

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

**Item number: 8/3/1**

**2/1 Infantry Battalion**  
**July - September 1942**



War Diary 2/1 Aust Inf Bn.

On Ship

Tuesday 7 July 42

At 10.15 Bn left camp to march to Katukarunda to entrain for movement to ship

12.15 Troops left Katukarunda and arrived on wharf at Colombo at 14.00 hrs  
Loading of troops commenced at 14.30 hrs and was completed by 1.600 hrs

First meal was served on ship - H.M.T. Devonshire at 18.00 hrs

Wednesday 8 July 42

Bn settled into quarters and loading parties arranged for baggage

Brigadier Lloyd arrived on board.

A/A lists arranged and taken over by coys.

Thursday 9 July 42

Boat stations arranged - first practice carried out.

N.C.O.'s Cadre commenced - syllabus for coy training arranged.

Friday 10 July 42

Bn H.Q. occupied checking dates on which men joined unit.

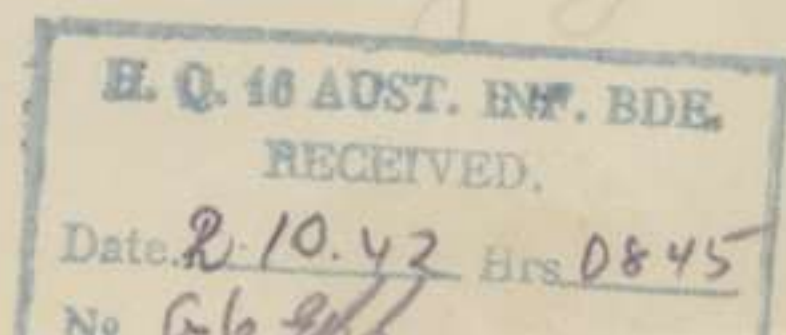
New arrangement made re messing.

Boat drill commenced - from to-day onwards will be a regular daily practice

Saturday 11 July 42

all coys having Administration Day.

Capt. Williams entertainment office arranging for concerts throughout voyage





War Diary 2/1 am 12/13

At sea

Sunday 12 July 42

General parade held for church services on main decks of ship.

Commence to-day a recorded program of music on the amplifying system which tunes all over the ship.

Monday 13 July 42

Boat commenced an intensive course of small arms training.

Issued with life jackets 1500 hrs. Gangway has been taken up boat ready to move.

1530 hrs - Anchor is up and we are commencing to move and the 1st track carrier of this convoy 1800 hrs Ceylon and longer in sight

Tuesday 14 July 42

Sea very rough and has reduced the ranks considerably.

Breakfast particularly unpalatable

Wednesday 15 July 42

Sea particularly rough and storms all round.

11.30 sailing through a squall - wind is terrific and rain beating through everywhere.

Thursday 16 July 42

Calmer to-day, but sea still has a heavy swell.

Has been some complaint about meals



On Ship War Diary 2/1 Aust Inf Bns.  
Friday 17 July 42

This morning commenced a reading of  
of Reuters news service on amplifiers - ships  
Orders not allowing wireless to be used,  
also a broadcast of music daily.

Saturday 18 July 42

Loops having administrative day.

Sunday 19 July 42

0900 Church parade - General and B.C.

Our escort a British cruiser left  
us and is returning to its base and  
convoy duty has been taken over by an  
American cruiser.

Monday 20 July 42

Training in small arms and physical  
training.

A new armed merchant cruiser joined  
us to-day.

Tuesday 21 July 42

Attention is being given to clothing and  
equipment held by each man.

An issue of camp beds given to all troops.  
Weather stormy and becoming wintry.  
Clocks to be advanced  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr.

Wednesday 22 July 42

Weather much calamity.

Each man on board has been allowed  
to buy 5 lbs of tea which was bought from  
pounds. The tea was issued to some of the  
personnel to-day. Clocks go on  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr. to-day.



War Diary 21st Aust Inf Bn.

Thursday 23 July

Training by all corps - N.C.O.'s cadre well advanced.

Shipboard routine continuing.

Friday 24 July 42

Weather very calm - sea like glass, Corps small arms training map reading + theoretical tactical training.

Saturday 25 July 42

All corps physical training and lectures on gas + camouflage + establishment of a Bn.

Sunday 26 July 42

Church parade for Bn. later declared an administration day + washing of clothes.

Tuesday 28 July 42

0830 Australia was sighted and in the morning we moved into an anchorage of Fremantle.

Names and addresses of next of kin of all personnel were taken and telegrams dispatched stating our arrival in Australia.

This service was free and appreciated by troops.

All Ceylon and Indian currency were converted to Australian money.



2/1 AUST INF BN

WAR DIARY

27 July 42

0830 Another escort has joined convoy — a  
destroyer flying American flag.

In distance can be seen a bomber just  
above horizon.

Training as usual.

Weather calm & clear.



War Diary 29 July 42  
2/Platoon - Inf. Bn

Wednesday 29 July

Ship moved into Swan River and berthed on the south side of the river. Personnel with next of kin residing in West. Australia were granted home leave.

1030 All personnel except essential duties were granted leave to Perth or Fremantle until midnight and trains were provided to Perth. A payment of troops was made prior to going ashore.

Thursday 30 July 42

Leave was granted again with a further payment of £2. Trains were again provided to Perth.

Troops appreciated the leave and the generous hospitality of the Perth people.

Friday 31 July 42

Roll call held and gear of all A.W.U. personnel taken ashore.

0900 Boat moved out from the wharf and anchored off Fremantle.

1530 Conroy moved out.

Saturday 1 August

Coy training and Cadre continuing. Rations improved and included all Australian food.



Was Siang 2/1 Aug 41 B.

Friday 2 Aug 41

Church parade held.

Cops washed clothes - administration  
clocks advanced  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour.

Monday 3 Aug 41

Cadre continuing.

Kit Inspection held for indecent  
and obscene literature

Clocks advanced  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr.



War Diary

2<sup>d</sup> Aust Inf. Bn

At sea

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August  
1942

0830 Coy training, NCO's Cadre - Gas +  
Mortar courses + Boat Drill.

1400 Sports were held on B. deck under Bn  
supervision

Weather fine with cool nights - sea calm  
Clocks advanced 1/2 hour at Midnight.

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At sea

Wednesday  
5<sup>th</sup> August  
1942

0830 Coy parades, Cadres + courses as usual.

1045 Medical inspection of all troops

1300 Washing of equipment by troops in preparation  
for disembarkation

1400 Inter-unit sports on B. Deck.

Clocks advanced 1/2 hour again midnight

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At sea

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August 1942

0830 Coy parades, as usual.

1030 Boat Drill - inspection of Badges + patches for  
uniformity

1400 Directions for packing kit

1800 Lights lighted on shore - everyone excited.

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War Diary

2/1 Aust. Inf. Bns.

On Boat

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 1942

- 0600 Blankets & Hammocks were handed in & checked. - Ship moving up St. Phillip Bay through fog.
- 0900 Berthed at Pier at St. Melbourne - Military Band played a Welcome.
- 1100 Bns commenced disembarking.
- 1215 First troop train moved from pier.
- 1430 Train reached Mangalore - Troops detrained.
- 1530 Arrived at camp - Block No 5.
- 1700 First meal served in camp.

In Australia

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August 1942.

- 0830 Rolls being prepared - some addresses of troops noted for leave. Fourteen days leave has been granted for Bns.
- Weather very cold - no complaints.
- Lge. accumulation of mail.
- 1700 New clothing & equipment arrived at Q.M.R. for issue.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August 1942.

- 0830 Shortages of clothing & equipment made up. Changing of the serviceable clothes & equipment also carried out.
- 1000 Personnel for Sydney & South Coast New South Wales were notified that they would proceed on leave next day.

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 1942

- 0130 Pay made available to all troops - the minimum being £5 per person. Tea coupons & special ration coupons also being issued.
- 1300 First leave party for Sydney & South left camp. Service stripes issued to be sewn on uniforms prior to leaving camp.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 1942.

- 0830 Preparation for movement of 2nd leave party underway.
- 1400 Second leave party Sydney & South left camp.
- C.O. Colonel Cullen left on leave.
- Capt Simpson taking over duties of C.O.



2/1 Aust. Inf. Force.

War Diary

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 1942.

0830 preparations for personnel going on leave to inter-state destinations under way.

1400 Personnel for inter-state leave left camp.

Canteen in block opened today.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 1942

the last of the main leave party for Northern, Western & North Coast districts of New South Wales left today.

Rear party all that is left in camp.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> August 1942

Men on leave.

1200. Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 1942.  
the first leave party reported to the showground Sydney after leave. Party after being checked were drafted to Wallgrove camp.  
Tents & areas were allotted to Coys & Bn prepared to receive further arrivals.

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August 1942

0130 Settling into camp. Good conditions - messing arrangements good.  
Further leave parties arrived in camp & personnel joined respective Coys.  
Nightly leave has been arranged for 25% of personnel in camp.

0830 Majority of Bn. still on leave so training restricted to Rifle exercises & short marches.  
Further leave parties arriving  
applications called for those desiring commissions



War Diary

2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 42

0830 Parades held by Cys. Rifle Drill & smartening up exercises

An open air picture show is providing entertainment for those remaining in camp at night.

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 42.

0830. "A" day today. Troops took advantage & washed clothes & equipment in preparation for march to Sydney (city) on 5<sup>th</sup> Sept.  
25% of personnel in camp granted leave to Sydney & suburbs.

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 42.

0830. Training for march on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. commenced. Short marches at attention with fixed bayonets are the order, with the idea of lengthening them each day.  
Further leave parties arriving in camp.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 42.

0830 Practice marches continuing all day today.  
Further leave parties arriving continually.

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 42

0830 Further short practice marches carried out - now accompanied by band for practice purposes.  
Majority of Bn. now back in camp after leave.

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 42.

1000. Entire Battalion held a practice march with fixed bayonets to the accompaniment. Attention was given to correct dress & after march Rifle exercises & smartening up exercises were given.

1400 Afternoon taken up with further washing of clothes & equipment.

A muster parade was held as all personnel of first leave parties were due back in camp.



2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn.

War Diary

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1942

- 10.00 A Brigade practice parade was held. Brigadier Lloyd took the salute. Faults were noted and corrected in a further march.
- 14.00 Kit bags were packed & stacked for removal. All leave cancelled for tonight.

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1942

0400. Reveille
- 0500 Breakfast
- 0630 Bn. moved to Rooky Hill Station to entrain for City.
0900. Arrived at Prince Alfred Park where tea and biscuits were provided.
- 10.40 Brig. Lloyd lead the brigade - the 2/1 Bn leading - through Chalmers St. & Elizabeth St. to Hunter St., Pitt St., Martin Place, George St back to Central Railway Station. Lord Gowrie took the salute from the steps of the Town Hall.
- 11.45 The Bn. entrained for Greta where they occupied "M" Block, where conditions were excellent.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1942

- 0830 Church Parade.
- 10.30 Remainder of day was spent in adjusting camp, washing & preparing for training. Maps were received from Bde & were issued to Coy.



War Diary

2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Monday 7th Sept. 1942.

- 08.15 Bn parade.  
08.30 N.C.O.'s Cadre course commenced.  
All Coy's marched 6 (six) miles.  
14.00 Barrack room drill commenced & kit layouts demonstrated.

Tuesday 8th Sept. 1942

- 0800 Coy parades.  
0815 Bn parade followed by separate Coy training  
1000 Bn visited local armoured regt. & were lectured & demonstrated to.  
1400 Coy training & marches.

Wednesday. 9th Sept 1942

- 0815 Bn parade. Coy training units moved out on route marches.  
10.30 Movement order. All personnel to be ready to move by following morning. All leave cancelled. All officers & men recalled to unit.  
14.00 A "Vickers Gun" section under Capt. Burrell commenced.  
Kits containing tropical equipment were made ready. all other gear sent to kit store.  
1900 Subsistence money for period of leave was made available.



War Diary

2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1942.

- 0830 Bn parade. C.O. explained the position of emergency.
- 10.00. Carriers & transport left camp. A further issue of Thompson sub-machine guns.
- A delay in movement orders to Friday night.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. 42

- 08.30 Camp cleaned, & preparations to hand over completed.
- 18.30. H.Q. Coy, B.H.Q., A & B Coys moved to Greta Station.
- 20.30 Embarked for Brisbane.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> Sept. 42

All day spent in train. Breakfast & dinner provided at Grafton & Casino respectively.

1930. Arrived at S.H. Brisbane & changed to wharf where another meal was provided.
2330. Embarkation completed.

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 42

S.S. ANHUI.

- 14.00. Cooking arrangements taken over by our cooks. Ship moved down Brisbane River and joined convoy in Moreton Bay.
- Condition were wretched. No room for parades.



War Diary.

2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Monday. 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. '42

Convoy well under way

10.00. Boat drill for all troops.  
Weapons were cleaned & all steel helmets  
covered with tesson & painted. Oil for  
boots provided.

Tuesday 15 Sept 42

10.00 Boat Drill.  
Maps of New Guinea issued to Coy.

Wednesday. 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 42

1000 Boat Drill.

1400 C.O gave lecture on layout of B.H.Q.  
depot.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. 42.

1000 Boat Drill.

Applications for commissions interviewed

1400 Mail to be posted at Townsville closed.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 42

06.30 Ship dropped anchor about 1 mile from Townsville

0800 Launch left for shore taking C.O., 2/1c, M.O.  
and patients from Hospital.

15.30 Shore party returned.

16.30. Left Harbour



War Diary.

2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Saturday 19 Sept. 1942

0900. Two soldiers fatally injured and another grazed when a Bren Gun was accidentally fired on A. Deck.

Deaths. Pte. BANNERMAN  
Pte. MURPHY.

WOUNDED 1/cpl MACKAY

1000 Boat drill.

1500 Bodies of casualties buried

16.30 Boat drill on trial 'action stations'

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1942

10.00 Boat drill followed by another action stations practice.

Comforts from A.C.F. were issued

Disembarkation orders were issued & troops prepared. Overcoats were stacked in holds.

Monday 21 Sept. 1942

10.00 Boat drill. Hammocks returned to hold. Equipment checked. Rations issued.

1930 Moved into Phoresby. Disembarkation commenced per corvette 'H.M.A.S. LITHGOW'. From wharf to Murray Barracks per truck. Billeting completed by 0.300.



War Diary

2/1 Aust. Inf Bn.

Tuesday 22 Sept. 1942.

- 08.30 Advance party departed for our new positions  
10.00 Remainder of Bn prepared to move.  
11.00 Embussed.  
12.15 Debussed and dispersed to Coy positions  
13.00 C.O. conference resulting in following:-  
(a) Inspection of boots (at least 1 good pair per man)  
(b) Respirators & helmets not to be carried. Maximum weight (excluding ammo) 40 lbs.  
(c) Hard training to commence immediately  
(d) Slacks to be worn.
- 15.06 L.O. reconnected Laloki R.  
15.15 2.1/c & Ady left for Bde.  
15.25 Bde L.O. (Lieut Long visited Bn).  
15.40 Series of explosions heard.  
15.50 2.1/c & Ady returned bringing mail.  
16.45 Bn transport arrived.  
17.00 Gen Vasey arrived and conversed with C.O.  
19.15 Japanese plane was heard searchlights failed to pick it up.



War Diary

2/1 Aust. Inf. Bn.

Wednesday 23 Sept. 1942.

0945. Lieut-Col. Cullen, Adj & G.R. officer left for recon of forward areas.
1900. Air raid warning. A/A batteries opened up. Bombs fell some distance from camp area.
2000. Advance party warned to leave early next morning.

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 1942

0700. C.O. lectured all officers & B419 personnel on immediate future.
0915. 70 O.R.s left in Advance party carrying 3 days rations.
1600. Convoy arrived at bivouac area. Patrols sent out. C.O. went to Bole.

Friday 25 Sept 1942

0700. issue of green clothing  
numerous recon parties to local areas.
1530. Brig Lloyd arrived at HQ.
2340. The sound of the 25 lbs guns can be heard distinctly.

Saturday 26 Sept 1942

0715. Co contacted B. Coy.
0900. Remainder of Bn arrived and entire unit moved into position on top of hill.
1830. C.O.'s conference. Unit on 24 hrs notice.



2/1 AUST INF BN

WAR DIARY

27 Sept 42

- 0200 blocks were advanced one hour.  
0715 b. O. left to go to Divisional HQ  
0730 Unit stood down.  
0830 I Sgt & one OR went to 16 Pde to copy maps.  
0900 L. O. B personnel left the Unit.  
b. O. with Maj Gen Allen & Brig. Lloyd went forward along jeep track and received to same command. (See trace attached.)

Unit is to be vanguard of a force moving eastward along track to Jaramore & thence northwards to Laian.

In the matter of supplies M/Gen Allen stated that a bulldozer would be put on the track & that a jeep track would be completed through to Jaramore by 1st Dec.

All men have now been issued with green uniforms & equipment has been dyed green.

Morale of the men is very high & they are keen to get on with the job.

Mail arrived in the late afternoon.

- 1600 b. O.'s conference called. See appendix attached. Unit to be relieved by a Coy of 2/3 Bn. A.I.F.

Weather has been good. No rain & cool nights. Mosquitoes were not overtroublesome.



Map trace att'd.

CO's Conference

1600 HRS 27 Sept 42

Present

CO. 2 1/2 Coy Comd  
Adjt BM RMO. SO. Sig Offr. Bn Sig Offr.

1. Local situation explained. Topography.

2. 21 Bn. to move to JAWARERE (in future to be known as JAVA) & relieve JAW force.

3. Relief of 21 Bn

By 1 Coy 21 Bn as follows.

1 Coy less 1 Pl to vicinity tracks ITIKI - SUBITANA. few miles W of SUBITANA. (AO SUBITANA patrol)

1 Pl at EILOGO. for local patrols & to East.

Relief to be complete by 1200 HRS 28 Sept 42

4. 21 Bn move

28 Sept 42 0700 HRS D Coy move to SAM'S CORNER

0930 " Arrv SAM'S CORNER

1 Pl D Coy to immediately patrol EAST to JAVA - maintain local protective patrols until Bn Hd det. JAVA & patrol ordered to withdraw.

28 Sept 42 1200 HRS A Coy, & Pur (Nos) Pl. CO. Adj. SO. Sig Offr "J", R.P. & med details.

1500 " Arrv SAM'S CORNER

2nd flight Stage overnight - 28/29 Sep with D Coy & move to JAVA 29 Sept 42

29 Sept 42 0700 " C Coy & Bn Hd C Coy to ALLENS CORNER Bn Hd to JAVA.

0800 " Hd Coy to JAVA  
4426

over



(2)

29 Sept. 0900 hrs. B Coy to NIGUBAIFA  
5<sup>th</sup> flight. via JAVA.

All flights except D Coy (No. 1) to umbus  
at FORT HARPLEY.

B Coy to move to D Coy present from  
1700 hrs 28 Sept.

A + Q

For move 5 x steamers rptg to MTO.  
2000 hrs 27 Sep. 12. May return for up  
to 3 days.

Lieut. Harpley to estab. rear ech at SABITANA  
& arrange move of his gear to rear & assist  
in supps for'd.

rear Ech party - Lieut Harpley  
O.R. Sgt.

8 sp's. All personnel NOT  
quite fit.

" " M.T. - DS Car  
Office Trucks  
1 X 15 evt.  
2 M.E.D.R's.

Rations: Distrib pt - SABITANA  
Reserves do

Amun. do do

Gen. Admin

All have daily  
Ranks badges - Ink for Office  
Wear Steel Helmets - Remove Hats  
Retain hat pug's. Straps & badges.  
B Coy surplus equip & gear direct to  
Bde Details camp  
All other to FORT HARPLEY 28 Sept.  
mark bay baggage. (OOD)



Hygiene Be careful. Do NOT soil tracks.

Comms

OLD Line to EILORO case 1200 hrs 28 Sep.  
All other within unit case 1600 " "

NEW  
Do NOT lay line on tracks - It becomes damaged by mules.

NEW One (1) MEDR - D Coy  
Two (2) " - SABUTANA

Line to be ordered.  
W.T. " " arranged 108's converted to 208's  
One No 11. to Bde.

Allen Capt  
Adj of Ansett Bde



Location of Jeep Track SUBITANA TO JAWARERE



Scale: 1 mile to 1 inch

Ref Map: Moresby - IOPADANA  
2 miles = 1 inch.

Rece by  
Lt. R.G. Brooke,  
RAE 1 Div.

Traced. K. Donnellan Pto  
41 Bw.



2/1 AUSTRALIAN INF BN

WAR DIARY

28 Sep 42

0715 Stand down — Situation normal

0730 Don Coy moved out in trucks for Subutana & then by foot to SAMS CORNER. Upon arrival the patrol to be sent to JAVA until Bn HQ established there

1215 A Coy, Pioneer Pl and IO & 3 of I Sec, 3 RPs and 3 S.B's left by trucks for Subutana & thence by foot to Java, also 6 Sigs.

Rain fell during the march & the going was found to be hard.

The normal equipment carried by each man consisted of: Blanket, ground sheet, A/Gas cape, toilet gear, mess tin & utensils, 1/2 towel, steel helmet, water bottle, 2 days emergency ration, 2 days reserve rations, 50 rounds 303 per man, 20 live mags fullered, 1 grenade. 2" Mortars & 18 bombs were carried.

Just prior to leaving Itiki camp a comforts fund issue of 1 cake soap, 1 tin boot polish, 2oz tobacco and 2 packets of cig papers were received by each man.

The men were very tired when they reached Java but a cup of tea was waiting for them which was appreciated considerably.

The following order was issued to C. Coy

"Orders & Ref track new area already issued. Proceed to Allens junction to reach there 29 Sep 42. Establish forward base there. Patrol NORTH about one days march and WEST track to NAURO to



2/1 AUST INF BN

2/1

28 Sep 42

WAR DIARY

CONTINUED

the guns 385480 @ Maintain contact with  
B Coy at NIGUBAIFA @ Patrol the to WEST  
for protective purposes @ Ack. "

2000

b.o. interviewed Lt R G Brooke RAE of Div  
in connection with the formation of jeep and  
mule tracks north to NIGUBAIFA and TAIAI

A Sec of Div Sigs with a No 11 wireless set arrived,  
however it was too late to set the wireless up  
immediately.

Plat HQ is situated in a house on the top of a  
hill, A Coy billeted in the open while the pioneers  
camped in a hut 1/2 way up the hill. Rain  
fell intermittently during the night. The whole  
area is a large rubber plantation

A member of 21 Bde I Sec Lt Col Hurst has  
been attached to the Unit for several days.

Contact was made by lamp with D Coy at same  
corner.

Lieut Hayley has established a road track at  
Subitana consisting of 9 OR's not quite fit.



2/1 AUST INF BN

WAR DIARY

29 Sep 42

See Map Attached

- 0600 Stana to  
0700 N° 11 set working & contact established with  
7 Div H.Q.  
0730 Stana down. Situation normal.

Lieut Busshe stated that although a track is being blazed suitable for jeeps from NIGUBAIFA to forward it will be impossible to complete before 10/14 days. Mules cannot get to NIGUBAIFA along the present track.

Lt. Jagers of 7 Div AAOC went to TAIAI with a party of 7 OR's for trial and dropping early in OCT.

- 0845 L. O. is of opinion it is highly desirable and would be retain efficiency that subunit's moving forward should have shelter & hot food at each stage i.e. forward, Nigubayfa - Taiai.

Lieut Loney left with Pioneer Pl for NIGUBAIFA to establish huts & a kitchen there & to collect & dry wood.

One Sect. A Coy went fwd to NIGUBAIFA as a protective patrol for Pioneers.

A further message to C Coy (See 104 attached) cancelled the journey to Allens fms & they were to proceed to forward instead.

Precautions are being taken to prevent pilfering from native gardens (Message No 5 attached).



WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

2

Unit

2/1 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From

To

2359 hrs 29 Sep 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
Jawarwe	29 Sep 42	1700	C. Coy arrived and were sent on to Bubuni with instructions to do local security patrols only	Attached. No 7
"	"	1800	B Coy arrived & bivouacked in area	
"	"		<p>Lead was provided for both companies</p> <p>Remainder of HQ Coy arrived. G. R. personnel camped near river to his march from Jawarwe.</p> <p>6/108 Wholes sets arrived with unit.</p> <p>One set remained with D Coy at SAM'S CORNER and one set sent forward to C Coy at NIGABAIKA.</p> <p>Sent Lt. Stewart Wright detached to 16 Bow Details.</p> <p>The following order was issued to C Coy:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Latest report ops found very satisfactory.</li> <li>2. Therefore you will dispose your Coy as follows</li> </ol>	



# WAR DIARY or ~~INTELLIGENCE~~ SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required) 3

Unit

2/1 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From

To

2359 hrs 29 Sep 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
JAWARERE	29 Sep 42		<p>A Two pl less two Secs at ALLENS JUNC</p> <p>B Plnce of Coy at NIGABAIFA</p> <p>3 Patrols as follows</p> <p>A Maintaining firm bases at both NIGABAIFA and ALLENS JUNC, send out small patrols (daily protective) from each patrol base.</p> <p>B Patrols not to proceed more than few hours distance from each base</p> <p>4 Carrying party dumping rations NIGABAIFA 30 Sep 42 You will supply ALLENS JUNC from NIGABAIFA</p> <p>5 Patrols as follows</p> <p>A) ALLENS JUNC to NIGABAIFA by runner</p> <p>B) NIGABAIFA to JAWARERE by 108 W.T. road at SAM'S CORNER.</p>	



# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required) 4

Unit 2/1 AUST INF BN

Date and Time.—From..... To 2359 29 Sep 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
JAWARERE	29 Sep 42	6	<p>Proceed soon as possible &amp; advise when patrol bases established.</p> <p>The following order was issued to DON Coy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As for C Coy</li> <li>2. Previous patrol order cancelled</li> <li>3. Commencing 30 Sep 42 patrol as follows                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Protective patrol daily One PO strength from SAM'S CORNER via track junction north to 3945 to track junction 3143 to SAM'S CORNER</li> <li>B) In addition maintain other local protective patrols</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>4. Reports to this HQ as soon as possible after return of each patrol</p>	
		0030	<p>b.o advised to meet Brig Lloyd at jeep head</p> <p>1100 hrs 30 Sep 42</p>	



-3 OCT 1942

# WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

Army Form C.2118  
(adapted.)

(Erase heading not required)

Unit 2/1 Aust Inf Bn

Date and Time.—From

To 2359415 30 Sep 42

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
JAWARERE	30 Sep 42	0715	Stand down — Sitover	
		0930	b.o. left to meet Brig Lloyd at Jess Head	
			did not return.	
			Unit has arranged to buy sweet potatoes & pigs	
			from the native owners of the property	
			Rain fell during the afternoon	
			Supplies now being brought from Jess Head by mules	
		1700	Capt Spens & Lt Robinson from 55 <del>Inf</del> Bty	
			of 14 La Regt arrived here & said they expected to have	
			a line through to JAWARERE by 1 OCT 42	
			A syllabic apper sheet received from 16 Bde for	
			month OCT 42.	

*(Handwritten in blue ink, circled)*  
NG 5

*(Handwritten vertically in blue ink)*  
Sep 30 Oct 42

*(Handwritten in red ink)*  
295  
NSW



**GRAND CHARITY CONCERT AND REVUE**

In Aid of  
**The Social Service League**  
and  
**Friends in Need Society**

:-:-:-:

**His Majesty's Imperial Forces**

Present

**"ONE THING AFTER ANOTHER"**

A Musical Revue

Under the Patronage of

**CYRIL de ZOYSA Esq.,**

(Chairman, Urban Council Kalutara)

AT

**NEW TOWN HALL KALUTARA**

ON

**Saturday, 6 June, 1942**

**at 6-30 p. m.**

**"WE FIGHT FOR WORLD FREEDOM"**



## IN APPRECIATION

His Majesty's Forces have pleasure in presenting this entertainment to the people of KALUTARA

The recent entertainment given by the people of KALUTARA for the benefit of members of the Services, was warmly appreciated and it was thought that this appreciation might be appropriately shown in the nature of a return concert, in which we intend to entertain the citizens.

To-night's programme is designed to augment the funds of the Social Service League and the Friends in Need Society.

T. W. WHITE Lt-Col

Officer Commanding  
Australian Forces Katukurunda.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to the following for their valuable assistance in organising this concert.

Mr. Cyril de Zoysa, Chairman of the Kalutara Urban Council for his patronage and the donation of programmes

The Chairman and members of the Kalutara Urban Council for the free use of the Town Hall.

Mr. P. J. Hudson, the Rev Thorpe, the Rev Father Chautier and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Perera and family and all artists who took part in the previous Concert for their willing co-operation and assistance in this Revue.

**Sgt. PEARCE**  
Organiser.

---

Swarnapali Press-Hunupitiya.



# PROGRAMME

"ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR"

## PART I.

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Overture              | Military Band             |
| 2. Song                  | Dvr Byrnes                |
| 3. Piano Melodies        | Sgt Pritchett             |
| 4. Two Voices In Harmony | Sgt Pearce<br>Pte Pringle |
| 5. More Nonsense         | The Players               |
| 6. Pianoforte Solo       | Sgt Redfern               |
| 7. Cowboy Yodel          | Pte Oliver                |
| 8. A Violin              | Pte Donnellan             |
| 9. Modern Airs           | Sgt Pearce                |
| 10. "The Acting Agency"  | The Players               |

Comptre - Warrant Officer **A. R. Carter**

Bandmaster - Sergeant **H. Wilson**

## PART II.

- |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 11. Overture                      | Military Band                  |
| 12. Selected Songs                | Cpl Allenby                    |
| 13. Rythm Reminiscences           | Pte Diery                      |
| 14. Moonstruck                    | The Players                    |
| 15. Songs of The Saddle           | Pte Rowlandson                 |
| 16. Singing The Classics          | Pte Pringle                    |
| 17. Syncopation                   | Sgt Pritchett<br>Pte Donnellan |
| 18. "The Magic Wireless"          | The Players                    |
| 19. Specialty Numbers by The Band |                                |
| 20. It Is Time To Say Good-Night  | by the Company                 |

GOD SAVE THE KING

The Players

L/Cpl **D. RAVELL**  
Pte **R. WATKINS**  
Pte **OLIVER**





*WAR DIARY*

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

H. Q. 16 AUST. INF. BDE.  
RECEIVED.  
Date: 6/6/42 hrs 1200  
No. 128 R

Headquarters  
2/1 Aust Inf Bn  
5 June 42

Headquarters  
16 Aust Inf Bde

H.M.FORCES CONCERT

KALUTARA TOWN HALL.

1830 hrs 6 Jun 42

The Bde Comd and Staff are cordially  
invited to attend the above entertain-  
ment.

*A very good concert  
was given in Kalutara  
by the H.M. Forces  
Bde. The concert  
was held in the  
Town Hall.*

*The H.M. Forces Bde  
is a very good  
one. The staff  
is very good  
and the  
concert was  
very good.  
The H.M. Forces  
Bde is a very  
good one and  
the staff is  
very good.*

SEEN

BRIGADIER	_____
B. M.	_____
S. C.	_____
CAMP	_____

*Miller*  
Major  
President Officers' Mess 2/1 Aust Inf Bn



TRADE      VALUES

YAMS  
TARO  
SWEET POTATOES } 2<sup>p</sup> lb or equivalent

BANANAS      1 large bunch - 5 sticks tobacco

PAW PAW      3 for 1 stick

SUGAR CANE      — 6 long sticks for 1 stick tob.

LABOUR      — 1 day work — 2 sticks tob

Hb sugar approx - 2 sticks tob

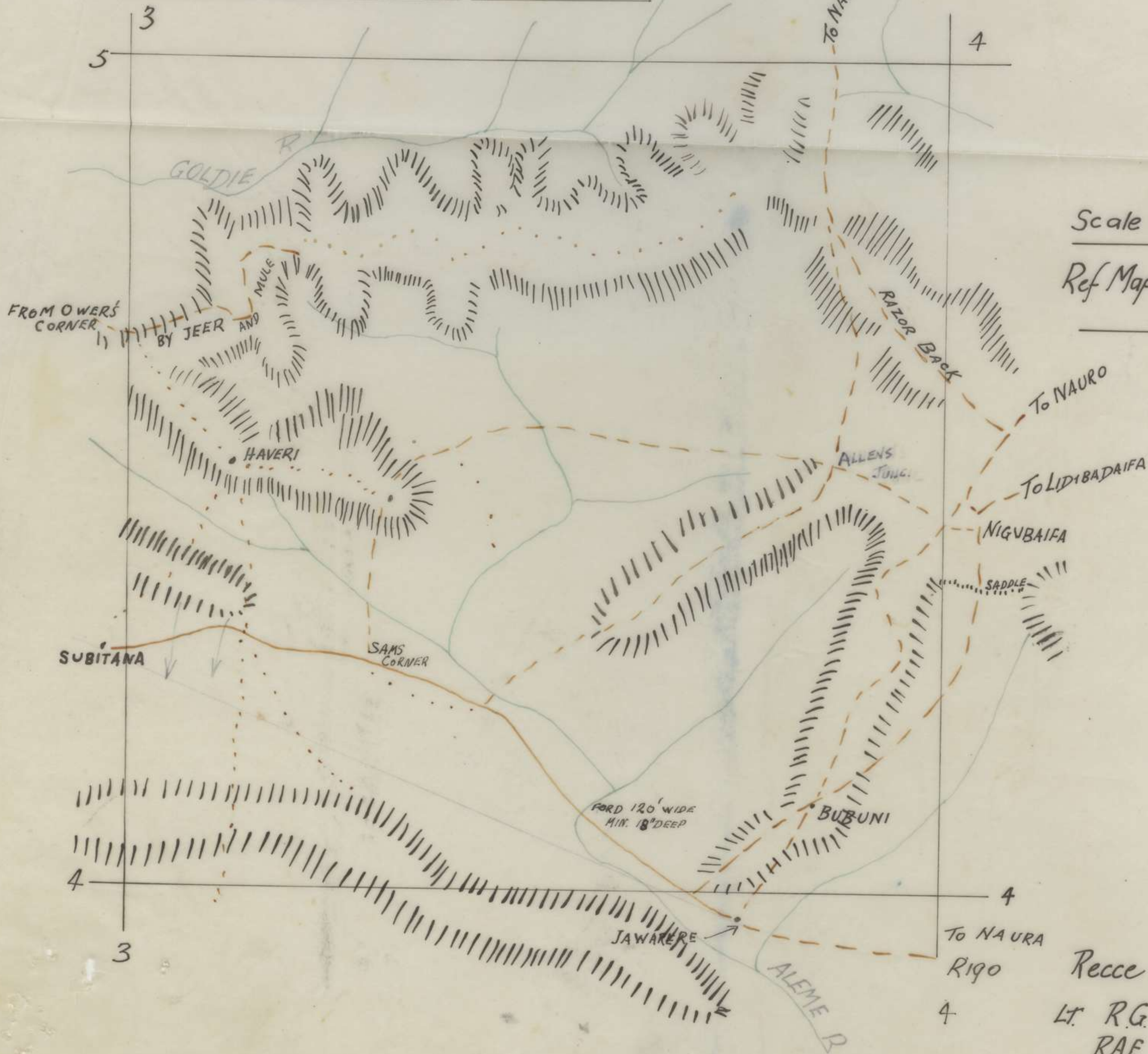
Salt also very valuable

1 stick tobacco worth approx 3<sup>p</sup>



SUBITANA TO JAWARERE

LOCATION OF JEEP TRACK



Scale: 1 mile to 1 inch

Ref Map: MORESBY-LORIBAIWA  
2 miles to 1 inch

Recce by  
LT. R.G. Brooke  
RAE. 1 DIV.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN  
OUT

GR.

*CLG*  
*Sent by C.O.*

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

*2/1 Bn*

FROM

*16 Bde*

Originator's Number

*3*

Date

*28*

In reply to Number

*Slight change in disposition Message for Colonel Cullen by hand following with remainder of Bn for delivery to you at Sam's Corner deciphered to Honnella I see*

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

*1920*

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
(5/501)	Wt. 36314	/21. 225M pads	3-40. B.&S.Ltd.	51/5895.							



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

*File*

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO VAVU

FROM LOKU

Originator's Number

101

Date

28

In reply to Number

NO	vehicles	except	JEEPS	to	proceed
<del>for</del> more	of than	<del>at</del> half	a	mile	EAST
of	SABUTANA				

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

2025

SIGNED

*W. M. on Capt*

SIGNATURE

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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

A812—Aust Mob Print Unit—2400-50lf pads—1/42—G



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL  
AND  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

*2/1 Bn*

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

*16 Bde Comd*

*4*

*29*

<i>for</i>	<i>Lt Col CULLEN. (C)</i>	<i>comd</i>	<i>will</i>
<i>meet</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>at jeep - head</i>	<i>1100</i>
<i>hrs</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>SEP (C)</i>	<i>bringing tobacco</i>
<i>and</i>	<i>salt</i>	<i>advise other</i>	<i>requirements</i>

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

*air*  
*Sgt.*

*Immediate*

*2255*

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

*2330*

T.O.R.

*1230.*

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



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO VIVA

FROM WOKU

Originator's Number

102

Date

29

In reply to Number

Sitrep	0	Ref	BROOKE	reece	Trace
SUBITANA	to	TAWAREKE	0	VAVU	established
high	hill	SAMS	CORNER	0	NAHU
and	WOKU	food	HQ'S	established	TAWAREKE
0	Maintaining protective patrols.				

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

0615

SIGNED

*W. S. O. Capt*

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.

AS12—Aust Mob Print Unit—2400-50lf pads—1/49—C



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups

OFFICE DATE STAMP

GR.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

*D'Key*

FROM

*1st Aust Lt Col B. A. W. M. G.*

Originator's Number

*103*

Date

*29*

In reply to Number

*Send to key to TAWARERE today*

A812—Aust Mob Print Unit—2400-50lf pads—1/42—G

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY

*C. S. C. on Capt*

SIGNED

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

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

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



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
**GR.**

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

*C Coy*

FROM

*H Aust Sup Bn Adv HQ*

Originator's Number

*104*

Date

*29*

In reply to Number

*Proceed to*

*to*

*JAWARERE*

*today*

AS12—Aust Mob Print Unit—2400-50lf pads—1/42—G

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY THE SENDER.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

*W. S. ...*  
SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**T.H.I.**

**T.O.R.**

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



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

*seen by C.O. Gp*

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

*D Coy*

FROM

*2/1 Aust Inf Bn*

Originator's Number

*106*

Date

*29*

In reply to Number

<i>One</i>	<i>101</i>	<i>wireless</i>	<i>with</i>	<i>two</i>	<i>Div</i>
<i>Big</i>	<i>personnel at</i>	<i>Locate</i>	<i>truck</i>	<i>head</i>	<i>this</i>
<i>inducing</i>	<i>of set</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>and</i>	<i>arrange</i>	<i>movement</i>
<i>10</i>	<i>Use</i>	<i>either</i>	<i>us</i>	<i>earliest</i>	<i>possible</i>
<i>men</i>			<i>ASC</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>own</i>

AS12—Aust Mob Print Unit—2400-50lf pads—1/42—G

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.

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

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS  
DEGREE OF PRIORITY

TIME OF ORIGIN

*Use on leaf*

*1925*

SIGNED

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

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

T.O.R.



HQ Coy of Busters. Capt

B Coy Bio Catterus Capt

A

~~Barclay Capt.~~

MESSAGE FORM

REMARKS

1st Coy  
2nd Coy  
3rd Coy  
4th Coy  
5th Coy  
6th Coy  
7th Coy  
8th Coy  
9th Coy  
10th Coy

PO 2

1st Coy  
2nd Coy  
3rd Coy  
4th Coy  
5th Coy  
6th Coy  
7th Coy  
8th Coy  
9th Coy  
10th Coy

060



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups. GR.	OFFICE DATE STAMP
	OUT		

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO HQ A B Coys

FROM	But HQ.	Originator's Number	5	Date	30	In Reply to Number
------	---------	---------------------	---	------	----	--------------------

Ref	Native	Gardens	0	Coys	are
to	ensure	that	every	precaution	is
taken	to	prevent	lps	from	pilfering
from	native	gardens	0	ack.	

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS.	IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER.	ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY	TIME OF ORIGIN 0800
SIGNED: <i>W. E. on Capt.</i>		(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)	T.H.I.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
Forms C2128/13.	Wt. 36169/1798.	1,000M. pads. 12	/39. B. & S. Ltd.	51-5537.							

T.O.R.



To C Coy from Bn HQ<sup>No 1</sup>  
Orders re advance cancelled  
— remain Bubuni  
~~to~~ Area — security  
patrols local only —  
further orders 30<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Clifton Capt. 1810.

Received message OK  
Reached Bubuni 9.00  
Loaded the gear only  
 $1\frac{3}{4}$  hrs @ will remain  
BUBUNI and await  
further orders.

additions 1907