c) ADS (mob sec) will be established by 2/11 Aust Fd Amb in vicinity 88802960 by 2000 hrs 9 Jul.
- (d) When tactical situation permits a further mob sec will open in vicinity 87883012 for casualties in this area.
- (e) MDS will be situated at 87 kilo peg (North side of MATRUH rd)
- (f) Route of evacuation wherever possible will be by coastal track passing through ADS mentioned in para 8 (c) above.

#### 9. PW ARRANGEMENTS

- (a) Small numbers will be evacuated by units to 26 Bde collecting posts at 88352978 (South of coastal track) and at 88352962. From these posts unit 1st Line Tpt and any will evacuate PsW (x) to 30 Corps Cage 47049025, five kilos West of BURG EL ARAB.
- (b) Large numbers will be evacuated by march route to a cage to be established by 30 Corps at AL ALAMEIN Sta, South of ry. This cage will be opened only upon receipt of notice from 26 Bde. It is estimated that this opening will take one hr after advice to 30 Corps. All units will advise SC, 26 Aust Inf Bde immediately when large numbers of PsW have been captured.
- (c) PsW will be kept off tracks and rds at all times and moved back in gps.

(x) available 2nd line tpt (AASC)



10.

ACKNOWLEDGE

*H. J. Halliday*  
Capt  
SC 26 Aust Inf Bde

Signed at 1845 hrs

Issued by LO

Distribn

As per OO No.10.



SECRET

Copy No

23

9 Jul 42

26 AUST INF BDE CO NO 10

Ref Maps : EL ALAMEIN and EL QASABA Sheets 1/50,000.

INFM

1. 26 Aust Inf Bde Sitreps of even date are att.
2. A composite raiding force of tks armed Cs and guns is to raid the IGS in the EL DABA area and installations en route.
3. The following additional tps are under comd 26 Aust Inf Bde wef 1800 hrs 9 Jul 42 :

One tp 9 Aust A Tk Bty  
One pl C Coy 2/2 MG Bn  
44 RTR (less two sqns)  
8 RTR (less two sqns)  
2/23 Aust Inf Bn (reverts)

4. The following units revert to comd 9 Aust Div wef 1800 hrs 9 Jul :

2/12 Aust Fd Regt  
One tp 10 Aust Lt AA Bty

INTENTION

5. 26 Aust Inf Bde will capture and hold TELL EL EISA ridge (Pt 26, 879300 - Pt 33 feature 875301 - 874301) and Pt 24 feature 874299.

METHOD

6. The attack will be carried out in two phases.

Phase 1. 2/48 Bn with under comd  
One sqn 8 RTR  
One tp 10 Aust A Tk Bty  
A Coy 2/2 MG Pn (less one pl)

captures HAMMERS HILL 87903001 and GOODWINS CREST 87713008.

Phase 2. 2/24 Bn with under comd  
One sqn 44 RTR  
One tp 10 Aust A Tk Bty  
One pl ea A & B Coy 2/2 MG Bn

captures SPOWERS KOP 87543017.

7. Start lines, axes of adv objectives and limits of exploitation are given in tracing "A" att.

8. Assembly areas, and routes to them are as already recd.

9. Arty sp: RAA 9 Aust Div will sp the attack by timed concentrations as outlined in trace "B" att.

2/8 Fd Regt will remain mobile and will move as follows :

One bty will leave 2/24 Bn start line in sp of one sqn 44 RTR at 0455 hrs. 2/8 Fd Regt (less one bty) will move on order of CRA



to an area NW of SPUR 10 879299 to sp the fwd bns at which time that regt comes under comd 26 Aust Inf Bde.

10. A Tk sp. A Tk defensive fire will be coordinated by comd 3 A Tk Regt and will be employed on the following tasks:

- (a) From COAST at 87563034 to Western end SNELL'S SPUR.
- (b) SNELLS SPUR incl ry cutting 87532998.
- (c) Line of ry from cutting to 878 Easting grid.

11. Air sp is being provided as follows :

- (a) Fighter sweep over area of consolidation from about 0700 hrs 10 Jul.
- (b) Fighter - bomber attacks on the following at hrs stated :
  - (i) 0545 - SPOWERS KOP and Pt 24 87462997
  - (ii) 0600 - Track junc 87553035 and Pt 24 87312995
- (c) Direct sp at call on opportunity targets through FASL.

12. On consolidation of posn sqns 8 and 44 RTR will rally in area North of HAMMERS HILL and in further ops will act under RTR gp comd.

13. AA : One tp 10 Lt AA Bty will remain mob in assembly area 2/8 Aust Fd Regt ready to move on call of that unit to area North of HAMMERS HILL to protect fd gun areas and tk leaguer.

14. Upon consolidation the inter bn boundary will be line of track running NE to SW thence TELL EL EISA Sta 87612991 all incl 2/48 Bn.

15. On capture of SPOWERS KOP 2/13 Fd Coy will commence laying ADM (minefd as shown in trace A.

15. Issued separately.

#### INTERCOMM

16. FASL with Tac HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde for air sp.

17. Tac HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde closes present location 2030 hrs re-opens 88282980 same time.

18. LOS with fwd bns as from Z.

19. Synchronisation of watches 1900 hrs BBC time.

20. Success sigs :

- (a) HAMMERS HILL - two white Verrey lights
- (b) GOODWINS CREST - two green " "
- (c) SPOWERS KOP - two red " "
- (d) SNELL'S SPUR - one red, one white verrey light

21. Comd RTR gp with Tac HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde till consolidation complete.

/22.



22. Wireless silence till zero hr. Netting will be without radiation.

ACK. ✓

*017 by 1645 hrs*

*[Signature]*

Maj  
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde

Signed at 1623 hrs

Issued through Sigs

Distribn :-

Copy No

2/23 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/24 " "	2
2/48 " "	3
L Sec Sigs	4
4 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn	5
78 Aust LAD	6
44 RTR	7
2/8 Aust Fd Regt	8
2/12 Aust Fd Regt	9
9 Aust A Tk Bty	10
10 " "	11
104 A Tk Bty	12
10 Aust Lt AA Bty	13
2/13 Aust Fd Coy	14
A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	15
12 Coy AASC	16
462 Gen Tpt Coy RASC	17
2/11 Aust Fd Amb	18
1 Rec Sec 2/1 Aust A Fd Wkshops	19
H Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk	20
9 Aust Div	21
RAA 9 Aust Div	22
20 Aust Inf Bde	23
24 " "	24
1 SA Div	25 - 26
Comd	27
Spare	28 - 31
File	32 - 33
War Diary	34 - 35



S E C R E T

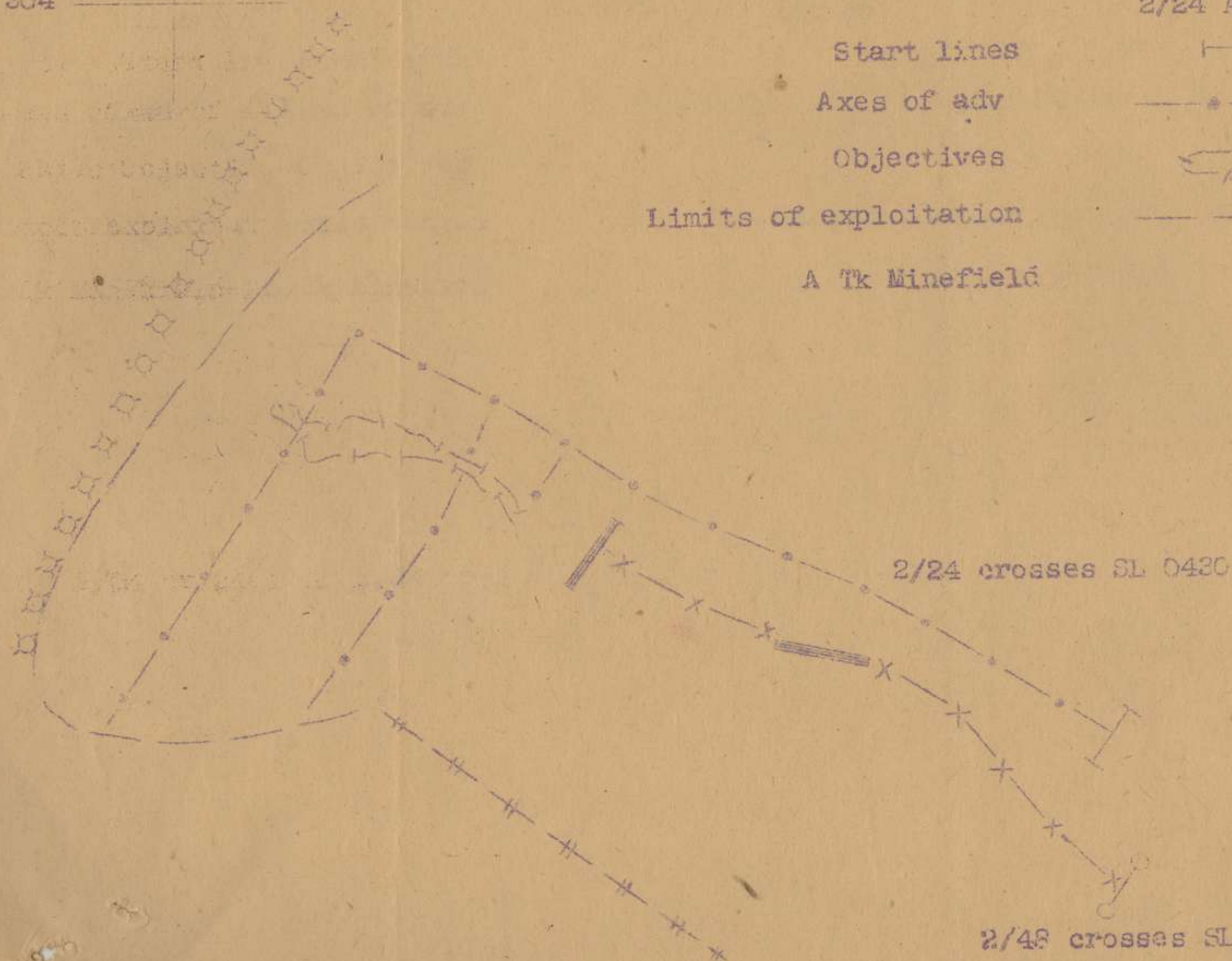
APPX A 26 AUST INF BDE OO NO 10

Ref Map - EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

874

304

	2/24 Aust Inf Bn	2/48 Aust Inf Bn
Start lines	— — —	○—○
Axes of adv	—•—•—	—x—x—
Objectives	—>—>—	—  —  —
Limits of exploitation	—+—+—	—+—+—
A Tk Minefield		—x—x—x—x—



884

298



SECRET

Copy No 15

9 Jul 42

ADM INSTRUCTIONS

To accompany RAA 9 Aust Div OO No 1 dated 9 Jul 42

Ref Map EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000

1. Adm arrangements in general for operation are as follows :
  - (a) Sup From EL HAMMAM by 2nd line tpt
  - (b) POL From BAHIG by 2nd line tpt
  - (c) WATER From EL HAMMAM by 1st line tpt.  
In emergency from EL ALAMEIN.

2. MEDICAL 26 Aust Inf Bde Gp (2/11 Aust Fd Amb) are establishing by 2000 hrs 9 Jul 42.

- (a) MDS at 87 kilo peg North side of main MATRUH rd.
- (b) ADS 8880 2960
- (c) Car Post with mob sec 4245 9036. As the attack progresses this mob sec will move fwd by coast track, est as far fwd as situation permits.
- (d) Foremost medical posts for raiding party and 9 Aust Div Cav will be bn RAPs.

3. PW Small numbers will be evacuated from Bde collecting post, in returning 1st or 2nd line tpt to 30 Corps cage 47049095, five kilos West of BURG EL ARAB.

Large numbers will be evacuated by march route to a cage to be established by 30 Corps at EL ALAMEIN Sta, South of Ry Cage exists, but 30 Corps require one hr from receipt of notice that large numbers have been captured, to arrange personnel to hold. Notice to be given through Main 9 Aust Div, stating estimated numbers captured at that time.

Prisoners will be kept just off tracks and rds and moved back in gps as soon as possible.

20 Aust Inf Bde will assist in accordance with instrs to be issued separately.

4. DISTRIBUTION as per RAA 9 Aust Div OO No 1 dated 9 Jul 42.

*A. E. Williams* Maj.  
EMRA 9 Aust Div.



SECRET.

Copy No. 11

1 ARMY TANK BDE OPERATION ORDER No. 13.

21 Jul 42.

Ref Maps:- 1/100,000 EL HAIMAM.  
1/100,000 EL DABA -- EL ALAMEIN.  
1/250,000 EL DABA.  
-----

INFORMATION.

Enemy.

1. In accordance with latest Intelligence Summaries and Daily Sitreps.
2. The Northern portion of the enemy front from the 290 Northing grid to the sea is now held by German troops supported by elements of the Italian Trieste and Sabratha Divisions. The German forces which have been identified in this part of the front are:-

BRIEHLE Group.  
KIEL Group.  
Elements of 90 Lt Div.  
32 Recce. Bn.  
200 Light Inf Regt.  
1st and 3rd Bns 382 Light Inf Regt.  
1st and 2nd Bns of 361 Inf Regt.  
1st Bn 104 Light Inf Regt.

3. Enemy troops in this area are known to be in possession of a considerable amount of A/A., A.Tr., and Field Artillery, the detailed positions of which change from day to day.

Own Troops.

4. Eighth Army is attacking to destroy the enemy's army in its present location.
5. 13 Corps are to attack and secure the track EL ALAMEIN -- NAQB ABU DWEISS between 869280 and 867276, and to exploit in order to destroy the enemy's forces.
6. 30 Corps are to conform to the advance of 13 Corps in the South, and to be prepared to pursue towards DABA.
7. 30 Corps is composed of:-
  - (a) 1 S.A. Div, who are to maintain the EL ALAMEIN defences and to conform to the advance of 30 Corps as far as the 875 Easting grid.
  - (b) 9 Aust Div, with 1 Army Tank Bde under command, are to capture and secure the following successive objectives:-
    - Objective 1. Pt. 24 (873302) -- TELL EL EISA (872299) -- Cairn 875296 -- re-entrant 876294 and 876295, West of trig 22 (876295).
    - Objective 2. Pt 22 (870296) (Pt 21 on 1/50,000 map).
    - Objective 3. Pt. 30 (87002927).



INTENTION.

8. 1 Army Tank Bde will support 9 Aust Div and, after the capture of Objective 1 by 9 Aust Div, will capture successively:-
- (i) Pt. 22 (870296)
  - (ii) Pt. 30 (87002927)

METHOD.

Moves to Assembly Positions.

9. C.C. Bty, 5 R.H.A. will move onto the road North of their present location at last light turning North again along the telephone wires. to 89052935, thence Westwards along the track to the Southern portion of square 879300.
10. 50 R Tanks will move at last light behind C.C. Bty 5 RHA using the same route and will assemble on arrival in square 879299.
11. Det Fd Tp, 9 Field Sqn, will move behind 50 R Tanks and will assemble immediately to the North of their area. Remainder of Tp will remain in present area until further orders.
12. D Coy, 7 R.B., will move to area Square 878296 at first light 22 July 42.
13. C Sqn 44 R Tanks will move at 0700 hrs 22 July 42 to area 883296 where it will remain in Bde reserve.
14. A Tp, 37 Lt A.A. Regt will move to area Square 885295 and will be prepared to come into action at first light 22 Jul 42.
15. A Bty, 73 A.Tr. Regt and A Sqn 6 S.A. Arm Car Regt will remain in their present locations in Bde reserve and will be prepared to move forward at first light on orders from Bde H.Q.

METHOD OF ATTACK ON FIRST OBJECTIVE.

50 R Tanks.

16. On orders from Bde H.Q., 50 R Tanks will move out and form up facing West on a start line running South from a point 400 yds South of the "WHITE HOUSE" ( 878297). They will form up one Sqn up and on a frontage of 1200 yds.
17. On receipt of further orders from Bde H.Q., 50 R Tanks will advance and capture the second objective (Pt. 22).
18. 50 R Tanks will link up with Inf of 2/28 Aust Inf Bn in the Assembly Area, and the two reserve Sqns will carry one Coy Inf and one Pl M.G. on the backs of the tanks from the Assembly Area to the second objective.

Det Fd Tp, 9 Fd Sqn.

19. Det Fd Tp will follow closely behind the tanks and will be prepared to clear any minefields encountered by the leading tanks
- D Coy 7 R.B.
20. D Coy 7 R.B. will move at first light to 878296 and will be prepared to move behind 50 R Tanks mopping up on orders to be received from Bde H.Q.



#### METHOD OF ATTACK ON THIRD OBJECTIVE.

21. On the arrival of the 2/26 Aust Bn on the second objective, 50 R Tanks will immediately advance to and capture the third objective (Pt. 30), subject to any other orders that may be issued by R/T by Bde H.Q. at the time.

#### ACTION AFTER THE CAPTURE OF THE THIRD OBJECTIVE.

22. On the arrival of the 43rd Aust Bn on the third objective, 50 R Tanks will rally in area 874296, where tanks will immediately be replenished. One Sqn will be made ready at once to oppose any enemy counter-attack.

#### ARTILLERY PROGRAMME.

##### Attack on Second Objective.

23. After the capture of the first objective by 9 Aust Div, C.C. Bty, 5 R.H.A., will move on orders from Bde H.Q. to area square 876296 ready to support 50 R Tanks in their attack on the second objective.
24. During the advance of 50 R Tanks to the second objective a covering smoke screen with a proportion of H.E. will be put down by artillery on orders of H.Q. 9 Aust Div on the line of the 8745 Easting grid from 87452975 to about 87452955. This smoke screen will advance in 300 yd lifts at the rate of 6 m.p.h. halting on a line 600 yds West of the second objective. A F.O.O. from 9 Aust Div will accompany 50 R Tanks to control the fire.

##### Attack on ~~Third~~ Objective.

25. Artillery support during the advance to the third objective will be entirely by observation.

#### EXPLOITATION.

26. 1 Army Tank Bde will be prepared to exploit towards DABA after the capture of the third objective.

#### AIR CO-OPERATION.

27. The R.A.F. is providing fighter cover from dawn to 1000 hrs D.2 over the area West of 880 Easting grid between 287 and 303 Northing grids.

##### Recognition of Forward Troops.

28. The R.A.F. are relying more and more on ST. ANDREW'S Crosses and roundels for recognising the position of our own troops. All units will clean these roundels or ST. ANDREW'S Crosses at periods throughout the day so as to prevent their being obliterated by dust.
29. In order to keep the R.A.F. informed of the approximate progress of our advance, the leading tanks of the Bde will either burn one group of smoke candles for 15 minutes or will discharge three smoke cartridges at 0630, 0930, 1230, 1530 and 1830 hrs daily. Leading troops need not halt for this period; the smoke candles will be taken as an indication and not as a precise location.



## ADMINISTRATION.

### Rations, Water, P.O.L. and Amn.

30. Present arrangements will continue until enemy withdraws completely West of EL ALAMEIN - QATTARA Track when 110 F.M.C., which is on wheels, will open up in area 442903. Second line transport will then draw from 110 F.M.C.

### B Echelons.

31. Unit A and B Echelons will remain under unit control but will not move forward with units to the Assembly Area. Units will be responsible for informing their second line R.A.S.C. of the new locations of their B Echelons, and the arrangement of replenishment areas.

### Recovery.

32. All Bde recovery vehicles under control of Captain Crittall will move from Bde Workshops to area 887294, from which area recovery will be organised under orders from Bde H.Q.

### Medical.

33. Det 7 Lt Fd Amb will move at first light 22 July 42 to area 885295. Subsequent moves will be made on orders from Bde H.Q. A.D.S. at 879295. M.D.S. at 437902.

### R.A.S.C.

34. The Bde R.A.S.C. Officer will co-ordinate and supervise the working of all Bde R.A.S.C. vehicles.

## INTERCOMMUNICATION.

35. Communications as per Signal Instruction No. 11, already issued, will be established at 0400 hrs 22 July. Permanent listening watch on all stations will be maintained from that time.
36. Great attention will be paid to security, and codes as already issued will be used for all messages between Bde H.Q. and unit rear links.
37. Tactical Bde H.Q. will open at 88502950 at 2100 hrs 21 Jul 42. After the capture of the 2nd objective Bde H.Q. will move to 877296.
38. Positions of recognition pennants for period commencing 22 Jul 42 is ONE TOP, ONE CENTRE.
39. Answer to challenge signal for B vehicles is one Blue Flag held horizontally.
40. A C K.

Time of signature 2355 hrs

Method of Issue L.S. + Sig.

*[Signature]*  
Capt,  
Bde Major.

. . . DISTRIBUTION :



DISTRIBUTION.

Copy No.

C.C. Bty 5 R.H.A.	1.
50 R Tanks.	2
C Sqn 44 R Tanks.	3
A Sqn 6 S.A. Armd Car Regt	4
D Coy 7 R.B.	5
A Bty 73 A.Tr. Regt	6
A Tp 37 Lt A.A. Regt	7
Fd Tp, 9 Fd Sqn.	8
Det 7 Lt Fd Amb.	9
9 Aust Div	10
20 Aust Inf Bde	11
24 Aust Inf Bde	12
26 Aust Inf Bde	13
Comd	14
Bde Sigs Officer	15
Bde R.A.S.C. Officer	16
Bde O.M.E.	17
War Diary	18 & 19
File	20 & 21



RAA 9 AUST DIV

00 No 3

SECRET

Copy No 8

21 Jul 42

CHANGE FROM VERBAL ORDERS IN PARAS 6 & 9

Ref Maps : EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000  
EL HATTIAN )  
EL DABA ) 1:100,000  
EL ALAMEIN )

INFORMATION

1. Enemy )
2. Own Tps ) see Sitreps
3. Outline Plan Coordinated with operations by 13 Corps on the SOUTH 9 Aust Div is

- (a) to capture the objectives shown as 1st, 2nd & 3rd phases.
- (b) to be ready to pursue towards EL DABA.

The attack takes place in three phases.

1st Phase The capture of TEL EL EISA  
Feature 873299 and 874299 and Spur  
in 873302 - by 26 Aust Inf Bde

and at the same time the capture  
of Ridge from CAIRN 8755 2962 to  
△ 22 at 8767 2950 and high ground  
to West of △ 22 - by 32 Aust Inf Bn

2nd Phase The capture of △ 21 (pt 22  
on 1:100,000 map) 870296 - by 1 Army Tk Bde  
and 28 Aust Inf Bn

3rd Phase The capture of △ 30 feature in  
in 869292 - by 1 Army Tk Bde  
and 43 Aust Inf Bn

Arty Available - under comd CRA - 2/7, 2/8, 2/12 Aust  
Fd Regts, 3 Fd Regt RA in support  
7 Med Regt RA and 3 Fd Regt SAA.

Air Air cover is being provided.

INTENTION

4. RAA 9 Aust Div will support the attacks.

METHOD

5. Preparatory

On 21 Jul

2/7 will recce area previously occupied by them, prepare  
sites, complete necessary svy and occupy after last light.

3 Fd Regt RA will recce gun areas WEST of grid 880 in 26 Aust  
Inf Bde area, prepare sites, complete necessary svy, tying  
with 2/8 Aust Fd Regt and occupy after last light.

6. O.Ps No limitation on area. On movement forward, <sup>at least</sup> one OP per Bty  
will be sent well fwd to overlook final objective. OPs will  
be established to overlook first objective during  
consolidation period.



7. Registration 2/12 is providing co-ordinates of CAIRN and  
△ 22 by shooting.
8. Task Table for timed concentrations during attack on 1st  
objectives will be issued later as Appx 'A'. Support  
at the conclusion of timed programme will continue by  
obs.
9. F.O.Os. 2/7 Fd Regt will provide one FOO to report to and move  
with 28 Aust Inf Bn and one FOO to report to 32 Bn on 1st  
objective.  
2/12 Fd Regt will provide one FOO to report to and move  
with 43 Aust Inf Bn.  
  
2/12 Fd Regt will provide one FOO to report to and move  
with 1 Army Tk Bde.  
  
Regts will make arrangements direct with the Bns and  
the Tk Bde concerned as to time and place of reporting.
10. Fwd moves of 2/7 and 2/12 After capture by 32 Aust Inf Bn  
of CAIRN - △ 22 feature CRA will order fwd move.  
2/7 and 2/12 will move fwd by Btys to gun areas immedi-  
ately EAST of the objective - inter regt boundary an  
EAST - WEST line through the CAIRN, 2/12 on the SOUTH -  
2/7 on the NORTH.  
  
Routes - through gaps in wire and mine fields -  
2/12 via telegraph line, 2/7 via MAIN bitumen rd.  
  
Regts will report as soon as they have two Btys in action  
forward.
11. C. B. Under control CBO - Lt-Col FRYTT RA.  
  
Arty available 7 Med Regt RA (less 1 Tp and one 155 mm  
how until Zero + 15)  
3 Fd Regt RA. have been  
4 and 7 Regt SAA / allotted for CB  
unless required for DF tasks in their  
own area.  
  
Counter Bty Task Table issued separately.  
  
All information of use to CBO particularly after fwd  
move of 2/7 and 2/12 Regts will be sent back to CBO  
direct IMMEDIATELY.
12. Air Co-operation Arty R - Nil.
13. Time to be ready 0430 hrs 22 Jul.
14. Exploitation For exploitation towards EL DABA from  
night 22/23 Jul  
  
2/7 Aust Fd Regt with one Tp )  
11 Aust Lt AA Bty under ) will be placed under  
comd ) comd  
9 Aust A.Tk Bty ) 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp.



A D M

15. Adm paras will be issued separately.

INTERCOMN

16. Location List - issued separately

Call signs and frequencies - to be issued through Sigs  
9 Aust Div.

Wireless - Regts will make every effort NOT to increase  
the amount of wireless traffic until the attack commences.

17. A C K.

Time of Signature ... 1955 hrs.

*N. F. Whelan*  
Maj

Method of Issue - Lcs to Regts  
others through Sigs.

BMRA 9 Aust Div.

DISTRIBUTION

	Copy No	Appx "A" Task Table Copy Nos.
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	1	1 - 10
2/8 "	2	11 - 20
2/12 "	3	21 - 30
3 Fd Regt RA	4	31 - 34
7 Med Regt RA	5	35 - 40
3 Aust A.Tk Regt	6	41
4 Aust Lt AA Regt	7	42
20 Aust Inf Bde	8	43
24 Aust Inf Bde	9	44
26 "	10	45
CCRA 30 Corps	11	46
C B O	12 - 13	47 - 48
9 Aust Div	14 - 16	49 - 51
1 SA Div	17 - 21	52 - 61
C R A	22	62
War Diary	23 - 24	63 - 64
File	25	65



TRACE ATT TO APPA A

R.A.A. 9 AUST DIV O.O. N° 3

21 JUL. 42

SECRET

COPY N°

43



300

872



REF MAP

EL ALAMEIN

1/50 000

293

Topo for info

21 JUL 42

877



# CONCENTRATION TABLE

SECRET

(ISSUED WITH RAA 00 No.3 DATED 21 Jul 42)

APPENDIX "A"

COPY No 43

Serial	Name of Task	Time		Co-ordinates of Task			Units & Tps to engage					Rate of Fire	Amn	Remarks
		From	To	Eastings	Northings	Ht	2/7	2/8	2/12	1 SA	7 Med			
	FIRST PHASE		Tasks A & B (Corners)											
1	A	(Z - 15	Z - 6	(a) 87553	29666	21								
		(Z + 8	Z + 15	(b) 87618	29578	21			6			NORMAL	HE	
2	B	(Z - 15	Z - 6	(c) 87685	29488	20	6					"	"	
		(Z + 8	Z + 15	(d) 87624	29443	20						"	"	
				(e) 87560	29530	21						"	"	
3	A+B	Z - 15	Z - 6	(f) 87496	29621	21		6				"	"	
4	A+B	Z - 15	Z + 15	(centre of areas)						4	1	"	"	
5	C	Z - 4	Z + 6	87443	30000	22			6			"	"	
6	D	Z - 4	Z + 6	87301	29955	24	6					"	"	1 x 155 mm how. 7 Med Regt will engage task "D" from Z - 4 to
7	E	Z - 4	Z + 6	87339	30275	17		6				"	"	Z + 60.
8	C) D) E)	after Z + 6						6						Under control 2/8 Aust Fd Regt.

## SECOND PHASE

Serial Name of Task

- 9 F
- (a) A smoke barrage will be laid by one tp 2/12 Aust Fd Regt to screen advance of tanks of 1 Army Tk Bde.
  - (b) Axis of advance - due WEST along 2962 grid.
  - (c) Opening line 8750 2966 to 8750 2958.
  - (d) Pause on opening line for 20 minutes to allow tanks to close up.
  - (e) Rate during pause - Establish screen on opening line  
2 rpg then 1 rd per tp per minute.
  - (f) 14 lifts each 400 yards. Two (2) minutes on each lift.
  - (g) Rate of fire & posn of screen to be adjusted by FOO as necessary
  - (h) Tp will be prepared to fire a smoke screen to screen tanks WESTERN flank during SOUTHERN advance on call by FOO with tanks.



SECOND PHASE (Contd)

Ser- Name  
ial of  
Task

- 10 G A smoke screen will be laid by one tp 2/7 Aust Fd Regt to screen rt flank of tank and inf advance if attack develops from NORTHERN flank.
- 11 H A smoke screen will be laid by one tp 2/12 Aust Fd Regt to screen 2/43 Aust Inf Bn advance, by blinding ridge from 8750/2900 to 871 292 as required, and will be controlled by FOO with 2/43 Aust Inf Bn.
- 12 I A smoke screen may be required to be fired by one bty 1 SA Fd Regt to blind  $\Delta$  33 in 876 288 to RUIN in 875 289 to 8750 2900. If required this screen will be ordered by CRA 9 Aust Div.
- 13 OTHER SP BY OBSERVED FIRE.

*A. P. Williams*

Maj  
BMRA 9 Aust Div.



R.A.A. 9 AUST DIV ADM INSTRUCTION. To accompany RAA 9 Aust Div OO No 3

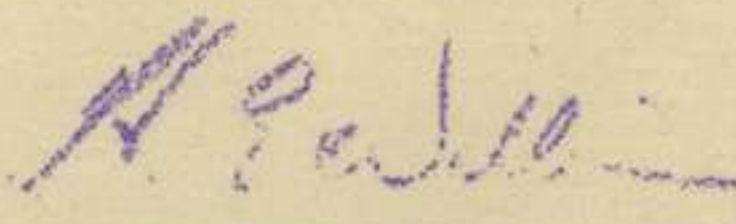
1. POW Div Cage 89122930. Bdes evacuate to Div cage. Apply to DAAG, Rear 9 Aust Div if own tpt resources inadequate. Escorts from 24 Bde collecting post to Div cage provided by HQ 9 Aust Div.

2. SUP, POL, AMN

10 Coy AASC 4359 9018. 11 Coy SP and PP 44089025, AP 4265 9023. AP for 2/7 and 2/3 Aust Fd Regts from 0700 hrs 22 Jul 42559023. 12 Coy SP 42669022, PP 42729020, AP 42559025. Div Tps Coy square 427901. Application for mpves of AP to be made to HQ RAA 9 Aust Div.

3. MEDICAL

MDS 437902 (Kilo 87). ADS 87902950 mob sec 2/3 Fd Amb. In event Fd Regts moving one motor amb att RMO will accompany. Arrangements 26 Bde Op unchanged.

 Maj.  
EMRA 9 Aust Div.



WD

S E C R E T

9 AUST DIV OO No 8

Copy No.....  
21 Jul 42

Issued in confirmation and amplification of 9 Aust Div OO No 7.

INFM

1. In OO No 7 para 5, delete "13 Corps" and substitute "30 Corps".

METHOD

2. 1st objective.

Ref OO No 7 paras 9 and 12.

- (a) Included in 26 Aust Inf Bde task on 1st objective is the capture of ring contour feature 873302.
- (b) Separate objectives on 1st objective will be attacked simultaneously.

3. On capture of 24 Aust Inf Bde 1st objective, there will be a minimum pause of 2 hrs while arty is moved fwd.

4. 2nd objective.

Ref OO No 7 Para 13.

- (a) From assembly area 878296, 1 Army Tk Bde will move on a bearing of 270 degrees to its objective.
- (b) The move of 1 Army Tk Bde to 2nd objective will be screened by smoke.
- (c) Zero for attack on 2nd objective will be notified after capture 1st objective, and will be marked by the firing of the first arty smoke screen which will be the signal for the tks to adv.
- (d) 2/28 Bn will adv from bn starting line, the adv being timed so that the bn follows the tks.

5. The following additional paras to OO No 7 are issued:-

"14 A. On capture 3rd objective, 1 Army Tk Bde will rally in area 875296.

16 A. Cav

B Sqn 9 Aust Div Cav Regt reverts to comd 9 Aust Div Cav Regt.

9 Aust Div Cav Regt will delay and give warning of any enemy approach in the areas -

- (a) between left flank 26 Aust Inf Bde (double 24 feature) and the right flank of 24 Aust Inf Bde Pt 21 870296, movement to conform to attack on Pt 21
- (b) between present 2/28 Bn posn and EL ALAMEIN defences.

17 A. Details of arty sp are being issued direct to bdes.

20 A. RAF is providing F cover from dawn till 1000 hrs D 2 over the area west of 880 easting grid and between 287 and 303 northing grids.

20 B. Instructions affecting Army and RAF co-operation to be carried out during the adv are att at Appx "A".



22 A. Routes.

- (a) 1 Army Tk Bde will move via track from 89052935 to 88072990 between last light and 2400 hrs D 1.

Other traffic will NOT be permitted to use the route during this period.

- (b) 2/13 Bn will move through gap on telephone line 880293 at zero for 1st objective.

2/12 Aust Fd Regt will also use this route.

- (c) 2/7 Aust Fd Regt will move via gap on main rd.

3 SA Bde is arranging for these gaps to be opened".

INTERCOMN

6. The following additional paras to OO No 7 are issued:

"26. Sigs will provide No 19 set or equivalent to work from Tac 9 Aust Div to rearlink 1 Army Tk Bde.

27. On HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde moving fwd, line comm will be established".

ACKNOWLEDGE

Issued by LO and Sigs

Time of signature 17.30 hrs

*P. D. Barham Major*  
Col  
GS 9 Aust Div

DISTRIBUTION

As for 9 Aust Div OO No 7



**SECRET**

Copy No 14

21 Jul 42

**26 AUST INF BDE OP OR No 12**

Ref Map : EL ALAMEIN Sheet 1/50,000

**INFM**

1. 26 Aust Inf Bde Inf Report No 1 att.
2. 13 Corps is attacking night 21/22 Jul in the area DEIR EL SHEIN 876281.
3. 9 Aust Div is to capture TEL EL HISA ridge - CAIRN 875296 and as later objectives Pt 21 870296 and trig at 87002927.

**INTENTION**

4. 26 Aust Inf Bde Gp will capture Ring contour 25 (BAILLIEUS BLUFF) 873302 - Two pts 24 873299 and 874299 (SHELLEN SPUR).

**METHOD**

5. 1st Objective : BAILLIEUS BLUFF - Pt 24 874299.

Fwd tps - 2/24 Inf Bn - BAILLIEUS BLUFF  
2/23 Inf Bn - Pt 24 873299

6. 2nd Objective : Pt 24 873299.

Fwd tps - 2/48 Inf Bn with under comd one tp 9 Aust A Tk Bty.

7. Start times, APC assembly areas and axes of adv will be as already decided.

8. The attack on both positions of the 1st Objective will be simultaneous.

As soon as 2/23 Aust Inf Bn has secured Pt 24 874299, 2/48 Aust Inf Bn will pass through and capture the second objective.

9. Arty sp : 2/8 Fd Regt will sp the attack by timed concentrations on objectives and other selected pts in accordance with task table att at Appx A.

10. A Tk : 104 A Tk Bty, 9 and 10 Aust A Tk Btys will sp the attack and assist in consolidation as coordinated by Maj COPELAND 3 Aust A Tk Regt.

One tp 9 Aust A Tk Bty comes under comd 2/48 Inf Bn wef 0600 hrs 22 Jul 42.

11. AA : 10 Aust Lt AA Bty (less one tp) will continue in its primary role of protecting the gun areas of 2/8 Fd Regt.

12. MG : A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn will sp the attack by fire from within the present FDLs.

(a) To protect the flanks of 2/24 Inf Bn and neutralise any observed enemy.

(b) From the TEL EL HISA sta area neutralise enemy in posn on Pt 24 874299 until objective gained by 2/23 Inf Bn.

/(c)

WHAT DO WE GET!!





- (c) From area Pt 33 neutralise enemy in posn on Pt 24 873299 until objective gained by 2/48 Inf Bn.
13. On the capture of the objectives A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn will provide fire between Pt 33 and Pt 24 to assist in the consolidation by 2/23 Inf Bn between the two pts of the 1st objective.
14. One pl 2/2 Aust MG Bn will be available for fwd consolidation on capture of each of BAILLIUS BLUFF and Pt 24 873299.
15. 2/13 Fd Coy will sp the attack by -
- (a) opening gaps in own minefde in liaison with fwd bns
  - (b) neutralisation of enemy minefde and booby traps
  - (c) laying of minefdes for consolidation of objectives, as tactical situation may permit.
16. All preparations for the above op will be made so that the attack can commence at the shortest possible period after first light on 22 Jul, zero hr for which will be determined by the success of a certain phase of 13 Corps op.

ADM

17. Issued separately.

INTERCOMM

18. Air sp FASL with Tac HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde.
19. LOS with units as from zero.
20. Success sigs - 2/24 Inf Bn objective - Two reds  
                   2/23 " " " Two greens  
                   2/48 " " " Two whites
21. Tac HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde remains present location.

Ack 22. Z = 0430 hrs

*[Signature]*  
 Maj  
 BM 26 Aust Inf Bde

Signed at 1800 hrs  
 Issued by LC and Sigs

<u>Distribn :</u>	<u>Copy No</u>		<u>Copy No</u>
2/23 Aust Inf Bn	1	2/11 Aust Fd Amb	12
2/24 " "	2	3 SA Inf Bde	13
2/48 " "	3	20 Aust Inf Bde	14
L Sec Sigs	4	24 " "	15
4 Pl Aust HQ Gd Bn	5	9 Aust Div	16
78 LAD	6	Comd	17
2/8 Aust Fd Regt	7	GC	18
A Tk Cp (Maj COPELAND)	8	Spare	19-21
10 Aust Lt AA Bty	9	File	22
2/13 Aust Fd Coy	10	War Diary	23-24
A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	11		



26 AUST INF BDE INT REPORT NO 1

( from infm received up to 1300 hrs 21 Jul 42)

Ref Maps 1/100,000 EL DABA - EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000 EL ALAMEIN

1. This report refers to 26 Aust Inf Bde CO No 12.
2. Detailed enemy disposns, so far as they are known, have been listed in Int Summaries todate. These may change considerably during the next 24 or 48 hrs, since the defence of the complete sector is in process of reorganisation. Further infm will be issued as soon as it becomes available.

3. The following axis tps are in the area North of the 285 Northing :-

GERMAN - comd Col MARCKS, OC 15 Lorried Inf Bde

a.	Formation	Men	Fd guns	A Tk	Tanks	Armd C's
----	-----------	-----	---------	------	-------	----------

a.	I & III Bns 382 Inf Regt	1500	? 8	? 8	-	-
----	-----------------------------	------	-----	-----	---	---

b.	BRIEHL Battle Gp	250	1	4 5 cm 4 47 mm SP	1 Stuart	
----	------------------	-----	---	----------------------	----------	--

c.	361 Inf Regt	600	? 4 25 pms	16 (a)	-	-
----	--------------	-----	------------	--------	---	---

d.	200 Inf Regt	700	-	20 (b)	-	-
----	--------------	-----	---	--------	---	---

e.	KIEL Battle Gp	250	? 4 25 pms	? 4 2 pms	3	3
----	----------------	-----	------------	-----------	---	---

f.	Army Arty	1000 max	24 med	-	-	-
----	-----------	----------	--------	---	---	---

g.	Corps Arty	1250 max	20 88 mm	-	-	-
----	------------	----------	----------	---	---	---

5550; 24 med: 20 88 mm: 17 Fd: 56 A Tk 4 Tks

3 Armd c's

(a) incl 12 7.62 cm and 3 28/20 mm

(b) incl 7.62 cm

ITALIAN

	Formation	Men	Med or Fd	A Tk	DP	Armd c's	Tanks
a.	TRIESTE	3500	28	10	6	15	? 12
b.	TRENTO	3600	23	24	-	-	-
c.	SABRATHA	1500	12	12	-	-	-
d.	21 Corps Tps	1700	20(a)	10	-	-	-
		10,300	83	56	6	15	? 12

(a) probably incl 12 - 149 mm or 152 mm

4. The number of med and fd guns shown in this estimate has NOT yet been identified on the ground, but the figures are based on captured documents and statements of PW and until further evidence is available the estimate cannot fairly be reduced.

5. It is estimated that serials 'a' 'b' 'c', (less two bns) and 'd' of the German forces and elements of serials 'a' and 'c' of the Italian forces are North of the 292 Northing.  
It must also be considered that elements of serials 'f' and 'g' of



the German forces and serial 'd' of the Italian forces are also in the area.

6. The general disposns of these forces are approximately as follows :-

I and III Bns 382 Inf Regt from coast to incl TEL EL EISA.

The remainder of the German forces listed in para 4 are disposed fwd of our FDLs from excl TEL EL EISA to trig 22 87672950 South to Northing 292.

Elements of TRIESTE and SABRATHA Divs in sp of 15 Lorried Inf Bde from pt 33 (876288) Northwards.

7. There are indications that the enemy is having difficulty in organising the defence of this sector partly because of the lack of German inf and partly because Germans have to be interspersed between Italian units in order to prevent the complete collapse of the Italian sectors.

8. Enemy minefds reported in Int Summaries have been only on feature 24. More may be expected. PW has reported mines near the rd NW of TEL EL EISA, feature (no more exact location given).

9. At 1300 hrs 21 Jul 3 stationery tanks were reported in area 871295. No further infm of their movements has been received.

10. The enemy's mob res will be weak, specially in tks. His reaction to our attack is likely to be moderately well concentrated arty fire followed by an inf counter-attack. It is his normal practice to register his own most prominent defended localities before hand in case of enemy penetration of the position.

Lieut  
10 26 Aust Inf Bde

Distribn :

As for 26 Aust Inf Be 00 No 12

Formation	Men	Med or Pz	A Tks	DP	Trucks
TRIESTE	3500	28	10	6	15
TRIESTE	3600	23	24	-	-
SABRATHA	1500	12	12	-	-
21 Corps Tps	1700	20(a)	10	-	-
	10,300	83	56	6	15

(A) probably incl 12 - 149 mm or 152 mm

4. The number of med and 15 guns shown in this estimate has NOT yet been identified on the ground, but the figures are based on captured documents and statements of PW and until further evidence is available the estimate cannot fairly be reduced.

5. It is estimated that serials 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j', 'k', 'l', 'm', 'n', 'o', 'p', 'q', 'r', 's', 't', 'u', 'v', 'w', 'x', 'y', 'z' of the Italian forces are North of the 292 Northing. It is also considered that elements of serials 'f' and 'g' of the German forces are also in the area.



20 Bue

SECRET  
Copy No 19

21 Jul 42.

24 AUST INF BDE O.O. No. 4.

Ref maps : EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000  
EL DABA 1/100,000

INFORMATION

1. Latest infm of enemy in sitreps and Summaries Nos. 4 and 5.
2. Eighth Army is attacking to destroy the enemy's army in its present location.  
Larger plans to be issued verbally.
3. (a) 30 Corps is to adv on Southern flank to conform with 13 Corps adv, and in the NORTH secure TEL EL EISA 872299 - Pt 22 (870296) - Pt 21 875294 - Pt 27 (871290) and exploit WEST and SW as opportunity offers.  
(b) N.Z. Div is to capture DEIR EL SHEIN 876281 to pt 59 (872279) to incl escarpment 87202767 as the operation on the 30 Corps Southern flank.
4. (a) 9 Aust Div is to capture and secure successively -  
1st - TEL EL EISA 872299 - CAIRN 875296 - reentrant 876294 and 876295, WEST of trig 22 (876295)  
2nd - Pt 21 (pt 22 on 1/100,000 map) 870296.  
3rd - Trig at 87002927 (Trig 30 on 1/100,000 map).  
(b) The attack is not to commence before first light 22 Jul 42 and all preparations are to be made so that attack may commence at shortest possible period upon receipt of orders.  
(c) 26 Aust Inf Bde is to capture TEL EL EISA feature in cooperation with Phase 1 of 24 Aust Inf Bde operations.
5. Additional tps under comd -  
two tps 12 A Tk Bty  
In support for operations -  
50 RTR Gp (50 Matildas)  
Arty 9 Aust Div  
all available arty 1 S. Div from present posns.  
7 Med Regt R.A. with 234 Med Bty under comd.

INTENTION

6. 24 Aust Inf Bde Gp will capture and secure successively -  
(a) CAIRN 875296 to high ground WEST of pt 22 (87602950)  
(b) Pt 21 (870296)  
(c) Trig 30 (87002927)  
and be prepared subsequently to exploit situation.



## METHOD

### 7. Outline of Operation

The operation is to be carried out in three phases.

#### Phase I

1st objective - CAIRN 87542962 to high ground WEST of pt 22 (87602950).

Supported by arty concentrations on objective and high ground TEL EL EISA 874299, 2/32 Bn will capture 1st objective and consolidate. Enemy minefids in the CAIRN area will then be cleared.

In the meantime, 2/28 Bn will occupy posns left by 2/32 Bn, moving on foot, and prepare for opening of Phase II. 2/13 Bn is to relieve 2/28 Bn at the same time.

#### Phase II

2nd objective - area pt 21 (87012963).

Phase II will be initiated by 9 AustDiv and should commence with N.Z. Div on its objectives, the TEL EL EISA and CAIRN features captured, and 50 RTR on its start line, SOUTH of building 87622992.

This phase should begin some two hrs after completion Phase I, permitting 2/7 Fd Regt and 2/12 Fd Regt to move fwd. Covered by arty concentrations and smoke, 50 RTR Gp with tps for initial consolidation is to adv on a bg 272 deg grid and capture 2nd objective. Inf, MG and engrs of the tps for initial consolidation will travel on assaulting tks and A Tk guns will follow.

2/28 Bn (less one coy gp) will follow 50 RTR Gp, on foot, and join its coy gp in mopping up and consolidation on 2nd objective.

In the meantime, 2/43 Bn will prepare for Phase III by moving tp carrying tpt to their area.

#### Phase III

3rd objective - area Trig 30 (87002928).

When 2/28 Bn has consolidated on 2nd objective, 50 RTR Gp with some A Tk guns of 2/43 Bn for initial consolidation, is to move SOUTH and capture 3rd objective. 2/43 Bn will be ordered fwd lorried to take over on objective from tks, and will consolidate - route, either direct or through Pt 21 will be ordered by this HQ dependent upon situation. 50 RTR when relieved on objective by 2/43 Bn will withdraw to a Fwd Rally.

### 8. Groupings

#### (a) 2/32 Bn

with under cmd -

two tps 11 A Tk Bty (6 prs)

D Coy (less two pls) 2/2 MG Bn

A Coy 2/43 Bn

in support

one-sec 2/7 Fd Coy

#### (b) 2/28 Bn

with under cmd -

one tp 11 A Tk Bty (2 pr)

one tp 12 A Tk Bty (6 pr)

one sec 12 Lt AA Bty

one pl D Coy 2/2 MG Bn

in support

two sub-secs 2/7 Fd Coy



- (c) 2/43 Bn(less A Coy)  
with under comd -  
one tp 11 A Tk Bty(2 pr)  
two tps 12 A Tk Bty(composite)  
one sec 12 Lt AA Bty  
one pl D Coy 2/2 MG Bn  
in support -  
two sub-secs 2/7 Fd Coy

9. Initial Moves

Prior to Phase 1, the following moves take place 21/22 Jul -

- (a) 50 RTR Gp under comd HQ 1 Army Tk Bde moves to a Fwd Assembly Area WEST of perimeter ALAMEIN BOX during early night 21/22 Jul. There they will be joined by -

one coy 2/28 Bn  
two tps 12 A Tk Bty(6 pr) (one each from 2/28 Bn  
and 2/43 Bn Gps)  
one pl 2/2 MG Bn (from 2/28 Bn Gp)  
one sec 2/7 Fd Coy

- (b) 2/32 Bn will move to start line, 2/28 Bn will occupy former locality 2/32 Bn and 2/13 Bn is to move out of ALAMEIN BOX via telegraph line and relieve 2/28 Bn.

- (c) Tp carrying tpt 2/43 Bn will be concentrated in ALAMEIN BOX near telegraph line.

10. Timings

- (a) Zero hr will be the time at which 2/32 Bn crosses start line on Phase 1.

- (b) Zero - 0530 hrs.

11. Reserve

On commencement of Phase 11, 2/32 Bn Gp will come into res.

12. Initial Consolidation

- (a) For initial consolidation on 2nd objective, the following tps of 2/28 Bn Gp will move with 50 RTR Gp -

one coy  
one pl D Coy 2/2 MG Bn } carried  
one tp 12 A Tk Bty } on tks

- (b) one tp 12 A Tk Bty and one sec 2/7 Fd Coy(carried on tks) will accompany 50 RTR Gp onto 3rd objective.

13. Arty

Issued separately.

14. A.A.

One tp 12 Lt AA Bty will remain in res with Bde HQ during Phase 1.

15. A Tk

11 A Tk Bty (less three tps) for protection Tac Bde H.Q.



16. Tanks

50 RTR is to move to a Fwd Assembly Area during night 21/22 Jul, then on advice of Phase 11, form UP SOUTH of building 87622992. Tks will adv when smoke screen is laid WEST of CAIRN, and capture 2nd objective, covered by smoke screen on high ground to each flank.

One sec 2/7 Fd Coy will be in support 50 RTR as far as 3rd objective to aid in clearing minefds.

17. RAF

(a) Air Support is under control Eighth Army.

(b) Fighter cover has been asked for the operation.

ADM

18. Medical

(a) 2 amb att RMO 2/28 Bn  
2 " " " 2/43 Bn  
1 " " " 2/32 Bn  
2 " vicinity 884295.

(b) ADS - 88782941

(c) C.P. - 88782941

(d) Mob sec - 87952955

(e) MDS - 2/11 Aust Fd Amb

(f) Walking wounded will be collected from unit RAPs.

19. PW

Bde collecting post - rd and telegraph line junc 87902948.

20. Amn

AP - unchanged.

21. Sup

Sup pt - unchanged.

22. POL

PP - unchanged

23. Water

WP - unchanged.

24. Rec - unchanged.

INTERCOMN

25. ASC Tentacle with Bde H.Q.

26. HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde -

Tac - present posn to commencement Phase 11 then at 87832964.

Main - present posn

B Ech - present posn

ACK

Time of signature 1830 hrs

Issued at conference 1900 hrs

*DR. J. J. J.* Maj.  
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.



Distribution

Copy No.

2/28 Bn  
 2/32 Bn  
 2/43 Bn  
 2/12 Fd Regt  
 11 A Tk Bty  
 12 Lt A<sup>4</sup> Bty  
 2/7 Fd Coy  
 K Sec Sigs  
 D Coy 2/2 MG Bn  
 2/3 Fd Amb  
 76 LAD  
 3 Rec Sec  
 G Div Sec OFP

1  
 2  
 3  
 4  
 5  
 6  
 7  
 8  
 9  
 10  
 11  
 12  
 13

9 Aust Div  
 20 Aust Inf Bde  
 26 Aust Inf Bde  
 1 Army Tk Bde  
 RAF

14-17  
 18-19  
 20  
 21-23  
 23

Comd  
 S.C.  
 I.O.  
 File  
 War Diary

24  
 25  
 26  
 27-29  
 30-31



6135/21

WD

SECRET

9 AUST DIV OO No 7

Copy No. ....  
21 Jul 42

Ref Maps: 1/50,000 DABA - ALEXANDRIA Series  
1/100,000 Sheets 88, 92/36, 88/42, 84/36, 84/42

INFM

1. Latest infm is being issued separately.
2. Eighth Army is attacking to destroy the enemy's army in its present location.
3. 13 Corps is attacking as follows:-
  - (a) 2030 hrs night D1/D2 to secure DEIR EL SHEIN 876281 - Pt 63 876279,
  - (b) 0800 hrs D2 to secure area Pt 59 872279 to incl escarpment 87202767,
  - (c) if enemy resistance is encountered to secure track 869280 - 867276.
4. Exploitation by 13 Corps is to be either:-
  - (a) if enemy forces have not withdrawn, by 1 Armd Div NE to excl SANYET EL MITEIRIYA 875289 and 7 Armd Div on SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN STA
  - (b) if enemy forces have withdrawn, by 7 Armd Div to FUKA escarpment, by 1 Armd Div on centre line DEIR EL MIREIR - FUKA escarpment, by 5 Ind Div battle gps on DABA.
5. Inter Corps Bndy  
283 northing grid - west to 880283 - thence NW to, excl 13 Corps, EL DABA.
6. 30 Corps is to:-
  - (a) contain the enemy in the north by harassing his force
  - (b) adv ... southern flank to conform to 13 Corps adv
  - (c) secure TELL EL EISA 872299 - Pt 22 870296 - Pt 21 873294 - Pt 27 871290 and exploit west and SW as opportunity offers
  - (d) be prepared, should the enemy withdraw, to pursue towards DABA.
7. 1 SA Div is:
  - (a) maintaining EL ALAMEIN defences and present FDLs as a firm base
  - (b) conforming to the adv of 13 Corps as far west as the 875 easting grid
  - (c) crossing the track 88202830 to 88132800 not later than 2030 hrs D 1 to secure depression 87682826 - 87852818 which area is to be held until first light D2 when in the event of hy counter attack 1 SA Div may withdraw from this area.
8. Additional tps:
  - (a) Under comd 1200 hrs 21 Jul

HQ 1 Army Tk Bde  
50 RTR Gp



(b) In sp from D2

All available 1 SA Div arty from present posns,  
7 Med Regt RA with 234 Med Bty RA under comd.

(c) 30 Corps CB staff is placed at disposal 9 Aust Div for the operation.

#### INTENTION

9. 9 Aust Div will capture and secure successively:-

1st objective: TELL EL EISA 872299 - CAIRN 875296 - reentrant 876294 and 876295, west of trig 22 876295.

2nd objective: Pt 21 (Pt 22 on 1/100,000 map) 870296.

3rd objective: trig at 87002927 (trig 30 on 1/100,000 map).

#### METHOD

10. The attack will not commence before first light D 2 but all preparations will be made so that the attack will commence in the shortest period possible on receipt of orders and at any time after first light.

11. One bn 20 Aust Inf Bde will relieve 2/28 Aust Inf Bn in present posn, time to be arranged by Comd 24 Aust Inf Bde, and will come under comd 24 Aust Inf Bde temporarily.

12. 1st Objective.

Fwd tps: TELL EL EISA - 26 Aust Inf Bde  
CAIRN 875296 - reentrant 876294 and 876295 - 24 Aust Inf Bde.

13. 2nd Objective.

1 Army Tk Bde will capture Pt 21 (Pt 22 on 1/100,000 map), being relieved on objective by one bn 24 Aust Inf Bde as soon as possible after capture.

14. 3rd Objective.

1 Army Tk Bde will capture trig 87002927 (trig 30 on 1/100,000 map) being relieved on objective by one bn 24 Aust Inf Bde as soon as possible after capture.

15. Arrangements will be made by 24 Aust Inf Bde for mine lifting parties to clear gaps in enemy minefields through which 1 Army Tk Bde is unable to find a passage or a way round.

16. Timing for attack on 1st objective is dependent on progress of attack in south.

17. Arty

(a) 2/7 Aust Fd Regt and one tp 11 Bty 4 Aust Lt AA Regt revert to comd 9 Aust Div.

(b) 9 Aust Div Arty, 3 Fd Regt RA, 1 SA Div Arty which can bear and 7 Med Regt RA are available to sp the attack under control CRA 9 Aust Div.

18. A Tk

Two tps 12 A Tk Bty are placed under comd 24 Aust Inf Bde from 1200 hrs 21 Jul



19. AA

One sec 11 Bty 4 Aust Lt AA will move to area Main HQ 9 Aust Div under arrangements CRA.

20. RAF

Air sp is under control Eighth Army.

21. Exploitation

(a) 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp will be prepared to exploit towards DABA from night D 2/D 3.

(b) For this operation the following will come under comd 20 Aust Inf Bde:-

2/7 Aust Fd Regt with under comd one tp 11 Bty 4 Aust Lt AA Regt  
9 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt.

22. D1 will be 21 Jul.

INTERCOMN

23. One AASC tentacle is allotted 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp.

24. Tac 9 Aust Div will be moving to vicinity 884295 for the operation. Details later.

25. HQ 30 Corps

Tac - EL ALAMEIN area on D1. Location later.

Main - present posn.

Rear - present posn.

ACKNOWLEDGE

*9/34 21 July 1942 Lts*

*Barham* Col  
GS 9 Aust Div

Time of signature. 1240 hrs

Issued by LO and Sigs

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No

20 Aust Inf Bde	1		
24 Aust Inf Bde	2		
26 Aust Inf Bde	3		
9 Aust Div Cav Regt	4		
RAA	5		
RAE	6		
SIGS	7		
2/2 Aust MG Bn	8		
1 Army Tk Bde	9		
1 SA Div	10		
3 SA Bde	11		
30 Corps	12 - 13	(One for RAF)	
Comd	14		
G	15 - 16		
AQ	17 - 18		
AASC	19		
Medical	20		
Ord	21		
Rear 9 Aust Div	22		
B Sec FSS	23		
File	24 - 25		
War Diary	26 - 27	Spares	28 - 31



PREPARATION FOR PURSUIT

1. General

Our ability to pursue the enemy relentlessly and inflict the maximum destruction will depend largely on our operating on 'hard scale' with only those units which are fully equipped and mob as possible, and on our leaving behind all non-essential personnel and equipment to lessen the strain on maintenance and tpt.

The policy regarding the carriage and dumping of gas clothing will be issued shortly.

2. Battle Gps

9 Aust Div will form bde battle gps from which bn battle gps can be formed when required.

3. Bde Battle Gps will be formed when ordered - vide tentative order of Battle at Appx "A".

Planning and adv preparations will be made immediately.

4. Maintenance Problem.

The number of units which can be maintained fwd in pursuit is limited - By a reduction in maintenance requirements of units it will be possible to use more units fwd.

For this reason units will be on 'hard scale' and the minimum number of vehs required will be taken fwd. As a general guide a pl which has suffered casualties will be limited to one 3 ton for tp carrying and its pl truck.

Units other than inf will work to a similar scale.

5. Adm instns will be issued separately, and will deal with hard scales, allotment of mines and disposal of units and personnel not incl in battle gps.

ACKNOWLEDGE

*0/46 27 Jul 42*  
*09/15*

*P. J. B. Millar*  
Col  
GS 9 Aust Div

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No

20 Aust Inf Bde	1
24 Aust Inf Bde	2
26 Aust Inf Bde	3
9 Aust Div Cav Regt	4
RAA	5
RAE	6
Sigs	7
2/2 MG Bn	8
1 Army Tk Bde	9
30 Corps	10
Rear 9 Div	11
Aust Res Gp	12
Comd	13
G	14 - 15
AQ	16 - 17
AASC	18
Medical	19
Ord	20
DAPM	21
File	22 - 23
War Diary	24 - 25



APPX "A" to 9 AUST DIV OP INSTN NO 10

9 AUST DIV TENTATIVE ORDER OF BATTLE

PART I. DIV HQ AND DIV TPS GP

Serial No	UNIT OR SUB-UNIT	REMARKS
1	Main HQ 9 Aust Div	
2	P1 HQ Gd Bn less sec	
3	9 Aust Div Emp P1 less one sec	
4	9 Aust Div Cav Regt	
5	"C" Sec Sigs	
6	82 LAD	
7	HQ RAA 9 Aust Div	
8	3 Aust A Tk Regt less three btys	
9	"H" Sec Sigs	
10	71 LAD	
11	4 Lt AA Regt less three btys (incl sig sec & wkshops)	
12	HQ RAE 9 Aust Div	
13	Sigs 9 Aust Div less 2 & 3 Coys, "C" Sec & Rear HQ dets	
14	67 LAD	
15	2/2 Aust MG Bn less three coys	
16	77 LAD	
17	1 Aust Commando P1	
18	HQ AASC 9 Aust Div	
19	AASC Coy less det	for Div Tps
20	9 Aust Div Pro Coy less four secs and det	Serial 22 Det 9 Aust Div Postal Unit 23 Det Fd Cash Office
21	"B" Sec FSS	

PART II 20 AUST INF BDE GP.

1	HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde	
2	"J" Sec Sigs	
3	58 LAD	
4	1 P1 HQ Gd Bn	
5	2/13 Aust Inf Bn	)
6	2/15 Aust Inf Bn	) less one bn
7	2/17 Aust Inf Bn	)
8	2/7 Aust Fd Regt	



Serial No	UNIT OR SUB- UNIT	REMARKS
9	"E" Sec Sigs	
10	63 LAD	
11	9 Aust A Tk Bty	
12	11 Aust Lt AA Bty	
13	2/3 Aust Fd Coy	
14	B Coy 2/2 MG Bn	
15	10 Coy AASC	
16	Dets two pls Gen Tpt Coy	for Tp carrying
17	2/8 Aust Fd Amb less dets	
18	2 Rec Sec & "J" Div Sec 1 Ord Fd Pk	
19	One sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy	
20	20 Aust Inf The Postal det	

## PART III

## 24 AUST INF BDE GP

1	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde	
2	"K" Sec Sigs	
3	76 LAD	
4	2 Pl HQ Cd Bn	
5	2/28 Aust Inf Bn	)
6	2/32 Aust Inf Bn	) less one bn
7	2/43 Aust Inf Bn	)
8	2/8 Aust Fd Regt	
9	"F" Sec Sigs	
10	64 LAD	
11	11 Aust A Tk Bty	
12	12 Aust Lt AA Bty	
13	2/7 Aust Fd Coy	
14	D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	
15	11 Coy AASC	
16	Dets two pls Gen Tpt Coy	for Tp carrying
17	2/3 Aust Fd Amb less dets	
18	3 Rec Sec & "G" Div Sec 1 Ord Fd Pk	



SECRET

SECRET

PART III 24 AUST INF BDE GP (Cont'd)

Serial No	UNIT OR SUB-UNIT	REMARKS
19	One Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy	
20	24 Aust Inf Bde Postal det	

PART IV 26 AUST INF BDE GP

1	HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde	
2	"L" Sec Sigs	
3	78 LAD	
4	4 Pl HQ Gd Bn	
5	2/23 Aust Inf Bn )	
6	2/24 Aust Inf Bn )	less one bn
7	2/48 Aust Inf Bn )	
8	2/12 Aust Fd Regt	
9	"G" Sec Sigs	
10	61 LAD	
11	10 Aust A Tk Bty	
12	10 Aust Lt AA Bty	
13	2/13 Aust Fd Coy	
14	"A" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	
15	12 Coy AASC	
16	Dets two pls Gen Tpt Coy	for Tp carrying
17	2/11 Aust Fd Amb less dets	
18	1 Rec Sec & "H" Div Sec 1 Ord Fd Pk	
19	One sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy	
20	26 Aust Inf Bde Postal det	



9 AUST DIV OO No 9A

SECRET

Copy No.....!  
26 Jul 42

Ref Maps:- 1/50,000 DABA - ALEXANDRIA  
Sheets 2, 5 and 6.

Further to 9 Aust Div OO No 9, the following confirmation of verbal orders is issued:-

1. 24 Aust Inf Bde (2/28 Aust Inf Bn) will now capture its objective by 0100 hrs 27 Jul.
2. 2/43 Aust Inf Bn will NOT move beyond the starting line until orders are issued for this attack to proceed. Arty sp for this attack will be at call.
3. (a) 69 Inf Bde zero is now 0100 hrs.  
(b) 69 Inf Bde exploitation without reference to 30 Corps is now limited to 500 yds west of QATTARA Rd.
4. 2 Armd Bde is NOT to leave assembly area before 0600 hrs. Its exploitation is limited to 870 easting grid.

If this bde is unable to get through 69 Inf Bde area it may move

- (a) between 24 Aust Inf Bde and 69 Inf Bde objectives or
- (b) north of 24 Aust Inf Bde objectives.

5. To obviate the risk of being mistaken for enemy tks, our tks are flying the recognition sig on the wireless mast:-

One penant at the top  
One penant half way down.

All ranks will be made conversant with this recognition sig.

6. 1 SA Div is mopping up in the area east of the QATTARA Rd and north of the line of excl RUIN 875289 incl Trig 33 876288, commencing at first light.

7. (a) RAF is providing fighter cover from first flying light.  
(b) RAF is to bomb west of 26 Aust Inf Bde area at 0015 hrs and at first light.

Targets to be notified by 26 Aust Inf Bde.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Issued through Sigs

Time of signature 14.0 hrs

*R. L. Carham* Col  
GS 9 Aust Div

Distribution

Copy No

20 Aust Inf Bde	1	1 Armd Div	14
24 Aust Inf Bde	2	30 Corps	15 - 16 one copy for RAF
26 Aust Inf Bde	3	Rear 9 Aust Div	17
9 Aust Div Cav Regt	4	Comd	18
RAA 9 Aust Div	5	G	19 - 20
RAE 9 Aust Div	6	AQ	21 - 22
Sigs 9 Aust Div	7	AASC 9 Aust Div	23
2/2 Aust MG Bn	8	Medical	24
1 Army Tk Bde	9	Ord	25
1 SA Div	10	DAPM	26
3 SA Bde	11	File	27 - 28
69 Inf Bde	12	War Diary	29 - 30
2 Armd Bde	13		



*Gudi/25*  
*WD*  
S E C R E T

9 AUST DIV OO No 9.

COPY No.....  
25 Jul 42

Ref Maps:- 1/50,000 DABA - ALEXANDRIA Series  
Sheets 2, 5 and 6

INFM.

1. A special summary of enemy infm will be issued 25 Jul.
2. 9 Aust Div Notes on Future Ops - G564/60/2 - dated 24 Jul 42 are confirmed.

Para 11 (Exploitation) with slight amendment is repeated below.

3. On capture of 24 Aust Inf Bde and 69 Inf Bdes objectives, 2 Armd Bde is moving through 69 Inf Bde to:-
  - (a) Gain control of the area south of the ridge trig '30' 87002927 - RUIN 875 3 and west of 69 Inf Bde objective.
  - (b) Protect the southern flank of 69 Inf Bde.
4. 1 Armd Div less 2 Armd Bde is to pass through and exploit to the west and NW.

INTENTION

5. 9 Aust Div will capture the area west of QATTARA rd in 875289 and 874290 and will assist 1 Armd Div in breaking through.

METHOD

6. (a) During night 26/27 Jul, 24 Aust Inf Bde will capture and secure 87372906 to 87532897 and then establish a post on QATTARA rd in area Pt 30 87542896.  
(b) Objective to be captured not later than 0200 hrs.  
(c) To enable arty fire to be provided for exploitation, tps on 24 Aust Inf Bde objective will not be further west than the western limit of the objective 87372906.

7. Arty

9 Aust Div Arty under CRA will sp the attack.

- (a) Concentrations on the objective immediately prior to the assault.
- (b) Arty sp for exploitation by 24 Aust Inf Bde, 1 Army Tk Bde and 1 Armd Div.
- (c) CB under control 30 Corps.

8. Cav

9 Aust Div Cav Regt will remain on present role.

9. RAF

F cover from first flying light 27 Jul is being requested.

10. Patrols

Patrols, vide para 7 of 9 Aust Div Notes on Future Ops, will report to 24 Aust Inf Bde and 69 Inf Bde respectively by 1200 hrs 26 Jul.



11. Minefields

24 Aust Inf Bde is arranging for the clearance of mines.

12. Exploitation

(a) 24 Aust Inf Bde will be prepared to attack with arty sp westwards at first light 27 Jul to secure the continuation of the ridge west of the objective in the area 872290 - 873290 and will in any case engage by long range MG fire enemy MGs and A Tk guns to the SW of this area.

1 Army Tk Bde will be kept fwd, but will be used to sp this attack only if the attack cannot succeed without tk sp.

(b) 1 Army Tk Bde will, after 24 Aust Inf Bde's exploitation task is completed, exploit westwards to secure the area Trig 30 870292 - Pt 27 868291.

INTERCOMN

13. No change in location of HQ.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Issued by LO and Sigs

Time of signature 1420 hrs

Col  
G8 9 Aust Div

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No

20 Aust Inf Bde	1	Rear 9 Aust Div	17
24 Aust Inf Bde	2	Comd	18
26 Aust Inf Bde	3	G	19 - 20
9 Aust Div Cav Regt	4	AQ	21 - 22
RAA 9 Aust Div	5	AASC	23
RAE 9 Aust Div	6	Medical	24
Sigs 9 Aust Div	7	Ord	25
2/2 Aust MG Bn	8	DAPM	26
1 Army Tk Bde	9	File	27 - 28
1 SA Div	10	War Diary	29 - 30
3 SA Bde	11		
30 Corps	12		
1 Armd Div	13		
69 Inf Bde (2)	14 - 15		
13 Corps	16		
	17		

\* (Plus copy of 9 Aust Div Notes on Future Ops - 24 Jul 42).



9 AUST DIV NOTES ON FUTURE OPSCOPY NO. .... 1...  
24 Jul 42

Ref Maps:- 1/50,000 DABA - ALEXANDRIA Series. Sheets 2, 5 &amp; 6

## 1. Secrecy:-

(a) Written orders for ops covered by these notes will NOT be issued by bn comds.

(b) Every effort will be made to obtain security for this op.

## 2. The enemy has recaptured Pt 63 87602794 and DEIR EL SHEIN 875280.

The enemy is experiencing a shortage of amn. His reinforcements are approx 700 a day.

Estimated tk strength 1st light 24 Jul - German 60  
Italian 100 to 120.

## 3. 30 Corps is attacking during night 26/27 Jul -

(a) 9 Aust Div to secure the ridge from 87372906 to 87532897.

(b) 69 Inf Bde to secure the QATTARA rd from K 13 to K 16 and 1000 yds west of this line at daylight 27 Jul.

The object of the attack is to provide a passage for 1 Armd Div to pass through the enemy line to attack his rear areas.

1 SA Div is clearing minefields during night 26/27 Jul to facilitate the adv of 1 Armd Div.

## 4. 1 Army Tk Bde is placed under comd 9 Aust Div.

5. 24 Aust Inf Bde will capture and secure the area west of the QATTARA rd from 87372906 to 87532897 and then establish a post on the QATTARA rd in the area Pt 30 87542896.

Objective to be captured not later than 0200 hrs.

6. 69 Inf Bde is attacking from approx the 878 eastern grid to secure the QATTARA rd within the limits given in para 3(b) by 0430 hrs and at daylight is securing the area 1000 yds to the west.

Liaison.

A liaison patrol of 24 Aust Inf Bde will accompany 69 Inf Bde and make contact with 24 Aust Inf Bde at RUIN 87542893 on capture of 69 Inf Bde's night objective.

Similarly a liaison patrol of 69 Inf Bde will accompany 24 Aust Inf Bde for the same purpose.

8. 1 Armd Bde is expected to pass through 69 Inf Bde at 0700 hrs.

9. RA & RAA

Arty is being coord by Eighth Army and 30 Corps.

CRA is coord arty resources

(a) To sp the attack

(b) To secure our present posns against counter attack

(c) To cover 1 Armd Div during its passage through enemy areas

Guns may have to be moved for this task.



- (d) Arty fire will be by predicted shooting until OPs are established on 24 Aust Inf Bde objective.
- (e) If 1 SA Div uses smoke to cover the lifting of minefields, 9 Aust Div will smoke TELL EL EISA and ring contour 25 873302.

10. RAE

Gaps made through minefields will be clearly marked with cairns, poles or shaded lights and guides provided as well.

11. Exploitation

Having secured the objectives given in paras 5 and 6, further penetration of the enemy's area will be made to assist 1 Armd Div in breaking through.

- (a) 24 Aust Inf Bde will be prepared to attack with arty sp westwards at first light to secure the continuation of the ridge to the west of the objective in the area 872290, 873290 and be prepared to bring long range MG fire on enemy guns and A Tk guns to the SW of this area.

1 Army Tk Bde will be kept fwd, but will be used in this attack only if the attack cannot secure its objective without tk assistance.

- (b) 1 Army Tk Bde will be prepared to sp the above attack if it cannot succeed without tk sp, and to attack westwards to secure the area Trig 30 870292 - Pt 27 868291.

12. Res

20 Aust Inf Bde Gp remains in res and will be prepared for exploitation or pursuit as may be ordered.

A C K N O W L E D G E

Issued through Sigs

Time of Signature 1715 hrs

Distribution

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20 Aust Inf Bde	1
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GS 9 Aust Div



WD

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28 Jul 42.

20 AUST INF BDE-OP INSTN NO 17.

PREPARATION FOR PURSUIT.

1. General.

This Instn is issued so that the Bde Gp may be in readiness to take part in a pursuit if at any time circumstances of our ops make pursuit of the enemy possible.

Our ability to pursue the enemy relentlessly and inflict the maximum destruction will depend largely on our operating on 'hard scale' with only those units which are fully equipped and mob as possible, and on our leaving behind all non-essential personnel and eqpt to lessen the strain on maintenance and tpt.

The policy regarding the carriage and dumping of gas clothing will be issued shortly.

2. Composition of Bde Gp.

- (a)
1. HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde.
  2. "J" Sec Sigs.
  3. 58 Aust LAD.
  4. 1 Pl A Coy HQ Gd Bn.
  5. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn.
  6. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
  7. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.
  8. 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.
  9. "E" Sec Sigs.
  10. 63 Aust LAD.
  11. 9 Aust ATK Bty.
  12. 11 Aust Lt AA Bty.
  13. 2/3 Aust Fd Coy.
  14. B Coy 2/2 MG Bn.
  15. 10 Coy AASC.
  16. Dets two pls Gen Tpt Coy. (for tp carrying).
  17. 2/8 Aust Fd Amb (less dets)
  18. 2 Rec Sec & "J" Div Sec 1 Ord Fd Pk.
  19. One sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.
  20. 20 Aust Inf Postal det.

3. Battle Grouping.

(a) Bde Battle Gp:-

Main HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde.  
"J" Sec Sigs (less det).  
1 Pl A Coy HQ Gd Bn (less one sec).  
58 Aust LAD.  
Two Inf Bns (less "B" Ech).  
2/7 Aust Fd Regt (less portion "B" Ech).  
"E" Sec Sigs (less det).  
63 Aust LAD.  
9 Aust ATK Bty (less portion "B" Ech).  
11 Aust Lt AA Bty (less portion "B" Ech).  
2/3 Aust Fd Coy (less one sec and "B" Ech).  
B Coy 2/2 MG Bn (less "B" Ech).  
Dets two pls Gen Tpt Coy.  
Two Mob secs 2/8 Aust Fd Amb.  
Amb Cars.  
2 Rec Vehs.

(b) "B" Ech.

Rear HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde.  
Det "J" Sec Sigs.  
One sec HQ Gd Pl.  
One Inf Bn.  
"B" Ech two Inf Bns (in para 3 (a)).  
Portion "B" Ech 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.  
" " " " 9 Aust ATK Bty.  
" " " " 11 Aust Lt AA Bty.

/2.



Det "E" Sec Sigs.  
One sec and "B" Ech 2/3 Aust Fd Coy.  
"B" Ech B Coy 2/2 MG Bn.  
10 Coy AASC.  
2/8 Aust Fd Amb (less two Mob secs-Amb Cars).  
2 Rec Sec (less two rec vehs).  
"J" Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk.  
20 Aust Inf Bde Postal Det.

- (c) Bn Battle Gps.  
Composition of Bn Battle Gps will vary in accordance with the tactical situation. A possible grouping is as follows:-

One Inf Bn.  
One Bty 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.  
One tp 9 Aust Atk Bty.  
One sec 11 Aust Lt AA Bty.  
One sec 2/3 Aust Fd Coy.  
One pl "B" Coy 2/2 MG Bn.  
Det one Pl Gen Tpt Coy.

- (d) Battle Gps will be formed when ordered in accordance with the above. Planning and adv preparations will be made immediately by all units.

4. RAF Co-operation.

- (a) RAF rely on ST ANDREWS crosses and roundels for recognising the posn of our own tps. Units will clean these markings at periods throughout the day so that they can be easily seen.
- (b) To keep RAF informed of the approx progress of our adv, the leading unit, or units, will arrange to burn one gp of smoke candles for 15 mins at 0630, 0930, 1230, 1530 and 1830 hrs daily. Leading tps need NOT halt for this period.
- (c) Enemy aircraft or captured LGS will be made non-airworthy immediately by damaging the fuselage, e.g., by running a veh into the tail. Aircraft will NOT be burnt, and instruments will NOT be removed.

5. Surplus Eqp.

All units will move as lightly equipped as possible, all surplus items will be left in "B" Ech areas.

6. Picks and Shovels.

- (a) Full WE scale will be carried in "A" Ech vehs, together with surplus as detailed.
- (b) One truck from 10 Coy AASC loaded with picks and shovels will be att to and move with 2/3 Aust Fd Coy.

7. Personnel.

Units will NOT take into battle rifle secs of more than 1 NCO and 7 ORs. In the allocation of personnel provision must be made for:-

- (a) Escorting of prisoners.  
(b) Assistance to Engr Demolition Dets.  
(c) Gds on special pts.

8. Adm instns will be issued separately, and will deal with hard scales allotment of mines and disposal of units and personnel not incl in battle gps.

ACK.

DISTRIBUTION:

  
Maj.  
BM, 20 Aust Inf Bde.