

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

**Item number: 8/3/23**

**2/23 Infantry Battalion**

**October 1942, Appendices, part 1**  
**of 3**

MOVEMENT TABLE

Issued as Appx "B" to 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Op Order No 16

Start Line            Junc MAIN RD - QATTARA RD at 88062959

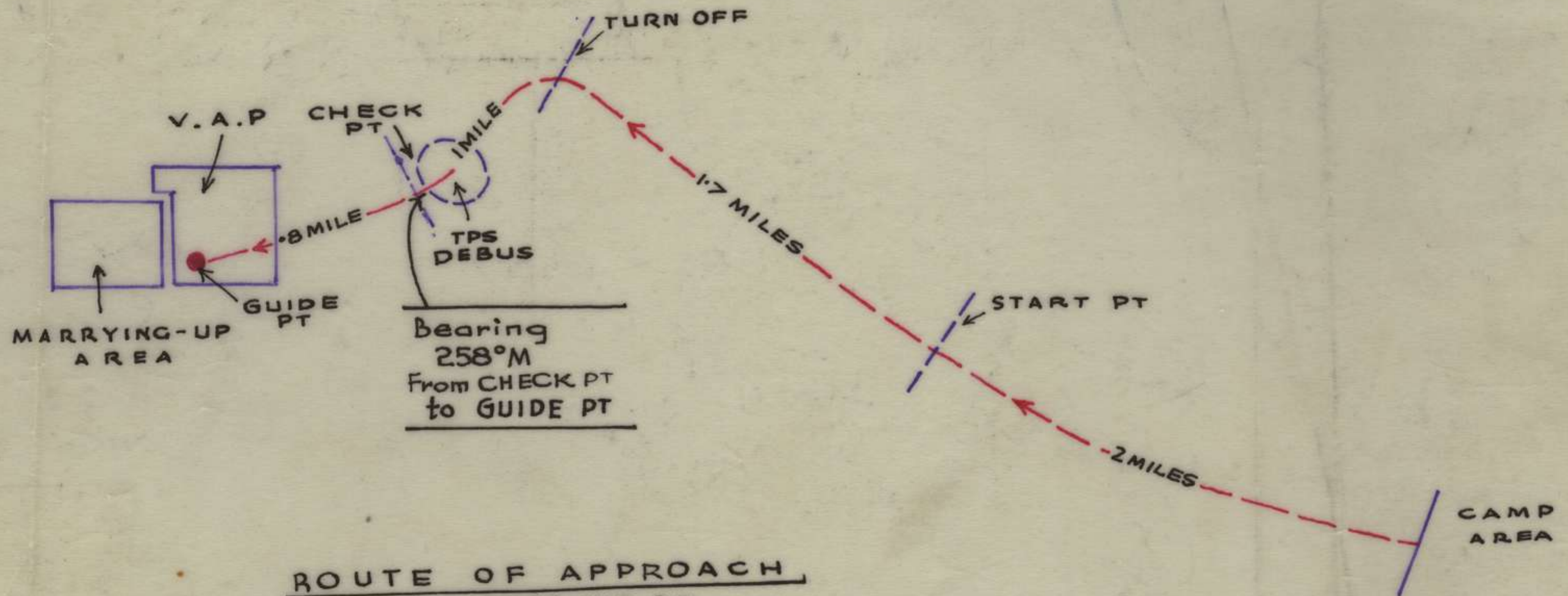
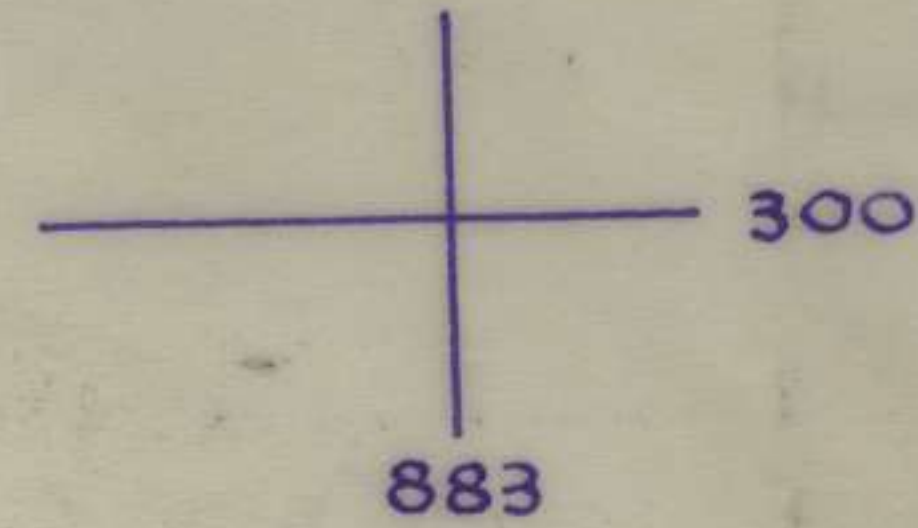
Routes                Vide att Trace Appx "A"

Speed, Density    10 m.i.h.    40 v.t.m.

Ser No.	Sub-unit	Vehs		Cross SL at	Remarks
		No	Type		
1.	TO	1	20 cwt van	2130	Serials 1 - 18 move direct to areas as recced in VAP.  (Vide route shown in att Trace Appx A)
2.	C,A,B,D Coys	4	A Ech Carriers with A Tk guns in tow (1 per Coy)	2130	
3.	C,A,B,D Coys	8	A Ech trucks	2131	
4.	BHQ	1	A Ech truck	2133	
5.	No 4 (Car) Pl	1	A Ech truck	2133	
6.	MMG Pl	2	trucks	2134	
7.	A Tk Pl	10	A Tk Portees & tractors	2135	
8.	No 3 (Mor) Pl	1	3 ton truck	2137	
9.	No 5 (Pnr) Pl	1	3 ton stores truck	2137	
		1	3 ton tp carrier	2137	
10.	No 1 (Sig) Pl	1	3 ton stores truck	2137	
			3 ton tp carrier	2137	
11.	Bn SAA Res	2	3 ton trucks	2138	
		1	15 cwt truck		
12.	RAP	1	Amb	2139	
		1	3 ton truck		
		1	15 cwt truck		
13.	BHQ	1	Office van	2139	
14.	Int Sec	1	20 cwt van	2139	
15.	MT Fitters	1	Fitters van	2140	
16.	Pet res	1	3 ton truck	2140	
17.	J Tp 11 Aust A Tk Bty	4	Portees	2141	
		2	trucks		
18.	L Tp 11 Aust A Tk Bty	4	Portees	2142	
		2	trucks		
19.	No 4 (Car) Pl	7	Carriers	2143	
20.	BHQ - CO, IO Adj OC HQ Coy Sig Offr	1	Carrier	2145	
		1	Jeep		
		1	Jeep		
		1	Jeep		

Ser No.	Sub-unit	Vehs		Cross SL at	Remarks
		No	Type		
21.	C Coy	4	3 ton tp carriers	2146	Ser 21 - 26 (Excl Ser 24) will halt with head of coln at Check Pt 100x EAST of Ry Crossing. Coys will debuss immediately and proceed in coln of route to Guide Pt. Coy guides under direction IO will guide Coys from Guide Pt to LEFT flank of slit trench area. Ser 24 will continue in carriers at marching pace and will be similarly directed from Guide Pt.
22.	A Coy	4	3 ton tp carriers	2147	
23.	B Coy	4	3 ton tp carriers	2148	
24.	No 3 (Mor) Pl	3	Mortar carriers	2149	
25.	D Coy	4	3 ton tp carriers	2150	
26.	BHQ	1	3 ton tp carrier.	2151	

Appx A.. to 2/23 Aust Inf Bn O.O. No. 16.



ROUTE OF APPROACH  
2/23 AUST INF BN

Ref EL ALAMEIN  
1:50,000

Appx. 20.  
 Pro-forma  
 C.2128

MESSAGE FORM

TO : A, B, C, D Coys, CO, 2 i/c, Adj, IO, TO, RMO, RSM, WD (2),  
 File, rptd B Ech, 26 Aust Inf Bde.

FROM : 2/23 Aust Inf Bn 26 A 54 -

---

Secret	(.)	Bn	will	take	up
defensive	posn	as	reced	sq	871298
(.)	A Ech	vehs	A Tk	Mortars	MMGs
will	move	with	marching	tps	as
allotted	by	Major	BLAND	(.)	Pnr
Sig	vehs	RAP	Amb	1	SAA
veh	with	BHQ	(.)	Order	of
march	A	B	C	D	Coys
<del>BHQ</del>	(.)	Start	line	Unit	Ser
sign	on	track	400 yds	NW	BHQ
(.)	Start	time	2100 hrs	(.)	Coln
will	be	formed	up	ready	to
move	by	2045 hrs	(.)	Det	2/7
Aust	Fd	Coy	in	sp	to
assist	clearing	booby	traps	(.)	Sprs
move	with	Coys	(.)	VAP	remains
present	location	(.)	All	A Ech	vehs
return	to	VAP	by	first	light
(.)	BHQ	closes	present	location	2045 hrs
reopens	at	87142984	2230 hrs	(.)	L/T
to	Coys	on	arrival	(.)	R/T
all	sets	on	listening	watch	from
2000 hrs	(.)	All	informed	(.)	ACK

---

IMMEDIATE DR

*Handwritten signature*

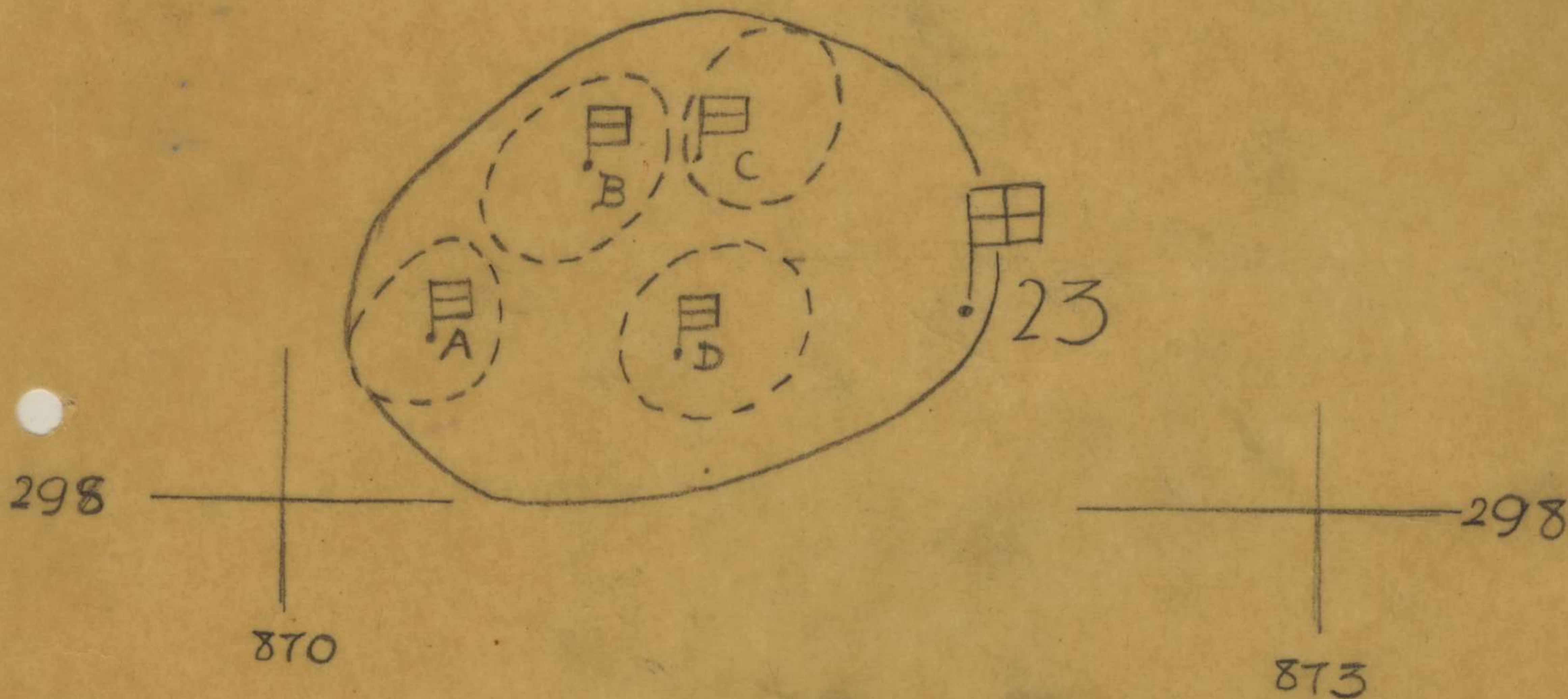
TOO 1925

2/23 Aust Inf Bn

27 Oct 42

Appx 21  
disposns

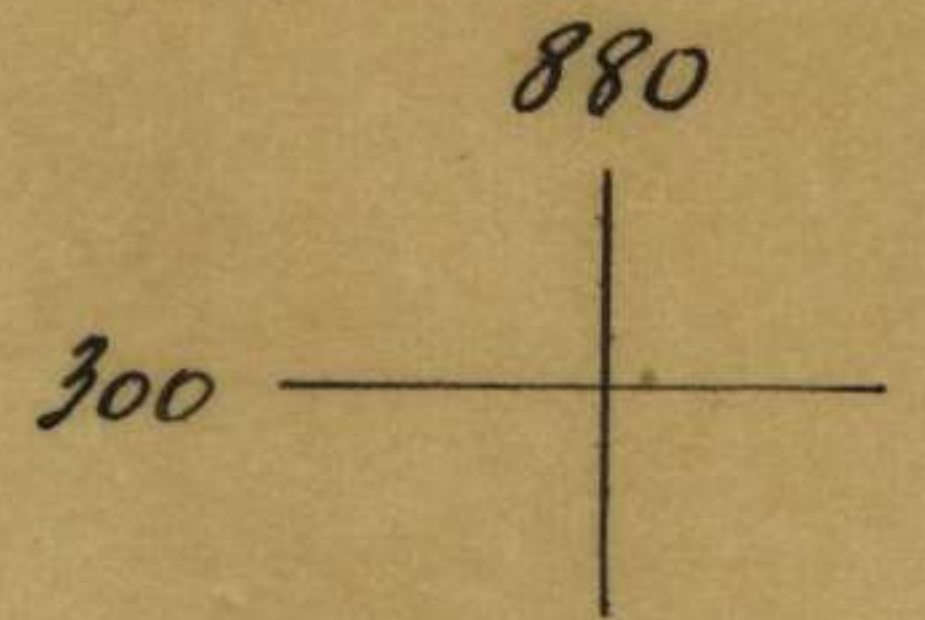
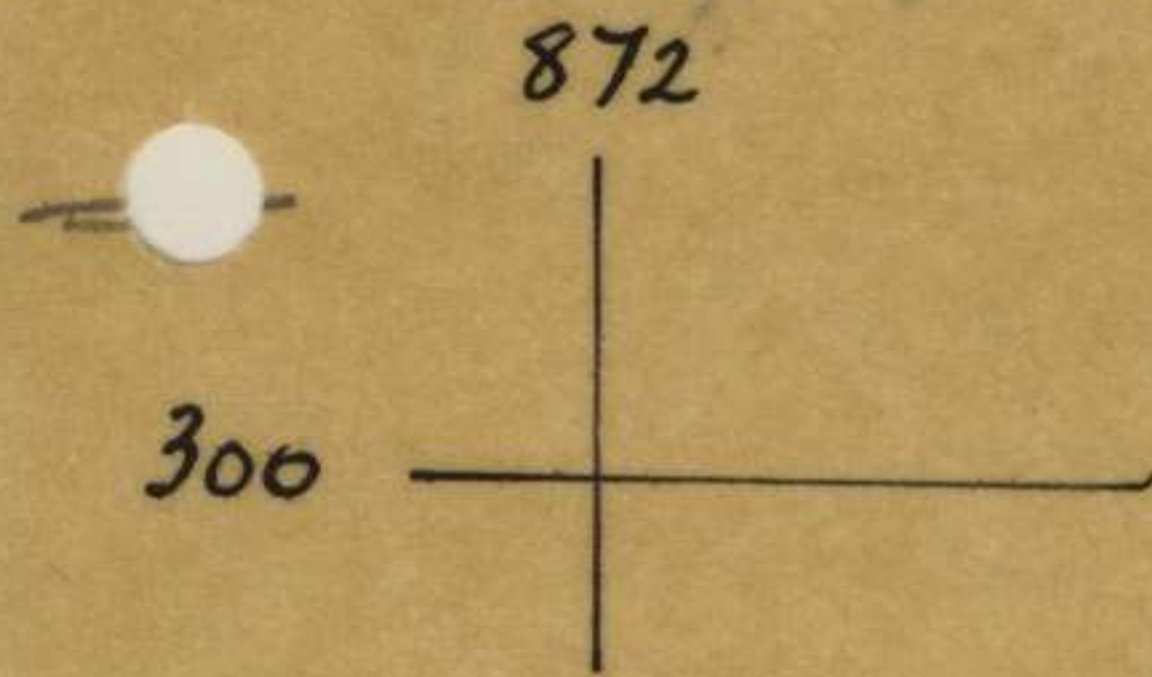
1:25,000



2/23 Aust. Inf. Bn Disposns - 23 Oct. 42

Appx 21

R.F. 1:50,000



*1st Lt (hr) ✓ To AUST*

*Co 2/c 10*

*24*

MESSAGE OUT :

*AN 27/10/1-*

TO :- 2/23 2/24 2/48 BNS ✓ 12, 209 A TK BTY 2/7 FD COY A COY  
2/2 MG BN rptd 20 AUST INF BDE 2/12 FD REGT 46 RTR

FROM:- TAC HQ 26 AUST INF BDE 0304 27

WARNING ORDER (.) 20 aust inf bde relieves 26 aust inf bde night  
27/28 oct (.) outline plan 2/15 bn relieves 2/24 bn by 2300 hrs  
2/17 bn relieves 2/48 bn by 0200 hrs (.) A coy 2/2 MG bn *notified*  
*separately* (.) 2/7 Fd coy relieved by 2/13 Fd coy (.) remainder  
sp arms no change (.) units relieved move to rear to area to be  
notified as soon as possible

Secret Means

IMMEDIATE

TOO

*1250*  
*1300*

*James [unclear]*  
Maj

SC, Sigs, Gd Pl, 78 LAD



2025 hrs  
27 Oct 42  
[Signature]

ack'd  
20/10/42

SECRET MESSAGE OUT :

TO :- 2/23 2/24 2/48 BNS 9, 12 A TK BTYS 2/7 FD COY  
A, B COYS 2/2 IG BN rptd 20, 24 AUST INF BDES 46 RTR  
TAC & MAIN 9 AUST DIV 2/12 FD REGT 2/11 FD AMB

FROM:- 26 AUST INF BDE 0 305 27

ref 0 304 (.) 2/23 bn remains present location (.) 2/24 bn on relief moves to original lying up area (.) 2/48 bn on relief moves to area 87522987 astride DIAMOND route (and BOOMERANG if necessary) (.) tp carrying tpt both bns arrives fwd bn areas approx 2300 hrs (.) guides both bns meet tpt junc ry and DIAMOND route 87612990 2100 hrs (.) no move WEST of original start line before 2215 hrs (.) 12 A TK bty remains in situ passes to comd 20 aust inf bde 2400 hrs (.) 9 A TK bty on relief moves to area 87672996 (.) 2/7 fd coy remains present posn handing over op functions to 2/13 fd coy (.) A coy 2/2 IG bn remains present posn passes to comd 20 aust inf bde 2400 hrs (.) B coy 2/2 IG bn on relief moves to area 87652993 (.) comd present 26 aust inf bde sector passes to 20 aust inf bde 2400 hrs (.) tac HQ 26 aust inf bde moves to area 87652999 (.) all moves complete by first light all informed ack

Secret Means

IMMEDIATE

TOO 1830

[Signature]  
Maj

DISTRIBN :

- Main Bde
- SC
- Bde TO
- L Sec Sigs
- Gd Pl
- 78 LAD

Col Haun...  
Regt only 10 men left...  
Boomerang...  
Diamond...  
[Diagrams]

Ref Maps :

28 Oct 42.

*War Diary*

NEM

1. Enemy - As indicated at Orders Conference. Believed to be one Coy 125 IR astride MT Camp area at 872304. SE from this pt to Trig 29, scattered Coys of same Regt in hastily dug posns.
  2. Own Tps - 9 Aust Div is continuing the crumbling process to the NORTH of present FDL's.
    - (a) 20 Aust Inf Bde Task - At zero will attack to the NORTH from Trig 29 to approx limit 3045 Northing Grid. 20 Bde will also attack to the NE and mop up in squares 869301 and 870301.
    - (b) 26 Aust Inf Bde Task -
      - (i) 2/23 Aust Inf Bn with under comd -
        - 46 R Tks
        - 10 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt
        - One Pl B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn
 and in sp - Det 2/7 Aust Fd Coy, will attack to the NE from Trig 29, establish defended locality vide att trace Appx B, and assist passage of 2/48 Aust Inf Bn.
      - (ii) On success by 2/23 Bn, 2/48 Bn, from Start Line in new 2/23 Bn area, will attack to the SE to the limit of RING CONTOUR 25, and re-organise facing NE.
      - (iii) On success by 2/48 Bn, 2/24 Bn will attack from vicinity sq 869300, the enemy defended locality known as THOMPSONS POST, astride 87203020.
- All operations to be completed by first light night 28/29 Oct.

INTENTION

3. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn with tps in sp and under comd will attack objectives vide trace Appx A, and assist passage of 2/48 Bn.

METHOD

4. FUP - Diamond track vide trace att Appx B. Inf and tks will marry up on track at this pt.
5. Movement to FUP -
  - (a) By marching in order A, B, C, D Coys, BHQ.
  - (b) Start Line for marching - Cross Rds at 87122987.
  - (c) Start Time for marching - Leading Coy crosses start line 2115 hrs. I Sec will navigate.
6. Objectives - Vide trace Appx B.
7. Bearing of Attack -  $23^{\circ} 25^{\circ}$
8. Movement to Objectives - On tks and carriers vide diagram Appx A.
9. De-tanking Pt - 300 yds SE of ry at 86993044. RP Sgt will establish TCP at this pt.
10. Action on objective -
  - (a) Rifle Coys mop up and re-organise.
  - (b) Tks - Sqns move to posns indicated on trace Appx B.
  - (c) Carriers - After debussing tps, move to mob res posn SE of D Coy area.
  - (d) Other sp arms as detailed at conference.
11. Centre Line - From Trig 29 to centre of Bn area will be lit by det AA Pl travelling on Mortar carriers in rear of BHQ.

12. Tpt -

(a) Will travel 1000 yds in rear Dn Formation.

(b) Order of march -

Coy A Ech gps in order A, B, C, D Coys, each gp consisting of Coy A Ech carrier followed in each case by one tp 10 Dty 3 Aust A Tk Regt.

Bn ~~IME~~ Pl

Pl B Coy 2/2 Aust IG Bn

Bn A Tk Pl

Pnrs Stores

Sig Stores

Bn SAA res

RAP

No 3 (Mor) Pl

Coy, BHQ and Carrier Pl A Ech vehs.

(c) All tpt other than RAP vehs, wireless trucks, jeeps, and carriers must return to present VAP area by first light 29 Oct 42.

13. Arty Plan - As detailed at Orders Conference and co-ordinated by CRA 9 Aust Div.

14. Engr Task -

(a) Reocce party in rear of leading sqn.

(b) 3 Sprs per Rifle Coy for disarming booby traps.

(c) Sprs with bridging eqpt with leading elements of tpt gp.

15. Navigation -

(a) I Sec will arrange navigating parties in conjunction with 46 R Tks, one party fwd of leading sqn, second party in rear of leading sqn. All offrs will check bearings during adv.

16. Pnr Task - As detailed at Orders Conference.

17. Zero for this op will be known as X. Time will be notified after success by 20 Bde.

18. Passage of 2/48 Bn - Centre line and area incl Barrell 11 in sq 870304 to ry at 87053042. MUST be kept clear for passage 2/48 Bn. AA Pl on completion of centre line will move to this area and assist 2/48 Bn.

ADM

19. Ann - Dn SAA res at BHQ. Rear dump vicinity Trig 29.

20. Medical - RAP will be established immediately SOUTH D Coy area. Light veh and amb will operate along centre line for evacuation of casualties.

21. PW - Will be evacuated along centre line to cage to be constructed SOUTH of Trig 29. Further details at conference.

INTER-COMM

22. L/T - R/T - No 18 sets with Coys. Lines to Coy HQ's on success.

23. Success sigs - In each Coy area will be notified by signalling name of Coy Comd -


LEFT Coy	McMASTER	(A Coy)
CENTRE Coy	BROWN	(C Coy)
RIGHT Coy	McRAE	(B Coy)
RES Coy	REID	(D Coy)

2/23 Aust Inf Bn success sig to be notified.

24. BHQ closes present location 2100 hrs, thence mob until success.  
Will be established in new area at 87003046.
25. VAP - Remains present location. Comn by DR and R/T through 26 Bde.
26. Rear link - As provided by 46 R Tks and by No 11 set to HQ 26 Bde.

ACK

Signed at 1740 hrs and  
issued through Sigs.

  
Adit. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.  
(W. J. VINES) Capt

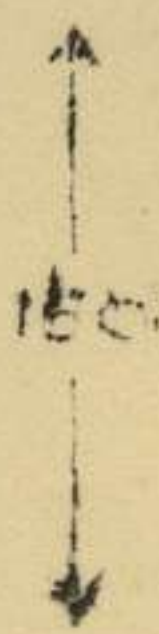
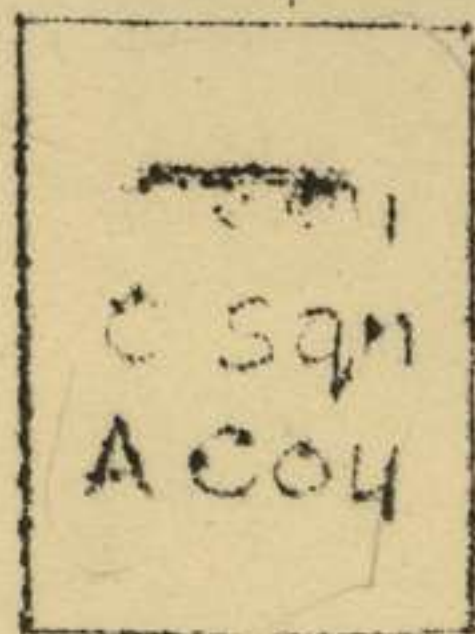
DISTRIBN :

List "B" Plus -  
Copy No 26 46 R Tks  
" " 27 10 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt  
" " 28 B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn  
" " 29 2/7 Aust Fd Coy RAE  
" " 30 2/48 Aust Inf Bn

Battle Formation

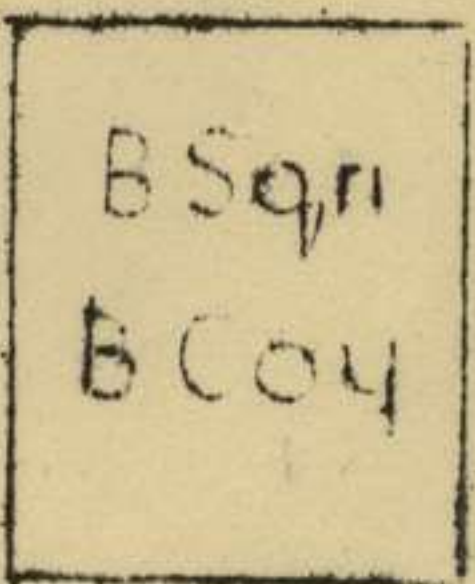
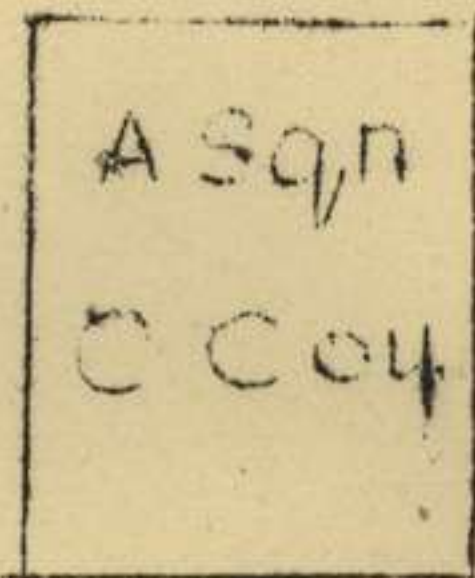
APPX A  
2/23 Aust Inf Bn  
O.O. No 17

← 100\* →  
Navigator

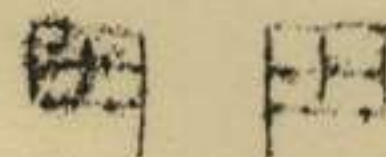
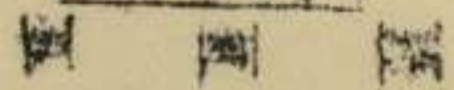


Aest ONav

ENGERS



ENGERS



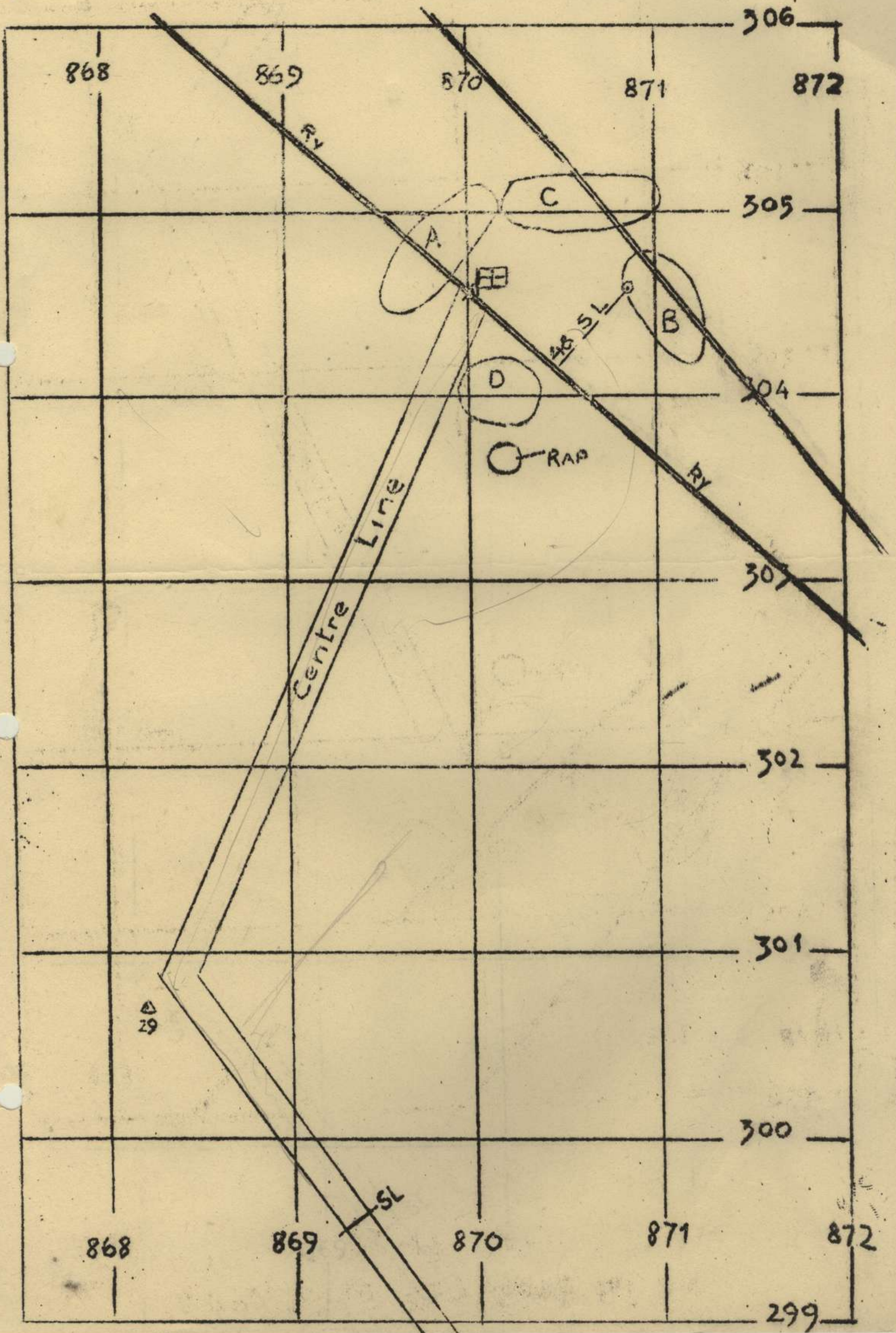
Mortar Carriers  
& Lighting Party

BHQ  
SARRIGRE

1000\*

A Ech & Sp Arms  
Convoy

APPX "B" to 2/23 Aust Inf Bn  
OO No 17



LIST OF WEAPONS CAPTURED BY 2/23 BN DURING ACTION 28 to 29 Oct 42

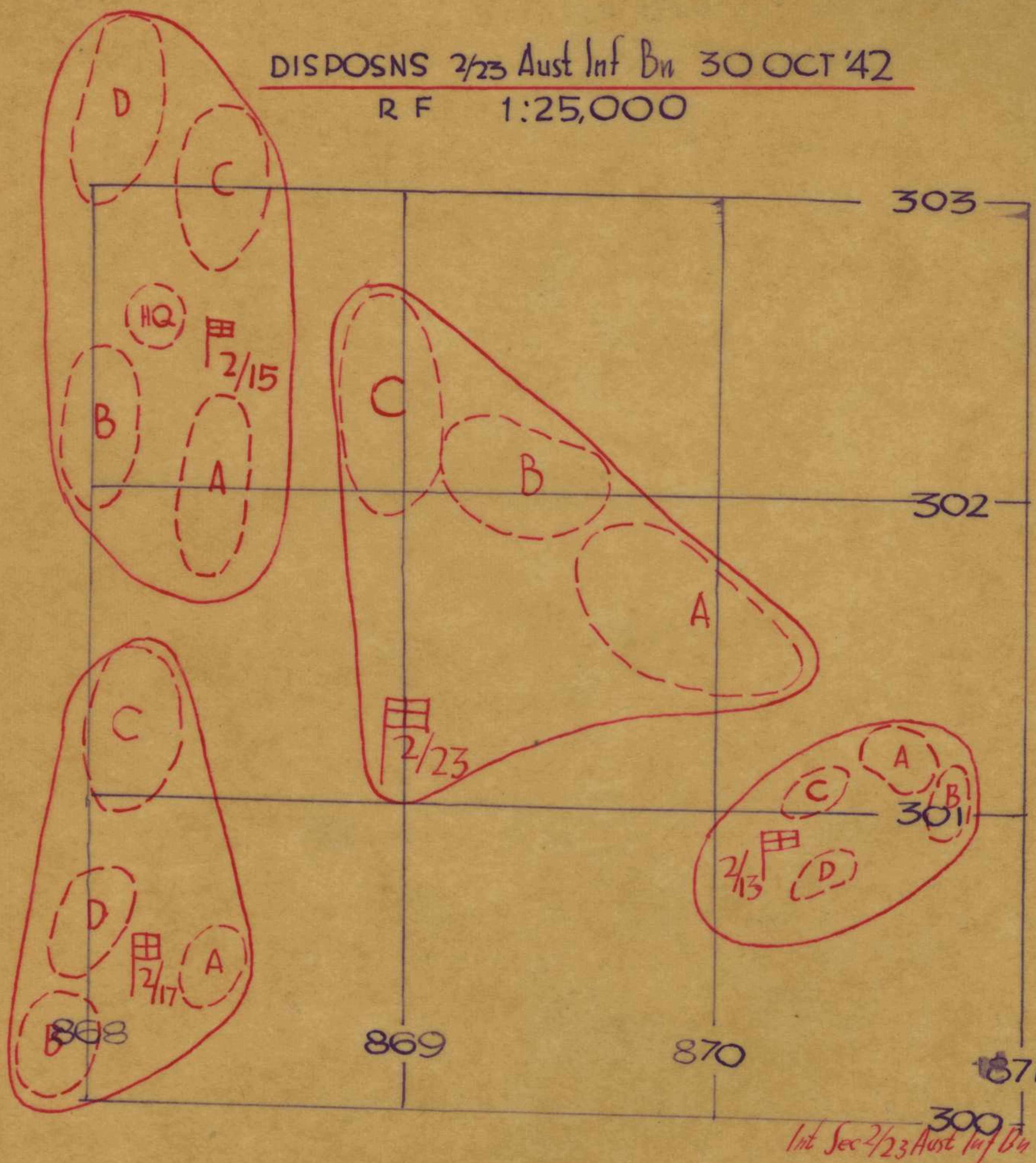
Appx 23

<u>CALIBRE</u>		<u>TYPE</u>	<u>NO</u>
5 cm Pak 38	(German)	A/Tank	6
7 cm	(German)	A/Tank	3
7.92 mm	(German)	A/Tank	2
81 mm	(German)	Mortar	1
55 mm	(German)	Mortar	3
7.92 mm Spandau	(German)	M/Gun	10
8 mm Fiat	(Italian)	M/Gun	1

*Raymond  
RSM*

DISPOSNS 2/23 Aust Inf Bn 30 OCT '42

R F 1:25,000





AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 130  
(Based on infm to 1200 hrs 1 Oct 42)

APPX 25  
SECRET  
To be destroyed  
within 48 hrs  
1 Oct 42

Ref Map - EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

SECTION A - OPERATIONS I.T

1. ENEMY DISPOSAL

Signs of occupation were again heard in strong pt 87433018. Truck was observed to stop at PALMS 87343032. Rattling of dices followed indicating probable ration truck. 5 or 6 MT were also heard in this area after last light. Usual movement on CLOVER LEAF. Two men tested LMGs on this feature.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Patrols - Enemy patrol (number unknown) seen moving at 87443029 and another patrol of approx 6 men at 87443027.

3. AIR OPS

Night 27/28 Sep. Bostons bombed HANEISH LGs causing large and 3 small fires. One Boston failed to return. Wellingtons and Halifaxes diversionary bombing TOBRUK while other Wellingtons laid mines harbour. One Wellington is missing. Intruder Hurricanes encountered no enemy a/c FUKA/BURG EL ARAB area.

28 Sep. After early escorted Tac R sandstorms prevented ops until evening when small numbers Spitfires and Hurricanes carried out patrols. Spitfires intercepted heavily escorted fighter bomber formation BURG EL ARAB area, destroying one Me 109 without loss.

Enemy air activity confined evening large scale fighter operation comprising about 40 enemy a/c including fighter bombers which bombed AMIRIYA LGs from 20,000 - 27,000 ft without effect. 2 fighters bombed ALAMEIN evening. Further ops prevented by sandstorms.

During the morning one unidentified and two enemy aircraft were reported to have crashed behind enemy lines. Of the identified planes one was a Me 109 and the other a twin engined machine.

Flanking unit reports an attack by 9 Ju87s at 1620 hrs 29 Sep. Slight damage was caused to vehs. (Extract from 9 Aust Div Summary No 312)

4. ENEMY METHODS

Enemy Aircraft. Me109s, Ju87s and Ju88s are said to be fitted with an explosive charge at the base of the stick. This is fired electrically, the circuit being completed by lifting the footrest, on the outside of the machine, used for climbing into the aircraft.

(Extract from 9 Aust Div Summary No 311)

SECTION B - OWN OPS

Patrols - Our patrols last night covered the Bn front and very little movement was seen or heard. Recce patrol from B Coy located 2 patrols in the RING CONTOUR area but no contact was made. A Fighting patrol from D Coy could not contact any enemy at 87513041. Covering patrol for a successful tk recovery party was provided by B Coy 600x fwd of our FDLs.

Harassing Ops. At 0630 hrs this morning a harassing fire on the CLOVER LEAF feature was carried out by a coy of MMGs and our 3" mortars.

Salvage Ops. A most successful operation in the form of the recovery of a VALENTINE tk fwd of B Coy FDLs was carried out last night. With the assistance of personnel from 1 Rec Sec AIF, batteries were taken out in a jeep, the tk motor started and tk brought in to BHQ.

*J W Dunham*  
(J W DUNHAM) Lieut  
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

W.D.  
AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

SECRET  
To be destroyed  
within 48 hrs  
3 Oct 42

2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 132.  
(Based on info to 1200 hrs 3 Oct 42).

Ref Map : EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000.

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE

1. ENEMY DISPOSITION

Possible RLP at 87273023 marked by a Red Cross flag.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Movement -

- i. Inf - Usual small gps in vicinity CLOVER LEAF area.
- ii. MG - 1245 hrs 2 Oct - Intermittent Spandau fire from RING CONTOUR for one hr.

(b) Fireworks - Four illuminating flares fired from behind CLOVER LEAF at 2100 hrs, being 15 mins after our harassing shoot.

(c) Shelling - 8 mortar bombs fell in vicinity of D Coy area 87643025.

3. AIR OPS

2 Oct 1730 hrs. One Me109 flew EAST to WEST at approx 15,000 ft.  
2 Oct 1800 hrs. 3 Me109s at approx 20,000 ft flew SE and returned NW.

29 Sep. Escorted by Spitfires special Hurricanes scored direct hits on 3 AMCs southern sector. Long range Spitfires on offensive patrol along ry W of CH-RING CROSS failed to locate train but attacked a Ju52 shooting it down 10 miles W of CH-RING CROSS.

Fighters patrolled battle area during day having 2 inconclusive engagements with Me109/Mc202s. Enemy fighters patrolled battle area in small numbers while our land forces reported 4 small fighter-bomber attacks central sector and one attack mid afternoon by 9 Stukas with med and top cover Me109/Mc202 central sector.

At 1800 hrs yesterday our fighters intercepted an escorted formation of Ju87s and after a 30 mins fight claim 6 destroyed, 4 probable, 1 damaged of the Stukas and one Me109 probable and a further Me109 damaged.

SECTION B - OWN OPS

4. PATROLS

Patrolling continued on the Bn front. Very little movement was seen or heard. Carrier Fl patrol whilst covered by D Coy party salvaged an ITALIAN Breda tractor in running order.

5. SALVAGE OPS

An ITALIAN Breda tractor fwd of our FDLs and in going order was driven in to our lines. This is a tk recovery veh with all necessary appurtenances.

6. HARRASSING

The second timed programme of harassing fire came down on enemy posns last night on conc target 87453044.

Ten MMGs fired off one belt each, our 3" mortars fired 150 bombs and a bty of 25 pdrs fired for 2 mins, the whole shoot timed from 2030 hrs to 2040 hrs. Two shells, according to our outpost, appeared to land directly on spandau MG posn; two explosions were distinctly seen on fwd slopes of target.

In retaliation, 5 mortar bombs landed at 87643025.

*J. W. Dunham*  
(J W DUNHAM) Lieut  
TO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 131.  
(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 2 Oct 42)

REF MAP EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE

1. ENEMY DISPOSIT

Previously located posns have been confirmed by the following -  
12 men were seen at strongpoint 87343020 at 1800 hrs.  
Voices heard at RING CONTOUR 87353026.  
Mortar observed firing from CLOVERLEAF feature 87393041.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Observed movement -

- (i) Inf. 2 men at 2045 hrs approached outpost 87523039 and returned to enemy lines.  
0730 hrs - 5/6 men seen moving at 87373029 and 3/4 at 87513044.  
(ii) MT. Unknown number heard in vicinity square 872302.

(b) Works -

Driving of pickets heard at 87363016 and 87343032 the latter sounding very artificial.

(c) Patrols -

Patrol of 6 men seen moving from CLOVERLEAF to EGG feature. On return to CLOVERLEAF, the party had increased to 12 men. Patrolling between these features continued

3. AIR OPS

- 1 Oct 0957-hrs - One enemy aircraft flew WEST to EAST over coast at a considerable height.  
1027 hrs - One ME 109 flew SOUTH EAST to NORTH WEST at a great height.  
1100 hrs - 7 of our fighter bombers flew EAST to WEST at approx 1000 ft engaged by enemy AA - bombs dropped by them SOUTH of main supply route  
1840 hrs - One ME 109 flying along ry line EAST to WEST was engaged by our AA and reduced height to 500 ft.  
2 Oct 0925 hrs - 2 enemy planes flew EAST to WEST along coastal area and engaged by our AA - no bombs were dropped.  
0937 hrs - one enemy plane flew EAST to WEST, descending to a low level evidently making a recce.

SECTION B - OWN OPS

4. HARASSING OPS

As a sequel to first of a series of "hate" programmes, our outpost reported that after our mortar bombing of the CLOVERLEAF feature, smoke was observed between 0645 and 0700 hrs. Two men were seen crawling around the fire for two mins.

5. SALVAGE OPS

16 x 44 gal drums were recovered by a patrol last night.

6. PATROLS

Our patrol penetrated to a depth from 1000 to 1500 yds on all coy frontages. D Coy patrol observed enemy patrol moving across their front between CLOVERLEAF and EGG feature. C Coy outpost observed 12 men moving in strong point area ref 87343020.

7. OBSERVATIONS FROM OUR OP.

Location of OP - 87633013

Period - 0630 hrs - 1915 hrs 1 Oct.

(a) Movement - MET Concentration of MET has been observed along ridge running NORTH and SOUTH from approx 86753065 to 86802980 in various sized gps stationary and dispersed. It is thought that, unless the normal supply route has been diverted further WEST, traffic was below normal.

Movement - Inf Tps have been observed moving in area 87203017.

(b) Shelling - 10 rds gunfire (approx 105 mm) were observed falling in areas 87223008 and 87223018 in a period of 20 mins. This is thought to be for ranging of DF tasks fwd of tps mentioned above (87203017).

*J. W. Dunham*

(J W DUNHAM)

10 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

N.D.

2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 133  
(Based on infm to 1000 hrs 4 Oct 42.)

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE

1. ENEMY DISPOSNS

Three men heard at 87403012. Voices heard at 87373027 and 87453040.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Inf - 6 men seen moving on skyline of CLOVERLEAF feature.
- (b) MG - Three MGs at 0500 hrs fired from CLOVERLEAF, fire seemed to be directed at carriers 87513035. One MG fired on fixed lines from 87373017. Bearing of fixed line approx 120°. 0530 - 0550 hrs - 2 MGs fired from RING CONTOUR, approx 8 MG from CLOVERLEAF and 2 Spandaus from EGG feature 87513044.
- (c) A Tk - Approx 37mm A Tk gun fired 6 shells from CLOVERLEAF feature.
- (d) Patrols - Patrol of approx 15 men seen moving from NORTH to SOUTH and went to ground at 87373006.
- (e) Fireworks - White flare fired from CLOVERLEAF feature 87403044. Several red flares reported along coastal sub-sector to the WEST.
- (f) Boobytraps - Booby trap field approx 50x long located at 8745-3040. Consists of ITALIAN B4 AP mines with usual fire proof strings att. to ring on trip key and stretched taut to stakes 15 ft apart
- (g) Shelling & Mortars - The following shells and bombs have fallen:
 

BHQ area 1830 hrs	-	11 shells 150mm
D Coy 1640/1700 hrs	-	15 mortars
0200/0400 "	-	10/15 shells med
0550/0615 "	-	30/40 mortars, 6 A Tk shells (approx 37mm)
A Coy 1505 hrs	-	6 shells (med)
0200/0430 hrs	-	11 " 105 mm
0545/0610 "	-	12 " (med)
B Coy 1505 hrs	-	1 " "

3. IDENTIFICATIONS

The 2 salvaged BREDA Tk rec vehs were marked as follows -

    52  
    135  
    5° RAGG to ART via D'ARMATA

4. AIR OPS

30 Sep. Supporting ground attack MUSASSIB area escorted Baltimores bombed 250 well dispersed MT at 867257 scoring 2 probable direct hits. Answering call for close sp Kittybombers later attacked gun posns 863273 observing bombs target area. Fighters escorted early and afternoon Tac/Rs southern sector and patrolled battle area during the day engaging 3 formations enemy fighters damaging 1 Me109. 1 Kittyhawk burnt out (pilot safe), not due enemy action and 1 Kittyhawk missing. Harassing enemy L of C Beaufighters shot down into sea 2 HE111 and 1 Ju88 NORTH of RAS EL KANAYIS. Enemy fighter patrols over front line on increased scale. Land forces report attacks by 8 & 11 Stukas mid-day and 1800 hrs central sector and 6 fighter bomber raids during day in southern sector. Operations yesterday resulted in the destruction of 4 Me109, 1 Me202 and 1 Ju88 with 1 Me109 probable. A train attacked in area between 640660 eastings was left stationary and the engine (Diesel) left smoking. We suffered no losses.

SECTION B - OWN OPS

- 5. PATROLS - Our patrols pushed well fwd last night. D Coy patrol encountered a booby trap fd at 87453040 and brought in a sample for inspection which proved to be an ITALIAN B4 AP mine.

6. SALVAGE - An ITALIAN cooker in excellent order was salvaged from area 87513023. (This has 2 pneumatic wheels and took approx 20 men to manhandle it in. Another BREDA tk rec veh was driven in under its own power from area 87533024. This veh is in good order and is the same as the one salvaged night 2/3 Oct. 5 cases of corned beef and 4 terrycans were also brought in,

7. HARASSING OPS - Our harassing activity has had a definite effect on the enemy in this sector. After our shoot in the "hate" sqs which consist of a bty of 25 pdrs, coy of MGS and own 3" mortars, the enemy has become very nervous. This is instanced by the amount of fire which opened up during and after the shoot this morning at 0530 hrs - 0541 hrs as follows - 2 MGS from RING CONFOUR; aprox 8 MGS and an A Tk gun (37mm) from CLOVERLEAF; 2 Spandaus from EGG feature. In addition 12 shells fell near trig 33, 87543017, and 30/40 mortars near pt 17, 87623028.

(J W DUNHAM) Lieut  
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 134.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 5 Oct) 5 Oct 42.

SECTION A - OPERATIONS

1. ENEMY DISPOSNS

Existing known disposns have been confirmed by patrols which heard sounds of activity in each sub-sector. An enemy OP of at least 3 men was seen at 87403014.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Movement - Sounds of movement heard at RING CONTOUR 87343025 and at 87403018.
- (b) Shelling - 4 shells fell in area 87683023 at 1745 hrs.
- (c) Works -  
0845 hrs - Arty OP reported a party of 15 men moving in line at 86773073. Axis of movement 115° to 120°. Party moved fwd then to the left; and again fwd and then to the right. It is thought that this party may have been engaged in mine laying.  
1820 hrs - Party of 15 to 20 men was seen in area 86993079. Sound of pickets being driven in at 87373030. Working party heard vicinity of PALMS 87343032.
- (d) Sigs - Light resembling a blacked out hand torch flashed from rd at 87373025 and answered by another from 87403030. No particular type of flash was noted.
- (e) Patrols - 6 to 8 enemy moved along and outside booby trap fd from CLOVER LEAF to EGG features and returned - patrolling in this manner continued.

3. AIR OPS

Two enemy aircraft flew WEST over BHQ area.  
Night 30 Sep/1 Oct. Hurricanes patrolled uneventfully BURG EL ARAB/ALAMEIN. Maintaining attack on TOBRUK, Wellingtons claim 1 hit, 2 near misses on ships in harbour 2 fires dock area.  
1 Oct. Enemy air activity included in addition F patrols battle area 3 fighter-bomber attacks southern sector an ineffective attack by 2 fighter-bombers ALEXANDRIA harbour area. Kittyhawk reported missing from ops 1740-1855 30 Sep, now returned undamaged. An unidentified aircraft was seen to crash at 1050 hrs today well behind the enemy lines on a bearing of 230 degrees from 87642934.  
(Source - 9 Aust Div Int Summary No 317).

SECTION B - GENERAL INT

4. ENEMY METHODS

An OP tower was observed at 870291; this was reported as a mob tower mounted on a truck which moved frequently.  
(Source CE Int Report No 73).

SECTION C - OWN OPS

- 5. (a) Patrols - Patrol from D Coy proceeded to vicinity of CLOVER LEAF and observed enemy patrol moving along their FDL's. B Coy last night carried out a deep patrol with 3 sappers to vicinity 87423021 and reported sounds of movement at RING CONTOUR 87403020.
- (b) Harassing ops - Our harassing shoot was carried out again this morning at 0630 hrs on 'hate' square 3. No observed results.

*J. W. Dunham*  
Lieut  
IO, 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.  
(J. W. DUNHAM)

W.D.  
COPY 28

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 135  
(Based on infm up to 1200 hrs 6 Oct)

SECRET  
To be destroyed  
within 48 hrs  
6 Oct 42

Ref Map : EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE

1. ENEMY DISPOSNS

From recent patrols it has been found that the area to the EAST of RING CONTOUR ref 87343025 was lightly held. Normal activity has been observed on CLOVERLEAF feature 87413044.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Movement -

- i. Inf - 8 men observed on CLOVERLEAF feature 87423043. A Gp of men were seen in diggings in area RING CONTOUR ref 87373028, 87353028 and 87393029.
- ii. MG - Spandau fired on and off for 15 mins from 1430 hrs 5 Oct.

(b) Shelling - 3 shells fell on trig 33 area at 0945 hrs.

3. AIR OPS

One Ju88 flew WEST to EAST at approx 0730 hrs.  
2 Oct. During morning fighters engaged two formations enemy fighters battle area destroying 1 Me109, 1 Me202 without loss while 1 Ju88 returning from recce DELTA area shot down into ARABS GULF. Late in central sector 1 Me109 destroyed and 1 probable following combat with 30 plus enemy fighters at expense of 1 Kittyhawk damaged. In course low level patrol EL MAGHRA area designed to counter enemy fighter bombers 4 Me109s attacked following bombing resulting 2 Me109s destroyed without loss. Early Strat/R located to EAST bound trains on enemy L of C IR. Spitfires later made six attacks on one train inflicting considerable damage on engine EAST of BERSHEIBA. Bisleys of 201 Gp failed to locate second train but bombed locomotive and 2 tk cars near MISCHEIFA without observed results. Enemy offensive air ops on increased scale mainly in morning when 9 Stukas and 6 small formations fighter-bombers operated battle area.

OTHER INFO

4. Patrols - Patrol from A Coy pushed well fwd to 87353025 and then up to RING CONTOUR. Patrol from D Coy went well fwd to the CLOVERLEAF without sighting the usual enemy patrols.
5. Salvage - 10 x 44 gal drums were recovered.
6. Password - 1200 hrs 6 Oct to 1200 hrs 7 Oct - GUNBAR.

*J W Dunham*

(J W DUNHAM) Lieut  
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn



2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 136.

(Based on infm received to 1000 hrs 7 Oct 42)

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INT

1. ENEMY DISPOSNS

From further patrol reports it appears that the area of the RING CONTOUR is only lightly held if at all. The SE and NE slopes were not occupied, and it is thought that the enemy's main posn is on the lower ground to NW and SW. The Strong Pt area appears to be isolated from the main body behind RING CONTOUR.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) MG - 3 bursts from MG on CLOVER LEAF. Evidently clearing the gun. One burst of Breda MG to NE fired from 87323027.
- (b) Movement - A truck stopped at PALMS 87343032 and unloaded in 15 mins what was thought to be wire. Truck heard to approach along main rd and halt in RING CONTOUR area at 87333027. Moved off 10 mins later back in a NW direction.
- (c) Works -
  - (i) Diggings - 15 men seen digging in CLOVER LEAF feature for 7 hrs. Appeared to be draining area.
  - (ii) Minefds - Minefds consisting of EP mines at 87353025 laid on top of stony ground. Strips of white paper one inch wide across top of mines evidently to make them visible. Fd was not marked and did not appear to have any regularity. Mines seemed to be scattered at odd places indiscriminately.
  - (iii) Wiring - What appeared to be wiring was carried out by 7 men in area of PALMS 87343032 for 8 hrs. A trip wire was found at 87353026 and proceeded to 87353030. This wire was approx 100 yds fwd of enemy wire at 87353026. Further details of enemy wire at 87353026 were furnished by patrol which encountered single concertina wire at 87353023, 87363026 and 87373028. Single concertina wire fwd of CLOVER LEAF and EGG features in area 87453042.
- (d) Fireworks - White flares fired to NE from 87323026 followed by 2 further flares fired from same place to SE.
- (e) Shelling - 11 shells fell in BHQ area and approx 30 shells and mortars fell around Trig 33.

3. AIR OPS

Night 2/3 Oct - Hurricanes patrolled ALAMEIN area not sighting enemy aircraft but strafed ME Southern Sector.

3 Oct - Dust restricted ops to small number fighter sorties battle area morning and late afternoon. Spitfires damaged Ju88 returning from recce DELTA area but enemy aircraft escaped into cloud. Very reduced enemy activity included small fighter patrols battle area and one reported attack by 4 fighter bombers Central Sector. A Stuka pilot commented on the number of casualties his Unit suffered from AA fire. He stated that they have an adequate supply of new aircraft but insufficient pilots. (Source - Advanced AIR HQ WESTERN DESERT Int Summary No 242).

Recce of Div area has been carried out on each of the last three mornings by a Ju88 flying high out of range of Lt AA.

SECTION C - OWN OPS

4. SALVAGE

6 gas cylinders, 30 ft of rope and FIAT MG mounting were recovered.

5. PATROLS

A and B Coys patrols searched RING CONTOUR area last night up to enemy wire. D Coy patrol reached enemy wire at the CLOVER LEAF area at 87453042.

6. WORKS

Numerous washed out dugouts have been repaired with the aid of Pnr Pl. Approx 1000 yds of concertina wire has also been laid across the flat from Trig 33 towards the Coast.

7. HARASSING OPS

The sixth of a series of harassing shoots was carried out from 2100 to 2115 hrs 6 Oct. The target No 4 (Strong pt ref 87403020) was blasted and several very large flashes accompanied by black smoke were observed during the shoot. The usual retaliation was experienced approx 30 shells and mortars falling on Trig 33 area at 2140 hrs.

8. RECOGNITION SIGNS

PATROL	:	Night 7/8	-	"O"	"I"
PASSWORD	:	Night 7/8	-	"BOOMERANG"	

*J. W. Dunham*

Lieut  
~~IO, 2/23 Aust Inf Bn,~~  
(J. W. DUNHAM)

(Based on infm received up to 1200 hrs 8 Oct)

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INT

**1. GENERAL INT**

Rece patrola were active during the night. Some enemy fire but no actual clashes occurred. The enemy is apparently still eager to obtain prisoners as patrols again report noise obviously made to attract attention while parties move out on the flanks of our patrols in an endeavour to take them from the rear. Enemy shelling of our posns has not been so severe over the last week or so, though his mortars continue to be active. Me109 force landed this morning at approx X 100 862296. The pilot was taken prisoner and the plane is apparently only slightly damaged. Flanking formation successfully rescued pilot of Baltimore aircraft which force landed yesterday fwd of their lines in area 879290. Night patrol attempted to salvage plane but owing to severity of enemy fire this was impossible and the plane was accordingly destroyed. The raid on Pt 62 RUBEISAT Ridge was carried out by one Coy. The raid was entirely successful despite stubborn resistance and by def fire from the rear posns. Reports today indicate that the enemy has re-occupied the posn. (Source - 9 Aust Div Int Summary No 320.)

**2. ENEMY DISPOSN**

Patrols in the area fwd of RING CONTOUR again confirm that the NE and SE edges of the CONTOUR are unoccupied. The usual slight movement has been observed on the CLOVER LEAF feature.

**3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY**

**(a) Movement -**

(i) MT - One MT heard behind CLOVER LEAF feature at 2030 hrs. Thought to be usual ration truck. 4 to 5 MT have been seen moving in vicinity 87303035.

(ii) Inf - 6 men seen on CLOVER LEAF feature. Gps of 3 or 4 men seen in area 87303035. Enemy mortar fired from LEG of MUTTON feature ref 87503047.

**(b) Works -**

(i) Mined - Line of booby traps comprising ITALIAN B4 AP mines confirmed at 87413041 to 87403039. Fd laid irregularly max depth 30 yds.

(c) Sigs - A light resembling hand torch was flashed from 87323028 when our patrol was approx 300 yds away. Similar lights were observed by previous patrols in this area.

(d) Shelling - 6 mortar bombs and 2 149mm (approx) shells have fallen in Bn area. During the shelling of 2/48 Bn area last night our OP at 87523018 took following flash bearings on 5 HBs of 4 guns each: Magnetic 331°, 294°, 295°, 245°, 264°.

**4. ENEMY METHODS**

- Two things brought out by patrols are worthy of comment :-
- (a) Appearance of warning sigs on enemy wire in the form of bells probably made from brass shell cases.
  - (b) Repeated reports of enemy attempts to attract patrols attention by unnecessarily loud talking, whistling and rattling of tins and tools. While this is going on enemy patrols attempt to outflank our patrols. In the absence of enemy patrols these decoy noises have been almost invariably followed by fire from the area of the sounds.

(Source - 9 Aust Div Int Summary No 320)

**5. AIR OPS**

7 Oct - 1150 hrs One EA flew NW. At 1327 hrs 2 Me109 flew WEST over our FDLs. 1800 hrs 8 Me109 circled over area at 15000 ft. Two PIESLER STORCH aircraft flew very low over enemy FDLs and disappeared WEST over MOSQUE area at 1400 hrs. At 1308 hrs 2 EA resembling Fiat CR42 also flew very low from RING CONTOUR westward.

Air activity during the period seems to have been mainly initiated by us, though there was some enemy recee of the div area and at last light a Ju88 flew very low over our posns and was last seen making out to sea smoking slightly.

SECTION C - OWN OPS

6. SALVAGE

One 50mm GERMAN mortar and case of 14 bombs, one Bren gun, were recovered by A Coy patrol.

7. PATROLS

The RING CONTOUR area was again visited without contact being made. C Coy patrol spent 2 hrs at the enemy PDLs without seeing or hearing movement. Booby trap fd of ITALIAN B4 AP mines was encountered.

8. RECOGNITION SIGS

- (a) Patrols - Night 8/9 Sep "FF" - "FF"
- (b) Password - Night 8/9 Sep "BILLABONG"
- (c) Aircraft - 9 Oct : 0300/0800 0800/1700 1700/2300 2300/0300  
   RG                       YY                       GG                       RR

*J. W. Dunham*  
 Lt. J. W. DUNHAM  
 IO, 2/23 Aust Inf Bn  
 (J. W. DUNHAM)

2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 138

(Based on infm received to 1200 hrs 9 Oct 42)

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INT

1. GENERAL

Allied tps have been patrolling vigorously in the SOUTH. On night 5/6 Oct at 87432733 a GERMAN working party was attacked and 2 of the enemy killed. On the following night a patrol to 87542676 killed 4 of the enemy and took 2 PW. Enemy DF however wounded some members of the attacking party and killed 2 PW. The enemy in this area were ITALIAN. Standing patrols maintained in SW sector covering relief of Units reported quiet night.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Movement -

(i) MF - Along main sup route enemy traffic was light all day with the exception of two convoys of 8 MF moving SE and one of 7 moving NW reported by our OP. 1615 hrs enemy DF moving EAST from LEG OF MUTTON feature disappeared from view behind HGG feature. 2 B MF seen 87363034 moving towards PALMS at 87343034.

(ii) Inf - Between 0645 hrs and 0800 hrs approx 50/60 enemy were observed in scattered gps throughout areas 869301, 870301, 871301. Our arty put down harassing fire restricting movement but during afternoon gps of up to 6 enemy were seen at 86882998 and 87113015, latter thought to be a working party. 5/8 enemy were seen walking towards CLOVER LEAF from 87353041 and another gp of 8 moving from LEG OF MUTTON to CLOVER LEAF. Other single movement in this area throughout day.

(b) Works - Minefds - Fd located 87413039 laid with BRIT Mk V mines with spider top. Wire observed running approx 500 yds from approx 87113012 to 87133018.

(c) Shelling - For the period under review 6 shells on BHQ at 1645 hrs was only shelling in Bn area. Calibre of guns thought to be 149mm.

3. ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY

This has been confined to fighter patrols or reces as follows :-  
 8 Oct - 0745 hrs - 2 Me109 flying at 8000' over FDL's.  
 1805 hrs - 3 Me109 flying NW to SE 12000'.  
 1825 hrs - 4 Me109 flying EAST WEST 12000'.

SECTION B - OWN OPS

4. PATROLS

(a) General - Our patrols were particularly active last night and much valuable infm was obtained. B Coy's fighting patrol reached a pt 100x WEST of Strong Pt at 87433017 when it was engaged simultaneously by approx 1 pl in the Strong Pt and by enemy party of 30/40 which attacked from the WEST. Latter force was engaged and 10/12 casualties inflicted incl it is thought, the patrol leader. Our patrol then withdrew with loss of 1 NCO missing, believed wounded. A Coy's fighting patrol moved out to engage suspected LP at 87433026 reported by arty OP as having been manned by 4 enemy at last light. Patrol was pinned down at 87423031 by enemy fire provoked by other patrols, and observed 6 LMGs, 1 Med Mortar, 1 A Tk gun fire from LEG OF MUTTON feature. Also 2 LMGs from CLOVER LEAF. The suspected LP was investigated when the front quietened, but was found to be unoccupied.

(b) Minefd recce patrols - Airy effective patrol from C Coy located 4' gap in minefd at 87413039, the gap being marked by a sig wire on either side. B4 mines irregularly placed were set as booby traps at entrance to the gap. A trip wire broken by our patrol did not cause mine to explode. Single sig wire running parallel to and 25 yds fwd of the minefd marks the fwd edge of booby traps. The minefd itself comprises Brit Mk V with spider top, spaced 8 to 10 yds apart in 6 rows. The fd is 60 yds deep. 3' to the right of gap in fd 4 Brit Mk II mines linked to a hy cable run back to enemy lines. 3 strand barb wire cattle fence marks enemy side of the fd. Patrol was pinned down within 100 yds of the enemy posn for 45 mins, but managed to withdraw. It was

observed that the main def fire of MGs and Mortars in this area falls 300 yds fwd of the minefd. Another minefd resce patrol from D Coy moved out to 87393016. Voices were faintly heard on the right flank, but could not be identified. At 87363018 patrol was forced to ground by SA fire provoked by another patrol. Considerable flare activity vicinity 87303020 prevented further adv by patrol.

5. RECOGNITION SIGS

- (a) Patrols - "T" "R"
- (b) Password - 9/10 Oct "SURFBOARD"
- (c) A/c Recog sigs - 10 Oct :-  

0300-0800	0800-1700	1700-2300	2300-0300
RY	GY	YY	RR

6. ENEMY DISPOSAL - SECTOR A

Increased enemy movement in FDL's during the past 24 hrs observed by our OPs and the reactions noted by our patrols last night seem to suggest that the enemy either has brought up fresh tps or that a relief has taken place.

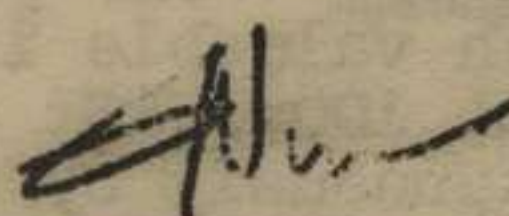
7. RECEPTION OF ESCAPED BRITISH AND DOMINION PERSONNEL

An instn has been received from Higher Formation concerning escaped British and Dominion personnel. All escaped PW returning through our lines will be fwded immediately under escort to the Int Sec who will dispose of them according to these instns.

8. PENETRATION TESTS - NO 68 GREN

Were carried out by B Coy on GERMAN Mk III tk at range of 85x with following results :-

- 1st Shot - Blew hole  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " X  $\frac{3}{4}$ " in the side armour through  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " plating.
- 2nd Shot - Hit a vizor of dimensions 5" X  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and increased its size by  $\frac{1}{2}$ " all round.
- 3rd Shot - Missed target but travelled 130x. (Extreme range is given in pam as 100x)
- 4th Shot - Hit the back of the tk at an acute angle. Splinters dug into the armour plating.
- 5th Shot - Struck target tail first and did not explode.
- 6th Shot - Hit a track at ground level and severely bent it. It was considered that some of the explosive force was taken up by the ground.

  
 Capt  
 10. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.  
 (J. W. DUNHAM)

W/D  
2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 139To be destroyed  
within 48 hrs.

(Based on infm to 1200 hrs 10 Oct 42) 10 Oct 42.

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE1. GENERAL

A lt armd patrol in the SOUTH engaged three enemy Stuart tks, two M13s and one 8-wheeled armd C at 889242. Before the enemy withdrew one of the Stuarts was damaged but was recovered by the enemy.

Patrols in the SW sector of the Div front were protective only & confined to acquiring familiarity with terrain.

(Source 9 Aust Div Int Summary 322)

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY(a) Movement

i. Mf - Our OPs report traffic on a decreased scale along main sup route throughout yesterday.

ii. Inf - Movement was again noticeable around diggings in enemy FDLs, usually in early morning or just before last light. From 0600 - 0800 hrs approx 70 enemy in scattered gps in area covered by sqs 868301, 869301, 870301, 871301, 867302. 15 enemy grouped together were observed at 87283032 - 1915 hrs. All saluted when joining and leaving the gp - suggesting an offrs' recce or conference.

(b) Works

Single coil of dannerit lying on ground 87353031 running on bearing 201° M.

(c) Shelling

Two shells in BHQ area 1030 hrs, the only shelling in the Bn area during the past 24 hrs.

There was a marked increase in shelling by our arty yesterday. HF on enemy FDLs where movement was observed and our med arty carried out a regtl shoot on 3 suspected 88mm btys.

3. AIR ACTIVITY

Our aircraft were particularly active yesterday, sorties being carried out by fighters, fighter-bombers and med bombers. In our sector 4 fighters were observed straffing enemy FDLs and sup route but other targets not known. Dog fights were heard at a great height but no results were observed.

1040 hrs 1 Me109 flew EAST to WEST at approx 13,000 ft and 2 more WEST to EAST at 10000' 1052 hrs.

1806 hrs 3 enemy fighter-bombers dropped bombs behind our lines and were seen flying WEST.

SECTION B - OWN OPS4. PATROLS

Three fwd coys had patrols out again last night but no contacts were made with the enemy. C Coy patrolled 6,300 yds, their route taking them across the enemy's front but no enemy movement was seen. A Coy patrols found two parties of approx 15 enemy at refs 87463027 and 87453025. In both cases the enemy made no effort to conceal noise of banging tins and voices. The patrol leader considered the opposition too strong and widespread to be engaged by his force so moved on to 87423021 where 4 men had been seen to go into a suspected LP previous night but found no signs of occupation. Continuing to RING CONTOUR this also was found to be unoccupied.

B Coy patrol established posn of mine fd at 87493005 and from this pt ran NW & SE.

Mortar Shoot - Two prs of time sig flares were set up vicinity of enemy post ref 87423018 to coincide with a harassing shoot by our mortars on this posn. The flares went off at 0410 and 0412 hrs respectively and 300 bombs were put down on the area. One of our patrols observed 3/4 explosions which suggested amn or mines being hit.

5. SALVAGE

Carrier P1 salvaged following WD stores:-

6 jerrycans, 1 aluminium water can, 1 TRAWALLA jack, 5x4 gal water tins, 3 cases corned beef, 30 ft rope.

6. RECOGNITION SIGNS

- (a) Patrols
- (b) Password - CLANCY
- (c) A/c recognition signs - 11 Oct:-

0300-0800      0800-1700      1700-2300      2300-0300

GG                      RR                      RY                      GY

(J W DUNHAM) Lieut  
IO 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

... report that on a decreased scale along with ...  
 ... movement was again noticeable around ...  
 ... usually in early morning or just before last light ...  
 ... from 0600 - 0800 hrs approx to enemy in scattered ...  
 ... covered by ...  
 ... if enemy ground forces were observed at ...  
 ... All salved when joining ...  
 ... others' race or ...

(b) Works  
 ... of damage lying on ground ...  
 ... bearing ...

(c) Shells  
 ... shells in ... area ...  
 ... there was a marked increase in shelling by our ...  
 ... on enemy ... where movement was observed and our ...  
 ... carried out a ... about on 3 suspected ...

3. AIR ACTIVITY  
 ... aircraft were particularly active yesterday, ...  
 ... carried out by fighters, fighter-bombers and ...  
 ... sector 4 fighters were observed ...  
 ... but no results were observed.  
 ... 1040 hrs 1 ... low east to west at approx 13,000 ft and 2 ...  
 ... west to east at 10000 - 10500 hrs.  
 ... 1800 hrs 3 enemy fighter-bombers dropped bombs behind our lines  
 ... and were seen flying west.

4. PATROLS  
 ... these two boys had patrols out again last night but no contacts  
 ... were made with the enemy. 6 Coy patrolled 6,300 hrs, their route  
 ... taking them across the enemy's front but no enemy movement was seen.  
 ... 4 Coy patrols found two parties of approx 15 enemy at ...  
 ... and 074500Z. In both cases the enemy made no effort to conceal  
 ... noise of burning tires and voices. The patrol leader considered the  
 ... opposition too strong and withdrew to be engaged by his force so  
 ... moved on to 074300Z where a man had been seen to go into a suspected  
 ... IP previous night but found no signs of occupation. Continuing to  
 ... this position this also was found to be unoccupied.  
 ... 8 Coy patrol established point of mine to 074300Z and from this pt  
 ... ran in a ...  
 ... 1040 hrs of time at ... were set up vicinity of  
 ... 074300Z to ... with a harassing shot by our  
 ... on this point. The mines went off at 0410 and 0412 hrs ...  
 ... 300 bombs were put down on the area. One of our patrols  
 ... 34 explosions which suggested ... mines being hit.

5. ...  
 ... Carrier PI salved following ...  
 ... 6 ...  
 ... 3 ...



2/23 AUST INF BN INT SUMMARY NO 140.

(Based on infm received up to 1200 hrs 11 Oct)

11 Oct 42.

SECTION A - OPS INT1. GENERAL

Patrols carried out extensive recce of the enemy's FDL's without active interference, though there was the usual quota of flares and nervous MG fire. The enemy shelling of our posns has been on a reduced scale. CE office reports the use of mountain guns (75 mm) in the Northern Sector, probably situated NORTH of 303 northing. Our arty has been active in the area of RUMMISAT Ridge and an effective shoot on Pt 62 is reported.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY(a) Movement -

- (i) MI - Throughout the afternoon our Ops reported continuous noise suggesting movement of MI but no confirmation could be obtained. At 1120 hrs 3 tks were seen moving in north westerly direction approx ref sq 864296. They were engaged by our arty and last seen moving up towards main sup route. Later in the afternoon arty engaged 3 more which were seen moving SOUTH in sq 868300. D Coy reported 6 in sq 871302. Very little MI movement was observed on sup route but trucks thought to be carrying sups or rations were again noticed from 1700 hrs rear of enemy FDLs in coastal sector.
- (ii) Inf - During the day enemy were continually moving about diggings ref sq 871301, 868300 and 869300.

(b) Works - An enemy working party 30 strong, wiring at 87353025. Minefd at 87473012 with trip wire running on bearing of 346°.

(c) Shelling - No hostile shelling in the Bn for the 24 hrs under review. Our arty continued to harass enemy movement around diggings and engaged opportunity targets.

3. AIR ACTIVITY

After recent rains our recce revealed all enemy fwd LGs unserviceable and evacuated by enemy air forces. Taking advantage of this our Fs & FBs successfully attacked MI and camps northern, central and southern sectors and by and LG at DABA. 4 Me109s dropped 6 bombs on area 881294 without doing any damage. Bombing of LGs by med Ba on 9 Oct is reported to have been very successful and F escorts destroyed up to 20 enemy aircraft in combat or by ground strafing for the loss of 5 of our Fs.

4. ENEMY SUPPLIES

The enemy prefers to follow the main rd as far as he can before branching into the desert, although a considerable amount of traffic has been observed along the tracks running alongside the ry east of DABA. He is less dependent on the RAHMAN track now that he has made a short cut south at 858309 and developed another route east of and roughly parallel to it.

The locations of enemy dumps show some change. DABA, especially the area to the east between the rd and the coast, remains the main dumping centre; the numerous small dumps which were reported earlier at RAHMAN have, however, decreased considerably in size and number, while a corresponding increase has been observed around GHAZAL.

5. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONSItalian -

Young Facists - According to an Italian Press Report, it seems likely that more Young Facists were preparing to leave for LIBYA at the end of Aug. These are described as having the special honour of wearing the "M" "Mussoliniana". This is an M worn over the pocket on the left breast.

SECTION B - OWN OPS6. PATROLS

Increased enemy activity on our front was evident to our patrols last night. A Coys patrol located an enemy working party approx 30 strong wiring at 87353025 with a LP established on the main rd and a covering party approx 20 strong in the vicinity. Our patrol was forced to ground owing to the latter party having got between them and our lines and withdrew when they moved away.

Reaching 87403034 patrol from C Coy observed 2 enemy patrols each approx 12 strong, one on the line of adv and one on the right flank. Flare activity forced them to go to ground and withdraw. Enemy movement heard approx 87353018 and seen indistinctly at 87343015 by B Coys patrol prevented them from completing their recce. When C Coys outpost was out of comn, investigations found line to have been cut in 6 places presumably by enemy patrol. Last night was the first time an enemy patrol has been reported near our FDLs, at 0145 hrs A Coy observing one consisting of approx 15 enemy moving SOUTH to NORTH 500 yds fwd of our FDLs. An outpost was established by A Coy at 87463025 estimated to be within 250 yds of the enemy in the SMALL PALMS area 87463027. Voices thought to be ITALIAN could be distinctly heard and cigarettes observed. This outpost has been linked up with L/T. D Coy provided a covering party for engrs and rec personnel preparing carriers at 87513035 for salvage.

7. SALVAGE

Carriers were again successful in Salvaging the following :-  
 2 motor truck tyres and tubes (ITALIAN); 1 12X12 camflg net, 15 Jerrycans, 1 tin of biscuits, 1 wooden tool box, 5 shovel heads, 30' of rope, 4 pump washers (water) asbestos packing, one engine valve.

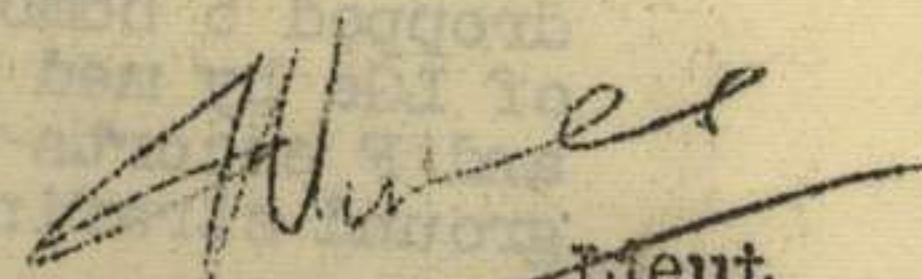
8. RECOGNITION SIGNALS

Patrol recognition sigs -

Aircraft Recognition sigs -

0300-0800	0800-1700	1700-2300	2300-0300
GG	GY	RG	RR

Password - DINGBAT.



IO, 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.  
 (J. W. DUNHAM)  
 Lieut

(Based on infm received to 1200 hrs 12 Oct 42)

SECTION A - OPERATIONS INF

1. GENERAL

Flanking formation reports increased enemy inf movement on their front, and morning of 11 Oct when their arty engaged 3 MT, inf hastily debussed and went to ground. Hy arty concentration was put down yesterday morning on DEIR EL SHEIN Depression, return fire by enemy arty is reported to have been very ragged.

Enemy arty activity increased yesterday 10 Oct, all the med gp firing against the area between the rd and QATTARA track just fwd of our guns. Flanking OP areas were also shelled by the Italian meds and fds.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Movement - MT. From 1800 hrs to 1900 hrs only 16 vehs were observed on the sup route, 9 moving SOUTH and 7 NORTH. In sq 864303, 864301, 863299 to 865300 to 865298 to 863298 vehs stationary and dispersed. At 0922 hrs 10 Oct 3 enemy tks were seen moving SOUTH along rd at 86802973. B Coy reported 16 MT at 87023008 with men debussing.

(b) Inf - Movement behind enemy FDL's was on a decreased scale yesterday. 87623018 - 1 man. 86953013 - 9 men. 86983005 - 2 men seen shaking blankets. 87483046 - Diggings, suspected MG posns.

(c) Shelling - For the period under review hostile shelling amounted to 11 shells rear of the Bn area between 1800-1900 hrs.

3. AIR OPS

During the month of Sep a Beaufighter sqn carried out 90 sorties totalling 326 flying hrs. During this period the following casualties were caused among enemy aircraft :-

3 He 111 - 1 Ju 88 - 1 Sm 81	)
1 Fiesler Storch - 1 Me 202	) destroyed
1 Ju 87	probably destroyed
3 Ju 87	damaged - 1 Cr 42 damaged on ground.

During the course of rd strafing ops along the enemy's lines of comn, a total of 150 vehs have been attacked, 9 of which have been completely destroyed by fire or explosion and most of the others have been damaged. In addition many casualties have been caused among enemy tps in vehs attacked, in roadside camps or among rd repairing gangs. The sqn have suffered no casualties among either aircraft or airmen during this period.

Visual reports of bombing of DABA LGs where aircraft were grounded on raid sodden aerodromes show 4 direct hits on aircraft, 7 near misses and a number of fires or explosions in dispersal areas. 1 of our Baltimores is missing and several damaged by intense AA fire.

Low flying attacks by Fs destroyed 1 Me 110, 1 Ju 52, 3 Me 109, 2 Fiesler Storch, 1 HS 126 and damaged 1 HE 111, 10 Me 109, 2 Ju 88, 1 Ju 87 and 4 single engine aircraft on ground. Escorting and covering F force which included USAAF destroyed 10 Me 109 with 5 Me 109 probable and 2 Me 109, 4 Me 202 damaged in air combats. Total of 11 of our Fs missing from days ops. Highlight of days ops was initial synchronised attack on two LGs with Bs and low flying Fs with total 183 aircraft. One F missing from this sortie after attempted interception by enemy Fs operating from FUKA and following intense low strafing of aerodromes. Total F sorties 401, B sorties 160.

SECTION B - OWN OPS

4. PATROLS

Enemy patrolling was not in evidence to our patrols last night. D Coy provided a strong protective screen for salvage ops at 87513035. This work was very successful, two carriers being brought in to our lines without interference from the enemy. The anchorage system breaking down prevented Salvage of the remaining 3 carriers before daylight.

The new outpost at 87463025 will be known as BUNGHO. It reported little enemy movement was seen throughout the day 11 Oct but the posn affords good observation with a covered line of withdrawal.

A recce patrol was sent out by A Coy to investigate the works at 87353025 reported by patrols night 10/11 Oct. Last night the working party had not returned and patrol found a single coil of darnert wire had been continued from rd NORTH for 75 yds. Sounds of digging were heard to the WEST but did not seem extensive.

Another working party was heard at 87403018 by B Coys patrol but no movement seen. When patrol reached 87403018 whistling was heard in front of and to the right of it. In each case it sounded like a prearranged signal, the whistle in front being answered each time from the right but no movement was seen or heard.

5. SALVAGE

1 vice (slightly damaged); 13 Jerrycans; 1 X 7 lb sledge hammer; 3 Mortar Amn boxes; 2 cases corned beef; 1 shovel. 2 Carriers.

6. RECOGNITION SIGS

Patrol -		"E"	"H"		
A/c -	13 Oct				
	0300-0800	0800-1700	1700-2300	2300-0300	
	YY	RG	RR	GY	

Password - "SNOWY RIVER"

Lieut  
IO. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.  
(J. W. DUNHAM)

(Based on infm received to 1200 hrs 14 Oct) 14 Oct 42.

1. GENERAL

Recce patrols have been active in the period under review and one patrol lost 6 ORs acting as covering party. These men were apparently overpowered by an enemy party of approx 30 who were seen by another of our patrols returning to their lines carrying two men.

There has been some enemy shelling of our fwd posns but it has not been hy. Enemy inf were seen embussing in area 871291, 12 Oct and all vehs but one moved off in a Southerly direction. These men were possibly a working party on the posns being prepared on the ridge and may indicate that at this pt the defences are not fully manned.

There is nothing to report from the Southern front and Tac R shows no change in the posn of veh concentrations.

2. AIR OPS

At 1745 hrs 11 Oct 2 unidentified planes dropped 20 bombs areas 442902 and 438899. No damage is reported. 5 cannisters of Butterfly bombs many of which did not explode, two however exploded during the night without outside interference.

3. ENEMY METHODS

It has been reported that a patrol heard a voice shout in URDU "I have been captured". No Indian tps are missing and it was considered it was a decoy. Similar tactics may be employed on other parts of the front.

4. ENEMY EQPT

Reliable sources report GERMANS are planning to use a new model 50 kg bomb of which no technical details are available but the bomb is reported dangerous to handle. Details of any 50 kg UXB suspected of being a new model will be reported immediately to the Int Sec.

5. OPS - DESCRIPTION OF DAYS

The following revised system of describing days in plans and orders has now come into force to conform with AMERICAN methods. The day on which ops start will be referred to as "D" day, subsequent days "D" plus one, "D" plus two, etc, and the day before as "D" minus one. The letter Z will NOT be used to refer to days, mathematical signs will NOT be used for plus and minus, and words are to be spelt in full, e.g. "D" plus one etc.

6. ECONOMY OF MAPS

Advice has been received from Higher Formation that owing to paper shortage it is unlikely that it will be possible to meet Eighth Army's previous monthly expenditure of about 200,000 copies of maps per month.

There is at present no intention of cutting down on initial issues or scales of distribn of maps, but this scale will only be possible if the strictest adherence to the following pts is carried out by Units.

- (a) Maps must be made to last as long as possible.
- (b) Unused maps must be returned to the Int Sec when no longer needed.
- (c) Used maps in good condition must be retained for future use.
- (d) Maps will not be dumped without some urgent op reason.

7. TRIALS WITH A TK GRENS(a) 68 Gren :

Range used - 80 yds.

2 grens hit the turret at an oblique angle and bounced off harmlessly, failing to explode. (These grens were later detonated by rifle fire.) 1 gren fell short, exploded with great concussion effect, but did not penetrate the armour of the tk. 2 grens hit directly, exploded with great concussion, and penetrated the armour. One made a hole an inch wide and approx  $\frac{1}{2}$ " indiameter in the  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " armour just below the turret. The other similarly pierced the thick armour above the track.

Conclusion -

It is considered that the 68 gren must be fired as to secure a direct hit, and not an oblique hit on the tk. If this is done it is capable of penetrating hy armour, as well as exploding with

good concussion effect. An oblique hit appears to be useless. Great accuracy however, can be obtained at a range of approx 70 - 80 yds.

(b) 73 gren

Range used 5 to 10 yds. Two of the five grens thrown failed to explode, but were exploded when a subsequent gren was thrown. The other 3 exploded with terrific concussion. Two blew portions of the tk away, without damaging the actual armour. The fifth gren damage 1 of the bogies.

Conclusion -

This gren gives great concussion effect, without damaging by armour; it is considered however that the concussion would suffice to put the crew out of action and force their surrender. If the grens are thrown at the tracks or bogies it is considered that the tk would certainly be stopped, sufficient damage to these parts being inflicted.

(c) 74 (ST) Gren

Two of these grens failed to explode. Each was thrown with great force and the handle broke away. The other 3 scored direct hits, at close range (the 4 sec fuze enables the attacker to dash for cover and avoid the effect of the concussion. One gren cracked the thickly armoured turret along the whole length of one seam; another blew away portions of the turret; and the third damaged the track and completely blew away the track wheel.

Conclusion -

This is considered to be the most effective of the three types of grens tried out. From the attacker's view point it is safer to use than the 73, and it is more effective, damaging even by armour. A gren planted anywhere near the tracks or bogies would almost certainly put any tk out of action.

8. PATROLS

On night 12/13 Oct D Coy provided a protective patrol for the salvage ops on the remaining three carriers 87513005 (Ref EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000). The engrs repaired the anchorage system damaged the previous night and laid a cable to the carriers. Work was proceeding when the enemy opened up with mortars and MGs from direction of the CLOVER LEAF. The fire fell around the salvage area and with 30/40 tps in the vicinity, the engr comd decided to withdraw back to our lines.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Lieut  
ICX 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.  
(J. W. DUNHAM)

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs - 26 Oct 42)

SECTION A - OPS INT

1. GENERAL

Over the whole Corps front, all final objectives were taken, with the exception of isolated pockets, and exploitation by our arm'd forces began. Crumbling process of enemy FDL's is under way, and several enemy posns were taken last night on the Northern flank, which extended our Northern flank a further approx 2000x NORTH.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Numerous counter attacks have been made on the Div FDL's with and without tk sp, all of which were broken up by our arty fire and tk action. In one instance, tks broke through our FDL's; 18 of these which were mainly ITALIAN tks, were knocked out, and our fwd posns remained intact.

3. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS

		<u>Offrs</u>	<u>OR</u>	
To 1300 hrs - GERMAN - 1 Coy 1/382 IR			30	area Pt 23
2 Coy 1/382 IR			28	and west to
3 Coy 1/382 IR			2	rear line
Total German PW - 4 Coy 1/382 IR			2	
2 Offrs	BnHQ 382 IR	2	14	CO & Adj't
82 OR	Inf Gun Coy 164		6	
ITALIAN - 1 Coy 1/62				
	2 Coy 1/62	6	84	bet. on 2975 &
Total Italian PW - 2 Coy III/62		6	14	2995 northing's
12 Offrs	46 AR		91	west to rear
209 OR	355 Arty Gp		6	line
	(uncertain) 21 Corps tps		2	

5 PW, one wounded III/125 identified at 87353025 but have not yet been checked through PW Cage but placed in cage of flanking formation. II and III Bns 382 IR, III Bn 61 IR and II Bn 433 IR have been identified south from west pt 23 to incl QATTARA track west to rear line.

Further identifications were obtained from PsW taken yesterday fwd of 2/48 Aust Inf Bn FDL's -

2 Bn 125 IR  
115 IR.

8 Sqn 2 Bn 8 Panzer Regt and 133 Tk Regt Littorio were identified as being on 20 Aust Inf Bde front.

4. AIR OPS

Very hy bombing and strafing of enemy FDL's and rear areas has taken place. Our fighters and bombers have been attacking the enemy almost constantly. In the Southern sector, our aircraft claim to have damaged 18 tks. Enemy air attacks have been slight in the Div area, doing some damage in the gun areas. The command of the air by RAF enables daylight patrols to be made on enemy LGs, thus hampering to a very large degree, enemy air activity.

SECTION C - OWN TPS

5. PsW

Total PsW taken by this Div up to 25 Oct 42 was 397. A further 5 PsW (Major, Capt, Sgt, Cpl, Pte) were taken by 2/48 Bn last evening. These PsW were taken when an enemy party, who evidently thought that their tps were still occupying the posns, approached our FDL's.

Further PsW were taken during a successful attack by 2/48 Bn on area Pt 29 ref sq 868300 and 2/24 Bn on line to East of pt 29. Casualties to extent of over 80 killed and 89 PsW were inflicted on enemy by 2/48 Bn and approx 200 PsW were taken by 2/24 Bn. These figures bring total of PsW taken by 26 Bde during present op to -

GERMAN 5 Offrs 197 ORs  
ITALIAN 14 Offrs 221 ORs

6. ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

The following points are taken from statements of P/.

Attack was a complete surprise and I/382 IR were in fact to have been innoculated today. 240J

Mixed gps of Italian and German tks have been seen which tends to confirm previous infm.

High rate of sickness in I/382, some coys only 50 strong (doubtful).

Food deteriorating, apparently run out of British rations.

General impression of morale is that it is not as high as it has been in AFRICA.

All P/ state shaken by arty concentrations which they say were accurate.

*J. W. Dunham*

Lieut  
 IO. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn.  
 (J. W. DUNHAM)



Lt-Col B. EVANS DSO, Comd 2/23 Aust Inf Bn  
R/Os Part I - No 146/4042

891. SECURITY

- (a) Used envelopes of inward mail - It is pointed out that the indiscriminate disposal of the above is a definite breach of security, for as is realized, the title of the Unit appears thereon. These envelopes should be buried as soon as possible after opening.
- (b) Patrols - Patrol comds and personnel must ensure that any papers or articles carried on their person do not disclose anything of a secret or security nature.

892. TELEPHONE CALLS

Higher Formation have drawn attention to the fact that many telephone conversations are too lengthy, and exceed normal limit of 3 minutes. All switchboard operators have been instructed to maintain a log of calls exceeding this limit, and lengthy conversations may be referred back to originator for explanation. Every effort must be made within the Unit to ensure that telephone calls are made as brief as possible.

893. CENSORSHIP OF MAIL - AIF (ME) Order No 1272 is rptd :-

Offrs franking correspondence are reminded that they are required to sign their names, without unit or rank, at the end of the text, as well as on the top left hand corner of the address side of the cover.

894. DISCIPLINE - AIF (ME) Order No 1278 is rptd :-

The undermentioned sentences by courts-martial are published for infm :-

- (a) A pte soldier, convicted of manslaughter (AA Sec 41) was sentenced to undergo detention for 18 months.
- (b) A pte soldier, convicted of AWL (AA Sec 15(1)) from TEL EL EISA for 7 days was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 6 months.
- (c) Two pte soldiers, convicted of disobeying a lawful cmd given by their superior offr to join a gun crew (AA Sec 9(2)) were respectively sentenced to undergo detention for 6 months and to be discharged, and to be imprisoned with hard labour for 6 months and to be discharged with ignominy.
- (d) A pte soldier convicted of deserting His Majesty's service at EL ALAMEIN (AA Sec 12(1)(a)), AWL (AA Sec 15(1)) from EL ALAMEIN for 3 days when under close arrest, and AWL (AA Sec 15(1)) from AMIRIYA for 1 day when under close arrest, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 18 months and to be discharged.
- (e) A pte soldier, convicted of AWL (AA Sec 15 (1)) from NUSSEIRAT for 3 days and AWL (AA Sec 15(1)) from NUSSEIRAT for 20 days when under open arrest, was sentenced to undergo detention for one year.
- (f) A pte soldier, convicted of AWL (AA Sec 15(1)) for 2 days during an engagement with the enemy and AWL (AA Sec 15(1)) for 1 day when in close arrest, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 2 years.
- (g) A pte soldier convicted of fraudulently misapplying public property, when charged with its care (AA Sec 17), was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 1 year.

(h) A S/Sgt, convicted of neglect to the prejudice, etc (M Sec 40) in leaving a military veh unattended in a public street, thereby enabling it to be stolen, was sentenced to be severely reprimanded and to forfeit all ordinary pay for 28 days.

*Wines*  
Capt  
Adj. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn  
(W. J. VINES)

NOTICES

MAILS - DELIVERY IN AUSTRALIA

Advice has been received that mails posted in ME between 18 Jul and 8 Aug 42, were received in MELBOURNE by 14 Sep 42.

SALVAGE

Comd 30 Corps, desires that his appreciation be passed to personnel responsible for salvage of VALENTINE tk, night 30 Sep 42.

CHURCH SERVICES

C of E - Holy Communion 0715 hrs BHQ.  
Service 0930 hrs HQ Coy.

R.C. - Mass 0900 hrs vicinity Ambulance NE RAP.

ROUTINE ORDERS

BY

Lt-Col B. EVANS DSO, Comd 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

R/Os Part I No 147/4042

895. EMPTY AMN BOXES

9 Aust Div R/O No 570 is rptd, and attention of all ranks is directed to the urgent necessity for salvage of these boxes. OSC Coys, QM and RSM will render certificate to BHQ by 1200 hrs 7 Oct that no empty amn boxes remain in their respective areas :-

25 pr and other types of gun amn boxes are urgently required at base. A number of these are being used for revetting, stationary boxes etc. This practice will cease. All serviceable amn boxes now being used for such purposes will be collected by Units and returned to salvage. Since the future sups of amn depend on the return of boxes, HQ Eighth Army has directed that COs and OSC be informed that they will be held responsible for failure to comply with this order.

896. PUNISHMENTS - 9 Aust Div R/O No 572 is rptd :-

The following punishments, imposed recently by Courts Martial held in this formation, are published for infm :-

On pte soldiers convicted of desertion :

- (a) Imprisonment with hard labour for 2 years and to be discharged with ignominy from His Majesty's service.
- (b) Imprisonment with hard labour for 18 months and to be discharged from His Majesty's service.
- (c) Two years detention.

On pte soldiers convicted of AWL :

- AWL 5 days - 6 months imprisonment
- AWL 36 hrs - 6 months imprisonment
- AWL 1 day - 6 months detention
- AWL 1 day - 9 months detention
- AWL 5 days - imprisonment with hard labour for 1 year.
- AWL 3 days - 6 months detention
- AWL 2 days - 6 months detention

897. INVENTIONS - SUBMISSION OF - ME GO No 1224 is rptd :-

- (a) Research is constantly being carried out in order to improve our present wpons and to produce new wpons. It is essential to develop new ideas if we are to outstrip the enemy.
- (b) Fighting soldiers may think of other or new types of wpons and eqpt or possibly of completely new ideas of waging war, any of which may materially assist us in battle. New ideas connected with motor tpt, suitable clothing, eqpt and tools, the right type of food and method of cooking it and many other essential parts of our war material may all contribute to the defeat of the enemy.
- (c) Suggestions made by offr and ORs, have already been accepted and are now in general use. No offr or soldier should hesitate to put forward any genuine ideas, however novel or however small, which may appear to him to be likely to improve or accelerate the defeat of the enemy.
- (d) It has therefore, been decided that normal channels will be disregarded, and that direct access to GHQ will be accorded to any suggestions or inventions which may be put fwd by an offr or OR. Suggestions or inventions will be fwded direct to GHQ addressed as follows :-

INVENTIONS, GHQ (GSD6), MEF.

The Regtl number, rank, name and unit of the sender will be written in block capitals at the beginning of all letters put fwd.

- (e) The receipt of all such letters will be acknowledged at once.

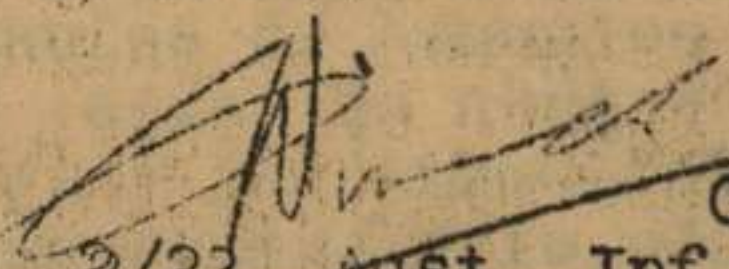
No effort will be spared to ensure that every really constructive suggestion is fully investigated by technical experts, and if necessary the inventor will be enabled to explain details in person.

(f) When security permits, descriptions of ideas or inventions adopted and the names of the persons responsible, will be published in General Orders and entries made in their documents. All questions connected with patents and rewards will be dealt with according to the provisions of KR and such instns as may be laid down from time to time.

(g) The contents of this Order will be brought to the notice of all ranks.

898. COMN WITH PSW IN JAPANESE HANDS

Members of the Unit wishing to correspond with PsW in JAPANESE hands, will communicate with Ord Room Sgt, who will explain censorship and other requirements (Vide ME GO No 1241).

  
Adjt. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn  
(W. J. VINES) Capt

NOTICES

Visit of Officiating Minister for Christian Scientists will be made in WESTERN DESERT commencing 19 Oct 42.

Nominal roll of Christian Scientists desiring to interview the Officiating Minister, will be fwded to BHQ by 2200 hrs 5 Oct 42.

For infm of Christian Scientists, the address of the Officiating Minister is :-

C/- Christian Science Society,  
3 Midan Mistafa Kamel,  
CAIRO, EGYPT.

Nil returns required.

FOUND -

Key - No 6037, in 9 Aust Div Rec Camp Area on 24 Sep 42.  
This key is held at Rear HQ 9 Aust Div.

BY

Lt-Col B. EVANS DSO, Comd 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

R/Os Part I - No 148/4042

899. RETENTION OF WAR AND OTHER CAPTURED ARTICLES

Attention of all ranks is again directed to following AIF (ME) Orders :-

"236. TROPHIES OF WAR & OTHER CAPTURED MATERIAL

1. (a) Captured material which may be claimed by units as trophies of war will be notified through HQ AIF to GHQ (ME), with particulars of the circumstances of capture, when a decision will be given on the claim.  
(b) If the material claimed cannot be retained by the Unit, it will be clearly marked with the unit's name and evacuated through Salvage channels to be taken charge of by the Deputy Controller of Salvage in accordance with Fd Service Regulations Vol 1 1930 Sec 137 para 5.
2. (a) Captured material required for issue for further use will not, as a general rule, be regarded as trophies of war. Amongst this material are the following items:-

Revolvers & pistols	Signalling Instruments & parts
Rifles	Surveying & Drawing Instruments
Ann	Gun Parts, tools, spares, mags etc.
Rangefinders	MI spares & tools.
Dial sights & parts	Typewriters, duplicators etc
Telescopes	Military literature, incl maps & manuals
Binoculars	Private cars & other vehs
Optical stores	Medical eqpt
Technical eqpt	Money in Italian Currency
Gins & other cameras	
Wireless sets.	

Other items which are clearly of value.  
(b) It is known, however, that large quantities of the items listed are in the possession of units and individual offrs and ORs. Formations will accordingly take all possible steps to recover such items. These will incl the publication by units and establishments (incl hospitals, services, depots, workshops etc) of orders to the effect that -
  - (i) All items will be handed over immediately to the Salvage Organisation or to Ordnance Depots.
  - (ii) The retention of any such articles will involve disciplinary action.(c) Formations and heads of establishments, etc, will, thereafter, ensure that disciplinary action is taken in all such cases.
3. Lists of items handed over in accordance with para 2(b)(1) will be fwded to HQ AIF through Formation Headquarters.
4. It is notified that loot includes any property or money in the possession or under the control of any offr or soldier which has not been obtained by issue, by free gift on the part of the lawful owner, or by lawful purchase for fair value. So-called souvenirs of battle are included in the term. The possession of loot by any member of the AIF is forbidden.
5. Any offr of the AIF detected in the possession of loot will be tried by Court Martial. ORs will be dealt with as may be considered fit by superior authority not below the rank of Colonel.
6. This Order will be republished in Unit Routine Orders and will be read three times on parades and posted on Unit notice boards."

899. (Contd)

**"298. EXPLOSIVES IN KIT**

Numerous instances have occurred recently of explosives of various types having been discovered in kits deposited in the AIF Kit Stores for safekeeping.

On no account will amm of any kind, whether enemy or otherwise, be deposited in AIF Kit Store.

This order will be repeated in all Unit Orders, and re-promulgated wherever practicable, prior to the depositing of kits in AIF Kit Stores."

**"516. LOOT & TRAFFIC IN ARMS**

It has been definitely established that members of HM Forces have been selling captured arms and amm.

From this, it is clear that the existing orders on this subject are not being obeyed. All ranks are reminded that it is forbidden to retain in their possession any public enemy property found on the battlefield. Anyone who disposes of captured arms to other persons is directly assisting the enemy, since such arms find their way to those who work for the enemy. Such action is an offence punishable by a sentence of two years imprisonment.

Any captured war material in the possession of army personnel will be surrendered immediately.

This Order will be repeated in Formation and Unit Orders and brought to the notice of all ranks."

**"1046. ARMS - RETENTION OF**

1. All members of AIF are forbidden to have any arms, wpns or amm other than WD Service types unless they are in possession of a certificate signed by the CO of the Unit, authorising the retention of such wpns.
2. COs are authorised to sign such certificates only when :-
  - (i) exigencies of the service require that the member should be armed with a wpn not of service type.
  - (ii) the wpn is personal property obtained from a legitimate source, or
  - (iii) is unserviceable and its only value is as a souvenir.
3. In the case of sub-para (ii), these arms are to be held only in addition to, and not in lieu of, WD issue.
4. All ranks will hand in all arms and wpns for which a certificate is not granted. Units will be responsible for returning these to nearest Ordnance Depot.
5. This order will be repeated in all unit orders and read on parade twice monthly.
6. The certificate will be in the following form :-

<u>No</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Is authorised to be in possession of			
(full description of weapon) as			(Private property (A souvenir (A weapon "

Coy Comds will warn personnel of their comd of the serious consequences arising from the retention of non service types of arms unless these are held in accordance with para 2 of AIF (ME) Order No 1046.

**900. INVENTIONS - SUBMISSION OF**

Ref ME GO No 1224, reproduced in Bn R/O No 147/4042 para 897. Inventions will be fwded to HQ 9 Aust Div for submission to GHQ MEF.

**901. FAIR WEATHER TRACKS**

9 Aust Div R/O No 575 is reproduced for attention of TO, and promulgation to all drs.

"Excessive traffic on fair weather tracks on the coastal strip where water is lying may make them impassable in patches for some

days at least, and lead to serious difficulties. Until they dry out after each storm, maximum use will be made of Main Rd, even though this entails extra mileage. Where main rd is not available, tpt offrs and NCOs will ensure that traffic is reduced to the minimum by postponing non-urgent trips until tracks dry, or as long as possible. This order will be brought to the notice of all drs."

902. LEAVE - ACCOMMODATION IN ALEXANDRIA

All ORs prior to proceeding on ALEXANDRIA leave are to be advised that accommodation up to a total of 100 beds has been reserved for AUSTRALIAN tps at UNITED FORCES Hostel, MOHAMED ALI Square. Those desiring to avail themselves of this accommodation MUST book in prior to 1400 hrs on the day of arrival. UNITED FORCES Hostel is highly recommended and as other accommodation is scarce those desiring to stay in ALEXANDRIA are strongly advised to take advantage of this accommodation. Tariff - Bed and breakfast 15 pt. Complete board 25 pt per day.

903. DISCIPLINE

AIF (ME) Order No 1287 is rptd :-

"The undermentioned sentences by courts-martial are published for infm :-

- (a) Two offrs, convicted of charges of fraudulent misapplication of Regtl Funds (AA Sec 17) and a charge of conspiracy to fraudulently convert property (AA Sec 41), were both sentenced to be cashiered and one to be imprisoned without hard labour for two years, the other to be imprisoned with hard labour for 21 months. Both offrs were also put under stoppages of pay until they have made good the amounts so misapplied.
- (b) A private soldier, convicted of AWL (AA Sec 15(1) for 6 days from his unit in the fd, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for one year.
- (c) A private soldier, convicted of Deserting His Majesty's Service (AA Sec 12 (1)(a)), was sentenced to undergo detention for two years.
- (d) Two private soldiers, convicted of stealing clothing belonging to a person subject to military law (AA Sec 18(4)) and conduct to the prejudice etc in being improperly in possession of two blankets, public property (AA Sec 40) were each sentenced to undergo detention for 9 months.
- (e) A Corporal, convicted of using insubordinate language to his superior officer (AA Sec 8(2)), was sentenced to be reduced to the ranks.
- (f) A private soldier, convicted of three offences of disobeying a lawful command given by his superior officer (AA Sec 9(2)) was sentenced to undergo detention for six months.
- (g) A private soldier, convicted of AWL (AA Sec 15(1)) for four days during engagement with the enemy; conduct to the prejudice etc, in improperly using a military vehicle (AA Sec 40); and conduct to the prejudice etc, in being improperly in possession of eight blankets, four groundsheets, four packs, and four respirators anti-gas, public property (AA Sec 40), was sentenced to be imprisoned without hard labour for fifteen months.
- (h) A private soldier, convicted of disobeying a lawful command given by his superior officer to take part in an attack launched by his company on an enemy position (AA Sec 9(2)), was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for eighteen months, and to be discharged from the Defence Force of the Commonwealth of Australia.





BY

Lt-Col B. EVANS DSO, Comd 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

R/Os Part I - No 149/4042

904. STORES & EQPT

Coys will immediately inform the QM of full particulars of any store or eqpt received by the Coy other than through normal Unit Q channels. Similarly, infm will be supplied immediately of any such stores or eqpt as are loaned to schools or detached from the Unit for any purpose whatever. Particular attention of HQ Coy is directed to this instn as items of specialist eqpt are frequently received or transferred other than through Q channels, due to considerations of tpt and to the fact that some items are issued through 26 Bde HQ and not from normal Ordnance sources.

905. PAYBOOKS

On checking paybooks, it has been noticed that in several instances, payments to personnel have not been signed by an Offr at the time of payment.

In future, payments must be signed by the paying offr at the time of entry and payment.

An offr or Pay Sgt, are the only authorised persons, to sign entries on the debit side of the paybook.

906. PUNISHMENTS BY COURT MARTIAL - 9 Aust Div R/O No 582 is rptd :-

A private soldier convicted of two charges of desertion from this area and one charge of escaping from confinement was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for five years.

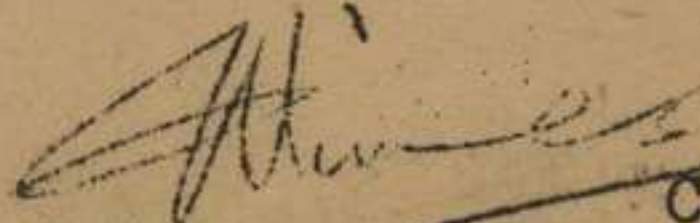
907. AMMUNITION - 9 Aust Div R/O No 583 is rptd :-

Units will not open sealed boxes of any nature of amn unless their contents are required either for service, chamber-gauging or examination.

908. TELEPHONE CALLS

Further to Bn R/O No 146/4042 para 892 of 3 Oct 42. The following instns in regard to use of L/T have been promulgated by Higher Formation, with direction that they be brought to the notice of all ranks.

- (a) Normal telephone calls will not exceed three mins.
- (b) When a subscriber is engaged, the caller will not ask the exchange to call back.
- (c) When making calls other than local, the caller will ask the local switch for the formation or unit concerned, not for the subscriber direct.
- (d) Callers must ring off.
- (e) If the exchange is busy, the operator will call the required exchange and connect the caller without waiting for an answer. When the exchange has been cleared the operator will supervise this call to ensure connection.
- (f) A caller wishing to speak to the sig office, will speak to the sig clerk or superintendent, not to the operator.
- (g) Incessant buzzing only serves to annoy the operator. Callers will buzz once and, if not immediately answered, will wait a reasonable time before buzzing again.

  
Adjt. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn  
(W. J. VINES)      Capt

BY

Lt-Col B EVANS, DSO, Comd 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

ROs Part I - No 150/4042

909. PUNISHMENTS BY COURTS MARTIAL

The following awards by FGCsm to soldiers of this Unit, are promulgated :-

- (a) VX40070 Pte BROWN C J was charged with having, while being a member of the Australian Imperial Force, committed the following offence :

Army Act "When on Active Service, deserting His Majesty's  
Sec Service

12(1)(a) in that he

at TELL EL SHAMAMA on 21 Aug 42 while his unit was on service in an area of operations against the enemy absented himself without leave from the said unit from 1800 hrs on 21 Aug 42 until apprehended by the Corps of Military Police at 1800 hrs on 8 Sep 42 at ALEXANDRIA".

Court found accused NOT GUILTY of desertion but GUILTY of absence without leave.

The accused was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for one year.

- (b) VX60731 Pte HAMILTON J T was charged with having, while being a member of the Australian Imperial Force, committed the following offence :-

Army Act "When on Active Service, deserting His Majesty's  
Sec Service

12(1)(a) in that he

at EL SHAMAMI on 17 Sep 42 at 1530 hrs, while his unit was on service in an area of operations against the enemy, was absent without leave from the said Unit with intent to avoid such service".

Court found accused NOT GUILTY of desertion but GUILTY of absence without leave.

The accused was sentenced to suffer field punishment for 90 days and to forfeit all ordinary pay for 90 days.

- (c) In each case, date of trial was 2 Oct 42 and date of confirmation 16 Oct 42, the confirming offr being Lt-Gen Sir Leslie J MORSHEAD, KBE, CMG, DSO, ED, GOC 9 Aust Div.


910. MARKING OF KITS

- (a) Sub-units will ensure that all articles of personal eqpt and kit, especially haversacks and packs, are plainly marked with the soldier's army number, name and initials.
- (b) The name of a Unit will not be marked on any item of eqpt or clothing, but the unit serial number may be used.

911. WATER CONSUMPTION - 9 Aust Div RO No 590 is rptd:

It is most important that unrestricted drinking water should be made available to troops for 24 hrs before any period of expected severe physical exertion, particularly if fighting be involved.

This will be regarded as a responsibility of all unit comds.

  
(W J VINES) Capt  
Adjut 2/23 Aust Inf Bn

NOTICE

AUSTRALIAN SERVICES CLUB - ALEXANDRIA

Club rooms are now open at 73 RUE FOUD for use by members of AIF from 0900 hrs to 2100 hrs daily. During these hrs lounge games, reading & writing rooms and free refreshments are available.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

No. of Groups.

GR.

84

OFFICE DATE STA

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

2/23 inf br 2/7 fd coy  
26 de bole

I511

30

24	lde	sitrep	to	0700	has
0	patrol	to	enemy	outpost	87423018
found	triple	dannerst	at	SW	gamer
<del>found</del>	corner	with	booby	traps.	at
5 faces	intervals	attached to	dannerst	with	
trip	wire	0	traps	wire	3
EP		MK2	mines	wired	together

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

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

1120

SIGNED

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
2	1245	Spencer	Sign								

T.H.I.

1124

T.O.R.

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

# 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

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

4/41 B. & S. Ltd. 51-15. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

2 m	23	bn	adjusting	disposns	tonight
0	total	pw	count	from	ops
28/29	oct	german	offers	3	ORS
18	additional	identifications		155	200
361	PGR	220	rece	unit	0
Italian	offers	4	ORS	64	additional
identification		11	bn	7	messagiere

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

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

1110

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

1115

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
L	1230	Spence									

T.O.R.

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

# 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

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

B  
enemy  
incl  
forces  
front  
by  
SOUTH

2  
Aks  
10  
several  
some  
OP  
of

armd  
knocked  
burning  
minor  
PW  
of  
51

side  
out  
0  
engagements  
incl  
for  
HD

report  
280  
our  
30  
regt  
nr

12  
oct  
armd  
51 HD  
taken  
0  
0

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

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

1100

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

1115

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
L	1230	Spencer	Spencer								

T.O.R.

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

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.  
Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.  
J/882)

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

GR.

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**TO**

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

**FROM**

4/41. B. & S Ltd. 51-15.

(5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

tho	and	inf	on	20 bde	front
during	day	0	all	driven	of
with	loss	to	enemy	incl	at
least	1 th	0	19 stubs with		F
escort	raided	area	87329	81740	Ris
large	<del>area</del>	area	enemy	tho	and
inf	reported	86653031	at	last	LIGHT

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

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

1100

T.H.I.

1115

T.O.R.

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SIGNED

SIGNED

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
L	1230	Sig Spencer									

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

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

GR.

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**TO**

**FROM**

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

with	charge	against	them	at with	full
<del>top</del>	shape	igniter	⊙	also	possibly
<del>egg</del>	egg	grenades	attached	to	damned
on	inner	side	⊙	5	rows
ds	MK5	mines	on	order	<del>rows</del>
side	of	wire	⊙	all	informed

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

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

1120

**T.H.I.**

1124

**T.O.R.**

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SIGNED		SIGNED		SIGNED		SIGNED		SIGNED		SIGNED	
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
2	1245		Spencer								

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

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.

5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

*PO*

No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

*2/23 24 48 Bm. 9 ATK Bty 2/7 Faloy B Coy MG Pw*

FROM

*26 Amst Inf Bde*

Originator's Number

*I 507*

Date

*28*

In Reply to Number

*9.7.15 150830 hr @ 24 bde report minefield followed from 87253017 to 87213017 4 rows MK 5 @ enemy attack developed on pt 29 at 2345 hr @ arty def fire tasks fired on NORTH and WEST of posn and enemy engaged by inf weapons attack faded out @ by casualties considered inflicted @ relief 20 bde by 152 bde completed and cmd passed 0420 hrs @ 26 bde relief by 20 bde delayed by enemy attack set*

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

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

SIGNED

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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.

(5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

*36*

No. of Groups.

GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

completed by 0615 hrs @ 26 bde now in div res area @  
 bde HQ approx 87682999 @ Amund formations  
 ops div front 27 oct estimate PW captured  
 mostly GERMAN from 382 IR all informed

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

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

*1210*

*Amund 1.5/1*

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

*1230*

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

T.O.R.

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

4/41 B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.  
4/41 B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.  
(5/882) Wt 46923/1825 400M Pads.

1 OCT

Appx 27

V1	0100	All Coys.	Sitnor	Bde DO infd
V2	0100	26 Bde	Report tk salvaged & sta on coast pon awaiting transport	Bde DO.
V3	0145	B Coy	Movement observed outside wire on coy front. Coy stand to.	Patrol sent to intercept. Bde DO infd and coys infd.
V4	0200	A CD Coy	Sitnor	
V5	0200	B Coy	Report coy patrol sent out no report received.	Bde DO infd
V6	0230	B Coy	Patrol (ref V5) report in. NMSH	Bde DO infd
V7	0300	All coys	Sitnor	
V8	0400	"	Sitnor	
V9	0500	"	Sitnor	Bde DO infd
V10	0600	"	Sitnor	I.O.
V11	0630	"	MMG's opened fire & 5000 rds fired as per Op. Instruk. No. 5 Mortars opened on same but misfires stopped them firing.	
V12	0700	all stas	Sitnor	Bde D/o adv.
V13	0930	26 Bde	Sitref to 0800 hrs	DO Adv.
V14	0940	26 Bde ABCD HQ BECHRSIM MMG ARTY.	Sitnor	Bde DO adv.
V15	1050	26 Bde	PW night 1/2 Oct. KANGAROO	Sigs.
V16	1050	all coys	Sitnor	Bde D/o adv.
			Patrol Password. Challenge R Reply T.	

EL ALAMEIN.

1 OCT. 42.

86773017.

## ACTION DIARY

	NO	TIME	FROM.	TO	E V E N T.	ACTION.
V17	V17	1050		26 Bde.	Patrol	Bde D/O adv.
	V18	1240	UDER		1235 to 1443 hrs Arty Barrage in area Pt 23 ref 87342965 concentration of stat and dis. vehicles in reg's 867298, + 867299. Approx 100 vehicles.	D/O adv.
	V19	1510		26 Bde	Scholar	D/O info
	V20	1615	26 Bde		2445 Bde HQ est at 43779024	I/O info
	V20	1655	All Coy		Scholar	Bde D/O info
	V21	1800	"		Scholar	D/O
	V25	2040	26 Bde		9 Div sites	I.O.
	B58	2040	2/4 A		ACK of Insta No 6	File
	O150	2040	26 Bde		ref this HQ G 200/8A/143 30 Sep. These passwords will be used only by parade. Passwords issued by this HQ I 413 29 Sep apply for all other recognition purposes	D/O.
	O151	2040	26 Bde		following sector allotted 2/4 Bde for patrolling 10 of night 2/3 Oct. inc. 0 from incl 299 northward quad to incl Bde boundary between 2/55 and 2/48 Bde. Inter-bde boundary is reg line incl to 2/55 Bde	No.
	V22	2100	all Stats		Scholar	Bde D/O adv.
	V426	2103	26 Bde		Interp to 2000 hrs.	I.O.
	V23	2200	all coys		Scholar	I.O.
	V24	2245	D Coy		2 units seen approaching the outpost from.	I.O. Bde D/O adv.
	V25	2305	D Coy		No movement seen from outpost. one of personnel going fwd 250' without further success	I.O.
	O200	2310	26 Bde		Art Recog. Regs to 0300 hrs 5 OCT Camp command.	I.O.
	V26	2400	all coys		Scholar	D/O.

EL ALAMEIN

2 Oct 42.

88773017

## ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION
V1	0033	B.		Under 8: Multiple sig wire rubber-covered 200 yds from our FDL's possibly finished in sq 876300. followed right up wadi but no enemy seen heard voices heard about ring contour. B Coy Patrol report	DO adv.
V2	0055		26 Bde	Sitrep	Bde o/p adv.
V3	0110	D6g		C.W. Post. in pos. of 87693024.	D/O adv.
V4	0150	Analys.		Sitrep	D/O adv.
V5	0250		26 Bde	Sitrep	Bde o/p adv.
V6	0345	All 6p		"	D/O adv.
V7	0455		26 Bde	"	Bde o/p adv.
	0730	H140		5/6 men seen moving at 87373029	
	0730	H140		3/4 men sitting in a derelict truck 87513044	
V8	0731		26 Bde	(No FIS) patrol reports 1/2	Sea
DK12	0735	B		00 No ( ) ACK.	to
M1	0830		<sup>R.S.M.</sup> all Corp. Anty. M63	Paraword night 2/3 WANKABY.	Diys.
	0845	26 Bde		Tac R 0700 hrs -	I.O.
I427	0900	26 Bde		26 Bde sweep to 0800 hrs	to info
V9	0915	26 Bde		5 men	D/O adv.
W40	0950	26 Bde		Shell inj report to 00 hrs 2 Oct	Sigs
I427	1130	26 Bde		24 Bde sitrep to 0830 hrs © During night 2/32 Bn relieved by 2 SEAFORTH © 2/3 Pw Bn relieved by 5 CAMERONS © Patrols to 87412935 and 87382944. NTR. © Patrol to 87512920 heard men handling mines and at intervals four vehs came from WEST off loaded and moved back WEST. © 2/3 Pw Bn HQ ct 4358 9004 all infmd	

# ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V10	1135	Carriers		Patrol of two out 1300 hrs in fwd area.	Co notified
Cipher	1253	26 Bde		Cipher Dummy messages.	
V11	1325		26 Bde	Sitnov	BM learned
V12	1530		26 Bde	Sitnov	D/O infnd
M3	1600	B Coy	-	Ack.	I O infnd
M4	1605		26 Bde	receipt for cipher	I. O.
M5	1635	UDW		sitnov visibility improving	Noted
M6	1647	26 Bde		Cipher dummy	
M7	1650	All Coy	-	sitnov	
M8	1655		26 Bde	sitnov	
M9	1700	26 Bde		24 tile sitrep to 1245 hrs @ 2/32 Bn established 441590240, 12 shells reported by fwd Bn @ all informed.	AdjA.
M10	1700	26 Bde		H F 2030. AO 0230 17192327 2000 gun fire H F S.A. Div.	
M11	1815	26 Bde		9 div sitrep to 1500 hrs @ patrols day night 1/2 bat report working parties WEST of 87512920, 87262974 and small enemy patrols 874304 @ all informed	
M12	1900		26 Bde	sitnov	D/O.
V13	2030			Shoot by MMG, MORTARS + ARTY started on time ref O.D. instr. No. 5.	D/O adv.
V14	2055	All Coy	26 Bde	5 MOR landed in D Coy at 2050 hrs otherwise Sitnov area 87653025.	Bde D/O adv.
I430	2105		26 Bde	Sitref to 2000 hrs. NTR.	D/O adv.
V15	2155	All Coy		Sitnov.	D/O adv.
V16	2225			5 flares seen by R.P. duty in front of A Coy's front 5 WHITE, 1 RED 1 WHITE.	D/O adv.
V17	2230			B Coy informs D/O flares in E territory.	noted.
V18	2231			B Coy reports E semi-surrounded outpost. Outpost withdrawn and section sent out to attempt ambush enemy.	"

ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	FROM	To	EVENT	ACTION
V19	2250		26Bde	C. Coy outpost withdrawn section sent to ambush enemy otherwise sitnor.	Bde D/O adv
V20	2300	A Coy		Relief of B Coy by A Coy completed.	D/O adv.
V21	2330	B Coy		B Coy reports relief by A Coy completed.	D/O adv.
V22	2350	A4 Coy		Sitnor.	D/O adv.
<b>3 OCT 42</b>					
V1	0009	GARS.		OC. barriers reports return to position.	" "
V2	0027	D Coy		D Coy salvaged Diesel trucks and left it by barriers.	" "
V3	0100		26Bde	Sitnor.	Bde D/O adv
V4	0200	6th Coy		Section	D/O info
V5	0310	"		"	Bde D/O "
V6	0400	"		" Except UREL	D/O info
V7	0500	"		Section	Bde D/O
V8	0600	"		"	D/O info
V9	0700	"		Sitnor	Bde infmd
V10	0830		RSM.	P.W. for night 3/4 KOOKABURRA	Sigs
V11	0830	all Coy NVA.		P.W. night 3/4. KOOKABURRA	Sigs
I431	0925	26Bde		Sitrep to 0800hrs @ outpost at 87453006 forced to withdraw because of enemy sniping @ ITALIAN gun tractor salvaged @ effective shoot carried out on 87453004 by MMG's, arty, and mortars all infmd.	b.o.
V12	0930		26Bde	Sitnor	Bde infmd
V13	0930	26Bde		Harassing fire tasks 1000hrs to 1700hrs 2. 4 5 11 12 16 18 19 21 23 24 26 58 60 27 29 31 33 36.	I/O infmd Sit Map
V14	0950		26Bde	Shelling reports to 1000hrs	L/O infmd.
V15	1045	all coys		Sitnor	Bde infmd
V16	1100		26Bde	Cypher 5100 dummy message <sup>136/3</sup>	W/T
I433	1215	26Bde		24 Bde sitrep to 0900hrs @ 2/28 Bn relieved by 5 SEAFORTHS less one coy during night @ 2/28 Bn HQ now. 4272 8999 all infmd	

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## ACTION DIARY.

No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
M1	1230	C.		C. Coy. projected. patrols.	I.O.
M2	1255		Bde	sitrep	I.O.
M3	1305	C.O	B.C.D.	advising of weather breaking if darkens out much more. All Coys to send out fighting Patrols	C.O.
M4	1500	all Coy		sitrep	
M5	1500		26 Bde	sitrep.	
M6	1531	<del>OP</del>		6 Mortar Bombs 87523018. 1 Mortar Bombs 87653012. from 1505. to 1540 hrs.	2 1/c
M7	1530	mmg's (AM)		German letter dated 26. Nov. 1941 on business letter form.	I.O.
V8	1640	D.		4 Mortars in Coy area 87663026	2 1/c adv.
V433	1700	26 Bde	2/23 Bde	9 Div outref to 1500 hrs. Patrols night. 2/3 Coy to 87302987, 87342970, 87343015 NTR	D/O adv.
V9	1700	DG		9 Mortars in Coy area, 87663026.	D/O adv.
V10	1650	BHQ		1 shell 87733020	D/O adv.
V11	1720	C Coy.		5 MT loaded with tpo out ref 87103015 moving SOUTH.	Arty infmt.
Sigs 386	1730	Sigs Sec	2/23 Bde	Div instrs @ Ball signs allotment to ceps now comes into operation. 0300. 9 Oct.	Sigs infmt.
V.12.	1730	26 Bde		HF tasks 0132 to 0430 hrs. 4 Oct. targets 3, 5, 12, 13, 14, 59.	D/O infmt.
V13.	1800	All Coy	-	sitrep.	D/O adv.
V14	1820	ARTY OP.	"	Ref Ser VII Arty O.P.O. directed several xels gunfire at MT which moved out of his sight.	" "
V15	1830			5 shells approx. 105MM in area BHQ ref 86773017	D.O. Adv. Bde D/O
V16	1840			6 shells approx 105MM in area BHQ. ref. 86773017.	adv.
V17.	1850		26 Bde	11 shells in BHQ area otherwise sitrep.	"

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## ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION.
V18	1900	All Coy	BHQ	Sitrep	D/O adv.
V19	2000	Barrow		Recovery of one Breda tank recovery vehicle by CARRIER PL.	Bde D/O adv
V20	2005	All Coy		Sitrep	D/O adv.
V21	2030			Hate period started on time, Hate 3 was target.	" "
V22	2045	26 Bde		Sitrep to 2000 hrs @ 1025 hrs 30 shells cutting area 16 shells EAST PT 24 10 shells etc area 2.3 mortar 87523018.	D/O Adv.
V33	2055		26 Bde	Sitrep reported recovery of vehicle.	Bde D/O adv
V34	2135	C		HATE 3 shoot appear to have made E 'jittery' @ WHITE floor put up by E also MG fire	Bde D/O adv
V35	2155	All Coy		Sitrep	D/O adv
V36	2255	"		"	Bde D/O
V37	2350	"		"	"
				4 Oct 42	
V1	0055	"		Sitrep	Bde D/O adv
V2	0155	"		"	D/O adv
V3	0250	"		"	Bde "
V4	0350	"		"	D/O "
V5	0405	26 Bde		Arty OP report a series of red flares along the coast WEST of our FDL's	
V6	0415	all coy		enquiries made through coys about red flares seen by Arty OP but no coy has seen them	Bde advised
V7	0457	all coy		Sitrep	Bde infmd
V8	0530	BHQ		Arty opened up on Target 2 according to OP Instr No 5.	IO infmd
V9	0538	BHQ		Mortars open fire according to plan.	
V10	0544	BHQ		Enemy replied with MG fire and arty fire.	



# ACTION DIARY

4 OCT 42

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V 11	0600	A		12 med shells in area.	I O infnd
	0600	D		M G and mortar fire in retaliation of harassing shoot on fwd area of Bow bay. no damage	
		barrers		Stray MG bullets otherwise sitnor.	
V 12	0625	D		Further reports. The enemy replied with A/TK MGs mortars & airbursts on Bow fwd posts PA 17 8762 3028 on 500' frontage. possibly 30/40 mortars and shells one dug out blown in otherwise no damage.	I O infnd
V 13	0715		26 Bde	Sitrep	Bde infnd
I 4/2 V 14	0830		all Coys.	P.W. night 4/5. PLATYPUS.	Signs
I 4/1 V 15	0830		R.S.M	P.W. night 4/5 PLATYPUS	Signs
V 16	0910		all Coys	Sitnor	I.O
V 17	0911		26 Bde	Sitnor	D/O infnd
M 1	1020	C Coy		C Coy projected. patrol * 4/5	I.O.
I 436	1030	26 Bde		Sitrep to 0800 hrs @ Patrol to 8730 3017 C.O. found no trace mines - fired on by enemy before they could recce beyond. upon fence encountered. @ enemy patrol seen at 8737 3026 and vicinity. 8731 2974. @ 0530 hrs to 0545 hrs 12 shells on 8754 3017. 30 to 40 mortar bombs. 8762 3028 @ Italian tractor salvaged all informed	I.O.
M 2	1055	all Coys		Sitnor	I.O.
M 3	1055		26 Bde	Sitnor	I.O.
M 4	1115		26 Bde	ACK	I.O.
1	1220			TACR 1030 NW poor @ area 8702 293 to 874 289 to 872 288 200 met stat and disp many diggings in area @ Area 864 287 to 871 285 to 868 282 to 865 284 200 met stat and dispersed	

4 OCT.

ACTION DIARY

No	TIME FROM	To	Event	Action
			<p>many diggings and 20 sentage in area @ 874 288 to 872 284 10 met moving S.W. on track @ Area 860 277 to 865 278 to 866 274 to 860 272 400 met disp in gips many diggings in area @ Area 863 271 to 866 271 200 met. stat and disp @ Area 867 267 150 met. stat and disp guns seen in pits and many diggings in area. Area 865 264 to 868 265 to 868 262 100 met. stat &amp; disp @ Area 859 258 to 858 255 to 856 258 to 855 255 200 met stat &amp; disp in gips in Wadis. Area 854 267 to 858 266 to 854 264 to 858 263 300 met stat &amp; disp. @ Area 850 255 to 850 248 to 880 252 to 880 246 no met or met seen @ Area 878 258 to 878 257 to 877 253 to 873 253 200 met stat and disp. Area 864 311 to 874 307 to 857 270 to 850 270 met of met observed. Area 866 280 to 874 280 to 867 270 to 875 267 no gips of MIT seen. From 860 274 to 874 265 fresh well defined tracks @ Area 853 290 to 875 285 to 849 268 to 869 262 very well and may large pools of water. No A/H received from whole area.</p>	
M5	1315	all Coys	sitnow	
M6	1320		sitnow	
M7	1330	OR R	ack	
V8	1624	D6y	Arranging Artby shoot on M6 Pozson's CLOVERLEAF feature through outfest.	D/O act
V9	1650	OP	NTR	" "
V10	1655	26Bd	sitnow	Beh D/O act

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## ACTION DIARY.

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION
VII	1705	D6of.	BHQ	Ref Serial V8 Arty fired 8 ads. engaging target at 87463042. with result MG wiped out gun crew blown into air.	D/O ads. Bde D/O infd. 1900 hrs.
V12	1715	BHQ		2 EA flying WEST over BHQ area engaged by A/A. Damage unknown.	" "
V13	1720	26Bde.		9 Div outref to 1500 hrs. Patrol night. 3/4 Oct. 87303017 fired on and forced to withdraw. 87312974. Patrol saw several parties enemy largest about 20 @ 87373026 E patrol 15 men. further ITALIAN tractor salvaged coastal sector O area 87522918 scattered mine and working party reported on bearing 130° O southern sector area One ITALIAN killed 88192632 identified 12 boy 185 IR. FOLGORE dtd. 3 Shells area 87723020	1.0 ads
V14	1745			Sitna	
V15	1855	all stabs.			Bde D/O. infd.
V16	1850	Carriers		2 men going 2/300' outside the mine to collect shells last night 3/4 OCT.	D/A coys advised.
V17	1930	LIND	BHQ	OP. signed off.	D/O ads.
V18	1952	All Gps.		Sitna	" "
V19	2050			Ser 3 reported at 2045 that 7 to 9 E were posted in area of vehicle apparently waiting for patrol to arrive. As patrol loaded with petrol etc so we forced to withdraw	" "
V20	2050	C. by.	"	Ser 7 altered time from 2400 hrs to 0300 hrs. owing to moonlight occurring late in morning	" "
V28	2055	26Bde.	"	Sitref to 2000 hrs. 1425 hrs 40 MT at 86853039 engaged by our Arty one seen burning.	" "
V21	2100		26Bde	Sitna	Bde D/O ads

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ACTION. DIARY.

No.	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T.	ACTION.
V22	2125	C Coy		Proposed patrol Ser 7 has been cancelled. Altered time owing to moonlight. New times clashed with patrol from B Coy. Ser 4.	D/O adv.
V23	2158	D Coy		Report that relieved personnel of Outpost came in past CAS trench & saw no enemy.	R/O.
V24	2200	all coys.		Sitmor	D/O.
V25	2300	"		Sitmor	"
V26	2300	D Coy		OC. reports that whilst visiting pls. learnt that <sup>at</sup> 1100 hrs 2 offrs. dressed in English uniforms had searched one of the posts & had a look out towards enemies lines. No identifications were checked.	Adj't.
V27	2325	B Co		Stackade relief completed.	
V28	2400	all coys		Sitmor	R/O.
5 OCT.					
V1	0100	all shas		Sitmor	Bde D/O
V2	0200	.		.	'
V3	0300	.		.	'
V4	0400	all coys		Sitmor	
V5	0500	all coys		Sitmor	Bde D/O infmd
V6	0600	all coys		Sitmor	IO infmd
V7	0631	BHQ		MG open up as per time plan on target three area 8732 3022	
	0644			Mortars open fire on target three 8732 3022 area	
V8	0700	all coys	26 Bde	Sitmor	Bde advised
I5/1	V9	0830	all coys	P.W night 5/6 GUNDAGAI.	Sigs.
I5/2	V10	0830	all coys	P.W night 5/6 GUNDAGAI	Sigs.
V11	0835	Arty		Arty engage enemy working ply 12000 <sup>x</sup> away	IO infmd
I439	0915	26 Bde		Situp to 0800 hrs @ Patrols Av	

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# ACTION DIARY

5 OCT

No	TIME	From	To	E V E N T	ACTION
I439 cont.				Patrols to 8710 2996 8732 2964 8715 2990 8732 3021 8736 3023 but no mines discovered or contact made with enemy several working parties heard	I O infd
V12	0955	OP		Sitnov NTR.	I O infd
I5/3	1140		all exp cont	Patrol password night 5/6 Oct. Tanswer R	Sigs
I440	1140	26 Bde		152 Bde sit up to 0830 hrs	clotted
V13	1145	OP		Reports blaying pol waggon on skyline track probably due to our arty	I O infd
V14	1300		26 Bde	Sitnov	
I615	1435	48 Bn		48 Bn Projected Patrols Night 5/6 Oct.	26 Bde, 48 Bn
V15	1500	B		Map refs patrol N°3 amended. 87393108 to read 87393018, 87543014 to read 87543018	24 Bn infd
I5/4	1600		ACD HQ CAR A/TR	Amended map refs patrol N°3 of projected patrols night 5/6 Oct.	Sigs
V16	1625	UREL		Advancing of patrol	
V17	1915	OVAD		Report from fwd pl that there are ade across flat	CO infd
V18	1930	Coy		Report that in storm, drums and cans were blown along and probably were mistaken as tks. Necessary precautions are still being taken re tks.	Bde infd
V19	1945			From about 1900 hrs to 1930 hrs a violent storm swept area.	
V20	2020	D		2 flares (1 white & 1 Red) out to see approx 8790 3020	Bde infd
V21	2057	All Cap		Sitnov	Bde DO infd
M1	2210	26 Bde		Linep to 2000 hrs & 1150 hrs arty sound. direct hit enemy truck 8711300 & only lyft shelling during day. 12 shells falling in area & all informed Cupher	2 1/2
M2	2210				

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5 OCT

## ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
M3	2220	I Sect		Two WHITE, one GREEN, one minute / RED 108° from BHQ appeared to be in Bde area.	Bde infmt. per 2/c.
M4	2250	all Coys		Sitnor	D/O
M5	2255		26 Bde	Sitnor	D/O
M6	2340	9 Div		35 11/14/x to all holders. DT cipher within 9 Aust Div from main 9 Aust Div P 3/593 O. Br Army DT keys fresh to night Oct. be believed compromised use will be restricted to minimum.	FILE
M7	2355	all Coys C Coy		Sitnor	D/O
M8	0115	A Coy		Stenat one on end of first leg waited half an hour no signs or sounds. Proceeded to road. within 100 yds of wire sat for 3/4 hr; nothing at all. Proceeded home straight down main rd. Some walked on South side of road through minefield. 400 yds out. On second they searched area about. Palms, no signs of occupation. Only report condition of flat - like swamp.	D/O infmt
M9	0115	A Coy		Same time, same strength from 6/7, will move out to where wire crosses road and wait 1/2 hr. if nothing doing will recede with sight around. (North + NE) will move from position on rd.	D/O infmt
				<u>6 OCT</u>	
M10	0100	all Coys		Sitnor	D/O infmt
M11	0100		26 Bde	Sitnor	D/O infmt
M12	0150	D Coy		Patrol reports	D/O infmt
M13	0155	all Coys		Sitnor	D/O infmt
M14	0255	all Coys		Sitnor	D/O infmt
M15	0255		26 Bde	Sitnor	D/O infmt
M16	0400	all Coys		Sitnor	D/O infmt
V1	0450	all Coys		Br. standing to. ordered by Co. - NTR	Bde infmt
V2	0500	all Coys		Sitnor. D Coy out of comm	D/O infmt
V3	0600	all Coys		Sitnor. D Coy out of comm	D/O infmt
V3	0630	OP		Sitnor	D/O infmt

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## ACTION DIARY

No	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V4	0910		26 Bde	Sitrep	D/adviced
V5	0930	OP		Reports 30/40 enemy moving about in squs. 871300, 871301, 872301	DO advised Arty OP. "
V6	0930	Sigs		Arty out of comm. <u>EDW</u>	
V7	0945	BHQ		Three shells in Δ 33 area 150 mm	IO infmd
V8	1010	26 Bde		A sqn 9 Div bar relieve C sqn of 9 Div bar tonight	
I404	1015	26 Bde		lit up to 0800 hrs. ○ Patrols reported little enemy movement ○ Patrol to 87142996 reported single dammest two men 30' inside wire walking indicated no mines were laid ○ 8 men observed CLOVER LEAF feature 87423043 all infmd	
V9	1053	all coys		Sitrep	Bde infmd
O160	1155	26 Bde		following sector allotted 2/24 Bn for patrolling WEF night 6/7 OCT incl ○ from inter bde body to 299 northing grid w/c	IO infmd
I6/2	1215	ABCD HQ Comm		PW night 6/7. GUNYAH	Sigs
I6/3	1215	RSM		PW night 6/7. Guryah	Sigs
V10	1300			Sitrep	Bde infmd
O158	1400			A.F.V recognition sigs	
TAER	1510			1120 hrs Visibility fair	
V11	1620	2/24 Bn 2/48 Bn 14 Pty/arty		Serial one projected fanots map ref. 3108 should read 3018.	Sigs.
I445	1635	26 Bde		152 Bde sitrep to 1300 hrs ○ 1045 hrs 60/70 enemy observed 230 degrees from 87642934. dispersed by six rounds from our arty ○ area 88002936 shelled immediately afterward. between 0945 and 1050 areas 87662943 88002936 were shelled no damage	2 1/2

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## ACTION DIARY

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No	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V12	1650	all coys		sitnov	Bde infmd
V13	1720	BHQ		4 shells H.F. 2 guns 8776 3023.	D/O infmds
V14	1725	26 Bde		Harassing fire targets 2200 hrs to 0200 hrs. @ Targets 3. 10 12 15 16 17 18 27 28 29.	
V15	1735	BHQ		5 shells HF along a line from gap in minefield to just past sig office. 87633019 to 87683023	
V16	1736	26 Bde		Patrol recognition pigs Sugar Monkey.	
V17	1745	all coys carriers		Patrol recog signal night 6/7. Sugar Monkey	Sign for D.R.
V18	1846	all coys		all sitnov	D/O infmd.
V19	1900		26 Bde	repeating V13 and V15 otherwise sitnov	D/O infmd.
V20	1920	O.P.		signing off	D/O infmd!
V21	1955	26 Bde.		9 Div setup to 1500 hrs @ enemy shelling. on FDL's slightly reduced afternoon 5 Oct. Our arty scored direct hit on vch area. 871300 @ night 5/6 Oct. patrol heard. working party 87323013 @ patrol to 87142946 heard movement behind wire @ patrol to 87352955 fired on by LMG from 87302956. all informed	D/O <u>infmd</u>
V22	2015	all coys		sitnov	D/O infmd.
V23	2030	pl. pl.		reported seeing one of our bombers come down in E territory 1800 hrs 280°; parachute seen at 1810 hrs 140° heavy A.P. put up by enemy.	Bde infmd.
V24	2048	Adjpt.		Carrier pl. patrol. has returned six gas cylinders; 30 feet of roping one FIAT mounting which carries one keping. Full report and gas cylinders following.	



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ACTION DIARY

No	Time	FROM	To	Event	Action
I 599	2045	A&Bn		Patrols night 6/7 Oct, A Coy type fighting strength, 10 OR's @ Route from 5 P 87442997 to 87133003 to 87162997 to 5 P @ Object shoot up any enemy encountered. B. Coy 10 off 10 OR's time out 1930 time in 0400 hrs. type fighting @ Route from 5 P. 87473001 to 87343013. to 87243007 to 5 P. @ Object shoot up any enemy encountered. @ D. Coy to provide INCO. 3 OR's for protection of. Engns recce patrol from 5 P. 87462993 to 87132973 to 87132999 to 87431999 to 5 P @ Time out 1939. @ Engns will report @ C. D Coy 1900 hrs.	D/o infmd.
V 25	2050	all Coys		sitnor	D/o infmd.
V 26	2050		Bde	reporting plane and parachute sitnor	D/o infmd.
V 27	2104	BHQ		arty shoot started 2104 hrs	D/o infmd.
V 28	2110	BHQ		M. G. fire started.	D/o infmd.
V 29	2122	BHQ		Mortar shoot started. three flares seen could be hits, and explosions	D/o infmd.
V 30	2140	ACoy		30 shells on A 33 area came from bearing 290°	
I 447	2150	26 Bde		Sinep to 2000 hrs @ 1015 hrs 4 shells Cutting area .1725 6 shells. PA 24 1815 to 1845 hrs 8 shells CUTTING area .1720 to 1735 hrs 9 shells 87633019 87683023. otherwise NTR. all informed.	D/o infmd.
V 31	2143	all Coys		sitnor	D/o infmd.
V 32	2300	all Coys		Sitnas	Bde infmd
V 1	0015	D		D and C Coy changeover completed	C O infmd
V 2	0010	all Coys		Sitnas	Bde infmd
V 3	0020	all Coys		Sitnas	D O infmd
V 4	0030	all Coys		Sitnas	Bde infmd
V 5	0040	all Coys		Sitnas	D O infmd

SAW

## ACTION DIARY

No	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V6	0450	All Coys		Sitnov	Bde DO advised
V7	0450	Signs		Outpost has not made contact for last hour	Bde infd
V8	459			Outpost report Sitnov	Bde infd
V9	0700	All Coys		Sitnov	Bde Bto infd
V10	0903	OP		Lighter-bombus bomb area SIDI RAHMAN rd	IO intel
V11	0905	Coys		Sitnov	Bde DO infd
V12	1005	26 Bde		26 Bde relief to 0900 hrs @ patrol to ring contour 871343025. found no enemy post @ scattered EP minefield. at 871429990. patrol to CLOVER LEAF area found no minefds 50yds inside wire @ harassing fire 2200 to 2300 hrs mainly on EAST pt 24 and cutting area @ patrol to 87292984 forced to withdraw. all informed	C.O.
V13	1145	O.P.		12 our fighters bombers bombing main supply route 14 second wave.	IO infmd
V14	1250	all Coys		sitnov	
V15	1258		26 Bde	sitnov	Bde D/infmd
V16	1255	BHQ		one E. A/c overhead engaged by A.A.	
V17	1308	BHQ		two E A/c biplanes sep wings one engine probable Fiat CR 42 from approx ring Contour westward over E. lines at a very low height.	I.O. infmd
V18	1325	BHQ		Two E. A/c. turned forward of our FDL's back across E runway ME 109 <sup>s</sup> 3000 ft.	IO infmd.
V19	1400			Ciphers (Dummy)	
V20	1400	BHQ		2 Fieseler Storch flying low over E FDL's disappearing from view in Mosque area	I.O.
V21	1445	all Coys		sitnov	2 1/2 infmd
V22	1450			Half shoot for night off information per Adjt.	2 1/2 infmd
V23	1435		Bde	Gas cylinders acetylene cylinders full and good pressure	I.O. Bde infmd.

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## ACTION DIARY

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NO	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
I 5	1645	2/48		Ref place names of 4 Oct 42 ☉ Elete serial 1 and 28 ☉ Serial 16 should read 87432988 serial 17 should read 87462959.	2 1/2 infnd
V24	1655	all coys.		Sitmor	Bde advised
V25	1715	A/TK		One covered MT observed moving WEST from Lig of Mutton area disappear behind blowerleaf.	10 infnd
V26	1716	A/TK		Report only seeing 4 carriers in area sq 875303	10 infnd
V27	1745	BHQ		4 Mortar bombs on area 87643020	10 infnd
V28	1750	BHQ		1 Mortar area 87573028	
V29	1816	BHQ		1 Mortar area 87613028	
X451	1825	26 Bde		9 Div subrep At 1500 hrs ☉ Patrols night 6/7 Oct reported enemy very alert 87292984 attempted to encircle patrol ☉ penetrated 500 through enemy fwd wire area CLOVER LEAF report no mines or movement Patrol to SE side ring contour 25 (873302 IVTR. ☉ A sqn 9 Aust div bar relieved b sqn 9 Aust Div 879297 without incident all infnd.	
V30	1830	A/TK		CA 1820 hrs. one MT. moved from blowerleaf feature 87383043 in SW <sup>direction</sup> and disappeared behind spur 87303037.	10 infnd
I 8	1843	2/48		Ref patrol night 7/8 Oct ☉ Serial A coy route to read from 8744 2997 to 87182995 to 87442997.	10 infnd
V31	1845	A/TK		4 MT observed at 87393032 moved to 87303035 at 1840 hrs	10 infnd
V32	1845	DP		8 ME 109 over FDL's at 20000 ft on a fighter sweep	10 infnd
E 1	1900	all coys		Sitmor Sitrep to bde	Bde infnd

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## ACTION DIARY

7 OCT 42

NO	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V33	1910	A/TK		One MT moving back NW from sq 873 304 also 3 men seen in same area.	I O infnd
V34	1920	A		One mortar observed firing from area. Sq of mortar 87513047.	I O infnd
V35	1930	A/TK		at 1630 hrs 20 MT approx moving SE along supply route	I O infnd
I452	2056	26 Bde.		Sitrep. At 2000 hrs. @ 1405 hrs two enemy recon planes flying from A 33 to SOUTH and returned 1645 hrs. 4 MT observed moving from 87373032 to 87303035 @ 15 shells in Bde area during day. @ all infnd	
V36	2059	all corps		Sitrep	Bde infnd
V37	2105	26 Bde		Harassing fire targets 7/8 oct 2200 hrs to 0100 hrs	
V38	2200	all corps		Targets 12-13. 'Signature'?	D/O
V39	2245	All Corp		Sitrep	D/O Bde infd
V40	2316	A Coy		OP est	D/O infd
V41	2331	O.P.		305° two searchlights in area SIDI RAHMEN. 295° two searchlights	I O. infd
<u>Sit 8 Oct 42</u>					
V1	0050	All Corp.		Sitrep	Bde D/O infd
V2	0120	B Coy		Report that two carriers heard on bitumen rd. investigating and will advise results.	D/O infd
V3	0140			Carriers were from SCOTTISH Regt. slightly off course and were given correct bearings	D/O infd
V4	0155			Sitrep	D/O infd
V5	0200	2/48		Very heavy shelling on area. Standing to. Approx 7 to 8 litps	2/c infd

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# ACTION DIARY

8 OCT 42

No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V6	0215	A		Report patrol for night 8/9 Oct.	DO intol
V7		A		Mark bearings of shelling. 290° 289° 286°	Bde 9p intol
		A		296° 280° 389° 319° with 17 sec flash to sound. From Coy HQ. Guns firing on 2/48	
V8	0250	All Cops		SITNOR	Bde D/O intol
V9	0255	All Cops		SITNOR	D/O intol
V10	0400	OP		Closing down	D/O intol
V11	0430	OP. 8752 3018		Hostile shelling - 5 HB. of 4 guns each Firing on cutting 0145 hrs - 0215 hrs. approx 70-100 shells. Bearings. 331°, 294/295°, 245°, 264°	Noted. Bde adv. 0700 hrs.
V12	0450	all cops.		SITNOR.	Bde D/O inf'd.
V13	0600	"		SITNOR	D/O.
V14	0630	Bn. OP.		Established + observation commenced. Visibility clear.	I.O.
V15	0730	Bn OP.		4050m observed in Sq. 871300 - dispersed over area +	Noted.
V16	0700	all cops.		SITNOR	Bde D/O advised.
V17	0735	26 Bde		Shelling on cutting area (ref V5) from NB <sup>s</sup> - NN NP SX SC NT 0200 hrs & TX opened 0215 hrs	to Noted
V18	0930	26 Bde		Ship 0800 hrs @ scattered minef'd. located 8732, 3005 BP. MK II @ patrols to 8718 2990 & 8713 3041 INTR @ 0150 hrs 0330 hrs 400 shells on bde area.	CO + IO.
V18	0942			1 shell area. 87693019	Shelling report
V19	0947 1015			1 " " 8771302 <u>Walterman</u> 4 men moved near ruins by enemy 3000 <sup>tacron</sup> behind FDL? 2 HT <sup>s</sup> Courways of 8 MT. SE 7 MT NW - MSR Area 87113012 - 800 & 87133018 -	" "
V20	1100	48 Bn		2/48 Bn Projected Patrols light 7/8 Oct.	IO inf'd
I8/1	1100	26 Bde L Sec Sigs		Req unit call signs 8/146 Junic @ Ack	Sigs

## ACTION DIARY

N <sup>o</sup>	Time	From	To	Event	Action
0165	1215	26Bde		Ref/G200/8A/1471 Oct of wd by 1200 hrs 96 <sup>th</sup> all copies unit R/T codes both current and obsolete	
0164	1215	26Bde		Amendment of 0162 of 76 <sup>th</sup> ref flare sigs	
Y21	1500		26Bde	Sitna	
Y22	1600	A/TK		1E observed moving about CLOVER LEAF	
Y23	1615	A/TK		Ref. Y22 E D/R moved from CLOVER LEAF to behind EGG FEATURE.	Moved
I 13	1625	2/488		MORTAR HF shoot on WEST. PT 23 night. 8/9 Oct. Mortars will fire 300 rds from approx 874229760 vehs and covering party will move via gap in fence fld at 87552992 to telegraph line at 87472981. Vehs will remain at this pt and mortars will be manhandled via SANDY KNOLL to mortar pans. start time from gap. 1944 hrs. time of shoot. 2145 hrs covering patrol of 1 off. 15 O/Rs will be SW of mortar pans.	D/O adv.
I 14	1625	2/488		Projected patrol night 8/9 Oct to Shells BHQ area.	" "
	1645				Pde D/O adv.
V24	1650	"	26Bde	Sitna from all bops. shelling on BHQ area	" " "
V25	1750	"	"	HF tasks 2100 hrs, 0100 hrs, 3, 5, 11, 59.	D/O adv.
V26	1815	A/TK		2E MT moved from 87363034 to 87343034. One E M/c reached 87343033 from SOUTH. One E seen 87293033.	" "
V27	1826			4 ME 109 flying from EAST to WEST at approx 10,000 ft.	" "
V28	1830	A/TK		5/8 E observed walking towards CLOVER LEAF from ref 87353041. One E seen at 87453044 moving from L of M towards CLOVER LEAF	" "

ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION
V29	1850		26 Bde	Sitrep.	Bde D/O adv.
1456	1940	26 Bde		9 Div sitrep. to 1530 hrs.	D/O adv.
1455	2025	26 Bde		26 Bde Sitrep to 2000 hrs.	" "
V30	2055		26 Bde	Sitrep.	Bde D/O adv.
V31	2150	A Coy		"	D/O info
V31	2240	BHP		Small arms fire heard @ Flashes of gun or mortar Seen from CLOVERLEAF area and report of A/TM gun (?) at intervals of approx 1 minute	C.O. info
V33	243	A		Appears to be a battle in CLOVERLEAF area @ About 10 MG'S 2 mortars + 1 A/TM gun are being fired @ One enemy fixed line is reach- ing A Coy area, but Coy Command does not consider fire meant for A Coy @ Coy hear a TSM G being fired @ Thinks our patrol is fighting	Bde + D. Coy info
V34	2500			OC. C Coy reports @ Sounds as though C Coy patrol run into traps @ There is MG fire from whole enemy front @ Only stray shots reaching Coy area @ Some mortar fire @ Can not tell at what fire is directed None where landing.	C.O. info

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Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
135	2315	C		reporting front now quiet	Bde infd
136	Bar	CO		B Coy patrol in work except A Cpl COMLEY reported wounded in a TE Strong point	
137	2400	All Coy		Sitnor	D/O in.
<u>9 Oct</u>					
V1	0100	"		Sitnor	D/O info
V2	0200	"		"	
V3	0255	"		"	
V4	0455	all		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V5	0650	Coys		"	Bde D/O infd.
V6	0630	OP.		OP. established	Noted.
V7	0900	All Coy		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
V8	1100	OP.		253° 256 M <sup>area</sup> - 8640 2999 265° 268° M - 8640 3003 Suspected areas shelled by our medium arty. 8650 3003 8640 2995 8650 2995	Infan. later. Recon section shelled by med regt on 3/8 mm batteries.
V9	1100	all Coys.		Sitnor	Bde D/O infd
1456	1100	26 Bde		Sitrep to 0800 hrs @ patrol to 87383018 engaged enemy 10/12 casualties believed inflicted INCO believed wounded missing from our patrol @ gap in minefield located at 87413039 fd BH mines on our side MK V mines 8/10 yds apart in rows in main fd @ patrol passed through gap pinned down by enemy but able to withdraw @ left fwd bn carried out mortar shoot WEST p 23 @ all infmd	Adj't, CO
V10	1300	all Coys		Sitnor	Bde infmd
V11	1300	BHG		1 ME109 flying NW over Ben area engaged by AA. No results observed.	
V12	1500	B		6C B Coys reports strange Brig & aff	



## ACTION DIARY

N <sup>o</sup>	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V12	1500	B		in B Coy area. Strangers maintain they have permission from 26 Bde who deny giving permission to strangers who have been detained pending identification.	Adj't, 26 Bde, 90 is infmd
V13	1545	BHQ		Strangers sent on to Bde escorted by Adj't.	CO infmd
I34	1550	2/486		Projected Patrols night 9/10? Sig.	IO acts.
V14	1655		26 Bde	Sitrep.	Bde D/o adv
V15	1700		" "	153 Bde sitrep to 1300 hrs. 060 shells on Bde area. during morning @ concentration 50 MT area 871296 engaged by own arty working party observed 87403905 and 87622693. at 0830 hrs.	D/o adv
0138	1730	2/486		Ref OP Instr 1A. Booms MMG's yet to be finalised therefore trace will be fuelled later.	" "
V16	1845	A/TK		3 E seen at 87373033.	
V17	1855		26 Bde	Sitrep.	Bde D/o adv
I37	1905	2/48		Ref PLACE NAMES of 4 Oct 42 @ Ser 3 in O.P's MAP REF will now read 87482999.	
V18	1915	JAYO		15 men seen at 87283032. Suspected Conference. @ Men saluted on arrival and departure @	CO adv
V19	1935	LINO		OP signing off.	D/o adv
V20	1955	C.O.	Coy Comd	All Coy Comds ordered to be alert ref Ser V18. by CO over H/T.	"
V21	2005	all Coy		Sitrep.	D/o adv
V22	2045	Carrs		Salvage recovered from patrol consisted of 6 Jerry cans, 1 Alum W can 1 Trawalla pack 5 4 gal tins 3 cases Bully Beef 30' rope.	" "
V23	2050			Men shoot put back 1hr to 0400	" "

## ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	From	To	E V E N T	ACTION.
Z458	2100	26 Bde		26 Bde sitrep to 1530 hrs @	Adjt adv.
Z459	2105	26 Bde		Sitrep to 2000 hrs @ NTR	D/O adv.
V24	2105		26 Bde	Sitrep <i>flares observed</i>	" "
V25	2235	C Coy		Light directly out to sea - lasted 1 minute	D/O infd
V26	2255	All Coys		Sitrep	Bde D/O infd
V27	2320	BHQ		Parachute flare 355° <del>at 2000 hrs</del> out to sea	D/O infd
V28	2332	ARTY		Reporting flare ref V27	and C Coy infd
V29	2342	BHQ		Second flare but fails to stay alight	D/O infd
V30	2345	HQ Coy		Repeat w. flares. Appear well out to sea	D/O infd
V31	2346	All Coys		Sitrep	D/O infd
V32	2355			Checkup on CW's & found OK.	
10 Oct 42					
V1	0050			5 flares at sea bearing 353°	D/O infd
V2	0055	All Coys		Sitrep	D/O Bde infd
V3	0115	Sigs		Report that line has been purposely damaged at ref 8754301A. ( <sup>knot in line and</sup> line cut at knot)	Adjt advised
V4	0148	All Coys		Sitrep	D/O infd
V5	0249	All Coys		Sitrep <i>APL jumps</i>	Bde D/O infd
V6	0400	all coys		Sitrep with exception C Coy	D/O infd
V7	0404	BHQ		Mortars open fire on enemy Target 87423018	
V8	0450	all coys		Sitrep	Bde infd
V9	0620	all coys		Sitrep	D/O infd
V10	0635	DP		signing on	I Sgt infd
V11	0700	all coys		Sitrep	Bde infd
V12	0900	HQ		at 0410 hrs first 2 signal flares fired 4 mortars opened up. Firing rapidly. 0412 second set of flares went up fired 300 bombs. appeared to fall in target area. Several large explosions heard.	
V13	0900	all coys		Sitrep	Bde infd

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## ACTION DIARY

87643021

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
0171	0935	26 Bde		51 Div ex night 10/11 Oct @ one senior officer per unit will attend and will travel in jeep provided by 2/24 Bn. Party will RV HQ Wagon 51 DIV. 1500hrs. 10. OCT @ Route Bland main rd @ Bombay rd past locality D rptd D thence highland Div direction signs @ party should leave. 2/24 Bn NOT rpt NOT later than 1315hrs @ programme after arrival (1) Explanation of ex (2) party conducted over ground (3) dinner party moves self contained (4) Ex takes place. Z equals 2300hrs. (5) party returns 9 Aust div area by lunch. @ advise names of frs attending on receipt.	Adj't.
V14	1000		26 Bde	Shelling trace and report	Sigs. E24 Bde Smart
V15	1030	A/TK		1 MT moving from NORTH to SOUTH between L of M. feature to CLOVERLEAF.	
V16	1015	All Gps	26 Bde	Litres	Bde D/O adv.
V17	1120	LINO		4 E tks moving SE to NW on lower supply route	Adj't adv.
V18	1130	26 Bde		Litref to 0800hrs @ Minefld located 87242981 bearing 200° mines 5yds apart 5 rows 50yds deep. @ B's MK IV gaps at 8722029775 and 8721629780 Minefld 87132994 G's MK IV 4 Rows 8-12yds apart unmarked on our side single darnett E side single line B 4 mines E side darnett @ 87463027, 87452025 posts containing approx 15E each.	I O adv.

## ACTION DIARY.

87673021

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION.
V19.	1140	LINO		Ref Ser V17 © The 4 tks engaged by our Arty and moved NW and disappeared from view.	Adj't adv.
V20	1150	B Coy		1 stat tk in same area as reported by LINO	" "
V21	1200	B Coy		There are now 2 tks also IMT in same area at Ser V20	" "
V22.	1210	C Coy		Projected patrols	" "
V23.	1325	All Coy	26 Bde	Sitner	Bde D/O adv.
V24	1330	LINO		OP reports continuous roar which is suspected as caused either by tks or distant rumble of A/craft bombing in SOUTHERN sector.	Adj't adv.
V25	1355	LINO		3 tks seen moving SOUTHERLY direction ref 86813008.	Bde D/O + Arty adv.
V26	1400	B Coy		Reports same noise as mentioned in Ser V24.	D/O adv.
V27	1405	LOCK		Contacted 2/48 Bn to try to verify sounds heard by OP and B Coy. 2/48 Bn have heard nothing.	" "
V28	1410	2/48 Bn		Eng's Projected patrol night 10/11 Oct.	D/O adv.
V29.	1410	D Coy		Reports 6 TK's seen at ref 871302. Suspects more are on SUPPLY ROUTE.	Bde D/O adv.
V30	1435	2/48 Bn		Projected patrols 10/11 Oct.	D/O adv.
V31	1435	B Coy		NTR from B Coy OP	" "
V32.	1450	All Coy	26 Bde	Sitner	Bde D/O adv.
V31	1700	Coy		Sitner	Bde D/O infd
V32	1730	A/TR		Reports white flare 299° 15000' and IMT over skyline 299°	D/O infd
V33	1735	A/TR		HMT moving SE over skyline 299° 12 MT moving NW on same track	D/O infd
V34	1855	All Coy		Sitner	Bde D/O infd
V35.	1900	OP		Closing down	D/O infd

## ACTION. DIARY.

87673021

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION.
V36	0700	A/TK		4 MT moving WEST bearing 299° at 8/9000 tub. 3 MT in gap same bearing. 1 MT with eps came from ridge 309° stopped 307° & went through gap 306° one going N behind ridge 309° from NORTH.	DO infd
V37	2015	B		between 1815 & 1830 phone wire to D Coy was cut and the ends taped together. wire was cut near the road.	DO advised
V38	2100	All Coys		Sitnos	Bde DO infd
V39	2105	Carriers		2 ITI truck tyres with tubes and other equipment.	DO infd
V462	2110	26 Pde		Sitnos to 2000 hrs. 1140 hrs arty engaged 3th moving NORTH pgn 867299. 1425 6th seen pgn 872302. 1500 hrs 3th moving SOUTH along SKYLINE track. 1800 hrs 50 E seen pgn 868301. all informed.	Adjf.
V40	2200	all coys		Sitnos	DO infd
V1	2215	A		OP est. at reg 87463025	CO infd
V2	2245	G		CO leaves BHB to confer with OC. A Coy	Noted
V3	2255	all coys		Sitnos	Bde infd
V4	2400	all coys		Sitnos	DO infd
V5	0020	Sigs		4 Sigs returned from A Coy	DO infd
V6	0030	all coys		Sitnos	Bde infd
V7	0040	all coys		Sitnos	Bde infd
V8	0145	A		Reports patrol of 15 E moving SOUTH to NORTH 500 <sup>xs</sup> fwd of our FDL. Stand ing patrol of INCO 40RS sent 87373024 to return at dawn.	B, B Coy Coy infd Bde infd
V9	0300	all coys		Sitnos	Bde infd
V10	0305	C		Reports fwd OP out of commo patrol of INCO 30RS moving out across night pl A Coy to investigate.	DO, A Coy infd
V11	0310	B		Patrol Ser N <sup>o</sup> 5 reports hearing 3th moving parallel to reg 873301	Bde infd

## ACTION DIARY

N <sup>o</sup>	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V11	0310	B		one appeared bogged. SA fire heard for 10 mins across my line @ movement heard 87353018 seen indistinctly 87343015	Bde infmd
V12	0355	all corp		Sitnos	Bde infmd
V13	0430	B Coy		Rt Pl. listening Post reports lot of MT movement well out in front probably on SUPPLY ROUTE.	" "
V14	0500	All Coy	26 Bde	Sitnos	Bde D/O adv.
V15	0510	C.		O.P. notice comm but patrol which was sent out to investigate has NOT returned.	D/O adv.
V16	0555	hill Coy		Sitnos	" "
V17	0630	L-11 No		O.P. commenced.	" "
V18	0700	All Coy	26 Bde	Sitnos	Bde D/O adv.
V19	0800	A Coy		O.P. to be known as BUNGHO. They are going to direct fire onto E in PALMS area	" " "
V20	0900	A Coy		Have registered on target.	D/O adv.
V21	0905	All Coy	26 Bde	Sitnos	Bde D/O adv.
V22	0945	26 Bde		Sitref to 1530 hrs 10 Oct. Once patrol during night carried out tasks without making contact with enemy @ mortar shot on 87423018 caused three explosions @ 126 ft regt relieved 128 ft regt without incident @ 4 ME 109. dropped 5 bombs area 881294 1820 hrs no damage.	D/O adv.
V23	0918	O.P.		12 guns fired 12 shells on Cutting Area	
V24	0922	"		3 tanks moving South along Rd 86802973	
V25	0930	GP		as sqs. 864303, 864301 863299 to 865300 to 865298 to 863298 vehs. stat and disp. One large building 100 ft by 15 ft high seen in area 863303	
V26	1000	OP		digging, suspected M.G. post 87483046	

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ACTION DIARY 11<sup>th</sup> Oct.

No	Time	From	To	Event	Action
V27	1030	Cameo		Identifying same patrol for tonight, same No. time, and area.	I Sgt.
V28	1045	all Coys		sitrep	
V29	1055		26 Bde	sitrep	Bde infm
V30	1110	Kane Bde		line still holding to outpost.	Adj.
V31	1115	26 Bde		setup to 2000 hrs @ OP established. 87463025 directing fire on to enemy post. at 87463027 @ cameo went out to bring in flour was damaged on mine post at 87503002 @ E patrols seen at 87402034 all infm.	
V30	1120	26 Bde		Shelling report from 1000 hrs. 10 Oct. to 1000 hrs. 11 Oct @ nil.	
V31	1230			3 HF tasks up to 0100 hrs. 18-25-63. target 18. 8706 3007. 25, 87012979 and target 63, ref 86892974. Does NOT affect our patrols. <i>ex info for Clarification</i>	Bde inf
V32	1720	B		Reports unidentified plane at a great height stationary in air	DO
I45	1730	2/48 Bn		Chortas salvage patrol route 11/12 Oct.	File
I46	1755	26 Bde		9 Div sitrep to 1500 hrs	Adj.
V33	1815	B		16 MT with minor detouring at ref 87023008	Adj.
V34	1825	A/Tr pl		Reports gun firing on bearing 308° 7 1/2 sec from flash to bang	DO infm
I49	1830	2/48 Bn		Route of A Coy patrol night 11/12 Oct @ 87312995 to 87133000 to 87162993	Patrol map.
V35	1910	A/Tr Pl		Considerable MT movement bearing 299° on skyline track	DO infm
V36	0800	RSM		2/28 Bn personnel completed relief independently	DO infm
V37	2015		26 Bde	sitrep to 2000 hrs @ 1845 hrs to 1935 hrs 22 shells incl 7 air bursts 4 duds Bde area	" "
V38	2110	CAR		Patrol report. Ser N° 7 salvaged, 1 vice slightly damaged, 13 fny cans, 1 7 lb sledge hammer, 3 empty mortar amm boxes, 2 cases of bully beef 1 shovel	DO

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## ACTION DIARY

NO	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V1	2145	RSM		Relief complete by advance parties	D/O info
V40	2200	BHQ		How searchlights and by ack ack on bearing 292°	D/O info
V41	2305	Bunglo		Report saw little movement today. Good observation 600 <sup>x</sup> - Palms. 400 <sup>x</sup> to orchard, can see part of only. Wadi give get-away. 150 <sup>x</sup> open run then by covered retreat. Wadi is good FUP, enough for a large force Wash away <del>near</del> NEAR FIG ORCHARD also gives good cover.	D/O info
V1	2305			Sitnov	Bde info
V2	0001			Sitnov	---
V3	0045			Sitnov	---
V4	0050	A		A Coy patrol report LN	D/O
V5	0050			Report that salvage of carriers is well under way and going satisfactorily. Two are 600 <sup>x</sup> out of bog and another on its way.	Bde info comptd
V6	0100	A		no working parties on wire, wire consisting of one coil only had been continued from rd NORTH down hill about 75 <sup>x</sup> . Noise of digging on rear portion heard (like picking) no estimate could be made of number employed. did not think digging extensive	D/O
V7	0150	All Coy		Sitnov	D/O
V8	0155	CO		Report that one carrier is now in our area and others progressing	Bde info
V9	0240	Digs		Work delayed owing to broken anchor	C.O. info
V10	0250	All Coys		Sitnov	Bde info
V11	0355	All Coys		Sitnov	D/O info
V12	0430	B Coy		B Coy's patrol sees 8 reports NMS & H.	D/O
V13	0450	All Coys	26 Bde	Sitnov.	Bde info
V14	0515	C.O.		Carrier salvage completed for night recovery party and covering party coming in. Two carriers salvaged.	" " "
V15	0555	All Coys		Sitnov	D/O adv.
V16	0650		26 Bde	Sitnov	Bde info
V17	0745		26 Bde	Patrol reports night 11/12 Oct	D/O adv.
V18	0855		21 Bde	Sitnov	Bde info



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## ACTION DIARY

12 Oct.

No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	Return
V16	0930	26 Bde		sitrep to 0800 hrs. @ 2 carriers salvaged 875130350 Enemy wire contacted <del>875130350</del> 87122940. booty traps BIV outside wire no mines located inside	Adyt.
V19	1150	C Coy		Three projected patrols night 12/13.	I Sep.
V20	1150	26 Bde	23 24 48	Higher Div advises no dummy cipher messages are to be passed during relief of units	I Sep.
V21	1300	26 Bde		TAC/R 1010 vis very good. sq 8627 no met or movt seen area 858270 to 867270 to 865268 to 859268 200 met stat and disp'd area 865266,40 met stat and disp'd @ Area 869266,50 met stat and disp'd area 865265 20 met. stat and some tentage in area 869268 Hwy A/A. gun positions 856259 Hwy met. moving SOUTH on track 854255. 4 large pits believed veh pits freshly dug. 859259 15 met stat and disp'd from 860258 to 869254. 30 met disp'd along lower edge of plateau area 860255 to 865258 NOT up! NOT observed area. 866262 to 874261 to 875256 to 868257 300 met stat and well disp'd area 844259 flooded area 848270 to 860270 to 849245. to 835245. no met or movt seen area. 852253 to 880253. to 880245 to 849245 no met or movt seen seen sq 8726 not received but scattered met seen in that area.	3rd met.
V22	1310	B Ecl.		B. Ecl closing down.	Adyt.
V23	1310	Bde		sitrep	Bde inf.
V24	1500			9 shells near of B H @ area sq 876301	Bde inf.
V25	1500	Bde		sitrep	Bde inf.
V26	1615	A Coy		proposed patrols night 13/14 4 patrols	Bde Inf.
V27	1700	Bde		sitrep	Bde Inf.
V30	1720	A Coy		arty fire falling D.K on Charlie 33 from Bungo	D/O.
V31	1720	48 Bde		proposed patrol night 12/13 Oct 42.	I Sep.

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## ACTION DIARY 12 OCT.

NO	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	Action
V32	1720	26 Bde		9 Div sitrep to 1500 hrs @ patrol night 11/12 Det encountered enemy wire 87122990 voices heard in post 300 yds WEST from this wire. wire GERMAN @ 2 Bren Carriers recovered from coast salt marsh and dummies left in their place @ covering party of patrol at 87382938 believed ambushed by enemy party 20/30 strong 4 OR <sup>n</sup> missing all informed. projected patrols night 13/14	Adj. I Sgt.
V33	1815	C Coy		allocation of troop carriers A Coy 5 B Coy 4 C Coy 4 D Coy 5 H Q Coy 170 warn your troops butterfly bombs dropped NORTH east corner of bn area @ some bombs have been exploded possible unlocated bombs in area sitor	Adj.
V34	1850	all Coys			Bde capt.
V35	1945	A Coy		A by reports area fwd of BUNGHO registered as tp def fire task. See NOC33 coordinates 8742630271. fire distributed 100 yds SOUTH.	Adj. act.
V37	1940	O.P.		Observation Log. for day 0645 hrs to 1930 hrs 12 bel. Very little inf. movement owing to H.F. by arty on strong post positions 869301. MT. three check. periods 1000-1100. 14 NORTH 8 SOUTH. 1100 to 1200. 10 NORTH. 6 South. 1800-1900 9 NORTH 17 South along Supply route. A/c two periods of recce 1815 hrs 1100 hrs Shelling 14 shells in area. Two white flares 230° M 235° M.	
V38	2037	26 Bde.		Sitrep to 2000 hrs @ six shells Bde area otherwise NTR.	Adj. C.O.
V39	2110	all coys.		SITOR.	Bde D/O adv.
V40	2118	Sig Offr.		Tps have left outpost and are now moving out towards carriers	C.O.
V41	2120	I Sec.		8 Searchlights 320°	Noted.
V42	2130	24 Bde.		28 Bn est BHQ at 87673017	To 28 Bn
V43	2132	BHQ		BHQ relief complete except rear party	Adj.

EL ALAMEIN

ref. 87673017

## ACTION DIARY

12 OCT

No	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
V. 1	2152		26bde	bO informs Bde works proceeding with carrier recovery in NoMANS Land.	D/O infnd
V45	2206	BHQ		sounds of MG and Mortar fire heard in fwd area @ sustained for 1 min	bO infnd
	2212			Fire brought to bear on recovery party	
V46	2216	D		Making enquiries re bingle @ Capt Fallon infnd recovery carrying on	Adjk
V47	2220			carrier recovery party returning	bO infnd
V48	2222	26Bde		HF targets 0200-0400 hrs 13 Oct 42 Targets 15-17-18-20-21-23-25.	Adjk
V49	2225			Patrol covering working party on way back	Adjk.
V50	2235			2 mortars on rd gap in minefield 8764.3026	Adjk
V51	2235	A		A coy relief complete.	Adjk
V52	2243	B		B coy relief complete	Adjk
V53	2300	C		C coy relief complete	Adjk
V54	2305	Patrol		Protective screen and Engrs party returned to lines and all personnel proceeded to respective areas	bO Adjk
V55	2315	26Bde		Reporting return of carrier recovery party sitnov	D/O Adjk
V56	2327	D		D coy relief complete	Adjk
V57					
13 OCT <span style="float: right;">ref EI QASABA</span>					
V57	0030	HQ		Relief complete.	bO infnd
M1	1600		all Coy	P.W migs 13/14 Bango	Sigs
M2	1600		all Coy	afc recog sigs 14.	Sigs
M3	1600		B Coy	German rifle grenade diagram.	Sigs
M4	1700		D Coy	Notes on camouflage in the desert.	Sigs
I5	1800	24Bde		9 Aust Div set up to 1500 hrs @ areas. western pt 23 map ref 8706 3010 8709 2994. 8720 2989 to obtain details of enemy minefields @ Standing patrols coastal sector @ Salvage ops on further three bus carriers coastal swamps impossible due to accurate enemy mortar fire and Mb fire @ 2/28 relieved 2/23 Bn without incident	

EL QASABA

372 8999

## ACTION DIARY

13 OCT 42

No	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
1	0400			all coys and BHQ moved to new area and est. at 0400hrs 13 Oct 42 4372 8999 BHQ area sq 436 900 437900 coys. area.	Noted.
byphir	1900	26Bde		OMPTR. A 624.	
I470	1900	26Bde		9 Div sitrep to 1500hrs @	
I471	2100	26Bde		26Bde sitrep to 2000 hrs 1800 to 1804 hrs 14 shells in area 87883003 otherwise NTR.	Adjf. acts.
14 OCT 42.					
I325	0900	9 Div		9 Div I Summary No 325. (2 copies)	1 Adjf 1 File
I14/1	1000	1 Sec	all bde	Please submit by 1200 hrs number of maps EL QASABA 1:50,000 held by you by @ Please treat as urgent.	sig.
I 472	1145	26 Bde		sitrep to 0800hrs @ patrols to wire at 87213018 and 87122991 heard working parties but could NOT locate any mines @ two rows. Br MK 4 located at 87162986 @ all infmd	Adjf
I14/4	1730	Lsec sig 26 Bde		Ack call sigs 15-21 OCT 42 15 OCT - 17 OCT 2/23 Bm Ex with 23 Armd Bde	sig
18 OCT					
I479	1020	26 Bde		24 Bde sitrep to 0800 hrs @ patrols encountered enemy minefield 87183001, 87213000 8718319 @ fd at 87132988 followed to 87152992 where struck enemy position @ fired on by MG & mortar @ enemy sentry seen at 87173001 @ 871433017 @ all informed	
V1	1200	ABCD		1 Copy new issue EL HAMMAM 1:100000	sig
V2	1200	HQ, apt ABCD		HQ Coy A/7th pl 6 copies, ABCD 4 copies TARGET	sig
I 1/2	1220	ACoy		MTP No 42 @ A Coy to pass to B Coy to C Coy by 1200 hrs. 20 Oct.	sig.

# ACTION DIARY

16 OCT 42

No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENTS	ACTION
V67	1340	23 Bde		6 E Ahs. WEST of barrel being engaged by 1 sqn of our Ahs.	
V68	1335		C	b coy ordered to attack barrel feature pt 26 433894.	
V69	1340	BHQ		Weather rising dust storms Visibility poor	all coys.
V70	1345	BHQ		Warning order to move. BHQ + coys	
V71	1358		C	one A/TK gun is following you, will come under your command at Barrell.	
V72	1415		b	b coy is est on barrel hill 43378945 carriers are patrolling on flanks. The sent out to explore	
V73	1525	A B C D		Sitnov @ Visibility reduced to 100'	
V74	1525			LO from 23 Armd Bde with query re minefields and gaps reported by Ahs at 43408967 -43448960.	
				b0 and I0 accompanied him to the comd to check up.	
V75	1545	46 RTR		12 Ahs approaching from South moving NORTH.	
V76	1550			The battle on.	
V77	1600	23 Bn		b0 attends conference at 23 Armd Bde HQ. 4312 8968	
V78	1630		C	Sitnov @ Instrs to carriers to find as much infn about minefields	
V79	1835	all coys BHQ		Prepare to move to Barrell feature by rain and dust. Moved to start line and 2/23 Bn less c coy moved to Barrell feature in convoy under cover of dust and rain and leagured in that area sq 433894.	
V80				Aech and Beck vhs moved fwd and supplied hot meal	

# ACTION DIARY

16/17 OCT 42

No	TIME	From To	EVENT	ACTION
V81	2200	23 Bde	23 Armd Bde request one green flare followed at interval of few minutes by another green flare	Co infmd
V82	2245		Co visits coys and informs them of pending attack at dawn.	
<u>— 17 OCT —</u>				
V1	0345	all coys	Prepare to move to trig 22 and attack enemy posns in sq 437 896. Zero hr at 0530 hrs	all coys.
V2	0530		Plan of attack D coy left flank A <sup>coy</sup> right flank B coy reserve C coy exploitation	
V3	0635		attacks starts axis of advance 90° for 2000 <sup>x</sup> and then 42° for 1700 <sup>x</sup> .	
			A coy through minefield and reforming up with Ahs.	
V4		23 Bde	No move fwd until Ahs form up again	
V5	0648		Much enemy movement on their front.	
V6	0718	A	A coy captured A/TK crew. Leading sqn engaged in a Hk battle also M.B.'s and small arms fire.	
			FOO sent fwd to A coy. minefield also struck & Obstacles considered NOT difficult to overcome	Sappers sent fwd.
V7	0725	A	report counter attack	
V8	0726	B	Co sends message to warn B coy of counter attack.	
V9	0735	2 SEAFORTHS	Request from CO requesting show to end.	
V10	0740	all coys	Signal all coys. EX over.	Co infmd

INT See

Pte Eric Shunt  
VX 42910

EL QASABA 1:50,000  
43728999

Action Diary

17 OCT 42

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
I 17/1	1300	26 Bde		9 Div setup to 1500 hrs 15 Oct	Adj't
I 17/1	1300	26 Bde		9 Div setup to 1500 hrs 16 Oct.	Adj't
O 184	1502	"		51 HD report suspicious characters believed seen approx 0830 hrs 16 Oct. in area M O 15 cost truck with canopy @ driver wearing bostrian hat @ passenger believed armed as CS M INT CORPS @ if not hold with out fail and report their HQ immediately @ check identity of all strangers @ all ranks to be informed for check @ all informed	Adj Corp RR no info Sgt
I 17/1	1517	48 CD HQ 48 SECH RSM, RP		Promulgating O 184 above	Sign
I 17/1	1600	ALL Coy		P W night 17/18 Oct Whitehorse	Sign
I 17/3	1600	RSM		P W night 17/18 Oct Whitehorse	Sign
I 478	200	26 Bde		9 Div setup 1800 hrs.	Adj't.
18 OCT 42					
V 1	1958	B Coy		26 camels in Coy area unattended.	D/O info
19 Oct 42					
I 19/1	1055	Lock	All Coy Bde.	P W. night 19/20. WAVELL.	Sign
<del>20 OCT 42</del>					
T 1	1450			one EA chased by two KITTYHAWKS. flying WEST	
O 188	2000	26 Bde		WARNING ORDER units above added more night 20/21 OCT as follows @ 2/21 Bn from present posn to locality A. dismounted personnel march all other units above less Bech from present location to ALAMEIN via main rd to 79262958 @ Bech above added units to move @ ALAM EL MILH via main rd @ detailed order follows reps above units report there HQ receive purposes 0800 hrs 20 OCT. ACK	Cecyl
I 19/8	2015	26 Bde		Ref O 188. FCK	Sign

FL QASABA  
ref 4372 8999.

Action Diary

20 OCT

No	TIME	From	To	EVENT	Action
01	14.			Ref movement. Table No 1 as far as possible each veh moved will take the place of a veh already in area but vacating same tonight. (C) vehs to be replaced by first light.	Adj
0193	1545	26 Bde		Ground to ground recogn signs 23 to 26 Oct incl. (C) pennants two centres (C) answer to challenge vertical.	Adj
1482	1830	26 Bde		9 Div sitrep to 1500 hrs (C) 1815 hrs 19 OCT 24 large MT 3 staff cars moving 866290 (C) 1815 hrs approx 35 enemy inf moving 874292 veh on skyline track laying smoke screen (C) slight increase in inf movement 877290 877289 during afternoon in this area (C) Patrol 19/20 Oct. found scattered mines 87342987. one engr missing (C) Standing patrol coastal and SW sector. NTR. (C) 8777+2841 patrol captured 4. PWO 7 capt 40 IR. Bologna Div. (C) all inf med	Adj 60 inf
VI				Bn moved to area of 881296 in three convoys at times No 1 + 21 convoys 2130 No 3 convoys 2330 hrs. Arrived in new area at 2355.	Adj
21 OCT 42.					
VI	1045	26 Bde		9 Div I Summary No 333.	Adj
N2	1130			ICD conference all offs.	
V3	1300.			C.O. 21/2 Adj I.O. and OC's boys attend conference at 9 Div.	"
TA	1300	26 Bde		24 Bde sitrep to 0830 hrs (C) Patrol found 30 mines 87382984 and 2 rows mines 87272982. (C) Patrol saw enemy totalling 30 but no contact (C) Another patrol found carrier 87373026 body trapped & came under by fire.	"



EX 23 ARMD GP No 4

ACTION DIARY

15 OCT 42

N.	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
1	1000			A and B coys move to SP 43628995	
2	1015			BHQ leaves area 43728999 for SP	
3	1030			A coy first passed the SP followed by B coy at 1035 hrs C coy at 1040 hrs D coy at 1045 hrs. BHQ moves independently.	
4	1050			block halt on the march.	
5	1100			Resume march on foot moving Westwards	
6	1100			barriers and Yehs leave camping area for VAP sq. 426899 Travelling westwards via old MATRUR rd.	
7	1122			BHQ foot party crosses ry line at 43358995 and moves on Southern side of ry line	
8	1150			block halt at ref 43098984	
9	1200			Moving westward again	
10	1243			Arriving in ass area sq 428898	
11	1245			BHQ est at 42768989 and coys form up facing EAST on 250' frontage in following order A B C BHQ D	APPX A to 00(EX) No 4
12	1300			Yehs arrive in VAP and form up as per diagram	APPX D to 00(EX) No 4.
13	1430			b.O attends conference at 23 Armd Bde Troops in the meantime resting.	
14	1600			boy conds conference Narrative:- 7 Armd Div moving EAST towards ALEXANDRIA are held up by enemy forces extending SOUTHwards from the sea to 891274. with minefields around SHAMMAMA HALT but the ground SOUTH. thought to be free of minefields. Have being ordered to attack.	

# ACTION DIARY

15 OCT 44

NO	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
				<p>Our forces:- 23 Armd Bde 2/23 Aust Inf Bn with 121 Fd Regt supporting.</p> <p>Plan of attack:- To capture ground in area ref sq 4300 8960. objective is 3000' from our present posn. Limit of exploitation a line NE+SW ref 4320 8960.</p> <p>Zero hr is fixed at 1730 hrs.</p> <p>FUP is a line NORTH and SOUTH 4287 8985</p> <p>Axis of advance 132°.</p> <p>Formation as per appx.</p> <p>Fwd B HQ with 6 coy. Rear B HQ will remain present area. 428 898.</p> <p>Arty support by 121 Fd regt by observation</p> <p>P.W. passed through coys to rear then to RPs.</p> <p>RAP behind start line.</p> <p>Success signals      winking of lights</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A coy red                      c coy green</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">B coy amber                  D coy blue</p> <p>A coy left fwd Coy    B coy right coy 6 coy mopping up.    D coy reserve.</p> <p>Signal to supporting arms to report at FUP.</p>	
15	1630			<p>Its moving to FUP.</p> <p>60 instns to A coy band that first wave of the late in arriving.</p>	
16	1720			<p>23 Bn. © Its feast ready ©. Guests are ready. 60 instns © Light one candle on birthday cake when you have eaten it</p>	
17	1735			<p>Zero altered to 1800 hrs</p>	
18	1738	23 Armd Bde		<p>all coys Th comd notified</p>	
19	1740				

# ACTION DIARY

15 OCT 42

No	TIME	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
20	1750		D C	D coy to reorganize behind B coy, 600 <sup>x</sup> to rear	Verbal by 60.
21	1759	<sup>46</sup> RTR		b coy to reorganize behind A coy 600 <sup>x</sup> all Ahs in posns.	60 infmd
22	1758		BHQ	Warning order prepare to move. A ech vehs to move to present BHQ after Z	RSM.
23	1800			Zero hr column has moved SE	
24	1807			BHQ moves 60 orders gaps through minefield to be marked.	
25	1829	b.		one carrier knocked out by mortar fire	60 infmd
26	1832	<sup>23</sup> Armd Bde		It is imperative that this party should go well so that we may have an enjoyable day tomorrow.	60 infmd
		<sup>46</sup> RTR		Leading wave of Ahs to far left after passing barrel 25 but do NOT be put off by this direction.	
27	1836			Shell fire concentrated on B 25.	
28	1843			More shell fire	
29		<sup>23</sup> Armd Bde		Will you send up a white toffee apple when you have eaten your cake.	60 infmd
30	1849		<sup>23</sup> Bde	Reply will send up toffee apple when cake eaten. O NTR.	
31	1853		<sup>23</sup> Bde	on objective exploding by Ahs.	60 infmd
32	1855	A		are you on objective	R/T.
33	1858	B		Success signal amber light	60 infmd
34	1900		b	b coy instructed to go through support Ahs and take up posn	R/T.
35	1901	A		objective taken and reorganizing	60 infmd
36	1902			60 moves fwd.	
37	1909	BHQ		Success sigs fired for 23 Armd Bde gp.	
38	1910		<sup>23</sup> Armd Bde	Have eaten piece of cake and are digesting it.	

# ACTION DIARY

15 OCT 42

No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	ACTION
39	1911			BHQ est at 4304 8965	
40	1912			bo visits all corps	
41	2045		23 Bde	Don coy patrol and disposition trace Patrol: 1 offr 1 sgt 10 ovs. To area 4306 8940 return first light	Sigs
42	2210	Patrol		Put to ground suspect enemy in vicinity	bo infmd
43	2212		23 Bde Armed	Letrep to 23 Armd Bde	
44	2215	Corps		A coy casualties 1 offr 5 ovs B " " 3 ovs	bo infmd
45	2215			bo's conference. Infrm:- Objective captured. enemy believed still in locality A. ○ Our Appo ○ 23 Armd Bde HQ 46 RThs 4292 8970. 121 Fd Regt in action HQ 4278 8978 ○ 7 Armd DIV is continuing move EAST. tomorrow ○ Intention ○ 23 Armd Bde with comd 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will seize and hold Barrel 433894 with view to continuing move EAST tomorrow ○ Method ○ 46 RThs will move up to 2/23 Bn at 0615 hrs ○ 2/23 Bn will be formed up to receive 46 RThs from the WEST. ○ 2/23 Bn will be prepared to advance to objective at 0645 hrs ○ Arty ○ 121 Fd regt will be prepared to put down defensive fire on SW of Shammama posn on call ○ will be prepared to put down harassing fire on same target. Target during initial advance tomorrow from Z to Z plus 20 ○ Lt AA ○ Remain with units as at present ○ RE Remain under comd 46 RThs ○ Admin ○ Main Bde HQ remain present location until further orders ○ Further orders later ○ Intention	

# ACTION DIARY

15/16 OCT  
42

No	Time From	To	EVENT.	ACTION.
			<p>Intention 0 Zero hr probable rpt probable 0700hrs. To be confirmed by wireless 0 SOS. Red over Red over White rptd if necessary 0 all infmd</p> <p><u>Plan of attack</u>:- Same order with frontage reduced to 600<sup>x</sup> and A ech carriers M6 Mortars A/TK 1000<sup>x</sup> to rear of advance.</p> <p><u>Reorganization</u>:- 2 coy fwd A+B 6 bay depth. D coy to exploit 500<sup>x</sup> VAP to be at 43048965.</p> <p>SOS. Red over Red over White. RAP. to be at 43048965</p>	b.O. infmd.
V46	2350	D	<p>five illuminating flares 255°.</p>	D/O infmd.
	2350	BHQ	<p>Very lights on our centre line. 500<sup>x</sup> fwd of D coy.</p>	Bde infmd.
<u>— 16 OCT 42 —</u>				
V1	0100	26 Armd Bde	<p>Sitnor Flares reported earlier being investigated.</p>	
		BHQ	<p>Flares sent up by Red cross amb's stuck in sand</p>	bO infmd
A23	0145	all coys	<p>OO. dispatched to HQ ABCD 46 RTks. 23 Bde Armd. RmO Sig offr</p>	Appx
V2	0300		<p>Sitnor</p>	
V4	0430	BHQ	<p>Yehs dispatched from fwd area to VAP 1000<sup>x</sup> to rear.</p>	all coys infmd.
V5	0435	all coys	<p>Orders to prepare for dawn attack</p>	
V6	0500	23 Armd Bde	<p>Sitnor</p>	W/T.
V7	0640	D	<p>no word of patrol leaving guide to guide patrol to FUP</p>	
V8	0645		<p>conference with TK comd.</p>	

# ACTION DIARY

16 OCT 42

No	Time	From To	EVENT	ACTION
V9	0646		60 visits all coys at FUP.	
V10	0650		Zero hr.	
V11	0653		Attack halted. by 23 Armd Bde	60 infmd
V12	0653	D	Don coy patrol seen no enemy out 3000 <sup>x</sup> but NOT sure of area searched being Barrel area	60 infmd
V13	0655	all coys	To go to ground and NOT walk about	R/T
V14	0656	121 Fdn	Reporting 267 bty. can engage any opportunity targets with 4 guns. if required at any given time.	60 infmd.
V15	0700	23 Armd Bde	Enemy advanced to B 32 self 4307 8939. from SE 23 Armd bde gp will advance and hold 32 as quickly as possible Report ready.	
V16	0714	all coys	Call to all coys a new objective at 4307 8939.	R/T.
V17	0712	23 Armd Bde	Message will cut a slice of cake and will advise of new party.	R/T.
V17	0715	23 Bde	Zero will be 0745 hrs	all coys notified
V18	0725	BHQ	Shelling of fwd area.	
V19	0734	23 Armd Bde	Report ready reply will cut cake at 0745 hrs.	
V20	0735	all coys	Party will definitely start 0745 hrs.	boys advised
V21	0745		attack started.	60 infmd
V22	0746	23 Bde	Party now on	R/T.
V23	0752	Arty	Orders to shell party on B feature 4307 8939.	
V24	0758	A	light shell fire on A coy right flank and covered half way to objective.	60 infmd
V25	0759	23 Bde	Party halfway light shell fire	R/T.
V26	0802	A	2 TKs out of action	60 infmd.
V27	0803	23 Armd Bde	2 TKs out of action leading inf approaching objective will light red candle on achieving objective	R/T.

# ACTION DIARY

16 OCT 42

No	TIME	FROM	To	EVENT	ACTION
V28	0811			Order to arty to smoke and HE on Δ feature to obscure vision of enemy OP	Arty LO
V29	0812	A		reporting encountering one 88 mm one PL engaging it now on left flank	60 infmd
V30	0815			Tks have struck minefield. Sappers sent fwd by Tk comd. Tks found passage on right flank. orders to support comd to bring fwd A/TK guns.	
V31	0821	A		88 mm gun now knocked out and advancing on objective	60 infmd
V32	0822		<sup>23</sup> Bde	88 mm gun knocked out by Tks. bringing up A/TK and MG support.	R/T.
V33	0823			Sappers moving fwd to clear gaps in minefields	
V34		A		A coy on objective gained.	
V35	0838		D	Message to Deoy to go through and exploit arty FOO to go with Deoy support arms to travel on right flank.	TK comd.
V36		B		reorganizing on objective	
V37	0843		<sup>23</sup> Bde	boys reorganize with support arms moving fwd.	R/T.
V38	0848			Success signal fired	
V39	0849		<sup>46</sup> RTR	Tks sent to investigate two vehs on left flank Engros mark gaps with tape	60 infmd
V40	0853		D	Have passed through fwd 4ps	
V41	0857		D	Struck extensive minefield 200' fwd of B32.	60 infmd
V42	0858		D	reorganize behind minefield using minefield as obstacle	Deoy comd.
V43	0900		all cys	Aech carriers now moving fwd to cys	
V44	0901		<sup>23</sup> Bde	Have we any identification yet of enemy BHQ est at 4307 8943 with Deoy fwd	
V45	0905			A left flank B right flank C reserve diamond pattern.	

# ACTION DIARY

16 OCT 42

N	TIME	From	To	EVENT	Action
V46	0920	23 Armd Bde		You are to send out more parties to NE E and SE.	
V47	0922		all corp	Patrol notices: B coy. patrol to pt 19. 4323 8953 out 0945 In 1100hrs strength 10 offrs 70rs. object PW. ☉ D. coy. patrol to 4320 8920 area out 0945 In 1200hrs. strength 10 offrs 120rs. object. PW. A coy to pt 30 4323 8937. out 0945hrs In 1200hrs strength 10 offrs 100rs object PW.	
V48	0943	B		considerable MT movement on original objective observation kept on pt 26.	23 Armd Bde Trk cond
V49	0950	HQ		Warning order to Major Bland to have 2 sec of carriers ready to move to A coy left flank.	
V50	0955	BHQ		All 60's report to BDE at 1015hrs	Adj't.
V51	0955	BHQ		Bde est at 4304.8968	Sigs
V52	1020	RMO		Infm ☉ Our force directed to new objective 5 min after Zero. This morning ☉ have now captured Barrell 3r and reorganized ☉ BHQ at 4307 8945 ☉ Light casualties. 60 at bde. for further orders. No idea of future movements Will keep you posted.	Adj't
V53	1025	23 Armd Bde		Sitrep ☉ MT. previously reported now appear to be neutral rd making party ☉ all parties for identification now out ☉ Sitnor	R/T.
V54	1025	A		four casualties	
V55	1026	HQ		carriers on A coy left flank 2 sec in posns	2 1/2
V56	1104	carriers		2 corp strength of enemy advancing on our posns from NE and EAST. Distance 2000 <sup>x</sup> on bearing 42° in area 433 895.	2 1/2 infnd.



# ACTION DIARY

16 Oct 42

No	TIME	From	TO	EVENT	ACTION
V57	1118	Carriers		Carrier patrol report on shooting up our b. boy patrol	2 1/2 infnd.
V58	1128	Patrol		b coy patrol report approx 2 pl strength firing Bren guns in area 4327 8955 NOT considered owing to their actions	2 1/2 infnd
V59	1125	BHQ		1 see carriers to go fwd to 4335 8948 to ascertain if enemy is occupying posn and strength.	Major Bland HQ
V60	1130	<sup>46</sup> TKS		Tanks and inf 1000 <sup>x</sup> to 1500 <sup>x</sup> South of B26. O reece and informing TKS to stand by to support carriers.	
A7	1145	A		Patrol has returned reporting M.T movement but did NOT consider it hostile.	60.
Z	1200	<sup>23</sup> Bde		Friends report enemy as follows 1 coy inf area 434 895 1 coy supported by Ahs WEST 434 895 being engaged and information just passed that these two parties being engaged by Arty	60 infnd
V61	1205		TO	one A ech veh per boy to come fwd to BHQ 4307 8945 and be directed to boys.	R.P's
V62	1210	<sup>23</sup> Bde		23 Armd Bde HQ est 4312 8968.	
V63	1225	<sup>23</sup> Bde		Some Ahs, MG's and inf in possession of feature 26 sq 433 894	60 infnd.
V64	1255	<sup>23</sup> Bde		Is barrell feature ours.	
V65	1306	D		Patrol in © NTR in area 4320 8920	
<del>V66</del>	<del>1325</del>	<del>I 16/1</del>			
I 16/1	1325	<sup>23</sup> Bde		Patrol reports © NTR.	R/T.
V66	1330	Carriers		Enemy AFV's retired to SW behind extensive minefield running approx NE to SW where enemy has posns. only two gaps in minefield guarded by enemy in Berets and felt hats.	

PROTECTED PATROLS

SERIAL 3 -

SUB-UNIT - D

Type - Fighting

Strength - 1 opp 120 B

Time - out 0945 hrs

In 1200 hrs

Route - out 4306 8936 - 43208920

In 4306 8936

Object - Capture PW &  
Obtain identifications

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
Rumbain  
16 Oct 42

PROTECTED PATROLS -

Serial No 1

Sub Unit - A Coy

Type - Fighting

Strength - 1 Offr 10 OR

Time - Out - 0945 hrs

In - 1700

Route Out 43098939 - 43238939  
In 43098939.

Object - Capture PW & obtain  
identifications.

Serial No 2

Sub Unit - C Coy.

Type - Fighting

Strength - 1 Offr 1 NCO 7 OR

Time Out 0930 hrs In 1100 hrs

Route - Out 43088943 - 43238953  
In 43088943

Object - Capture P.A. & obtain  
identifications

# 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

*BHQ*

FROM

*UREL*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

<i>1305</i>	<i>his</i>	<i>partial</i>	<i>new</i>	<i>in</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Area</i>	<i>vicinity</i>	<i>of</i>	<i>map</i>	<i>ref</i>	<i>given</i>
<i>named</i>	<i>that</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>movement</i>	<i>seen</i>	

*[Signature]*

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

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

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SIGNED		SIGNED		SIGNED		SIGNED	
SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.  
5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# 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

*2123 Aus*

FROM

*23 Arm Bde*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

<i>Information friends</i>	<i>report</i>	<i>withdrawing from</i>	<i>B</i>
<i>398678</i>	<i>troops</i>	<i>following up</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>information appears</i>	<i>evacuated</i>	<i>withdrawing B</i>	<i>15</i>

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

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

SIGNED

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
<i>RT</i>	<i>0945</i>	<i>JA</i>									

**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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.

82) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# 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

~~KKE~~ Z

FROM

Z

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

Zero

hour

0650

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.

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.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

TO

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)  
46 R. Tanks, 2/23 Area Bn., 121 Fd. Regt. RA., 168 W. AIA Bty  
295 Fd. Coy RE., 167 Area Div.

FROM

23 Area Bde Cyp.

Originator's Number

02

Date

15

In Reply to Number

Information	Objective	captured	enemy	believed	still
in	locality	A	⊙	Area	troops
⊙	23	Area	Bde	holding	objective
431896	located	Bde	HQ	46	R. Tanks
42928970	121	Fd. Regt.	in	Area	HQ
42788978	⊙	7	Area	Div.	is
continuing	none	EAST	tomorrow	⊙	intention

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.

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.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL  
AND  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

*2*

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

①	23	Am'd	Bde	with	under
cond	2/23	Aus.	Bn	will	seize
and	hold	Battel	433894	with	view
to	intentionally	move	EAST	tomorrow	①
method	①	46	R. Tanks	will	move
up	to	2/23	Aus	Bn	at
0615'	his.	①	2/23	Aus	by

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.

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.



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

3

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

will	be	formed	up	to	reserve
46	R Tankers	from	WEST	⊙	2/23
will	be	prepared	to	advance	to
objective	at	0645	his	⊙	arty
⊙	121	Fd. Regt.	will	be	prepared
to	put	down	defensive	fire	on
SOUTH	WEST	of	SHAMMAMA	posn.	on

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.

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.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS

IN

OUT

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

4.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

call	⊙	will	be	prepared	to
put	down	be	five	on	same
target	during	initial	advance	tomorrow	from
ZERO	TO	ZERO	plus	20	⊙
hr.	AA	⊙	Remain	will	units
as	N	pure	⊙	RE	⊙
Remain	under	cond	46	R Tanks	⊙

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.

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.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 7

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
------	---------------------	------	--------------------

Admin	⊙	Main	Bde	HQ	remain
present	locate	units	units	orders	⊙
Further	orders	later	⊙	Intercom	⊙
Zero	hour	probable	rpt	probable	0700
his	to	be	confirmed	by	wireless
⊙	SOS	red	over	red	over
white	rptd	if	necessary	⊙ All	informed.

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.

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

Immediate L.O.

2137

SIGNED

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

T.H.I.

T.O.R.

# 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

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

*It should be imperative that this party  
may go ahead well so that we  
have an enjoyable day tomorrow*

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

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

SIGNED

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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.

5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

GR.

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**TO**

**FROM**

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

~~Duckpond Ref Duckpond for W 100 SYP~~  
~~114 read W 114 SYP 100~~

Will you send up a white  
 coffee apple when you have eaten your  
 cake

(5/382) THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT **AS WRITTEN** BY ANY MEANS \*.....WIRELESS.

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

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**T.H.I.**

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

**T.O.R.**

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

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.  
 Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

OUT

1710

No. of Groups  
GR.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

P 2/23 Aust.

FROM

Dresden 23dB

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

<del>R</del>	P	and	A	and	Z
Wollington	glucose	blackberry	bulldog	S	J
B	tin	melville	V	is	you
eye	now	E	will	sleep	on
his	piece	of	cake		

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.

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
ET	1905	AS									

Wt. 4794/2/19 3. 250M. 6/41. S.S.Ltd. 51-527

T.O.R.

# 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.)

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

*The*

*lead*

*was*

*to*

*left*

*to*

*by*

*the*

*of*

*the*

*barrel*

*to*

*the*

*direct*

*the*

*barrel*

*5 118*

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.

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.

# 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

FROM

Z

Originator's Number

Date

In reply to Number

friends	report	enemy	as	follow	1 coy
inf	area	H 34895	1 coy	<del>engaged</del>	supported
by	tanks	head	of	H 34895	being
engaged.	in formation	being	not	passed	that these
that	particular		engaged	by	do.

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.

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
235031T.	Wt. 30	318/919.	450M pads.	10/40.	W. & S. LTD.	51-8011.					

**T.O.R.**



# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups.

OFFICE DATE STAMP

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

GR.

OUT

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**TO**

23 Army Gde.

**FROM**

2/23 Army Gde

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

1127

16

could be  
to  
HAMMAM  
is

an  
this  
1:100 000  
authorized

issue  
for  
sheet  
to

please  
of  
83/42  
collect

be  
maps  
⊙

made  
BL  
Beaver

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS  WIRELESS.

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

1135

*[Handwritten signature]*  
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

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

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15. 4/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# 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

23 bde

FROM

723 West Coy Bn

Originator's Number

A25

Date

16

In Reply to Number

Situation	⊙	MT	presumably	reported	now
appear	to	be	neutral	road	making
party	⊙	All	parties	for	identification
<del>now</del> now	out	⊙	Situation	normal	

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

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

1024

SIGNED

*[Signature]*

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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.

Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# 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

To. RMO

FROM

Ajyt

Originator's Number

A 24

Date

16

In Reply to Number

Supplies	0	Over	four	decreased	to
new	objective	5	mins	before	Zero
has	morning	0	have	now	Captured
Barrel	32	and	have	reorganized	0 HQ
at	4307 8945	0	right	Casualties	0
CO	at	0	for	further	orders

No idea of future movements ~~but~~ Will keep you posted

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.

1020

SIGNED

*[Signature]*

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

(4396) Wt. 134 96/94. 210,000 pads. 6/36. B. & S. Ltd. E 51-785z.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

No. of Groups. OFFICE DATE STAMP

GR.

**CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS**

IN

8900

4400  
096

OUT

8968

4304

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO

2/23 Aust

FROM

23 ABde

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

Bde  
"Miners"

Hqs  
here

location  
1015

W096SDM068  
hrs

all

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

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

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
AK	0950	GH									

T.O.R.

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

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 51-15.

5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# 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

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

<i>You</i>	<i>are</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>send</i>	<i>out</i>	<i>more</i>
<i>I</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>NE</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>&amp;</i>	<i>SE</i>
<i>parties</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.

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
<i>RT</i>	<i>0915</i>	<i>gg</i>									
235031T.	Wt. 30	318/919.	450M pads.	10/40.							
				W. & S. LTD.	51-8011.						

T.O.R.

# 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

HQ ABCD COYS 46 RTR SIG OFFR RMO

FROM

2/3 AUST INF BN

Originator's Number

A 23

Date

16

In Reply to Number

inform	as	at	conference	0	2/23 Bm
with	under	command	46 RTRs	will	receive
and	held	BARREL	433894	0	SL
taped	by	0600 hrs	line	43208966	to
43158960	0	assembly	order	(1)	one
room	the	(2)	two	secs	carriers
(3)	assaulting	coys	A	left	B

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

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

SIGNED

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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd 15. (5/882) Wt. 46923 1825. 400M Pads.

# 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**

**FROM**

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

right	(4)	one	sqn	tho	(5)
mapping	up	coy	C	(6)	two
mortar	depts	inf	carriers	(7)	BHQ
RHQ	plus	signs	(8)	one	sqm
tho	(9)	D Coy	⊙	intervals	dn
FUP	serials	1-20	2-3	4-5	5-6
6-7	100X	⊙	serials	3-4	7-8

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

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

SIGNED

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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 15.  
4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 15.  
(5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# 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

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

8-9

200X<sup>2</sup>

⊙

Sp

arms

follow

~~in~~

~~order~~

1000X<sup>2</sup>

in

near

D Coy

in

order

MMG<sup>s</sup>

mortars

(4dets)

9/Thd

Aech

carriers

pmms

Inf

the

Aech

trucks

⊙

RAP

BHQ

webs

move

to

43123967

at

0700 hrs

⊙

centre

line

by

132<sup>9</sup>(Mag)

⊙

2/23 Am

subunits

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

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

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.

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

4/41. B. & S. Ltd 5.

(5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.



# 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

FROM

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

in	posn	by	0615 hrs	⊙	comnd
40R Tbs	will	RW	BHQ	0530 hrs	⊙
Tbs	on	FUP	0615 hrs	⊙	posns
list	centre	line	NOT	before	0615 hrs
⊙	exploitation	to	500 x <sup>o</sup>	beyond	objective
by	D Coy	passing	through	on	success
⊙	VAP	at	43038970	by	first

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

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

SIGNED

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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. 5. (5/882) - Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.

# MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

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

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

**TO**

**FROM**

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

light	①	supp	amm	as	for
15	①	RAP	at	present	13HQ
①	PWCP	same	location	R/T	with
corp	①	bde	link	with	13HQ
①	lines	to	corp	<b>IMMEDIATELY</b>	<b>to</b>
on	success	one	plane	colour	
be	notified				

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

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

*Thur Capt.*  
SIGNED

**IMMEDIATE PR**

**0123**

(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.

4/41. B. & S. Ltd. (5/882) Wt. 46923/1825. 400M Pads.



# 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**

*Z*

**FROM**

*Z*

Originator's Number

Date

In Reply to Number

<i>Enemy</i>	<i>advanced</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>W 093</i>
<i>SDO 039</i>	<i>from</i>	<i>South East</i>	<i>Z</i>	<i>will</i>	<i>advance</i>
<i>and</i>	<i>hold</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>as</i>	<i>quickly</i>	<i>as</i>
<i>possible</i>	<i>Report</i>	<i>ready</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.

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
235031T.	Wt. 30	318/919.	450M pads.	10/40.	w. & s. LTD.	51-8011.					

APPX B

To 2/23 Aust Inf Bn Co Order Ex (WESTERN DESERT) No 4

23 ARMD BDE GP EX NO 4

Ref Maps : 1/100,000.

- OBJECT
- (a) To exercise the Bde Gp in the approach march, attack and reorganisation after capture of the objective.
  - (b) To exercise the Bde Gp in rapid leaguering and supply during the hours of darkness.

GENERAL IDEA

After a successful march from MATRUH to ALAMEIN we have been held up by a series of enemy posts extending Southwards from the sea about the area of ABUAR EL SHAMMAMA 433902. Our fwd tps are in contact with enemy posts at B.13 431902, B.15 431898, B.39 426894. B.86 426889 and B.78 891274.

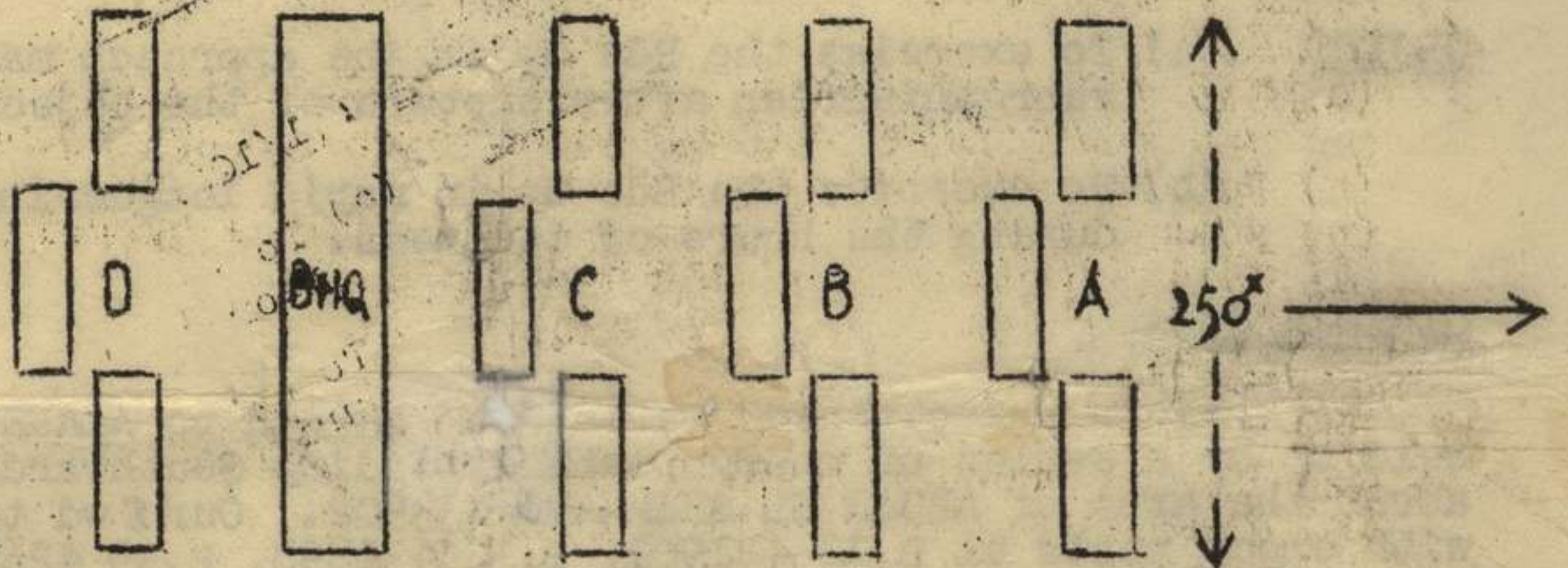
It is known that his defences are laid out in depth with a number of posts echeloned behind the ones already mentioned. These posts are known to be reinforced with minefds and wire.

The 23 Armd Bde Gp moved up during the morning from the area TEL EL EISA and are now disposed as given in the instns to the exercise. The most fwd tps, which consists of a coy from a Motor Bn, are holding B.25 429897. There are similar small packets of mobile tps facing the enemy posts already mentioned. The HQs of the Bde holding this sector is believed to be about 42508950 where it is thought to have a Mtr Bn in res.

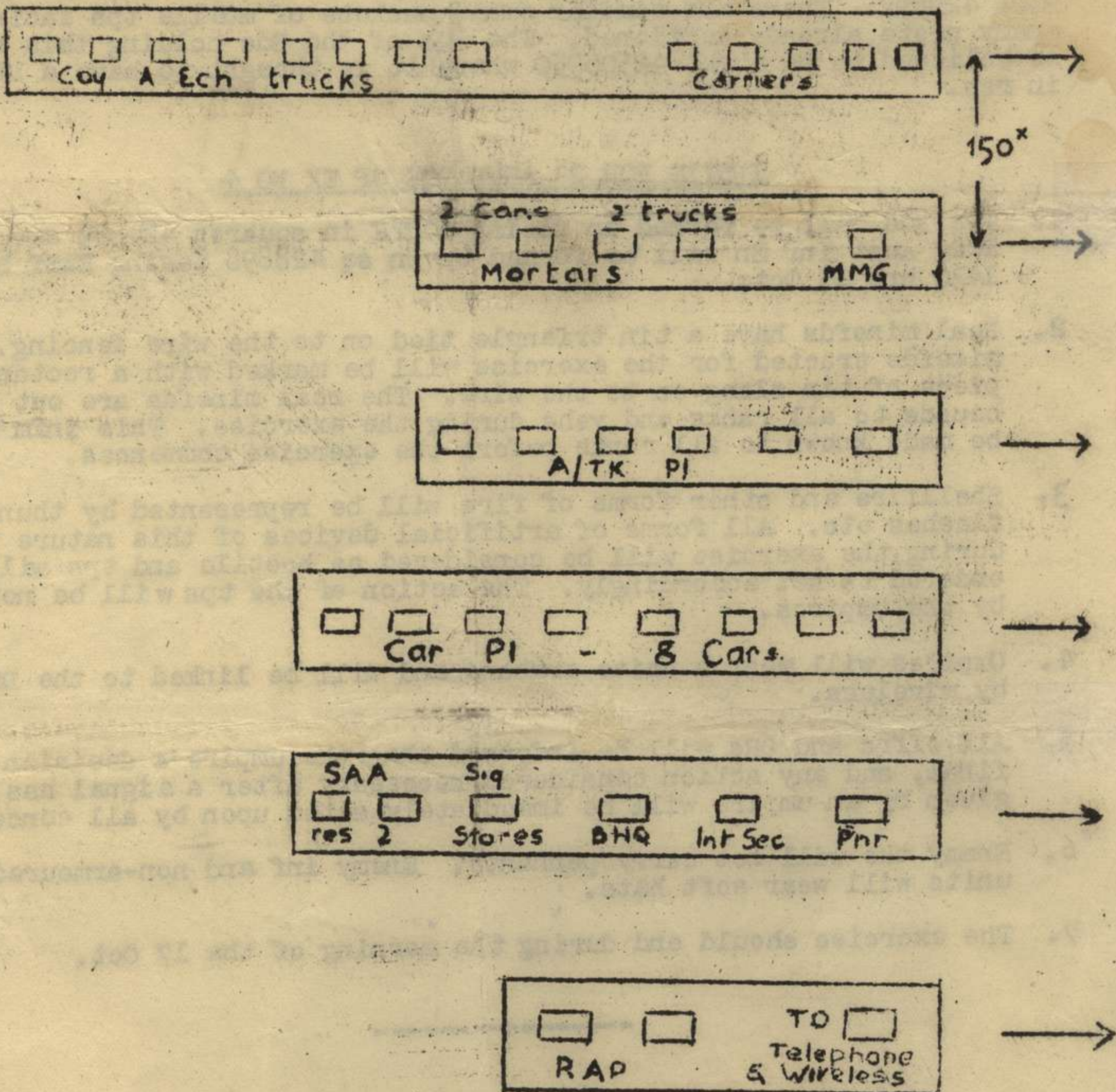
INSTNS FOR 23 ARMD BDE GP EX NO 4

1. The Bde will be formed up facing SOUTH in squares 424899 and 424900. 2/23 Aust Inf Bn will be formed up in sq 428898 facing EAST by 1430 hrs 15 Oct;
2. Real minefds have a tin triangle tied on to the wire fencing. All minefds erected for the exercise will be marked with a rectangular piece of tin slung on to the wire. The real minefds are out of bounds to all ranks and vehs during the exercise. This infm will be made known to all ranks before the exercise commences.
3. Shellfire and other forms of fire will be represented by thunder-flashes etc. All forms of artificial devices of this nature used during the exercise will be considered as hostile and tps will be ordered to act accordingly. The action of the tps will be noted by the umpires.
4. Umpires will wear a white armband and will be linked to the Director by wireless.
5. All offr and ORs will be informed that the umpire's decision is final, and any action considered necessary after a signal has been given by an umpire will be immediately acted upon by all concerned.
6. Enemy tks will not carry pennants. Enemy inf and non-armoured units will wear soft hats.
7. The exercise should end during the morning of the 17 Oct.

(a) Formation in Ass. Area



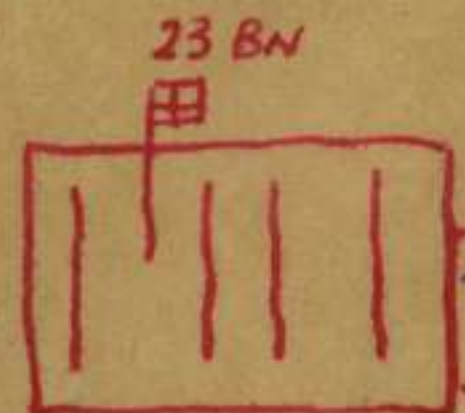
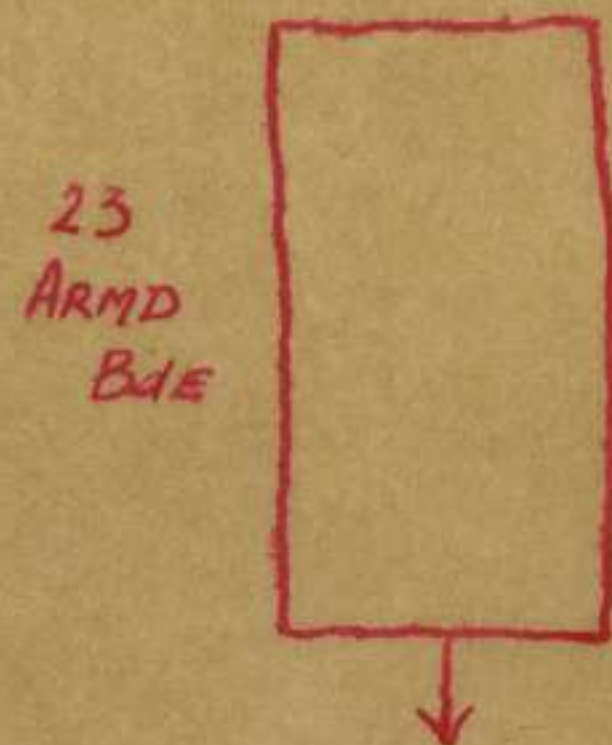
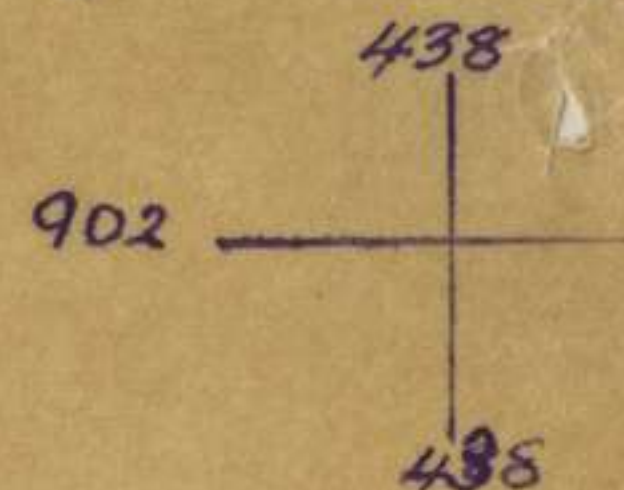
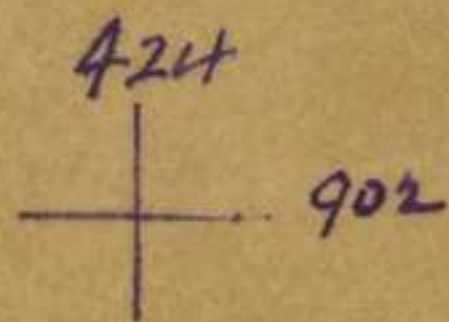
(b) Formation in VAP



2/23 Aust INF. BN. Ex No 4 with 23 ARMD GP

15-17 OCT. 42.

Ref. EL. QASABA  
1:50,000



B13

ENEMY  
← FDL's

B15

MT. Route

INF Route.

AXIS of ADVANCE  
132°

1<sup>ST</sup> OBJECTIVE

B25

23 ARMD. Bde

AXIS of ADVANCE  
177°

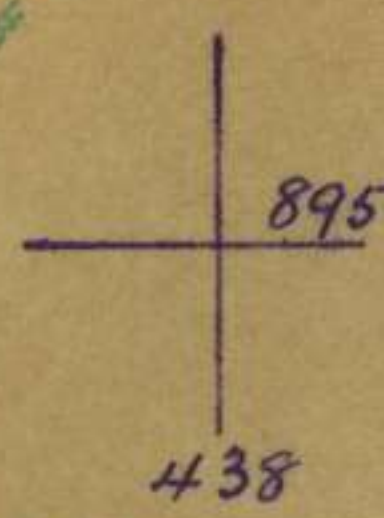
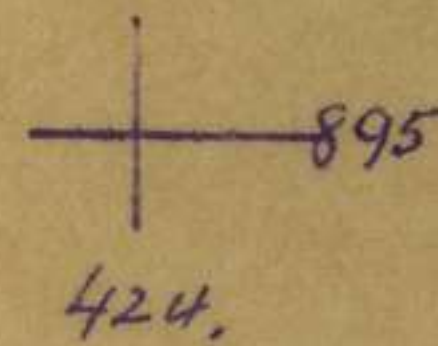
ENEMY  
INF  
TKS

3<sup>RD</sup> OBJECTIVE

LEAGUER.

PATROL

4<sup>TH</sup> OBJECTIVE



2<sup>ND</sup> OBJECTIVE

AXIS of ADVANCE  
84°

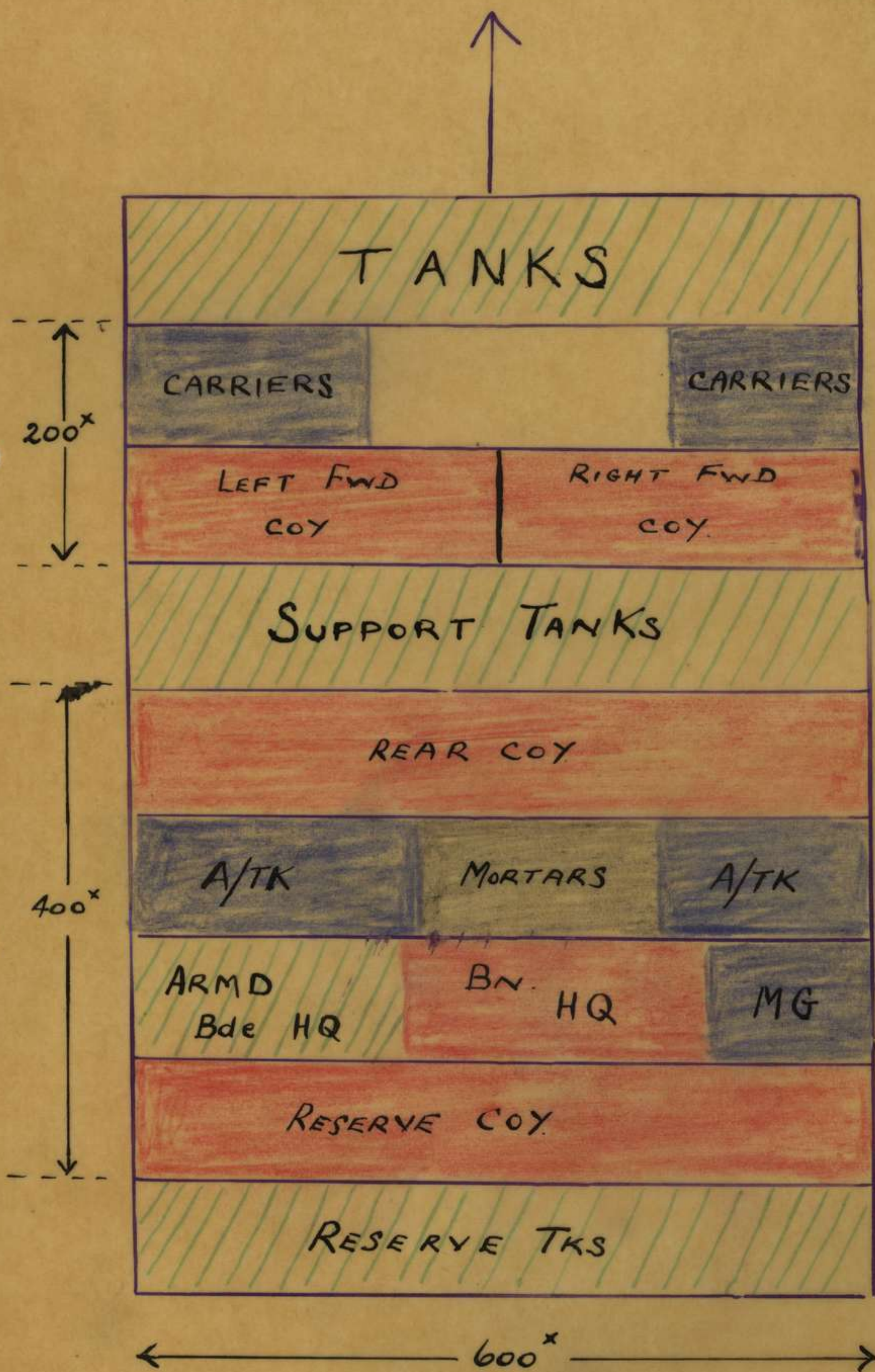
AXIS of ADVANCE  
90°

42°

B39

INT. Sec.  
2/23 Aust INF. BN.  
17 OCT. 42.

INF. IN COOPERATION WITH TANKS





EL ALAMEIN.

21 OCT 42.

ref. 884295

## ACTION DIARY.

No	TIME	FROM	TO	E V E N T	ACTION
V.4	1400.	BHQ		20 Target Books to HQ Coy 8 to Rifle Coy 2 B Ech.	noted.
I484	1430.	P SEC	all bops BEL RSM	P W for night 21/22 Oct HARRY LAUDER.	diag.
I484	1700.	26 Bde.		9 Div set up to 1500 hrs. 0 patrols night 20/21 OCT. 87382894 30 teller mine 87272982. Second mine fds 0 Enemy passing 30 strong seen. this area 0 standing patrols coastal sector and patrol area 87272966 NTR 0 HQ 26 BDE est 88322966 command S W. sector 51 HD. 2400 hrs. 0	I.O.
— 22 OCT 42 —					
I485	1245	26 Bde		24 Bde set up to 0830 hrs 0 2020 hrs Cpl from 1 Bty 190 arty regt 90 Lt DIV approached our lines mine near coast and taken PW 0 Stated 90 Lt DIV still at DABA 0 only hrs found were his bty which was to remain find only few days 0 patrol at 87262976 found mine fds approx 5 rows 0 patrol went 200' further WEST without finding mine.	Adjt.
	1300	26 Bde		Sac R. 21 Oct 1030 hrs.	sig off.
I486	1845	26 Bde		9 Div set up to 1500 hrs 0 2030 hrs deserter 1 bty 190 Arty regt. walked in our lines on coast 876302 0 States member fnd Hq of our 25 pdrs. remained regt and 90 Lt Div DABA area 0 recce patrol coastal sector no contact with enemy. 0 Patrol 8726 2976 found 5 rows mines all unfnd	Adjt.
0201	1845	26 Bde		Synchronisation of watches by BBC. 1900 hrs 23 OCT.	
23 OCT 42					
065	0900	9 Div		ref 0.0 21 Appx H para 10 0 2 hrs route will be marked by post fence on stake	Adjt.

E/ ALEMEN

884295

Action Diary

23 Oct 42

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
055	0900	9 Div		<p>Method of marking routes of a no  880300 - 880299 to our present FDL  directional beacons will be put this  over lamps arrows pointing direction  of route @ Single concertina lamp  with same on each side minefield  gaps @ inside gaps along both  concertina shaded light showing  arrows pointing inward @ whs  moving fwd will keep beacons  on Right @ whs moving back  will keep beacons on left.</p>	Action
123/1	1030			<p>ABC  D. Cavalli  REK. RSM</p> <p>PW night 23/24 Oct  Annie Laurie  Tac R. to 1245.</p>	Adit
<del>1500</del>	1500	26 bde			Sign Filed

Sg.

24 Oct. 42

## ACTION DIARY

Ref: EL ALAMEIN 1:100,000.

No.	Time	From	To	Event	Action
I253	1500	TAC 9 DIV		<p>Sitrep No 1100 hrs @ objectives GIN &amp; BITTERS captured by 0200 hrs GRAPE by 0335 hrs @ (1st phase) very deep scattered minefields all types mines encountered up to 1500 yds in depth @ 40 RTR reached approx objective BLUE LINE (2nd phase) 0640 hrs later followed by inf. 0815 hrs 2/13 Bn and 2 sqns hrs held line one kilo east of FIG and being engaged by arty and MG fire @ 0715 hrs 15 hrs and learned inf approached GRAPE from West engaged by arty and attack did not develop @ diversion 24 bde front (coastal section) successful in drawing enemy def fire and 2/43 Bn raiding party captured some GERMAN PW and inflicted estimated 30 casualties @ one 47/32 M/TK gun destroyed @ total PW 28 GERMAN - identifications 1 bn 125 IR captured area 873302, 2 Coy 1 bn 382 IR 87252974 @ ITALIANS 12 offrs 174 ORs - identifications 11 Coy 3 Bns and 1 Coy and mortar Coy 1 bn 62 IR and 46 AR, TRENTO, 355 gp corps arty all captured area 872297 872298 @ 2 a/c bde trying to fight its way fwd of div. objective @ 51 HD fighting for one enemy locality still holding out in front center of final objective @ 2 NZ Div captured final objective less left hand portion @ 1 SA. Div captured final objective less right hand portion.</p>	<p>CO. IO. Adj't. Promulgated all corps.</p>
I241	1613		ABCD NR	<p>Promulgation of Div sitrep. C.O. No bde with IO. 1130 hrs to attend conference with G.O.C. of Aust. Div. Bn now back under 26 Bde comd. in lieu of reserve for 9 Aust. Div. Conference with Coy comds. re future role 1500 hrs of Div sitrep No 1100 hrs @ same as above</p>	<p>Sigs. Noted " "</p>
I489	1600	26 Bde		<p>Bde objective captured 0550 hrs @ Sitrep No 1100 hrs</p>	<p>CO. I.O.</p>
I477	"	"		<p>148 prs taken mainly 62 regt TRENTO (ITI). light shelling during morning.</p>	

## ACTION DIARY

No	Time	From	To	Event	Action
L17	2135	SO.	IO	LUCAS LAMPS to be used in event of failure of line or RT comm @ Cof posn - lamp shown continuous light for 15 sec. at interval @ D F series of dots @ Smoke dots and dashes alternated	I.O.
0254	2205	9 Div		Subseq to 1900 hrs @ enemy tanks formed up for counter attack 3 times area 871301 869301 869300 + 3 times tanks with landed infantry opposite 2/13 Bu @ last attempt 1800 hrs broken up by medium arty @ DIV responds NOT materially altered @ 51 HD now gained whole objective but situ NW locality indefinite @ 1745 hrs 2 Arm Bde reached area 866295 866296 details disposed NOT yet known of Arm Bde passed through 2 NZ DIV during morning @ 13 Coxys @ first light 7 Arm Bde penetrated minefields 882 Easting between 255 and 257 Notching @ 1100 hrs attempting to penetrate second minefield 880 Easting @ Free French Bde attacking HEIMENHART area @ GREEK Bde carried out successful raid night 23/24 Oct	HdX
M1	0400	BHQ		Heavy bombing by our aircraft in vicinity of enemy H. D. L. approx. 30 bombs.	
				25 OCT.	
V3	0500	BHQ		one red flare on bearing 15° 1500' away	D/O infmt
V4	0900	26 Bde		2 PWs 115 IR + 1 PW LITTORIA DIV captured in 20 Bde area	CO

## ACTION DIARY

No.	Time	From	To	Event	Action
11.	1530			CO and IO went to 2/48 Bw. seams. an rece	Noted.
12.	1705		26 Bde.	Submar	D/O.
1489	1945	26 Bde		9 Div sitrep to 1100 hrs @ objective GIN <sup>9</sup> BITTERS cap- tured by 0020 hrs GRAPE by 0355 hrs @ very deep scatt- ered minefields all types mines encountered up to 1500x° in depth @ 40TR reached approx objective FIG 0640 hrs later followed by inf @ 0810 hrs 2/13 bn 7 two sqns tks held line 1 kilo EAST of FIG 1 being engaged by arty 9 m fire @ 0715 hrs 15 ths 9 moved inf approached GRAPE from WEST engaged by arty 9 attack did not develop @ diversion 24 Bde front successful in draw- ing enemy def fire 2/43 Bn raiding party captured some GERMAN PWs 9 inflicted estimated 30 casualties @ one 47/37 A/Th gun destroyed @ total PW 28 GERMAN identification 1 bn 125 IR captured area 873302 2 coy 1 bn 382 IR 87252974 ITI 12 off hrs 174000 identification 11 coy 3 bn 7 1 coy 9 mortar coy 1 bn 62 IR 146 IR TRENTO 3559p corps arty all captured area 872297, 872298 @ 2 armd bde trying to fight its way fwd of div. objec- tive @ 51 div fighting for one enemy locality still holding out in front centre of final objective @ 2 NZ div captured final objective less left fwd portion @ 15A div captured final objective less ridge fwd portion @ all infmd.	Adjd
1477	1945	26 Bde		Bde objective captured at 0350 hrs @ sitrep to 1100 hrs @ 148 pw taken mainly 62 regt TRENTO @ light shelling during morning @ all infmd	Adjd
1490	2010	26 Bde		Sitrep @ 1050 hrs concentration tps 2000x° WEST of GRAPE engaged by arty, 1550 hrs 2 ths approached west- ern FDLs engaged A/Th guns @ one gun one th knocked out @ smoke screen laid WEST of FDLs @ 1740 hrs 7 ths moving fwd towards A coy fwd Bn from 86622983 @ all infmd	Adjd

Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
I 491	1240	26 Bde		Sweep to 1100 hrs @ protective patrol during night located enemy vicinity 86775002 86743002 86703004 86892999 Forward Bn bombed during night but no damage or casualties @ Mines located at 87112998 running North and South, British MK 5 @ booby traps at 87052999 and 87112998 @	Adjt. logs. advised
I 25/1	1300			propagating above action	Adjt
0027	1400	9 Div		9 Div 00 No or Copy No 9	Adjt
I 25/1	1415	9 Div		9 Div	
I 492	1500	26 Bde		9. Div Sweep @ 900 hrs. HAWKINS. mines laid on front 26 Bde from 8680 2990 8670 2990 8670 2983 @ Remainder F18 captured and held by 20 Bde. with 2/17 Bn night. 2/13 left @ Early morning counter attack 12 tks. 50 M.T. left front 2/48 Bn broken up by arty and 40 RTR @ Another counter attack appears developing from S.W. @ Patrols report occupied enemy posts. 86773002 86743002 86703004. 86892999 88 M m. Pt 29 868300 @ Ips area 869300 BERMAN @ Enemy mines 87052999 to 87072997 with B 4's @ 87112998 MK 5. mines body trapped marked by trip wire @ 0815 hrs NZ Div Cav reached objective 868284 871236 @ 0825 hrs HD. now occupying N.W. locality final objective @ Report tank battle in progress 86852950 @ 2 PW's captured by 20 Bde from 12 Coy. 115 IR. and 29 Bty 3 AR LITTORIO. all informed	C.O. IO
I 25/2	1530			repeating I 492.	Sign
0267	1810	9 Div		ref covered route fwd @ decision what is covered not yet possible account visibility @ more southerly route 20 Bde marked by squares believed reasonably covered and to approx best available @ no aimed fire falling on it	

ACTION DIARY

No	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	Action
I494	1900	26 Bde		9 Div. report to 1500 hrs. @ 1030 hrs Enemy inf attacked. Northern flank 26 Bde. attack faded out 1412 hrs. 23/30 Tks attacked astride 297 grid attack repulsed @ Total 16 Tks knocked out including ITALIAN all informed	C.O. Adj.
I493	1900	26 Bde		Report to 1700 hrs @ 1040 hrs 25 Pz. 110mm Guns fired by concentration on fuel tank @ 1220 hrs 3 Tks vicinity 86652985 all informed	C.O. Adj.
M1	1500	26 Bde		9 Div. Summary, No 336.	C.O. Adj.
M2	1930	BHQ		100 Tks approaching NE direction from 8725:2895	Adj.
LF329	1940	Intercept		Intercept @ 9 Div bar. Part one 118 629 Part two 140 629. 195 002 809 552	
0268	2000	9 Div		Report to 1500 hrs @ 1330 hrs enemy inf attacked northern flank 26 bde attack faded out @ 1412 hrs 20/30 Tks attacked astride 297 grid @ Total 16 Tks claimed knocked out incl 14 ITALIAN all infmd.	Entered as I494 26 Bde
		Adj. Officer		Additional Lucas lamp sigs @ Call for amin - Jan IO. series of long dashes.	
O.409	2200	26 Bde		Night fighters patrolling over find area in attempt to intercept bomber @ After 2100 hrs our bombers will attack LGs with delayed action bombs.	Noted.
I25/3	2205		ABCD HQ VAP.	Pro-mulgating O.409 CO ordered stand. to of Bn at 0030 hrs.	Adj. Cays advice
O272	2230	9 Div		Ref my O.O. 22 @ 20 Bde will also take over from 26 Bde the frontage 86703000 to 86702990 @ Boundary between 20 and 26 Bdes will lie 87342984 to 87012983 to 86703000 thence 300 working grid.	Noted
Y5	2245	26 Bde		This evening 48 Bn. captured 4 PWs. Major (badly wounded) Capt. Lieut, & Sgt. An enemy party (strength unknown) came up to 48 Bn's FDLs apparently thinking their own ops	D.O.

ACTION DIARY

No	Time	From	To	Event	Action
				were occupying these positions @ 48 Bn opened fire and casualties inflicted Identification - 2 Bn. 125 IR Major normally OC Bn acting CO 125 IR Capt 2 IC Bn acting OC Bn. Comms had broken down. Major had map of enemy dispersals dated 25 Oct. Strongpoint - intersection 869300 GRID occupied by ITIES. 3 GERMAN plns of 2 Bn 125 Bn. between 48 Bn BND & A 29. No minefields west of approx 8682 2998.	
26 OCT 42					
VI	0100			Success signal seen (from 2/48 Bn) ? Bn stand-to.	D/O Act
V2	0030				
1495	0135	26 Bde	2	Sitrep to 2130 hrs @ 1805 hrs tpt concentration Pt 29 @ approx 100 men fwd Coy 2/48 Bn successfully engaged by Mortars @ 1400 hrs 50 vehs 3000 yds fwd Canal D Coy 2/48 Bn. in semi-circle no inf seen @ 1840 hrs Arty with trailers moving NORTH engaged by our arty @ 2/48 PW's identifications 2 Bn 1250 All inf.	D/O inf IO.
V3	0145	26 Bde		1 Coy 2/48 on objective. 2/24 Bn start 2nd phase. PW's reported 1495 now reported as 1 Major, 1 Capt, 1 Sgt, 1 Cpl from 125 IR Pcc from 115 IR.	D/O inf
V4	0215			Success sig <del>for</del> observed	D/O inf
V5	0230			STAND-DOWN given from CO	Camp inf
1496	0425	26 Bde		90 in sitrep to 2230 hrs @ Fwd tps under by arty 9 SA fire during day @ 1330 hrs attack on 2/48 Bn by inf unsupported by tps dispersed by our fire @ They penetrated our FDL's 1430 hrs @ 18 knocked out mainly ITIO all ways held original posns @ Several small gps enemy tps reported still on our front 1715 hrs @ Movement of tps	Adj



ACTION DIARY

No	Time	From	To	Event	Action
I496	0425	26 Bde		vehs continued opposite 20 Bde up to 1935 hrs Identification GERMAN IPW 85QN 2 BN 8 PNZR REGT wounded 298 nothing OITI LPW 133TK REGT LITTORIO OIT <sup>s</sup> stated all 12 lbs in coy knocked out O This confirms ground reports O force captured HIMEIMAT but forced to withdraw by enemy armour O 24 Amd Bde engaged GERMAN armour 98MM area 8672295 Considerable arty activity on HD NZ front during afternoon O RAF advise comd of air enables daylight patrols to be maintained over enemy LG O all informed	Adjlt
I26/1	0545	4 BCO H. Jones		Promulgating above Sitrep No I 496	Sit
M1	0730	20 Bde		E activity 20 Bde front. Warning issued that we may be required. no action as yet. 26 Bde. all on their objectives.	C.O. Adjlt.
M2	0735	6 A	all Coy K.P.	Warning that may be needed and to have everything ready.	
M3	0815	24 Bde I.O.		2/43 reached objective, 89 prisoners. killed 84+. Positions of 2/24 not secure 2 coys. overshoot objective and had to come back positions at present one coy N. of point 29. one on 29 of objective one on wire one ? Were a little disorganized and not have not dug in. 2/24 took 200 PW's	Adjlt.
M4	0830	26 Bde		26 Bde O.O No 22.	Adjlt.
I26/1	0915	4 BCO V.P. Capt B.E.K.		Sitrep O promulgating text of M3.	
V.6.	1100	26 Bde		PW's. O total captured night 25/26 Oct GERMAN - 1 offn 177 OR <sup>s</sup> ITI 4 offns 61 OR <sup>s</sup> bringing 26 Bde total to German. 5 offns 197 OR <sup>s</sup> ITI 14 offns 221 OR <sup>s</sup> Casualties 24 Bn. 6 offns 75 OR <sup>s</sup> 48 Bn. 2 offns 45 OR <sup>s</sup> .	CO. Adjlt. I.O.
I497	1250	26 Bde		Sitrep to 0030 hrs O 2/48 Bn captured A 29 O 2/24 Bn Attack successful O Bde new holding line between A 29 and 87003007 O PW's 1 offn 64 OR <sup>s</sup> German -	

ACTION DIARY

No.	Time	From	To.	Event	Action
1497				10 offrs 68 OR's Italian @ 0830 hrs 14 Aks and inf at 86703005 engaged by our arty.	
V7	1350	26 Bde		2 Jps II A/TK Bty report to 26 Bde HQ immediately	D/o Adv
V8	1355	"		100 TK's on Bde front	"
0276	1420	9 Div		Stref to 2230 hrs @ Further under his (Clyde) S.D.	" "
	1420	9 Div		9 Div I Summary 337 attack on 2/48 Bn front	" "
	1420	"		By the refs to 15 Nov @ ground to ground recogn sigs to 31 Oct 42.	Adj Adv
	1455	BHQ	26 Bde	Receipt for by the refs	sigs
V9	1525			Enemy 7 Bs bombed D+B by area. Some casualties.	Ref Adv
V10	1530	26 Bde		Ref to V8 Tks have been driven off by arty fire and our A/C	Adj Adv
V11				Details Bombing 2/23 Bn area:- A B C D E - G - F 1535 3 FB 1000ft S WNW 6 bombs 2/23 Bn	Bde info
	1600	BHQ		2/23 Bn Int Summary No 143:- Copies to CO, 2IC, Adj't, IQ, RSM, RMO, 4GBTR, TO, Sgt Carlton, Sig Offr Pn Pl, A Coy B. Coy C. Coy D. Coy. Mor Pl Car Pl, MMG, A/TK Maj. Wall	Sigs
V12	1625			Coy Comdrs conference at BHQ re move to regn 871296	
1581	1715		Acc concl	P W STIRLING 26/27 OCT @ ground to ground recog Sigs 27/31 Oct @	Sigs
0281	1830	9 Div		46 RTR come under Command 26 Bde when 46 RTR arrives 40 RTR will report from comd 26 Bde and come under comd 20 Bde @ all informed	Adj't
V13	1900			Coy Commanders meet New Area with C.O.	
V14	1905	26 Bde		Inquiring re bombing report (not arriving) checked with sigs that D.R. delivered despatch to Bde Sigs	Adj't
1499		26 Bde		Stref to 1900 hrs @ 1525 3 EA bombed 2/23 Bn area 2 Vtrs loaded with mines destroyed @ Light shelling on Bde Area @ 1905 E counter attacking with inf on 2/48 Bn front all informed	2/IC

# Action Diary

26 Oct

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
A675	2000	26 Bde		Bde to please arrange following items packed up Div reception Camp 1500 / 21 Oct @ 2/23 12 OR's 2/24 6 OR's 2/48 13 OR's @ Transport deliver to Bn Bde.	2/1C
V14	1945 1930	B Coy BHQ		Ack. O.O. O.O. message Horn. Pro-forma C.2128 To A, B, C, D Coys, C.O., 21/C, Adyt, IO, TO, RMO, WID (2) File, RSM, rptd B ECH, 26 Inf Bde. Secret (2) Bn will take up defensive position as recessed sq 871298 @ A Ech vehs ATK. Motors M.M.B's will move with marching sps. as allotted by Major Bland @ Pns. Sig Vehs R.A.P. Amb 1.5 R.A. veh with B.H.Q. @ Order of march A B C D Coys, BHQ @ Start line 2045 hrs @ Det 2/7 Aust. Fd Coy in sp. to assist clearing booby traps @ Sps move with Coys @ V.A.P. remains present location @ All A Ech vehs return to V.A.P. by first light. @ B.H.Q. closes present position location 2045 hrs reopens at 8714 2984, 2230 hrs @ L/T to Coys. on arrival @ R/T all sets on listening watch from 2000 hrs @ all informed @ Ack.	Swaps per. O. Room
V15	2045			B.H.Q. closes down, and Sps assemble on Start line.	
V16	2100			Troops leave start line order A B C D B.H.Q. A Ech vehs.	
V17	2245			Battalion arrives at 8714 2984. Coys. continue to positions, signaling by LUCAS lamp when established	
V18	2330	A Coy BHQ	B Coy	C.O. informs O.C.'s that A Ech fighting vehs will be brought forward to forward Vech Park, others remain in present position	

7202986

# Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	FRONT	Action
I 8	0140		9 DIV	Rm in posn at 2330 hrs HQ est at 87172985	Sigs
I 9	0140		26 Bde	Rm in posn at 2330 hrs HQ est at 87172985	Sigs
O 1	0145	26 Bde		Absolutely vital that axis route signs in present area be maintained & stress urgently to all tps they must NOT repeat NOT remove signs under any circumstances.	all coys notified by Adj
V 1	0150	C Coy		Reporting 4th port damaged on mine on marked gap Sig?	Bde infmt
O 301	1040	TAC. 26 Bde		En. settled in during night - digging pans etc. All tps should be warned against enemy box mines & these appear to be pieces of wood lying on gd & approx dimensions 15 ins long, 8 1/2 ins wide & mine both AP and A/TK fired by normal enemy fuse & igniter mechanism & box of rough wood with lid nailed on to nails in four places & mines cannot be detected by magnetic detector.	
I 27/1	1045			PW for night 27/28 Oct @ ABERDEEN	Sigs
V 2	1115			Coy Com. conference called by C.O. Advice received that 1 down utility truck belonging to TO. blown up on mine in VAP - no casualties.	Noted
I 500	1130	26 Bde		Sitrep to 0930 hrs @ Home of 23 Bn No new area completed without incident. HQ est. at 87202986 & Tks heard moving to SW of pt. 29 @ 0500 hrs 40/50 enemy who approached were NORTH of pt. 29 were engaged by MG and mortar fire and forced to withdraw.	
	1130	26 Bde		9 Aust. Div. Summ. 338	
I 27/3	1300	BNQ		repeating. 9 Div sitrep to 2030 hrs	
I 27/4	1300	BNQ		repeating 9 Div sitrep to 0830 hrs I 501	
I 501	1830	26 Bde		9 Div Sitrep 0830 hrs @ Coastal sector NTR & enemy inf reported approaching 26 Bde front. 1907 hrs driven off with casualties & 26 Bde report 40/50 enemy approached PT 29 868300 at 0515 hrs. engaged by Inf and driven off & Enemy Inf.	Adj

Ref # A1AMEIN  
87202986

# Action Diary

27 Oct.

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Actions
				and some tks approached 20 Bde FDL's area 866297 at 0415 hrs tks D.F. fired 0450 and 0507 hrs. tks withdrew and some inf digging in area. 866297 being engaged by mortars 0.12 P.W's captured 20 Bde front during night including two wounded. 1/382 and 13. Inf gun Coy confirm remnants. Bn attached. 20 1/115. Ranger Gun. all informed.	
I 27/1	1400	A BCO 8 Lch Car VAP		promulgating 9 Div sikep to 2030 hrs	Sikep
0288	1400	9 Div		sikep to 2030 hrs 0 inf attack on 20 Bde beginning 0435 hrs defeated by 1000 hrs 0 4 gps 30/50 enemy tks with MT and guns between 302 + 296 Notch with throughout day 0 by and accurate bombing by RAF on these targets 0 small gps tks hull down close to FDL engaged fire tps 20 Bde 0 1400 hrs 10 vehs towed guns into dead ground 870301 870302 0 considerable inf movement 867302 868302 0 11 tks thought to be GERMAN MK3 at 867300 and and inf NORTH of pt 29 868300 all day engaged by our arty 0 1430 hrs intense shelling on pt 29 0 1815 hrs inf debused opposite 20 Bde advanced on 2/17 Bn supported by 4 tks and MG fire 0 attack failed 0 1907 hrs 50 inf professed sikep on 26 Bde front 0 further identification PW from ops night 25/1 29 27. 3 AR 1+3. Coy/ 133 tks regt LITTORIN captured 1st 1 from tks used as arty Q.P.	

Ref EL ALAMEIN

27 OCT 42

7202986

## Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
0304	1445	26 Bde		<p>MORNING ORDER 020 Bde receives 26 Bde night 27/28 @ outline plans</p> <p>2/15 Bu receives 2/24 Bu by 2300 hrs</p> <p>2/17 Bu receives 2/48 Bu by 0200 hrs @</p> <p>A Coy 2/2 MG Bu notified separately @</p> <p>2/7 Fd Coy relieved by 2/13 Fd Coy @</p> <p>remains sp arms no change @</p> <p>units relieved move to rear to area to be notified as soon as possible</p>	
V1	1710	26 Bde		Ordering STAND TO	Asst. CO adon
V2	1720	26 Bde		Probable roll @ Counter - attack on Δ29.	
V3	1730	CO by bonds		Orders of pieces of boys in case of counter-attack given by C.O. A left B right C snuffing-up of D by reserve.	
V4	1740			Adjut leaves to lay ST. st. laid find of A+B boys.	
V5	1800	26 Bde	C.O.	<p>Ref attack on 2/48 BN. The attack was by horse.</p> <p>Inf who went to ground approx 800' in front of 2/48 BN.</p> <p>Artillery fire ordered to cease as dust was too heavy to see enemy movement.</p> <p>Message from B Coy do effect our armour man and find - Information recd from arty.</p>	Noted.
V6	1840				
V7	1854	26 Bde	C.O.	<p>Notified to stand-down b.O advises</p> <p>OC boys by Lt J.</p>	Noted.
0305	2025	26 Bde		<p>Ref 0304 @ 2/23 Bu remains present location @ 2/24 Bu on relief move to area 8752 2987 astride DIAMOND route (and BOOMERANG if necessary) @</p> <p>by carrying tpt both Bus arrives from Bu area approx 2300 hrs @</p> <p>guides both Bus meet tpt junction and DIAMOND route 8761 2990.</p> <p>2100 hrs @ no move WEST of original start line before 2215 hrs @</p> <p>12 ATK Bty remains in situ</p>	

Ref ALAMEIN

27 OCT 42

8720 2986

Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Act/cont	
				situ passes to Comd 20 Bde 9 ATK Bty on relief moves to area 8767 2996 2/7 Fd Coy remains present posn heading over of functions to 2/13 Fd Coy A Coy 2/2 MG remains in posn passes to Comd 20 Bde 2400 hrs 2 Coy 2/2 MG Bn on relief moves to area 8765 2993 Comd present 26 Bde sector passes to 20 Bde 2400 hrs 0 TAC HQ 26 Bde moves to area 8765 2999 all moves complete by first light all informed 0 ACK		
127/2	2045		26 Bde	ACK above 0305	LDIX See	
V 8	2150		26 Bde	Success	Bde D/O	
V 9	2240		26 Bde	Message from 26 Bde requesting 1 coy of men for fighting patrol to capture GERMANS or ITALIANS. fwd of 2/48 locality Plan submitted to 9 DIV with arty fire 60 2/23 Bn accepts conditions that guides are provided by 2/48 Bn	60 informed	
	2242		A	Instrs. by the 60 to A coy to prepare to move to fwd area 2/48 Bn and carry out patrol of 2/48 area. A coy prepared to move in 15 mins		
	2245		26 Bde	Bde contacted and 60 instructs Bde 1 coy will be ready to move in 15 mins RV diamond track and boomerang X track Permission given to stop 4 troop carriers Plan Regt of arty for 10 mins then lifts		
	2300			4 vehs of 48 Bn convoy stopped and sent to A coy.		

Ref ALAMEIN

27 OCT 42

8720 2986

## Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
	2304		A	A coy instructed 4 Aps carriers on way.	
	2315		B	That working party of 30 men return to 8685 2986 and await engrs. as the job must go on.	
	2330	DHQ		RPsgt returns and informs that A coy is being informed on the way to 2/48 Bn area.	
0297	2300	9TAC DIV		Ref 00 23 @ Para one for 299 read 300 @ Para 5 last line to read 8684 3000 thence 300 northing grid all infmd	
503	2300	26Bde		26 Bde sitrep to 1430 hrs @ 1310 hrs one 88 mm gun one 50 mm a/TK. Three 37 mm a/TK guns. four light Stukas six Spandaus one 3 ton CAS captured. @ 1410 hrs 6 Aps moving NE across front at 1000 <sup>x</sup> fwd of FDL's moving SOUTH 8660 3000	
1504	2300	26Bde		sitrep to 1900 hrs @ 1505 hrs 4 Aps approx 8675 3005 shooting up FDL's in A coy area. @ 1535 hrs 13 Aps with assault guns, infantry forming up NORTH of pt 29. @ 1642 2/24 reported 2 coy attacks from 876 302 supporting arms including infantry and A/TK guns @ 1715 hrs 2/48 report attack on pt 29 from NORTH and WEST Aps armoured cars and infantry near FDL's arty engaged enemy @ after dust cleared infantry observed 800 <sup>x</sup> from FDL's situation quiet at 1853 hrs @ all infmd	
VII	2358	26 Bde		message from 26 Bde that attack developing on 2/48 Bn and that fighting patrol has now being cancelled and returning to unit lines. area of attack pt 29 area	60 infmd
28 OCT 42					
V12	0001	26 Bde		litnor.	D/infmd
V1	0057	26 Bde		litnor	D/infmd
V2	0143	A		A coy reporting back to unit area	D/infmd
V3	0140	RSM		Reporting that B coy working party married up with Engrs party	60 infmd
V4	0200	26 Bde		litnor	D/infmd



8720 2986.

## Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
V5	0300.	26Bde		Sitrep	D/o Informed.
V6	0330	BHQ		2 bodies buried in 2/23 Area. 2 ORS WELLS and EGAN in BHQ area. 1 offr in B Coy area taken to cemetery.	Bde infmd
V7	0353	26Bde		Sitrep also advising V6.	D/o infmd
V8	0500	26Bde		Sitrep	D/o infmd.
V9	0600	2Bde		Sitrep	D/o infmd.
	0400			Recd by Adjt and IO up to Pt. 29.	
V10	0910	26Bde		CO called to conference at 87752998	Noted
0279	1035	9Div		Sitrep to 0830 hrs @ 24 bde taken over FDL from coast to 87322997 @ 26 bde attack successful & FDL now approx 87153005 to 87053008 to 86803010 to 86702995 then SOUTH to 86702960 @ bde bndy approx 87022985 to 86703000 @ minefield laid by 2/3 Pm Am 87312998 to 87273001 to 87203001 to 87173001 @ 2/13 Pm laying minefields NORTH-SOUTH through 86752968 & 86732963 @ each fld 500' long @ PW from area ops ITI 2 Coy 1/62 IR 11/12 tps 4 lty 46 AR, 199 tps 3 bty 332 bis bty., 3 mob arty @ GERMAN 12 Coy 11/125 IR, HQ 11/125, 5, 6, 7 & 8 coys 11/125 IR, 1/220 Pm, 1 bty 6 AR (FIAC), 294 Coy 1/115 Pz Gren @ PW included a/comm 125 IR & comm 11/125 IRO 2912 Coy 125 IR were moved from between coast & my positions night @ total PW for night 25/26 approx 240 incl 170 GERMANS	Adjt
0302	1035	9Div		Sitrep to 2030 hrs 27 @ coastal sector NTR @ 26 bde report captured one 88MM gun intact overrun night 25/26 @ enemy tks reported on 26 & 20 bde fronts all day & concentrations successfully bombed by RAF @ 0725 hrs inf, tks & armcd cars attacked area 029 which was shelled heavily @ enemy engaged by inf & arty & driven off by 1815 hrs @ 20 bde report enemy counter-attack 1700 hrs @ inf sup by tks approached to within 400' of our FDL @ by 1815 hrs attack driven off by casualties inflicted	Adjt

87202986

## Action Diary

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
0302	1035	9 Div		<p>last light report all quiet @ 840 hrs Regt revert comd  10 corps &amp; 1 Pzty 73A 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt came under comd @ 27  additional PW<sup>s</sup> captured night 26/27 @ identical  ions 1 coy 1 bn &amp; 12 coy 111 bn, 115 pyq guns, 1 coy 33 engr bn  @ 32 PW received from amnd formation 1550 hrs incl  23 identified 1 coy 104 pyq gun regt @ several th en-  gagements on left flank of div @ following claims  made enemy ths destroyed NOT confirmed yet 2  amnd bde 14 @ 7 mol bde 50 @ also approx 20 guns  knocked out @ very successful co-op with RAF thro-  ughout day @ approx 250 mainly GERMANS surrendered  514D reason given by constant arty fire</p>	Adjt
128/1 I505	1130	26 Bde		<p><sup>all corps Carg Bech V. Park</sup> Promulgating 0279 and 0302  Sitrep to 0930 hrs @ Attack on pt. 29 on evening  27 Oct. beaten off with heavy losses to enemy @  Attack was carried out with 2 coys fwd and 2  in reserve @ PW<sup>s</sup> taken from 1+2 Bns 125 IR  and 33 Arty Regt @ Relief of Bde carried out  without incident.</p>	Sigs
-	1100	26 Bde		2/12 Aust. 2d. Regt. DF. Tasks - 26 Bde front	
	"	"		Amendment to RAA DF. Tasks.	
	1100	"		Appx D. Copy sheet No. 2. - Amendment to RAA. 9 Aust. Div. 009. of 20 Oct. 42 RF. 1.25,000	
I505	1145	26 Bde		<p>Sitrep to 0930 hrs @ attack on pt 29 on evening  27 OCT beaten off with heavy losses to the enemy @  attack was carried out with 2 coys fwd 2 in res-  erve @ PW<sup>s</sup> taken from 1+2 bn 125 IR &amp; 33 Arty Regt @  Relief of Bde carried out without incident</p>	Adjt
128/2	1210			<p><sup>ABCO Bech CAR VEN PARK</sup> Promulgation of I505</p>	Sigs

87202986

Action Diary

V10

No	Time	From To	EVENT	Action
V1	1722	26 Bde.	9 Div setup to 0830 hrs @ 24 Bde report minefd followed from 87253017 to 87213017 4 rows MK5 @ enemy attack developed on pt 29 at 2345 hrs @ arty def. fire tasks fired on NORTH and WEST of Bown and enemy engaged by inf weapons attack faded out @ by casualties considered inflicted @ relief 20 Bde by 152 Bde completed and comd passed 0420 hrs @ 26 Bde relief by 20 Bde delayed by enemy attack but completed by 0615 hrs @ 26 Bde now in div res area @ Bde HQ approx 87682999 @ Amd formations ops div front 27 Oct. estimated P.W. captured mostly GERMAN from 382 I.R. all informed.	Relief.
V2	1722	26 Bde.	9 Aust Div Intelligence Summary No 339.	Relief.
V3	1722	26 Bde.	Copy Preliminary Interrogation Report Capt Peter Phillips Wendell O.C. 2 Bn 125. 1 R. 164 Div	Relief.
V4	1730	a all Coy	P.W. for night 28/29 Oct.	Over phone.
V5	1722	26 Bde	P.W. for 28 Oct to Nov 3. Co's conference PM v final orders 1800. 29 Oct. See WD.	
30 Oct				
V1	0430		Intercept message that attack developing on right flank of 2/15 bn. arty up 300'	CO impd
V2	0430		20 personnel of all coys marched in and allotted to coys. DF TASKS (WALLY MAC BELL called for by names to 20 Bde also light pigs message to 20 Bde each hr.	
V3	0435	Carpl	Carriers report in. run on minefd. a party of 8 men in area of old posns (2/17 Bn)	
V4	0436	20 Bde	Dispens trace required of our dispens.	
	0500	Coys	Sitw all Coys.	D/O intol
V5	0500	Carriers	Carrier patrol report contacting 2/15 CO. He reports two attacks driven off and a third developing and prepared to drive off third. He still has a reserve coy	

30 OCT

## ACTION DIARY

No	Time	From	To	EVENT	Action
V 6	0522		Carriers	Carriers to return to Camp Park	
V 7	0600	Coys		Sitmor	Bde intel
V 8	0606	9 Div		Int Summary 340. Dispatch to 20 Bde. News daily to coys.	Adj. CO.
V 9	0700	Coys		Sitmor	Bde intel
V 10 0740	0740			All Coys asked to report on any movement particularly between rd + rly line.	
V 11	0741	20 Bde		Request for some ATR guns to be sited SW between 15 and 17 lms.	ATR <del>Officer</del> Comdr
V 12	0750	D Coy		Report strong - post posn 800 <sup>x</sup> out on their front	Dp intel
V 13	0755	C Coy		Report movement on bearing 342° distance 1500 yds. Probably 2/15 lms but watch still being kept	Dp intel
V 14	0800	All Coys <del>to</del>		Sitmor	20 Bde
V 15	0845	RAP		3 wounded men to be evacuated and suggests using carriers as he does not wish to risk ambulance	Dp intel. + advices using carriers
V 16	0900	D Coy		Report that OC B Coy walked across open ground to D Coy and did NOT draw a shot from the enemy.	Bde intel
V 17	0900	Coys.		Sitmor from coys	
V 18	0915	ATR Comdr.		Guns are <del>to</del> sited in direction as ref no. V 11	Bde intel

30 Oct.

P 1	1100			Advancing our rifle Coys moving 800 <sup>x</sup> Bearing 25°	Code also Sgt
P 2	1210	BCD		Move completed	Capt Reason wfd
P 3	1333	GOC	CO	personally congratulating CO on 'show' night 28 Oct	all rows closed
P 338	1730	20 Bde		DT Keys. 3511/1/7/x compromised @ Restriet use by W/T to minimum @ Reserve Keys will be issued @ Ack.	Checked by LT.
I 1	1730	20 Bde		Cement lpc. recog. sigs compromised until 0200 hrs. 1 Nov. @ Sigs to be used sparingly and treated with reserve.	Noted.
	2	20 Bde.		Map ref code 53 compromised by capture @ Use of code should be avoided where possible until new code comes into force	Noted.

# ACTION DIARY

30 Oct

LS11	Sigs 26 Bde	1802	<p style="text-align: center;">Line cut from 2/3 Bn.</p> <p>24 Bde setup the 0700 hrs &amp; patrol the enemy outpost 87423018 &amp; found triple danner at SW corner with booby traps at 5 paces animals attached to danner with trip wire @ traps wire 3 EP MK2 mines wired together with charge against them with pull type igniter @ also possibly egg grenades attached to danner on inner side @ 5 rows 65 MK5 mines on outer side of wire @ all incl</p>
3510	26 Bde		<p>9 Div setup to 2030 hrs @ stukas escorted by ME 109s dive-bombed 2/7 fld coy 1100 hrs @ no damage or casualties @ 1055 hrs 5 tks on ridge 700 yds WEST of FDL's stated fld coy 2/15 bn @ four attacks by tks and inf on 20 Bde front during day @ all driven off with loss to enemy incl at least one tk @ 19 Stukas with fighter escort raided area 873298 E at 1740hrs large concentration enemy tks and inf reported 86653031 at last light @</p>

<del>1500 hrs</del>	<del>9 Div</del>	1800 hrs	<p style="text-align: center;"><del>9 Div summary</del></p> <p>9 Div summary No 341 Coy No 12 CO's conference 1800 hrs. CO received personal message from GOC congratulating him on the magnificent effort put up by the Bn. after such a setback at the start. Later in afternoon GOC visited BND. More bodies identified and buried throughout the day. At 1100 hrs coy moved fwd approx 800' and established new posns without interference</p>
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# ACTION DIARY

30/31 Oct.

	FROM	To	EVENT	ACTION
			<p>From the enemy. One prisoner brought in by D Coy.                      1230 hrs - CO secured coy positions with Labe and definitely established their positions.                      Orders received for attack night 30/31 Oct. This Bn to carry out 'mapping-up' the reg. Patrol ordered to do this under comd Lieut Jones with personnel from C &amp; D coys.</p>	
<u>30 Oct.</u>			<p>Lieut Whymley sent to 20 Bde to act as L.O. 2400 hrs                      Coy instructed to send wireps every 1/2 hr.                      0100 hrs. signal received that 32 Bn. attack successful and now only opens up for 2nd phase</p>	
245	D		<p>advising 750 GERMAN PWs moving in CW D Coy lines</p>	
			<p>Message to Bde that RED flares will be GERMAN which we will be firing</p>	
	D		<p>Bitrov</p>	
400			<p>3 Carriers to go out at first light and search for wounded. D Coy to supply gunners.</p>	D Coy advised
25			<p>1 Carrier to work between B Coy and RAP. Collecting pt for wounded at B Coy. carrier to evacuate wounded.</p>	RMO infd
130			<p>Offr from 2/32 Bn reports in with other personnel and prisoners and can NOT find his unit.</p>	Bde advised.
15	A Coy	Coy }	<p>Report sound of tracked veh which sound like this but may be A or other units. check being made. sound is well out.</p>	26 Bde infd
25	C Coy	D Coy }	<p>Feel that noise in previous message is A or other units</p>	CO infd
30	26 Bde		<p>48 have objective and are now turning to help 24. Prison<sup>their</sup> job.</p>	CO infd
31	C Coy		<p>C Coy have seen A or other units moving along route. This verifies report at 0525 hrs</p>	CO infd 26 Bde infd
0		All Coys	<p>Order given to start mapping up with fighter patrols to rely line. Order to mop-up cautiously but thoroughly.</p>	Verbally.
75	LO.		<p>Patrol went in to THOMPSON'S POST and found it unoccupied but later 24 bn met stiff opposition.</p>	CO advised

# ACTION DIARY

31 OCT

Time	From	To	Event	Action
57		B Coy	Capt Grey advised that mortars can be used on our front up to rly line.	
600	26 Bde		Major Copeland, A/TK comdr to begin receipt of gun posts as soon as O12 forward patrols	CO infd
0630	26 Bde		24 + 48 not yet obtained objectives. 2/23 revert to 26 Bde. Warning order that we may have to help 24 and 48	C.O. and Capt Copeland
705	Bde		E Tro moving SW <del>direction</del> of rly line. fwd of 2/32	A/TK adv.
0707	Clay		Report convoy of ours along tracks	
0720	D Day		12 enemy Mks seen SOUTH of my line.	
0730	D Day		Own Mks firing on our patrol.	
0740	Clay		Tks moving on bearing of 290° - over other side of 15 Bns our Mks, infd.	C.O.
0750	Bde		Advised our Mks firing on our patrol & asked to keep fire NORTH of my.	
0800	26 Bde		Bns advised of general picture - Bns firing up the line and holding it as a firm base.	
0802	Clay		Smoke coming down - couple of hundred yds out. Smoke on immediate front lifted.	
0807	D		Tks are still firing on our patrol - 400' SOUTH of my.	
0823	C		6 prisoners passing through this HQ. Report patrol returned - no casualties. A lot of enemy equipment in area but clear of enemy. All now prepared for actions one man missing from patrol.	
0830	mmg		Bns now reports to 26 Bde comd.	
0845	C		Orders given for mapping up process.	
0920	Bde		Orders received that 13 Bns will relieve this Bns & do prepare for further ops.	
1000	Bde			
1410	boy		Bldg on 2/3 Pns area.	
1415	BHQ		25 Prisoners marching through BHQ area 15 PW marched through earlier	

# ACTION DIARY

31 OCT

Serial	Time	From	To	EVENT	ACTION
VII	1445	Army		12 <sup>6</sup> Also seen NORTH of <sup>870305</sup> and 8 guns firing from MOSQUE area probably 105 and 150mm.	
V5	1500	26 Bde		40 RTR report knocking out 5 of 12 87KS in sq. 871303 the remainder retiring to the WEST.	
I513	1545	26 Bde		<p>Set up to 0900 hrs. 2/32 bn gained rd vic 87063052</p> <p>2/24 2/48 held up on drive eastwards along rd and sq. THOMPSONS Post and area to NORTH found to be very strongly held. 2/24 bn now dug in vic 87133037 and 2/48 vicinity 87133046. 2/3 pm bn reached 87133067 and is now dug in between this pt and MAIN Rd.</p> <p>Approx 400 PW mainly GERMAN identifications include HQ 3.5.6.7 13 coys, inf engns pl. 125 IR 1 Coy 6 FLAK regt. and ITALIAN COSTERIO.</p>	
O310	1600	TAC. 26		2 OR 1 SA Div. killed by booby trap consisting of hand grenade inside water bottle. Explosion occurs when cork is withdrawn. All tanks will be warned accordingly.	
O312	1600	26 Bde		<p>Codex. Codeword Ships Series 6 new some units use 1800 hrs 31 Oct. map ref code No. 54 D1 now 31 Oct. NOT 1 NOV, D2 0300 hrs has 2 Nov.</p>	
A.1.	1600	Tac. 9 Div.		<p>Queen receipt of this signal use of MAIN Rd. is allotted to 9 Cust Div and amb. cars, etc. Transporters and staff cars only of other formations. A.I.F. units will NOT use COAST rd east of 891 nothing grid.</p> <p>A/c. recog. sigs. 1-7 Nov. 42</p> <p>R/T codes. Codex keys.</p> <p>ETA for bomber raids on no account will be given in clear on R/T due to danger of interception. Where possible hrs will observe and report on effect and accuracy of all raids in fwd areas.</p>	

G 200/4E 26  
188 Bde  
G 200/8A/26  
308 Bde  
O309 "



## Action Diary

31 Oct 42

No.	TIME	FROM	TO	EVENT	Action
V6	1720	C.		Patrol report @ Lane 1, 2, & 3 clear of enemy with pl. of 2/2 MG on spur. Considerable enemy eqpt in vicinity including a radio set. Identity - Wx 17222 - R.B. STRONACH. body 900' from left pl on bearing of 47°. Bearings on enemy guns from MG posn. 355° & 356°.	
V7	1725	D		Preliminary patrol report @ Lanes 7, 8, & 9 clear of enemy. In Lane 9 - 2 250 lb. aerial bombs approx. 87113025 with trip mines attached. At 87123027 a thick booby trap fd. encountered. - no fallow.	
V8	1546	C		Report from B coy that by shelling along my line also 2 vehs seen there shelling on bearing of 340 to 30. gun firing from bearing of 22°.	
V9	1600	C		B coy salvage patrol 3 Patrols each strength 1 NCO's 4 ORs. 1900-2030. on lg of 47° 800' 1 NCO. 5 ORs 1900-2030. Lane 3.	
I 514	1730	26/2de		Tracks 12ft wide approx 87043009 to 8718 3029 @ crosses minefield 300' wide from approx 87093016 to 87113018 @ fd composed scattered GP French Sand booby traps @ widening and additional clearing proceeding @ only opposition Spandan fire North of my @ det engs protected by det 40 RTR now extending this track SOUTH to 870300 and from 8718 easting along South edge of my to TELL ELEISA all infd.	
I 515	1730	26/2de		Setup to 1530 hrs @ 1415 hrs attacks on 2/32 and 2/48 hrs by 15 Aco repulsed 5 Aco being knocked out @ 1515 hrs counter attack by landed inf from WEST @	

# ACTION DIARY

31 Oct 42

No	Time	From	TO	EVENT	Action
				and NORTH is being engaged by our arty @ further 25 PW from 125 IR brought in @ <sup>all inf</sup> bond passes over to 2/13 Bn and 2/23 Bn revert back to 26 Bde.	
				1 Oct 42	
V12	1800	BHQ		Intercept message that enemy counter attack to be launched at 1200 hrs	CO intel
				2/23 Aust Inf Bn is now Div reserve and mov. to any posn	CO intel
	1200			enemy arty barrage commences	
	1230			1 Sqn 40 RTR moving into rear of our posn under comd of Bde @	
				infantry reported retiring this side of Block House.	
OR17		TacHQ		Aircraft recog sigt of the HQ @ 200/45/P28	
				31 OCT @ Time shown for aircraft recog sigt as EGYPTIAN standard time which for the notice is one hour behind	
				8 Army time	
V1	1145	Intercept		Enemy will lodge counter-attack at 1200 hrs.	
				2/23 Bn div reserve + ready to move to any posn	CO intel
	1200			Enemy <del>and</del> arty barrage commences.	
V2	1230			1 Sqn RTR moving into <del>comd</del> rear of our present posn under Comd 24 Bde	CO intel
V3	1245			Infantry reported retiring this side of blockhouse. (our pos)	CO intel
	1250	B Coy 2/13		10° from B Coy 2/13 a th or gun is firing from other side of rly line onto our posn.	Bde intel
V4	1450	O Coy		a Qty of fld guns 358° from our HQ distance is 7000'. guns are left and beyond an orchard	Bde intel
V5	1525			Lighter-bombers have bombed from NORTH of BLOCKHOUSE to 32.	Adjt
V6		20 Bde		43 bn attacked but countered and regained ground	
				32 have beaten off two attacks	