

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

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

**20 Infantry Brigade**

**September 1942, Appendices,**  
**part 1 of 2**

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
32.	Bde	Arty	0756	Enemy forming up <sup>South of</sup> West Pt 23 area all OPO's warned. Counter-attack imminent on D Coy (left fwd coy).			
33.	May McIntyre	Bde Comd	0805	May McIntyre to take exploiting force through when gap available - to go fwd and make decision with Maj GRACE - force to move fwd towards West Pt 23 - to be ready.			
34	Bde	Arty	0806	TKs required urgently to resist counter attack - refuse to move without order from their comd. - 20 Bde issue orders			Order issued accordingly through Arty 60.
35	Bde	7/17	0810	Majority of PW so far are from 382 IR (GERMAN) - one off 42 ORS so far through cage, more on way.			
36.	Bde	Co	0820	Amn & mortar trucks held up at enemy minefield, unable to find gaps, & cannot contact sappers - guides required			Messages by Wt to 7/5 Bn + through Arty.

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
37.	Bde	arty	0823	TKs moving into action now			
38.	Bde	Co.	0827	More saps ready loaded in trucks, & carriers ready to guide fwd to minefd. Sappers More sappers going fwd to find gaps in minefd or to make more			
39.	Bde	2/7	0832	D Coy reports not coln down in sta facing south under by fire TKs have gone into action & reports have called for arty sp			
40.	Bde	Intercept (W/A)	Rot6. 0834	Own the advancing on ridge 87012994			
41	Bde	2/7	0836	Total PW through cage to 0825 hr: 382 IR — 36 LTL 304 — 2 MG Inf 471 — 1 Schutze (Mot) 104 — 1 Unknown 1 of 3 OR Bottle batch of 25 just arriving. Further batch ITALIANS on the way			

~~1/1~~  
~~1/1~~

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
42.	Bde	Intercept RO70	0838	0830 - One of our tks KO.			
43	Bde	7/17	0840	East Pt 24 reports 15 MT assembling near BLOCKHOUSE at Sq. 868303.			Arty in front engaged
				Message from OPO. West Pt 24: Enemy forming up behind West Pt 23 for counter-attack Our mob coln still 1500 yds out, sta & being heavily shelled			
44	Bde	Arty	0850	OPO on Trig 33 engaging landed inf approaching West Pt 23 from SW - one bty at present engaging & 7/12 Rd Regt being put on to target			
45.	Bde	7/15 through Arty	0852	Being shelled, nothing farther to report about counter-attack. Rt fwd coy situation still not clear.			

## ACTION DIARY.

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
46.	Bde	2/15 101 Set	0853	2/15 Bn 101 Set cannot find new Bn HQ			
47	Bde	2/17	0900	Further batch PW in Cage total 31. Identified: 382 IR (MG) — 8 382 IR — 17 FR 455 72 MG — 1 Unknown — 3			
48	Bde	2/17	0910	30/40 own MT 2000 yds south of East Pt 24 being heavily skilled			
49	Bde	2/17	0915	Intercepted message "QUEENSLAND complete" from C Coy to B Coy 2/15 Bn	Probably a withdrawal by right fwd coy		
50	Bde	L0	0920	Trucks being sent fwd to evacuate casualties			
51.	Bde	Arty	0923	<del>Message</del> Message to RAA from Arty L0: "Smoke screen urgent - withdrawing"			

ACTION DIARY.

9

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
52	Bde	Lo	0926	Withdrawal apparently general.			Col BASTIN <del>and</del> B Sn to keep Corridor open.
53	Bde	Lo	0932	Maj McIntyre asks permission to send out carriers to help get in casualties. Several trucks have come out, but no sign of tps as yet. One coy said to be out of amm.			Permission given by Bde Comd.
54	2/15	Bde	0940	Through Arty: "Unless forced from posn, no general withdrawal is authorized"		also ordered fwd message	Maj STRANGE with similar
55	Bde	G III (I)	0945	PW state one coy on West Pt 23, other <sup>two</sup> coys 5 kms back to NW. PWs so far from both 1 and 3 Bns 382 IR			
56	Bde	Arty	0955	"Our gp ordered to curbstone approx 15 mins ago" - message from <del>the</del> Arty Co.			
57	Bde	Div	0956	Re disposal of 2/15 Bn on return.			

## ACTION DIARY.

10

NO.	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
58	Bde	LO	1000	One coy (left fwd) 2/15 Bn returning to C Coy lines.	Bde Comd ordered 2/15 men to be kept at C Coy, ready to return		
59	Bde	41640	1010	Major 'Mc Durtys' unable to contact Major Grace for two hrs			
60	Bde	2/15 Arty	1020	Everybody out, carriers going round collecting casualties - arty concentrations not required and are being stopped.			
61	Bde	2/15	1025	Adj't reports: A/co considered it impossible to hold on in view of casualties. Only 6 tks got through interior minefd. Hq casualties & storage of amm. Only 5 tks remain. Hq casualties in 2 coys, Lt in one, nothing known of other one as yet. OC Valentine Sqn killed. Mortar truck, several carriers and other trucks lost on minefd. Engrs made 3 gaps, but could not be found. Main track - unmarked interior minefd. Carriers			

ACTION DIARY.

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
62	Bde	B Sqn Cav	1100	Engaging enemy inf 873296 - lovely target - otherwise NTR.			
63	Bde	2/15.	1110	Major SUTHERS requesting permission to send out <del>the</del> Red Cross truck to collect wounded.		Permission given to use 2/15 Cpl	
64	Bde	Arty	1125	OP reports enemy parties seen picking up wounded in West Pt 23 area - NOT fired on by our arty.			
65			1140	6 ME 109 bombed area 876297 and MGd area south of rd.			AASC infnd
66	Bde	William	1150	B Sqn Cav require confirmation of Major Barkin's orders. Rd gap closed all clear area PIMPRE except RMP 4 2/17 Carriers. Red Cross truck. gave out to try to collect wounded. Lieut Parker sent Capt Bede & half of his men across our wire after the wire drawn.			



Comd Post 1 Sept 42

ACTION DIARY.

SE	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
67	Bde	RAA	1205	RAA wave to Rans about posn on 23, hours to engage in.	Bring RAA as soon as red cross, work back		
68	Bde	Div	1200	From G(II) message to G Sqn 2 RGA - warning order to be prepared to move tonight to be in def. localities D by about hrs tomorrow as corps reserve. Div will issue detailed orders later.			Lo. Sent
69	Bde	Div	1320	3 Corp request report on casualties Sigs: Valentines & 2 Guns Nib OMB Nib	Returned by B.M(L)		
70	"	"	1321	"How many tanks are recoverable?"	1 tank in gap 300 yds of Bannock Hill. Div.		
71	Bde	LOI.	1325	1 tank destroyed by crew. Rem carrier not destroyed.			
72	Bde	2/17	1340	C Coy heavily bombed (asked for support)			Brig
73	Bde	2/17	1355	No casualties on C Coy area from bombing 4 unidentified planes now circling area			
74	Comd Post	SE	1400	2/15 Adjt Comd Post excluding D Coy 3 offrs killed 10 wounded. 130 OR care them of whom they know 23 killed 30 missing believed killed Offrs killed: Patrick, Bannister & Cogan Capt Bode still missing?			Brig

ACTION DIARY.

13

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
75.	Bch	OME 40RTR	1430	Casualties 20 killed - 00 92% of 200 killed H.O. At present 5 running 2 for Reg- 2 Wash. Shps.			passed to SC.
76.	"	SC	1445	Casualties 0 9 low 6 light casualties 1 column burnt out 2/3 of Regt (1 Lt. 13 13 Lt) 20R's wounded Vehicle & weapon. Hit			Bring.
77	"	2/15 13m	1450	Casualties 204 Mines & mines killed 26 @ 27 to 30 killed			Bring
78	713 2d Coy	Inde	1455	1 Coy to contact 1st Coy into require more (ammunition & packets)			
79	Bch	DW	1500	Tec Dis closes down 1530 hrs			B.M
80	Comdant	SC	1500	2/8 4d Amb. report Casualties 0. 2/13 13m 1 OR. 2/17 13m 1 OR. 2/15 13m 59 106 Other units 1920 including 2 of 2/8 4d Amb. P.M.'s 6 Col Dagh's condition pretty deep given blood signs of serious & nasty wounds as bad thigh & buttock wounds & fractured ankle & foot. GSW in arm 1 through nose			Bring

ACTION DIARY.

14

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
81	Comd Pat	SC	1500	B Coy MG's 1 killed 3 wounded 2 injured on duty Vehicles 2x1 ton (Utility) 1 Repairable 1 lost.			Brig
82	Bde	2/7 Ad Regt	1510	2/7 Jan RAA Clow HQ 1530 hrs re-open old point 2/8 Jan 1st & 2/12 returned to old point			
83	Bde	HORTR	1515	Capt Lydney & Capt Kitchin killed Sgt Taylor W.D. & Goodwin pass the Regt.			
84	Comd Pat	SC	1520	Light AAA Nil all round ☉ 9 Bty Ant Anti. tank 13th Pers on rd Nil Vehicles jeeps 2 ☉ 1 Sec 13 Ad Coy 1 OR killed 7 wounded 5 remaining on duty. Vehicles Nil			
85	Bde	2/15	1527	Major Strange Casualties ☉ Killed 3 - 24 Missing 1 - 25 (Capt Book) Evacuated injured 4 - 121 Total 8 - 170			SC.

ACTION DIARY.

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
86	Div	Bde	1520	Pass message to 40 RTR @ 40 request that it must be advised of casualties.		Ref 83.	DAQMC asked to pass information
87	SC	Bde CP	1600	Report on Casualties KILLED 5 - 28 MISSING believed KILLED 1925 WOUNDED 59150 of whom 9 are in the line			Bring
88	Bde	RAAF HQ	1703	SC - RAAF. Saw we any personnel at Anti Tank school at present		BM(L) to ring SC.	Answers No.
89	Cond Post	SC	1710	Prisoners 1-101 6 cas. @ 2/8 4th Amb.			Bring
90	"	SC	1715	Food A.P. moving back closing 1800	Advice B.M.		
91	Bde	2/17	1800	Enemy now re-occupying height Pt 23 and examining defence lines			advised 27 Feb 1915
92	Bde	2/13.	1914.	more air activity - Shelling singly 312° from 87525.30170. @ otherwise silent @			
93	Bde	Div	1915	1700 hrs 8th Armoured Bde was engaging an enemy flank and was making some progress @ no further details @ N2 Div rept an enemy column of tanks guns & infantry attempting to move around its left flank @ N2 Div Cav were going to attack enemy column @			

## ACTION DIARY.

16

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTIONS	ACTION
94	Bde	2/17	1740	MT movement below corner to 1800 hrs when usual increase. Abnormal air activity following BULIMBA. 179 shells CUTTING area + food C Coy FDL during day.			
95	Bde	<del>MG Bn</del> 2/13	1810	Request for no harassing fire in eqs 873301, 873302, 874301 874302 tonight	Arranged no HF between rd & try		
96	Bde	MG Bn	1815	two pls B Coy MG Bn used in today's attack will revert to 29 Bde temporarily			
97	Bde	2/17	2100	SITVOR			
98	Bde	2/13	2130	Two enemy stps reported over Peris feature during afternoon - new sent near bogged str - patrol sent out			advised 27 2d bat. two stps available - call by 2/17
99	Bde	2/32	2145	SITVOR			

Cand Post - 1 Aug '43

ACTION DIARY.

17

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
99	Blue	7/17	2200	SITWORK			
100	"	7/13	2200	SITWORK			
101	Blue	7/32	2215	SITWORK			
102	Blue	7/17	2220	SITWORK			
103	Blue	7/32	2300	SITWORK			
104	Blue	7/13	2300	SITWORK			Dir advised
105	Blue	7/13, 17, 32	2400	SITWORK			
106	Blue	7/17	0005	White flash - red + green flash of 7/13 front followed by pandemonium fire.			
107	Blue	7/32	0013	SITWORK			
108	Blue	7/13	0055	Artillery fire part of plan for 7/13 patrol			Dir notified
109	Blue	7/17	0105	0020 violent explosion out from a cap. Fair wind, but very loud + shook all slightly. Two severe for men. Patrol returned with <del>Patrol</del> through Camp.			
110	Blue	7/13	0140	Partly in. Couldn't find post. Looked about 1 hr went towards laundry line. Heard working party (cont)			

## ACTION DIARY.

18

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
				Cont. was he was manoeuvring patrol to go in was fired on by 4 Panzers from covering party. Opened up with bursts etc. No knowledge of any casualties inflicted. Patrol returned no casualties - the explosion could have hit by a tank or mortar.			
111	Bde	2/13 2/32	0300	SITNOR.  SITNOR but no comm from C Coy probably cut by tank			
112	Bde	2/17	0225	Serial 1 returned.			
113	Bde	2/17	0245	Serial 2 returned.			
114	Bde	2/32	0300	SITNOR			
115	Bde	2/13	0305	SITNOR			
116	Bde	Bde	0310	SITNOR.			
117	Bde	2/17	0310	SITNOR but still no comm from C Coy but sigs on line.			
118	Bde	2/17	0330	C Coy report by LIT small number of 2/15 personnel returned to that Coy of are being held till morning			
119	Bde	2/32	0355	SITNOR			
120	Bde	2/17	0400	SITNOR			

ACTION DIARY

19

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
121	Bde	2/13	0405	SITNOR			
122	Bde	2/32	0457	SITNOR			
123	Bde	2/13	0500	SITNOR except some explosion beyond			
124	Bde	2/17	0505	very contain also some flames			
126	Div	Bde	0510	Del SITNOR except Day report explosion in westerly direction probably blowing up of vehicles left by 2/15 Bn. also very lights.			
127	Bde	2/17	0515	SITNOR except for reported explosion			
128	Bde	2/13	0525	Bright red flames on ground some distance out from D Coy on by 250° from B Coy 248°.			
129	Bde	2/12	0545	Further report on explosion by taken from 876 430/2 to explosion was 228°			
130	Bde	2/13	0555	2 personnel from 2/15 reported in at 0230			
131	Bde	2/32	0600	1 wounded both belong to B Coy 2/15 will be at 2/17 Police post at 0830			
132	Bde	2/17	0615	SITNOR			
133	Bde	2/32	0730	SITNOR			
134	Bde	Div	0735	SITNOR			
135	Bde	2/17	0800	Mag Dury to return today but he is to see the Corps Comdr & Div will know his movements & will be able to arrange an rd. - 1130 hrs was <sup>the</sup> since @ to Thompson post. a quieter than ever before b. the second day's ditched out so 9' high with wire single strand. much in front			



ACTION DIARY.

20

SERIAL	TO	FROM	TIME	INFORMATION	NOTES	DEDUCTION	ACTION
				<p>German S. Type 2-prong                      10 yds apart wire like                      pairs wire cuts short                      point. 1/2 way between very                      taut. passed through                      NW/SE. Again find small                      scattered muffs 200 yds north                      of camp                      2. 3000 yds toward 23 very                      close search of area absolute                      clear. no sound whatsoever.                      Enemies very jumpy using                      frequent flares from 23. NWS                      along strong post due                      big explosion fire area                      23.</p>			

G15/7/475.

Copy No. 8.  
24 Aug 42.20 AUST INF BDE - OPERATION ORDER NO. 19.

Ref Maps: EL ALAMEIN : 1:50,000.  
EL DABA - EL ALAMEIN : 1:100,000.

## I N F O R M A T I O N:

1. The enemy is expected to attack on EIGHTH ARMY front during the moonlight period between 25 Aug and 1 Sep.
2. A Bn raid, similar to that envisaged in this order, is being prepared by 2 NZ Div as immediate counter stroke to the enemy attack, or as a diversion prior to the enemy attack.
3. Enemy disposns are set out in a special summary issued in conjunction with this order.
4. 9 Aust Div Cav Regt recce and other normal activity south of TELL EL EISA is continuing to prevent arousing suspicion.
5. Tac HQ, 9 Aust Div, will be established at 88792942 during time of raid.
6. If raid is ordered 2/32 Aust Inf Bn is taking over posn now occupied by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn and comes under comd 20 Aust Inf Bde.
7. Additional tps under comd:

One sqn (less four tps) 9 Aust Div Cav Regt.  
One sqn 40 RTR.  
One sqn RTR (CRUSADERS).  
One tp 13 Bty, 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.  
One tp 4 Aust LAA Regt.  
9 Aust A.Tk Bty.  
One sec 2/13 Aust Fd Coy.  
"B" Coy (less one pl) 2/2 Aust MG Bn.

## I N T E N T I O N:

8. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn, with tps under comd, will raid vicinity West Pt 23 and enemy localities and communications further west.

## M E T H O D:

9. Composition of Raiding Force:

Comd - Lt-Col R.W.G. OGLE, Comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

- (a) 2/15 Aust Inf Bn, with, under comd :-

One sqn (less four tps) 9 Aust Div Cav Regt.  
One sqn 40 RTR.  
One sqn RTR (CRUSADERS).  
One tp 13 Bty 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.  
One tp 4 Aust Lt AA Regt.  
9 A.Tk Bty (less one tp).  
One sec 2/13 Aust Fd Coy.  
"B" Coy (less one pl) 2/2 Aust MG Bn.

....2.

M E T H O D (Contd).

9. Composition of Raiding Force (Contd):

(b) Exploiting Det of Raiding Force:

Comd - Major A.E. McINTYRE - 9 Aust Div Cav Regt.

One sqn (less four tps) 9 Aust Div Cav Regt.

One sqn RTR.

One tp 13 Bty 12/7 Aust Fd Regt.

Two tps A.Tk guns (one tp 9 Aust A.Tk Bty;  
A.Tk Pl 2/15 Aust Inf Bn).

One pl inf, 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

Det RA E.

10. The op will be carried out under detailed orders of Comd Raiding Force to achieve the following :-

Phase I:

2/15 Aust Inf Bn will seize and hold at "first light" the enemy defences in the vicinity of enemy Pt 23 (87252969) as a "firm base" for further ops.

Phase II:

Exploiting force will debouch through "firm base" and raid localities and communications running south from SIDI EL RAHMAN; returning to own lines at 1500 hrs same day.

Phase III:

Entire force will be withdrawn into present FDLs at last light, on day of raid.

11. Zero:

All preparations will be completed before night 25/26 Aug, after which the raid may be ordered.

12. Notice:

(a) Notice of raid will be given to Comd of Raiding Force NOT later than 2030 hrs on eve of the attack.

(b) Comd Raiding Force will be responsible for orders to all tps under comd.

13. Arty:

(a) Fd:

RA A, 9 Aust Div, is supporting the op by timed concentrations and observed fire under control of CRA. Task tables are being issued separately.

(b) A.Tk:

(i) 9 Aust A.Tk Bty is being relieved in its present posns and, on relief, will come under comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn for the op.

(ii) CO, 2/3 Aust A.Tk Regt, is co-ord all A.Tk def within the present FDLs.

METHOD (Contd).

14. Roles:

1 Sec-2/15 Aust Fd Coy, under comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn for the op, will be responsible for :-

- (i) Assisting in the lifting of enemy minefde during the initial attack.
- (ii) Supplying Bangalore Torpedoes and other RE stores required by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
- (iii) Providing Demolition Bets working with the exploiting force.

15. Minefde:

(a) Gaps will be covered and properly worked by 2/13 Aust Fd Coy during the night prior to the attack at the following places :-

87592988	87532971
87532976	87532970

(b) Personnel of 2/13 Aust Fd Coy will man all the above gaps during the entire period of the raid and be responsible for closing gaps on orders from CO, 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

(c) Old enemy minefde in vicinity of SANDY KNOLL (87462976) will be raised by 2/17 Aust Inf Bn during night 24/25 Aug 42.

16. MGs:

(a) 'B' Coy, 2/2 Aust MG Bn (less one pl) - tasks as ordered by CO, 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

(b) Guns now in areas fwd coys 2/17 and 2/43 Aust Inf Bns will be supporting attack by flanking fire under orders CO, 2/2 Aust MG Bn.

17. Mortars:

(a) Two 81mm mortars (Italian) without dets are being provided by 26 Aust Inf Bde and will be picked up by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn by 1600 hrs 24 Aug 42.

(b) 2/13 and 2/17 Aust Inf Bns will each make available to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn :-

one 81mm mortar and crew.  
one spare crew.

These dets will come under comd 2/15 Aust Inf Bn for the op and report when required by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

(c) Lieut L.S. BEVAN (2/13 Aust Inf Bn) will comd the 81mm PI and report 2/15 Aust Inf Bn 1400 hrs 24 Aug.

METHOD (Contd).

18. Air:

- (a) Calls for direct air support will be submitted through Bde HQ.
- (b) Bomblines are being fixed west of Pt 23 (87252969) and will be notified by signal.
- (c) Exploitation force proceeding beyond bomblines will notify movement by B.T.
- (d) Ground to air signal - white ground strips at HQ and white very lights fired by fwd tps - in reply to TWO green very lights fired by planes and/or smoke generators, if available, near ground strip.

19. Plans for Deception:

The following deceptive measures will be taken by units :-

- (a) 2/13 Aust Inf Bn will :-
  - (i) Create the impression that an attack is being planned along the axis of the MAIN RD.
  - (ii) Make ostentatious recce.
- (b) 2/17 Aust Inf Bn will :-
  - (i) Be prepared, when raid is launched, to demonstrate with carriers in the direction of West Pt 24 to NW.
  - (ii) Bring mortar fire to bear on enemy localities in vicinity of ring contour "25" (87343025) and ry line.
- (c) Some apparent arty registration is being carried out in Sector "A".

20. Planning, Organisation and Trg:

Comds of sub-units in para 9 will be available to CO, 2/15 Aust Inf Bn, and Major McINTYRE for planning forthwith, and all sub-units as required for trg.

21. Security:

Comds will ensure that all tps taking part in the op do NOT take letters or means of identification fwd of FDLs.

A D M.

22. Reallotment of Tpt:

- (a) The following tpt will be loaned to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn for the raid and will report to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn B. each area by 0900 hrs 25 Aug 42 :-

- 20 Bde HQ - 2 x 15cwt CAS.
- 2/13 Bn - 1 x 15cwt CAS.
- 1 x 30cwt SPA.
- 2/17 Bn - 2 x 15cwt CAS.
- 1 x 2 ton SPA.

A D M (Contd).

22. Reallotment of Tpt (Contd):

(b) The following vehs will report to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn at 1000 hrs 25 Aug 42 under arrangements made by 9 Aust Div :-

26 Bde - 3 x 3 ton CAS (4 wheel drive).

2 x 2 ton SPA.

(c) G 1033's will be held by each unit.

23. Rec:

(a) A representative of 58 Aust LAD will be available to phone at "B" Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.

(b) 58 Aust LAD will establish a rec post in B Coy area 2/17 Aust Inf Bn at TELL EL EISA Sta.

24. P.W.:

(a) 2/17 Aust Inf Bn will construct a fwd PW Cage in the vicinity of the police post on Main Coast Rd (88713000). This cage will not be built until the night of the op.

(b) Personnel of 9 Aust Div Pro Sec, as detailed, will be responsible for marshalling and counting at fwd P.W.C.P.

(c) 2/15 Aust Inf Bn will be responsible for PW back to SANDY KNOLL at 87462976 where 2/17 Aust Inf Bn will take over and clear to CP.

(d) Sec 1 Pl 2/1 Aust HQ Gd Bn with two 30cwt vehs will be responsible for evacuation to Div Cage at 89132932.

25. RE Stores:

2/17 Aust Inf Bn will deliver 20 short handle picks to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn by 0900 hrs 25 Aug 42.

26. Medical:

2/8 Aust Fd Amb is establishing A.D.S. - location and details later.

I N T E R C O M M N.

27. HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde remains present location.

28. L/T:

Duplicate lines will be maintained fwd to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn by "J" Sec Sigs.

29. W/T and R/T:

(a) Wireless silence until ZERO, by 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

(b) A No. 11 Wireless Set will be provided for CO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

....6.

IN

INTERCOMN (Contd).

29. W/T and R/T (Contd):

(c) No.18 sets of "D" and "C" Coys 2/17 Aust Inf Bn will be "netted in" to same frequencies as coys of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn. These sets will keep constant watch during op and report to Bde by L/T should all other means of communication between 2/15 Aust Inf Bn and Bde HQ break down.

30. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn Runners:

Runners from 2/15 Aust Inf Bn with urgent messages for Bde HQ will report to "C" Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn (at 87602975) or "B" Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn (TELL EL EISA Sta) where any messages will be transmitted by L/T to Bde HQ.

31. Codewords:

(a) The codeword for the op will be "BULIMBA". On receipt of this codeword tps will RV as follows :-

Those under comd - As ordered by CO, 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.

Those in support - As ordered by respective comds.

(b) The following codewords will be used in messages :-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Codeword.</u>
TELL EL EISA Sta (87612991)	CHEESE.
BARREL HILL (87542972)	BARREL.
PIMPLE (87592982)	PIMPLE.
SANDY KNOLL (87462976)	SANDY.
WEST FT.23 (87252969)	BEEF.
TRIG 29 (86823008)	MUSTARD.
SKYLINE TRACK (running approx SE along dark 25 metre contour line about 868 grid line)	SKYLINE.
Main SW Track from SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN	ONIONS.
SIDI ABD EL RAHMAN (86553085)	RAZOR.

32. Synchronization:

By B.B.C. time signal 2100 hrs, daily.

A C K.

Issued through Sigs and IO's.

Time of Signature 1955 hrs.

*W. J. ...* Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:

Copy No.

2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1.	
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2.	✓
✓ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3.	✓
9 Aust Div Cav Regt	4-5.	✓
✓ "B" Sqn 40 RTR	6.	✓
One sgr RTR	7.	✓
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	8-9.	✓
4 Aust Lt SA Regt	10-11.	✓
9 Aust A.Tk Bty	12.	✓
✓ 2/3 Aust Fd Coy	13-14.	✓
"B" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	15.	✓
R.A.A.	16-18.	✓
✓ 2/2 MG Bn	19.	✓
9 Aust Div (incl one for RAF)	20-24.	✓
24 Aust Inf Bde	25.	✓
26 Aust Inf Bde	26.	✓
Comd	27.	✓
BM	28.	✓
SC	29.	✓
TO	30.	
IO	31.	
SUP O.	32.	
IO's	33-35.	
File	36-40.	
war Diary	41-42.	

Sigs  
hand  
nat



"BULIMBA" : COMMUNICATIONS.

The following comms were attempted by 20 Aust Inf Bde to, and within, 2/15 Aust Inf Bn during "BULIMBA" raid on 1 Sep 42:-

1. LINE:

- (a) A direct line from HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde to Adv HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
- (b) Line from TELL EL EISA Sta to Adv HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
- (c) Line from Rear HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn to Adv HQ 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
- (d) Lines to Coys within 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.
- (i) Line (a) was laid to minefd at BARREL HILL 87562972 before ops commenced. At commencement of op the line was laid from a veh behind the advancing bn, a maintenance party having been left in area 87562972. Line party (a) appeared to come under hy shell fire after passing south of SANDY KNOLL feature and the line behind them was cut in several places by shells. They proceeded with the line with the intention of mending it after reaching Bn HQ, and got as far as the GERMAN minefd when the party came under very hy shell and mortar fire. The NCO i/c of the party was wounded and the line was so badly cut about by shellfire and carriers that repairs would, besides taking many hours, reduce the conductivity of the line to an unusable state. The line party therefore picked up wounded of line party (b) (mentioned in para (ii) below) and then went via the RAP to rear Bn HQ to pick up more cable and relay the line.
- (ii) Line (b) was laid to minefd at 87552978 before ops commenced. At commencement of ops they proceeded per veh behind the bn in a line approx  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile distant from line (a). This party appeared to come under hy shell and mortar fire when approaching the GERMAN minefd. The veh received a direct hit from a shell which wounded 3 of the crew and slightly wounded the fourth man, who was some distance behind dragging the cable back. The line already laid was cut by shellfire, carriers and tks to an irreparable degree. This party was pulled up by line party (a) and returned to RAP. The veh was rendered U/S and had to be abandoned. On arrival at 2/15 Bn HQ area a line crew was organised from the remaining men and more cable sent for so that a fresh line could be attempted. Word came through shortly afterwards that the Bn would withdraw so no further attempt was made to lay a line until a short time later when word was received that the bn was to remain if possible. Line was then laid to a pt  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile east of SANDY KNOLL feature but it was then found that the bn was almost completely withdrawn. This latter line would perhaps have had better success, at least as far as the minefds, than the former lines as at that stage shellfire, and carrier and tk traffic along the line of advance had considerably diminished.
- (iii) Line party (c) advanced on foot in rear of the bn and reached adv Bn HQ. The line was used during the approach but when Bn HQ was reached the line was so badly cut about that repair was impossible.
- (iv) Lines (d) within the bn were attempted but were found impossible owing to hy shell and mortar fire.
- (v) Lines were laid by 2/7 Fd Regt from Regt HQ and from Bty HQ but met with similar results. Local lines from F.O.O to wireless set were equally unsuccessful.

2. W/T:

Sets were disposed as follows :-

- Group I - (a) CO 2/15 Bn - HP 11 Set.
- (b) Comd Armd Force - " "
- (c) Comd VALENTINE Tks " "
- (d) Bde Comd " "
- (e) CO Div Cav " "

(i) Set (a) was mounted in carrier of CO 2/15 Aust Inf Bn. This carrier hit a mine at an early stage and CO, who was in it, was wounded. The set was undamaged and continued to operate from the damaged carrier until it was transferred at about 0900 hrs to another carrier and was rendered U/S by a sniper's bullet while being lifted into the second carrier. After the first carrier was damaged on the minefield the set, although it continued to operate successfully, was not used for passing of messages as it was some distance in rear of Bn HQ.

(ii) Set (b) worked throughout.

(iii) Set (c) was destroyed and the operator killed when the Tk Comd's tk was knocked out.

(iv) Set (d) worked throughout.

(v) Set (e) worked throughout.

- Group II - (a) Bde Comd 101 set.
- (b) 2/15 Adv Bn HQ 101 set.

Set (b) had been ordered to remain at 2/15 Bn rear HQ until the A Ech vehs were called for. This did not occur until approx 0740 hrs. The set then followed the first amn convoy which was unable to locate the gap in the enemy minefields. The set reported that it was unable to locate Bn HQ and this infm was relayed to Adv Bn HQ. The set returned to 2/15 Rear Bn HQ when first vehs withdrew, but as Bn HQ itself had not then withdrawn it was sent back to contact them to be available during the withdrawal and met them between the enemy minefields and our FDLs. Contact between the sets was made only by W/T throughout, R/T being found impossible owing to the limitations of the sets.

- Group III - (a) RHQ 2/7 Fd Regt 109 set.
- (b) Arty LO (Maj JOHNSTON) at Bn HQ 109 set (for use of OPOs).

As local lines <sup>to</sup> OPOs were not possible this channel was used for passing a certain amount of traffic. The sets operated satisfactorily throughout.

- Group IV - (a) CO 2/15 Bn 18 Set.
- (b) Coy "
- (c) Coy "
- (d) Coy 108 set.
- (e) Coy 108 set.
- (f) Carrier Pl 18 Set.
- (g) MG Pl "
- (h) MG Pl "
- (i) Rear Bn HQ 108 set.

Set (a) was carried in CO's carrier in addition to the 11 set. It was removed and carried further forward when CO was wounded.

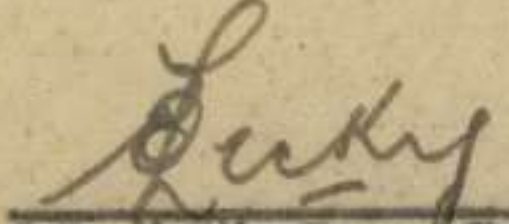
Set (b) - both operators were wounded and the set was returned to Bn HQ but was later returned to the Coy.

Set (f) was destroyed when Carrier Comd's carrier was knocked out.

The balance of the Gp worked successfully throughout and were the only means of internal comm within the Bn other than runners. They also provided an important link to Rear HQ 2/15 Bn and to C and D Coys 2/17 Bn where 18 sets were listening and infm passed back to Bde Comd.

CONCLUSIONS.

3. (a) Laying of lines should not be attempted until shell fire and tracked veh traffic has diminished sufficiently to render the line less vulnerable.
- (b) That as many W/T links as possible be available from Bde HQ fwd both for direct contact and for interception of fwd W/T Gps. It is also considered that 101 sets are not powerful enough to use R/T over any distance and should be replaced by No.11 sets.
- (c) That within Bns No.18 sets only be used as these have a longer range, less frequency restriction, and a key for use where R/T cannot get through. The 108 sets Mk I were found satisfactory over a short distance but over longer distance they were not so successful as the No.18 sets. They restricted the frequency band to one which could not be overheard by a larger set thus obviating the need of intercept sets other than No.18 sets with fwd coys of 2/17 Bn. <sup>as used by 2/15 Bn</sup> It is also considered that the antennae of a No.108 Mk I is much more noticeable than that of a No.18 set, rendering the operator and set more vulnerable in battle. No.108 Mk II sets were not used, but these, although superior to No.108 Mk I sets, are not as efficient as No.18 sets.

  
OC "J" Sec Sigs. Capt.

G 16/5/506

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde  
16 Sep 42.

2/13 Aust Inf Bn  
2/15 Aust Inf Bn  
2/17 Aust Inf Bn  
Comd.  
War Diary.

HF AND PATROL PROGRAMME

The following HF and patrol programme is issued for the period 16 - 30 Sep 42 :-

DATE	SECTOR 'A'	SECTOR 'B'	SECTOR 'C'
SEP 16	Patrols	HF	Patrols
17	HF	Patrols	Patrols
18	Patrols	As arranged and ordered by Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde	As arranged and ordered by Comd 24 Aust Inf Bde
19	Patrols	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols	Patrols
20	HF	HF	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols
21	Patrols	Patrols	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols
22	HF	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols	HF
23	HF	HF	No activity
24	Patrols	HF	Patrols
25	Patrols	Patrols	HF
26	HF	Patrols	HF
27	HF	No activity /	Patrols
28	No activity /	HF	Patrols
29	Patrols	Patrols	HF
30	HF	Patrols	HF

/ : At discretion of Bde Comd.

*Bulson* Maj.  
E.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Ref Map EL HMMFM 1:100,000.

20 AUST INF BDE O.O. No 20.

W.P.

INFORMATION

1. As per Intelligence Summaries.

2. Additional Tps

The following tps come under Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde in locality "A":

- 12 Aust A Tk Bty
- 'B' Coy (less one pl) 2/2 MG Bn

INTENTION

3. 20 Aust Inf Bde will be relieved by 26 Aust Inf Bde during nights 22/23 Sep and 23/24 Sep, and will move into DIV Res in locality "A".

METHOD

4. General

The relief will be carried out during the hours of darkness and will be completed by 0500 hrs 24 Sep.

On relief, units of 20 Aust Inf Bde will move to areas in locality "A" occupied by relieving units.

5. Adv Parties

(a) Adv parties, consisting of reps **down** to one per sec, will be sent by units of 26 Aust Inf Bde reporting on the night prior to the relief.

(b) Reps **down** to one per pl of units 20 Aust Inf Bde will report on night prior to relief to relieving units in locality "A".

6. Allotment of Units

(a) 2/13 Bn will be relieved by 2/23 Bn during night 22/23 Sep.

(b) 2/17 Bn will be relieved by 2/24 Bn during night 22/23.

(c) 2/15 Bn will be relieved by 2/40 Bn during night 23/24 Sep.

7. Routes

(a) 2/13 Bn Beach tr to rd junc 88032973 thence main rd to new area.

(b) 2/15 Bn Main rd to new area.

(c) 2/17 Bn Tr from present location to Main rd at 87912983, thence to new area

8. Timings

(a) 2/17 Bn coln will clear rd junc 88032973 by 0100 hrs 23 Sep.

(2)

- (b) 2/13 Bn coln will NOT pass track and rd junc 88032973 before 0130 hrs 23 Sep.

9. Protective Patrols

- (a) 2/13 and 2/15 Bns will be responsible for patrolling during the night of relief, personnel of incoming units. Accompanying patrols.
- (b) Rear parties will be left if required by relieving units.

10. Comd.

Comd passes at 1800 hrs 23 Sep.

11. AMM

- (a) Full G 1098 scale will be carried by all units.
- (b) All amm surplus to G 1098 will remain in posts and will be taken over by 26 Bde.
- (c) Locality reserves will be taken over on arrival in new area. Inventory of amm taken over will be kept and a copy sent to this HQ.

12. Reserves

- (a) 2 days reserve rations and water in FDLs as authorised by 9 Aust Div 112/2/31 of 6 Aug 42 will be handed over to incoming units and receipts obtained.
- (b) 3 day veh rations will be maintained intact.
- (c) One pl 2/17 Aust Inf Bn will move to new area with adv party and will be responsible for initial take over, and subsequent guarding of locality reserves of sups and water. Lists will be prepared and fwded to this HQ as soon as possible. Pl to report to SC 26 Aust Inf Bde.

13. Weapons

- (a) Spigot mortars and amm holdings will be left in posts and handed over to 26 Bde.
- (b) All Breda 6.5 mm weapons and amm will be handed over to 26 Bde.
- (c) All remaining weapons including 31mm mortars will be taken by units to new area.

14. Post Stores

- (a) An inventory of post stores and surplus amm will be prepared by adv parties and fwded to this HQ.
- (b) Receipts will be given for all stores taken over.

15. Engineer Stores

- (a) Mines held in Bn B Ech areas will be taken to new area.
- (b) G 1098 scale of picks and shovels together with such reserves as authorised, will be carried by Bns.

(3)

16. Tp Carrying Tpt

20 vehs per Bn from 101  
Gen Tpt Coy will be used by 26 Bde to carry tps fwd. This  
tpt will be available to units of 20 Bde on rearward journey.

17. Hygiene

- (a) All latrine seats will be left in positions.
- (b) Units will make suitable sanitary arrangements on arrival in new area.

13. Traffic

- (a) Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy will be responsible for general traffic direction on the move.
- (b) TPs will be established at :

rd junc 88032973  
main rd gap west locality "A"

19. Sups POL Water

Instns will be signalled later.

20 A.P. Will be notified by signal

21. Medical Will be advised.

22. Intercomm

Location of H<sub>1</sub>

- (a) Main H<sub>1</sub> closes present location at 1800 hrs 23 Sep opening same time at 43329020.
- (b) Tac H<sub>1</sub> closes present location on completion of relief.
- (c) Rear closes present location 1600 hrs 23 Sep re-opening same time at 43329020.

Existing Lines

- (a) These will be left in and taken over by 26 Aust Inf Bde.
- (b) Existing lines in locality "A" will be taken over by 20 Aust Inf Bde.
- (c) Telephones and switchboards taken over by 20 Aust Inf Bde will remain in situ.
- (d) Post store signal equipment issued by 9 Aust Div will be handed over to 26 Aust Inf Bde and receipts obtained.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Signed at 1735 hrs

Issued through Sigs.

*B. M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.*  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTIONCOPY NO

2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
J Sec Sigs 9 Aust Div	4
1 Pl A Coy HQ Gd Pl	5
58 Aust L...D.	6
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	7
9 Aust A Tk Bty	8
2/13 Aust Fd Coy	9
'E' Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	10
2/8 Aust Fd Amb	11
10 Coy ASC	12
9 Aust Div	13
26 Aust Inf Bde	14
24 Aust Inf Bde	15
101 Gen Tpt Coy	16
12 Coy ASC	17
Comd	18
S.C.	19
Bde T.O.	20
Sup O.	21
Spare	22/23
File	24
War Diary	25/26.



20 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO. 2d

Ref Mal EL ALANNIN 1:50,000.

1. ALL previous instns relating to Def fire tasks are cancelled.
2. Def Fire tasks will be fired in accordance with the task table (Appx "A"), in which have been consolidated tasks which are at present operative plus some additional tasks. Those tasks prefixed by the letter "B" are tasks on 24 Aust Inf Bde sector.
3. Trace showing Def Fire tasks is attached - Appx "B".
4. Rates of fire :-

S O S Tasks                      5 mins Rapid

5 mins Slow

DEF Fire other than SOS Tasks

5 mins Normal

5. SOS tasks in 20 Aust Inf Bde area will be called for by light signals and substantiated by L/T to HQ 2/7 Aust Fd Regt. Fd Regts will assist each other on Def Fire tasks; requests for assistance will be made direct. ALL calls for DF to be answered by 7 Med Regt RA will be made through HQ 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

*Bulmer* Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	4
War Diary	5/6 ✓

Ser-ial	Target No	Map ref Centre of area or Ends of lines	dg of longer Axis	size of area (yds)	size of other Than SOS	To be		fired by Tps of		Appx "A" 20 Just Inf Bde OP INSTN NO Remarks - signals
						2/7	2/8	2/12	7 Med	
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
1	DF A1	8746 3020	50°	40 x 140	SOS	C				GREEN - WHITE - GREEN
2	DF A2	8745 3015	20°	40 x 140	SOS	D				" " " "
3	DF A3	8747 3012	360°	40 x 140	SOS	E				" " " "
4	DF A4	8745 3009	340°	40 x 140					1 Tp	<del>GREEN - WHITE - GREEN</del>
5	DF A5	87430 30045	360°	40 x 140	SOS	F				WHITE - RED - GREEN
6	DF A6	87420 29975	360°	40 x 140	SOS	A				GREEN - GREEN - GREEN
7	DF A7	Cancelled								
8	DF A8	8750 2981	360°	40 x 140						<del>GREEN - WHITE - GREEN</del>
9	DF A9	8750 2976	360°	40 x 140	SOS	B				GREEN - GREEN - RED
10	DF A10	8750 2970	360°	40 x 140					1 Tp	
11	DF A 11	87495 30495	40°	400 x 150						
12	DF A12	87395 30440	360°	400 x 200						
13	DF A13	87240 30360	45°	400 x 200						
14	DF A14	87315 30290	360°	400 x 200						
15	DF A15	87195 30320	45°	500 x 200						
16	DF A16	87340 30200	45°	450 x 200						
17	DF A17	87295 29975	30°	400 x 200						
18	DF A18	87395 29795	60°	400 x 200						
19	DF A19	87225 29695	300°	300 x 200					Cancelled	
20	DF A20	87360 29640	360°	500 x 200						
21	DF A21	8755 2984	315°	400 x 150	SOS				2 Tps	GREEN - GREEN - RED

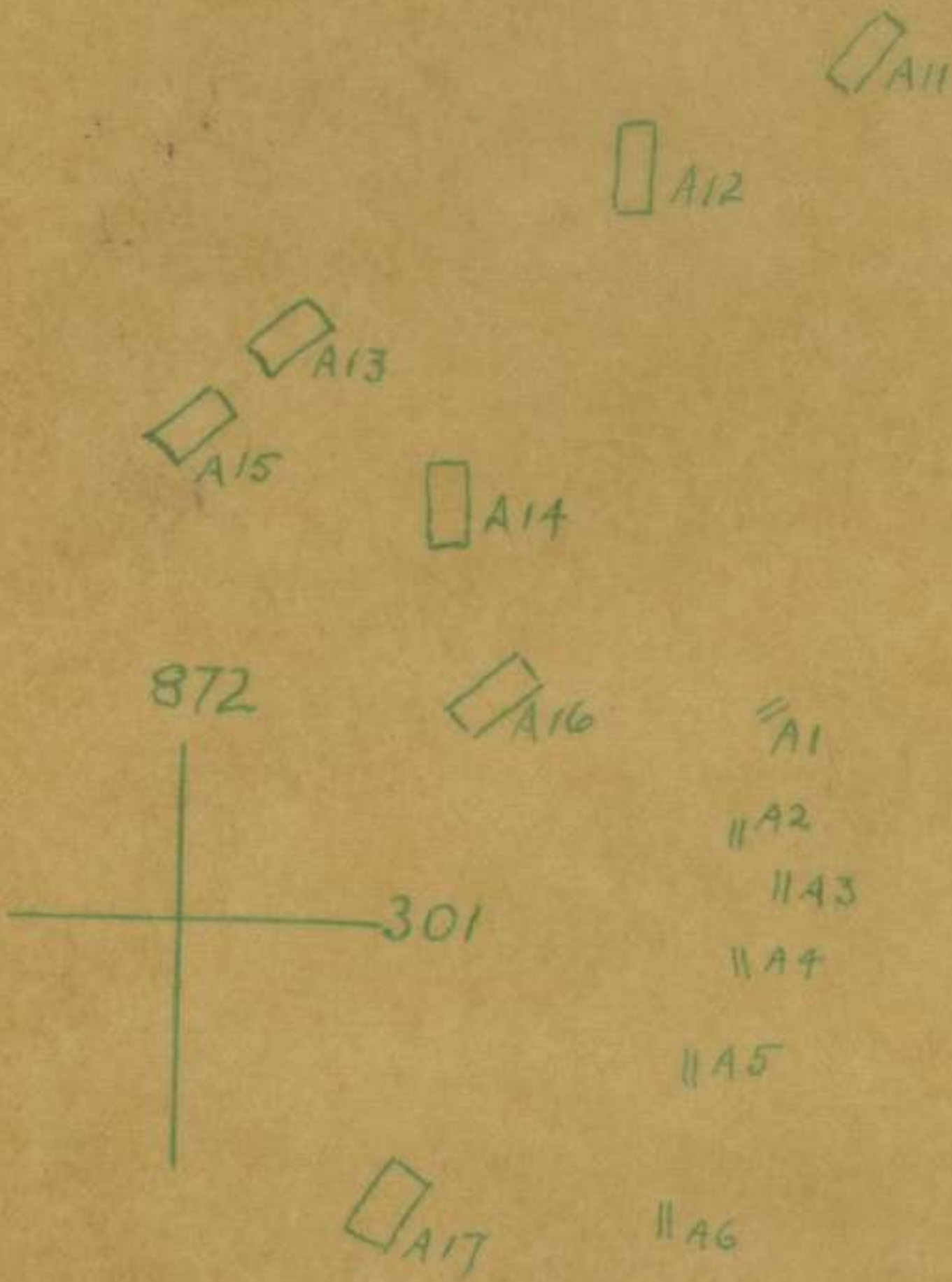
Serial	Target No	Map Ref Centre of area or ends of lines	Bg of longer Axis	Size of area (yds)	SOS or other than SOS	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks	Signals
						2/7	2/8	2/12	7 Med		
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	
22	DF B1	Cancelled									
23	DF B2	874920 296590 874690 296310		Line							
24	DF B3	874500 296010 874500 295090		do							
25	DF B4	874630 294620 874770 294190		do							
26	DF B5	874970 293510 875110 293280		do							
27	DF B6	875380 292970 875510 292730		do							
28	DF B7	876050 292170 876200 292070		do							
29	DF B8										
30	DF B9										
31	DF B10										
32	DF B11										
33	DF B12										
34	DF B13										
35	DF B14										
36	DF B15										
37	DF B16	Cancelled									
38	DF B17										
39	DF B18										
40	DF B19										
41	DF B20										
42	DF B21										
43	DF B22										

Serial No	Target No	Map ref Centre of Area or Knds of lines	lg of langer axis	Size of area (yds)	SOS or Other than SOS	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks - Signals	
						2/7	2/8	2/12	7 Med		
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	
44	DF B23										
45	DF B24										
46	DF B25										
47	DF B26	Reserved									
48	DF B27										
49	DF B28										
50	DF B29										
51	DF B30		875180 296680 875170 296410		Line	SOS		1			RED RED GREEN
52	DF B31		875200 296250 875260 295970		do	SOS		1			"
53	DF B32	875130 295600 875110 295330		do	SOS		1			"	
54	DF B33	875260 295100 875410 294920		do	SOS		1			"	
66	DF B34	875570 294720 875740 294510		do	SOS			1		"	
56	DF B35	875840 294390 875970 294140		do	SOS			1		"	
57	DF B36	876080 293800 876170 293550		do	SOS			1		"	
58	DF B37	876265 293230 876325 293070		do	SOS			1		"	
59	DF B38	876520 292820 876675 292745		do	SOS			1		"	
60	DF B39	876845 292695 876890 292515		do	SOS			1		"	

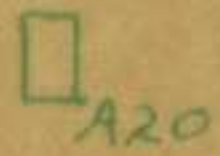
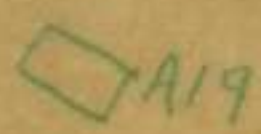
SECRET

COPY NO 6

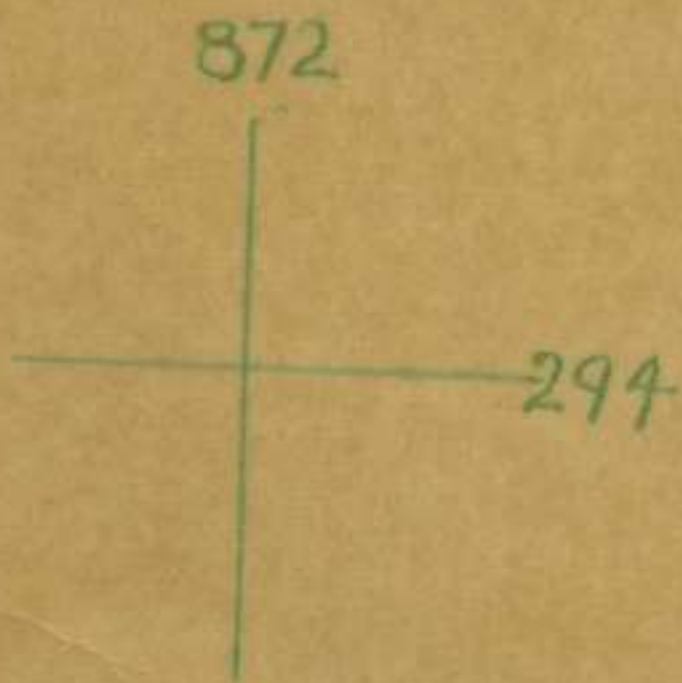
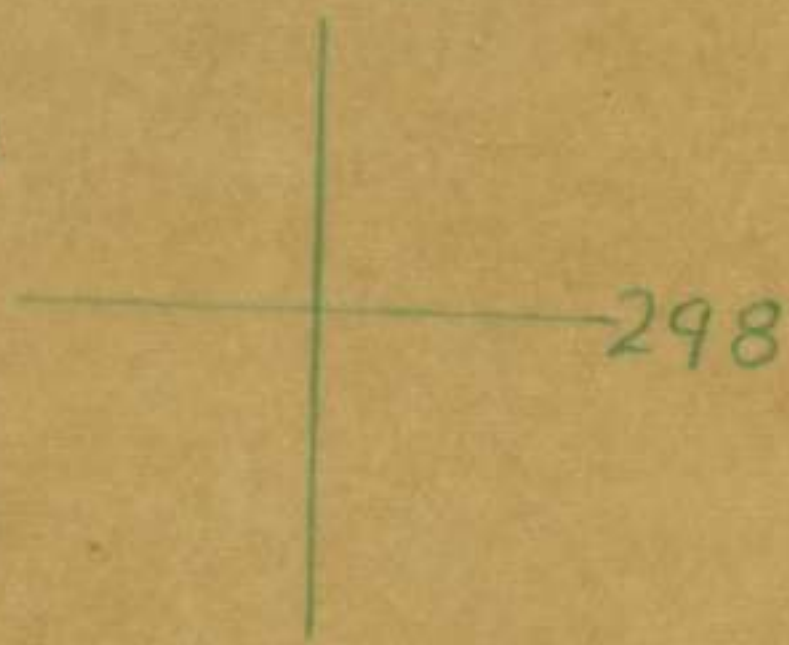
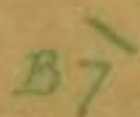
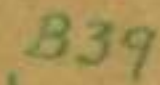
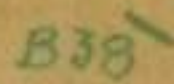
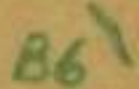
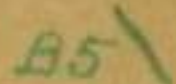
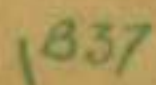
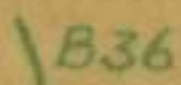
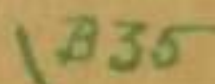
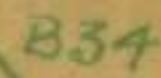
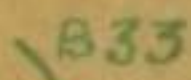
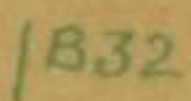
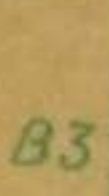
Ref Map - El Alamein 1/50,000



- A1
- A2
- A3
- A4
- A5
- A6



- B2/ B30
- B31



20 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 22.

Ref Maps EL AL MEIN )  
EL MASABA ) 1:50,000

INFM

1. Enemy

Latest details of enemy disposns are set out in Int Summaries. The enemy appears to be on the defensive temporarily in order to regroup and reorganise his striking force. His object is still the conquest of EGYPT.

2. The enemy may again attempt an outflanking movement to the south, or a direct break through of 9 Aust Div posns. In conjunction with other ops, or independently, the enemy may attack Locality 'A',

- (a) by large or small raids, by commandos or other tps, along the coast line.
- (b) by air-borne tps.

3. 9 Aust Div is to defend the present FDLs at all costs.

4. Tps under comd :-

12 Aust A Tk Bty  
B Co. 2/2 Aust MG Bn (less one pl)

5. Tps in support :-

2/13 Aust Fd Coy  
12 Coy ASC.  
1 Pl 101 Gen Tpt Coy  
2/11 Aust Fd Amb.

INTENTION.

6. 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp will :-

- (a) defend Locality 'A' against attack by land, sea-borne, or air-borne forces.
- (b) be prepared to counter attack on front of 24 or 26 Aust Inf Bde.

METHOD.

7. Defence against Air-borne attack

- (a) Edges of responsibility - excl minefd  
42509037 - 33302893 - 43208970 - 44668970 -  
44559047
- (b) Unit areas of responsibility - as per att  
trace Appx 'A'
- (c) Air Combat Force
  - (i) Each Bn will organise and train a mob air combat force to deal with attack by air-borne tps in Bde area.

(2)

- (ii) Strength - 1 rifle coy, plus carriers, mortars MGS.
- (iii) Role - to deal immediately with any attack in the Bn area, or if ordered, to act elsewhere in the Bde area.

(d) All units will establish OPs sited to give observation of the whole unit area. On receipt of warning of possible attack by air-borne tps, these OPs will be manned.

(e) At all times air sentries on the scale of one per pl will be detailed and will maintain a continuous watching service.

### 8. Defence against Sea-borne attack

(a) Areas of responsibility :

- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn - From incl western FDLs to incl 433 easting grid.
- 1 Pl MG Gd Bn - From excl 433 easting to excl 4335 easting grid.
- 2/13 Aust Fd Coy - from incl 4335 easting to incl 4345 easting grid.
- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn - from excl 4345 easting to incl eastern FDLs.

(b) Units will prepare schemes for the beach defence of the sectors allotted above.

(c) Units will institute within their sectors :-

- (i) coast watching and listening posts by day and night.
- (ii) beach patrols by night from 2000-0630 hrs and will make mutual arrangements for beach patrols to make contact on sector bndys at hourly intervals during the night.

### 9. Defence of Locality "A" against ground attack.

(a) Fwd Tps - right 2/17 Aust Inf Bn - West TELL EL SHUMMA area.  
- left 2/15 Aust Inf Bn - EL QASABA EL SH ROYA area.

(b) Res - 2/13 Aust Inf Bn - east TELL EL SHUMMA area

(c) Units will review existing defences, and the MG and A Tk layout, and fwd to this HQ any recommendations for their improvement.

(d) Units will report as soon as possible on the state of development of the defences.

(e) Recco  
2/13 Aust Inf Bn will make recco for possible counter-attack in 2/15 and 2/17 Aust Inf Bn areas.  
2/17 Aust Inf Bn will make recco for possible counter-attack in 2/15 and 2/13 Aust Inf Bn areas.

### 10. Bde Counter-Attack Role

Arrangements will be made by this HQ for recces of 24 Aust Inf Bde front for a possible counter-attack to restore FDLs in that area.

ADM.

11. Tp Carrying Tpt  
 12 Coy ASC and 1 pl 101 Gen Tpt Coy are available for tp carrying.
12. Sups  
 (a) Sup P at 43589017 between 1600 hrs and 1700 hrs daily (except for 12 coy ASC and 1 pl 101 Gen Tpt Coy)  
 (b) 3 days veh rations will be maintained on vehs.  
 (c) 3 day veh rations for marching personnel of bns will be kept readily available for loading onto tp carrying tpt.  
 (d) Locality reserve for use in extreme emergency is held under Bde arrangements and consists of 3 days rations for 5000.
13. POL  
 (a) PP at 43569019 between 1600 hrs and 1700 hrs daily.  
 (b) Petrol tankers will supply Bde HQ, three Bns and 2/7 Fd Regt in unit lines.  
 (c) All tanks will be kept filled and an additional 100 miles per veh will be maintained.  
 (d) Bde reserve of 1000 galls is held for use in emergency.
14. AMN  
 (a) APs is established at 43559017 (excluding 25 pr amn)  
 (b) G1093 scale plus reserves, as authorised by 9 Aust Div Adm Instn No 90 appx "A" distributed to Bns.  
 (c) 320 rounds 2 pr A Tk are held under Bde control.
15. Water  
 (a) WP is established at EL IMAYID sta.  
 (b) 10 000 gals are held in 44 gal drums in Bde res.
16. Medical  
 (a) 11 Aust Fd Amb MDS is established at 43329021.  
 (b) Lt Sec 11 Fd Amb is in support of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn and is established at 43378987.
17. PW  
 20 Aust Inf Bde will clear to Corps cage at 470909.
18. Hygiene  
 Particular attention will be paid to hygiene within the area. Reps from 2/4 Aust Fd Hygiene Sec are available for consultation and will carry out regular inspections.
19. Rec  
 58 Aust L.A.D. is established at 43369021.



INTERCOM

- 20. Beach Alarm - light sig RED-RED-RED. 2/13 and 2/17 Aust Inf Bns will arrange within their areas a system of 2 in mortar illuminating flares to be fired when beach alarm is given.
- 21 Air alarm - OPs will be provided with W/T sets, supplemented where possible b L/T.

*R. Hanes* Capt  
for Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

ACK

Signed at 14 30 hrs

DISTRIBUTION

COPY NO.

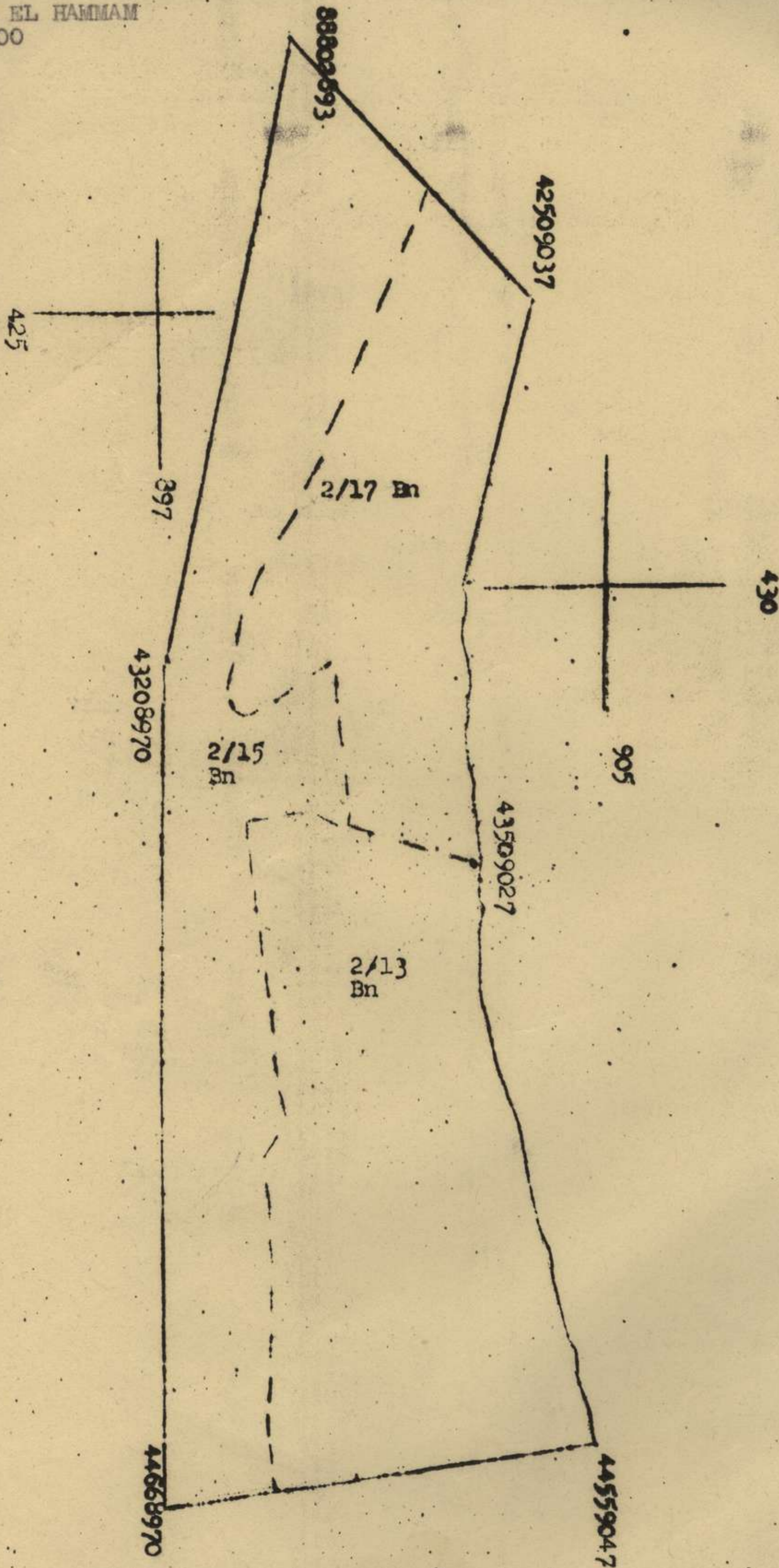
- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn
- 1 pl Aust HQ Gd Bn
- 12 Aust Tk Bty
- 2/13 Aust Fd Coy
- B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn
- 12 Coy ASC
- 2/11 Aust Fd Amb
- 9 Aust Div
- Cond
- B.M.
- S.C.
- I.O.
- T.O.
- L.Os
- B.SCO
- War Diary
- File

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16/13
- 19
- 20/21
- 22/23.

Unit areas of responsibility for  
Anti Paratro defence.

Ref Map EL HAMMAM  
1/100,000

**SECRET**  
APPX "A" to  
20 Aust Inf Bde Op Instrn  
No 22



Operation Orders and Instructions  
from other Bdes and units  
—

G1575/185

S1/80

SECRET

HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde.  
1 Sep 42.

2/28 Bn  
2/45 Bn  
2/3 Pnr Bn

Amendment No. 1 to 24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 10  
Appx B Part II

The following DF tasks are amended, due to non-availability of 7 Med Regt for fire on SOS tasks :-

Tgt No.	Plan	Coords	Unit to Engage	Amnd Rate
B 2	SOS A	Unchanged	one bty 2/12 Fd Regt	Unchanged
B 5	SOS A	"	one tp 2/12 Fd Regt	"
B 5	SOS B	"	one bty 2/12 Fd Regt	"
B 6	SOS A	"	one tp 2/12 Fd Regt	"
B 6	SOS B	"	one bty 2/12 Fd Regt	"
B 7 )	SOS B	8787029330	one bty 2/8 Fd Regt	"
B 8 )		- 8789529315	"	"
B 9 )		8789529315	"	"
		- 8792029300	"	"
B 10	SOS B	Unchanged	"	"

Maj.  
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

Copies to  
2/32 Bn  
20 Aust Inf Bde  
3 S.A. Bde  
File  
War Diary

20 Aug 48  
Received 31 Aug 48  
24 Aust Inf Bde

SECRET  
Copy No 15

25 Aug 48

24 Aust Inf Bde O.C. No. 10

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

INFORM

1. 24 Aust Inf Bde O.C. No. 9 is cancelled and will be destroyed.
2. 30 Corps is to defend present FDLs at all costs.
3. 25 Armd Bde has moved to area EL AGURI TOMB 425885 to be prepared to counter attack -
  - (a) to restore FDLs on RUWEISAT RIDGE.
  - (b) NW of RUWEISAT RIDGE
  - (c) SW
4. 26 Aust Inf Bde is to be made mobile with tasks -
  - (a) to hold defended area 'A'.
  - (b) be prepared to counter attack to restore the situation in either 20 or 24 Aust Inf Bde areas.
5. Inter-bde boundary incl to 24 Aust Inf Bde is Trig 30 (870292) - CAIRN 875296 - 87652970 - 87802970.
6. 24 Aust Inf Bde responsibility for defence against airborne tps and paratps -
  - (a) West of FDLs ALAMEIN defended locality, area all South of ry line to FDLs 2/43 Bn.
  - (b) Area enclosed by defences of ALAMEIN locality.
7. Following tps are in sp 24 Aust Inf Bde -

- 2/5 Fd Regt
- 11 Bty 3 A Tk Regt
- one tp 12 Bty 3 A Tk Regt
- one sec 12 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt
- 2/3 Fd Coy
- C Coy 2/2 MG Bn
- D Coy 2/2 MG Bn
- 2/3 Fd Amb
- 5 Rec Sec
- 6 Div Sec 1 Ord Fd Pk

INTENTION

8. 24 Aust Inf Bde Gp will defend present FDLs at all costs.

METHOD

9. Fwd bns

<u>Right</u>	2/43 Bn
<u>Left</u>	2/3 Pnr Bn

10. Line of FDLs  
87552966 - Trig 22 (87672950) - 87852939 - 88152929

11. Inter bn Boundary - line of QATTARA Rd incl to 2/43 Bn.

12. Res - 2/32 Bn.

Task (a) counterattack to restore FDLs

(b) occupation of, or counterattack on, any sector of ALAMEIN defended locality.

(c) counter attack on air or seaborne landings within ALAMEIN defended locality.

(d) protection of minefd gap 889289

13. Arty

(a) 2/8 Fd Regt is manning OPs at -

87582955	87952935
87562958	87913000
87612957	87623012
88172905	

(b) Further sp is to be provided by RAA 9 Aust Div if required.

(c) D.F. and S.O.S. tasks shown in Appx B.

14. A Tk

A Tk sp is suballotted -

(a) three tps 11 A Tk Bty, one tp 12 A Tk Bty in sp 2/43 Bn.

(b) one tp 11 A Tk Bty in sp 2/3 Pnr Bn.

15. AA

One sec 12 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt in sp 2/43 Bn.

(removed from sp. and moved out night 28/29 Aug

16. MG

MMG sp is suballotted -

(a) C Coy and one pl D Coy 2/2 MG Bn in sp 2/43 Bn.

(b) D Coy less one pl in sp 2/3 Pnr Bn.

17. Patrols

A patrol programme will be issued at intervals from this HQ to ensure coordination of patrolling with H.F.

Object of patrolling will be -

(a) to inflict damage upon enemy and take prisoners.

(b) identifications.

(c) location and plotting of enemy minefds and FDLs.

18. Anti paratp defence

Mob res will be held by units to deal with paratp landings.

Areas of responsibility -

(a) 2/43 Bn - area bounded by the inter bde boundary with 20 Aust Inf Bde, ry line, QATTARA Rd and own FDLs.

(b) 2/3 Pnr Bn - area bounded by coast at 88252983, K 98 on Main Rd, post 10, own FDLs and QATTARA Rd.

(c) 2/32 Bn - ALAMEIN defended locality less 2/3 Pnr Bn area.

19. Minefd

Minefd trace and responsibility for guarding, closing and ordering closing of minefd gaps are shown in Appx C.

Engr assistance will be provided where required for closing gaps.

ADM

20. Issued in 24 Aust Inf Bde Adm Instn No. 5.

INTERCOMN

21. Bde Main HQ at 88612949.  
Rear HQ at 88852929.

22. S.D.F. - Plan A (Tasks 1 - 6) verey lights - RED RED GREEN  
Plan B (Tasks 5 - 8) verey lights - GREEN GREEN RED

ACK ✓

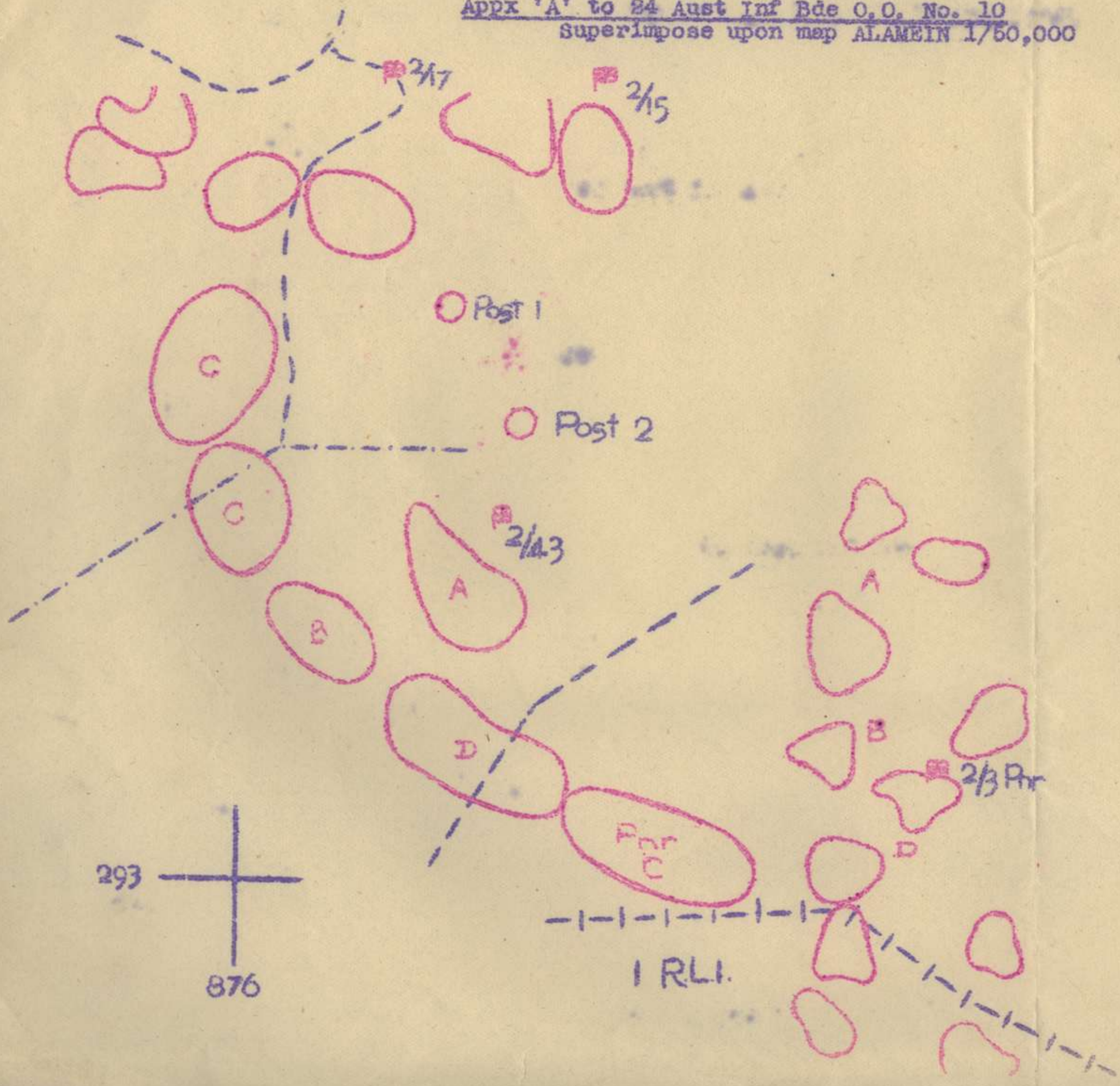
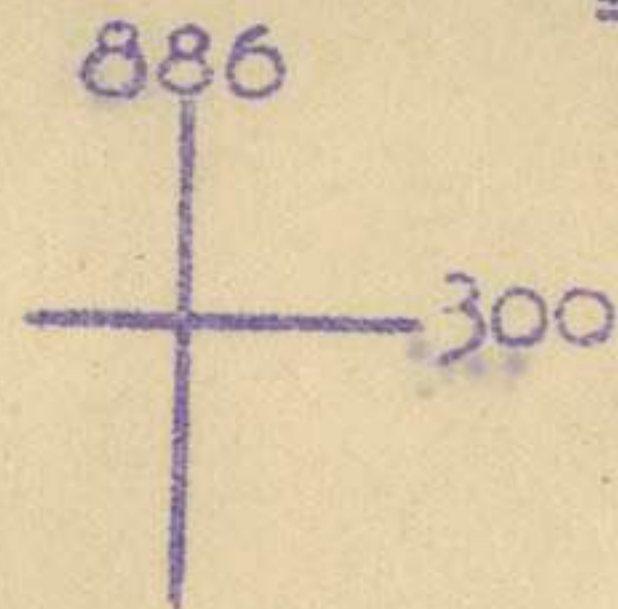
*BR Jackson*  
Maj.  
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

Time of Signature 1545 hrs  
Issued through Sigs

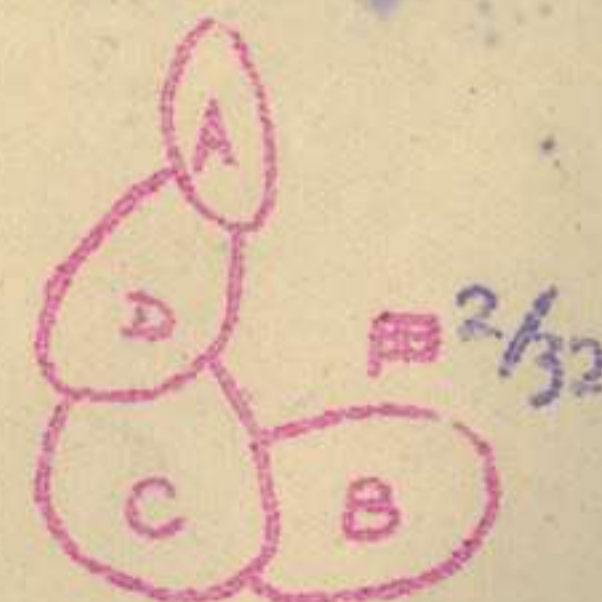
<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
2/28 Bn	1
2/32 Bn	2
2/43 Bn	3
2/3 Pnr Bn	4
K Sec Sigs	5
76 LAD	6
2/8 Fd Regt	7
11 Bty 3 A Tk Regt	8
2/3 Fd Coy	9
C Coy 2/2 MG Bn	10
D Coy 2/2 MG Bn	11
2/3 Fd Amb	12
9 Aust Div	13-14
20 Aust Inf Bde	15
26 Aust Inf Bde	16
3 S.A. Bde	17
Comd	18
B.M.	19
S.C.	20
I.O.	21
T.O.	22
File	23-24
War Diary	25-26

Appx 'A' to 24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 10  
Superimpose upon map ALAMEIN 1/50,000

SECRET

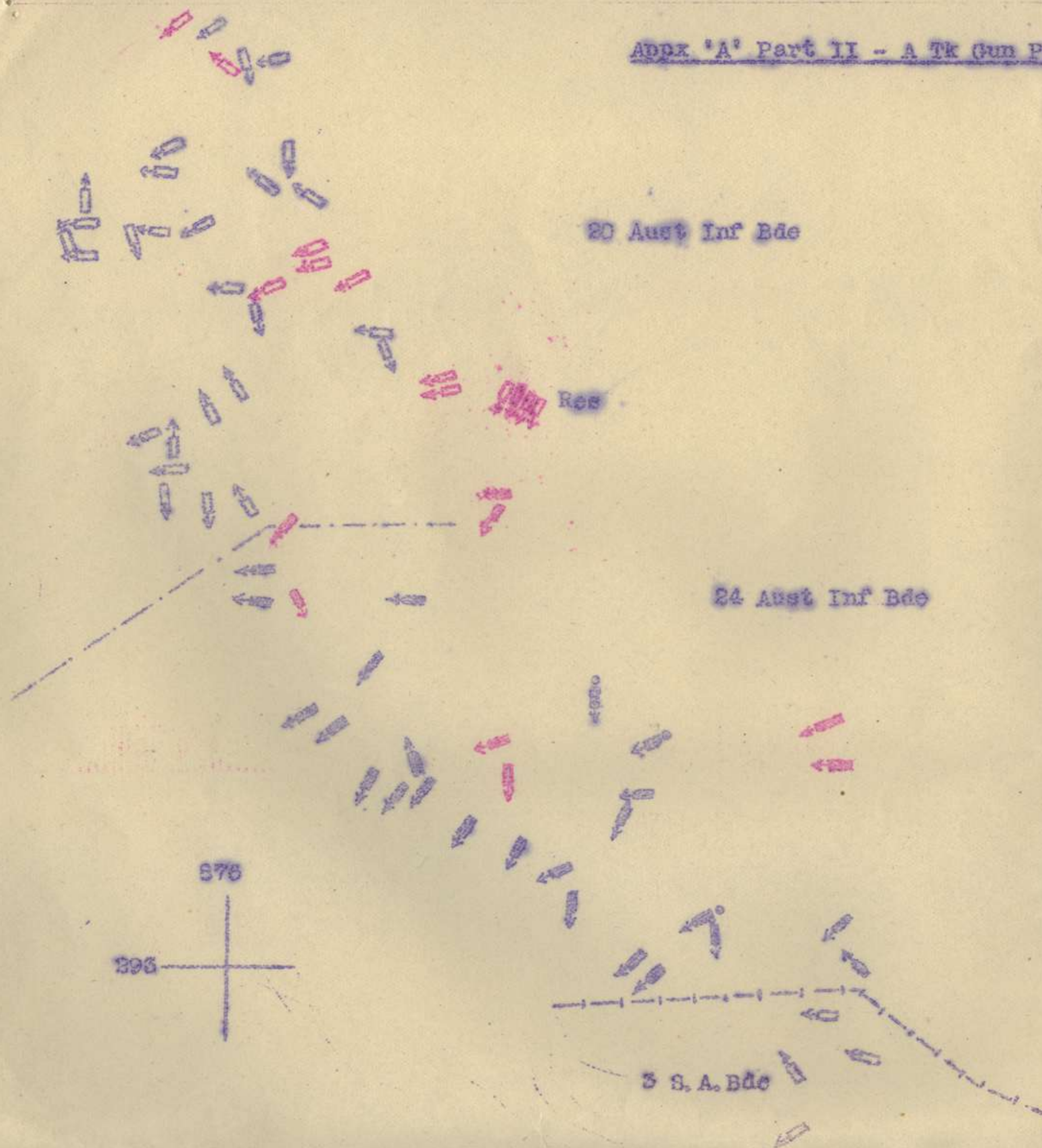


Main 24

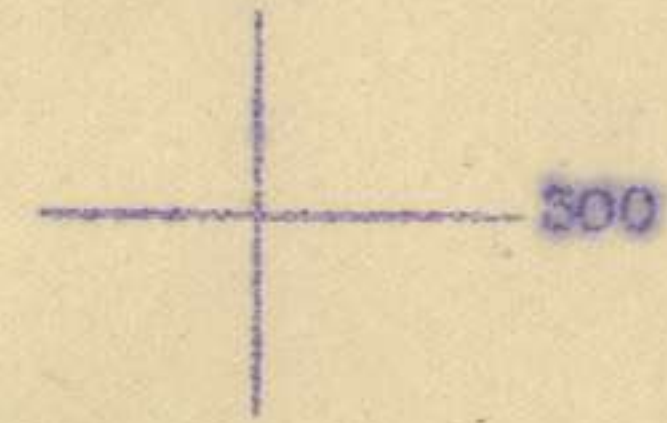




APPX 'A' Part II - A Tk Gun Posns



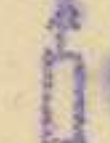




885



300

LEGEND

-  6 pdr li Bty 3 A Tk Regt
-  2 pdr Inf A Tk Pl
-  6 pdr outside Bde Area
-  2 pdr outside Bde Area
-  47 mm A Tk gun

 RES

878

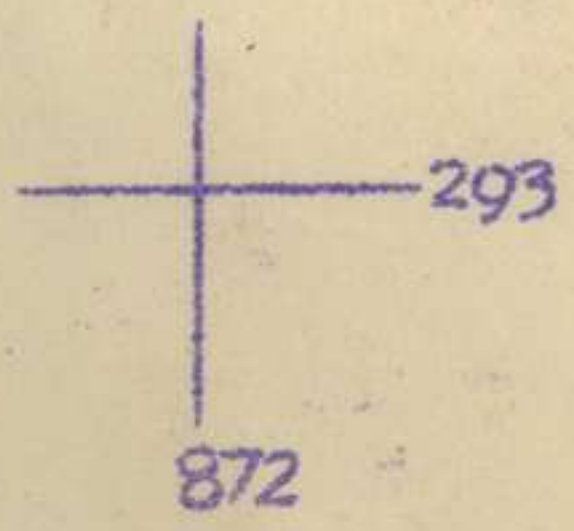
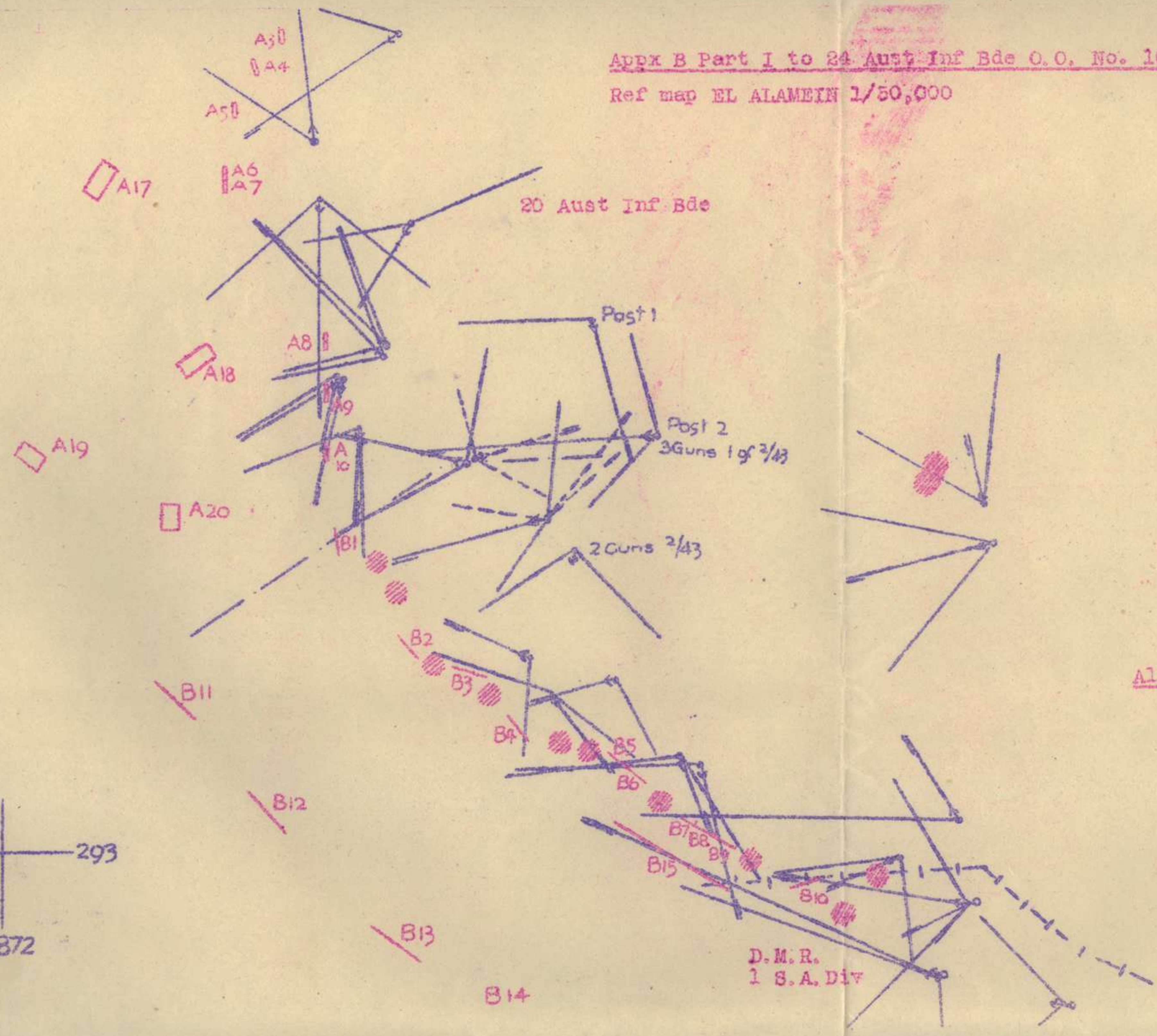
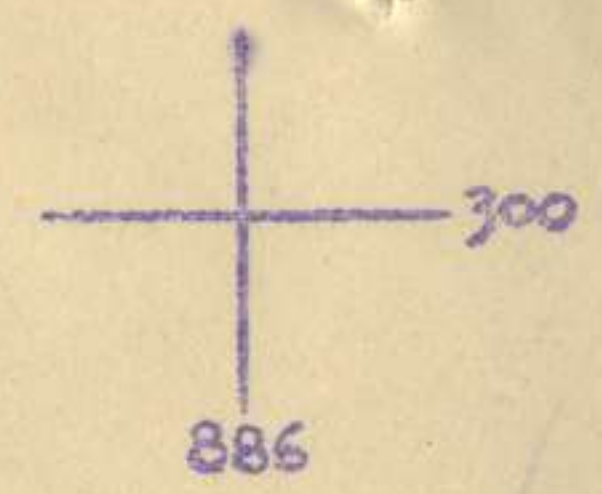


396

3 S. A. Bde

SECRET

Appx B Part I to 24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 10  
Ref map EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000



ARTY D.F. PLAN

Ref map EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

SECRET  
Appx B Part II  
To 24 AUST INF BDE O.O.  
No 10.

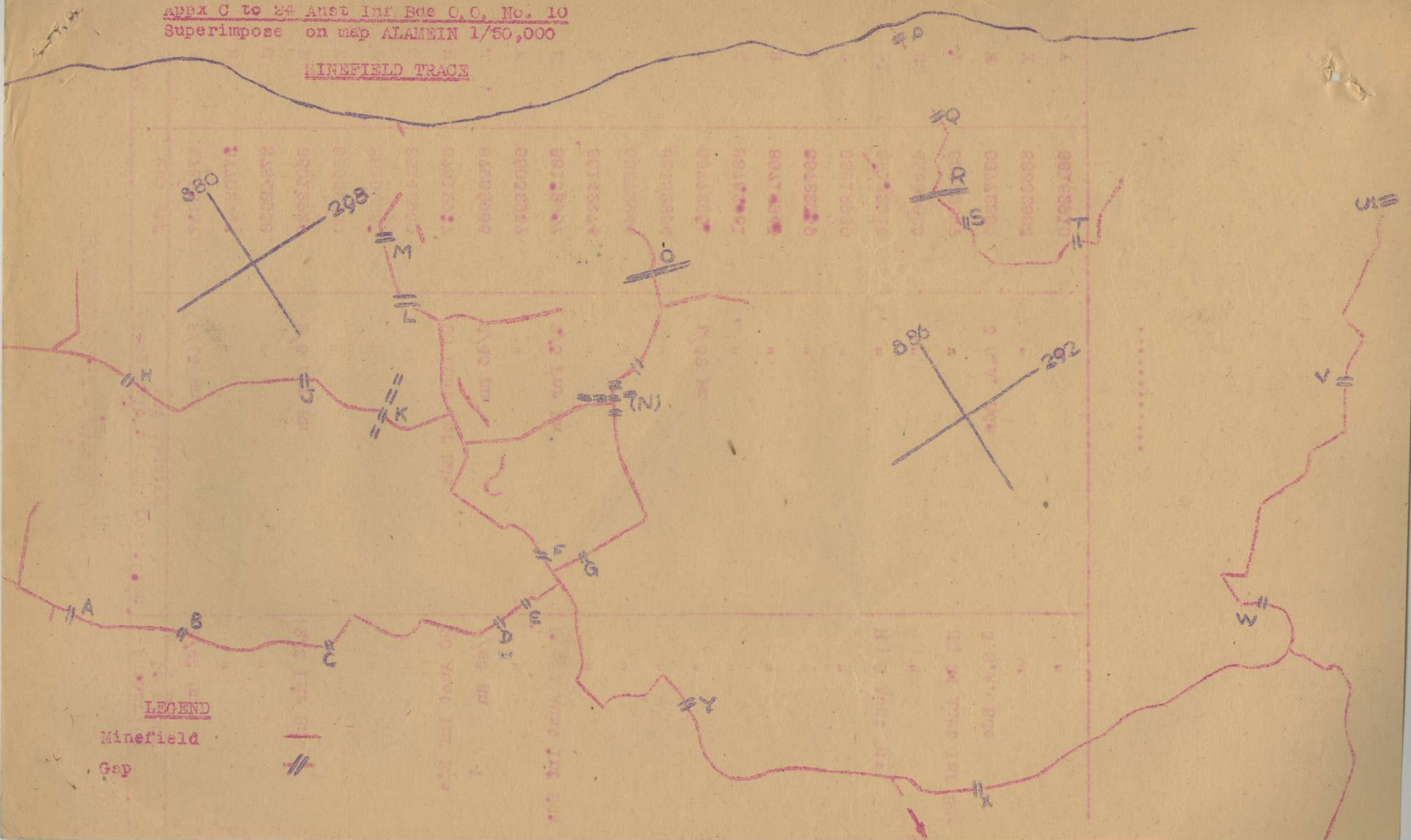
1. D.F. tasks will be fired in accordance with task table hereunder - certain tasks have been selected as SOS tasks.
2. S.O.S. tasks shown below will be grouped under two plans -
 

PLAN A - Tasks 1 - 6	} called for by light sig
PLAN B - Tasks 5 - 8	
3. (a) Guns will be laid on PLAN A, which has priority.  
 (b) If PLAN B is called for separately, it will be engaged.  
 (c) If PLANS A and B are called for simultaneously, or PLAN B is called for immediately after the call for PLAN A, then PLAN A will be engaged first and PLAN B fired immediately on its completion.  
 (d) If PLAN B is called for first, and is immediately followed by a call for PLAN A, then PLAN B will be engaged 5 mins normal only and be immediately followed by PLAN A.

Target No.	PLAN	Co-ords End of Lines	Unit to Engage	Amn	Rate	Remarks
B 1	SOS A	8753029625 - 8753329594	A & B Tps 2/8 Fd Regt	HE	5 mins Normal 5 mins Slow	Called for by light sig
B 2	"	8759529515 - 8761029490	A & B Tps 7 Med Regt	"	"	"
B 3	"	8764029485 - 8768029472	C & D Tps 2/8 Fd Regt	"	"	"
B 4	"	8769729439 - 8772029410	E & F Tps "	"	"	"
B 5	SOS A & B	8779529400 - 8782029375	A & B Tps 2/12 Fd Regt	"	"	"
B 6	"	8782029375 - 8784229360	C & D Tps "	"	"	"
B 7	SOS B	8787029330 - 8788729320	E & F Tps 2/8 Fd Regt	"	"	"
B 8	"	8788729320 - 8790429310	C & D Tps "	"	"	"
B 9		8790429310 - 8792029300	A & B Tps "	"	5 mins Normal	
B 10		8798029260 - 8802029270	A & B Tps 7 Med Regt	"	"	
B 11		8735029468 - 8739029430	A, B & C Tps 2/7 Fd Regt	"	"	B 11, B 12, B 13 and B 14, are fired by same tps as fire B 15. When call for fire is made, order of engagement will be stated.
B 12		8744029360 - 8748029315	D, E & F Tps "	"	"	
B 13		8756529220 - 8761029188	E & F Tps 2/12 Fd Regt	"	"	
B 14		8764029160 - 8769429122	D & E Tps 7 Med Regt	"	"	
B 15		87802933 - 87922926	A, B, C, D, E, F Tps 2/7 Fd Regt E & F Tps 2/12 Fd Regt D & F Tps 7 Med Regt	"	"	

Appx C to 24 Aust Inf Bde O.C. No. 10  
Superimpose on map ALAMEIN 1/50,000

MINEFIELD TRACE



LEGEND

Minefield

Gap

Responsibility - Minefd Gaps

Minefd Gap	Map Ref	Responsible for Protection and closing	Authority to close
A	87602957	2/43 Bn	2/43 Bn
B	87702948	"	"
C	87842938	"	"
D	88012929	2/3 Pnr Bn	2/3 Pnr Bn
E	88052930	"	"
F	88102933	"	"
G	88142930	"	"
H	87812977	20 Aust Inf Bde	20 Aust Inf Bde
J	87982966	2/43 Bn	2/43 Bn
K	88032957	"	"
L	88132967	2/3 Pnr Bn	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde
M	88142974	"	"
N	88272944	"	"
O	88382954	"	"
P	88772961	2/32 Bn	"
Q	88762951	"	"
R	88712943	"	"
S	88722939	"	"
T	88812930	"	"
U1	89152914	"	HQ 9 Aust Div
U2	42559028	"	"
V	88992899	"	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde
W	88772883	3 S.A. Bde	3 S.A. Bde
X	88382883	"	"
Y	88152910	"	"

.....

G. 15/8/200

S E C R E T

9 AUST DIV O O No. 19

Copy No.....  
4 Sep 42

Ref 9 Aust Div O Os Nos. 15 and 16.

INFORMATION

1. Separate instructions have been issued to 26 Aust Inf Bde for its possible employment outside 9 Aust Div sector.

INTENTION

2. 9 Aust Div will continue with preparations for defence of its sector.

METHOD

3. Recces will be carried out by formations and comds as shown and in the order of priority shown.

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Formation, Unit or Comd</u>	<u>Recce</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
1.	26 Aust Inf Bde	Posn D	As already ordered verbally.
X 2.	20 Aust Inf Bde	Posn A	For occupation by 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp less one bn and one fd bty.
3.	24 Aust Inf Bde	Posn A	As for serial 2.
4.	24 Aust Inf Bde	Eastern perimeter defence EL ALAMEIN	Already in progress.
5.	CO 2/2 Aust MG Bn	289 & 899 north-ing grid between Posn A and EL ALAMEIN	Location of MG/A Tk posts to secure the area north of the line given for movement between Posn A and EL ALAMEIN and as a base for cav and/or tk ops to the south. Plans will be based on:-

(a) No tps other than the div res of MG and A Tk guns, with the div cav in sp, being available.

(b) The minimum force required for the task when neither tks nor div cav are available.

Arty sp from Posn A and EL ALAMEIN can be assumed to be available.

<u>Serial</u>	<u>Formation, Unit or Comd</u>	<u>Recce</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
6.	9 Aust Div Cav Regt	To sp 20 & 24 Aust Inf Bdes in area west of EL ALAMEIN	To provide quick sp to fwd units in the event of enemy success in fwd areas
7.	9 Aust Div Cav Regt	For counter attack to SE of EL ALAMEIN or SW of Posn "A"	To harass enemy forces which have penetrated into these areas.

Reserves

4. 9 Aust Div Cav Regt will move into div res in area 427900-428900.
- Tasks
- (a) Rest, maintenance and trg.
  - (b) Re-organise on WE basis.
  - (c) Prepare plans for organisation of one tk sqn at the shortest notice.
  - (d) Recce counter-attack tasks given above.
  - (e) Completion of trg of tk crews.
5. D Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn }  
10 Aust A Tk Bty } will remain in eastern area of EL ALAMEIN defences.
- Tasks. In co-operation with bde concerned recce and dig posns for use in sp of
- (a) 24 Aust Inf Bde in EL ALAMEIN against attack from the east and attack from the SW
  - (b) 24 Aust Inf Bde west of EL ALAMEIN
  - (c) 20 Aust Inf Bde.
6. B Sqn 40 RTR.
- Tasks
- (a) Refit in present area.
  - (b) Remain under div comd for use for counter attack in sp of 20 and 24 Aust Inf Bdes as required. Counter attack tasks will be recced in conjunction with bdes concerned.

A C K N O W L E D G E ✓

Issued through Sigs

Time of signature 2115 hrs

*8/5/50*  
*R. G. Law* Col  
GS 9 Aust Div

DISTRIBUTIONCOPY No

20 AUST INF BDE	1	1 SA Div	10
24 Aust Inf Bde	2	Comd	11
26 Aust Inf Bde	3	G	12 - 13
9 Aust Div Cav Regt	4	Q	14 - 15
RAA	5	AASC 9 Aust Div	16
RAE	6	Medical	17
Sigs	7	Ord	18
MG	8	File	19 + 20
B Sqn 40 RTR	9	War Diary	21 - 22
		Spares	23 - 29

G.15/5/204

SECRET

HQ RAA 9 Aust Div

Copy No . . . . .

5 Sep 42

RAA 9 AUST DIV

OP INSTN No 6

Ref Map EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000

1. RAA 9 Aust Div Op Instn No 5 of 29 Aug 42 is cancelled.
2. Def fire tasks will be fired in accordance with the task table hereunder.
3. Trace showing def fire tasks is attached - Appx "A".
4. Rates of fire :

S O S Tasks      5 mins Rapid  
                          5 mins Slow

Def fire other than SOS Tasks  
                          5 mins Normal.

5. SOS tasks will be called for by light signals ordered by Bdes and communicated to Regts. Regts will assist each other on Def fire tasks; requests for assistance will be made direct.

Regt	Company	Task No	Task Description	Rate
18	8A252	18 V73	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V19	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1A	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1C	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1D	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1E	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1F	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1G	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1H	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1I	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1J	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1K	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1L	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1M	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1N	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1O	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1P	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1Q	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1R	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1S	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1T	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1U	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1V	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1W	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1X	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1Y	8A252	2000
18	8A252	18 V1Z	8A252	2000

/Task Table



Serial	Target No	map ref		Bg or longer axis	Size of Area (yds)	SOS or other than SOS	To be fired by Type of				Remarks
		Centre of Area or	Ends of Lines				2/7	2/8	2/12	7 MED	
a	b	c		d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
1	DF A1	8746	3020	50°	40 x 140	SOS	C				
2	DF A2	8745	3015	20°	40 x 140	SOS	D				
3	DF A3	8747	3012	360°	40 x 140	SOS	E				
4	DF A4	8745	3009	340°	40 x 140	-					1 TP
5	DF A5	87430	30045	360°	40 x 140	SOS	F				
6	DF A6	87420	29975	360°	40 x 140	SOS	A				
7	DF A7										
8	DF A8	8750	2991	360°	40 x 140						
9	DF A9	8750	2976	360°	40 x 140	SOS	B				
10	DF A10	8750	2970	360°	40 x 140						1 TP
11	DF A11	87495	30495	40°	400 x 150						
12	DF A12	87395	30440	360°	400 x 200						
13	DF A13	87240	30360	45°	400 x 200						
14	DF A14	87315	30290	360°	400 x 200						
15	DF A15	87195	30320	45°	500 x 200						
16	DF A16	87340	30200	45°	450 x 200						
17	DF A17	87295	29975	30°	400 x 200						
18	DF A18	87395	29795	60°	400 x 200						
19	DF A19	87225	29695	300°	500 x 200						

Serial	Target No.	Map Ref Centre of Areas or Ends of Lines		Bg of longer axis	Size of Area (yds)	SOS or other than SOS	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks
							2/7	2/8	1/12	7 med	
a	b	c		d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
20	DF A20	87560	29640	360°	300 x 200						
21	DF A21	87555	29884	315°	400 x 150	Sos			Two tps		
22	DF B1	87530 87533	29625 to 29594		line	SOS		B	1 tp		
23	DF B2	87595 87610	29515 to 29490		do.	SOS		A	1 tp		
24	DF B3	87640 87680	29485 to 29472		do.	SOS		C	1 tp		
25	DF B4	87697 87720	29439 to 29410		do.	SOS		D	1 tp		
26	DF B5	87795 87820	29400 to 29375		do.	SOS		E			
27	DF B6	87820 87842	29375 to 29350		do.	SOS		F			
28	DF B7	87870 87887	29330 to 29320		do.						
29	DF B8	87887 87904	29320 to 29310		do.						
30	DF B9	87904 87920	29310 to 29300		do.						
31	DF B10	87980 88020	29260 to 29270		do.						
32	DF B11	87550 87390	29468 to 29430		do.						
33	DF B12	87440 87480	29380 to 29315		do.						
34	DF B13	87565 87610	29220 to 29188		do.						

Serial	Target No.	Map Ref Centre of Area or Ends of Lines	Bg of longer axis	Size of Area (yds)	SOS or other than SOS	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks
						2/7	2/8			
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
35	DF B14	87640 29180 to 87694 29122		line						
36	DF B15	8780 2933 to 8792 2926								See note (a)

NOTES (a) One Regt SAA 1 SA Div is available for DF B15 if not engaged on own def fire task. Request will be made through HQ RAA 9 Aust Div stating time for which the fire is required.

ACK. ✓

*A. E. Wilton*

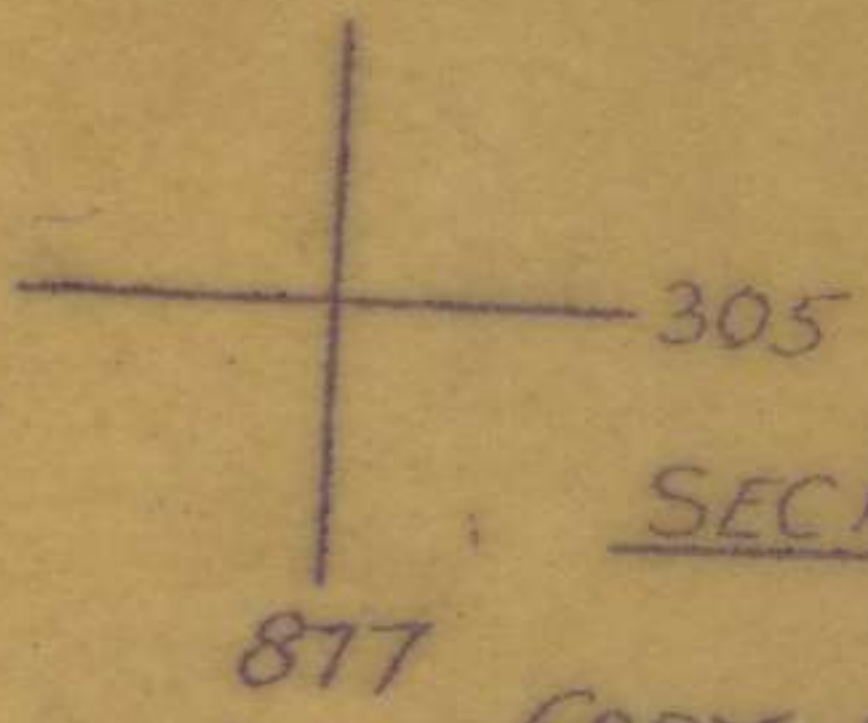
Maj  
BM RAA 9 Aust Div.

Distribution	Op Instn	Appx "A"
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	1 - 10	1 - 12
2/8 Aust Fd Regt	11 - 20	13 - 24
2/12 Aust Fd Regt	21	25
HQ 9 Aust Div	22 - 24	26 - 28
20 Aust Inf Bde	25	29
24 Aust Inf Bde	26	30
26 Aust Inf Bde	27	31
CCRA 30 Corps	28	32
CBO 30 Corps	29	33
GRA 1 SA Div	30	34
CRA	31	35
War Diary	32 - 33	36 - 37
File	34	38

37 DF VSI 8122 3694 2700 400 x 120

38 DF VSO 81220 3694 2600 300 x 300

Serial No. Centre of Area or Ends of Lines Bg of longer axis Size of Area (yds) SOS or other than SOS To be fired by Tps of Remarks

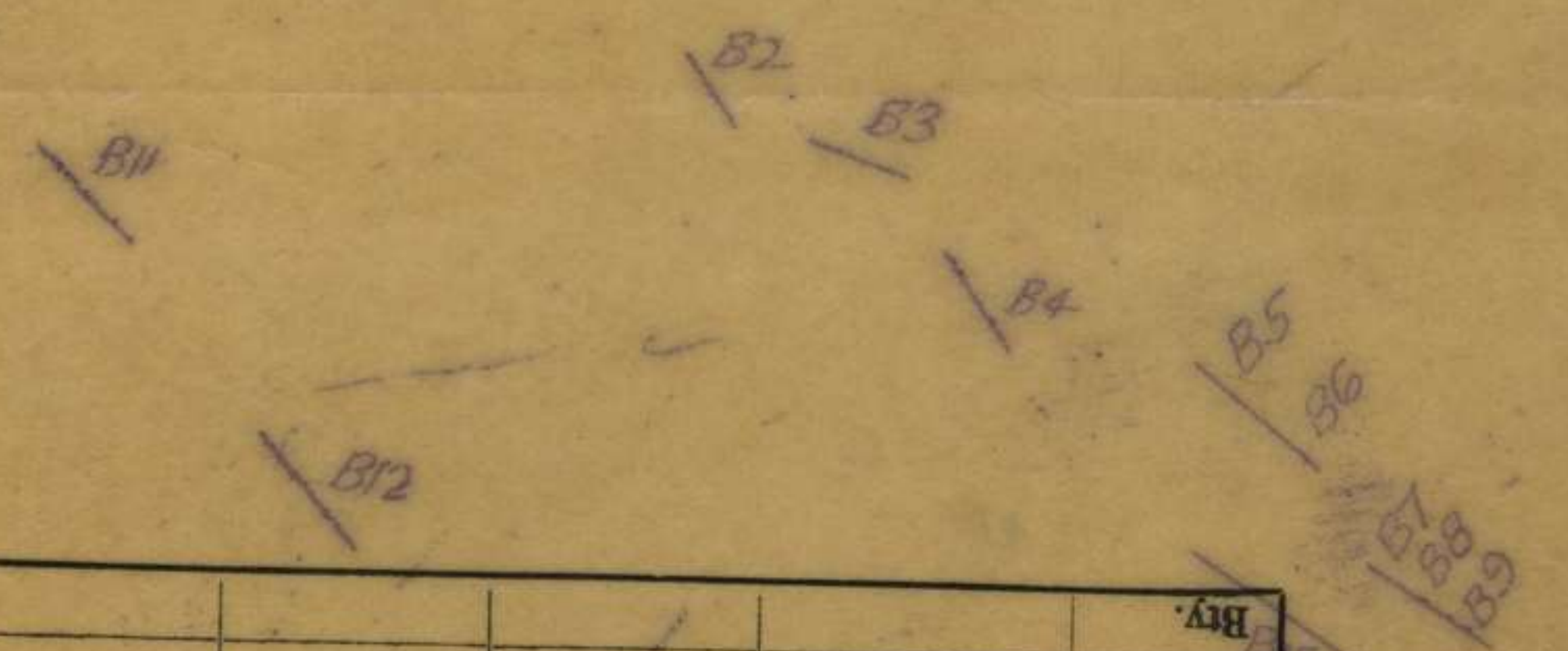
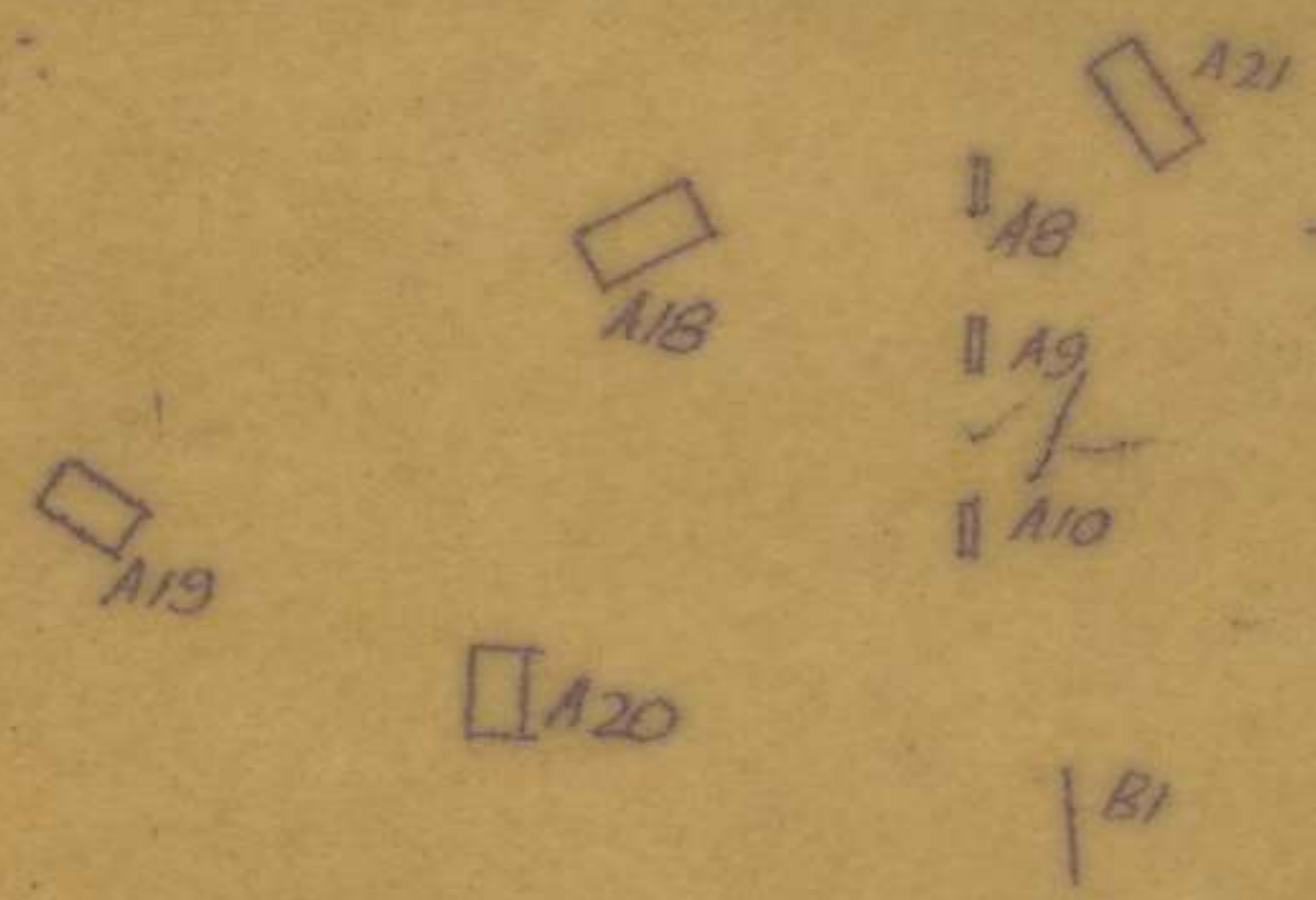
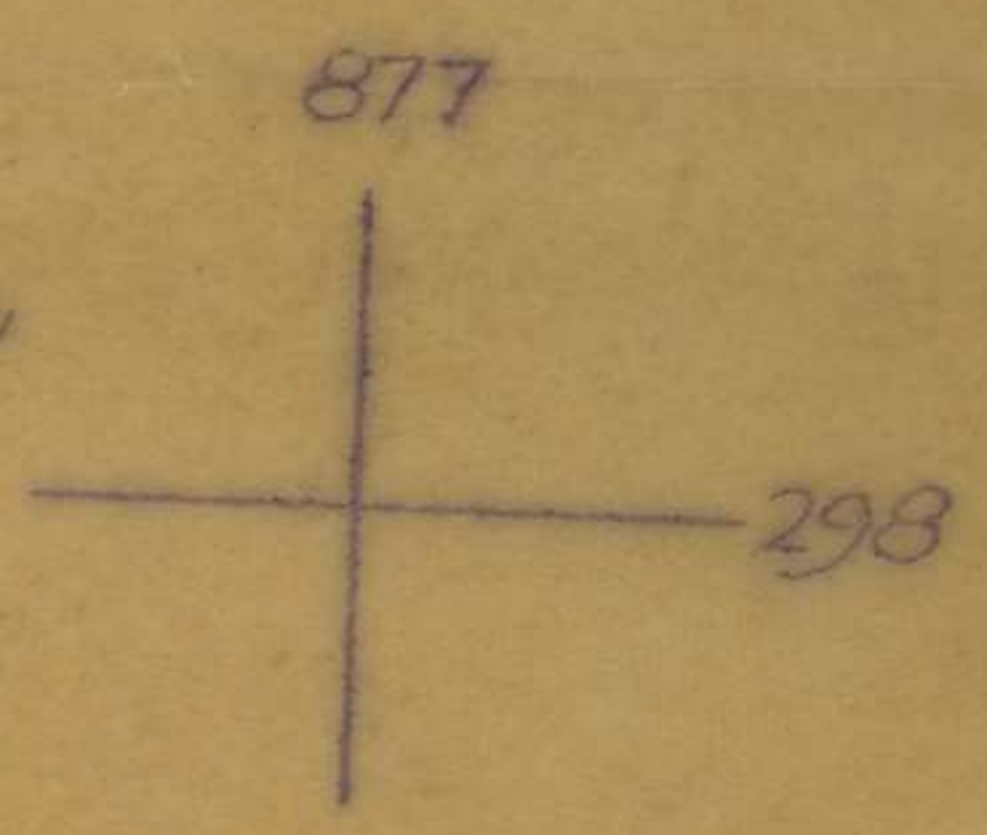
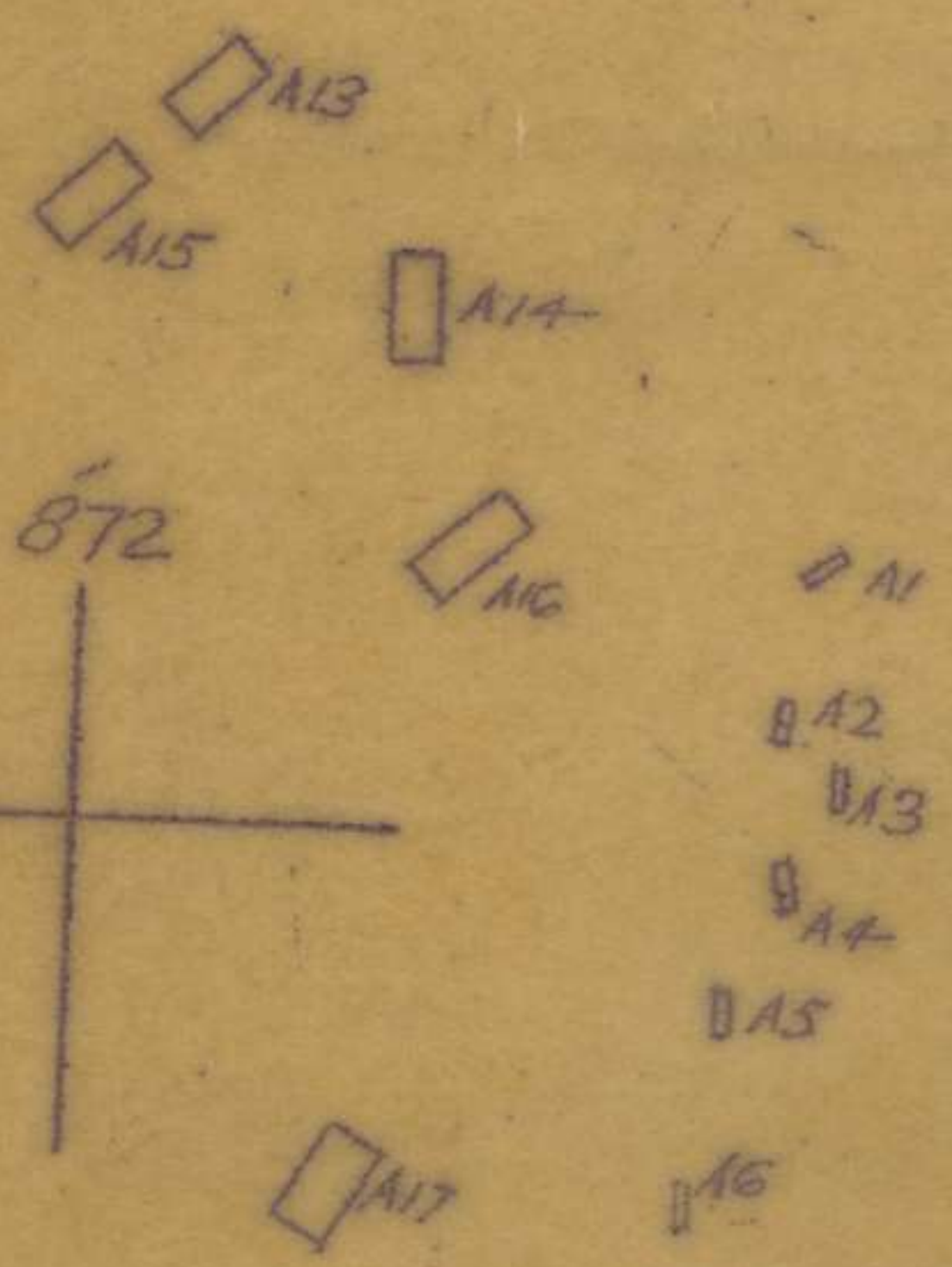


SECRET

COPY NO 29

App<sup>x</sup> 'A' to HQ RAA 9 Aust Div  
Op Instrn No 6 - 5 Sep 42

Ref Map - El Alamein 1/50,000



Post.	Computed Bearing.	Chart Bearing.	Range.	A. of S.

G 15/5/202

SECRET

Ref No 773

5 Sep 42

NOTES ON CONFERENCE OF COs AT 0930 hrs 5 SEP 42

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

- INFORMATION
1. Enemy dispositions and recent moves were pointed out on map.
  2. 26 Aust Inf Bde with 2/12 Aust Fd Regt, 12 Aust A.Tk Bty and 11 Aust Lt AA Bty, at present holding Area "A", may move from Area "A".
  3. In event of 2, a Bde Gp (less one Bn and one Fd Bty) from either 20 Bde and 2/7 Fd Regt or 24 Bde and 2/8 Fd Regt may be withdrawn from EL ALAMEIN area to defend area "A".  
2/2 MGs and 10 Aust A.Tk Bty may be given task of forming a defensive screen along grid 289 and 899 Northing between Area "A" and EL ALAMEIN.

OBJECT OF CONFERENCE

4. To consider possible re-distribution and roles of Arty.

CO's INSTRUCTIONS

5. RAA 9 Aust Div (less Tps under comd 26 Aust Inf Bde) will continue preparations for alternative tasks in defence of the Div Sector.

6. A.TK REGT
- (a) Recce with CO 2/2 MI Bn to cover gap between EL ALAMEIN and area "A" roughly along line of 289 and 899 Northing grid
    - (i) with Div Cav North of this line and in sp and
    - (ii) without Div Cav but with minimum inf instead.
  - (b) Continue to recce and prepare with 24 Aust Inf Bde posn to defend EASTERN sector of EL ALAMEIN defences from telegraph line to sea with Res Bty plus whatever A.Tk resources 24 Bde is prepared to make available.
  - (c) Recce and prepare with 24 Bde A.Tk defence of posns of ALAMEIN res bn on Ridge while defending present FDLs.
  - (d) Recce and prepare gun posns for employment of Res Bty in sp of 20 Aust Inf Bde or of 24 Aust Inf Bde or of both in present posns.

7. FD REGTS

2/8 (a) Continue to recce Gun Areas and OPs to cover EASTERN Sector of EL ALAMEIN defences in addition to WESTERN on assumption of one Fd Regt plus one Fd Bty available plus, in 3 SA Bde area, twelve or sixteen SA Fd guns.

Tasks in the event of occupation:-

To sp defence of WESTERN FDLs and at the same time

/.....



SECRET

Copy No 37

8 Sep 42.

~~RAA 9 Aust Div~~

~~OP INSTE, No 7~~

Ref Maps : EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000  
: EL HIQIBY 1:50,000

HARASSING FIRE

1. The future policy for HF during hours of daylight will be with the object of preventing the enemy in fwd posns from sleeping.

2. HF tasks will normally be ordered from Task Table att as appx "A". Orders will include :

- (a) Numbers of tgts and period of engagement.
- (b) Number of rounds to be fired on each target in accordance with index letter shown in coln "g" of task table (Index letter denotes relative size and importance of tgt).

(c) Method of fire (single rounds, section or tp. salvos)

Example :-

Engage HF 2, 6, 9, 12 etc from ..... hrs to ..... hrs  
 A Tgts 50 rds Tp Salvos  
 B Tgts 50 rds Sec Salvos  
 C & D Tgts 30 rds single rounds.

3. Intervals between firing of rounds or salvos will be spread irregularly over period stated in orders for engagement.

4. Fire will be dispersed over whole target area during period.

5. AGE. ✓

*0/10  
1/30 hrs  
9 Sep*

*V. C. Williams*

Maj.

BN RAA 9 Aust Div

Distribution	Copy No
2/7 Aust Fl Regt	1 - 17
2/8 " " "	11 - 20
2/12 " " "	21 - 30
7 Med Regt RA	31 - 39
EL 9 Aust Div	34 - 38
20 Aust Inf Bde	37
24 " " "	38
26 " " "	39
GRA 1 SA Div	40
Comd	41
War Diary	42 - 43
File	44

## SECTOR A

 Appln "A" No RAA 9 Aust Div  
 Op Exstn No 7 dated 8 Sep 42

Serial	Tgt No.	Description	Line Ref Centre	Bg longer axis	Size Area metres	Scale of Ann Exp
a	b	c	d	e	f	g
1	HF 1	Diggings WPs	87304 30448	360°	100 x 200	C
2	HF 2	Clover leaf defences	87426 30445	31°	120 x 550	A
3	HF 3	do	87386 30425	300°	150 x 450	A
4	HF 4	do	87370 30492	280°	130 x 240	C
5	HF 5	do	87393 30443	20°	100 x 200	C
6	HF 6	Track junction	87511 30411	360°	70 x 100	D
7	HF 7	do	87550 30349	360°	80 x 100	D
8	HF 8	Diggings	87449 30246	37°	100 x 400	C
9	HF 9	do	87403 30274	293°	260 x 560	A
10	HF10	do	87353 30300	293°	250 x 560	A
11	HF11	do	87170 30435	41°	140 x 400	C
12	HF12	Ruin Area	87232 30359	44°	180 x 350	B
13	HF13	Rd and Track junction	87205 30336	360°	100 x 120	D
14	HF14	Rd and Ry crossing	87175 30286	58°	100 x 200	D
SECTOR B						
15	HF15	Daf Loc	87200 30192	68°	200 x 200	B
16	HF16	do	87178 30215	297°	200 x 400	B
17	HF17	do	87155 30191	344°	170 x 250	B
18	HF18	Diggings	87046 30087	342°	150 x 200	B
19	HF19	do	87046 30030	05°	150 x 350	C
20	HF20	do	87070 29976	326°	100 x 450	D
21	HF21	do	87092 29935	332°	100 x 350	D
22	HF22	do	87088 29884	350°	100 x 330	D
23	HF23	do	87119 29856	320°	130 x 400	C
24	HF24	do	87171 29826	305°	100 x 200	D
25	HF25	do	87010 29797	10°	130 x 500	C
26	HF26	do	87185 29787	24°	120 x 300	C



Serial	Fig No.	Description	Map Ref Centre	Bg longer axis	Size Area metres	Scale of Map Exp
a	b	c	d	e	f	g
27	HF 27	Diggings	87210 29717	336°	220 x 520	A
28	HF 28	do	87164 29738	200°	180 x 500	A
29	HF 29	do	87130 29743	60°	150 x 500	A
30	HF 30	do	87110 29712	314°	100 x 250	C
31	HF 31	do	87103 29675	338°	150 x 320	C
32	HF 32	do	87085 29630	321°	120 x 320	D
33	HF 33	do	87036 29670	354°	140 x 320	D
34	HF 34	do	86999 29683	332°	120 x 180	D
35	HF 35	do	87020 29658	332°	120 x 180	C
36	HF 36	do	87050 29640	334°	110 x 180	D
37	HF 37	do	87012 29630	332°	120 x 160	C
38	HF 38	do	87065 29610	70°	120 x 300	B
<u>SECTOR 3</u>						
39	HF 39	do	86994 29592	24°	100 x 300	C
40	HF 40	do	87066 29584	78°	140 x 150	C
41	HF 41	do	86936 29586	72°	250 x 400	C
42	HF 42	do	87070 29528	288°	200 x 400	C
43	HF 43	do	87058 29504	41°	100 x 300	D
44	HF 44	do	87002 29497	13°	150 x 250	C
45	HF 45	Diggings weapon pits	87170 29520	314°	100 x 260	C
46	HF 46	do	87223 29507	360°	100 x 250	C
47	HF 47	do	87336 29292	292°	200 x 350	C
48	HF 48	do	87375 29266	289°	250 x 500	B
49	HF 49	do	87418 29256	342°	150 x 550	C
50	HF 50	do	87458 29223	296°	160 x 500	C
51	HF 51	do	87347 29200	320°	300 x 500	C
52	HF 52	do	87368 29168	45°	280 x 500	C
53	HF 53	do	87518 29170	338°	150 x 450	C
54	HF 54	Def Loc Pt21	87593 29065	305°	300 x 550	A
55	HF 55	do	87648 29050	33°	550 x 650	A



SECRETHQ RAA 9 Aust Div,  
Ref No. 995,  
23 Sep 42.HARASSING FIRE

## 1. Addendum to Raa 9 Aust Div Op Instn No. 7 of 8 Sep 42.

Serial	Tpt No.	Description	Map Ref Centre	Bg longer axis	Size Area Metres	Scale of Amn Exp
a	b	c	d	e	f	g
<u>SECTOR A</u>						
58	HF 58	OP area	87363 30253	30°	200 x 200	C
59	HF 59	Diggings	87332 30244	350°	150 x 150	D
60	HF 60	do.	87330 30213	355°	150 x 150	D
<u>SECTOR B</u>						
61	HF 61	A Tk Guns	86884 30025	295°	450 x 400	B
62	HF 62	do.	86876 29894	330°	600 x 500	B
63	HF 63	do.	86879 29730	20°	800 x 200	B
<u>SECTOR C</u>						
64	HF 64	MGs	87300 29381	360°	200 x 200	C
65	HF 65	Working lty	87391 29388	360°	200 x 200	D
66	HF 66	do.	87310 29335	360°	200 x 200	D
67	HF 67	A Tk Guns	87021 29202	290°	800 x 200	C
68	HF 68	Diggings	87192 29182	360°	200 x 200	D
69	HF 69	do.	87190 29147	360°	200 x 200	D
2. <u>Delete</u>						
55	HF 55	Def loc Pt 21	87648 29050	33°	550 x 650	A
3. <u>ACK</u>						

DistributionCopy No

2/7 Aust Fd Regt	1 - 10
2/8 Aust Fd Regt	11 - 20
2/12 Aust Fd Regt	21 - 30
7 Med Regt RA	31 - 33
HQ 9 Aust Div	34 - 36
20 Aust Inf Bde	37
24 Aust Inf Bde	38
26 Aust Inf Bde	39
CRA 1 SA Div	40
Comd	41
War Diary	42 - 43
File	44

*V. E. Wilkin*Maj  
BM RAA 9 Aust Div.

8 Sep 42.

24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 12.

Ref map EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

No change from verbal orders.

INFM

1. Enemy. Bde Intelligence Summary No. 43 issued herewith.
2. Own Tps.
  - (a) Relief of 24 Aust Inf Bde by 26 Aust Inf Bde will not take place.
  - (b) 7 Med Regt RA has returned to sp 9 Aust Div.  
2/12 Fd Regt returned to sp fwd bdes 7/8 Sep, of which two btys to be superimposed on SOS tasks.

INTENTION

3. 24 Aust Inf Bde will carry out interunit relief on night 8/9 Sep 42.

METHOD

4. 2/43 Bn and 2/3 Pnr Bn will be relieved in FDLs by -  
Right - 2/32 Bn  
Left - 2/28 Bn
5. 2/43 Bn will move to res and take over present locality and tasks 2/32 Bn (Bde O.O. No. 10 para 12).
6. 2/3 Pnr Bn will reoccupy and hold western perimeter ALAMEIN defended locality from coast to incl post 10.
7. Inter-bn Boundary  
Between 2/32 Bn and 2/28 Bn - QATTARA Rd incl to 2/28 Bn  
" 2/28 Bn and 2/3 Pnr Bn - minefd 88152975 - 88102949  
excl to 2/28 Bn.
8. Strongpoint No. 2. will be manned by 2/32 Bn.
9. Time of relief. Units will exchange adv ptys 7/8 Sep and reliefs will be arranged mutually to take place during darkness 8/9 Sep. Rear ptys may be left if required.
10. Fire plan. No withdrawal of sp arms. Fire plans will be revised immediately.
11. Patrols
  - (a) Patrolling during relief will be responsibility of 2/43 Bn and 2/3 Pnr Bn.
  - (b) Patrol policy is unchanged. In view of enemy's development of warning system and AP minefds, until further notice patrols will be planned to ambush, capture or destroy enemy's listening posts and patrols, rather than to raid into his FDLs.  
Ground fwd of his FDLs will remain in our control.

ADM

12. Amn

- (a) WE scale will be taken by each unit.
- (b) AP unchanged.

13. Sup

} unchanged.

POL

Water

14. Fortress Res

- (a) 2/28 Bn will take over all res now held by 2/32 Bn and draw 2 days res from Bde Res on 8 Sep.
- (b) 2/32 Bn will take over all res now held by 2/43 Bn.
- (c) Res for 2/43 Bn will be held in Div Res.
- (d) No change 2/3 Pnr Bn.
- (e) Receipts will be given and copies fwded this HQ by 1800 hrs 10 Sep.

15. B Echs

Unit B Echs remain present posns.

16. Traffic Control

- (a) Minefd gaps J K L and Main Rd will be used by 2/43 Bn, 2/32 Bn and if desired, by HQ 2/28 Bn.
- (b) Minefd gaps N and F by 2/28 Bn and 2/3 Pnr Bn.

INTERCOMN

17. Codewords for progress of relief to be sent to this HQ -

- HUNG - completion relief 2/32 Bn - 2/43 Bn.
- DRAWN - " " 2/28 Bn - 2/3 Pnr Bn.
- QUARTERED - arrival 2/43 Bn in res locality.

18. Normal wireless activity during relief.

Ack

*✓ 2030 hrs 8 Sep 09*

Issued through Sigs in confirmation verbal orders to Bn Comds 1930 hrs 6 Sep.

*in Jan* Maj. B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

Time of signature 1200 hrs

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>		<u>Copy No.</u>
2/28 Bn	1	9 Aust Div	13-14
2/32 Bn	2	20 Aust Inf Bde ✓	15
2/43 Bn	3	26 Aust Inf Bde	16
2/3 Pnr Bn	4	3 S.A. Bde	17
K SecSigs	5		
76 LAD	6	Comd	18
		B.M.	19
2/8 Fd Regt	7	S.C.	20
11 Bty 3A Tk Regt	8	I.O.	21
12 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt	9	T.O.	22
2/3 Fd Coy	10	File	23
C Coy 2/2 MG Bn	11	War Diary	24-25
2/8 Fd Amb	12		

20 Bde

Amended List Responsibility - Minefd Gaps issued with  
Appx C to 24 Aust Inf Bde O. O. No.10

Minefd Gap	Map Ref	Responsible for Protection and Closing	Authority to Close
A	87592961	2/32 Bn	2/32 Bn
B	87692950	"	"
C	87792941	"	"
D	88012929	2/28 Bn	2/28 Bn
E	88052930	"	"
F	88102933	2/3 Pnr Bn	2/3 Pnr Bn
G	88142930	"	"
H	87812977	20 Aust Inf Bde	20 Aust Inf Bde
J	87982966	2/32 Bn	2/32 Bn
K	88032957	2/28 Bn	2/28 Bn
L	88132967	2/3 Pnr Bn	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde
M	88142974	"	"
N	88272944	"	"
O	88382954	"	"
P	88772961	2/43 Bn	"
Q	88762951	"	"
R	88712943	"	"
S	88722939	"	"
T	88812930	"	"
U 1	89152914	"	HQ 9 Aust Div
U 2	42559028	"	"
V	88992899	"	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde
W	88772883	3 S.A. Bde	3 S.A. Bde
X	88382883	"	"
Y	88152910	"	"

.....

8 Sep 42.

*20/10/42*

*4.15/6/210*

SECRET

HQ RAA 9 Aust Div <sup>23</sup>

Copy No . . . . .

Ref No *810*

8 Sep 42

All addressees

RAA 9 Aust Div Op Instr No 6

1 Ref Appx A to RAA 9 Aust Div Op Instr No 6 of 5 Sep 42.

2 Add Heading to col 1 - "2/12"

" " j - "7 Med RA"

Serial 4 in col j - "1 Tp"

" 10 " j - "1 Tp"

" 21 { " 1 - "SOS"  
" 1 - "two Tps"

" 22 " 1 - "1 Tp"

" 23 " 1 - "1 Tp"

" 24 " 1 - "1 Tp"

" 25 " 1 - "1 Tp"

*H. C. Williams* Maj  
HQ RAA 9 Aust Div.

3. *ACK*

14 Sep 42

*[Handwritten signatures]*

24 Aust Inf Bde Notes on Future Ops No. 2.

Ref map: EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

1. These notes are issued to enable further planning by comds whilst coordination with 3 S.A. Bde and sp arms is being completed. Written orders for ops covered by the notes will be issued 15 Sep 42.
2. 24 Aust Inf Bde will advance its line of FDLs to 87602940 - 87722922 - 87952917 during night 18/19 Sep 42.
3. 3 S.A. Bde is advancing its right flank from present posns in Posts 11 and 13 to conform.
4. Inter div boundary is to be decided, but point of junc between 24 Aust Inf Bde and 3 S.A. Bde will be 87952917.
5. Interbde boundary - QATTARA RD incl to 2/28 Bn.
6. (a) Occupation of new posns will be done on one night, 18/19 Sep. 2/32 Bn and 2/28 Bn will move fwd as planned previously and dig in, covered by protective dets from 2/3 Pnr Bn.  
(b) 2/3 Pnr Bn will at the same time occupy the present fwd coy areas vacated by 2/32 Bn and 2/28 Bn.  
(c) On occupation of new posns by 2/32 Bn and 2/28 Bn, 2/3 Pnr Bn will occupy present areas of B, D, A Coys 2/32 Bn and C Coy 2/28 Bn. Posns to be reced in detail.  
(d) 2/43 Bn will relieve 2/3 Pnr Bn in Posts 1 - 10 ALAMEIN Defences.
7. All movement of personnel will be done by night and any necessary preliminary work by day done under cover. No wire or pickets will be erected fwd of present FDLs before night 18/19 Sep.
8. Engr personnel and equipment will be available for assistance. Requirements will be reported on, and allotment of effort planned in detail by 15 Sep.
9. Minefd from QATTARA Rd will be laid to join with 3 S.A. Bde minefd in vicinity 87952917 by night 18/19 Sep. New minefds will be marked initially by cairns and not by fences or posts.
10. Verbal orders to Bde O Gp at Main HQ at 1100 hrs 15 Sep 42.

ACK ✓ 0.12  
15/9

Issued by LO and Sigs  
Time of signature 2115 hrs

*[Signature]* Maj.  
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution	Copy No	Distribution	Copy No
2/28 Bn	1	3/8 Fd Amb	10
2/32 Bn	2	76 LAD	11
2/43 Bn	3	9 Aust Div	12
2/3 Pnr Bn	4	24 Aust Inf Bde	13
2/8 Fd Regt	5	3 S.A. Bde	14
10 Bty 3 A Tk Regt	6	Comd	15
12 Bty 4 Lt AA Regt	7	B.M.	16
2/3 Fd Coy	8	File	17-22
A Sec Sigs	9	War Diary	23-24



SECRET

HQ RAA 9 Aust Div

Copy No ... 34.

18 Sep 42

R A A 9 AUSTR DIV

OP INSTN No 8

Ref Map : EL ALANEIN 1:50,000

- 1 ALL DF B targets 1 to 15 incl (serials 22 to 36 incl) referred to in RAA 9 Aust Div Op Instn No 6 are cancelled.
- 2 DF B targets will be fired in accordance with the attached table Appx 'A'.

*ACK ✓*  
*W.S.*

*A.S. Williams* Maj  
BM RAA 9 Aust Div

DISTRIBUTION

	Op Instn	Trace
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	1 - 10	1 - 12
2/8 "	11 - 20	13 - 24
2/12 "	21 - 30	25 - 36
HQ 9 Aust Div	31 - 33	37 - 39
20 Aust Inf Bde	34	40
24 "	35	41
26 "	36	42
CCRA 30 Corps	37	43
CBO 30 Corps	38	44
CRA 1 SA Div	39	45
CRA	40	46
War Diary	41 - 42	47 - 48
File	43	49

Serial	No	Units and Tps to engage			Time		Target		Awn	Rate	Remarks
		2/7	2/8	2/12	From	To	Description	Map Ref or Co-ords			
1	DF B1	2	2		Z	+5	Line	874690 297430 to 874690 296780	HE	Rapid	2/7 super-imposed will engage on call from CO 2/3 only.
2	DF B2	1	1		Z	+5	Line	874920 296590 to 874690 296310	HE	Rapid	
3	DF B3	2	2		Z	+5	Line	874500 296010 to 874500 295090	HE	Rapid	
4	DF B4	1	1		Z	+5	Line	874630 294620 to 874770 294190	HE	Rapid	
5	DF B5	1	1		For 5 mins from time called for		Line	874970 293510 to 875110 293280	HE	Rapid	As called for 2/7 to engage on call from CO 2/3.
6	DF B6		1	1	For 5 mins from time called for		Line	875380 292970 to 875510 292730	HE	Rapid	As called for 2/2 to engage on call from CO 2/3.
7	DF B7			2	Z	+5	Line	876050 292170 to 876200 292070	HE	Normal	Engage on Light Signal Red White Red from fwd Coy at 877292.
8	DF B8			2	Z	+5	Line	876670 291550 to 876940 291450	HE	Normal	do.
9	DF B9			2	Z	+5	Line	877420 291210 to 877660 291150	HE	Normal	do.
10	DF B10		1	1	For 5 mins from time called for		Line	878380 291030 to 878600 291030	HE	Normal	2/12 will engage on call from CO 2/3.
11	DF B11		1	1	do.		Line	878780 291050 to 879100 290900	HE	Normal	do.

Serial	No	Units and Tps to engage			Time		Target		Ann	Rate	Remarks
		2/7	2/8	2/12	From	To	Description	Map Ref of Co-ords			
12	DF B12		2	2	For 5 mins from time called for		Line	878920 291400 to 879400 291170	HE	Normal	2/12 will engage on call from CO 2/8
13	DF B13			1	Z +5	+5 +10	Line	87837 29140 to 87856 29142	HE HE	Normal Slow	SOS Green Green Red
14	DF B14			1	Z +5	+5 +10	Line	87756 29159 to 87783 29148	HE HE	Normal Slow	from 2/28 Ba HQ at 8790 2925
15	DF B15			1	Z +5	+5 +10	Line	87689 29192 to 87707 29180	HE HE	Normal Slow	
16	DF B16			1	Z +5	+5 +10	Line	87622 29256 to 87642 29246	HE HE	Normal Slow	
17	DF B17		1		Z +5	+5 +10	Line	<del>87530 29515</del> <del>87650 29390</del> to <del>87600 29270</del>	HE HE	Normal Slow	Please amend trace accordingly
18	DF B18		1		Z +5	+5 +10	Line	<del>87550 29492</del> 876130 293790 to 876230 293490	HE HE	Normal Slow	
19	DF B19		1		Z +5	+5 +10	Line	875650 294760 to 875840 294510	HE HE	Normal Slow	SOS Red Red Green from 2/32 Ba HQ at 8782 2966
20	DF B20		1		Z +5	+5 +10	Line	875170 295580 to 875170 295280	HE HE	Normal Slow	
21	DF B21		1		Z +5	+5 +10	Line	875430 296220 to 875270 295960	HE HE	Normal Slow	
22	DF B22		1		Z +5	+5 +10	Line	875410 296640 875380 296340	HE HE	Normal Slow	

SECRET  
COPY NO 40

DEF FIRE TASKS

APP<sup>x</sup> 'A' to HQ RAA.  
3 AUSL DIV. OP INSTN. NO 8  
18 Sep 42

875

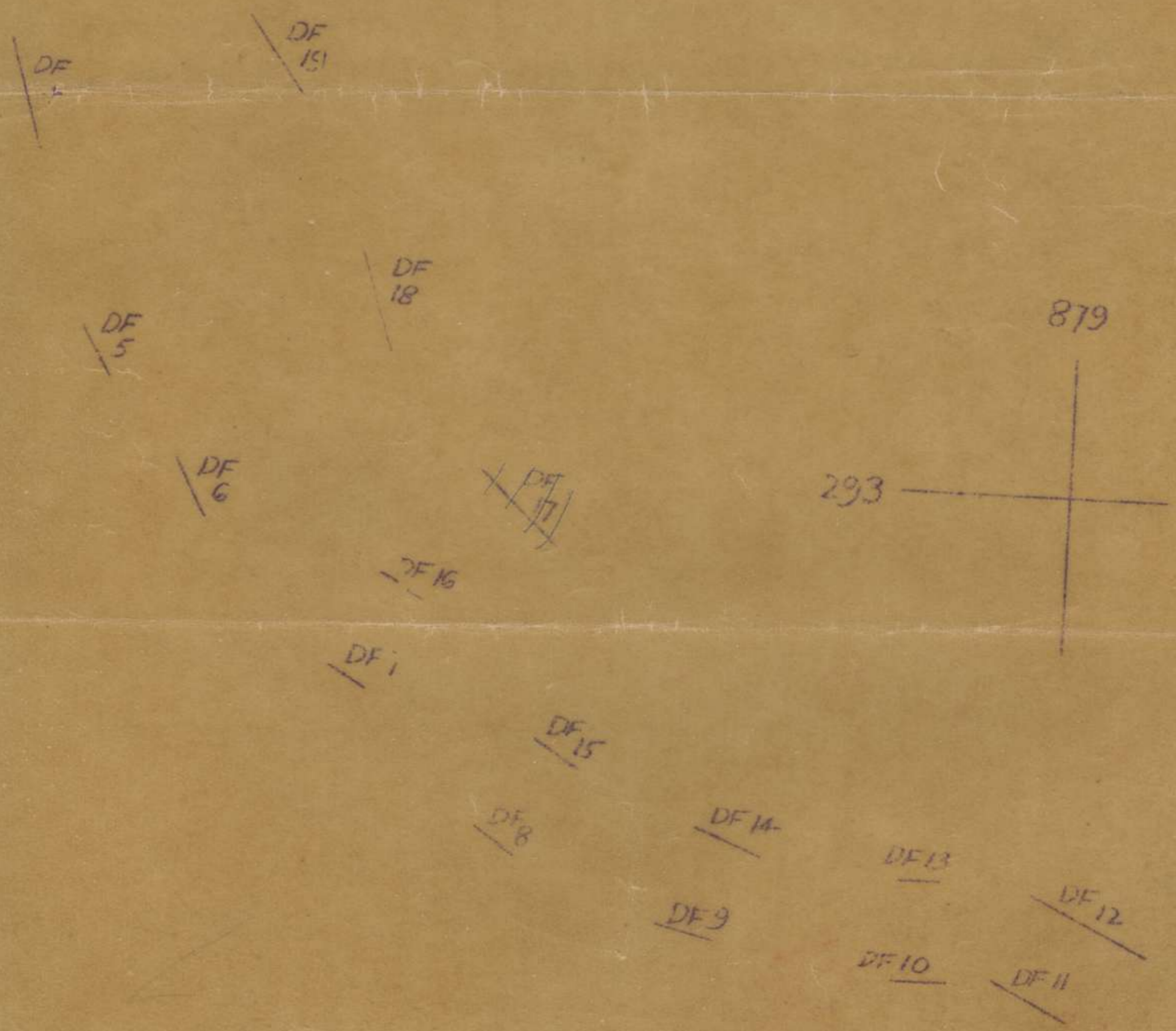
297



R.F. 1:25,000

879

293



SECRET

HQ RAA 9 Aust Div

Copy No . . . . 34

19 Sep 42

RAA 9 AUST DIV

OP INSTN No 9

1 Appx 'A' to RAA 9 Aust Div Op Instn No 8 is amended as follows :

- (a) DF B 1 is cancelled
- (b) The position of DF B13 is altered - new co-ordinates are 878400 291580 to 878600 291570.
- (c) The position of DF B15 is altered - new co-ordinates are 876960 292020 to 877170 291900.
- (d) The position of DF B16 is altered - new co-ordinates are 876380 292770 to 876550 292660.
- (e) Trace attached to Appx 'A' will be amended accordingly.

2 Fire on the tgts DF B2, B3, B4, B7, B8 and B9 will NOT now be called for by light signal. Tgts B2 to B12 (incl) will be treated as ordinary DF tasks (other than 30S); call for fire will be by the Bde concerned to the Fd Regt in sp; and the other Fd Regts will where possible assist when so requested by Fd Regt concerned.

3 ACK

DISTRIBUTION

As for Op Instn No 8  
of 18 Sep 42

*A. E. Williams* Maj  
BM RAA 9 Aust Div

*(Handwritten signature)*

24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 14  
 (Superseding O.O. No. 10 of 25 Aug 42).

Ref map : EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

INFM

1. 30 Corps is to defend present FDLs at all costs.
2. 26 Aust Inf Bde is to be made mobile with tasks -
  - (a) to hold defended area A.
  - (b) be prepared to counter attack to restore the situation in either 20 or 24 Aust Inf Bde areas.
3. (a) Interbde bndy incl to 24 Aust Inf Bde is Trig 30 (870292) - CAIRN 875295 - 87652973 - 37802970.
- (b) Inter div bndy incl to 24 Aust Inf Bde, Trig 33 (876288) - excl BIR EL MAQBU'A minefd gap 88022929 - thence 3rd bndy.
4. 3 S.A. Bde is taking over 24 Aust Inf Bde FDLs to incl QATTARA RD on night 20/21 Sep.
5. 24 Aust Inf Bde responsibility for defence against airborne and paratps -
  - (a) West of FDLs ALAMEIN defended locality, area bounded by FDLs 2/28 Bn, 2/32 Bn - inter bde bndy - ry line - inter div bndy.
  - (b) Area enclosed by defences ALAMEIN defended locality and North of telegraph line 881293 - 888289.
6. Following tps are in sp 24 Aust Inf Bde -
  - C Sqn 40 RTR
  - 2/8 Fd Regt
  - two btys 2/12 Fd Regt
  - 10 Bty 3 A Tk Regt
  - one sec 4 Lt AA Regt
  - 2/3 Fd Coy
  - C Coy 2/3 MG Bn
  - 2/8 Fd Amb

INTENTION

7. 24 Aust Inf Bde will defend present FDLs.

METHOD

8. 

<u>Fwd bns</u>	-	<u>Right</u>	2/32 Bn ✓
		<u>Left</u>	2/28 Bn ✓
9. Line of FDLs  
 87582964 - 87572950 - 87662931 - pt 23 (87762921)
10. Inter bn bndy  
 QATTARA rd incl to 2/28 Bn ✓
11. Res  
 2/43 Bn in res, with tasks -
  - (a) to hold res posn
  - (b) counter attack to restore Bde FDLs.

12. Fire Plan - issued in Annex A & B.

13. Strongpoint No. 2 will not be manned.

14. Patrols

Patrol programme will be issued at intervals from this HQ to ensure coordination of patrolling with HF. Object of patrolling will be -

- (a) to inflict damage upon enemy and take prisoners.
- (b) identifications.
- (c) location and plotting of enemy minefds and FDLs.

15. Anti paratro defence

2/43 Bn and 2/3 Pnr Bn will hold mob res to deal with paratro landings.

Areas of responsibility -

- (a) 2/32 Bn and 2/28 Bn - FDLs to bn rear bndys.
- (b) 2/43 Bn - area west of Posts 6 - 10 ALAMEIN defended locality, and bounded by rear bndys of fwd bns, interbde bndy and ry line.
- (c) 2/3 Pnr Bn - ALAMEIN defended locality North of telegraph line 881293 - 882289.

16. Minefds

(a) Fwd bns will recommend gaps in fwd minefd at earliest.

(b) New minefd trace and allotment of responsibility for guarding and closing gaps will be issued subsequent to readjustment of FDLs 21 Sep.

For the present, fwd bns will be responsible for gaps in fwd minefd and gaps A, B, C.

2/43 Bn responsible for gaps D - K incl, and 2/3 Pnr Bn responsible for gap L - O incl and U1 - W incl.

APM.

17. No change from 24 Aust Inf Bde Adm Instn No. 5 as amended by Instn No. 6.

INTERCOMN

18. Bde Main HQ at 88612949.  
Rear HQ at 88852929.  
Tac HQ, when formed, in 882296.

19. S. D. F.

2/32 Bn - very lights RED RED GREEN  
2/28 Bn - very lights GREEN GREEN RED

ACK

Signed at 1124 hrs  
Issued through Sigs

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

Distribution	Copy No.		
2/28 Bn	1	9 Aust Div	12
2/32 Bn	2	20 Aust Inf Bde	13
2/43 Bn	3	3 S.A. Bde	14
2/3 Pnr Bn	4		
C Sqn 40 RTR	5	Comd	15
2/8 Fd Regt	6	B.M.	16
10 Bty 3 A Tk Regt	7	S.C.	17
2/3 Fd Coy	8	I.O.	18
K Sec Sigs	9	File	19-20
C Coy 2/2 MG Bn	10	War Diary	21-22
2/8 Fd Amb	11		

# MESSAGE FORM.

Serial No. 11

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS. IN **Z LIC**  
OUT

No. of Groups  
GR. 25



(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO 20 Aust INF BDE C SRN 40 RTR

FROM 24 Aust INF BDE Originator's Number. I474 Date. 21 In Reply to Number.

Have	you	received	over	00	NO
14	of	19	sept		
<i>Answered</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.)

2040  
T. H. I.  
2046  
T. O. R.

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
L	2115	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>								



20 *[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten signatures]*

SECRET  
Copy No 15  
19 Sep 42

24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 15

Ref map: EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

INFORM

1. 3 S.A. Bde is taking over 24 Aust Inf Bde FDLs to incl QATTARA Rd on night 20/21 Sep.
2. Inter div bndy after take over, QATTARA Rd to 87822939 excl, thence mindfd to 88092929 incl 9 Aust Div, thence old bndy.

INTENTION

3. 24 Aust Inf Bde will hand over FDLs from incl QATTARA Rd to 87952917 to 3 S.A. Bde on night 20/21 Sep and readjust dispositions within new bndy.

METHOD

4. Fwd Bns will remain
 

<u>Right</u>	2/32 Bn
<u>Left</u>	2/28 Bn
5. Inter bn bndy - incl to 2/32 Bn, 87852970 - 87702950 - 87502920.
6. Outline of operation night 20/21 Sep.
  - (a) 2/28 Bn will hand over present FDLs to 3 S.A. Bde (R.D.L.I.) and relieve left fwd coy 2/32 Bn and fwd coy areas 2/43 Bn.
  - (b) 2/32 Bn will readjust dispositions within new bndy.
  - (c) 2/43 Bn on relief of its fwd coys will return in tpt to defended locality at 87293, and reassume their role in that locality.
  - (d) 2/3 Par Bn will not move.
7. Fire Plan  
Proposed fire plans for 21 Sep will be submitted to this HQ by 1500 hrs 20 Sep.
8. Arty  
Arty fire plan issued in O.O. No. 14 will remain in force until daylight 21 Sep.
9. Engr Stores  
Locality stores will be left intact by withdrawing units.
10. Covering patrols  
2/32 Bn and 2/28 Bn will maintain covering patrols on their present fronts until reliefs are complete. Relieving units then assume responsibility.

ADM

11. Tp carrying tpt for 2/43 Bn under arrangements this HQ, and will be drawn from Bde B Ech area when required by 2/43 Bn.

INTERCOMN

12. No change location Bde HQ.

13. Codewords to report completion of reliefs.

SOUP	2/28 Bn relieved by 3 S.A. Bde
FISH	2/28 Bn complete in new locality.
ENTREE	2/32 Bn " " " "
JOINT	2/43 Bn " " " "

ACK

Issued through Sigs  
Time of signature 1950 hrs

*Dr Jackson*  
Maj.  
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution

Copy No

2/28 Bn	1
2/32 Bn	2
2/43 Bn	3
2/3 Pnr Bn	4
C Sqn 40 RTR	5
2/8 Fd Regt	6
16 Bty 3 A Tk Regt	7
2/3 Fd Coy	8
K Sec Sigs	9
C Coy 2/2 MG Bn	10
2/8 Fd Amb	11
9 Aust Div	12
20 Aust Inf Bde	13
3 S.A. Bde	14
Comd	15
B.M.	16
S.C.	17
I.O.	18
File	19-20
War Diary	21-22

Appx <sup>A</sup> 'N' to 24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 14.

MG FIRE PLAN

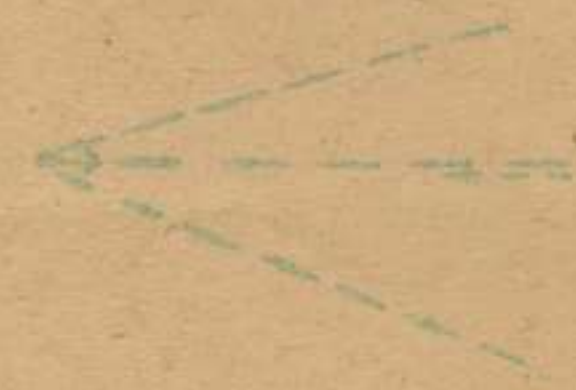
Ref map: EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

LEGEND

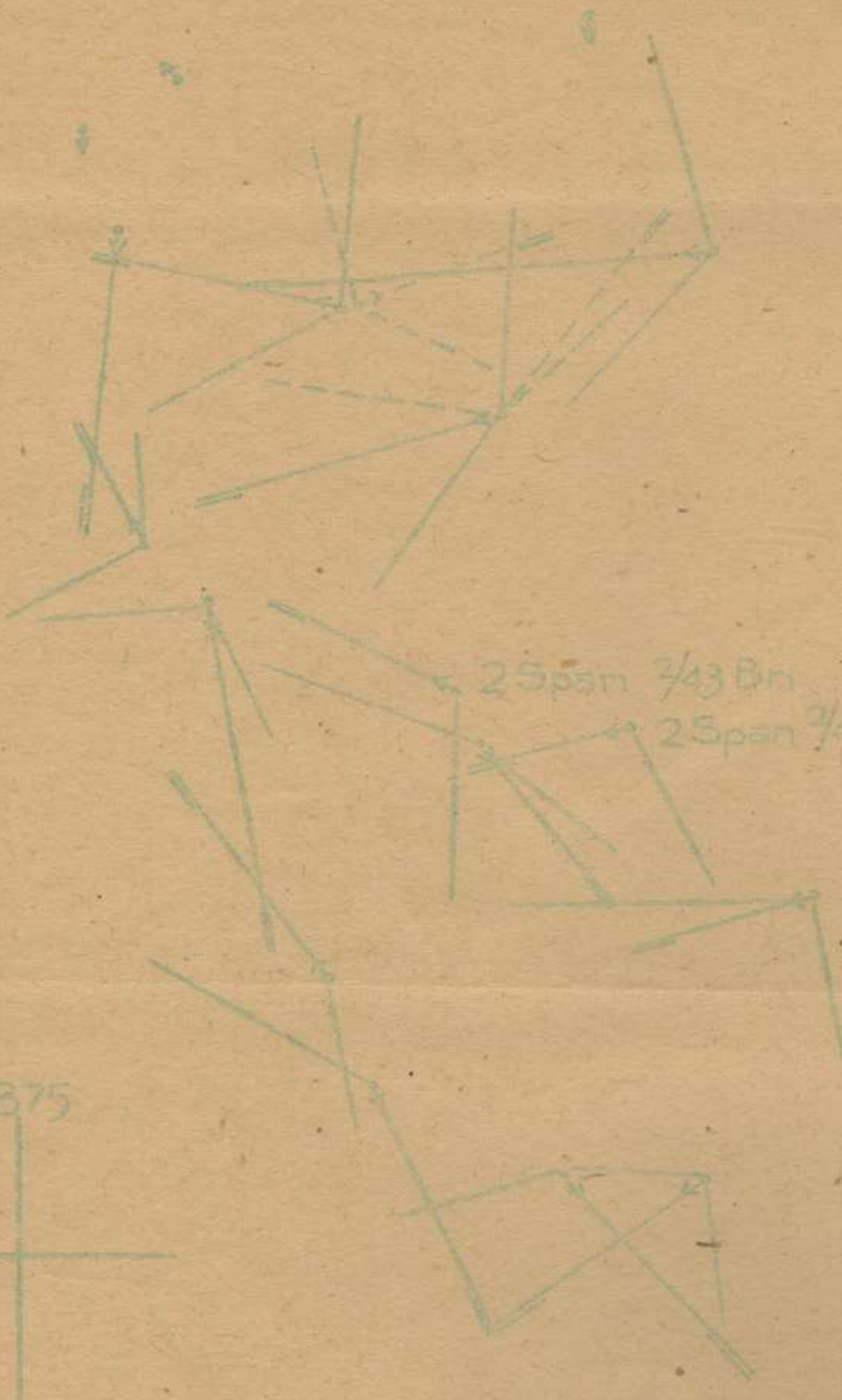
MMG  
Posn



Alternate  
Penetration  
Tracks



880



25 pan 3/43 Bn

25 pan 3/43 Bn

2/3 Pnr Bn  
MGs 3 Guns

(1 M.G. only)

875

292

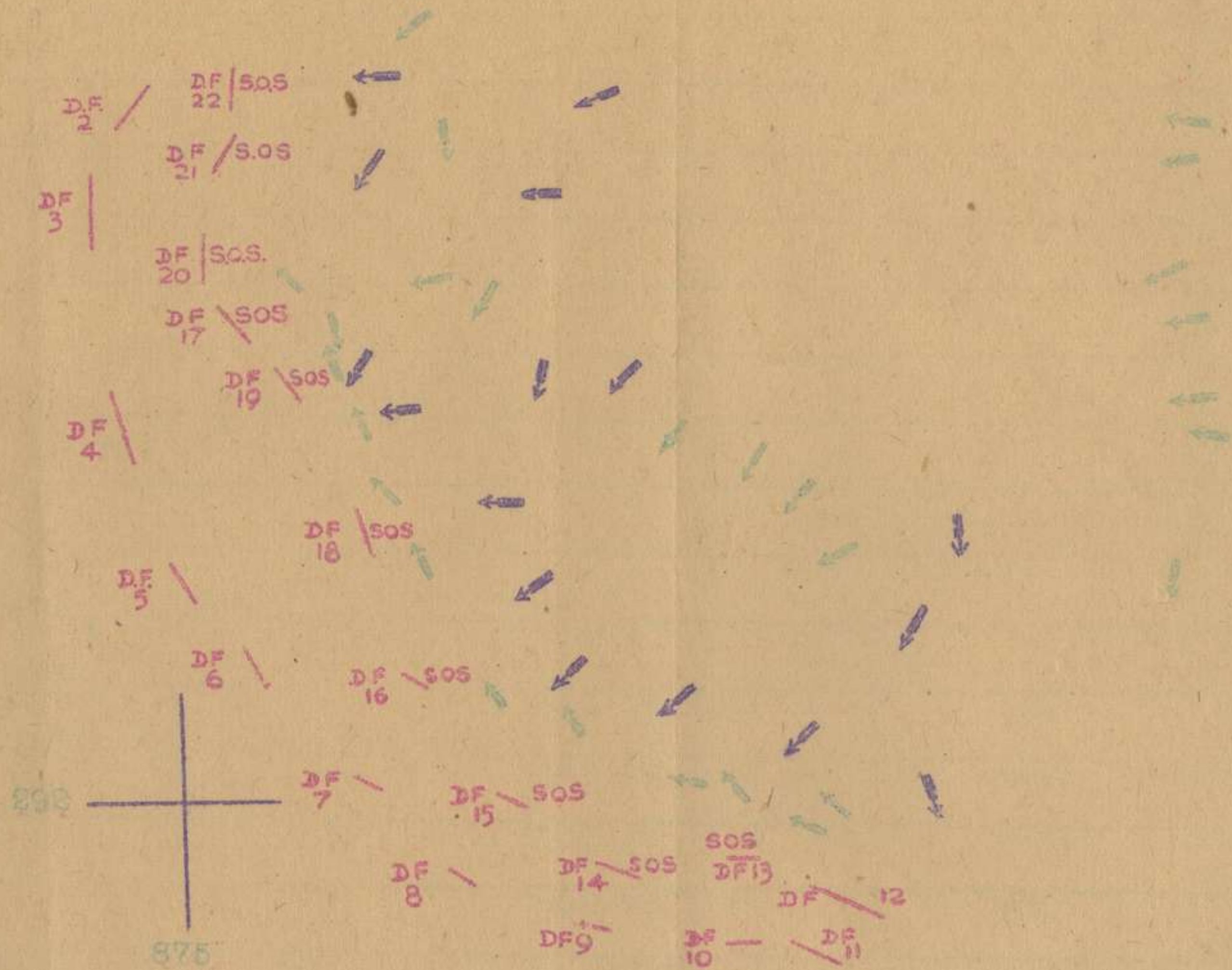
B  
APPX 'X' Part I. to 24 Aust Inf Bde C.O. No. 14

Ref map: EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000




A TK GUN POSNS & DF TASKS

238

886



LEGEND

-  6 pdr A Tk gun
-  (2 pdr A Tk gun
-  47 mm A Tk gun

APPX B Part II - ARTY DF TASKS  
 Issued with 21 Aust Inf Bde O.C. No. 14

SECRET

Tgt No.	Co-ords	Nature of Tgt	No. of Tps	Bty to Engage	Aviz	Rate	Remarks	
DF B2	874520 296590 - 874690 296300	-	-	-	H, E	5 Mins Rapid	DF tasks at call. All tps to be prepared to engage if asked for.	
DF B3	874509 296010 - 874500 296090	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B4	874550 294620 - 874770 294190	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B5	874970 295510 - 875110 295280	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B6	875380 292970 - 875510 292730	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B7	876050 292170 - 876200 292070	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B8	876670 291550 - 876840 291450	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B9	877450 291210 - 877550 291150	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B10	878380 291030 - 878500 291080	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B11	878780 291650 - 879100 290900	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B12	878320 291400 - 879400 291170	-	-	-	"	" "		
DF B13	878400 291580 - 878600 291570	SOS	2	2/12 Fd Regt	"	5 Mins Normal 5 Mins Slow		Green-Green-Red from 2/28 Bn HQ at 8730 2925.
DF B14	877350 291500 - 877830 291500	SOS	1	2/12 Fd Regt	"	" "		
DF B15	876950 292080 - 877170 291900	SOS	1	2/12 Fd Regt	"	" "		
DF B16	876380 292770 - 876550 292660	SOS	1	2/12 Fd Regt	"	" "		
DF B17	876500 295150 - 875500 294920	SOS	1	58 Fd Bty	"	" "		
DF B18	876150 293790 - 876230 293490	SOS	1	58 Fd Bty	"	" "	Red-Red-green from 2/32 Bn. HQ at 87822966.	
DF B19	875830 294750 - 875610 294510	SOS	1	15 Fd Bty	"	" "		
DF B20	875170 295580 - 875170 295280	SOS	1	15 Fd Bty	"	" "		
DF B21	875430 295280 - 875270 295960	SOS	1	15 Fd Bty	"	" "		
DF B22	875410 295640 - 875580 296340	SOS	1	15 Fd Bty	"	" "		

9.15/10/226

SECRET

COFY No. 16.....

21 Sep 42

26 AUST INF BDE CO No. 16

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

INFORM SO vpts 101 Gen Tpt Coy report each in as foll-

1. Current info is contained in att Int Report No 2 and in sitreps and summaries.

2. On occupation of fwd bde sector, 26 Aust Inf Bde will have the following additional tps in sp :

- C Sqn 9 Aust Cav
- 2/7 Aust Fd Regt
- 9 Aust A Tk Bty
- 10 Aust Lt AA Bty
- 2/13 Aust Fd Coy
- A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn (plus one pl B Coy)
- 12 Coy AASC
- 2/8 Aust Fd Amb

INTENTION

3. 26 Aust Inf Bde will relieve 20 Aust Inf Bde in right fwd sector.

METHOD

4. Programme of Relief

- a. Night 22/23 Sep (2/23 Bn relieves 2/13 Bn  
(2/24 Bn relieves 2/17 Bn)
- b. Night 23/24 Sep 2/48 Bn relieves 2/15 Bn

5. Adv Parties

Adv parties of all units move on nights prior to relief.

6. Disposns

See att Appx "A"

7. Routes

- a. 2/24 and 2/48 Bns - Main rd.
- b. 2/23 Bn main rd - rd junc 88042973 - rd junc 88152991 - thence coast track west.

8. Timings

- a. No move of tpt west of 882 easting before last light.
- b. Relief by 2/23 Bn will be completed by 2400 hrs 22 Sep;  
relief by 2/24 Bn will be completed by ~~0100~~ hrs 23 Sep.
- c. 2/23 Bn will move to clear mined gap 43069017 locality A by 2000 hrs 22 Sep.
- d. 2/48 Bn relief will be completed by 0200 hrs 24 Sep.

/e.

2/24 Bn will allow no tpt on main rd until 2015 hrs 22 Sep

9. Speeds and density

12 1/2 mih 30 vtm

10. Tp carrying tpt

a. 20 vehs 101 Gen Tpt Coy report each bn as follows :-

	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>RV</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
i.	2/23 Bn	22 Sep	1700 hrs	HQ 2/23 Bn 43529021	Coy guides to meet
ii.	2/24 Bn	"	1800 hrs	Unit sign 62 on main rd 43209017	"
iii.	2/48 Bn	23 Sep	1800 hrs	Main rd and Track junc 43299017	Bn guide to meet. Coy guides meet

b. On completion of fwd move of each unit, this tpt is to move outgoing units. (on arrival in unit area)

11. Patrolling

a. Responsibility for patrolling up to and incl nights of relief remains with 20 Aust Inf Bde units.

b. Personnel of incoming units will accompany patrols.

12. Rear parties

Rear parties as requested by units of 26 Aust Inf Bde are being left by 20 Aust Inf Bde.

13. Sp arms

a. A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn remains in sp 26 Aust Inf Bde and relieves B Coy (less one pl). Pls will move with bns in whose area at present located.

b. Remaining sp arms at present in sp 20 Aust Inf Bde remain in present location in sp 26 Aust Inf Bde on relief.

14. Hand-over of infm

All documents, maps, etc relevant to the res bde role will be handed over to 20 Aust Inf Bde units.

15. Sector cmd

Change of cmd in fwd sector between 20 and 26 Aust Inf Bdes will be notified separately.

ADM

16. Issued separately.

INTERCOMM

17. HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde closes present location 1800 hrs 23 Sep reopens same time at 88023007.

/18.

20 AUST INF BDE DISPOSITIONS.

Appx "A" to 26 Aust Inf Bde  
Op Order No. 16.

Ref Map: EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

Scale: 1/50,000





18. LOs with bns until reliefs complete.

19. Army Air SC tentacle with HQ 26 Aust Inf Bde on relief.

ACK

Signed at 2030 hrs

(C H Finlay) Maj  
BM 26 Aust Inf Bde

Issued by LO and through sigs

DISTRIBN :-

COPY NO :-

2/23 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/24 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/48 Aust Inf Bn	3
L Sec Sigs	4
4 Pl 2/1 Aust HQ Gd Bn	5
78 Aust LAD	6
12 Aust A Tk Bty	7
2/7 Aust Fd Coy	8
A Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	9
12 Coy AASC	10
101 Gen Tpt Coy AASC	11
2/11 Aust Fd Amb	12
1 Rec Sec 2/1 Aust A Fd Wkshops	13
H Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk	14
9 Aust Div	15
20 Aust Inf Bde	16
24 Aust Inf Bde	17
Comd	18
SC	19
War Diary	20-21
File	22-25

21 Sep 42

26 AUST INF BDE - INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO 2

Ref Map : EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000.

1. General

There have been no marked alterations in the line of enemy FDLs as depicted on the EL ALAMEIN overprint 23 Aug 42.

The latest infm shows that these FDLs are a series of strong pts protected by wire, mines and booby traps. British, German, Italian and French mines have been used. Behind these strong posts and up to 5 kilos in rear the enemy has prepared his defended line. In this northern sector there have been many enemy working parties, generally guarded by strong patrols. This seems to indicate that the enemy is still strengthening his northern posts.

The enemy consists of German and Italian units which have probably had the opportunity to bring their complements to full strength. Some PWs have been recent reinforcements to these units.

The role in which the German is using the Italian is already well known, but it is pointed out that in this sector there is no very great preponderance of Italians over Germans as in the sector immediately to the South.

2. Dispositions

From coast to northing grid 290 the enemy order of battle is as follows :-

Situated on the coast is a small pocket of ITALIANS (probably Bersagheri); then comes the 125 Inf Regt, the bns of which are disposed as follows :-

3 Bn 305 northing grid to main rd  
1 Bn main rd to ry  
2 Bn ry to 300 northing grid

382 Inf Regt

1 Bn 300 northing grid to 298  
3 Bn 298 northing grid to 296

62 Inf Regt

1 Bn 296 northing grid to 294 or 300 northing grid to 299

382 Inf Regt

2 Bn 296 northing grid to 294

62 Inf Regt

3 Bn 294 northing grid to 292  
2 Bn 291 northing grid to 290 ?

3. Strength164 Inf Div

## 125 Inf Regt

8 37 mm A Tk      8 Inf guns      2500 men

/382 Inf Regt

382 Inf Regt

8 37 mm A Tk 8 Inf guns 2500 men

433 Inf Regt

A Tk and Inf gun coys not yet equipped

men ?

Estimate 11 Aug 42 - Div strength 48 guns incl inf guns

45 A Tk 10,000 men.

TRENTO DIV

62 Inf Regt

3 bns each of 4 coys - regt mortar coy

36 A Tk guns strength 2057

Div strength 6664

48 Fd

9 x 77/28

72 A Tk

*J. Ochiltree Capt*  
(J G Ochiltree) Lieut  
IO 26 Aust Inf Bde

Distribn :-

As per OO No 16

9. 16/10/227

*Handwritten signature*

SECRET  
COPY No 13  
21 Sep 42.

24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 16,  
(Superseding O.O. No. 14 of 19 Sep 42)

Ref map: BL ALAMEIN 1/50,000

INFM

1. 30 Corps is to defend present FDLs at all costs.
2. 20 Aust Inf Bde is to be made mobile with tasks -
  - (a) to hold defended area A.
  - (b) be prepared to counter attack to restore the situation in either 26 or 24 Aust Inf Bde areas.
3. (a) Interbde bndy incl to 24 Aust Inf Bde is Trig 50 (870292) - CAIRN 875296 - 87652970 - 87802970.  
(b) Inter div bndy - excl QATTARA Rd to 87822959, thence incl minefd to 88022929 - telegraph line to 880289.
4. 24 Aust Inf Bde responsibility for defence against airborne and paratps -
  - (a) West of FDLs ALAMEIN defended locality, area bounded by FDLs 2/28 Bn, 2/32 Bn - inter bde bndy - ry line - inter div bndy.
  - (b) Area enclosed by defences ALAMEIN defended locality and North of telegraph line 881295 - 888289.
5. Following tps are in sp 24 Aust Inf Bde -
  - One Sqn 9 Div Cav
  - 2/8 Fd Regt
  - two btys 2/12 Fd Regt
  - 10 Bty 3 A Tk Regt
  - one sec 4 Lt AA Regt
  - 2/3 Fd Coy
  - C Coy 2/2 MG Bn
  - 2/8 Fd Amb

INTENTION

6. 24 Aust Inf Bde will defend present FDLs.

METHOD

7. Fwd bns - Right 2/32 Bn  
Left 2/28 Bn
8. Line of FDLs  
CAIRN 875296 - 87552953 - 87652953.
9. Inter bn bndy  
Incl to 2/32 Bn, 87852970 - 87702950 - 87502920.
10. Rear bn  
2/3 Pnr Bn will hold Posts-1 - 10 ALAMEIN defended locality.

- 11. Res - 2/43 Bn  
Task (a) Counter attack to restore FDLs.  
(b) Occupation of, or counter attack on, any section of ALAMEIN defended locality.  
(c) Counter attack on air or seaborne landings within ALAMEIN defended locality.
- 12. Fireplan - issued in Appxs A and B.
- 13. Patrols  
Patrol programme will be issued at intervals from this HQ to ensure coordination of patrolling with HF.  
Object of patrolling will be -  
(a) to inflict damage upon enemy and take prisoners.  
(b) identifications  
(c) location and plotting of enemy minefds and FDLs.
- 14. Anti paratp defence  
2/43 Bn and 2/3 Pnr Bn will hold mob res to deal with paratp landings.  
Areas of responsibility  
(a) 2/32 Bn and 2/28 Bn - FDLs to bn rear bdys.  
(b) 2/3 Pnr Bn - area bounded by rear bdys of fwd bns, interbde bndy, ry line and own rear bdy.  
(c) 2/43 Bn - ALAMEIN defended locality East of rear bndy 2/3 Pnr Bn, and North of inter div bndy.
- 15. Minefds  
Minefd trace and responsibility for guarding, closing and ordering closing of gaps given in Appx C.  
Engr assistance will be provided where required for closing gaps.

ADM

16. No change from 24 Aust Inf Bde Adm Instn No. 5 as amended by Instn No. 6.

INTERCOMM

17. Bde Main HQ at 88612949  
Rear HQ at 88852929  
Tac HQ, when formed, in 88229E.

18. S.D.F. - verey lights RED RED GREEN.

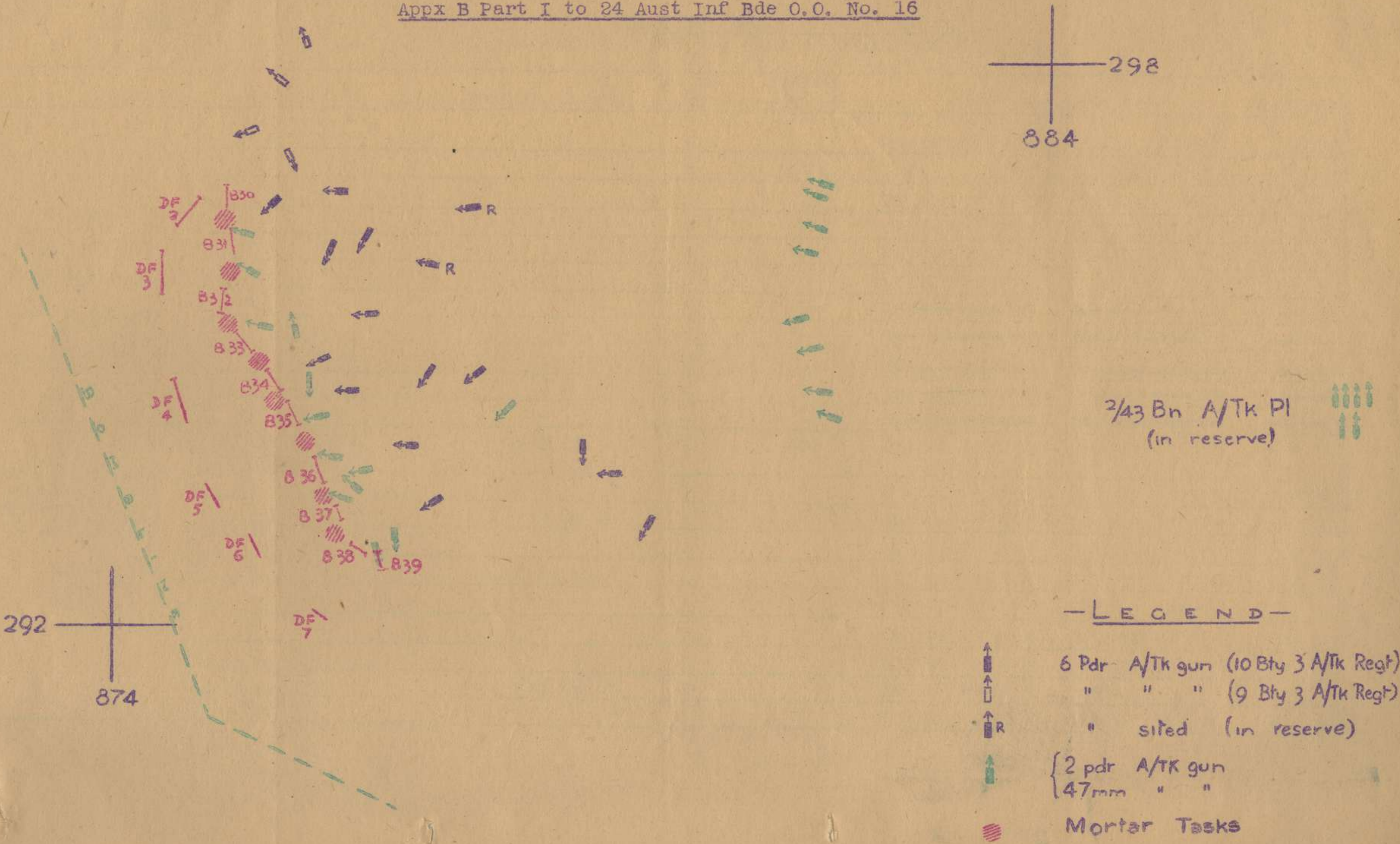
ACK

Signed at 12/15 hrs  
Issued through Sigs

*Dr. Jansen*  
Maj.  
B.M. 24 Aust Inf Bde.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No</u>		
2/28 Bn	1	9 Aust Div	12
2/32 Bn	2	20 Aust Inf Bde	13
2/43 Bn	3	3 S.A. Bde	14
2/3 Pnr Bn	4	Comd	15
C sqn 40 RTR	5	B.M.	16
2/8 Pd Regt	6	S.C.	17
10 Bty 3 A Tk Regt	7	I.O.	18
2/3 Pd Coy	8	File	19-20
R Sec Sigs	9	War Diary	21-22
C Coy 2/2 MG Bn	10		
2/8 Pd Amb	11		

Appx B Part I to 24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 16



APPX B Part II - ARTY DF TASKS  
 Issued with 24 Aust Inf Bde O.O. No. 15

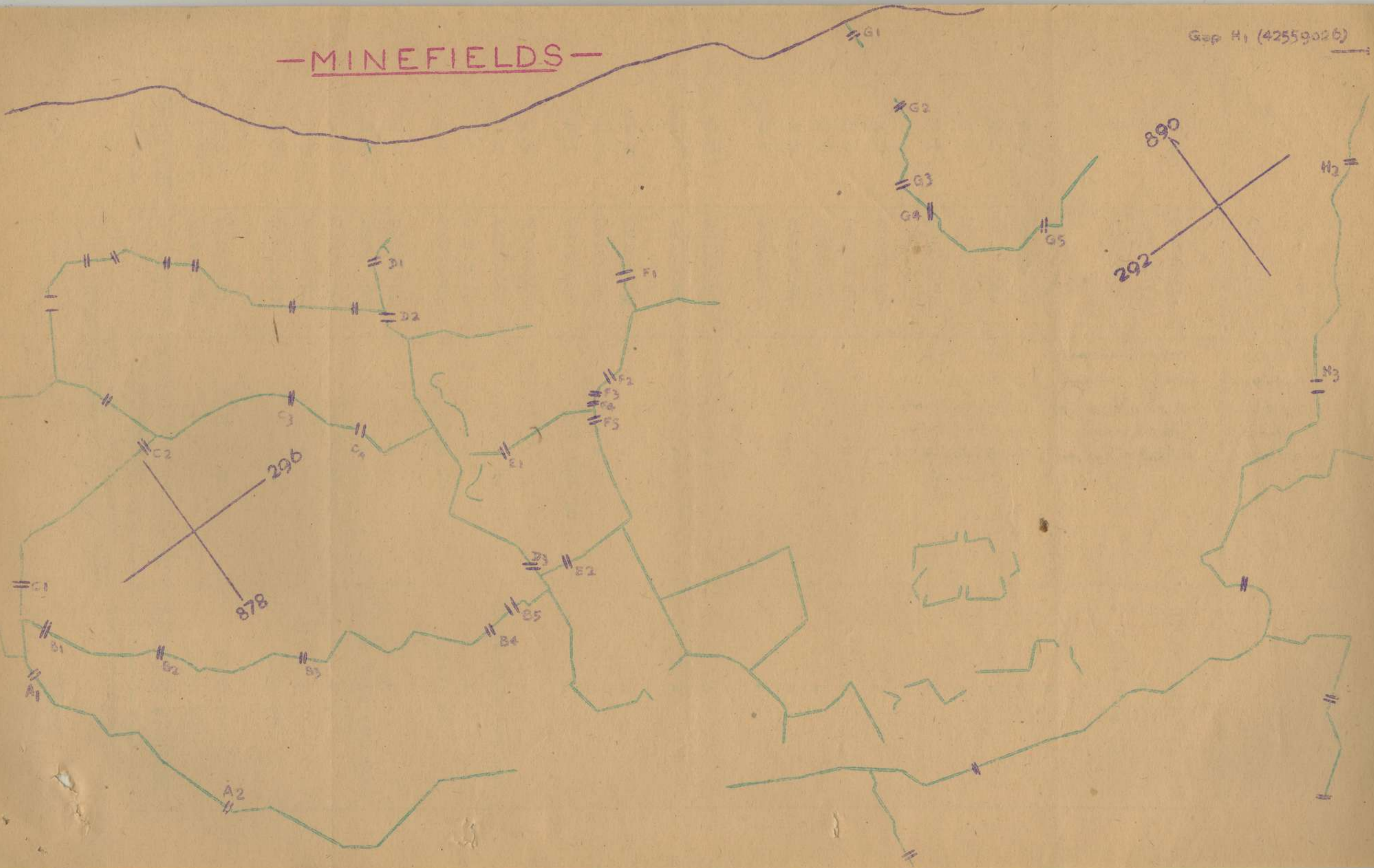
SECRET

Tgt No.	Co-ords	Nature of Tgt	No. of Tps	Bty to Engage	Arm	Rate	Remarks
DF B2	874920 296590 - 874890 296300	-	-	-	H.E.	5 Mins Rapid	DF tasks at call. All tps to be prepared to engage if asked for.
DF B3	874500 296010 - 874500 295090	-	-	-	"	" "	
DF B4	874630 294620 - 874770 294190	-	-	-	"	" "	
DF B5	874970 293510 - 875110 293280	-	-	-	"	" "	
DF B6	875380 292970 - 875510 292730	-	-	-	"	" "	
DF B7	876050 292170 - 876200 292070	-	-	-	"	" "	
<del>DF B8</del>	<del>876370 291350 - 876450 291450</del>	-	-	-	"	" "	
<del>DF B9</del>	<del>876480 291210 - 876560 291110</del>	-	-	-	"	" "	
<del>DF B10</del>	<del>876380 291030 - 876560 291050</del>	-	-	-	"	" "	
<del>DF B11</del>	<del>876380 291050 - 876560 290980</del>	-	-	-	"	" "	
<del>DF B12</del>	<del>876380 291400 - 876560 291150</del>	-	-	-	"	" "	
DF B30	875180 296680 - 875170 296410	SOS	1	15 Fd Bty	"	5 Mins Normal 5 Mins Slow	Engage on Light Sig. RED-RED-GREEN from Fwd Coy HQs at -
DF B31	875200 296250 - 875260 295970	"	1	" " "	"	" "	
DF B32	875130 295600 - 875110 295330	"	1	16 Fd Bty	"	" "	
DF B33	875260 295100 - 875410 294920	"	1	" " "	"	" "	
DF B34	875570 294720 - 875740 294510	"	1	2/12 Fd Regt	"	" "	
DF B35	875840 294390 - 875970 294140	"	1	" " "	"	" "	
DF B36	876080 293800 - 876170 293550	"	1	" " "	"	" "	
DF B37	876265 293230 - 876325 293070	"	1	" " "	"	" "	
DF B38	876520 292820 - 876675 292745	"	1	58 Fd Bty	"	" "	
DF B39	876845 292695 - 876890 292515	"	1	" " "	"	" "	

Amended Co-ordinates in Purple

-MINEFIELDS-

Gap H<sub>1</sub> (42559026)





## RESPONSIBILITY - MINED GAPS

Appx C to 24 Aust Inf Bde O.C. No. 16.

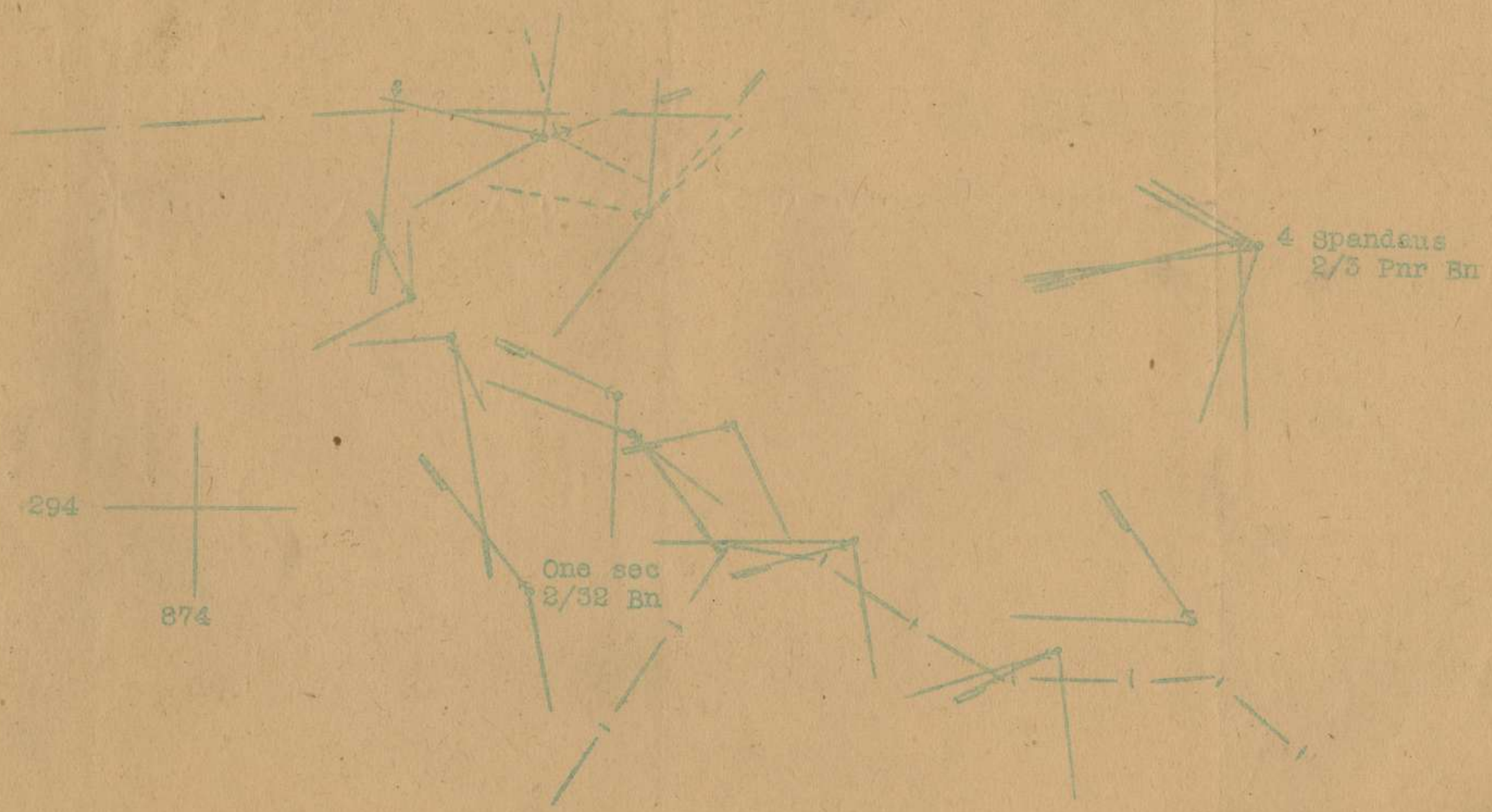
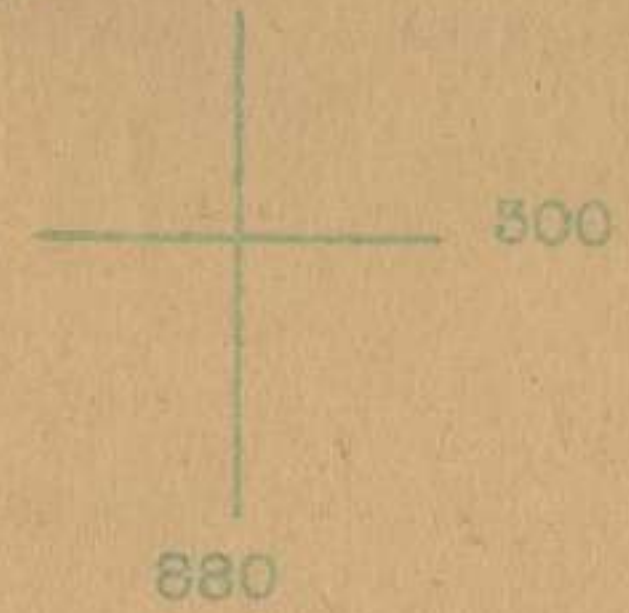
Mined Gap	Ref	Responsible for Protection & Closing	Authority to Close
A 1	87542958	2/32 Bn	2/32 Bn
A 2	87662931	2/28 Bn	2/28 Bn
B 1	87592961	2/32 Bn	2/32 Bn
B 2	87692950	"	"
B 3	87812940	2/28 Bn	"
B 4	88012930	"	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde
B 5	88052951	"	"
C 1	87602967	2/32 Bn	2/32 Bn
C 2	87812972	"	"
C 3	87982966	2/28 Bn	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde
C 4	88032957	"	"
D 1	88142974	2/3 Pnr Bn	"
D 2	88132967	"	"
D 3	88102933	"	"
E 1	88152946	"	"
E 2	88132931	"	"
F 1	88382954	"	"
F 2	88302946	"	"
F 3	88272946	"	"
F 4	88262945	"	"
F 5	88252945	"	"
G 1	88772962	2/43 Bn	"
G 2	88762952	"	"
G 3	88712945	"	"
G 4	88722939	"	"
G 5	88822930	"	"
H 1	42559026	"	HQ 9 Aust Div
H 2	42379015	"	"
H 3	88972896	"	HQ 24 Aust Inf Bde

APPX A to 24 Aust Inf Bde C.O. No. 16

SECRET

MG FIRE PLAN

Ref map EL ALAMEIN 1/50,000



915/6/228

SECRET

HQ RAA 9 Aust Div,

Copy No. 16

20 Aust Inf Bde Op Instr N<sup>o</sup> 21 Sep 42.

RAA 9 AUST DIV

O.P. INSTN No. 10

Ref Map EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000.

1. ALL previous instns relating to Def Fire tasks are cancelled.
2. Def Fire tasks will be fired in accordance with the task table (Appx "A"), in which have been consolidated ~~some~~ tasks which are at present operative plus some additional tasks. ~~It will be noted that tasks A1 to A6 incl, A8 to A21 incl and B2 to B7 incl remain unchanged.~~

3. Trace showing Def Fire tasks is attached - Appx "B".

4. Rates of fire :

S O S Tasks            5 mins Rapid

                                 5 mins Slow

DEF Fire other than SOS Tasks

                                 5 mins Normal

*in 20 Aust Inf Bde area*

*and substantiated by*

5. <sup>4/7 to 2/7</sup> SOS tasks will be called for by light signals ordered by ~~ideas and communicated~~ to Regts. Fd Regts will assist each other on Def Fire tasks; requests for assistance will be made direct. ALL calls for DF to be answered by 7 Med Regt RA will be made through ~~this HQ~~. *4x 2/7 Aust Ld Regt*

ACK. ✓

*20 Sep*

*A. E. Williams* Maj  
EW RAA 9 Aust Div.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No. Op Instn &amp; Appx "A" &amp; "B"</u>
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	1 - 3
2/8 Aust Fd Regt	4 - 6
2/12 Aust Fd Regt	7 - 9
7 Med Regt RA	10 - 12
HQ 9 Aust Div	13 - 15
20 Aust Inf Bde	16
24 Aust Inf Bde	17
26 Aust Inf Bde	18
CCRA 30 Corps	19
CBO 30 Corps	20
CRA 1 SA Div	21
CRA	22
War Diary	23 - 24
File	25

Serial	Target No	Centre of Area or Ends of Lines	Dg of longer axis	Size of Area (yds)	SOS or other than SOS	To be fired by Tps of				Appx "A" RAA Op Instrn 10.
						2/7	2/8	2/12	7 Med	Remarks & SIGNALS.
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
1	DF A1	8746 3020	50°	40 x 140	SOS	C				GREEN - WHITE - GREEN
2	DF A2	8745 3015	20°	40 x 140	SOS	D				
3	DF A3	8747 3012	360°	40 x 140	SOS	E				
4	DF A4	8745 3009	340°	40 x 140					1 Tp	
5	DF A5	87430 30045	360°	40 x 140	SOS	F				WHITE - RED - GREEN
6	DF A6	87420 29975	360°	40 x 140	SOS	A				GREEN - GREEN - GREEN
7	DF A7	Cancelled								
8	DF A8	8750 2981	360°	40 x 140						
9	DF A9	8750 2976	360°	40 x 140	SOS	B				GREEN - GREEN RED.
10	DF A10	8750 2970	360°	40 x 140					1 Tp	
11	DF A11	87495 30495	40°	400 x 150						
12	DF A12	87395 30440	360°	400 x 200						
13	DF A13	87240 30360	45°	400 x 200						
14	DF A14	87315 30290	360°	400 x 200						
15	DF A15	87195 30320	45°	500 x 200						
16	DF A16	87340 30200	45°	450 x 200						
17	DF A17	87295 29975	30°	400 x 200						
18	DF A18	87395 29795	60°	400 x 200						
19	DF A19	87225 29695	300°	300 x 200						
20	DF A20	87560 29640	360°	500 x 200						
21	DF A21	8755 2984	315°	400 x 150	SOS				2 Tps	GREEN - GREEN - RED

Serial	Target No	Map Ref Centre of Area or Ends of lines	Bg of longer Axis	Size of area (yds)	S O S or other than S O S	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks
						2/7	2/8	2/12	7 Med	
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
44	DF B23	Reserved								
45	DF B24									
46	DF B25									
47	DF B26									
48	DF B27									
49	DF B28									
50	DF B29									
51	DF B30	875180 296680 875170 296410		line	SOS		1			RED - RED - GREEN
52	DF B31	875200 296250 875260 295970		do	SOS		1			
53	DF B32	875130 295600 875110 295330		do	SOS		1			
54	DF B33	875260 295100 875410 294920		do	SOS		1			
55	DF B34	875570 294720 875740 294510		do	SOS			1		
56	DF B35	875840 294390 875970 294140		do	SOS			1		
57	DF B36	876080 293800 876170 293550		do	SOS			1		
58	DF B37	876265 293230 876325 293070		do	SOS			1		
59	DF B38	876520 292820 876675 292745		do	SOS		1			
60	DF B39	876845 292695 876890 292515		do	SOS		1			

- 2 -

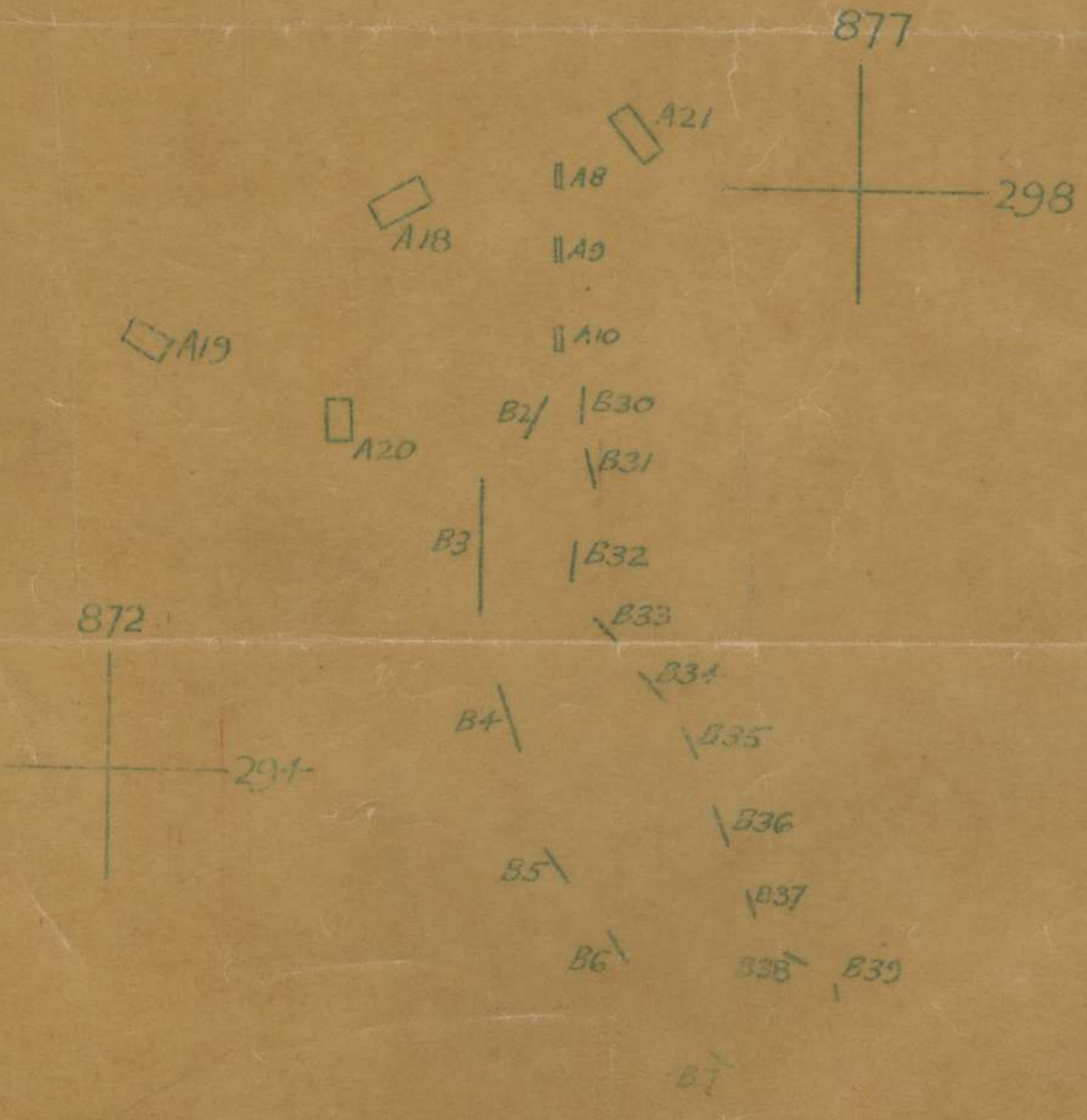
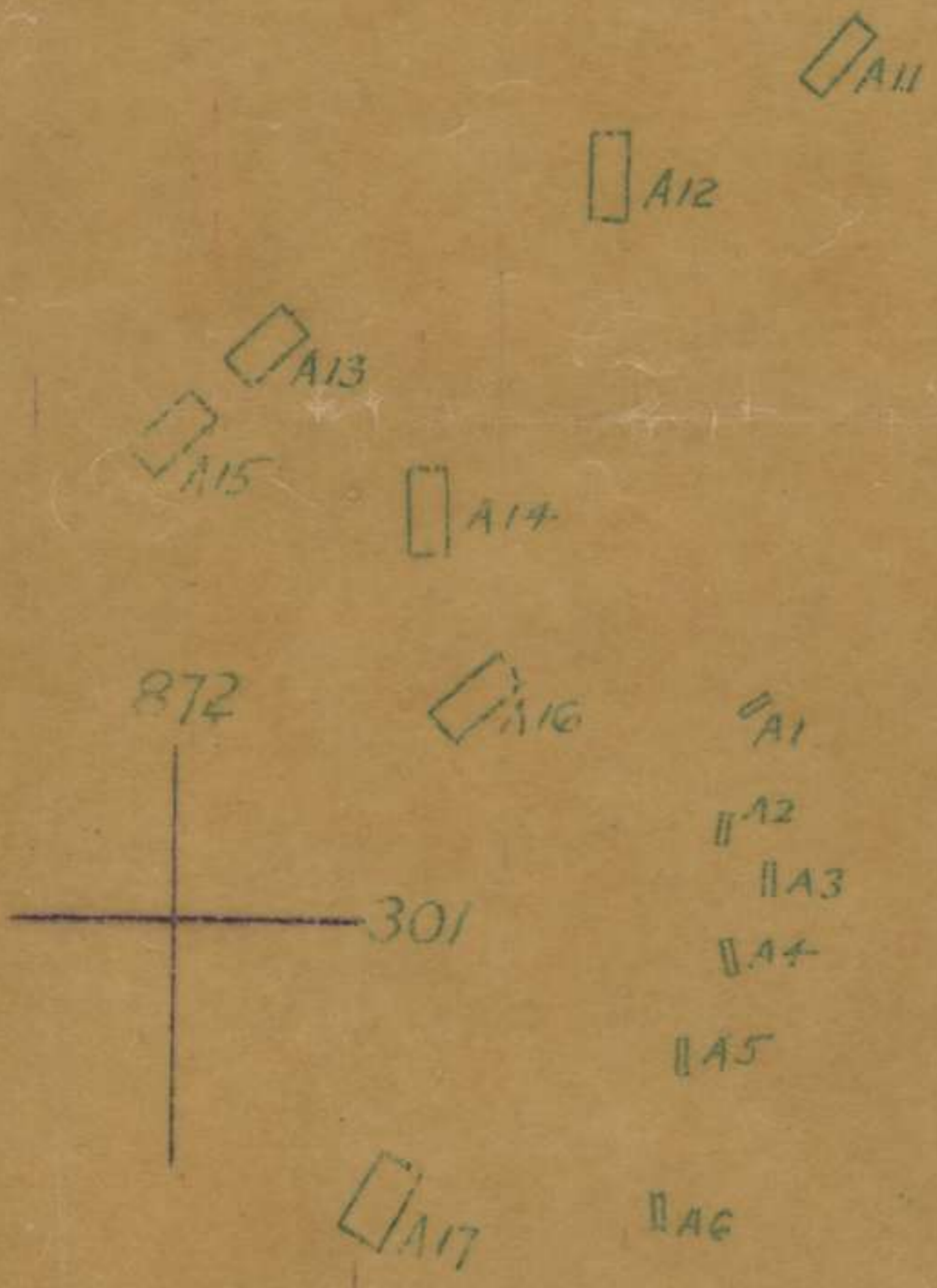
Ser- ial	Target No	Map Ref Centre of Area or Ends of lines	Bg of longer Axis	Size of area (yds)	S O S or other than S O S	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks	
						2/7	2/8	2/12	7 Med		
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	
22	DF B 1	cancelled									
23	DF B 2	874920 296590 874690 296310		line							
24	DF B 3	874500 296010 874500 295090		do							
25	DF B 4	874630 294620 874770 294190		do							
26	DF B 5	874970 293510 875110 293280		do							
27	DF B 6	875380 292970 875510 292730		do							
28	DF B 7	876050 292170 876200 292070		do							
29	DF B 8	} cancelled									
30	DF B 9										
31	DF B10										
32	DF B11										
33	DF B12										
34	DF B13										
35	DF B14										
36	DF B15										
37	DF B16										
38	DF B17										
39	DF B18										
40	DF B19										
41	DF B20										
42	DF B21										
43	DF B22										

SECRET

COPY NO. 16

APPX 'B' TO H.Q.R.A.A.  
9 AUST DIV. OP. INST. NO 10  
21 SEP 42

Ref. Map - Et Abmeiri 1/50,000





Septembe

C 2

Training

The sketch will be studied with the following points in mind:

- (a) Capture of points to cover (b)
- (c) Base and moving of army materials into positions
- (d) Capture of enemy positions and without the
- (e) Re-organization
- (f) Mapping up
- (g) Re-organization of troops and observation posts
- (h) Re-organization of troops and without the
- (i) Capture of additional areas to secure the post
- (j) The location, lifting, and moving of equipment
- (k) Re-organization of troops and without the
- (l) Mapping up

Special details may be taken to keep the line well

For exercises involving cooperation with the other

In all exercises involving the use of the

To ensure a good result in the exercises



20 AUST INF BDE TRG INSTN NO. 21.

1. Priority in trg will be given to the study and practice of the attack and exploitation.
2. The attack will be studied with and without tks and will include the following phases :-
  - (a) Capture of posns to cover (b)
  - (b) Recce and lifting of enemy minefields incl minefields with booby traps.
  - (c) Capture of enemy posns with and without tks.
  - (d) Rapid re-organisation.
  - (e) Mopping up.
  - (f) Exploitation using bn sp weapons and observed arty sp.
3. Exploitation will be studied with and without tks and will include :-
  - (a) Capture of additional areas to secure the posn gained.
  - (b) The location, lifting, and marking gaps in enemy interior minefields.
  - (c) Rapid re-organisation incl an organised A Tk defence to front and/or flanks.
  - (d) Digging in.
4. Physical Condition :-

Special methods must be taken to keep tps in the line hard- usually there is much digging to be done but very little marching. For this reason every opportunity possible will be taken to give tps exercise by marching.
5. Co-operation with Tks :-

For exercises involving co-operation with tks either C Sqn 40 RTR or a portion of the Div Cav can be made available. One regt 23 Armd Bde is moving into the div area for trg.

In all exercises involving the use of tks co-operation by RAA and RAE will be arranged by Dde HQ.
6. The trg area for bn and larger exercises which was available previously has been occupied. Recce by HQ 9 Aust Div for another area is proceeding.
7. Infm in battle :-

To enable a comd to exercise comd and employ his reserves to the greatest advantage two things are essential, infm from the fwd tps, and the rapid passing of this infm through sigs. Without good sig comms and unless fwd comds keep the higher comd fully informed of the progress of the battle, assistance which might have been provided may not be available. The passing of infm requires practice during exercises both by fwd units and sigs.

8. Speed of Action :-

To forestall the enemy speed into action is essential. Speed can be attained by :

- (a) Anticipation;
- (b) Quick thinking and rapid planning,
- (c) Rapid and accurate comms,
- (d) A battle drill familiar to all.

9. Offrs trg to replace casualties :-

The next in line must take comd in the event of a senior offr becoming a casualty. For this reason every offr should be capable of carrying out the duties of a rank higher than his own. Trg is necessary to practice and fit offr for the added responsibilities.

Replacements for comds will be nominated prior to the battle and must have full knowledge of the plan of action.

10. An enemy will be employed in all exercise where their employment will be of advantage.

11. Recognition - Ground to Air :

The current recognition signal is the letter "D" flashed to the aircraft by Aldis lamp, and GREEN smoke candles lit in succession to attract attention. This lamp signal and/or smoke signal is used to attract attention from the air :-

- (a) To the V ground strip put down by Bns to assist in the location of targets.
- (b) To identify our own tpt should they be accidentally attacked by our own aircraft.

*B. M. 20* Maj.

Distribution

Copy No.

B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
Comd	4
S.C.	5
War Diary	6
File	8/9



September

Appendix C 3

Locations

20 AUGUST INF BATT (PT-1) STATEMENT  
AS AT 0500 HRS. 27 89 42

REF: MAPS, EL. CASABA 1: 50,000.

SERIAL: 12113, LOCATION:

"A" THE BRIDGE COND.

1.	HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.	43329020.
2.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sec Sign & Asst Div.	66.
3.	1 Pl "A" Coy HQ 61 Bn.	do.
4.	58 Aust LAD.	43379020.
5.	12 Aust A TR Bty.	43389024.
6.	2/11 Aust Inf Bn.	43569018.
7.	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	43318986.
8.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	43219018.
9.	"B" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn - base near pl.	43289025.
10.	Det 9 Aust Div Fwd Coy.	4329018.
11.	Det 9 Aust Div Postal Unit.	43389021.

"B" THE BRIDGE

12.	2/13 Aust Fd Coy.	43519023.
13.	12 Coy ASC.	43549020.
14.	2/11 Aust Fd Amb.	43389024.
15.	2 Sec Sec 2/1 Aust A Fd Workshop.	43789024.
16.	"J" Div Sec 1 Aust Gen Fd Pk.	66.

*H. J. Murray Capt*  
HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DESCRIPTION:	COPY NO.		
13 Aust Inf Bn.	1.	Copy.	11.
15 Aust Inf Bn.	2.	...	12.
17 Aust Inf Bn.	3.	...	13.
12 Aust A TR Bty.	4.	...	14.
2/13 Aust Fd Coy.	5.	TO.	15.
"B" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.	6.	BASCO.	16.
12 Coy ASC.	7.	LOG.	17-19.
2/11 Aust Fd Amb.	8.	War Diary.	20-21.
58 Aust LAD.	9.	File.	22-23.
20 Aust Div.	10.		

I.12/21/223. .

SECRET  
COPY NO. 21

20 AUST INF BDE GP- LOCATION STATEMENT  
as at 0600 hrs 25 Sep 42.

Ref Map: EL QASABA 1: 50,000.

<u>Serial.</u>	<u>Unit.</u>	<u>Location.</u>
<u>"A" Tps Under Comd.</u>		
1.	HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde.	43329020.
2.	"J" Sec Sigs 9 Aust Div.	do.
3.	1 Pl "A" Coy HQ Gd Bn.	do.
4.	58 Aust LAD.	43379020.
5.	12 Aust A Tk Bty.	43389024.
6.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	43569018.
7.	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	43318986.
8.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	43239018.
9.	"B" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn-less one pl.	43309025.
10.	Det 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.	43329018.
11.	Det 9 Aust Div Postal Unit.	43329021.
<u>"B" Tps in Sp.</u>		
12.	2/13 Aust Fd Coy.	43519023.
13.	12 Coy AASC.	43849020.
14.	2/11 Aust Fd Amb.	43339024.
15.	2 Rec Sec 2/1 Aust A Fd Wkshop.	45769064.
16.	"J" Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk.	do.

*R. J. Nansen Capt*  
*for Maj.*  
EM, 20 Aust Inf Bde.

<u>DISTRIBUTION :</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>	
2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	1.	Comd. 11.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	2.	EM. 12.
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	3.	SC. 13.
12 Aust A Tk Bty.	4.	IO. 14.
2/13 Aust Fd Coy.	5.	TO. 15.
"B" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.	6.	BASCO. 16.
12 Coy AASC.	7.	IOs. 17- 19.
2/11 Aust Fd Amb.	8.	War Diary. 20- 21. ✓
58 Aust LAD.	9.	File. 22- 23.
9 Aust Div.	10.	



September

C 4

Sumner

W0

I.19/32/194.

SECRET.  
Copy No. \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.43.

Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 2 Sep 1942.

1. GENERAL:

An attack by a strong raiding force, to the immediate north of West Pt 23, met with considerable initial success. The enemy posn was in considerable depth; the penetration extended for about 1000 yds and enemy resistance was continued. Our tps fought with great determination and tenacity but encountered severe mortar, arty and SA fire from three sides. Our hold of the ground was judged insufficiently firm and the penetration not deep enough to commit the exploiting force, which was in readiness, to pass through. The raiding force was withdrawn under a smokescreen commencing at 0900 hrs. PWs captured were 1 Offr and 107 ORs, incl 6 wounded. The inf of the raiding force estimated to have killed more than 100 enemy. Very many others were killed by shell fire. EA were active during the day, there being two bombing raids. The night was unusually quiet. From West Pt 23 to the north there were frequent enemy flares. The only enemy working party seen or heard was in vicinity sq 873301. Automatic fire was exchanged with our patrol. S type A/P mines with pull igniter were discovered at 87273018.

2. ENEMY DISPOSNS AND IDENTIFICATIONS:

- (a) PWs captured were identified as from 3 Coy I Bn 382 IR and 11 Coy III Bn 382 IR. It would thus appear that the inter Bn bdy is in the vicinity of West Pt 23 872296.
- (b) One of the men who returned during night 1/2 Sep states definitely that he heard both ITALIAN and GERMAN voices when the enemy re-occupied.
- (c) A captured trace (undated) to be overlaid on 1:100,000 and signed by a Sjt of 6/IR 382 shows :-
  - (i) What appears to be a minefd running from 87062972 - 87192977 - 87242970 - 87002940 - 86992938 - 87172919 - 87272928 - 87352930 - 87382932 - 87442926 - 87342900.
  - (ii) An arrow pointing from 87192976 to an area marked C 8750-2976.
  - (iii) What appear to be four coy areas as follows -
    - C 87502976.
    - D 87592971.
    - B 87672966.
    - A 87662954.
  - (iv) Four areas (possibly coys) unnumbered as follows :-
    - 87252956
    - 87242943
    - 87332935
    - 87502922

3. ENEMY METHODS:

- (a) In addition to the minefd on the enemy wire in vicinity West Pt 23 there was at least one fd very well concealed and NOT marked outside the wire, and also an interior fd likewise concealed and NOT marked.

3. ENEMY METHODS (Contd):

(b) Enemy posns were sited in depth. PW stated that his coy had two coys fwd with the reserve coy 5 kilos behind.

4. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS.

Wire: 87283017 - single dannert.  
87273018 - single dannert with single barbed wire on long pickets neck high.

Mines: 87273018 - S type A/P with trip wire igniter system; mines 10 yds apart. Fine trip wire attached to short pickets midway between mines.  
87293012 - scattered minefd (those discovered were disarmed).

Gun Pit: 87263020 - newly dug emplacement - 18' diameter - camouflaged with fresh bushes; 5 slit trenches in vicinity.

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) PWs captured vicinity West Pt 23 state they had been on a patrol to our wire on night 31 Aug/1 Sep to investigate the reason for the extreme quiet. They were resting prior to making their report when our raid was put in.

(b) During late afternoon small gps enemy were seen moving amongst tks and vehs abandoned in West Pt 23 area.

(c) Considerable movement of men was observed in strongpost area 87453070 at 1700 hrs.

(d) Enemy was reported to be working at 87182975 (1730 hrs).

(e) MT movement was quiet all day on the SKYLINE TRACK until the usual increase about 1800 hrs.

(f) Arty:

Many hostile btys were identified during the intense <sup>enemy</sup>arty activity caused by our raid. The majority of these HBS were located in the central sector and could not be included in the Neutralisation Programme in the time available. On completion of the Programme nine bombardments were carried out by our meds up to 0800 hrs. From 0800 to 1018 hrs fewer shelling reports were received but at 1018 hrs activity broke out afresh and continued until 1530 hrs. Two further HBS were bombarded and the gp of HBS in 866298 were neutralised (CB Int Report 41). The shelling on our FDLs was on a reduced scale, about 115 rds falling.

6. AIR OPS:

Enemy air activity was on an increased scale. Two bombing raids occurred on area 877297. The first was at 1135 hrs by 8 ME109 and second at 1400 hrs by 3 ME109.  
1345 hrs - 6 ME109 at 500ft flying west breaking away from a dogfight.  
1355 hrs - 3 ME109 at 1000 ft flying west.

Our bombers are continuing to attack enemy concentrations of MT and tks to the south.

NOTE:- ITALIAN aircraft reported as crashed 31 Aug was directly hit three times by the A. Pl of right fwd bn. Identification - CR42.

7. OWN GROUND OPS:

- (a) The zero hr for the raiding force was 0535, the arty concentrations falling at 0550 hrs. The initial contact surprised the enemy and our fwd tps attacked the first enemy posts immediately the arty lifted. During close contact fighting by casualties were inflicted. Over 100 PWs were quickly rounded up. The only enemy DF fire encountered was from mortars and was NOT heavy. Some army tks in sp passed through the gap at 0645 hrs. Exploitation by the inf continued for about 1000 yds before being held up. All objectives in the original plan were reached. Movement of the sp tks was restricted due to the concealed minefds. 7 tks were put out of action by minefds or shells, one tk was burnt out. By 0730 hrs the enemy fire was by and increasing in intensity. Difficulty was experienced in bringing fwd our MT due to the concealed mines and difficulty in finding the gaps already made, the visibility being very limited due to smoke and dust. At 0750 it appeared as if a counter-attack was forming up from the SW. This was shelled and did NOT develop. The withdrawal was effected behind a smokescreen. The enemy continued to shell the ground for some time after our withdrawal. The first sign of re-occupation by the enemy was reported by an arty OP at 1125 hrs when parties were seen picking up wounded.
- (b) Patrols went to areas 87273018, 87282983, 87362976, 87523037 and sq 874301. Apart from a working party seen in last area and a subsequent exchange of fire with one of our patrols the night was quiet.
- (c) Arty: Our arty or mortar fire hit an enemy dump on Pt 25 (873302) and caused a loud explosion. An extensive fire programme was fired in conjunction with the raiding force. There was harassing fire on the coastal sector during the night.

DISTRIBUTION : AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.

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



W D

SECRET.

I.19/32/195.

Copy No. 23  
3 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.44.

Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 3 Sep 1942.

1. GENERAL:

Another quiet period during the night; no enemy were seen fwd of their FDLs.

Shelling against the CUTTING area was heavier than usual.

In the south our offensive air activity continues, directed mainly at MT.

There was little ground activity in the south during yesterday. Latest reports indicate a slight westerly move by the GERMAN 15 Armd Div.

2. ENEMY METHODS:

Two stragglers from the raiding force of 1 Sep report having seen mines or boobytraps which looked like our ST grenade, att by string to bushes. They were sure that these objects were NOT ST grenades although they had that appearance.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:

(a) A.Tk Guns:

The following have been placed by air photographs :-

- BG 87163020 - 3.8.42.
- GM 87213020 - 14.8.42.
- FU 87043015 - 23.7.42.
- FT 87043009 - 14.8.42.
- GN 87043002 - 14.8.42 - trench system extending 200 yds N & S of these co-ords.
- QZ 86522952 - 26.8.42.

(b) Wire:

- 87312968 - single dannert running at 347° and 190°.
- 87283027 - single dannert with cattle fence 30 yds NW.

(c) Mines:

- 87282984 - several sangars surrounded by small fd of TELLER mines.
- 87423039 - marked by a furrow running NE-SW.

(d) Diggings:

- 87302968 - parallel to wire at 87312968, line of round pits nearby newly dug trench system spitlocked for extension.
- 87373012 - about 25 shallow pits recent construction.

(e) Guns:

- 86703012 - 4 Fd (?) engaged by arty.
- 86943054 - 2 Fd (?) engaged by arty.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

1400 hrs - seven enemy moved to vicinity 87282984 with a box like object. They withdrew on the approach of own patrol. No sign of the box could be seen.

Arty: Enemy shelling was heavier than usual and concentrated mainly on East Pt 24 and CUTTING areas. A total of 214 shells fell in this area - 41 shells fell in TELL EL EISA sta area.

HB "RM" registered the tarmac rd in sqs 879298 and 880297.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

HBs believed active :-

- KF 36993032 - 4 Fd.
- RM 36933055 - ?
- DJ 37513061 - 1/AA.
- RN 86643019 - ?
- LZ 86703078 - 2/149/28
- NL 86673026 - 3 Hy.

5. AIR OPS:

EA were active throughout the day, but little interest was shown in the Bde area. All EA seen appeared to be returning to their LGs from the battle area. The increased enemy air activity started with early fighter sweeps to AMIRIYA and southern sector followed by six STUKA raids and ME109 and MC202 patrols in battle area. At 1530 hrs on 2 Sep an intercept by our fighters claimed 6 JU87 destroyed, 1 JU87 probable, 11 JU87 damaged, also 2 ME109 damaged. Our bombers night 2/3 report having attacked best target ever in east end RAGIL and about 426873. At 0805 hrs 3 Sep our bombers attacked 500 MET area 428865 and 0824 hrs MET between 430871 and 426867 were attacked.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

During HF tasks on Sector B cries could be heard from area 8709-2937 by one of our patrols.

HF tasks were fired from 2300 to 0300 :-

- 87193018.
- 87092987 to 87092985.
- 87192974 to 87212972.

Each target received 40 rds in short bursts at irregular intervals.

(b) Patrols:

(i) A deep patrol struck dannert wire at 87283027 with a cattle fence 30 yds further. Numerous voices indicated a number of enemy. An enemy sentry observed the patrol and withdrew into the post. Fire from Brens and TSMGs was directed onto the post and replied to by two spandaux. The patrol withdrew 100 yds and then returned.

(ii) Another patrol left a standing patrol of 1 Sjt and 6 with a phone in diggings at 87543038. The main patrol then investigated enemy minefd at 87423039. The patrol then laid up for an hour NMS or H. The standing patrol is remaining in area 87543038.

(iii) A recce patrol went to area 87443026 to gain knowledge of the ground. Sounds of a picket being driven in were heard followed immediately by an explosion; then absolute quiet.

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

DISTRIBUTION: AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.

*[Faint handwritten notes]*

*[Faint handwritten notes]*

I.19/32/196.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.45.Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 4 Sep 1942.1. GENERAL:

Hy shelling was continued on East Pt 24 and CUTTING areas.

The movements of our patrols were hampered by enemy A/P minefds.

On the southern flank the enemy has withdrawn and his main concentration is now east of grid 430 and south of grid 870. The movement is in a westerly then a NW direction and is being covered by an A.Tk screen.

2. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS AND DISPOSNS:

Interrogation reports of PWS captured on night 30/31 Aug are at Appx "A".

3. ENEMY EQUIPMENT:

The following are brief details of ITALIAN 90/53 multi-purpose gun :-

MV 2755 f.p.s.  
 Max horizontal range - 19000 yds.  
 Max vertical range - 39,400 ft.  
 Weight of shell - 22.2 lbs.  
 (from C.B. Int Report No.42.)

4. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:(a) General:

At Appx "B" find report from an OP at 87383007 on the southern side of ridge from Trig 33 to 87243032.

(b) Strongpost: 87203017 - hy double apron fence.

(c) Diggings: 87122988 - 6 men engaged by arty whilst digging.

(d) OP: 87243027 - engaged by arty.

(e) Mines: French mine with trip wires and booby traps from 87243017 generally west and curving to the south at approx 87173022 from this pt (approx) fd consisted of EP mines. Gap vicinity 87143020.

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:(a) Arty:(1) General Note:

A list of characteristics and dimensions of enemy shells is being prepared, using fragments and duds received, and will shortly be issued to Regts. Further fragments of shells are required, particularly the following - GERMAN 105 MM Gun Med; 75mm Inf Gun, ITALIAN 77/28mm Gun; 105/28mm Gun. Frequently fragments sent to the C.B.O. stating time of arrival and area shelled have helped in the identification of the HB active and confirmation of the calibre. (from CB Int Report No.43).

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(a) Arty (Contd):

- (ii) HEs believed active on Bde front :-
  - PX 86613037 - 3/-/- night posn.
  - LW 87373063 - 3 -/inf/75.
  - PC 86953012 - 2/Fd or Inf.
  - BJ 86813014 - 3/Fd.

(iii) The shelling between 1700 hrs and 1900 hrs was very heavy, 327 shells on area West Pt 24 and CUTTING. These consisted of 25 pr and 75mm. General area 87552973 was also shelled heavier than usual with 81 shells.

(b) Inf:

- (i) During night 2/3 Sep a listening post at approx 8762-3022 heard sounds of movement; after challenging bursts of TSMG were fired. A patrol was about to be sent out from the Pl when a complaint was received from the coy on the left (NE corner sq 876301) that their ration party had been fired on. It was thought that the original sounds had been caused by this party. Subsequently a patrol at 87443026 heard sounds of a man groaning and obviously in pain moving across their rear. A carrier patrol during daylight found a cap and 3 mauser rifles with a big pool of blood to the south of the L.P.
- (ii) At 0300 hrs an enemy patrol of approx 8 men halted one of our protection patrols, in GERMAN, near West Pt 24. Our patrol opened up with TSMG and three rifles. The TSMG jammed after one burst with separated case. The enemy replied with two spandaus and subsequently with a mortar; our patrol withdrew. A stronger patrol which went out immediately could find no trace of the enemy.

6. AIR OPS:

- 1240 hrs - 2 ME109 dropped 3 bombs at 87723001; no damage.
- 2230 hrs - Unidentified plane crashed well out into the sea in flames.

Our bombers yesterday maintained their shuttle service in the south concentrating on enemy MP. Some excellent targets were reported. Most targets were located in sqs 880250 and 420860.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

Harassing fire tasks between 1300 - 1530 hrs were a repetition of the arty fire tasks during "BULIMBA" :-

- 87212971.
- 87132973.
- 87122986.
- 87092991.

HF was also brought down on 87183020; 87443047; 87363045.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Patrols:

- (i) A fighting patrol crossed enemy single dannert at 8728-3016, then single dannert with neck high trip wire and S type AP mines (previously reported) at 87253018. The patrol then ran along a previously unlocated fd of FRENCH mines with trip wires and A/P (? booby traps) mines. A gap was found approx 87143020. 50 yds further another single dannert and still another at 150 yds were crossed. At 250 yds a hy double apron fence was met 87203017. Whilst looking for a gap flares were fired. Being obviously under observation and finding no gap, the patrol withdrew by same route.
- (ii) A patrol investigated sangars and a large cave in area 87282984. NMS.
- (iii) A patrol struck B4 AP minefd at 87463043 (previously reported at 87483045). Sappers were of the opinion that it would take 2 hrs to clear a gap. A working party 75 yds in rear was fired on. An ambush was set with two men sniping as decoys. There was no enemy reaction.
- (iv) A fighting patrol to the PALMS area missed the previously recced landmark so returned. This patrol is to be repeated.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
for Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION : AS FOR " I" SUMMARY NO.9.

PWs were captured with 3 others at 375 2964 night of 23/29 Jul 42.

They had been laying mines and had lost their way. An Unteroffizier who was with them escaped.

All PWs had only been in AFRICA since the beginning of July having come from GREECE. Since arrival they had been engaged in laying mines mostly English, in the area between the sea and the pt where captured. One PW an Austrian anti German was extremely forthcoming and was interrogated in conjunction with Lt CAMPBELL IO to CRE. The following information is based mostly on his statements.

Strength of Coy 100 - 120.

OC Coy Lieut ENDEL (now in hospital sick)

A/OC Coy 2nd Lieut RINGLER.

As far as PWs were aware 1 and 2 coys have not yet arrived in AFRICA, one referred to as 1st Coy was in AFRICA. OC 2 coy Lieut LAUR. Several PWs had been recently transferred from 2 to 3 coy. Coy posn was given as between main rd and ry not far from ruined village and Posque on slightly raised ground. PWs had had trg but no previous experience in mine laying. They were instructed in the use of English mines shortly after arrival in AFRICA by a 2nd Lieut STUBBANS. Since about 8 Jul approx 2,000 German T - mines and 3,000 English Egyptian mines (1k 4 1k 3 and EP) have been laid. These mines had not been lifted elsewhere but came packed in boxes probably from TOBRUK. On the night of capture the party had laid some 50 - 6 mines in irregular formation.

Mines are now being laid in two ways :-

(a) In regular formation (for details of method of laying see Technical Report by Lieut CAMPBELL). These minefields are laid laterally and are marked by wire. They normally contain 500 - 600 mines.

(b) In irregular formation (Streueinsatz). These minefields are laid irregularly along compass bearings taken from gps in the regular minefields and contain about 100 mines. They are not marked by wire but are laid so that anyone in possession of the plan can negotiate them successfully by means of compass bearings.

These irregular minefields may be as far as 2,000 metres in front of the regular marked minefields. They are generally laid in staggered gps.

The quality of all PWs intellectually was very low and morale about equally low. Nearly all made no attempt to maintain security but in most cases knew very little. A number of them had previously been in Labour Coy.

There is stated to be a bty of 12 Italian guns about 4 kilos to the north of the Coy posn. It is rumoured that the 43 Inf Regt has arrived in AFRICA but none of the PWs had seen any men from it.

INTERROGATION REPORT

PRELIMINARY - 1/Cpl (Gefr) Ludwig JUNG, of 1 Sec, 1 Pl, 1 Coy, 1 Bn 125 Inf Regt - P. No. 26183. 21 years old, has served with same Regt since 1949. Insecure, friendly, but very slow thinking and involved in statements. Arrived in Africa in July but was sick with mild dysentery for a fortnight this month and returned from DABA three days ago.

CAPTURE. PW was with a party of 25 men (drawn from 1 and 2 Pls) under Col MARLACH - acting 1 Pl Comd - which set off at about 0200 hrs on 31 Aug 42, to raid our lines and obtain PW for identification. Three ops from 220 Reg Bn were provided to maintain line through our wire. The party passed through the gap at about 1300 hrs and came under fire, which caused the party to scatter. PW found a slit trench, in which he remained in the hope of being able to get back to his lines the following night. His discomfort and the obvious vigilance on our side made him decide to surrender at about 1 00 hrs in area 75301.

UNIT. It is confirmed that the heavy armament of 4 coy has been so divided as to make all four coys of 1 Bn equal in armament. At the same time, pls were exchanged between coys and PW was actually in 1 Coy as a machine-gunner until the change over took place. His old PP No was 26183 B and is now 26183 C.

PERSONALITIES. Lieut LA THOR was O.C. Coy when the Regt came out. When he was taken sick, 2/Lt WUNDER, 1/2 1 Pl, took over the COY temporarily. When PW returned from DABA, he found that 2/Lt MARBAG was posted and a new Lieut was O.C. Coy. Another new Lieut was to take over 1 Pl in place of Col MARLACH. The remaining Pls were comd by Sgts, names not identified.

DISPOSITIONS. PW is sure that the positions occupied by his coy are the same both night and day; there are no P.Ls which are occupied by night. Listening posts are put out ahead at night and some post work is carried out. On the night of his return from DABA, PW was called on to go out on patrol with twelve men; their objective was to observe enemy movements and positions only and they returned without being intercepted. He thinks that this patrol provided the necessary info for the raid of the night 30/31 Aug 42 but feels that the recon was not thorough enough.

He believes that there are only two coys between the main rd and the ry, one on his left flank in the rear which has so far not been in action. He has seen men moving in the day time and estimated a coy strength. He has heard the fire of another post on his left flank behind a ridge and believes it to be a coy of 111 Bn on the other side of the main rd.

All tps must remain under cover all day and he has not been over either the main rd to the left or the ry to the right.

WATER. No drinking water is issued and the issue of salty washing water (on the theoretical scale of 20 litre Jarrican per 16 men every second day) suffices only for cleaning mess tins and for dental care.

MORALE. PW is of the very slow thinking kind and it is difficult to assess his morale. There seems, however, an element of doubt as to the impossibility of his escape during the action and under cover of darkness the following night, and he may have been quite willing to be taken by us.

INTERROGATION REPORT

KEY PERSONS. L/Cpls Othmar BRUECKNER and Karl ANSPITZ, of 11 Coy, 117 Bn, 125 Inf Regt were both 31 years old and had about 2 years active service. BRUECKNER was with 30 Inf Regt in Russia until recently but elected to go to Africa on recovering from a leg wound received there. Both are intelligent, friendly, and insecure.

DISPOSITIONS. 9 Coy is on the coast with an Italian Coy on its right flank, and 11 and 10 Coys carry on the line down to the road. The 3 Coys are in echelon, with 9 and 11 Coys further forward than the Italian of 10 Coy. 12 Coy has been divided up between the other three Coys with a corresponding increase in strength and armament.

11 Coy has its three PIs laid out in triangular formation, with 1 PI on the right, 2 PI on the left, and 3 PI with all its weapons in the centre at the rear.

PDLs. PDLs have been constructed and 30-40 men are sent forward nightly to man them. These men serve as listening posts at the same time, and PW maintain that there are no men posted out further forward.

PATROLS. Patrolling by night was commenced about a fortnight ago with patrols of about 10 men strong. ANSPITZ had been up to our wire on two occasions previously. About 3 days ago his patrol had an encounter with one of our patrols, which embarrassed the German patrol from some weapons and vehicles. The Germans withdrew without loss.

STRENGTH. 11 Coy strength is estimated at 100.

PERSONALITIES. Capt. WARD is now OC 111 Bn. Lieut WERNER is OC 11 Coy but is away at present. PI Commanders are 1 PI, Lieut KUESTER, 2 PI Sjt-Maj (Pw) BERTH, and 3 PI, Sjt. FRIEDMANN.

CAPTURE. A patrol of 30 strong was sent forward to obtain PW for identification and information. 3 men from 120 Regt Bn (this Bn had not previously taken part in patrols) were forward to clear a gap in our wire and lift any mines. They were followed by 1 section each from 1 and 2 PIs, and in the rear a light mortar section, a heavy mortar section and a 3rd section from 3 PI. A W/T detachment with a pack wireless set was also with the patrol.

Cross-fire from MGs was encountered and the patrol was forced to withdraw. Cpl JOY was killed; he was FCO 1/c 3 PI HQ (Zugtruppfuhrer) and was acting FCO 1/c 3 Section in place of a Col wounded in ambush about 8 days ago.

A friend of the two PW was wounded and, whilst dragging him away on a ground sheet, all three men were captured - in area 374302 at approx. 0250 hr. night 30/31 Aug 42.

WATER. There is an issue of one 20-litre can ster of salty water per 10 men every two days, but distribution is not fair and there is never enough to allow of proper washings.

MORALE. Morale is good but not high. Our arty fire has lost most of its terror but the troops feel annoyed that they should have to lie quiet all day and have no movement at all when their opposite, or bers walk about freely.

TANKS. No tanks have been seen in the road-to-coast sector. PW have not been seen south of the road but understand that both 1 and 11 Bn of 125 Inf Regt hold the line there without any tank support.

TRANSPORT. 125 Inf Regt still has no transport available.

INTENTIONS. The rumour still goes round that Rommel has a plan for breaking through in the South, breaking our resistance, and advancing rapidly to Alexandria.



INTERROGATION REPORT

PREAMBLE PW is Pfc Waldemar LEY, of 3 Dec, 3 Pl, 3 Coy, 1 Bn, 102 Inf Regt, P.P. No. 09046 D. 19 years old. Although born in STRZY in Poland, has been forced to assume German nationality, serve with the Compulsor Labour Service (Dec 41 to Feb 42), and join the German Army (Apr 42). Speaks German imperfectly, claims fluent Polish and Ukrainian, with working knowledge of Russian. Good type, rather shaken by experiences. Must be regarded as a desperado. Expresses willingness to join Free Polish Forces and says that his cousin (Wladislaw OSTIADL) escaped after fall of Poland and is thought to be already serving.

MILITARY HISTORY. Trained with "3. Sch. Ers. Kps 1/131" at NICHOLSBURG, transferred to "Wehrlandkompanie 1" at MANUSSEION in Greece for further training, and moved later to PARAKIREI near ATHENS to guard a big army petrol dump. Volunteers were called for, but only two GPs and PW were selected for service in AFRICA. Came over by air on 1 Aug 42, has only been in Africa 12 days.

UNIT. PW is rather vague about his Coy in some respects, partly on account of his short stay in Africa and partly through lack of interest and knowledge of German. The only personnel he can mention is 2/Lt MARTIN, who (he states) is G3 3 Coy.

CAPTURE. The Coy was ordered during 30 Aug 42 and told that a raid was to be carried out during the night. Volunteers were called for without much response, so men were detailed off as required. PW attempted to evade notice but was chosen for his youth and because he is single.

The party is estimated at about 80 strong. PW is vague as to its composition but thinks it consisted of the whole of 3 Pl, three men per section from 1 and 2 Pl, and some from 4 Pl. 4 Pl had recently received new equipment (by way of 11th and 12th) and supplied this new material in support, leaving the original equipment behind.

MF was provided for about 13 km of the distance and the remaining 2-3 km were covered on foot. The party came under fire and went to ground. PW, who had succeeded in getting a lighted dead beside a dead comrade and was left behind when the party withdrew. He remained quiet for an hour and had a difficult time when the Germans came forward again. He surrendered soon after dawn. The raid was commenced at about 2000 hrs and PW thinks the first attack took place about 2200 hrs. Approximate area of capture is 375205.

DISPOSITIONS. Although PW is liable to be rather incoherent at times, he gives the following picture of the sector in which he was placed. The Germans, realising that the Italians are considered easy meat, put out a screen of Italians in the TDE as bait. These Italians are to retreat left and right if attacked in force. Behind the forward Italian lines are minefields one km square and in the gaps separating them are strongpoints, manned alternately by Germans and Italians. The 3 Coy itself is laid out with three PIs (1, 2, 3 reading from R to L) in slightly staggered formation and the fourth (Heavy) PI in the rear. Behind the Coy lines are dug-in tanks, 14 guns, and field btys. The number of tanks is considered to be fairly high, but only about 5 at a time have been seen moving about. PW puts them on Mark II and Mark III but cannot be sure, as they were some distance away.

This type of defence is considered to be the best for weakening the enemy in case of attack and also allows of an easy advance with ck sp if required.

PW has no idea of the front covered by his Coy but is certain that it is fairly long, as his Section covered nearly 100 meters and was well spaced out from the next.

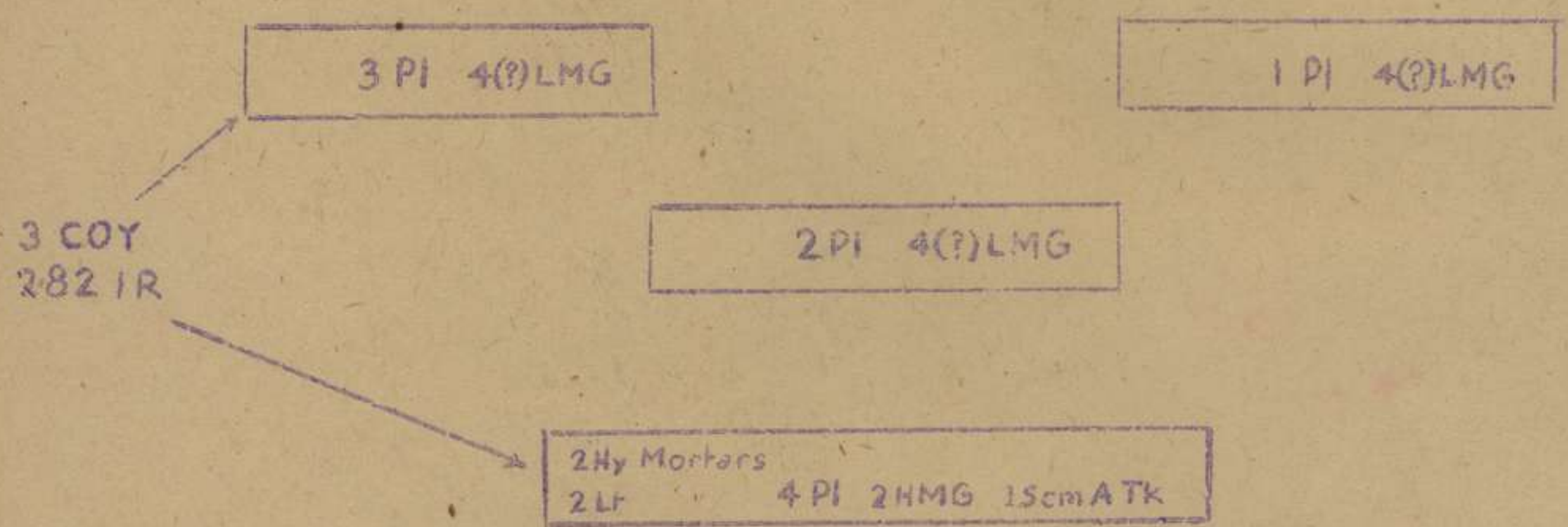
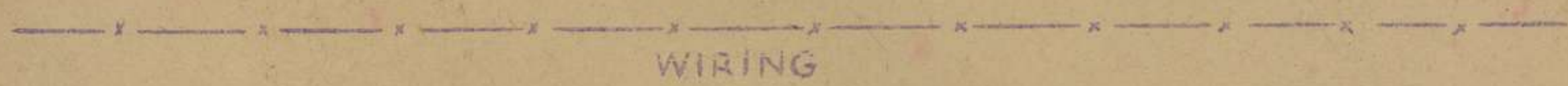
PATROL DUTY. Since his arrival, PW has not been out on patrol and has only had to dig communication trenches occasionally at night.

CASUALTIES / FLANKING UNIT

No knowledge.

It would appear that the main German forces in this sector are now well behind the forward wire.

ENEMY LAYOUT AS TOLD BY PW 382 IR CAPTURED 30/31 AUG



ARTY  
Nº & CALIBRE (?)

TKS DUG IN

AA

TKS DUG IN

REPORT FROM OP AT 87373007 30 AUG 42.

Observation was excellent. Time of observation was from first light 0615 hrs to 0830 hrs.

1. Fwd spandau post 87423018 is no longer occupied by day and probably not by night also. Sandbags have been removed or covered over. At the same time the post has been extensively developed. It now consists of five weapon pits connected by deep crawl trenches. Sleeping bays were also noticed. The posn previously reported at 8742530190 is incl in the system of diggings.  
The wiring of post previously reported has been removed and substituted by two fences both triple dannert and running parallel to one another about 20 to 30 yds apart. They run from the top of the ridge at 87463019 to 8742530175 to 8738530133.
2. The mortar posn previously reported at 87413018 and observed by flash on the 19 Aug is wired in completely with triple dannert; incl inside wire is excavation - it appears as a white scar on the ground and is in right proximity to the post. N.M.S.
3. At 87363015 is a dump of Jerry cans and amm boxes. An attempt has been made to camouflage them but approx 25 to 30 cans and boxes could be seen.
4. At 8738030195 are new rock excavations in the form of a section post. The work appears to have been done by a compressor.  
A single strand and dannert fence could be seen surrounding the diggings i.e. one strand of barbed wire stretched at the second hole from top of pickets. The pickets driven between the loops of the dannert to keep it in place.
5. At 8733730185 are newly dug posns with amm boxes and Jerry cans scattered about.
6. On SOUTH fwd slope of feature 87343024 at 8737730230 are what appear to be section posns. Dug in fairly rocky ground, for again newly broken stone appears. This digging was not observed on last OP 19 Aug or previously.  
No wire or movement seen.
7. A double apron fence runs from 8739530230 to 8728530227 also from 8738530133 a double apron fence running south of posns on slope of ridge and approx two to three hundred yds from and parallel to the railway line.  
A double fence consisting of a double apron fence and triple dannert fence running parallel to one another, could be seen from 8728530227 to 8732730275 that being as far as observation would permit the wire running over the ridge at this point. The double apron fence was on the side of or nearest to our FDLs.  
Just on sky-line from 8732730275 to 8738030235 i.e. joining fence 8739530230-8728530227 a triple dannert fence.
8. In bottom left-hand corner of triangle formed by wire i.e. at 8730030235 are three dug posns. Also from 8733030245 to 87353025 are dug posns which appear to be connected by deep crawl trenches. N.M.S.

....2.

9. A double apron fence runs from 8728530227 to 87263025 thence to 8724730245 on to 8719030297 to 8722030325 from where it continues on over the ridge out of sight in triple dannert.

Triple dannert appeared to run from 8722030325 to 8732730275 also.

10. The telephone line shown on the map from 8722330255 to 3726030310 has either been cut down or destroyed. No poles were visible as far as observation would allow to the crest of the ridge.

11. Posns from 8720530300 to 87243032 still exist with some or what appear to be some extensive additions.

12. Posns at 87283025 now definitely established as a strong post of some kind. Posts face approx SSE with one post fwd, two on either flank about one hundred and fifty yards from fwd post. Another post directly in rear, making a diamond shaped defence with a strong posn at the points of the diamond. In the rear of the rear posn another posn, probably the HQ. All posts joined by extensive crawl trenches dug in very rocky ground. All the diggings are new i.e. the old refuse from previous diggings has been covered over with new stone.

13. Double apron fence from main fence at 8724030255 to 87283029. Just behind this wire is a truck in a dug-in posn about 300 yds in rear of 87283025. Neither the posn nor the truck were noticed on any previous O.P.

14. At 8720530327 is a small Pimple on the skyline built up with stones and sandbags; possible OP?

15. At 87253030 diggings and wire seen, but good observation obscured due to the posn being in slightly dead ground.

-----000-----

W D

I.19/32/197.

SECRET. 18  
Copy No. 18  
5 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.46.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 5 Sep 1942).

1. GENERAL:

There is little to report on the Bde front. The enemy's working parties are active in rear of his FDLs. Our patrols have difficulty in coming in close contact with the enemy due to strengthened wire and earthworks. Movement through enemy FDLs is becoming more difficult due to A/P mines.

In the south the enemy's withdrawal is being pressed from the north by inf and from the east by armd forces.

During the day 4 Sep three separate counter attacks on our adv inf posns were beaten off, GERMAN and ITALIAN prisoners being taken. GERMAN tk casualties on the morning of 4 Sep are reported as 86 definitely destroyed and 32 probables. The ITALIANS have also been badly handled.

DEIR EL RAGIL has been reported clear of the enemy, who is now thought to be west of 892 grid.

2. ENEMY METHODS:

At 87463043 there is a scooped furrow running approx SW-NE from which the spoil has been removed. This furrow is 30 yds to the east of a B.4 A/P minefd. This is laid as follows :-

5 short pickets running along the front of the fd, then a gap then 5 more short pickets. The B4 mines are attached to the 2nd and 4th pickets with trip wires to the 1st, 3rd and 5th pickets.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:

(a) Inf:

87013003 - inf in earthworks.

(b) Diggings:

86933005 - working party engaged by arty.

(c) OP:

87433018 - fired on by arty.

(d) Mines:

87302978 - mines seen by one member of a patrol, but NOT seen by patrol comd.

87302973 to

87282979 - Burnt-out tks and vehs indicate the eastern edge of concealed minefd.

87473042 - southwards for 400 yds single row B.4 A/P mines with trip wire. Patrol was unable to proceed further south due to arty programme.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Mortars:

2000 hrs enemy mortars ranged on RINGED CONTOUR 25 in sq 873302.

....2.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Inf:

Movement in enemy posns area 87283026 was observed up till 1000 hrs. Working parties were reported active south of the ry, ceasing abruptly at 0030 hrs.

(c) Arty:

Shelling on East Pt 24 was again high at 122 shells with 54 shells on the CUTTING area. The marked increase in shelling on the left fwd bn area is well illustrated :-

From 3 Aug to 26 Aug incl - 1212 shells.

" 27 Aug to 3 Sep incl - 4937 shells.

Since the new posn at 87582975 has been occupied it has been consistently shelled.

(d) Tks:

Corrigendum Summary No.42, para 6.(b) - West Pt 24 should read East Pt 24.

5. AIR OPS:

During the day a number of individual enemy fighters were seen flying west. At 1915 hrs a ME109F flew at about 500 ft east along the rd to above Trig 26, then west along the ridge. It carried what appeared to be a large, yellow, cigar-shaped object below the fuselage. The plane did not seem capable of carrying a bomb as large as this object.

The Air Force continues to bomb MT and tks to the south. The use of 4000 lb bombs is reported. Large glows to the south overnight indicate continued attention.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

Harassing fire was fired between 1225 - 1515 hrs on BULIMBA tasks B G & F :-

B area 87222972.

G area 87142986.

F area 87092993

CLOVERLEAF

87202918 - strongpost.

and again between 1729 to 1810 hrs :-

B area 87202971.

F area 87092990.

87433026 (spandau post).

No harassing fire was put down overnight.

Fire directed by an inf officer who laid up at 87423015 on 3 Sep fell effectively amongst earthworks and posns vicinity of 87413018.

(b) Patrols:

(i) Patrols to 87232998, 87282979 and 87302973 - NMS. Sounds of working parties were heard behind enemy FDLs. Many burnt out tks and vehs were found between the last two references.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Patrols (Contd):

(ii) Another patrol moved to 87443026. The patrol went to ground and two sappers commenced to cut a gap through the enemy wire. A gap of 4 ft width had been cut by the two sappers when the patrol was challenged. Movement was seen to the rear of the patrol and, after a second challenge, two grenades fell about 4 yds fwd of the patrol. A spandau opened up wounding a sapper. Fire was exchanged and, having lost surprise and because of an enemy party in rear, the patrol pulled out NE. No further casualties were suffered.

(iii) A trailer was fired at 87423015 by which it was hoped to silhouette enemy posns to provide targets for SAA. The patrol moved in and out in rear of enemy posns but the desired effect was not achieved. After the patrol had returned, a protective patrol noticed what appeared to be 9 flash lights, and glowing pieces of trailer being kicked about.

*W. G. ...*  
for Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION : AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.



WD

I.19/32/199.

SECRET.  
Copy No. 22.  
6 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.47.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 6 Sep 1942).

1. GENERAL:

The Bde front was quiet. Our patrols report increased vigilance on the part of the enemy. Enemy working parties remain active.

In the south there has been no major development. The main GERMAN Arm'd Forces and 90 Lt Div are in mined area about cross grids 880 and 260. It is reported that the morale of the GERMAN Arm'd Forces has been lowered by our constant air attacks.

Enemy bombed our fwd tps on RUWEISAT RIDGE by night.

At a maximum our tk losses amount to 50 tks, many of which are recoverable. This would amount to less than half the GERMAN losses.

2. ENEMY METHODS AND MORALE:

(a) A patrol to 87203018 reported increased enemy vigilance -

- (i) listening posts were apparent for the first time,
- (ii) fire was opened on fixed lines immediately the patrol was heard - there was no challenge,
- (iii) men encountered in two posts were standing to - probably as the result of a warning from the listening post. The warning was two low whistles in quick succession, repeated after 15 secs.
- (iv) picket driving working parties were operating quietly without the usual verbal noise. They appeared to work for 5 mins and wait for 5 mins. The change of habits may indicate an intra-unit relief.

(b) Enemy have been noticed to go to ground as soon as they hearing the firing of our arty, irrespective of where the shells are likely to land.

(c) MP have been observed to move cautiously in order to raise no dust.

3. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS:

At 87453043 men were seen individually and in small parties. GERMAN voices were distinguished. In the same vicinity the ITALIAN word "AMICO" was distinctly heard.

4. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:

- (a) Strongpost: 87263021.  
86912958 - engaged by arty.
- (b) OP: 87112988.
- (c) HBS: 86982955 - engaged by our arty.  
86972947 - " " " "  
87062957 - " " " "
- (d) Wire: 87263018 - single dannert.  
87473041 - " "

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

The centre of enemy arty activity appears to have moved further south, where his harassing fire has increased. He is still interested in the CUTTING area, though to a lesser degree. In the last two days only one shell on the right fwd bn. There were 111 shells in the vicinity of the CUTTING.

(b) Inf:

Increased inf movt is noticed south of the ry to West Pt 23. Where one or two men were seen previously, now gps of 7 or 8 can be seen.

(c) Working parties:

These were reported active in approx vicinities :-

- 87263021
- 87203017
- 87153025
- 87393054
- 87443044.

(d) MF Movement:

Considerable dust over the SKYLINE indicated likely by MF movt after 1000 hrs. The movement of the dust against the prevailing wind indicated northward movt.

(e) Tks:

1915 hrs - a large tk was seen moving north on SKYLINE track. It later turned west and disappeared.

6. AIR OPS:

Normal enemy air activity overhead. The ridge was again reced. A number of enemy fighters passed overhead NW returning to their LGs. Approx 20 fighter-bombers with spitfire cover passed overhead 1210 hrs heading east.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

Due to increased enemy movt our arty was able to fire on more observed targets than usual.

HF tasks from 1357 - 1600 hrs -

- 87043005 - 87033010 - 87153020 - 87223036 - 87233037 -
- 87073039 - 87313031 - 87343030 - 87443047 - 87363045.

From 2130 hrs - 0400 hrs areas 87373028 and 87243036 were harassed as also rd junc 87213033. After 0400 hrs the CLOVERLEAF area and rd junc 87513042 received their share.

(b) Patrols:

- (i) A daylight patrol of 3 offr as a preliminary recce to the subsequent night patrol reached within 600 yds of the enemy wire before any counter measures were taken. This consisted of an enemy party of 7 strong which moved out from 87153015 and endeavoured to outflank our party. Our patrol withdrew via Pt 17 (872300). Visibility was poor. A scattered mine'd previously reported was accurately resected and placed at 87483002. It was unmarked and ran roughly north and south. All mines seen had previously been disarmed.

....3.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Patrols (Contd):

(ii) The night patrol disturbed an enemy listening post at approx 87283017. The offr and NCO went fwd to recce and when within 60 yds of post at 87203018 a very slight noise was made by treading on a bush. Immediately and without challenging 4 automatics opened up on fixed lines - thought to be 2 spandaus and 2 light bredas. By the light from a flare fired from behind the post was seen to be very heavily wired with DA. The minefd of french mines reported in summary No.45 is marked with small notice boards marked "MINEF".

(iii) Patrols also went to areas 87292978, 87212990, 8742-3019, NMS. Patrol at 87463043 encountered gps of enemy thought mixed GERMAN and ITALIAN.

*Col. ...*  
for Maj.

DISTRIBUTION: AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.

BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

I 3/15/200

W.O

SECRET

Copy No. 17

7 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 48.

Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 7 Sep 42.

1. GENERAL. Fire was exchanged between one of our patrols and an enemy post approx 87393020, there being no casualties among our tps. Another patrol was fired on at approx 87363027. Shelling was slightly increased on our fwd positions. Enemy tps continue to show themselves more than previously. In the south our Lt armd forces are harassing the enemy flanks and rear. Preliminary report on interrogation of PWs captured on 1 Sep is att appx 'A'

2. Detailed Enemy Dispositions.

- (a) Inf 86933005 Wired post  
87082966 Occupied area  
87503045 Post
- (b) Wire 87152985 Single dannert running generally east-west. No mines located.  
87373025 Coil of dannert running westward.  
87353028(?) Gap in enemy wire.
- (c) Mines 87242986 One British Mk IV mine set, two small stacks nearby.  
Addendum Minefield given in summary No 47 as 87483002 should read 87283008.  
87483043 French mines well concealed in hummocks of ground.
- (d) Mortars 87193057

3. Enemy Ground Activity -

- (a) Arty - Heavy concentrations fell on TEL EL RISA sta at 1140 hrs. There being 75 shells in 5 minutes. East pt 24 had 120 rounds for the day. Area of Trig 33 was also heavily shelled, 61 shells landing for the day. There were 412 shells in the Bde area. Between 0735 - 0830 hrs the enemy registered his own FDLs.

Areas registered

1. East edge of CLOVER LEAF
2. Beach at 87523043
3. Ring Contour 25.
4. 87453035

- (b) Inf Between 1920 - 1930 hrs about 30 men were reported assembled north of rd at 87133042 and a further 40 were engaged by our arty at 87023016.

(c) MT Movement. This was above normal, the majority of vehs moving NW. There were 60 MT between 1000 hrs and 1100 hrs. For the 6 hrs between 0800-1400 hrs and 1600 - 1800 hrs there were 61 vehs moving SE and 165 moving NE.

(d) Miscellaneous 1025 Arty op reported enemy vehs unsuccessfully attempting to lay smokescreen near SIDI RAHMAN. About 1900 hrs this was repeated and our arty op was neutralised by enemy arty. An inf op reported tp carrying MT and 4 trailers fitted with cranes moving NW on SKYLINE track.

4. Air Ops

Reduced air activity over this area. At 1607 and 1655 hrs a large twin engined high winged monoplane flew from the south, turned west over the CLOVER LEAF and disappeared behind the mosque as if landing.

At 1815 hrs a British plane was shot down in flames on bearing 240 degrees from east pt 24, approx 6000 yds out. A truck was seen to approach the wreckage and 10-12 men alight.

Constant air activity could be seen well to the SOUTH and 3 columns of smoke were noticed which appeared to be crashed planes.

5. Own Ground Activity

(a) Arty Harassing fire programme again contained four BULIMBA tasks.

1127 - 1621 hrs	(B)	87212971	(F)	87092991
	(C)	87162974		87373042
	(D)	87182978		87433045

2200 - 0400 hrs	87213019
	87092991
	87122986
	87162974

(b) Patrols

(i) A patrol investigated area of wire 87212985

No surrounding mines were located. One or two figures could be seen moving within the wire. Flares were put up at regular intervals by rear flanking posts.

(ii) A second patrol salvaged a truck at 87342978 without incident.

(iii) A patrol in behind FAIRBAIRNS post (87423018) was lit up by a bright explosion but which threw no shrapnell. The patrol was challenged in German and fired on by sub MGs. This was replied with TSMG and rifle fire. Fearing being attacked from the rear by an enemy patrol, the leader moved his men forward and past the post.

(iv) A patrol was fired on from both flanks at approx 87363027 and withdrew NE. Subsequently a gap in the enemy wire was located approx 87353028.

(v) Another patrol discovered a previously unlocated field of french mines at approx 87483043 and 150 yards through B IV A/P minefield.

NOTE - A survey has shown TELL EL EISA sta to be placed incorrectly on 1/50,000 sheet. Correct position of signal pole near sta is 876114299178.

*[Signature]*  
B.M. 20 Aust. Inf Bde

Distribution as for 'I' Summary No. 9.

APPK TO 20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 48.

The following were interrogated am 1 Sep 42:-

111 Bn HQ 382 Inf Regt (F.P.No. 11480 A)

- (1) Obergefr. Ernest SCHEITHAUER. This NCO was in the Sigs sec at Bn HQ as a telephone operator. Also laid lines fwd to 4 coys of bn. Two single leads, one each laid on way out and back. Lateral and rear communications done by Regtl HQ. Two pack transreceivers in W/T sec. A-11 sigs personnel came under Sgt FRITSCH. Lt-Col FRIEBEN was OC 111 Bn for a short time but returned sick to Germany; Capt HEGEWALD is Acting OC 111 Bn at present.

11 Coy 111 Bn 382 Inf Regt (F.P. No 11480 D)

- |     |                          |   |                        |
|-----|--------------------------|---|------------------------|
| (2) | 2/Lt Fritz SCHWESTKA     | - | 1/c 1 Pl.              |
| 3)  | A/CSM Gotthard LEONHARDT | - | Coy Orderly Room       |
| 4)  | Sgt-Maj Paul WEIDLICH    | - | 1/c 2 Pl               |
| 5)  | Cpl Hnas KUNZELMANN      | - | 1/c 1 Pl HQ            |
| 6)  | Cpl Andreas BOENIG       | - | 1/c A Tk Gun Sec, 1 Pl |

All these PW are relatively insecure. SCHWESTKA, LEONHARDT and WEIDLICH have been passed back to 30 Corps for further interrogation, remainder to cage.

OC 11 Coy was Lieut KELLERMANN, killed in attack, 11 Coy was out fwd of 9 Coy (left flank) and 10 Coy (right flank) in a hedgehog posn (Igelstellung). The 3 Pls of 11 Coy were in a trefoil formation with 3 Pl in rear. The Coy was self-organised a suicide squad (Himmelfahrtakommando). SCHWESTKA and LEONHARDT have both been transferred recently from the Russian front. BOENIG was in charge of a 5 cm A Tk gun section with 1 Pl, talks freely.

3 Pl is reported by WEIDLICH to be under a 2/Lt HEUSER. All PW are rather confused by the suddenness of the attack and cannot estimate casualties inflicted on and PW taken from 11 Coy but all agree that 1 and 2 Pls must have suffered heavily. 3 Pl seems to have suffered less casualties. The whole Coy was in the line, no reserves known of. Coy had been receiving replacements chiefly from Russian front, ex sick and wounded. Tanks had not been seen but by arty concentrations were known to be in rear.

All PW had been pinned down to their posns through our arty fire and knew relatively little of rearward movements.

9 Coy, 111 Bn, 382 Inf Regt (F.P. No. 11480 B)

- 7) Gefr. Hans WEISER. This NCO comes from 3 Pl (OC 2/Lt OTTO) and confirms that 11 and 10 Coys were on his right flank, with 11 Coy well fwd. The 3 Pls of his Coy were also in trefoil formation. It is not sure what was on his left flank but thinks it was 11 Bn, 382 Inf Regt.

(2)

1 Coy, 1 Bn, 382 Inf Regt (F.P.No 09078 B)

- 8) Cpl Kurt SEIDEL -
- 9) L/Cpl Hans FISCHER - All 3 Pl
- 10) Pte Heinrich LAUMEIER -

These PW were out on a patrol under a Sgt VOGTMANN i/c 3 Pl. The total strength was 16 men. This patrol was sent out to investigate reason for quietness of front during 31 Aug 42. Much MT and Carrier movement was noticed, and it was concluded that an attack was in progress of being prepared. The party returned quickly and was resting in the Coy FDLs, preparatory to reporting results, when arty fire pinned them down until surprised by our inf attack.

Later :-

- (11) Sgt Johannes VOIGTMANN. This NCO is a surly Saxon, very secure, but rather shaken on being confronted by his documents and information given by other PW. Apparently a reshuffle took place between 2 and 3 Pls, and 3 Pl has now one 3, 7, and one 5 cm A Tk gun. 2/Lt NICKEL has 1 Pl, Sgt Stohr has 2 Pl, and 2/Lt SUNKOVSKI is OC Coy, according to other PW - this is unwillingly confirmed by VOIGTMANN.

Note :- PW FISCHER, who is insecure, served with 4 Coy, 171 Inf Regt in the central sector of the Eastern front last winter. He was a PW for an hour on one occasion but escaped, all other PWs were shot out of hand.

A-DDITIONAL INFM

- a) L/Cpl FISCHER stated that he thought TRENTO Div was out of the line. The gossip from the men who came up with the ration lorry was that this Div was at rest 12 km behind the fwd line. He had not noticed any Italians about for some time.
- b) Against the above must be taken a sketch of Sgt VOIGTMANN showing 2 Pl, 1 Coys posn as at 16 Aug 42, in which Italian guns are shown on the left flank.
- c) Effects of all PW mentioned are att, including some papers of 2/Lt Fritz SCHWESKA and a notebook of unknown origin - the papers and the notebooks were thrown away and had been recovered by the FSS.

I 19/32/201

SECRET  
COPY NO. 19  
8 Sep 42.

WD

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 49.

(Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 8 Sep 42.)

1. GENERAL

Hostile shelling was on an unusually low scale.

The enemy remains alert and his working parties continue to be active.

In the south the enemy is digging in along line 882262 to 885250 with strong points at 880259 and 882252 in the HIMEIMAT area.

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

Four ITALIANS were seen and an ITALIAN working party was heard in vicinity 87172985, thought to be behind the wire.

It is not known if the ITALIANS are holding part of the front here or merely providing working parties.

3. DETAILED ENEMY POSITIONS.

<u>Inf.</u>	87473049 87023012 87123068	Defended position Men in diggings Men near Sangars.
<u>Wire</u>	87182984	Single dannert to the south, the wire runs NE - SW. To the north it seems generally N-S, wire forms a bay at 87182985 with 3 right angle bends.
<u>L.D.</u>	87192935 87383026	Freshly dug listening post unoccupied.  One man jumped up and ran at the approach of our patrol.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Arty This was on an unusually quiet scale there being only 22 rounds in the Bde area including 5 duds.

CUTTING	15	75 mm
87523006	7	75 mm

At 1825 hrs 4 guns on bearing 265-267 degrees from east pt 24 were reported firing on west pt 24.

(b) Mortars At 0824 and 0915 light flashes were seen, probably mortars firing on CAIRN and TRIG 22 areas. Bearing 216 degrees from west pt 24 and about 5000 yds.

(c) Working Parties.

87212982 (estimated by sound) thought GERMAN -- hammering pickets and making scraping noises. The firing of a spandean from forward of this position, directed towards our patrol indicated a working party.

87172985 (estimated by sound) Much talk in ITALIAN, scraping sounds only.

87332972 (observed by patrol) Eleven men seen covering about 100 yards. Thought to be GERMAN. Sounds of driving pickets could be heard. Patrol covered by automatic about 87342967

Working parties were also active on enemy FDLs north.



and south of the road.

(d) Patrols

An enemy patrol of about 20 men was sighted moving in vicinity of sand dunes at rd and track junc 87513041; a further enemy patrol was sighted moving to the SE of this position. Subsequently one of our listening posts NW of Trig 33 reported seeing a similar sized patrol.

5. O'WN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty The following harassing fire tasks were carried out :

1200-1630 hrs.

86992969

87072962

87072959

87142976

87182979

87212974

An enemy standing patrol reported at 87523040 was engaged by our arty during the early hours of the morning.

(b) PATROLS

Patrol to enemy minefield 87283009 reported NMS/H. Patrol to enemy wire at 87132984 reported enemy working parties, no mines or booby traps reported by later patrols.

(ii) A patrol to 87342972 clearly heard a dog, A working party was seen covered by an automatic from the south.

(iii) Patrols along the ridge north and south of this road report working parties active and an occasional rifle shot.

(iv) A patrol to 87513041 reported a strong enemy patrol in occupation. This country had frequently been patrolled by us and used by our patrols to lie up in ambush. It appears that the enemy observing the patrol movement recently, was himself attempting an ambush. The area was subsequently engaged by arty and MMG fire.

*B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde*  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution as for I Summary No 9.

19/32/202

SECRET  
COPY NO 19  
9 Sep 42

W.D

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 50

(Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 9 Sep 42)

1. GENERAL Patrolling north of the ry is becoming increasingly difficult and the enemy is ambushing our patrols.

There was an interchange of fire between one of our patrols and the enemy at close range in vicinity 87213025. Yells indicated that casualties had been inflicted whilst our patrol suffered some slight injuries.

Another patrol was fired on at 87393013.

There was some unusual movement of men seen debussing area 870302 at last light.

Shelling on the right fwd Bn was increased probably an effort to neutralise OP firing CB with our med arty.

In the south the enemy continues to dig in and strengthen his defences.

2. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS

Whilst withdrawing from an engagement at 87213025, one of our patrols reported hearing ITALIAN voices.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Wire - From 87343025 to 87343019 then SW towards ry line. Two DA with dannert between cattle fence 150 yds fwd of this wire. From 87343025 East there is dannert. From 87343025 West DA with isolated dannert. Pieces of tin hanging on wire. 87393013 single dannert running west for 40 yds (may have turned right).

(b) Inf posns - 87293022 small triangular posts appears outpost for main post 87293022.  
87203017 Hy double DA fence with dannert. Post very extensive.  
87163016 Similarly wired to above.  
87203033 Much movement seen. Possible HQ.  
87083039 BLOCKHOUSE seen to be occupied.  
87022989 Tps seen in occupied area.  
87042966 Occupied area.  
87453045 Suspect defended area.

(c) Mines - 87263024 Teller minefd running NNE behind row of dannert. Far border of fd 150 yds from dannert marked by chest high wire on long pickets. Mines were found for a depth of 100 yds, but following 50 yds not examined. There was a further chest high of wire 100 yds in from the first.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - There was an increase in enemy shelling particularly in the case of the right fwd Bn. Between 1100-1245 hrs about 200 rounds were fired on the west part of sq 876301, and may possibly have been searching for an OP. East pt 24 and CUTTING area was the target for over 200 shells.
- (b) MT Movt - 1510 hrs a large convoy was reported moving NW along along SKYLINE track and at 1940 hrs there was abnormal southward movement.
- (c) Inf - 1810 hrs at 276 degrees from 87630 30135 at 4000 yds could be seen a white flag with 4 smaller white flags on 275 and a further 5 scattered on 273 degrees. On 270 degrees 4000-5000 yds a truck pulled in at 1900 hrs and men debussed at the double. At 1905 3 more trucks arrived and men debussed and dispersed, a staff car drew up to the large flag and 6 men debussed. These dispersed at the double to one or other of the smaller flags and at the same time men could be seen crawling behind the enemy wire. A patrol to 87203012 shortly after dark reported no sign of the enemy. Arty report that tins have taken the place of flags by morning 8 sep.

5. Air Ops - 1900 hrs a JU 52 at 100 feet escorted <sup>by</sup> a ME 109 at 1000 feet, circled the sta area and flew back in the enemy lines. It made as if to land and having realised it had overshot its mark, banked and returned. It was hit repeatedly by SA fire and at least once by 20 mm Breda. It was travelling very slowly with its starboard motor on fire.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Harassing fire carried out by our arty :-  
1600 to 1800 hrs

and from 2200- 0400 hrs

87152976  
87233037  
87363045  
871303 rd (junc)  
872303 ruins  
874304 CLOVER LEAF

(b) Patrols -

(i) Areas 87203012, 87173000 and 87382961 were visited. The last patrol reported flares and spasmodic firing of automatics on the part of the enemy, for no apparent reason, also sounds of digging in sq 872297. An enemy veh operating outside its own FDLs was sighted by the last patrol and unsuccessfully followed.

(ii) A patrol comd moved fwd from his patrol was challenged in GERMAN at approx 87393013 from outside a danner wire he was inspecting. He was fired on from 3 spandaus from direction of challenge and a 50 mm mortar from within the wire. Patrol comd withdrew successfully. Previous movement by the patrol for 150 yds had been by crawling.

(iii) Another patrol moved from 87513009 to 87403010 to 87403011 to 87213025, then returned to 87513009 wire and a teller minefd crossed at 87263024. Between two chest high wires which are 100 yds apart at approx 87213025, the patrol struck a signal wire or trip wire. Working parties which had been heard working stopped immediately. The patrol was just turning NORTH when it was fired on from about 25 yds by 2 or 3 MGs, grenades and an 81 mm mortar. Fire was returned with 6 TSMGs and grenades. Our patrol had to withdraw due to casualties. The patrol leader himself becoming slightly wounded. Sounds from the enemy indicated that casualties had been inflicted. During the withdrawal ITALIAN voices were definitely heard.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 51.

(Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 10 Sep 42)

1. GENERAL.

A patrol fired on enemy working and covering patrols with unknown effect.

Enemy working parties were located fwd of their FDLs, a part on the coast being particularly strong was subsequently fired on by MMG and mortars.

An enemy patrol was sighted near our FDLs.

Shelling, air activity and enemy MT movement on SKYLINE track were reported normal.

Further fields of A/P mines have been located.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

- (a) Inf - 87022963 Tps and veh engaged by arty.  
87162984 GERMANS (called URQUHARTS POST)
- (b) Wire- 87133006 Single dannert.  
87523042 Dannert and trip wire has been extended  
50 yds south of rd.  
87363025 Gap in barbed wire coiled into dannert  
running NE-SW.  
87353031 Junc of wires running NE and NNW.  
87363052 Gap in wire.
- (c) Digging - 86733000 Weapon pit enlarged (AAPIU)  
87003003-86852995 New line of weapon pits,  
all with provisions for A/T weapons  
(AAPIU)  
87352966) Fresh diggings - narrow slit trenches  
87362965) and weapon pit.
- (d) Arty - 86773062 2 fd guns with split trail (AAPIU)  
86653041 4 suspected fd guns (AAPIU)  
86813015 4 fd gun positions, 3 occupied (AAPIU)  
36672979 4 fd gun positions previously reported  
now occupied (AAPIU)  
86702976 4 fd guns.
- (e) A Tk - 86882974 - 86872965. 4 hy A Tk guns (AAPIU)
- (f) WORKING PARTIES  
86913004 Engaged by arty  
87092970 Engaged by arty  
87252973 Engaged by arty  
87012963 Working party and veh  
area 87302968 Sounds of unloading tools from veh.  
87312963 Driving pickets, using picks.
- (g) Mines - 87222986 Ex m IV mine with 2 stacks of mines  
previously reported. Mines have now all  
been laid. Scattered field runs generally  
N-S.  
87513035 Furrow running due north 1 yd west in  
field of B iv ITALIAN A/P mines  
two yds behind this is a  
series of fresh holes 9x4½ inches and  
4½ inches deep. About 50 yds further west  
was a double trip wire where an S mine  
with ZZ35 ignitor was located. Trip  
strings were att. to bushes, double trip  
wire and also single trip wire which  
was fwd of B iv fd

(h) Flags - A white flag at 87102979 had been noticed in that position 4 days ago.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Fire again seemed to be searching for OPs in vicinity of Trig 33 and vicinity 87623014. East pt 24 and EUNING areas received their usual strafe totalling 137 shells.

A new fire task of the enemy is the flat north of pt 26 (87913001). Four 25 prs have been identified as taking part (NL 86683026). Most valuable infm has been provided by duds and shell fragments today, apart from the identification of 29 prs HB, it has been found that the enemy is using . 106 fuses for 25 prs.

In the north there has been a slight shuffle of posns, but the strength has remained the same ( CB report R 48 degrees).

(b) Patrols - 2325 hrs a protective patrol reported an enemy patrol 10-20 men moving NE across coy front about 400 yds from FDLs at approximately 8753284. Contact was lost when the protective patrol came in to report and no further sign was seen by a fighting patrol which went out later. The adjacent coy saw no sign of the enemy patrol.

A patrol returning from enemy FDLs via derelict carriers 87513035 heard sound of hammering of pickets towards the coast. Men were seen all round and one seemed to spring from a carrier and run rapidly towards some others. Five of our patrol who became separated walked past a truck with enemy sitting on the mudguard. The enemy strength was estimated at approximately a coy. A fire was started when 60 rounds mortar and MMG were subsequently fired into this area.

(c) Salvage MI - It was noticed at first light 9 Sep that the enemy had recovered a "BULINBA" veh from 87192972.

4. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Harassing fire was on a more extensive scale, being from 1000 to 1600 hrs and 2200 to 0500 hrs. It fell on CLOVER LEAF and diggings in squares 870295 - 870297 - 870299 870300 - 871297 - 871298 - 871302 - 871304 - 871297 - 873303 - 871302 and defended localities in squares 871301-872301.

(b) Patrols - A patrol to SW square 873306 reported activity of working parties - using picks and driving pickets, also unloading stores from a truck. This ground is in a depression and is probably a new minefd.

(ii) Another patrol went through the single demart at 8718-2984 and lay up waiting for a party seen the previous night and taken for an ITALIAN wire party. GERMAN voices could be heard approx 87162984 and an ITALIAN working party to the West and slightly North was heard though not seen (this was also reported the previous night).

(iii) At approx 87343022 digging heard and a GERMAN voice. Our patrol crawled towards the noise which later stopped. A fire position was taken up and fire opened with five TSMGs in the direction of movement. This was replied to by MG and sub MG fire from the left front. This was again returned and our party moved in dead ground. 50 mm mortar fire fell within a hundred yards of our patrol which withdrew.

(iv) A patrol to the vicinity of RING CONTOUR 873302 reported sounds of working in that area and some useful infm about enemy wire.

(v) A patrol to 87513035 located enemy A/P mines. Closer investigation was hampered by groups of enemy on his flanks - 8 on the right and 12 on the left flank, moving round. An enemy sig wire running from posn of derelict carriers 8751-3035 was cut. About one coy of enemy were reported vicinity of carriers with work in progress between carriers and coast.

*[Signature]* Maj.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 52.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 11 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

The enemy is patrolling more actively with strong patrols and on two occasions our smaller patrols were forced to withdraw. There was little movement on the Bde front, MT movement on the SKYLINE TRACK was less than usual. There was no air activity observed.

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

On the Bde front the lay out of the enemy forces is considered to be as follows :-

From coast to line 87403022 to 87283030.

111 Bn 125 IR plus 1 coy Bers (probably on CLOVER LEAF)

From line 87403022 - 87183030 to incl ry 1 Bn 125 IR.

excl ry to 301 northing 2 Bn 125 IR.

301 northing 298 northing, Composite force of 1 Bn 382 IR and ITALIANS. Probably alternatively spaced.

298 to 295 northing, 111 Bn 382 IR.

295 northing south, 11 Bn 382 IR.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

Att appx A is a trace on 1/50,000, showing considered enemy dispositions.

- |                            |          |                                      |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| (a) <u>Inf</u>             | 86762989 | Weapon pits and vehs                 |
|                            | 87273014 | Suspect strongpost                   |
|                            | 87403052 | Suspect HQ                           |
|                            | 87233029 | Large dug-out with unusual movt.     |
| (b) <u>Wire</u>            | 87363029 | Single danner running at 40 degrees. |
| (c) <u>Working parties</u> | 87262973 |                                      |
|                            | 87523044 | Pickets being driven in.             |

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Air photographs of 6 sep which cover most of the enemy gun area have shown little change in the enemy arty dispositions since 28 Aug, except for an increase of 22 fd guns in the northern sector. Two tps of widely dispersed guns thought to be either A Tk guns or fd guns in an A Tk role have appeared in the area 868304. The bulk of the medium arty remains in the central sector (between northings 287 and 293) where it can oppose any thrust for north or south. (Extract from CB Intelligence Summary No. 3.)

HBS believed active on Bde front.

RN 86643018 -

NL 86683026 4 25 prs

The shelling was slightly increased during the day, some air bursts being used vicinity TEL EL EISA sta.

During the morning registration appeared to be carried out on the flat near the ry line.

- (b) Inf - OPO West Pt 24 reported that there seemed a larger number than usual of men about the FDLs during the morning.
- (c) Patrols - At 1245 hrs 6 men went to vicinity 87208989. They were engaged by our arty and a patrol sent out which failed to make contact. One man was later seen to be

carried in. The enemy party went out to investigate an explosion which had been caused by placing a time pencil in a stack of mines.

Further enemy patrols seen are reported in para 5 (b).

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - The harassing fire programme was continued during the day, but not overnight. Together with the CLOVER LEAF and RUIN areas H fell on diggings in the following squares:  
 874302 - 873303 - 870300 - 870299 - 871298 - 871297 -  
 871296 - 870296 - 870295 - 869295.

At 0915 hrs a white flag was seen to be put up on CLOVER LEAF. Two men were seen to be buried and 3 stretcher parties at work.

(b) Patrols -

(i) A patrol found a number of 44 gal drums at 87272998. 7 were full of oil. Otherwise there was nothing to report from the centre of the Bde area. To the south a patrol of 1 Offr and 4 moved from 87532972/movement was noticed and voices heard on the right. In an effort to move round the left bird whistles were heard from the left and were answered in a similar manner from further ahead of the patrol in rear of the first whistle. A Breda LMG opened from the left and fired 4 bursts. Attempting to move round the right flank further movement was seen. On withdrawing 20-30 men were seen to follow, but ceased when one of our protective patrols fired. Subsequently a stronger standing patrol was sent forward but no further sign was seen of the enemy.

Comment. It would appear that the enemy is covering his FDLs by strong standing patrols. No working party was heard to the West of east pt 23 where they had been located on the previous two nights.

(ii) A patrol could hear working due north from 87433015 and also 20 men would be seen leaving FAIRBURN'S POST (87423017) and moving west. Patrol moved towards enemy party but lost them and could make no contact.

(iii) Another patrol lay up on trip wire at 87353033 whilst a recce party of two went fwd. This had gone only 15 yds when about 20 enemy were observed west of the patrol. As the recce party was returning to the main body, two rifle shots were fired by the enemy - hitting one man in the leg. The enemy then moved out of sight and was lost to view.  
 seen /

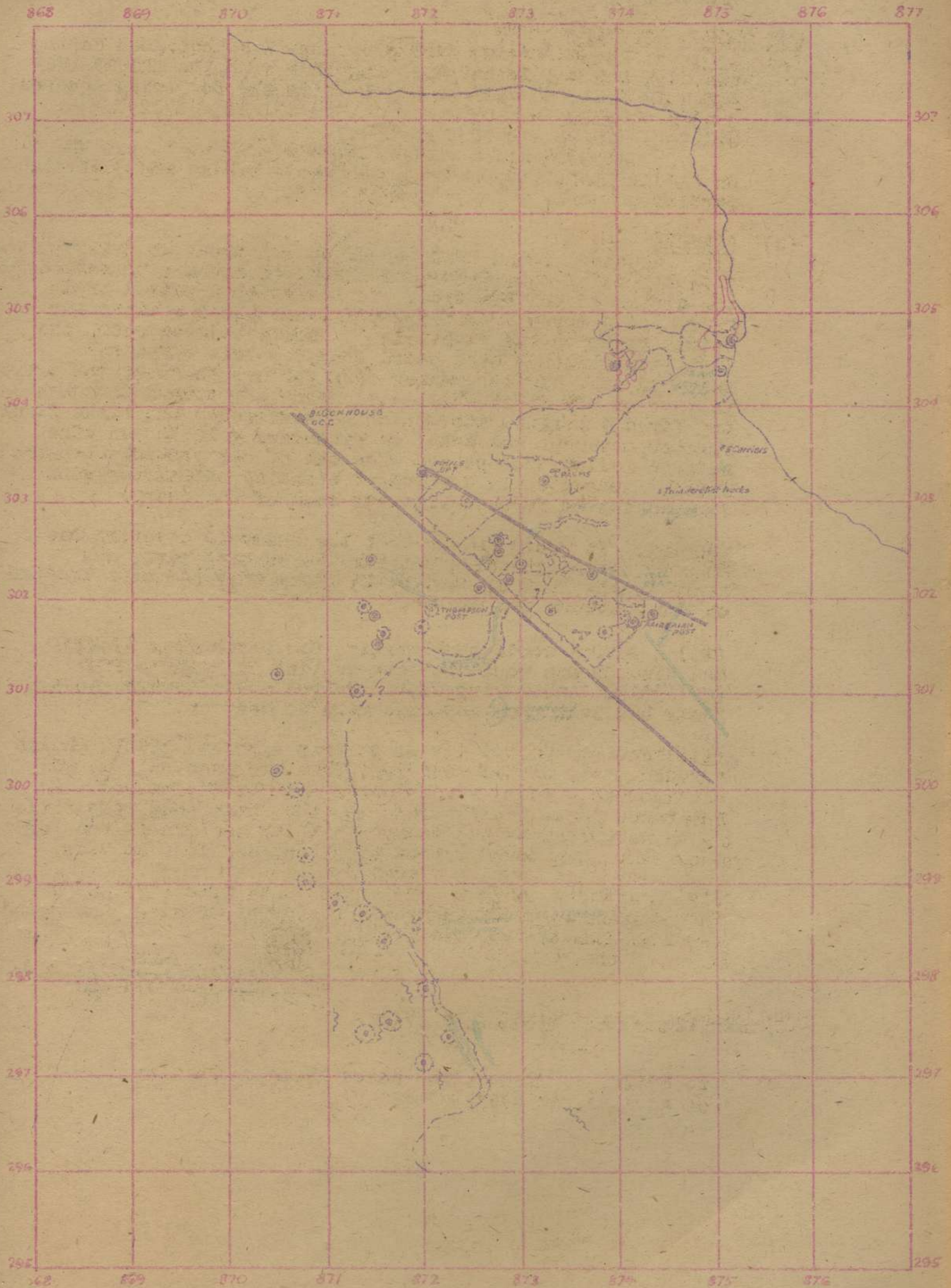
(iv) A standing patrol moved into area (87513035) where about a coy of enemy was/the previous night and found signs of this recent occupation. NMS.

*B. M. 20 Aust Inf Bde*  
 B. M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution As per Summary No. 9.

/ to 87422965. MT Movt was heard ahead on the line of advance. At 87532972

Believed enemy dispositions as at 10 Sep 42.





20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 53.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 12 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

The period was quiet with little activity. Shelling was well below normal and slight MT govt on the SKYLINE track was noticeable. Targets for observed shooting by our arty were unusually few.

Enemy night activity was slight.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS(a) Machine Gun 87122988(b) Wire

87332963 single dannert.

To the south this was new and on new pickets. To the north the wire is old and broken. The wire is much as is shown in overprint sq 873296 with a wire running west also.

(c) A closer study of the infm from patrols around the coastal area shows

(a) B iv AP mines, probably run from 87483044 to 87433039 and possibly further on this line

(b) A french minefd previously reported in this area is one row 8 yds apart and runs inside a fence of two strands barb wire on short pickets from 87473044 to 87473045 and probably further. This minefd would seem to isolate the LEG OF MUTTON FEATURE; 875304 from CLOVER LEAF 874304.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY(a) Arty - There were only 50 shells in the Bde area, 12 of which were air-bursts.(b) Fd Wks Our patrol reports indicate a considerable reduction in enemy working parties. One was reported well in the enemy FDLs between 301 and 302 northing grids and one in vicinity 87413041. Our patrol recce this latter area but the sounds had ceased and there were no further signs of the enemy. A later report indicates continued signs of working in vicinity of West Pt 23.4. AIR OPS

In two raids yesterday EA were directed against our fd arty.

1235 hrs 14 JU87 covered by at least one ME 109 divedbombed area 88003000.

1847 hrs six ME 109 bombed slightly east of this area.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY(a) A rty The effect of our HF by night was reported by a patrol. Sounds of digging could be heard but the HF caused the work to be continually starting and stopping. HF 0800-1500 hrs

CLOVER LEAF; diggings in squares 874302, 871304 - 870300 - 870299 - 870298 - 871298 - 870297 - 871297, and defended localities in 872301 - 871301.

(2)

2100 to 0100 hrs :

CLOVER LEAF - track juncs 875304 - 872303 and diggings  
in 874302 - 871304.

(b) Patrols

(i) A patrol reported a tight fence wire about two to three inches from the ground running through short iron and wooden stakes.

It is not booby-trapped and appeared to have no significance except perhaps as a warning device from a listening post.

(ii) Another patrol left at last light to areas 87352964 and 87312969 in an endeavour to ambush enemy patrol and working parties, operating recently in those vicinities. NMS

(iii) Other patrols went to areas 87513036 87383029 and 87413016, and apart from sounds of a working party at the last reference and sounds of a picket being driven in on 7523046 there was nothing to report.

*B. M. 20 Aust Inf Bde*  
for Maj.

B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION List per Summary No 9.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 54.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 13 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL. The period was normal with nothing of importance to report.
2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS  
Flanking Bde reports that enemy AA fwd of their FDLs is from MGs only.
3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS
  - (a) Arty - 86713007 Suspect tp posn
  - (b) OP - 87402966 Suspect OP well sited, dug and camouflaged.
  - (c) Working Parties
    - 86963015 Engaged by arty
    - 86973013 Inf diggings / used
    - 87382962 Wheelbarrow and shovel being reported by patrol.
    - 87463046 Driving of pickets heard.
    - 87112999 Sounds of voices (unidentified) and digging.
  - (d) DIGGINGS
    - 87152999 Fresh diggings sited amongst tall bushes.
  - (e) Wire and Mines
    - 87132999 Single dannert 3 ft high good condition, Safety collars for mine fuses found in area indicates that mines may have been laid in wire.
    - 87133003 Taut barbed trip wire, on short iron pickets.
4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY
  - (a) Arty - Enemy arty was more active yesterday, there being over 420 shells. Carrier movement and a prominent kitchen are thought to be the cause of 121 shells being fired in the area 87773018. A Coy on east pt 24 reports continuous harassing fire from one gun which shelled every two or three minutes from 0815 to 1700 hrs. In this Coy there were 217 shells for the day. The enemy appeared to be using a new OP. Movt on left fwd bn FDLs is now shelled more than previously and small individual recce parties are coming in for some close and detailed attention.
  - (b) Inf - 1300 hrs 14 enemy moved from approx 87123000 to within 900 yards of West Pt 24, the latter part being through arty fire.

A foot patrol moved out and was engaged by the enemy with A Tk rifle and mortar. Fire was returned with automatics and the enemy withdrew.

5. AIR OPS

1130 Unidentified E A flew over area about 16000 feet. After a little AA fire the plane released its bombs out to sea.

Two large E A - one thought to be a JU 52 were seen to the west during the morning flying low in a northerly direction.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Observed targets of inf movement were engaged the. These were not on a large scale. Harassing fire was continued during the day and night. From 1015-1715 hrs targets engaged were CLOVER LEAF and RUIN also diggings in squares 375304 - 874302 - 873303 - 870300 - 870299 - 370298 - 871298 - 871297 - 871296 - 870296 - 869295 - and defended locality 871302. From 2200 to 0400 hrs defended locality 372301 and diggings in 372297 370296 873292 374292 and 873291 were harassed.

(b) Patrols -

(i) A small recce patrol with a strong covering force went to area east Pt 23. Spasmodic fire from what sounded like a Breda was kept up from approx 87382962.

Working parties were reported working east and SE of West Pt 23.

(ii) A patrol moved from 87613029 to 87473042 to 87463043 without striking any Biv mines or wire but finding the furrow which marks the minefd. This indicates either that the gap in B iv fd made on night 6/7 Sep has not been replaced or that the fd has been shifted.

(ii) A patrol to enemy wire at 87132999 observed slight enemy movt and heard working parties nearby. The ground here is bare and unfavourable for close recce.

(iv) A patrol to 87282977 located knocked out tks and vehs. Nine unprimed British Mk V mines were located alongside derelict British tk, but no minefd was located.

*[Signature]*  
Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION list as Summary No 9.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 55.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 14 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL.

Ground activity was quiet and only 45 shells fell in the Bde area. Observed movement was less than usual and MY movement normal but mainly northwards.

Enemy bombing was considerably increased the targets being out of this Bde area.

An ITALIAN prisoner was captured by one of our night patrols.

2. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS

PW captured at 87182983 is from 3 Coy 1 Bn 62 IR. Although he was ill at the time he states that his Bn came into the line on the 1 Sep and relieved ITALIANS. His coy is fwd with GERMANS on either flank, 1 coy about 2 kilos behind with 2 coy to the right, 4 coy is still further in the rear and fwd of the guns.

3. ENEMY MORALE

PW states that his patrols go out 300 to 400 yds at most, depending on the courage of the patrol leader.

The PWs only regret was that his friend also on the patrol and busy firing a Breda was not captured also.

4. ENEMY METHODS

There is an independent daily pass word for GERMANS and ITALIANS. The PW himself did not know the GERMAN pass-word but his Sjt/Maj did.

For normal recognition it appears sufficient to say "Camarado Italiano".

5. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Inf - 87242953 suspect HQ.  
87363032 Strong post  
87263021 Inf post ( contains spandau)

(b) Wire - 87273017 Taut trip wire, previously reported. Wire passes through the eye of pickets and then into ground. In some places trip wire is connected to the dannert (3 ft high and in good condition). In other places there are leads from the trip wire into the ground. No booby-traps found. Base of leads not unearthed but thought to contain explosive with pull ignitor.

(2)

(c) Explosions

1250 hrs 335 and 210 degrees from West Pt 24, two explosions behind enemy lines.

0530 hrs. After our arty HF. Amn dump burning and many explosions 220 degrees from 87432997.

(d) Mines

87393037 B iv A/P minefd attached to iron and wooden pickets by cotton. Two rows deep, 10 ft between rows with mines 15 ft apart marked by sig cr trip wire 10 yds on enemy side. Field continues at least 100 yards either way.

87353032 Further B iv field probably continuation of previous one. Runs approx east-west.

6. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Arty Shelling was unusually light there being only 45 shells in the Bde area, all falling on left fwd Bn area.

When the mortars of this Bn registered a DF task, the enemy successfully registered the same task with his arty. At 0530 hrs as the result of our Art HF, the enemy put down MG DF along his whole front and fired several shells and some mortars along his FDLs. Flash bearing 220 degrees from 87733004. In the vicinity of West Pt 23 four tracer were seen to be fired into the air at about half minute intervals. Possibly a recall signal for a patrol.

7. AIR OPS

There were four bombing raids during the day, the targets of which were outside this Bde area.

0833 hrs 3 E A dropped six bombs 83602945 no damage.

1045 hrs 9 JU 87s escorted by 10 to 12 ME 109 bombed area 881298 - level bombing. No damage or casualties.

1710 hrs approx. Raid in vicinity 888294.

1830 hrs At least 10 JU 87 with fighter cover bombed left Bde area. Our fighters pursued. Two parachutes were seen to open out well out from our positions, and one fighter appeared to be on fire. One of our air-craft crashed approx 87682955.

8. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - HFt arget numbers 2, 5, 9, 11, 20, 22, 27, 30, 32, 34, 38, 42, 44 and 45 were fired between 1030 and 1630 hrs. From 0500 to 0530 hrs targets 15, 17, 27 and 29 were fired. As the result of this latter an amn dump was seen on fire.

(b) Patrols -  
(1) A patrol to 87273017 inspected a trip-wire previously mentioned. Flares went up 300 to 400 yds on either flank, MGs and 2 mortars opened up the latter firing one rd each.

(3)

(ii) Another patrol found some roofless sangars at 87202983. Movt had previously been heard and this continued as patrol moved to 87192983. ITALIAN voices could be heard in direct front and GERMANS on about 235 degrees. Patrol commander moved fwd and later saw 13 men 150 yds south and moving east. On the patrol moving south in an attempt to make contact a dannert fence was met and the patrol challenged. This was repeated along the front. A grenade was thrown at the patrol which moved out NE. The enemy patrol had meantime deployed with left flank in sangars previously mentioned and right flank right across our patrols course

As our patrol moved fwd a man was seen in a trench and was captured. The enemy was firing on our patrol with three automatics from the sangars. This was returned with organised fire from Bren and TSMGs and after a short but hy engagement the enemy fire ceased and he withdrew in disorder. Shouts and cries were heard but it is not known what casualties were inflicted. We suffered no casualties. Whilst moving out the patrol was again challenged, the PW replied "ITALIANO" and the patrol was allowed to pass without question.

(iii) A patrol also went to 87313017 - NMS.  
A patrol to SW of CLOVER LEAF brought back some useful infm about minefds.

(iv) A patrol which moved to area 87543036 with the intention of lying up found the sig wire previously laid had been tapped in three places and bared for tapping in seven.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Maj.

B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution as per Summary No. 9.

20 MUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 56.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 15 Sep 42)

1. GENERAL - There is little ground activity to report. Enemy shelling was above normal with a hy concentration on area 877300. During the evening traffic SKYLINE track was well above normal, the majority of traffic going NW, some guns and tks were also seen moving North West.

In bad visibility on the morning of 15 Sep there was unusual veh movt on the Bde front consisting of 100 MT and what appeared to be 20 tks.

There is no change reported in the South.

Interrogation report of PW captured night 13/14 is appended.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

- (a) Inf - 87303033 recurrent movt indicates strong pt.  
87363032 Suspect strong post.  
87273031 Suspect strong post

- (b) Diggings  
87112985 New diggings

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Over the last five days enemy shelling has been alternately hy then very light. 10 Sep

10 Sep	330
11 Sep	50
12 Sep	420
13 Sep	35
14 Sep	480

Shelling on CUTTING and East 24 features was lighter but the area 877300 was heavily shelled with 234 rounds.

Flash bearing was taken from 8763030135 on to 6 guns. 274 degrees approx 6000 yds.

Of 44 rounds 25 pr which fell in area 87663018 the first eight were duds. Investigation revealed that the nose cap had not been removed.

- (b) Veh Movt - MT movt was normal up to 1500 hrs. From 1500 hrs to last light one observer reported 100 vehs per hr, 80 per cent of which moved NW. Another observer reported about 60 vehs per hr between 1400 and 1900 hrs with 90 per cent going NW. Nine guns were seen moving NW and at 1830 hrs 4 tks moved in the same direction.

0840 hrs 15 Sep on 284 degrees from 87592931 9 vehs thought to be mixed tks moved from N to S then turned East.

0926 hrs 280 degrees same MR 50 vehs were reported near SKYLINE track.

0930 hrs Arty OP reported 100 MT and approx 20 tks on the SKYLINE track moving from West to East.

The visibility over this period was not good.

- (c) Inf Movt - 0900 hrs 14 Sep our arty engaged 40 men on track at 86833006.

0930 hrs 15 Sep arty OP reported an unusual amount of inf movt between ruins (872303) and RING feature 25 (873302).



(2)

4. Air Ops

1140 hrs 2 ME 109 flew towards arty posn, were deflected by Lt AA and dropped four bombs area 877300. Only damage was to DR M/C.

1740 hrs 2 JU 52 landed near SKYLINE track south of MOSQUE took off 1850 hrs.

1900 hrs German FIESELER STORCH flew low over enemy FDLs.

2100 hrs - 2140 hrs Plane was seen to fly from west with lights on. These were turned off after crossing our FDLs.

The plane flew up and down the coast occasionally switching lights on and off.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - HF targets fired as follows :

1100-1630 hrs Nos 3, 5, 9, 12, 16, 18, 23, 26, 28,  
35, 36, 38, 40

2100-0130 hrs Nos 1, 7, 13, 14.

(b) Patrols - Patrol went to 87553035, 87493027, 87183010, 87163005 with nothing to report except an extreme absence of sounds or signs of activity on the coastal sector.

Patrol to 87402964 reported spandau fire from approx 87362965 and 87362959, apparently firing at random. 3 men were also seen but these went to ground and apparently crawled away as could not be located.

*B. M. 20 Aust/Inf*  
for Maj.

B.M. 20 Aust/Inf

Distribution list as Summary No 9.

Interrogation of :

PASQUALE Randone  
 Private  
 3 Coy I Bn 62 Inf Regt TRENTO Div  
 Captured night 13 Sep 37182983

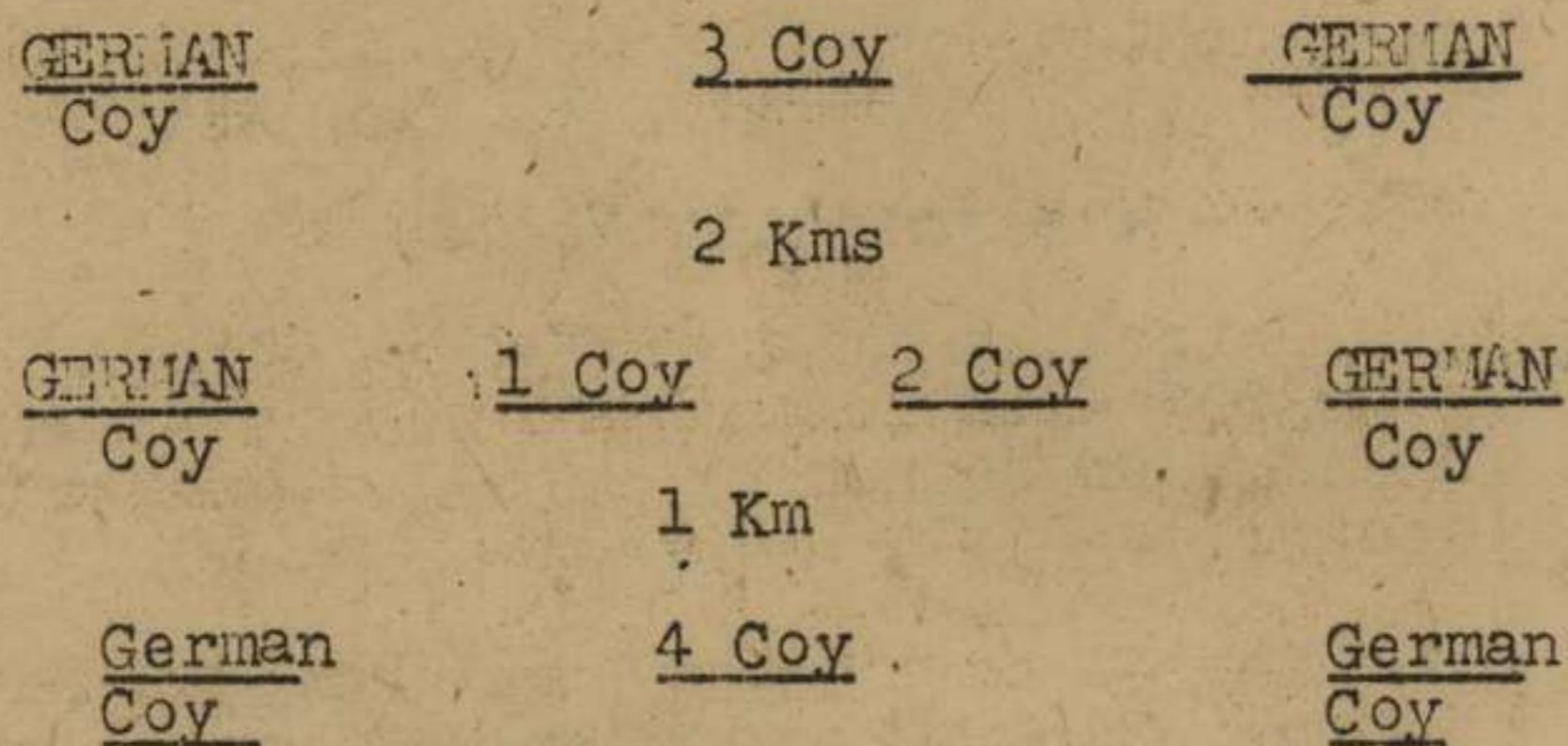
History. PW is 23 years of age. Was mobilised in Jun 1940, and left Italy for N Africa 13 Mar 41. Was first in 5 coy 2 Bn 62 IR and was transferred to 1 Bn 2 Apr 42. Has been in hospital at Barcia and rejoined his coy 1 Sep.

Personalities.

Owing to short time he has been with his Bn, PW could not give the names of OC Bn or Coy, as he states these have been changed recently.

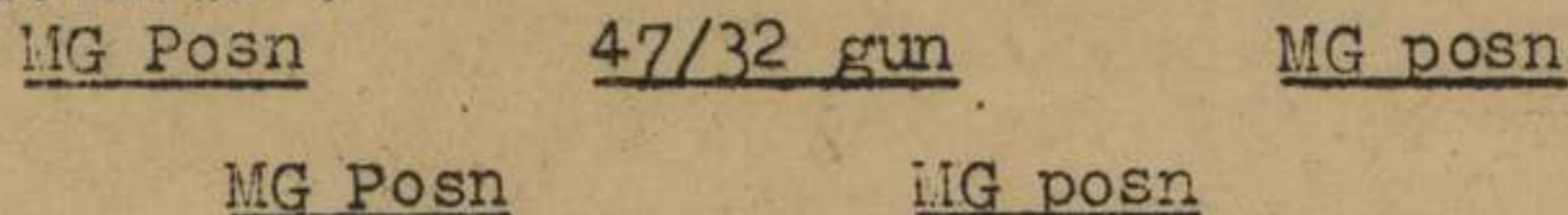
Unit.

PW states 1 Bn is up to strength with about 150 men per coy. 3 Coy is fwd with 1 and 2 coys about 2 km in rear, and 4 coy about 1 km in the rear of 1 and 2 coys. In the front line, coys are alternately ITALIAN and GERMAN, but 1 and 2 Coys are together to the rear of 3 Coy with again GERMAN Coys on right and left flanks thus :-



PW could not give identification of German Coys.

Disposition of 3 Coy of front line was 5 strongpoints (centri di fuoco) as follows :-



and there is no wire round the strongpoints.

PW had previously stated that his coy had four 47/32 guns but could only give the location of one, i.e. that in the central strongpoint. According to PW, the depth of the defence in this part of the line is about 3 kms with Italian arty in sp behind 4 Coy. States his Bn has been in present location at least a month.

Minefields. States there is a minefield about 100 metres in front of 3 Coy, about 10-11 metres wide and wired all round. Has no knowledge of any minefields in the rear.

Patrols and working parties. Says German and Italian patrols are sent out every night, usually from ten to fifteen men, but they operate quite independently. Is quite certain there are no recognition sigs other than a pass word, and is equally affirmative in saying there are no working parties.

Exchange of Personnel. PW says that all offrns and OR who have served two years continuously in North Africa are now being returned to Ital. This system started about a month ago, replacements being effected by tps sent from Italy.

ROMMEL's Offensive. PW was aware that the offensive had started but states there has been no gossip or comment in his Bn as a result of its failure, nor has there been any talk of a resumption of the attack. He knew little of the "BULIMBA" attack, which apparently took place the night before he rejoined his coy, but thinks the attack must have been made on the German Coy on his Coy's left flank.

Arty Fire and RAF Bombings.

PW states our arty is "terrific" during the day, but everybody keeps well to ground and in consequence there have been very few casualties. Has not a very good opinion of the RAF and considers they bomb from too great a height, as they seem to have a tremendous respect for Axis AA fire. Considers the Italian Air Force very good.

Morale.

PW himself seemed very pleased to have been taken prisoner but says the morale among the Bn is generally good, and is greatly helped by the excellent German morale and the German indifference to arty fire.

.....

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 57.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 16 sep 42).

1. GENERAL

Enemy MT movt on SKYLINE track continued during the day, tks and guns being seen moving generally NW. The enemy continues to bomb targets in rear of this Bde area, enemy shelling in Bde area was again very light, no contact was made by our patrols.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Inf - 87183021 Defended locality  
87193036 inf posn or OP  
87473049 inf post  
87473048 inf post  
87323021 wire post occupied by GERMANS.

(b) Art mines and wire -

87273016

trip wire is fwd of main wire by three feet, trip wire cut in many places. Nine S mines found in 700 yds, spacing varying from 20 yds to 100 yds. Trip wire slack between longer gaps. Six mines BRITISH Mk iv found within 15 yards of wire - appeared laid at random. No mines found within 50 yds on enemy side of wire.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Another day of light shelling there being only 54 shells in Bde area.

NOTE - Any air-burst fuses should be collected if possible for CBO.

Air burst fuse on 14 Sep 42 was the GERMAN AZS/30FG indicating that PX PITS (866963037) must be used by 105/GH as well as by 25 pr guns.

105/GH was the most recent occupant (Source CB I report No 55).

(b) Inf - There was unusually consistent movt of isolated personnel beneath ridge between RUIN (872303) and Pt 25 (873302) this continued throughout the day. Left flanking Bde reports that a standing patrol at 87852918 engaged an enemy party of about 50 strong which approached. At least 4 casualties were inflicted and one spondee has since been brought in.

(c) Vehs - There was considerable movt throughout the day along the SKYLINE track. Arty OP reports 200 vehs per hr moving along track during the morning, 160 NW and 40 SE. During the afternoon the average was 120 vehs per hr. Movt on morning 16 Sep was again normal at 20-25 per hr. The 15 tks and 50 MT reported by left fwd Bn to be in area 886297 to 866303 throughout yesterday had moved by first light 16 Sep.

4. Air OPs -

## (a) Enemy raids were reported :-

0955 hrs 15 Sep - 3 ME 109 bombed 887294  
 1100 hrs - 2 EA bombed 888293 from high level.  
 1110 hrs - 12 EA bombed areas 438902 - 437899 - 430952 - 432903 no damage.  
 1250 hrs - 13 JU 87 escorted by 11 ME 109 bombed area 831294 light AA engaged and claimed 4 damaged. Four lots of bombs seen to be jettisoned out to sea.  
 0920 hrs 16 Sep - 1 EA dropped 6 bombs area 87553024 no damage.

(b) At 1805 hrs a dog fight could be seen well to the South, 9 planes were seen to crash incl one kittyhawk in our own lines, pilot safe. Of the eight seen to crash in enemy lines only one pilot was seen to bail out.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Together with opportunity targets of inf movt the arty engaged enemy MT, the range was too great however, for effective shooting. HF was put down on the following targets :-

1000-1700 hrs	2, 9, 15, 22, 24, 27, 29, 32, 33, 37,
2100-0200 hrs	22, 26, 27, 29, 33.

(b) Patrols -

(i) By the light of air enemy flare a wired post could be seen at 87323021 also wire at 87313020 Men could be seen digging and some appeared to be laying mines. A GERMAN could be heard reading the news and referred to STALINGRAD and the FUHRER.

(ii) A patrol to 87403030 could find no trace of suspected enemy strongpost.

(iii) A mixed sapper and Inf party which recce'd for mines from 87623029 to 87413039 to 87403038 to 87623029 found none.

Comment

It is expected that mines would have probably been found a further 100 - 200 yds on first leg.

(iv) From 87273016 the wire was examined for 350 yds either way. THOMPSONS POST 87203018 has at least a percentage of ITALIANS as their voices were quite clear.

(v) A patrol to 87302972 - 87302964 to investigate wire previously reported in this vicinity found none. Digging could be heard approx 87252966 ITALIAN voices could be heard vicinity WEST Pt 23.

*B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde*  
 Maj.

Distribution List as Summary No 9. plus one copy for affiliated Bde

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 58.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 17 Sep 42.).

1. GENERAL

There was unusually hy enemy arty fire during the day, as usual the main target. was TEL EL EISA CUTTING area. The enemy continue to work at night in defences. Air activity was reduced.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

- (a) Inf - 36883056 Strongpost and suspect OP  
36873006 Gps 4 to 10 men  
86953071 Suspect OP  
87093006 Suspect strongpost. Wire and men seen.
- (b) Diggings  
87142997 New digging  
87112984 New digging.
- (c) Working parties  
Vicinity 87122995
- (d) Mines  
87213009 Fd of EP Mk 11 mines 140-320 degrees. mines 4 to 40 yds apart. Mines extend 400 yds on 320 degrees. Width approx 50 yds.
- (e) Wire  
87332971 Single dannert due north. 60 yds then 350 degrees. In other direction dannert appeared and continued due south. No mines found.  
87283036 to 87243035 to 87273030 to 87283036 (A/P 57)
- (f) Road blocks  
87233032 Three trenches (A/P 359) 87203034 Trench dug at right angles across rd (A/P 58)  
87293028 Shallow trench dug across road at right angles. (A/P 58)

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Shelling was very hy on left fwd bn. There being 490 shells in area TELL EL EISA and CUTTING. There were 600 shells for the day in the Bde area. 25 pr guns were responsible for the main shelling. The enemy appeared to be registering tasks with smoke. Two rounds being fired between sta and CUTTING and between 1730 and 1905 8 smoke shells fell in vicinity Trig 33. It was also reported that the enemy registered some of his own DF tasks with smoke.

(2)

(b) Inf Movt

0900 hrs 4 parties of up to 20 men each seen moving area 865304.

0800-1500 hrs men appeared and disappeared CLOVER LEAF area 87413041 to 87423042.

1900 hrs about 20 men seen area 872302.

(c) MT Movt

MT movt on SKYLINE track was slight during the day.

0810 hrs - 1130 hrs	Approx 10 vehs per hr
1500 hrs - 1730 hrs	movement increased to 35-40 vehs per hr.

At about 1100 hrs approx 200 MT and at least 15 tks could be seen stationary and dispersed in area 865298 to 865300.

At 1345 hrs there was a thinning out and the most reported during the afternoon was 70 MT and 10 tks. This was considerably reduced by first light 17 Sep.

4. AIR OPS

There was slight movt of isolated planes during the day but apart from the report at 0900 reported yesterday there was no hostile action.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Harassing fire was continued. There were few opportunity targets for the arty to engage.

(i) Patrols report continued enemy working parties. One to the immediate north of West Pt 23 being covered by a standing patrol 8 strong. A spandau fired from 87312964.

(ii) At 87413030 a party of GERMANS was seen unloading iron from a derelict truck. Our patrols opened fire putting the enemy to ground. There was no indication of casualties being inflicted.

(iii) A patrol at 87413015 heard movt to his rear on both flanks. In an endeavour to skirt the area further noises were heard. In an attempt to make contact the area was searched for 200 yds all round without success.

*B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde*

B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution as Summary No. 57.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 59

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 18 Sep 42.)

1. GENERAL

Enemy shelling and MT movt were normal.  
Enemy working parties are reported more active south of the ry.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS(a) Arty - From AAPIU reports :

86782958 Two 4 gun fd posns previously unoccupied, now occupied (330)  
86723052 More accurate placing of posn previously reported 86683028. 3 fd guns (336)  
86502998 4 fd gun position now occupied (34).

(b) Inf - 87373019 Recently occupied diggings

87122985 New occupied diggings.

87003078 - 87153065 line of inf posns incl MG and A Tk posns. From A/P (347)

(c) Wire - 87312968 Small knoll single dannert running due SOUTH.

87312967 Gap in wire with track running E-W.

87243064 - 87303058 - 87273054 suspect wire from A/P (48)

(d) Working Parties -

86943003 By day

(e) Mines -

87223010 EP Mk ii freshly covered, in an area 500 sq yds. Spacing varied, no pattern.

86943007 to 86873000 (limit of cover)  
Suspect minefd from A/P (354)3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY(a) Arty - Enemy arty fire was on a reduced scale 110 rounds falling in the Bde area. The CUTTING and TEL. EL EISA area received 42 rounds but a new target, area 87803009 had, 60 rounds.(b) Inf Movt -

1930 hrs 20 men seen moving from sangar vicinity 87473046.

(c) MT Movt -

First light 17 Sep revealed that one enemy concentration had been reduced from 87 to 28. Movt on the track was normal all day except a convoy of 100 MT at 0945 hrs moving N-W. Ten vehs appeared to be towing guns and at 1200 hrs what appeared to be a further 6 guns were towed N-W. Movt on morning 18 Sep was also normal.



4. Air Ops - 1215 hrs 12 JU 87s with fighter cover 8 ME 109 bombed 882298. No damage. Enemy planes used sirens. Our Lt AA claims two damaged. Other air activity was on a very slight scale.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Between 1100-1600 hrs harassing fire was directed on targets 3, 5, 8, 11, 17, 21, 22, 25, 30, 31, 32. Concentrations were also fired :  
1030 hrs 8741430265  
1045 hrs 8739130278

(b) Patrols-

- (i) Patrols to 87453042 and strong mobile protective patrols across right fwd bn front returned with NTR. Patrol to diggings at 87373019 found signs of recent occupation including freshly opened food tins.
- (ii) Patrols south of ry reported unusually strong working parties. In vicinity 87302960 it is estimated there were about two coys strong working over a frontage of 800 yds mainly driving pickets and wiring.
- (iii) A patrol to 87312968 heard a large working party in vicinity of West Pt 23 and from 87312965 it was estimated another large working party was operating in area 87302960. Empty mine boxes British Mk iv and v were found vicinity 87312968.
- (iv) A patrol from left flanking Bde fired on enemy listening post from 87432935. The patrol came under hy MG and mortar fire when returning.
- (v) Another patrol on night 16/17 Sep located a spandau post approx 87382946 and what was thought to be a Breda or Fiat at 87372947.

20 MUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 60.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 19 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

Enemy shelling was reduced and Mt movt was normal. A patrol had an exchange of fire with an enemy post at 87383029 and casualties are thought to have been inflicted.

2. ENEMY METHOD

An observer reports that in recent enemy bombings, an air burst bomb is dropped over the target area as a preliminary.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

- (a) Inf - 87193053 - Inf post - possible OP.  
           87202956 - Approx only possible post.  
           87322957 - Spandau  
           87373029 - Inf post (1 spandau, 1 tommy, 6 rifles  
                           - GERMAN).  
           87423044 - 12-15 men seen.
- (b) Wire - On eastern end CLOVER LEAF at least 5 rows single  
           dannert can be seen running approx N-S.  
           87342964 Gap in old single dannert fence.  
           87333029 Single dannert on 285 degrees. D.A. fence  
                           15 yds inside and parallel.  
                           Wire extended 70 yds to right NW then on  
                           81 degrees for 20 yds then on 53 degrees. 30  
                           yds to left or SE wire ran on 22 degrees for  
                           120 yds. D. ended where dannert turned on 22  
                           degrees.  
           87323017 Triple dannert.  
           87523043 Two rows angle iron pickets with dannert  
                           and barb between. Mines or booby traps  
                           located fwd of wire.
- (c) Mines - 87463012 Old German minefd previously known 5 Br Mk  
                           iv lifted and one Mk v set as booby trap.
- (d) Working Party  
           87503046 Engaged by arty

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) arty - There was harassing fire on a slight scale, 75 shells  
           in the Bde area. The CUTTING was neglected receiving no  
           shells, and east 24 only 8.  
           The enemy continues to shell actively one day and lightly  
           the next. No reason can be seen other than am supply.

NOTE - In conditions where flash bearings are scarce it is  
 noteworthy that the majority of sound bearings pass  
 within 3 degrees on either side of the HB active  
 (CB. (I report No 58).

- (b) Mt on SKYLINE track continues to be normal.  
           At 1105 hrs a smoke producing veh laid a screen on  
           SKYLINE track, which was effective for about 15 minutes. There  
           was nothing unusual noticed either before or after.

5. Air Ops

0800 hrs our aircraft were seen to bomb dispersed Mt on  
 SKYLINE track. About 50 Mt were observed.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Opportunity targets consisted of inf movt, hostile arty and OPs. Harassing fire continued during the day. Targets 8, 11, 15, 19, 21, 26, 41, 46, 47 and 49 were engaged. In an endeavour to interfere with enemy working parties Nos 15, 16 and 17 were fired between 2300 and 0200 hrs. Work on EGG feature 8751304+ ceased when our HF fell in that area.

7 (b) Patrols

(i) An inf and sapper patrol to sq 373296 found no mines. A Working party driving pickets was heard at about 87292969 and low voices at approx 873229-6, there was sporadic automatic fire to the S-W.

(ii) A patrol to 87222996 reported sound of shovels in use and of hammering pickets due west. An enemy patrol of unknown strength was heard to the patrols front.

(iii) Patrol to 87383029 was inspecting wire when challenged in German. Patrol went to ground and were immediately fired on. This fire was returned, the enemy used one spandau one sub MG and at least 6 rifles indicating probably a sec post. Noises from the enemy indicated that casualties were probably inflicted. Our patrol withdrew 100 yds and later continued its recce of enemy wire. We suffered no casualties.

Patrols to 87523043 and 87323017 returned with infm concerning enemy mines and wire. Working was heard also between rd and ry.

*G. Lawrence*  
Lieut

for Maj.  
O.B.N. 20 Aust Inf Bde

~~Dist. List as Summary No 57.~~

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 61

( Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 20 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL -

Quiet period with normal activity.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Inf - 87112961 Men and truck  
 87443045 Defended posn, Veh thought to be  
 ambulance moved from this area to  
 87453048  
 87243037 2 men seen.

(b) Wire - 87363031 single dennert 267 degs. Continues to west  
 on 267 degs for at least 100 yds and to  
 east for 75 yds thence on 80 degs.

(c) Mines p

87192996 One row 5 EP Mk ii mines running N-S  
 covering 30 yds.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY(a) Arty -

Enemy arty fire was again normal, there being little  
 attention paid to FDLs. A concentration of 60 shells in  
 10 minutes on 87743007, being the main shelling. There  
 were no shells in right fwd Bn area.

(b) Inf. 1000 hrs what appeared to be a recce party at  
 86893082 was engaged by our arty.  
 1830 hrs 2 groups of 10 men were observed working  
 in area 868301. Other working parties were reported  
 as in 4 (b) (ii).

(c) MT Movt on SKYLINE track was normal except between 1100  
 hrs and 1200 hrs when 50 vehs were reported - about 25  
 each way.

(d) Tks - One enemy lt tk moved into area 87423015 during  
 the afternoon. It was engaged by arty and mortars but  
 remained until after last light.

4. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty Harassing fire 1030-1730 hrs, targets Nos 3, 5, 8, 11,  
 15, 17, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29, 30, 32, 37, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45,  
 from 2030 - 2400 hrs Nos 15, 16, 17, 19 and 22 were engaged.  
 A night patrol reported that an enemy working party ceased  
 work when HF fell in that area.  
 HB "NL" was observed in the open about 400 yds in rear of  
 dug position, after being engaged vehs were seen taking the  
 guns away. These were also engaged (CB Int report No 59)

(b) Patrols

(i) A tk hunting patrol to 87423015 to locate lt tks  
 reported during the afternoon was unsuccessful.  
 A patrol along the ry could find no trace of the  
 triple dennert fence reported at 87323017 night  
 18/19 Sep.

(2)

Comment - The patrol 18/19 Sep was probably off bearing, being further north than reported.

(ii) Patrols went to 87363031, 87523042, 87243003, 87182996, 87302981 and 87292981. Enemy working parties were heard in vicinities 87333027, 87142996, 87283016 and 87182956.

(iii) Patrol to 87302981 observed a working party at 87262981 with a truck. The enemy were driving in long steel pickets. A patrol of 13 enemy was seen to take up a position SW of our patrol which crawled north to area of derelict AFVs. After moving back this area was engaged by enemy mortar and spandau fire and 6 white flares were fired in quick succession.

(iv) A patrol penetrated as far as 87232956 without any difficulty but heard a veh being unloaded about 600 yds further in. Sig wires were crossed at 87322956 and 87282956.

Comment - Unless this patrol managed to move unobserved between two posts which is unlikely with the present moon, the AAPIU overlay would appear incorrect in this area. On night 21/22 Aug a prisoner was captured from a LP at 87172956.

*G. L. ...*  
for Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution list as Summary No 57.

I 19/32/218

WD  
SECRET  
COP 0 22  
21 Sep 42.

20 AUGST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 62.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 21 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

Enemy shelling was at a record low level. Enemy working continues and one of his covering parties fired on our recce patrol. Another recce patrol was forced to withdraw by an enemy patrol 18 strong.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

- (a) Inf - 87463043      Inf posn  
                  86933020      Inf post
- (b) Mines 87513041      B iv mines found behind trip wire.
- (c) Wire    87513041      Trip wire on 100 degrees continues to rd then single dannert to coast.
- (d) Digging 87513041      Recent

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Enemy shelling was the lowest yet reported there being only 9 shells in the Bde area.
- (b) Inf - An enemy patrol forward of West 23 forced the withdrawal of one of our patrols. see para 5 (b) (ii)
- (c) Working  
A working party was reported at 87183071 during the day. Work seems to be continuing north and south of Ring contour 25 (873302) and also vicinity West 23.
- (d) MT MOVT  
There was little movt on the SKYLINE track. Since the recent move of MT northwards, normal movt would appear to be about 15 per hr.

4. Air Ops

No activity.  
A Kittyhawk landed in the Bde area at 1730 hrs  
The pilot is safe.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - In addition to observed targets the following HF tasks were fired:
- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1530 - 1730 hrs | 2, 4, 9, 12, 16, 21, 24,                |
| 1500 - 1700 hrs | 25, 28, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 39, 42, 46. |
| 2300 - 0300 hrs | 10, 13, 14, 15 and 18.                  |

(2)

(b) Patrols

(i) Patrols to 87443030, 87483039, 872298 report NMS. Patrol to 87513041 observed three enemy and opened fire no results observed. This patrol obtained infm about wire and minefids.

(ii) A recce patrol 1 NCO and 5 reached 87302970. The barrel on West 23 could be seen about 500 yds on left front. A large GERMAN working party could be heard working vicinity West 23 on a wide front driving pickets fairly widely spaced, possibly marking a minefid.

Whilst observing from 87302970 a party of 18 enemy spaced 2 yds apart approached our patrol. When within 150 yds our patrol withdrew 100 yds and as the enemy continued to advance with 6 men moving round one flank, our party withdrew a further 200 yds after which the enemy was lost to view. The enemy could be seen in detail by the naked eye. Every man wore a great-coat and carried either a sub-machine gun or automatic of some kind, now rifles were seen.

(iii) A patrol to 87303017 observed a large enemy working party about 40 strong approx 87303023. Some of the enemy appeared to be unloading mines.

Enemy were heard to scramble up northern side of ry embankment and challenged patrol comd.

After firing tracer into the air the enemy fired on our patrol.. Patrol withdrew and continued on recce. found

A patrol which moved north of ry and parallel to 87303019 at about 0400 hrs/no trace of the enemy; but reported the working and unloading of stores from a v-eh this finished at 0445 hrs

*M. J. Mills*  
M.J.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution List as Summary 57.

I 19/32/221

SECRET  
COPY NO 24  
22 Sep 42.20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 63.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 22 Sep 42 ).

1. GENERAL

The period was again quiet with normal ground and air activity.

The enemy again actively patrolled area East Pt 23.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty Enemy shelling was again light consisting of registration and harassing fire. There were 53 shells in the Bde area.

(b) Patrols For the second time in two nights an enemy patrol of 18 strong has been operating in vicinity of East Pt 23.

Comment - It would appear that the enemy is anxious to keep our patrols away from this area. Enemy working parties have been reported here for some time.

(c) Working Parties

Vicinity West Pt 23 together with sounds of truck being unloaded.

Sq 372301

Sq 368301 working parties unloading trucks.

Sq 374304 working on wire on CLOVER LEAF feature.

3. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty observed targets were few. HF was maintained during the day and night.

(b) Patrols

(i) As there was HF on the coastal sector the right fwd Bn sent out a screen of mobile protective patrols. Voices were heard vicinity FAIRBURNS post.

(ii) A patrol at 37453008 saw four men south of ry moving west. On moving fwd to 37423009 another party was seen south of the ry moving east. This is considered to be the relief of one of our protective patrols. A patrol which went out soon after from the CUTTING to Pt 17 reported NIS.

(iii) A patrol moved to 37352971 and on the way heard working and a truck unloading. The sound stopped as patrol moved out. After 45 minutes at 37352971 an enemy patrol 18 strong was seen going to ground 400 to 500 yds to the right. As our patrol moved in their direction the enemy passed within 400 yds across the front. Our patrol lay up for half an hour after which time 12 men were seen moving from the direction of our lines. The patrol comd considers that this was portion of the original 18 and that they had split in an endeavour to outflank and capture our party.



At no stage was the enemy party close enough to engage.

(c) Mortars

Our mortars 3 inch ranged on to target area near EGG feature.

81 mm mortars engaged OP on West Pt 23 and posts in area 37232972. Mines were seen to explode at 37232969.

*B. M. 20*

B.M. 20 Just Inf Bo

Distribution List as for Summary No 57.

[Faint text]	(1)
[Faint text]	(2)
[Faint text]	(3)
[Faint text]	(4)
[Faint text]	(5)
[Faint text]	(6)
[Faint text]	(7)
[Faint text]	(8)
[Faint text]	(9)
[Faint text]	(10)
[Faint text]	(11)
[Faint text]	(12)
[Faint text]	(13)
[Faint text]	(14)
[Faint text]	(15)
[Faint text]	(16)
[Faint text]	(17)
[Faint text]	(18)
[Faint text]	(19)
[Faint text]	(20)
[Faint text]	(21)
[Faint text]	(22)
[Faint text]	(23)
[Faint text]	(24)
[Faint text]	(25)
[Faint text]	(26)
[Faint text]	(27)
[Faint text]	(28)
[Faint text]	(29)
[Faint text]	(30)
[Faint text]	(31)
[Faint text]	(32)
[Faint text]	(33)
[Faint text]	(34)
[Faint text]	(35)
[Faint text]	(36)
[Faint text]	(37)
[Faint text]	(38)
[Faint text]	(39)
[Faint text]	(40)
[Faint text]	(41)
[Faint text]	(42)
[Faint text]	(43)
[Faint text]	(44)
[Faint text]	(45)
[Faint text]	(46)
[Faint text]	(47)
[Faint text]	(48)
[Faint text]	(49)
[Faint text]	(50)

20 AUSTRALIAN INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 64.

(Based on info received up to 1000 hrs 23 Sep 42.)

1. GENERAL

The period was again quiet.

Patrol reports indicate reduced working activity on enemy front. Extensive blasting is reported on 25 contour which is believed to be enemy's main defence line.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

- (a) Following weapons were located when they opened fire at about 1830 hrs :-

37142987	-	Post with at least 2 HCs and 1 Mortar
37132991	-	Bren
37162985	-	Breda LMG
37083011	-	MG
37182985	-	MG
37042988	-	20 mm

- (b) Square 368301 - 30 MT and 12 tents (1 bell type 11 EPIP type)

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a)
- Arty
- West Pt 24 (373299) Pt 17 (372300) received close attention from the enemy arty, the enemy evidently suspecting an OP on Pt 17. 75 mm, 81mm guns and 81 mm mortars took part. The only damage was to the sig wire on TEL EL MISA. In the Bde area there were 46 shells.

Sta area	11
East Pt 24	13
Cutting	7
Pt 23 (377300)	9
Area 37683018	6

Photos and activity show that the GERMAN is digging alternative positions about 500 yds from his previous pits. Both after having been shelled and in anticipation of future bombardment. In the last three days 5 tps of 81 guns have been brought north of the 300 grid line. These have all come into old pits and complete the batteries which were depleted by our shelling.

An air photo shows the devastating results of the shoot by mediums against "RD" on the 8 Sep.

The M P I is right on the target. No 3 pit is utterly obliterated. No 2 is very badly knocked about and No 1 shows plenty of signs of bombardment.

(CB Intelligence report No 62).

- (b) MT movt appeared normal during the day but when visibility improved during the evening 200 MT could be seen stationary on the SKYLINE between 229&302 northings.

- 4.
- Air Ops
- At 1150 hrs on ME 109 conducted an extensive high level recce over Bde area.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Observed targets were few. BF was maintained during the day and night.

(b) Patrols

(i) On the right fwd sector there were only protective patrols.  
(ii) Left fwd Bn sent patrols to 37332972 and 37192995 which returned with nothing to report except distant working parties.  
(iii) A late return from a protective patrol night 21/22 Sep reports the presence of a small party of 6 to 8 men presumably enemy which were digging in area 37453009 at 0300 hrs. Our patrol attempted to outflank party which withdrew along the rd line and escaped. The country at this point is perfectly open and is overlooked by our positions.



Septemise

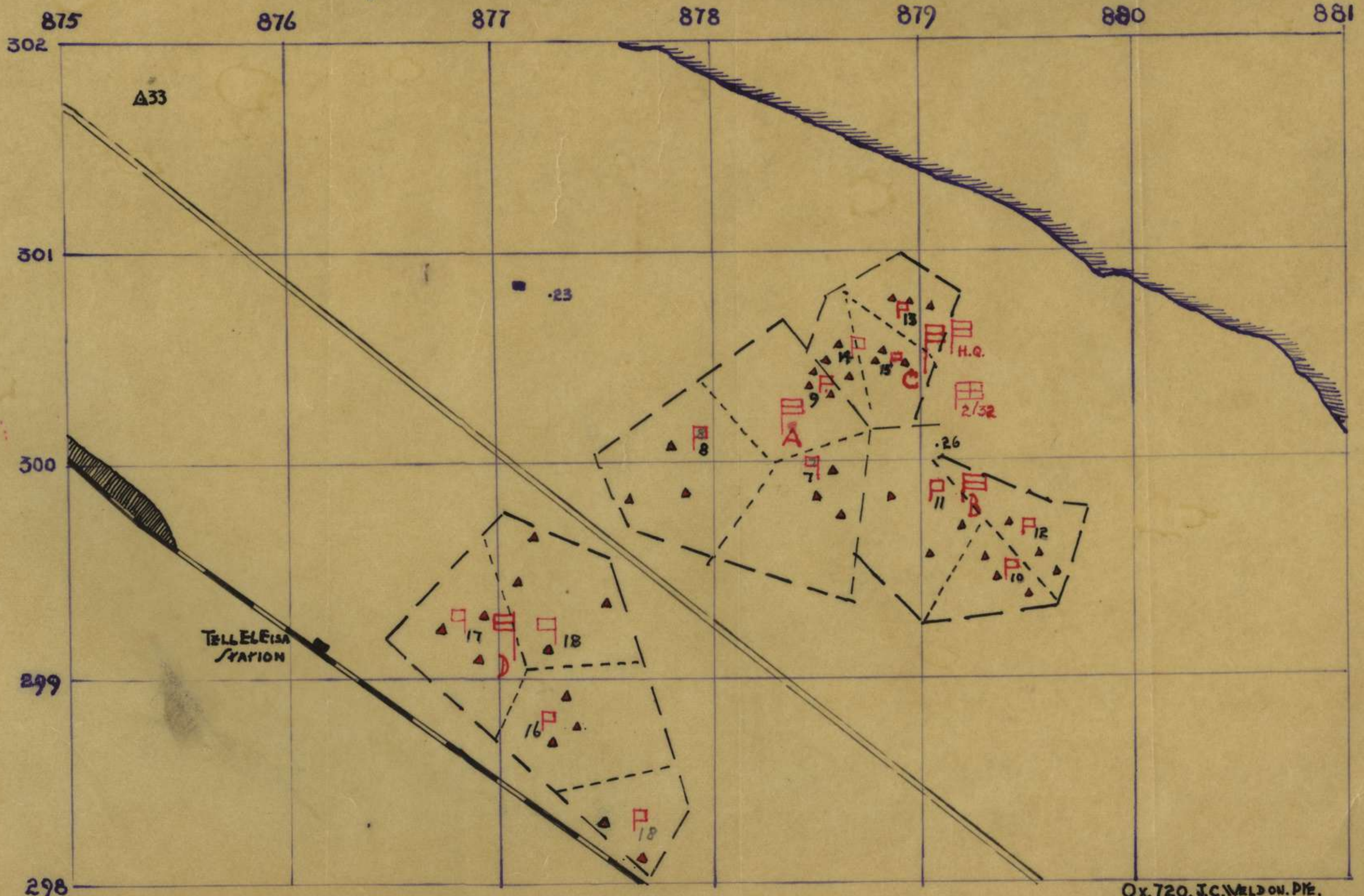
Appx

C 6

Maps.

2/32 Bn. POSNS.

REF. MAP. 1:50,000. EL ALAMEIN.

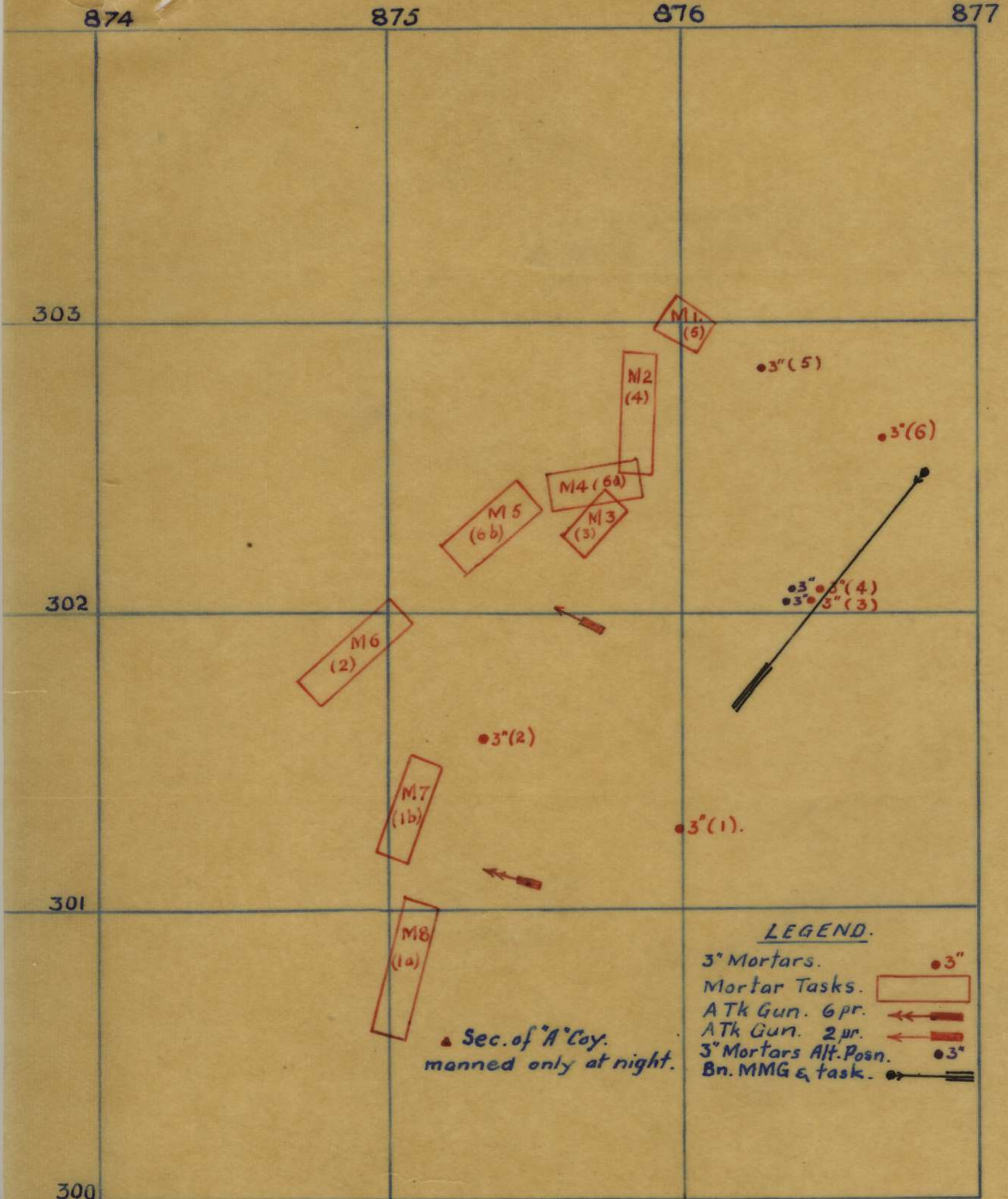


SCALE: 1:25,000.

QX.720. J.C. WELDON. DfE.  
"I" SEC. 2/32. Bn.  
1-SEP-42.

2/13 Bn, 3" Mortar Def. Fire Tasks & New Posns  
of ATk Guns, & Sec. of "A" Coy & Bn. MMGs.

Ref. EL ALAMEIN, 1:50,000.

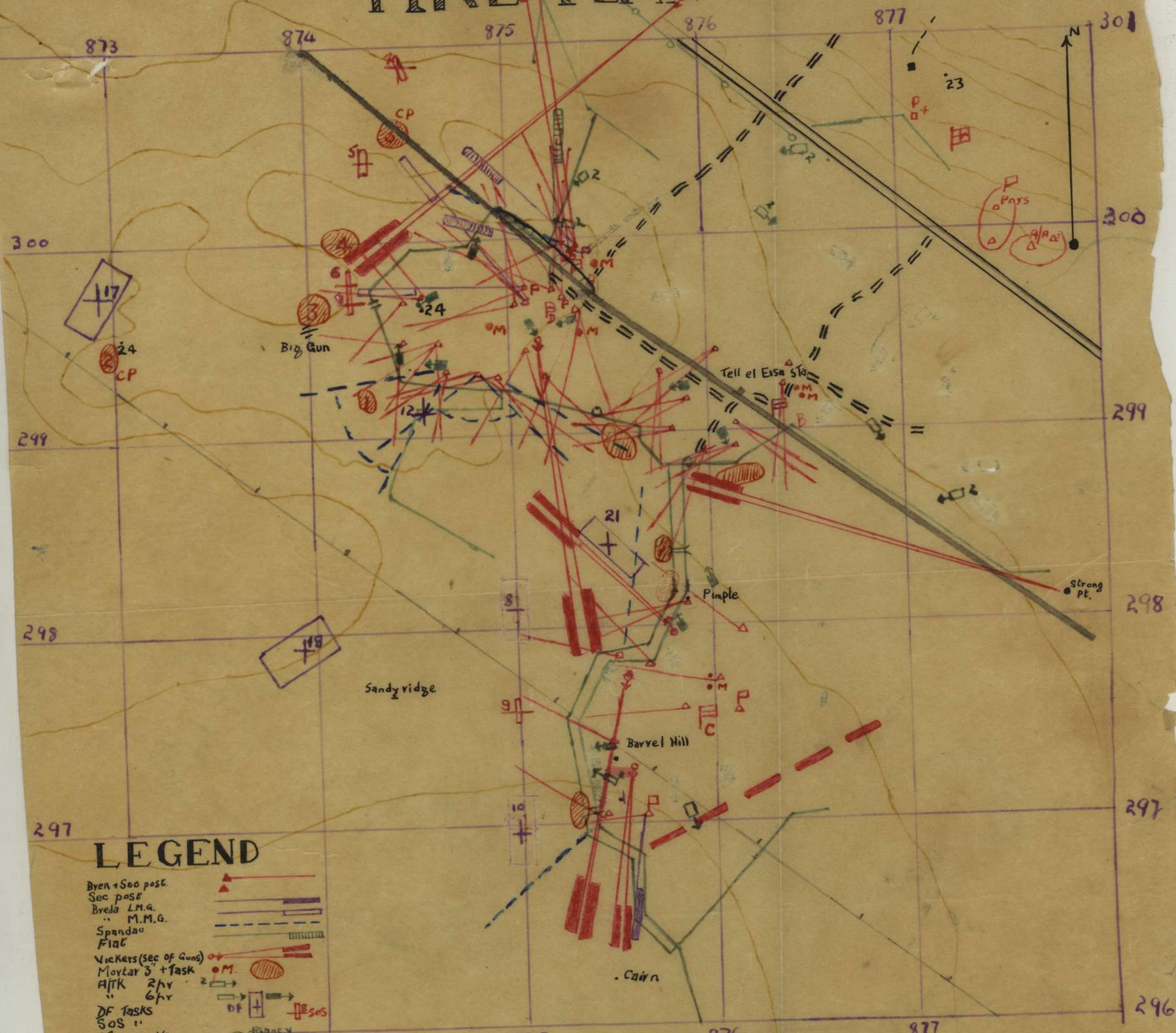


R.F.: 1:25,000.

"I" Sec, 2/13 Bn.  
10 Sep, '42.

RF 1:25,000

# FIRE PLAN



## LEGEND

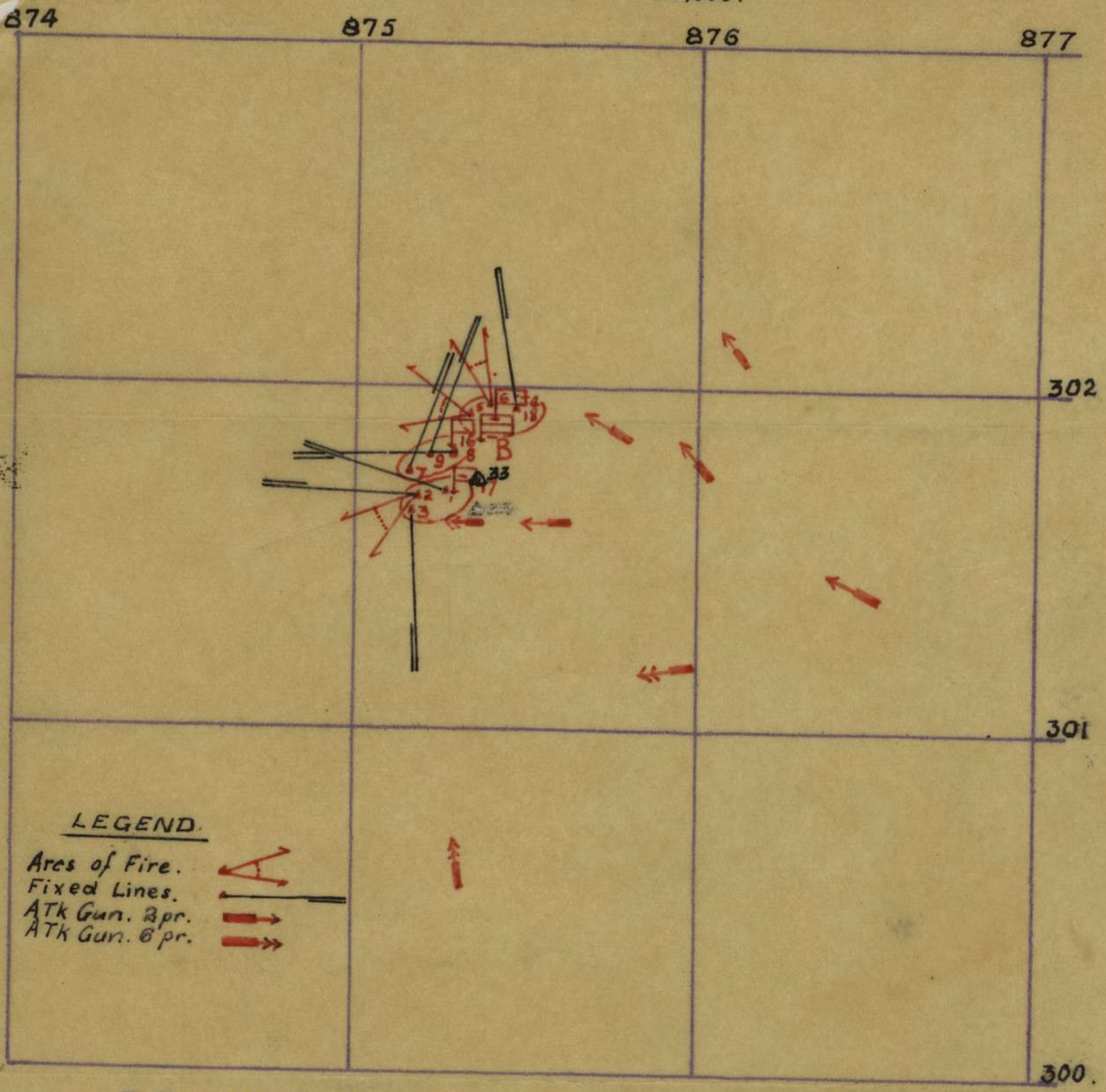
- Byen + Sec post
- Sec post
- Breda L.M.G.
- " M.M.G.
- Spandau
- Flak
- Vickers (sec of Guns)
- Mortar 3" + task
- ATK 2hr
- " 6hr
- DF tasks
- SOS "
- Minefields.

SCALE 1 inch = 0.39 miles

500 0 1000 2000yds.

Trace by Pte. H. Kennedy  
 2/17 Aust Inf Bn '35  
 3-9-42

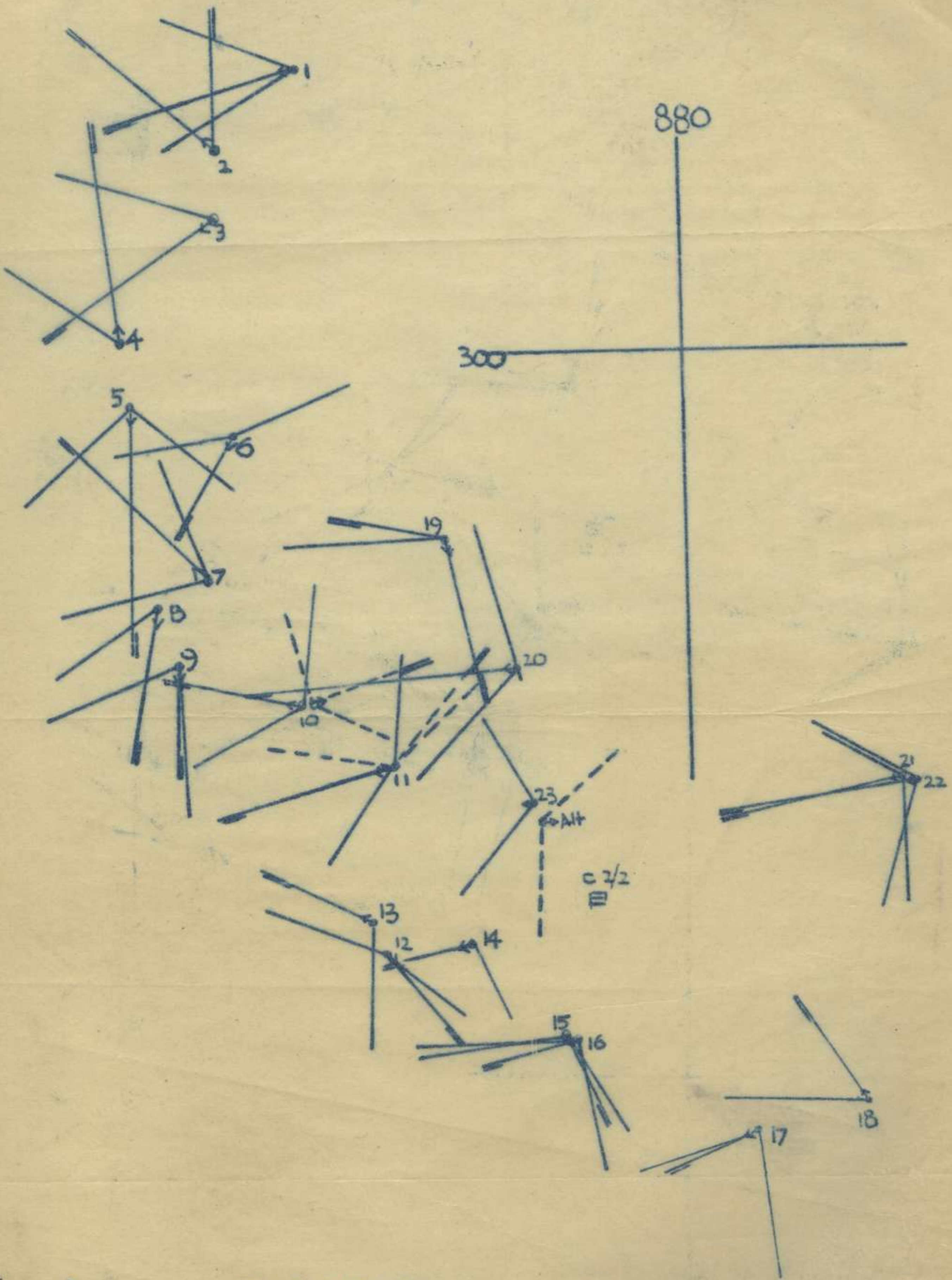
Atk. Gun. 80  
2/13 Bn. "B" Coy Disposition & Fire Plan Trace.  
 Ref. EL ALAMEIN. 1:50,000.



R.F: 1.25,000.

"I" Sec., 2/13 Bn.  
 4 Sep. '42.

# 2/2 Aust MG Bn Post Numbers & Fire Plan as at 7 Sep 42



Superimpose on EL ALAMEIN  
1: 50,000

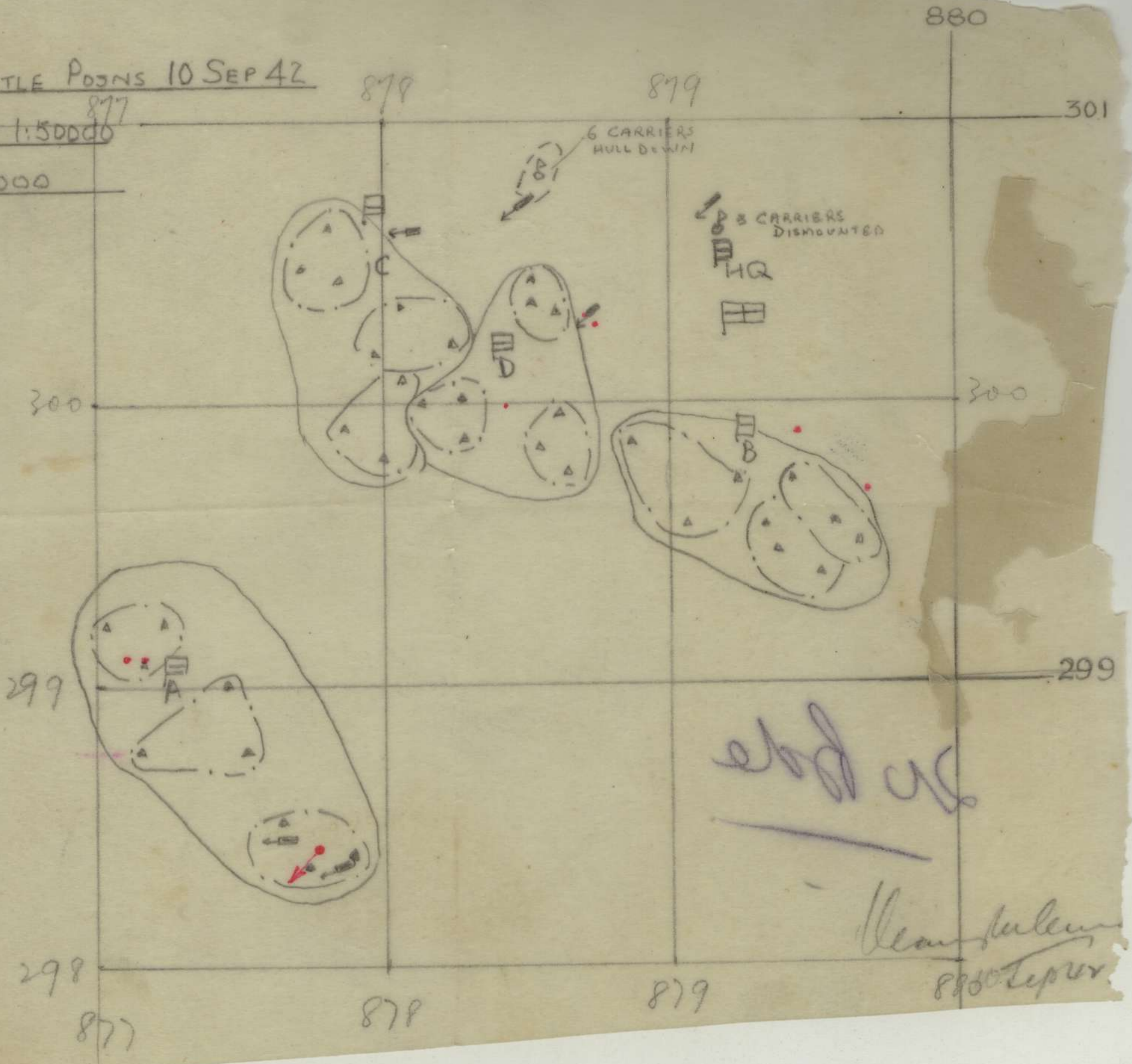
EJ CUST Kapl  
2/2 Aust MG Bn  
7 Sep 42



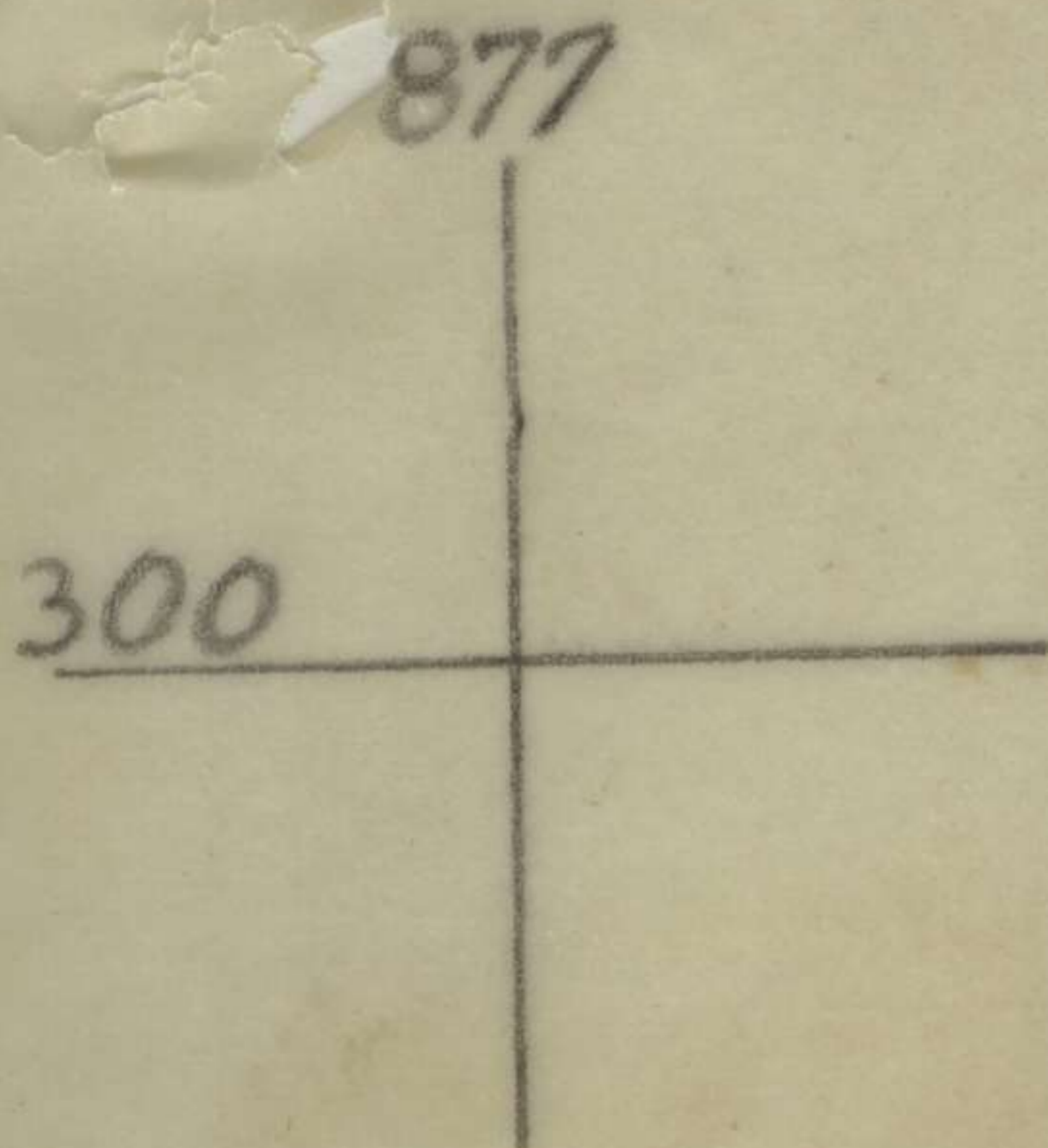
2/15 BN BATTLE POSNS 10 SEP 42

REF EL ALAMEIN 1:50000

SCALE 1:25000



ONE OF THESE TO BE MOVED IN  
DIRECTION APPROX INDICATED BY  
ARROW.



M3

M3



6 pdr A/TK

2/17 Bn 2 pdr A/TK

879

Own 2 pdrs  
A/TK

OVER-LAY 1:25000

298

2/15 Bn Int Sec.  
11 SEP 42 N.M.

70 Bde W/D Sep 42.

W/D

873 874

870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 308

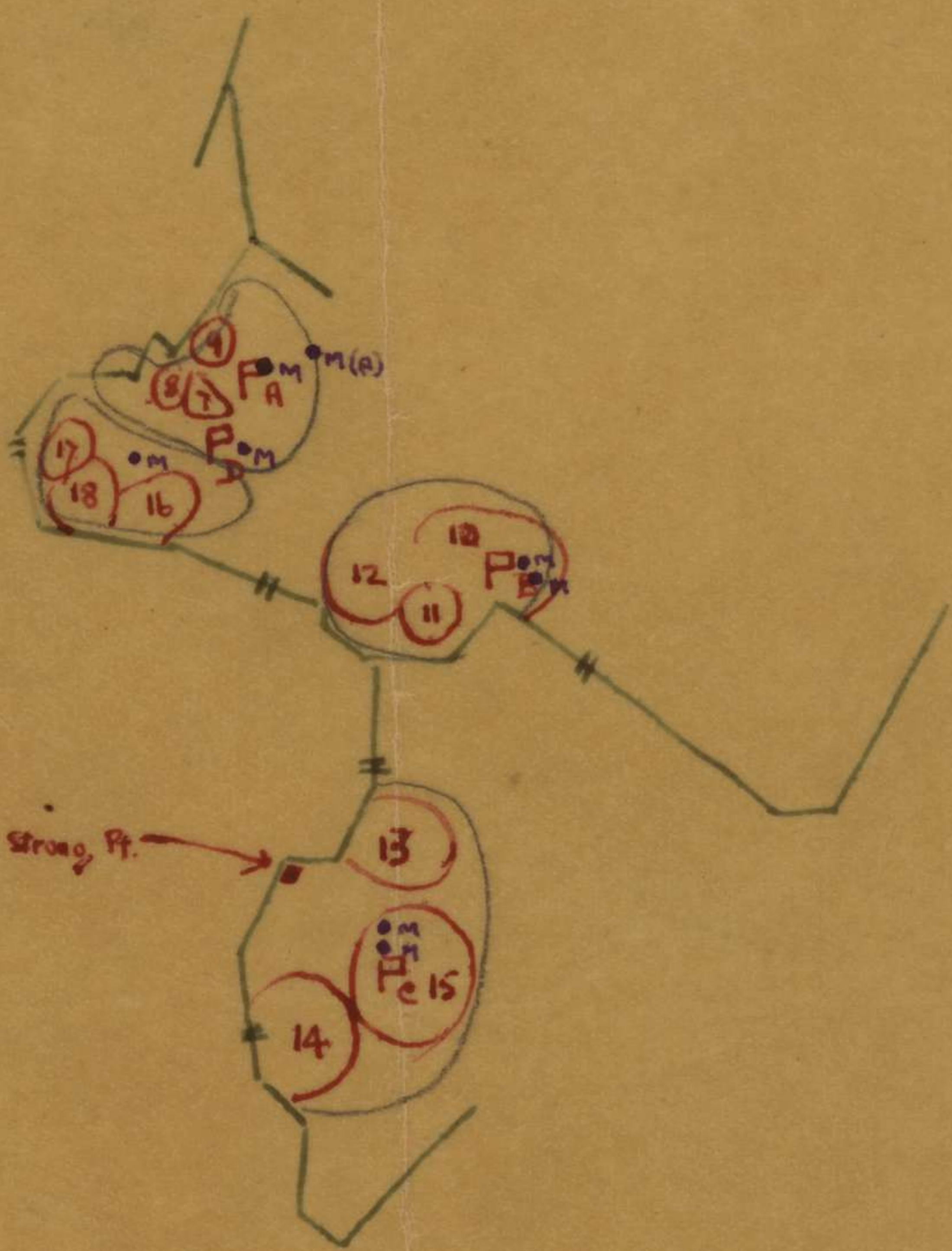
307  
306  
305  
304  
303  
302  
301  
299  
298  
297  
296  
295  
294

308.07  
306  
305  
304  
303  
302  
301  
299  
298  
297  
296  
295  
294



ENEMY DISPOSITIONS  
 ref EL ALAMEIN sheet  
 1:50,000  
 17 Sep 42

2/17 Aust Inf Bn  
11.9.42



Mortar posts •M

Mine fields in Green

Unit MG (1 Sec) at present at  
Strong Pt in C Coy area

871

872

873

874

875

876

877

878

879

20 Sep 42

307

306

305

304

303

302

301

871

872

873

874

875

876

877

878

879

44

.17

15

31

.23

21

23

STONY GROUND

20

Firm  
Going

CAIRN

22

298

297

296

295

294

293

292

Tell el Eisa  
Station

GARDEN

K104

K103

K105

K106

K107

K108

K109

K110

K111

K112

6

41

.5

80

90

41

2/13

2/15

H9 Coy  
2/17

SP

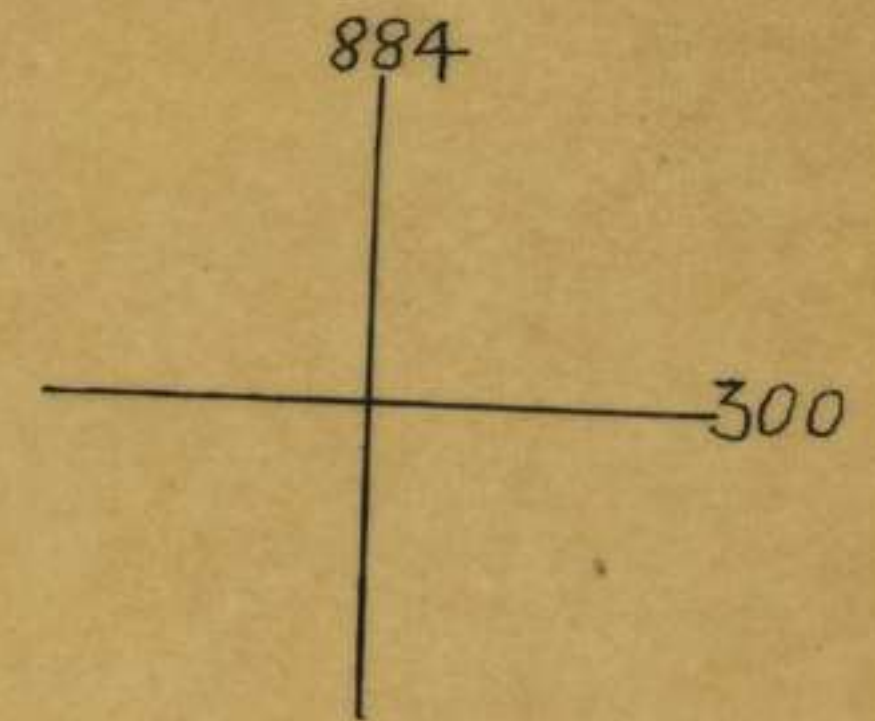
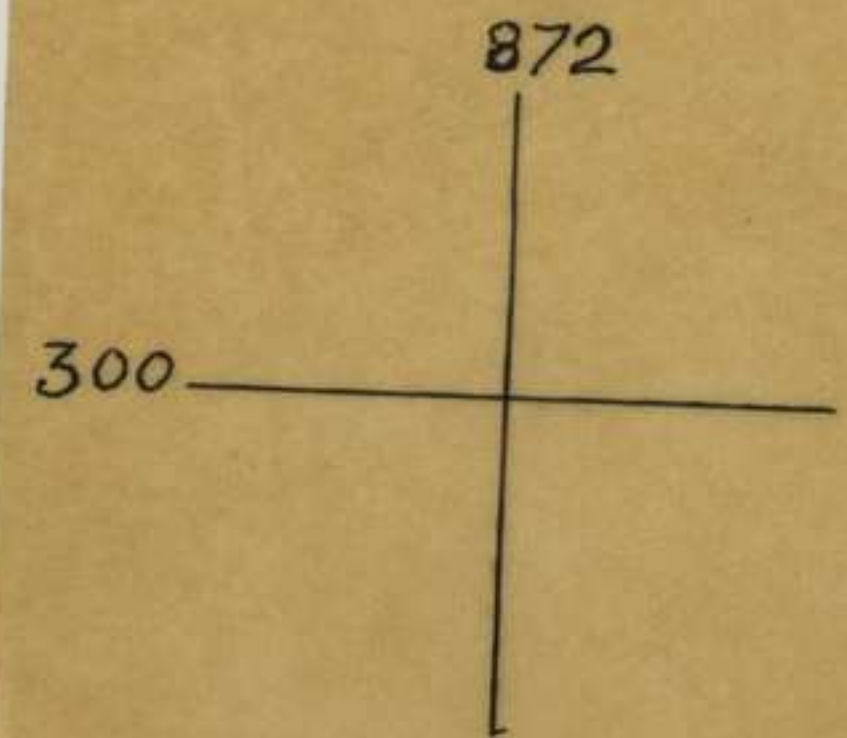
POST

K8

.23

# 20AUST INF BDE

DISPOSITIONS 20 SEP 42



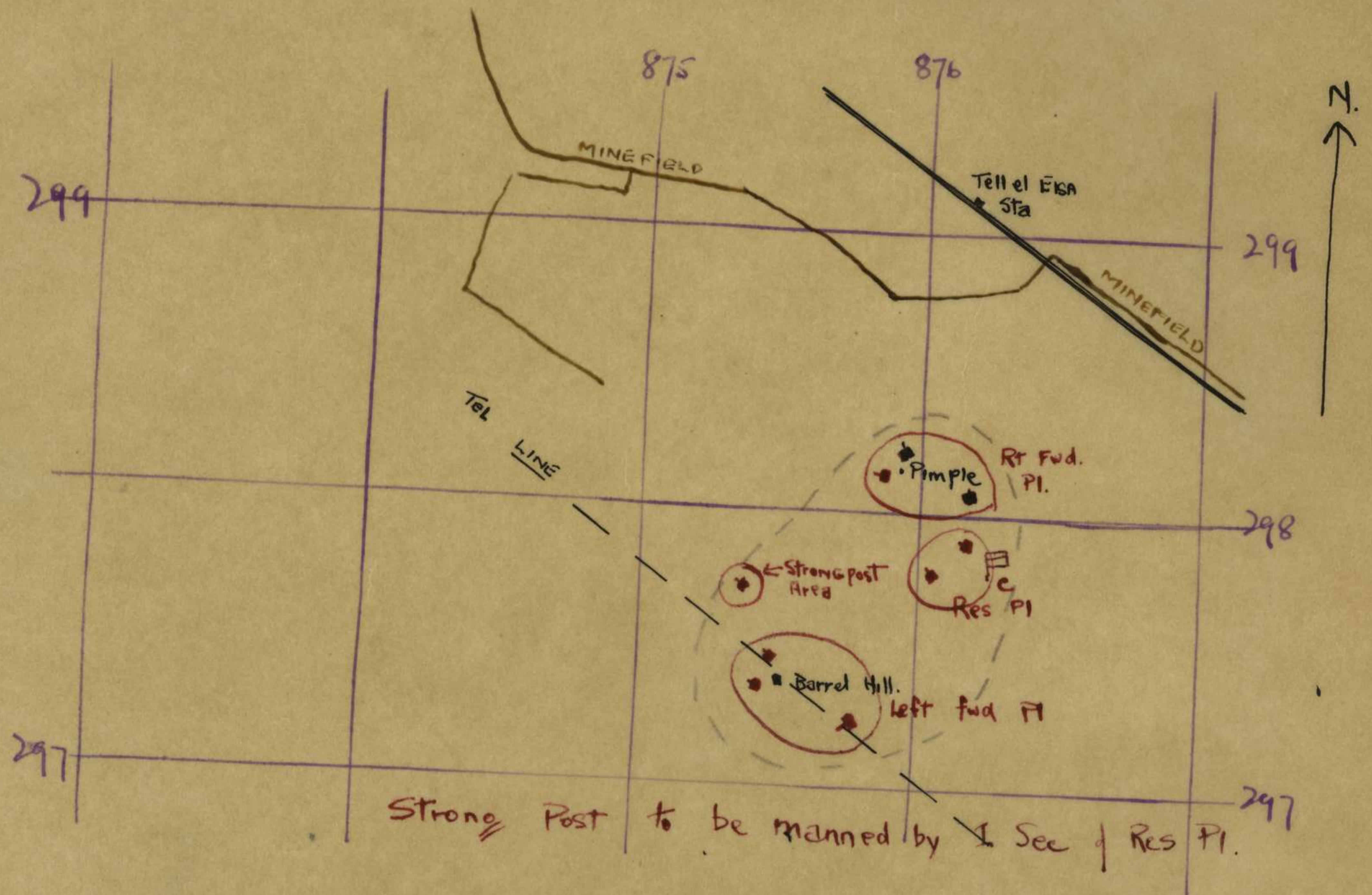
REF EL ALAMEIN 1:50000

R.F 1:50000

1 Section 20 Aust Inf Bde

20 Sept 42

TRACE OF 2/17 BN "C" COY NEW POSNS 22/8/42  
 NOT YET OCCUPIED



Strong Post to be manned by 1 Sec of Res PI.

RF 1:25,000

2/17 Bn Int' see  
 22/8/42



September

Appx D

Ro's

document

as mentioned



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS No 71

by

Brigadier W. J. V. WINDEYER, DSO. ED.

Cond 20 AUST INF BIE

11 Sep 42

In the field

1. GROUND TO GROUND RECOGNITION SIGNALS - MT

Our MT carry blue flags for use as recognition signals when challenged. If challenged, MT show a blue flag held horizontally or vertically as notified from time to time.

The flag will NOT be flown except when answering or anticipating a challenge.

2. RESTRICTIONS UPON MOVEMENT OUT OF ARMY AREA

All ranks are forbidden to proceed on or east of the CAIRO - ALEXANDRIA Road unless in possession of a duty pass issued by their unit.

3. FE 'MB VEHICLES - PASSING ON RDS

All MT drs. will be instructed to "make-way" for motor ambs at all times. It should be explained to drs that the ambs may be carrying wounded men who should be carried without delay and with the least possible discomfort to the next medical installation.

Vehicles meeting an Amb on a narrow rd should be driven well over to the side of the rd and if necessary should be driven off the rd and stopped until the amb has passed.

4. PUNISHMENTS BY COURT MARTIAL

The following punishments imposed by Courts Martial recently held in this area are published for information.

- (i) A private soldier convicted of stealing property belonging to person subject to military law £3 35 was sentenced to 120 days detention.
- (ii) A private soldier convicted of disobeying a lawful command was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment with hard labour and to be discharged with ignominy.
- (iii) A private soldier convicted of disobeying a lawful command was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment with hard labour and to be discharged.
- (iv) A lieutenant convicted of striking a soldier and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline (using obscene language to the soldier) was sentenced to be severely reprimanded and to lose 12 months seniority.
- (v) A private soldier convicted of one charge of desertion and two of AWL was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for 18 months and to be discharged.
- (vi) A private soldier convicted of three charges of AWL was sentenced to two years imprisonment with hard labour.
- (vii) A Staff Sergeant convicted of neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline (negligently leaving a military vehicle unattended in ALEXANDRIA) was sentenced to be severely reprimanded and to forfeit 28 days pay.
- (viii) A private soldier convicted of failing to appear at a

place of parade and disobeying a lawful command was sentenced to 90 days Field Punishment with forfeiture of pay for that period.

- (17) A private soldier convicted of two offences of disobeying a lawful command given by his superior officer, was sentenced to 60 days field punishment and to forfeit all ordinary pay for a period of 60 days.
- (18) A private soldier convicted of two offences of obtaining rations by false pretences and of an offence of fraudulently misapplying rations, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 23 months.

(To be repeated in unit orders)

5. FIELD CENSORSHIP - GREEN ENVELOPES

Attention is directed to the certificate on Green Envelopes, which the writer is required to sign, that the contents of the envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters. Reference to other matters, even though not otherwise censurable is not permitted.

6. FIELD CROUPING - ENTRIES IN PAYROLLS AND ON IDENTITY DISCS

Reference to Aust Div RO No 529 dated 11 Sep 42.

Nominal rolls are required to reach this HQ by 0900 hrs 15 Sep 42.

7. MOTOR VEHICLES - DISCIPLINE - CONTROL OF

Attention is drawn to 2 Aust Div RO No 528.

In all cases the written authority for any such journey will be signed by a Staff Officer of this Bde.

Units will be limited to sending one veh per fortnight to ALBANY for regimental purchases.

Distribution as per List A.

*Julius King*  
Capt  
30 RO ALBANY Bde

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDER NO 72.

by

Brigadier W.J.V. WINDYER, DSO, ED.

COMD 20 AUST INF BDE

19 Sep 42.

In the Field

1. AMN HOLDINGS

Attention is drawn to 9 Aust Div R.O. 542.

Units will render certificates to reach this HQ by 1000 hrs 22 Sep 42.

2. DISCIPLINE

(a) The C in C. has noted that when driving in a car his flag is not being saluted.

(b) All Unit Commanders will warn their men that cars flying the authorised flags on the bonnet must be saluted.

(c) The flags flown by various Commanders are laid down in Middle East G.O. 495 of 42, as amended by G.O. 757 of 42, and must be made known to all Ranks.

3. MT TRAFFIC

"All MT traffic moving to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn coy areas will turn off MAIN road at respective coy sign posts.

There is NO through traffic via TEL EL EISA sta."

There has been increased shelling in the TEL EL EISA sta area probably due to dust raised by MT traffic and for this reason it is desired to avoid all unnecessary movement.

4. TELEGRAPH LINES

Telegraph poles, insulators and telephone lines whether in use or not, will on no account be removed or converted to uses other than those for which they were designed. This order will be repeated in unit orders and all ranks impressed with the necessity for maintaining signal equipment intact at all times.

5. METC DEIR SUNEID

The railway station at which students for M.E.T.C. should detrain is DEIR SUNEID, where M.T. is provided to meet trains.

6. PAYBOOKS - LOSS OF

(a) Attention is directed to AIF (ME) Orders 503 and 376 and in particular to para (b) of 503 which states :-

"Cases of loss occasioned by the negligence or carelessness of the soldier are to be severely dealt with as breaches of military discipline".

(b) Information received indicates that thieving of paybooks by pick-pockets in CAIRO and ALEXANDRIA is still prevalent.

- (c) All ranks will be reminded that every soldier is responsible for the safe custody of his paybook, and that AIF (ME) Order 503(b) will be enforced in every case of loss of a paybook.

7. E.F.M. STANDARD TEXT

E.F.M. Standard Text No 141 reading :

"Sorry to tell you.....died" cannot be used by members of the AIF.

8. JERRICANS

Attention is drawn 9 Aust Div RO No 521. Any further Jerricans found will be returned to PPs.

9. POLICE DOGS

Police dogs are now operating in the Middle East for the purpose of guarding dumps etc. These dogs consist of armentis, boxers and alsatians.

All members of HM Forces and civilians employed by HM Government, are warned not to touch or interfere with these dogs for the following reasons :-

- (i) These dogs are in the charge of MILITARY POLICEMEN, and are trained to attack anyone other than their trainer.
- (ii) It will interfere with the training and usefulness of the dogs.

10. RATION SCALE - CAPTURED GERMAN PROTECTED PERSONNEL

No issue of tobacco, cigarettes or matches will be made to captured GERMAN protected personnel.

*J. Young* Capt.  
S.C. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION LIST "C"

NOTICES.

Advice has been received that mails posted in the Middle East between 8 Jul 1942 and 17 Jul 1942 were received in Melbourne on 1 Sep 1942.

WD  
HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.  
6 Sep 42.

Ref:

SECURITY - CONTROL OF ARABS.

Below are instns received from HQ EIGHTH Army regarding control of civilians :-

1. "The Egyptian Government has decreed that the line west of which Arabs will not be permitted to move will, in future, be the 49 easting grid.

The evacuation of Arabs now between 46 and 49 grids has commenced under order of the Western Desert LO. This evacuation which is being assisted by WD tpt was expected to be finished by 25 Aug 42. After the evacuation is completed, the only Arabs permitted to be west of the 49 grid will be certain Arabs exempted by the Western Desert LO, British Military Authorities and the Egyptian Authorities.

2. The object of the following security measures is to restrict the westward movements of Arabs, in order to prevent Arabs from reaching the enemy lines. Any movement of Arabs eastwards will not be restricted since Arabs coming from the direction of the enemy are likely to be in possession of valuable infm.

3. All Arabs who are permitted to remain west of the 49 grid line must be in possession of a pass to that effect. The issue of these passes will be the responsibility of the OC 263 FS Section. Every Arab should be in possession of an Egyptian Permit, which bears a photograph, and Arabs who cannot produce such a permit will not be issued with a pass. The penalty for being west of 49 grid without a pass will be 10 days imprisonment by the Egyptian Authorities."

4. All Arabs found in this area will be sent under escort to Bde HQ.

Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:

2/13 Aust Inf Bn.  
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.  
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.  
2/7 Aust Fd Regt.  
9 Aust A.Tk Bty.  
2/13 Aust Fd Coy.  
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.  
SC.  
TO.  
File.

20 AUST INF BDE TRG INSTN NO. 20.

MINELAYING AND MINELIFTING

1. The G.O.C. desires that all personnel throughout the Division be fully conversant with both British and enemy mines, so that they may in emergency be able to disarm and lift fields which they may unexpectedly meet when Sapper assistance is not available. It is required that each individual man be given at least four half-days of instructions during which period he will have been given the opportunity of actually disarming live mines.
2. 2/13 Aust Fd Coy RAE is to carry out this instruction within 20 Aust Inf Bde and Units are allotted to Sections as follows :-  

Coy HQ ..... HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde including Sig Sec, 58 L.A.D. and Pl 2/1 Gd Bn.

No 1 Sec..... 2/15 Bn, 7 Fd Regt including Sig Sec and 63 LAD.

No 2 Sec..... 2/13 Bn, 9 A/Tk Bty, B Coy and Pl A Coy 2 MG Bn.

No 3 Sec..... 2/17 Bn, 10 Lt AA Bty, HQ 4 Lt AA Regt including Sig Sec and Workshop Sec.
3. Each Sec will arrange direct with COs of units regarding times and places for instructions. In the case of Bde HQ. Lieut BURKITT will arrange with the Staff Captain.
4. Instructions will commence as soon as possible and will continue as the situation allows.
5. Each section should provide at least 12 competent instructors.
6. Proposed syllabus of training is attached.
7. Where practicable, the second period should be on the same day as the first period or on the next day and small units and HQ should make at least half their personnel available for instruction.

*Smilson* Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

- |                                       |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| 2/13 Aust Inf Bn                      | 1.     |
| 2/15 Aust Inf Bn                      | 2.     |
| 2/17 Aust Inf Bn                      | 3.     |
| J Sec Sigs                            | 4.     |
| 58 Aust LAD                           | 5.     |
| 1 Pl. 2/1 HQ Gd Bn                    | 6.     |
| 2/7 Fd R gt, Sig Sec, 63 LAD          | 7.     |
| 9 Aust A Tk Bty                       | 8.     |
| 10 Lt AA Bty                          | 9.     |
| HQ 4 Lt AA Regt, Sig sec, Wk/Shop Sec | 10.    |
| B coy and one Pl A Coy 2/2 MG Bn ...  | 11.    |
| Comd                                  | 12.    |
| S.C.                                  | 13.    |
| File                                  | 14.    |
| War Diary                             | 15/16. |

(2)

MINELAYING AND MINELIFTING  
SYLLABUS OF TRAINING  
FIRST HALF-DAY

1. EXPLOSIVES :- Low and high - Detonators - Flash Caps.
2. BRITISH MINES. (I) GS Mk 11 - (II) GS Mk IV - (III) GS Mk V.  
(IV) E.P. Mk 11 - (V) E.P. Mk V - (VI) Hawkins (No. 75 Grenade)
3. G.S. Mk 11. (1) Description and identification.  
(2) Packing and carrying.  
(iii) Safety precautions and testing.  
(iv) Arming.  
(v) Laying  
(vi) Disarming and lifting  
(vii) Squad practice.
4. GS Mk IV. As for GS Mk 11.
5. GS Mk V. As for GS Mk 11.
6. EP Mk 11. As for GS Mk 11.  
(NB. Arming and disarming of this mark will only be practiced with all gelignite removed).
7. EP Mk V As for GS Mk 11.

SECOND HALF DAY

3. MINEFIELDS. (Brief comment only)
  - (i) Planning- prevent passage or penetrations AFVs. Unit or formation plan NOT immediate protection, individual posts- Necessity cover by 3A fire and patrolling to prevent lifting.
  - (ii) Layout- Chess-board fashion- NOT side by side as impenetrable wall. Rather like barbed wire, plenty air gaps. Can see through them easily but not pass readily. Within limits, given same supply, greater the depth, better the obstacle, Normal maximum density, 1 mine per yd of front, in depth 50 yds to 100 yds. Estimated causes 90% casualties borne out by experience.
  - (iii) Patterns in minefields.
  - (iv) Necessary know where mines are laid.
    - (a) to avoid casualties to own vehicles.
    - (b) to facilitate subsequent removal.

Hence careful setting out to plan, marking of fields, preparation and forwarding of records.

  - (v) Marking of our own fields - by Dannert, DAF or cattle fence and tin triangles.
  - (vi) Signs of enemy fields (NOT infalliable)- Dannert, cattle fence, trip wire, furrows in ground, disturbed earth surface, tracks narrowing into gaps.
9. HAWKINS. (No 75 Grenade)
10. ENEMY MINES. At present British types (set first half day) most common, plus some french, Tellermine and Italian B2 may be encountered.
11. FRENCH
12. TELLER
13. B2
14. FURTHER PRACTICE - Disarming especially.

THIRD HALF-DAY

15. Recapitulation of mines already taught. Brief practice by squad.
16. BOOBY TRAPS. (i) Igniters (II) Trips and switches (iii) Italian B2  
(iv) S Mines.
17. Squad lays section of minefield with live mines.

FOURTH HALF-DAY

18. CLEARING MINEFIELDS AND MARKING GAPS.
  - (I) Various means locating mines. (ii) Disarming and removing.
  - (iii) Marking gaps, by day and by night. (iv) Outline Eighth Army Order.
19. Squad is exercised on clearing and marking gaps through live mine fields of unknown pattern. (e.g. laid by another squad) finally clearing field completely.

*W. Smith*GROUND PATROLS ETC

Notes on conference held at Bde HQ 1200 hrs 6 Sep 42, to discuss the best methods of maintaining pressure on the enemy in the present situation.

1. Posn at 1 Aug 42. The situation when this Bde came into the coastal sector was that the enemy was occupying hastily prepared posns, which he was busily engaged in extending and strengthening. Working parties were active each night all along the front, digging and wiring, and in many cases these working-parties were inadequately protected by covering dets.

2. In these conditions, the policy for offensive patrolling adopted was for fighting patrols of up to 15 men, after recce, to attack enemy working parties and hastily dug posts. The purpose being, to inflict casualties on the enemy, to maintain ascendancy over him by aggression, to hinder the preparation of his defensive line, and to take PW for identification and interrogation.

These patrols relied entirely on stealth and surprise, and sp fire of arty and MMGs was used solely for extrication.

3. The situation is now that the enemy is dug-in in strengthened localities usually protected by wire, and in some places by AP mines. He is noticeably more vigilant, maintains listening posts, and has recently begun to patrol himself. In the main, these enemy patrols seem to be intended as a counter to our own activity, they are sometimes strong in numbers (15/25) and well armed with automatics, and sometimes with 5 cm mortar. They have not been encountered closer than 2000 yards to our FDLs. On the other hand smaller enemy recce patrols have undoubtedly reached our wire on at least two occasions. Large scale raids attempted by the enemy on the night of the GERMAN move fwd in the south, were complete failures.

4. From the discussion. Points were decided at the conference :-

- (a) There is still scope for operations by heavily armed fighting patrols relying entirely on stealth and surprise, and using sp fire only for extrication. Such are being hampered in many places where wire, AP mines, and alert listening posts make surprise difficult to achieve.
- (b) It is still possible to engage the enemy posts from close outside his wire. This undoubtedly harasses him but in such fire fights, casualties are problematical, no PW can be taken, and less terror is inspired. Mortars would be effective but cannot be fired accurately at night, and their movement fwd is a difficulty.
- (c) In general, raids designed to penetrate organised enemy defended localities must in future be at a-bout one coy strength. Arty, MMG and mortar support should take the form of a hy concentration on the strong pt selected, lifting to flanking localities during the attack and to cover the withdrawal. Surprise would NOT necessarily be lost, as the enemy is used to arty harassing fire at night and usually remains in slit trenches to avoid the concentrations.



- (d) In such an op the probability of fairly considerable casualties must be accepted. This fact must in each case be weighed against results likely to be achieved; in these must be included not only the material damage actually inflicted on the enemy, but also the less tangible results, the morale ascendancy given by constant offensive ops on our part, and the effect on the enemy of perpetual insecurity. But costly raids especially if often repeated can have a damaging effect on our own morale unless the men taking part fully appreciate their value. Such raids should therefore only be done after consultation with Bde HQ.
- (e) The strong pts manned by ITALIANS should if possible, be located and chosen for attack. Not only is the fighting easier, but the flanks give less trouble, and it is thought important that the GERMANS should increasingly mistrust their allies and be compelled to take over greater sections of the line.
- (f) Counter Patrolling
- The present system of attempting to intercept or ambush enemy patrols by means of normal coy protective patrols fwd of our FDLs, ddep standing patrols at varying places to to 1500 yards out, and parties making sweeps of no mans land and lying up at intervals, should be continued. Interception has been rare so far, but the enemy's patrolling is meagre and irregular, and results might be achieved any night.
- (g) Carrier patrols with MMGs should operate in daylight on 2/17 Bn front now that Div Cav patrolling there has ceased.
- (h) The German method of assault detachments if of value for attacks on isolated strong posts but in the desert would have no special advantage over our methods against mutually supporting positions forming part of one continuous defensive line.
- (i) Arty harassing fire programmes should be flexible and arranged so as to support and assist patrol activities rather than an independent form of aggression. There should be no "no activity" nights. If possible arty harassing fire which can be seen to be falling off known enemy localities should be capable of correction by arty ops.

*R. J. Stone Capt*  
Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn  
2/15 Aust Inf Bn  
2/17 Aust Inf Bn  
2/7 Aust Fd Regt  
2/13 Aust Fd Coy  
9 Aust Div  
War Diary (2)  
File

20 AUST INF BDE ADM INST No 11

GENERAL

1. Paras 3(a)(i), 3(a)(ii) and 4 of 20 Aust Inf Bde Adm Order No 10 are cancelled.
2. Res for 20 Aust Inf Bde will be held, and surplus disposed of in accordance with the succeeding paras of this instn.
3. This instn does not alter res held for tps in FDLs. (vide 9 Aust Div Q112/2/31 of 6 Aug 42).

SCALE OF RES

4. Rations

(a) ALAMEIN Area.

3 days, held under Div control in dump 88802945.

5. Water

(b) ALAMEIN Area.

Sufficient res water is held in cisterne at ALAMEIN STA and no res will be held other than that which can be held in containers normally in possession of units.

6. POL

(a) 100 miles carried in all vehs.

7. AMN

(a) As already detailed, except that Fd Arty units will keep the equivalent to normal 1st line holdings dumped.

CENTRALISATION OF 3 DAYS RES

8. Rations

(a) All units will retain 2 days ration less biscuits, based on ration strength on 15 Sep 42.

(b) All res rations in excess of 2 days plus the biscuits of the 2 days rations being retained, will be taken by units to arrive at Div Dumps at 88802945 between 0700 hrs and 1200 hrs 16 Sep 42.

(c) Times for units will be allotted so that not more than six vehs are unloading or waiting to unload at any one time. Such times will be notified separately.

(d) Res rations from each unit will be checked into the dump by reps of the units concerned, Bde AASC Offr, and AASC on behalf of Div HQ. Any shortages between rations received and rations originally issued after those mentioned in para 8(a) above have been deducted, will be recorded. Issue and receipt vouchers signed by the abovementioned three reps will be completed and a copy retained by each rep.

9. Either a debit will be raised against units to cover the cost of rations previously issued and not returned, or such units will be short issued over a brief period until the deficiencies are made good. Decision on this matter will be promulgated when extent of shortages is known.

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS RES

10. Rations

(a) The 2 days rations retained by units will be consumed on 17 and 20 Sep. As the biscuits of these 2 days rations will have been returned, vide para 8(a) above, bread will be drawn in lieu from SPS at the normal times. NO rations other than bread will be issued on 16 and 19 Sep.

11. Water

(a) Surplus 44 gal drums and 2 gal containers will be disposed of as follows:-

- (i) 44 gal drums :- water may be used and drums will be returned empty to Salvage Depot HAMMAM by AASC. Units will notify this HQ as drums become available for return.
- (ii) Application may be made to this HQ for use of water at present held in Ede reserve (approx 5700 gals)
- (iii) 2 Gal containers will be returned to SPs when empty, and handed over to AASC.

(b) AASC will give receipts for drums and 2 gal containers.

(c) Return to AASC of ALL drums and containers put in for res must be completed by 21 Sep 42. This HQ will be advised on completion.

12. Ann

(a) Surplus Fd Arty ann will be expended until res are reduced to new scale.

Time of Signature 1/00...  
ACK.

*J. Young*  
..... Capt  
SC 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION

Copy No

2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
9 Bty 2/3 A Tk Regt	4
10 Bty 2/3 A Tk Regt	5
B Coy 2/2 MG Bn	6
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	7
2/13 Fd Coy	8
Comd	9
BM	10
SC	11
TO	12
Sup 0	13
RAA 9 Aust Div	14
10 Coy AASC	15
2/8 Fd Amb	16
File	17
War Diary	18 - 19
10 Bty 3 Lt AA Regt	20

11 Sep 42

20 AUST INF BDE ADM INSTN No 12

Copy No. 19.

RESERVES

## GENERAL

1. This instruction is not intended to cancel any orders already issued on the subject of reserves, but is intended to summarise such orders, and where necessary supplement them.

## RATIONS

2. Emergency ration

- (a) The emergency ration must be in the possession of the individual at all times, and must actually be carried on the man when there is any possibility of his being cut off from his normal source of food.
- (b) Frequent inspections will be made to ensure that the ration is held intact.
- (c) A certificate of inspection will be rendered weekly to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs Monday.
- (d) Indents for shortages will be resubmitted.

3. Vehicle Ration

- (a) Three days vehicle rations will be carried intact on all vehicles.
- (b) Three days vehicle ration for the marching personnel of units will be held in B Ech areas, and, in the event of a move, will be loaded onto Tp Carrying Tpt provided.
- (c) Certificate of inspection will be rendered weekly to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs Monday.

4. Post Rations

- (a) Authority 9 Aust Div Q112/2/31 of 6 Aug 42 rations for two days are held in posts by units of the Bde for tps in FDLs.
- (b) This ration will be battle scale.
- (c) Rations will be securely boxed, and inspected at regular intervals.
- (d) A certificate of inspection will be rendered weekly to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs Monday.
- (e) Rations will be listed on the inventory of post stores and will be handed over on relief.
- (f) These rations are intended only for use in emergency, and if the normal system of supply breaks down. Any unit leaving the area will arrange through this HQ to return rations to a central dump.

## WATER

5. (a) The following reserves of water are held in the Bde area.
  - (1) One gal per man for tps in FDLs (see para 4(a)).
- (b) All water will be regularly inspected and water in 2 gal containers should be turned over three times per week.

## P. O. L.

6. (a) Full tanks will be maintained in all vehs.
- (b) In addition a reserve of 100 miles per veh will be held.

- (c) An additional reserve of 1000 gals of petrol, with a proportion of oil or lubricants, is held at Rear Bde HQ (ref 8805030045) for use in emergency.
- (d) Reserves will be maintained at full scale, leakers being used and replaced through normal channels.

AMN

- 7. (a) Reserve amn for Fd Regt, AA and A Tk will be dumped under regtl arrangements.
- (b) Res amn for inf bns and MG Coy, and including A Tk pls of inf bns, is held under Bde control at 8806530035.
- (c) This reserve is intended for use in extreme emergency, and will only be released on the orders of a Staff Officer.

ACK.

Time of signature. 1200

*J. J. ...*  
 ..... Capt  
 SC 20 Aust Bde

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No</u>
2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	4
9 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt	5
10 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt	6
10 Bty 4 Aust Lt AA Regt	7
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	8
2/13 Fd Coy RAE	9
Comd	10
BM	11
SC	12
TO	13
Sup O	141
Maj COPELAND	15
10 Coy AASC	16
2/8 Aust Fd Amb	17
File	18
WAR DIARY	19-20

September Duplicate



Appx A Field Return



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

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

80 Aust Inf Bde. Unit.

Date of Despatch 5 Sep 49.

80 Aust Inf Bde.

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

Signature of Commander.

*Swain*



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 ANST INF BDE (Unit.) For Week Ending 5 Sep 42.

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

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*	1		
	Brigadier			
	Lieut.-Colonels ...			
	Majors... ..	1		
	Captains ... ..	6		
	Lieutenants ... ..	4		
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	TOTALS ... ..	18		

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

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

**Officers JOINED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	I. P. CARALON	A.I.F.	30.8.42	Attached for duty with J. Sec 9 Anst Div Sigs.

**Officers QUITTED during week.**

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

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

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

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S. Army No.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1	NX	396	Brig.	W. J. V. WINDYER	AIF	Yes		Cond.
2								
3	NX	328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	"	"		B.M.
4								
5	NX	375	Capt.	T. W. YOUNG	"	"		S.C.
6								
7	OX	6200	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	"		L.O.
8								
9	NX	35094	Capt.	J. H. ELLIOTT	"	"		BASCO
10								
11	VX	15146	Capt.	H. M. HAMILTON	"	"		S.C. Learner
12								
13	VX	13528	T/Capt.	R. J. HAMER	"	"		B.M. Learner
14								
15	NX	15590	T/Capt.	M. V. PICKERING	"	"		T.O.
16								
17	OX	8571	Lieut.	G. A. GEMMEL-SMITH	"	"		L.O.
18								
19	NX	28145	Lieut.	T. C. SHELDON	"	"		L.O.
20								
21	NX	29407	Lieut.	G. F. J. HOLTSBAUM	"	"		Amenities Offr.
22								
23	NX	13863	Lieut.	P. B. MARTIN	"	"		L.O.
24								
25				OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.				
26							<u>Date of attachment.</u>	
27								
28	NX	57320	Capt.	E. C. LECKY	AIF		6.9.41	OC J Sec Sigs
29	VX	39645	Lieut.	L. E. CARALON	"		30.8.42	Att J Sec Sigs.
30								
31	NX	18932	Capt.	A. I. MORRISBY	"		11.1.42	OC 58 LAD.
32	NX	13029	Lieut.	H. J. WINSLOW	"		21.1.42	OC 1 Pl 2/1 Aust HQ Gd Bn.
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
OX 12188	Chap.	A. J. ROBJOHNS	AAGhd	19.11.41 to 2/13	Bn for duty.
OX 6591	Chap.	G. R. GIBSON	"	21.11.41 to 2/15	" "
VX 47864	Chap.	W. L. BYRNE	"	21.4.42 to 2/17	" "

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

5 Sep. 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

*T. W. Young* Capt.  
(Signature of Commander.)

SG 20 Aust Inf Bde.

9 Aust Div.

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

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

12 Sep

1942

(Unit) (Date)

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

**Part A. Strength. Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	2		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants.			
Staff Serjeants.	1		
Serjeants.	5	2	
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals.	5		
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	54	1	3
Totals.	68	* 3	* 3

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

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

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
Cpl Havercroft, G.	1 Aust Corps Int	Dr. Rowlandson, L.P.	10 Coy AASC.
L/Cpl John, K.H.	do	Cpl. Cullen, R.F.	2/4 Fd Hygiene Sec.
Sjt. Newton, P.R.S.	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	Pte. Rule, L.	do
Pte. McGregor, J.	do	58 Aust L.A.D.	15 ORS.
Pte. Smith, H.	do	J Sec 9 Div Sigs	41 ORS.
Pte. Kierce, A. B.	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	1 Pl 2/1 Aust HQ Gd Bn.	32 ORS.
Pte. Kennedy, J.	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	9 Div Postal Unit	4 ORS.
Pte. Bohannon, A.	do.	9 Div Pro Coy	16 ORS.

**Part C. Description of Other Ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.**

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks. (e.g. present whereabouts if known).
NX 14609	Cpl.	Bown, H. C.	AIF	7 A.G.H. 4 Aust Con Depot
NX 45887	L/Cpl.	Kelman, J. R.	AIF	7 A.G.H.

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

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

H. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Unit.

Date of Despatch..... 12 Sep 42

*J. J. J.*  
Signature of Commander.  
80 20 Agust Inf Bde. 80 Aust Div.  
Bde., Divn., Area, etc., with which unit is serving.

# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE (Unit.) For Week Ending 12 Sep 42.

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

War Establishment:	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Brigadier *			
	Lieut.-Colonels ...			1
	Majors... ..	1		
	Captains ... ..	6		
	Lieutenants ... ..	3		1
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	TOTALS ... ..	10		2

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

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

### Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

### Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Brig.	W. J. V. WINDAYER	AIF	12.9.42	Evacuated to 2/8 Aust Fd Amb - Jaundice.
Lieut.	P. B. MARTIN	AIF	9.9.42	Evacuated to 2/8 Aust Fd Amb - Fractured Tibia & Fibula left leg.

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

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

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	
		Army No.	Rank.						
1									
2									
3	NY	328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	AIF	Yes		BM	
4									
5	NY	575	Capt.	T. H. YOUNG	"	"		SC	
6									
7	NY	6201	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	"		LO	
8									
9	NY	35094	Capt.	J. H. ELICOTT	"	"		BA500	
10									
11	VX	15148	Capt.	H. H. HAMILTON	"	"		SC Learner	
12									
13	VX	13528	T/Capt.	R. J. HANER	"	"		BM Learner	
14									
15	NY	15590	T/Capt.	H. V. PIGNARINO	"	"		TO	
16									
17	OX	8571	Lieut.	G. A. GEMMELL-SMITH	"	"		TO	
18									
19	NY	28145	Lieut.	T. G. SHELDON	"	"		LO	
20									
21	NY	29407	Lieut.	G. F. J. HOLTORIAN	"	"		Amenities offr.	
22									
23									
24									
25				<u>OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.</u>					
26	NY	57360	Capt.	D. G. DECKY	AIF		Date of Attachment.		
27	VX	33645	Lieut.	I. P. GARALON	"		6.9.41	OC J Sec Sigs	
28	NY	18032	Capt.	A. J. MORRISBY	"		30.3.42	Att J Sec "	
29	NY	13022	Lieut.	H. J. WINSLOW	"		11.1.42	OC 58 LAD.	
30							21.1.42	OC 1 PI 2/1	
31								Aust HQ Gd Bn	
32									
33									
34									

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
OX 18288	Chap.	A. J. ROBJOHNS	AACHD	19.11.41	to 2/13 Bn for
OX 6891	Chap.	G. R. GIBSON	"	21.11.41	to 2/15 Bn duty.
VX 47864	Chap.	W. L. BYRNE	"	21. 4. 42	to 2/17 Bn "

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

12 Sep 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

*T. H. Young*

(Signature of Commandant)

SC 20 Aust Inf Bde.

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

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.

B2 20 Aust Inf Bde (Unit) 19 Sep 1942 (Date)

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

Part A. Strength. Surplus or Reinforcements required.

Table with 4 columns: 1. Detail, 2. Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached), 3. Surplus to Establishment, 4. Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments). Rows include W.Os. Class I-III, Staff Serjeants, Serjeants, Buglers, Trumpeters, etc., Corporals, Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc., and Totals.

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

Part B. Other Ranks attached from other Corps.

Table with 4 columns: Detail, Unit and Corps to which they belong, Detail, Unit and Corps to which they belong. Lists individuals like Cpl Havercroft, L/Cpl John, Sgt Newton, Pte. McGregor, Pte. Smith, Pte. Hilder, Pte. Bayley, Pte. Kierce, Pte. Kennedy, Pte. Bohannon with their respective units.

Part C. Description of Other Ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.

Table with 5 columns: Army No., Rank, Name and Initials, Corps, Remarks (e.g. present whereabouts if known). Includes entry for Army No. 14600, Rank Cpl., Name BO N, H., Remarks 4 Aust Coy Repot.

Unit.

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

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

Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch 19 Sep 45.

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



# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE.

(Unit.) For Week Ending 19 Sep 42.

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

War Establishment.	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	*			1
	Brigadier			
	Lieut.-Colonels ...			
	Majors... ..	1		
	Captains ... ..	6		
	Lieutenants ... ..	3		1
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	TOTALS ... ..	10		2

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

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

### Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lt-Col.	R. H. H. TURNER	AIF	12.9.42	Adm Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde. Attached for duty from 2/13 Aust Inf Bn.
Lieut.	D. W. B. MAUGHAN	"	12.9.42	Attached for duty from 2/13 Aust Inf Bn.

Lieut. W. F. FRAWLEY 15.9.42. Attached for duty as 2 i/c J Sec Sigs.

### Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	I. F. CARALON	AIF	15.9.42	Ceased to be attached to J Sec 9 Div Sigs.

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

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

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank. Army No.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held. Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
1								
2	NX	328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	AIF	Yes		B.V.
3								
4	NX	375	Capt.	T. W. YOUNG	"	"		B.V.
5								
6	NX	6200	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	"		L.O.
7								
8	NX	35094	Capt.	J. H. ELLIOTT	"	"		BASCO.
9								
10	VX	15146	Capt.	H. H. HAMILTON	"	"		SG Learner.
11								
12	VX	13528	T/Capt.	R. J. HAWER	"	"		BN Learner.
13								
14	NX	15590	T/Capt.	M. V. PICKERING	"	"		FO.
15								
16	NX	8571	Lieut.	G. A. GEMMELL-SMITH	"	"		IO.
17								
18	NX	28145	Lieut.	T. C. SHILDON	"	"		IO.
19								
20	NX	29407	Lieut.	B. F. J. HOLTSBAUM	"	"		Specialist Offr.
21								
22								
23				<u>OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.</u>				
24								
25	NX	12813	Lt-Col.	R. W. H. TURNER	AIF	12.9.42		Adj Genl.
26	NX	21195	Lieut.	D. W. B. MAUGHAN	"	12.9.42		IO.
27	NX	57320	Capt.	K. C. LUCKY	"	6.9.41		SG J Sec Sigs
28	NX	39645	Lieut.	L. E. PARSONS	"	10.2.42		SG J Sec
29	NX	18932	Capt.	A. I. MORRISBY	"	11.1.42		SG 58 IAD.
30	NX	13029	Lieut.	H. J. WINDLOR	"	21.1.42		SG 1 Pl 2/1 Asst HQ Qd Bn
31								
32	VX	38133	Lieut.	W. F. FRAWLEY	"	15.9.42		2 i/c J Sec 9 Div Sigs.
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
NX 12188	Chap.	A. J. ROBINSON	AACbD	19.11.42 to 2/13 Bn	for duty.
NX 6391	Chap.	G. B. GIBSON	"	21.11.42 to 2/15 Bn	"
VX 47864	Chap.	W. L. BYRNE	"	21. 6. 42 to 2/17 Bn	"

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

19 Sep 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

*W. Young*  
Capt.  
(Signature of Commander.)

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

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

**FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS.**

*No 20 Aust Inf Bde* (Unit). *26 Sep* 194*2* (Date)

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

**Part A. Strength. Surplus or Reinforcements required.**

1 Detail.	2 Posted strength counting against authorized establishment (excluding attached).	3 Surplus to Establishment.	4 Reinforcements required (i.e. deficits on establishments).
W.Os. Class I.	1		
W.Os. Class II.	2		
W.Os. Class III.			
Squadron or Company Quartermaster-Serjeants OR Colour-Serjeants.			
Staff Serjeants.	1		
Serjeants.	5	2	
Buglers, Trumpeters, etc.			
Corporals.	5	1	1
Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, etc.	55	1	2
Totals.	69	* 4	* 3

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

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

Detail.	Unit and Corps to which they belong.	Detail	Unit and Corps to which they belong.
<i>Col. Raycroft,</i>	<i>2/1 Aust Corps</i>	<i>Col. Croft,</i>	<i>10 Coy</i>
<i>1/Cpl. John,</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>Cpl. Culen,</i>	<i>2/4 RA Hygiene Sec.</i>
<i>Sgt. Beaton,</i>	<i>2/3 Aust Inf</i>	<i>55 Aust</i>	<i>15 Cpls.</i>
<i>Pte. Smith, H.</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>J Sec 9 Div</i>	<i>41 Cpls.</i>
<i>Pte. Miller,</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>1/1 2/1 Aust</i>	<i>32 Cpls.</i>
<i>Pte. Bayley,</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>9 Div Postal Unit</i>	<i>4 Cpls.</i>
<i>Pte. Kennedy, J.</i>	<i>2/17 Aust Inf</i>	<i>9 Div Pro Coy.</i>	<i>15 Cpls.</i>
<i>Pte. Robinson,</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>PIE Cronin, C. J.</i>	<i>2/8 Aust Fd Amb</i>

**Part C. Description of Other Ranks whose return to the unit is particularly requested.**

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks. (e.g. present whereabouts if known).

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

DETAIL OF SPECIALISTS, TRADESMEN, Etc.	SURPLUS TO ESTABLISHMENT.									REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.							REMARKS.			
	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	R.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Staff-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.	Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.	W.Os. Class I.	W.Os. Class II.	W.Os. Class III.	S.Q.M.S.; C.Q.M.S., or Colour-Serjeants.	Serjeants.	Buglers, Trumpeters, &c.		Corporals.	Troopers, Privates, Guardsmen, Fusiliers, &c.	TOTAL.
Bricklayers...																				
Butchers ...																				
Carpenters and Joiners																				
Clerks ...						1	1	2												
Cooks ...																				
Despatch Riders ...																				
Drivers I.C. (Tracked) ...																				
"    " (Wheeled)...																				
Driver-Mechanics...																		1	1	
Driver-Operators...																				
Electricians..																				
Equipment Repairers																				
Farriers ...																				
Fitters ...																				
Machine Gunners																				
Masons ...																				
Motor Mechanics...																				
Pioneers, Infantry (other than tradesmen)																				
Plumbers and Pipefitters																				
Range Takers ...																				
Saddlers&HarnessMakers																				
Saddle Tree Makers ...																				
Sanitary & Water Duties.																				
Signallers ...																				
Storemen technical																				
Tailors ...																				
Wheelers ...																				
1400 - Ammunition																			1	1
1400 - Medical																				
Orderly																			1	1
W.P.						1		1												
General duty personnel..								1	1											
TOTALS (to agree with Columns 3 & 4 of Part A)						2		1	1	4										

Unit.

Signature of Commander.

Date of Despatch

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

# FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS.

HQ 20 AUST INF BDE

(Unit.) For Week Ending 26 Sep 42.

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

War Establishment:	1	2	3	4
	Ranks.	Posted strength counting against authorised establishment (excluding attached).	Surplus to Establishment.	Reinforcements required (i.e., deficits on establishment).
	*			
	*			
	*			
	Brigadier *			1
	Lieut.-Colonels ...			
	Majors... ..	1		
	Captains ... ..	6		
	Lieutenants ... ..	3		1
	2nd Lieutenants ... ..			
	Quartermasters ... ..			
	District Officers ... ..			
	TOTALS ... ..	10		2

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

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

### Officers JOINED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.

### Officers QUITTED during week.

Rank.	Name.	Corps.	Date.	Cause.
Lieut.	W. F. FRAWLEY	AIF. (J Rec 9 Div Sigs).	23.9.42	Evacuated to 2/11 M.D.S.

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

Rank.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Remarks (e.g., present whereabouts, if known).
Brig.	W. J. V. WINDEYER	AIF	6 A.G.H.

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	M. or S.	Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Whether present with Unit (Insert Yes or No).	Date Joined Unit.	If not present with Unit, state how employed.
	Army No.	Rank.						
1								
2	IX	328	T/Maj.	B. V. WILSON	AIF	Yes		D.N.
3								
4	IX	375	Capt.	T. W. YOUNG	"	"		I.O.
5								
6	IX	6200	Capt.	B. WILLIAMS	"	No.		Detached for duty to RAF.
7								
8	IX	55094	Capt.	J. H. ELLIOTT	"	Yes		MASCO.
9								
10	IX	15146	Capt.	H. H. HAMILTON	"	"		SG Learner.
11								
12	IX	13523	T/Capt.	R. J. HAWER	"	"		M Learner.
13								
14	IX	15590	T/Capt.	M. V. PICKERING	"	"		I.O.
15								
16	IX	3571	Lieut.	G. A. GEMMELL-SMITH	"	"		I.O.
17								
18	IX	23145	Lieut.	T. C. SHELDON	"	"		I.O.
19								
20	IX	29407	Lieut.	G. P. J. HOLTSBAUM	"	"		Amenities Offr
21								
22				OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR DUTY.				
23						Date of Attachment.		
24								
25	IX	12313	Lt-Col.	R. H. H. TURNER	AIF		12.9.42	Adm Comd.
26	IX	21195	Lieut.	D. H. B. MAUGHAN	"		12.9.42	I.O.
27	IX	57320	Capt.	E. G. LECKY	"		6.9.41	OO J See Sigs
28	IX	18932	Capt.	A. I. MORRISBY	"		11.1.42	OO 58 LAD.
29	IX	13029	Lieut.	H. J. WINNICOX	"		21.1.42	OO 1 Pl 2/1 Aust HQ Gd Bn.
30								
31								
32								
33								
34								

(ii) OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER CORPS.

Substantive Rank.	Higher acting or temporary rank, if held.	Name and Initials.	Corps.	Date of attachment.	Nature of attachment.
IX 12128	Chap.	A. J. BOBJOHNS	AACHD	19.11.41	to 2/13 Bn for
IX 6391	Chap.	G. B. GIBSON	"	21.11.41	to 2/15 Bnduty.
IX 47364	Chap.	H. L. BYRNE	"	21.12.42	to 2/17 Bn "

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.

(Unit.)

26 Sep 42.

(Date of Despatch.)

*T. W. Young* Capt.

(Signature of Commander.)

SG 20 Aust Inf Bde. 9 Aust Div.

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

September

Duplicates

Appx C1



THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
MUSEUM  
153-155, CANBERRA

MEMORIAL PATROLS

The following is a list of patrol programs to be held for the period 1st to 30th September.

DATE	PROGRAM	LOCATION	TIME
1	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	Patrols
2	"	"	"
3	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
4	"	"	"
5	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	Patrols
6	"	"	"
7	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
8	"	"	"
9	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	Patrols
10	"	"	"
11	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
12	"	"	"
13	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	Patrols
14	"	"	"
15	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
16	"	"	"
17	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	Patrols
18	"	"	"
19	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
20	"	"	"
21	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
22	"	"	"
23	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
24	"	"	"
25	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
26	"	"	"
27	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
28	"	"	"
29	Patrols	at 1000 hrs	at 1000 hrs
30	"	"	"

Patrols at 1000 hrs of the day.

*[Handwritten signature]*

G 16/5/506

SECRETHQ 20 Aust Inf Bde  
16 Sep 42.2/13 Aust Inf Bn  
2/15 Aust Inf Bn  
2/17 Aust Inf Bn  
Comd.  
War Diary.HF AND PATROL PROGRAMME

The following HF and patrol programme is issued for the period 16. - 30 Sep 42 :-

DATE	SECTOR 'A'	SECTOR 'B'	SECTOR 'C'
SEP 16	Patrols	HF	Patrols
17	HF	Patrols	Patrols
18	Patrols	As arranged by and ordered by Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde	As arranged and ordered by Comd 24 Aust Inf Bde
19	Patrols	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols	Patrols
20	HF	HF	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols
21	Patrols	Patrols	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols
22	HF	HF to 2400 hrs then patrols	HF
23	HF	HF	No activity
24	Patrols	HF	Patrols
25	Patrols	Patrols	HF
26	HF	Patrols	HF
27	HF	No activity &	Patrols
28	No activity &	HF	Patrols
29	Patrols	Patrols	HF
30	HF	Patrols	HF

&amp; : At discretion of Bde Comd.

*Bulson* Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.



Ref Map EL H.M.P.M. 1:100,000.

SECRET  
COPY NO. 25  
21 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE O.O. No 20.

W.D.

INFORMATION

1. As per Intelligence Summaries.

2. Additional Tps

The following tps come under Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde in locality "A":

12 Aust Tk Bty  
'B' Coy (less one pl) 2/2 MG Bn

INTENTION

3. 20 Aust Inf Bde will be relieved by 26 Aust Inf Bde during nights 22/23 Sep and 23/24 Sep. and will move into DIV Res in locality "A".

METHOD

4. General

The relief will be carried out during the hours of darkness and will be completed by 0500 hrs 24 Sep.

On relief, units of 20 Aust Inf Bde will move to areas in locality "A" occupied by relieving units.

5. Adv Parties

(a) Adv parties, consisting of reps down to one per sec, will be sent by units of 26 Aust Inf Bde reporting on the night prior to the relief.

(b) Reps down to one per pl of units 20 Aust Inf Bde will report on night prior to relief to relieving units in locality "A".

6. Allotment of Units

(a) 2/13 Bn will be relieved by 2/23 Bn during night 22/23 Sep.

(b) 2/17 Bn will be relieved by 2/24 Bn during night 22/23.

(c) 2/15 Bn will be relieved by 2/48 Bn during night 23/24 Sep.

7. Routes

(a) 2/13 Bn Beach tr to rd junc 88032973 thence main rd to new area.

(b) 2/15 Bn Main rd to new area.

(c) 2/17 Bn Tr from present location to Main rd at 87912983, thence to new area

8. Timings

(a) 2/17 Bn coln will clear rd junc 88032973 by 0100 hrs 23 Sep.

(2)

- (b) 2/13 Bn coln will NOT pass track and rd junc 880329 3 before 0130 hrs 23 Sep.

9. Protective Patrols

- (a) 2/13 and 2/15 Bns will be responsible for patrolling during the night of relief, personnel of incoming units. Accompanying patrols.
- (b) Rear parties will be left if required by relieving units.

10. Comd.

Comd passes at 1300 hrs 23 Sep.

11. AMM

- (a) Full G 1098 scale will be carried by all units.
- (b) All amm surplus to G 1098 will remain in posts and will be taken over by 26 Bde.
- (c) Locality reserves will be taken over on arrival in new area. Inventory of amm taken over will be kept and a copy sent to this HQ.

12. Reserves

- (a) 2 days reserve rations and water in FDLs as authorised by 9 Aust Div 112/2/31 of 6 Aug 42 will be handed over to incoming units and receipts obtained.
- (b) 3 day veh rations will be maintained intact.
- (c) One pl 2/17 Aust Inf Bn will move to new area with adv party and will be responsible for initial take over, and subsequent guarding of locality reserves of sups and water. Lists will be prepared and fwded to this HQ as soon as possible. Pl to report to SC 26 Aust Inf Bde.

13. Weapons

- (a) Spigot mortars and amm holdings will be left in posts and handed over to 26 Bde.
- (b) All Breda 6.5 mm weapons and amm will be handed over to 26 Bde.
- (c) All remaining weapons including 31mm mortars will be taken by units to new area.

14. Post Stores

- (a) An inventory of post stores and surplus amm will be prepared by adv parties and fwded to this HQ.
- (b) Receipts will be given for all stores taken over.

15. Engineer Stores

- (a) Mines held in Bn B Ech areas will be taken to new area.
- (b) G 1098 scale of picks and shovels together with such reserves as authorised, will be carried by Bns.

(3)

16. Tp Carrying Tpt

20 vehs per Bn from 101  
Gen Tpt Coy will be used by 26 Bde to carry tps fwd. This  
tpt will be available to units of 20 Bde on rearward journey.

17. Hygiene

- (a) All latrine seats will be left in positions.
- (b) Units will make suitable sanitary arrangements on arrival in new area.

18. Traffic

- (a) Sec 9 Aust Div Pro Coy will be responsible for general traffic direction on the move.
- (b) TPs will be established at :

rd junc 88032973  
main rd gap west locality "A"

19. Sups POL Water

Instns will be signalled later.

20. A.P. Will be notified by signal

21. Medical Will be advised.

22. Intercomm

Location of HQ

- (a) Main HQ closes present location at 1300 hrs 23 Sep opening same time at 43329020.
- (b) Tac HQ closes present location on completion of relief.
- (c) Rear closes present location 1600 hrs 23 Sep re-opening same time at 43329020.

Existing Lines

- (a) These will be left in and taken over by 26 Aust Inf Bde.
- (b) Existing lines in locality "A" will be taken over by 20 Aust Inf Bde.
- (c) Telephones and switchboards taken over by 20 Aust Inf Bde will remain in situ.
- (d) Post store signal equipment issued by 9 Aust Div will be handed over to 26 Aust Inf Bde and receipts obtained.

ACKNOWLEDGE

Signed at 1735 hrs

Issued through Sigs.

*H. Milson* Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

COPY NO

2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
J Sec Sigs 9 Aust Div	4
1 Pl A Coy MG Gd Fl	5
58 Aust L.A.D.	6
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	7
9 Aust A Tk Bty	8
2/13 Aust Fd Coy	9
'E' Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	10
2/8 Aust Fd Amb	11
10 Coy ASC	12
9 Aust Div	13
26 Aust Inf Bde	14
24 Aust Inf Bde	15
101 Gen Tpt Coy	16
12 Coy ASC	17
Comd	18
S.C.	19
Bde T.O.	20
Sup O.	21
Spare	22/23
File	24
War Diary	25/26.

20 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO. 24

Ref Mal EL ALAMEIN 1:50,000.

1. ALL previous instns relating to Def fire tasks are cancelled.
2. Def Fire tasks will be fired in accordance with the task table (Appx "A"), in which have been consolidated tasks which are at present operative plus some additional tasks. Those tasks prefixed by the letter "B" are tasks on 24 Aust Inf Bde sector.
3. Trace showing Def Fire tasks is attached - Appx "B".
4. Rates of fire :-

S O S Tasks                      5 mins Rapid

5 mins Slow

DEF Fire other than SOS Tasks

5 mins Normal

5. SOS tasks in 20 Aust Inf Bde area will be called for by light signals and substantiated by L/T to HQ 2/7 Aust Fd Regt. Fd Regts will assist each other on Def Fire tasks; requests for assistance will be made direct. ALL calls for DF to be answered by 7 Med Regt RA will be made through HQ 2/7 Aust Fd Regt.

*B. M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.* Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No.</u>
2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	4 ✓
War Diary	5/6

Serial	Target No	Map ref Centre of area or Ends of lines	dg of longer axis	size of area (yds)	size of other Than SOS	To be fired by Tps	2/7	2/8	2/12	7	Appx "A" 20 M Inf Bde OP INF	Remarks - Sign
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k		
1	DF A1	8746 3020	50°	40 x 140	SOS	C						GREEN - WHITE - GREEN
2	DF A2	8745 3015	20°	40 x 140	SOS	D						
3	DF A3	8747 3012	360°	40 x 140	SOS	E						
4	DF A4	8745 3009	340°	40 x 140								<del>GREEN - WHITE - GREEN</del>
5	DF A5	87430 30045	360°	40 x 140	SOS	F						WHITE - RED - GREEN
6	DF A6	87420 29975	360°	40 x 140	SOS	A						GREEN - GREEN - GREEN
7	DF A7	Cancelled										
8	DF A8	8750 2981	360°	40 x 140								<del>GREEN - GREEN - RED</del>
9	DF A9	8750 2976	360°	40 x 140	SOS	B						GREEN - GREEN - RED
10	DF A10	8750 2970	360°	40 x 140								
11	DF A 11	87495 30495	40°	400 x 150								
12	DF A12	87395 30440	360°	400 x 200								
13	DF A13	87240 30360	45°	400 x 200								
14	DF A14	87315 30295	360°	400 x 200								
15	DF A15	87195 30320	45°	500 x 200								
16	DF A16	87340 30200	45°	450 x 200								
17	DF A17	87295 29975	30°	400 x 200								
18	DF A18	87395 29795	60°	400 x 200								
19	DF A19	87225 29695	300°	300 x 200								Cancelled
20	DF A20	87360 29640	360°	500 x 200								
21	DF A21	8755 2984	315°	400 x 150	SOS					2 Tps		GREEN - GREEN - RED

Serial	Target No	Map Ref Centre of area or ends of lines	Bg of longer Axis	Size of area (yds)	SOS or other than SOS	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks	Signals
						2/7	2/8	2/12	7 Med		
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	
22	DF B1	Cancelled									
23	DF B2	874920 296590 874690 296310		Line							
24	DF B3	874500 296010 874500 295090		do							
25	DF B4	874630 294620 874770 294190		do							
26	DF B5	874970 293510 875110 293280		do							
27	DF B6	875380 292970 875510 292730		do							
28	DF B7	876050 292170 876200 292070		do							
29	DF B8										
30	DF B9										
31	DF B10										
32	DF B11										
33	DF B12										
34	DF B13										
35	DF B14										
36	DF B15										
37	DF B16	Cancelled									
38	DF B17										
39	DF B18										
40	DF B19										
41	DF B20										
42	DF B21										
43	DF B22										

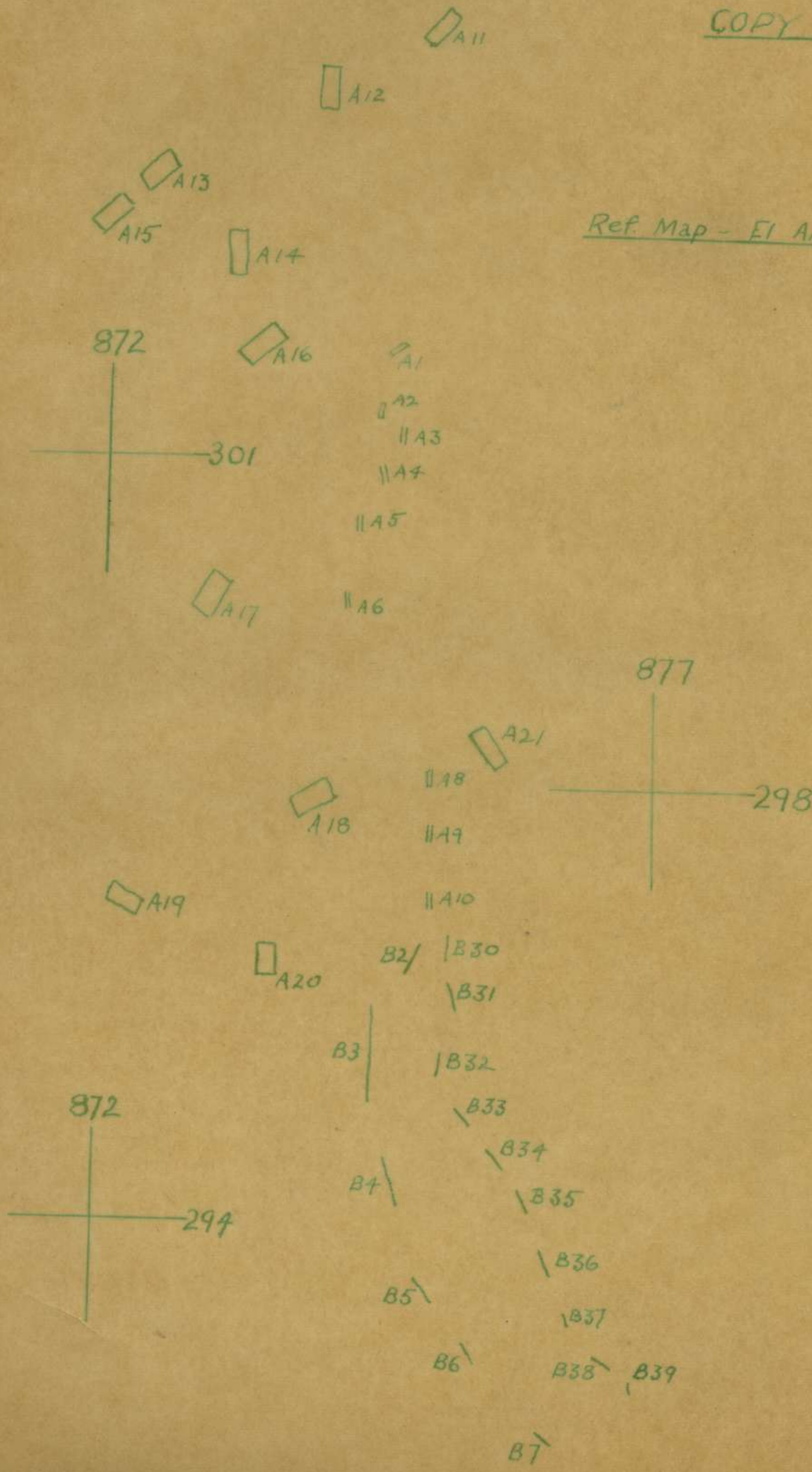
Serial No	Target No	Map ref Centre of Area or Ends of lines	lg of longer Axis	Size of area (yds)	SOS or Other than SOS	To be fired by Tps of				Remarks - Signals
						2/7	2/8	2/12	Med	
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k
44	DF B23									
45	DF B24									
46	DF B25									
47	DF B26	Reserved								
48	DF B27									
49	DF B28									
50	DF B29									
51	DF B30		875180 296680 875170 296410		Line	SOS		1		
52	DF B31	875200 296250 875260 295970		do	SOS		1			"
53	DF B32	875130 295600 875110 295330		do	SOS		1			"
54	DF B33	875260 295100 875410 294920		do	SOS		1			"
55	DF B34	875570 294720 875740 294510		do	SOS			1		"
56	DF B35	875840 294390 875970 294140		do	SOS			1		"
57	DF B36	876080 293800 876170 293550		do	SOS			1		"
58	DF B37	876265 293230 876325 293070		do	SOS			1		"
59	DF B38	876520 292820 876675 292745		do	SOS		1			"
60	DF B39	876845 292695 876890 292515		do	SOS		1			"



SECRET

COPY N° 5

Ref. Map - El Alamein 1/50,000



Map  
drawing

SECRET  
COPY No 20  
24 Sep 42

20 AUST INF BDE OP INSTN NO 22.

Ref Maps EL AL MEIN )  
EL MASABA ) 1:50,000

INFM

1. Enemy  
Latest details of enemy disposns are set out in Int Summaries. The enemy appears to be on the defensive temporarily in order to regroup and reorganise his striking force. His object is still the conquest of EGYPT.
2. The enemy may again attempt an outflanking movement to the south, or a direct break through of 9 Aust Div posns. In conjunction with other ops, or independently, the enemy may attack Locality 'A':
  - (a) by large or small raids, by commandos or other tps, along the coast line.
  - (b) by air-borne tps.
3. 9 Aust Div is to defend the present FDLs at all costs.
4. Tps under comd :-
  - 12 Aust A Tk Bty
  - B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn (less one pl)
5. Tps in support :-
  - 2/13 Aust Fd Coy
  - 12 Coy ASC.
  - 1 Pl 101 Gen Tpt Coy
  - 2/11 Aust Fd Amb.

INTENTION.

6. 20 Aust Inf Bde Gp will :-
  - (a) defend Locality 'A' against attack by land, sea-borne, or air-borne forces.
  - (b) be prepared to counter attack on front of 24 or 26 Aust Inf Bde.

METHOD.

7. Defence against Air-borne attack
  - (a) Edgerea of responsibility - excl minefd  
42509037 - 33302893 - 43208970 - 44668970 -  
44559047
  - (b) Unit areas of responsibility - as per att  
trace Appx 'A'
  - (c) Air Combat Force
    - (1) Each Bn will organise and train a mob air combat force to deal with attack by air-borne tps in Bde area.

(2)

- (ii) Strength - 1 rifle coy, plus carriers, mortars MFGs.
- (iii) Role - to deal immediately with any attack in the Bn area, or if ordered, to act elsewhere in the Bde area.

(d) All units will establish OPs sited to give observation of the whole unit area. On receipt of warning of possible attack by air-borne tps, these OPs will be manned.

(e) At all times air sentries on the scale of one per pl will be detailed and will maintain a continuous watching service.

8. Defence against Sea-borne attack

(a) Areas of responsibility :

2/17 Aust Inf Bn - From incl western FDLs to incl 433 easting grid.

1 Pl MG Gd Bn - From excl 433 easting to excl 4335 easting grid.

2/13 Aust Fd Coy - from incl 4335 easting to incl 4345 easting grid.

2/13 Aust Inf Bn - from excl 4345 easting to incl eastern FDLs.

(b) Units will prepare schemes for the beach defence of the sectors allotted above.

(c) Units will institute within their sectors :-

(i) coast watching and listening posts by day and night.

(ii) beach patrols by night from 2000-0630 hrs and will make mutual arrangements for beach patrols to make contact on sector bndys at hourly intervals during the night.

9. Defence of Locality "A" against ground attack.

(a) Fwd Tps - right 2/17 Aust Inf Bn - West TELL EL SHUMMA area.  
- left 2/15 Aust Inf Bn - EL QASABA EL SH ROYA area.

(b) Res - 2/13 Aust Inf Bn - east TELL EL SHUMMA area

(c) Units will review existing defences, and the MG and A Tk layout, and fwd to this HQ any recommendations for their improvement.

(d) Units will report as soon as possible on the state of development of the defences.

(e) Recce

2/13 Aust Inf Bn will make recce for possible counter-attack in 2/15 and 2/17 Aust Inf Bn areas.

2/17 Aust Inf Bn will make recce for possible counter-attack in 2/15 and 2/13 Aust Inf Bn areas.

10. Bde Counter-attack Role

Arrangements will be made by this HQ for recce of 24 Aust Inf Bde front for a possible counter-attack to restore FDLs in that area.

AJM.

11. Tp Carrying Tpt  
 12 Coy ASC and 1 pl 101 Gen Tpt Coy are available for tp carrying.
12. Sups  
 (a) Sup P at 43589017 between 1600 hrs and 1700 hrs daily (except for 12 coy ASC and 1 pl 101 Gen Tpt Coy)  
 (b) 3 days veh rations will be maintained on vehs.  
 (c) 3 day veh rations for marching personnel of bns will be kept readily available for loading onto tp carrying tpt.  
 (d) Locality reserve for use in extreme emergency is held under Bde arrangements and consists of 3 days rations for 5000.
13. POL  
 (a) PP at 43569019 between 1600 hrs and 1700 hrs daily.  
 (b) Petrol tankers will supply Bde HQ, three Bns and 2/7 Fd Regt in unit lines.  
 (c) All tanks will be kept filled and an additional 100 miles per veh will be maintained.  
 (d) Bde reserve of 1000 galls is held for use in emergency.
14. AMN  
 (a) APs is established at 43559017 (excluding 25 pr amn)  
 (b) G1093 scale plus reserves, as authorised by 9 Aust Div Adm Instn No 90 Appx "A" distributed to Bns.  
 (c) 320 rounds 2 pr A Tk are held under Bde control.
15. Water  
 (a) WP is established at EL IMAYID sta.  
 (b) 10 000 gals are held in 44 gal drums in Bde res.
16. Medical  
 (a) 11 Aust Fd Amb MDS is established at 43329021.  
 (b) Lt Sec 11 Fd Amb is in support of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn and is established at 43378987.
17. PW  
 20 Aust Inf Bde will clear to Corps cage at 470909.
18. Hygiene  
 Particular attention will be paid to hygiene within the area. Reps from 2/4 Aust Fd Hygiene Sec are available for consultation and will carry out regular inspections.
19. Rec  
 58 Aust L.A.D. is established at 43369021.

INTERCOMIN

- 20. Beach Alarm - light sig RED-RED-RED. 2/13 and 2/17 Aust Inf Bns will arrange within their areas a system of 2 in mortar illuminating flares to be fired when beach alarm is given.
- 21 Air alarm - OPs will be provided with W/T sets, supplemented where possible b L/T.

*R. H. Hanger Capt*  
for Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

ACK

Signed at 14 30 hrs

DISTRIBUTION

COPY NO.

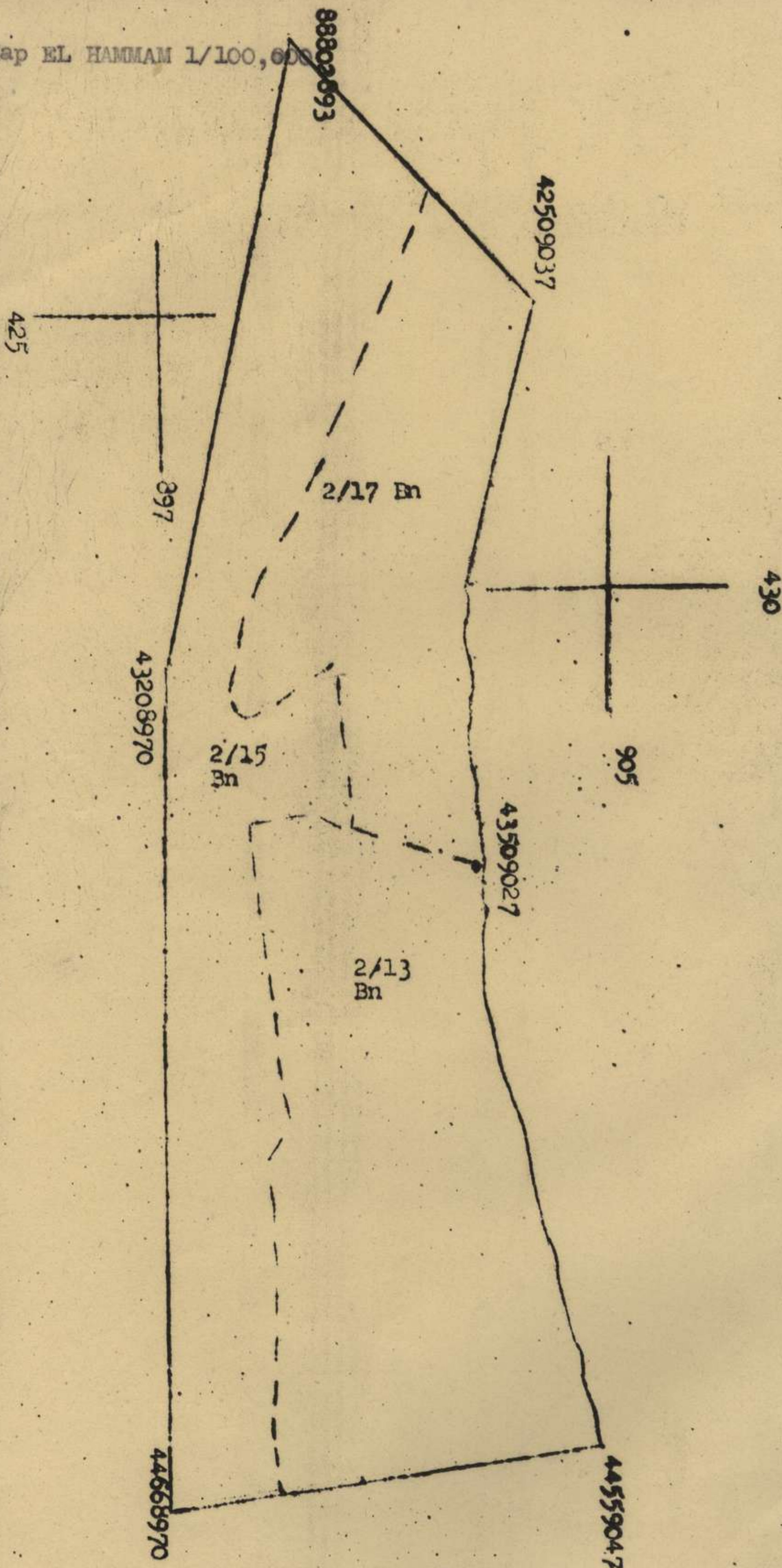
2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
1 pl Aust HQ Gd Bn	4
12 Aust A Tk Bty	5
2/13 Aust Fd Coy	6
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	7
12 Coy ASC	8
2/11 Aust Fd Amb	9
9 Aust Div	10
Comd	11
B.M.	12
S.C.	13
I.O.	14
T.O.	15
L.Os	16/18
BASCO	19
War Diary	20/21
File	22/23.

Unit areas of responsibility for  
Anti Paratro defence.

SECRET

APPX "A" to  
20 Aust Inf Bde Op Instrn  
No 22

Ref Map EL HAMMAM 1/100,000





20 AUST INF BDE TRG INSTN NO. 21.

1. Priority in trg will be given to the study and practice of the attack and exploitation.
2. The attack will be studied with and without tks and will include the following phases :-
  - (a) Capture of posns to cover (b)
  - (b) Recce and lifting of enemy minefields incl minefields with booby traps.
  - (c) Capture of enemy posns with and without tks.
  - (d) Rapid re-organisation.
  - (e) Mopping up.
  - (f) Exploitation using bn sp weapons and observed arty sp.
3. Exploitation will be studied with and without tks and will include :-
  - (a) Capture of additional areas to secure the posn gained.
  - (b) The location, lifting, and marking gaps in enemy interior minefields.
  - (c) Rapid re-organisation incl an organised A. Tk defence to front and/or flanks.
  - (d) Digging in
4. Physical Condition :-

Special methods must be taken to keep tps in the line hard- usually there is much digging to be done but very little marching. For this reason every opportunity possible will be taken to give tps exercise by marching.
5. Co-operation with Tks :-

For exercises involving co-operation with tks either C Sqn 40 RIR or a portion of the Div Cav can be made available. One regt 23 Armd Bde is moving into the div area for trg.

In all exercises involving the use of tks co-operation by RAA and RAE will be arranged by Bde HQ.
6. The trg area for bn and larger exercises which was available previously has been occupied. Recce by HQ 9 Aust Div for another area is proceeding.
7. Infm in battle :-

To enable a comd to exercise comd and employ his reserves to the greatest advantage two things are essential, infm from the fwd tps, and the rapid passing of this infm through sigs. Without good sig comms and unless fwd comds keep the higher comd fully informed of the progress of the battle, assistance which might have been provided may not be available. The passing of infm requires practice during exercises both by fwd units and sigs.



8. Speed of Action :-

To forestall the enemy speed into action is essential. Speed can be attained by :

- (a) Anticipation;
- (b) Quick thinking and rapid planning,
- (c) Rapid and accurate comms,
- (d) A battle drill familiar to all.

9. Offrs trg to replace casualties :-

The next in line must take comd in the event of a senior offr becoming a casualty. For this reason every offr should be capable of carrying out the duties of a rank higher than his own. Trg is necessary to practice and fit offr for the added responsibilities.

Replacements for comds will be nominated prior to the battle and must have full knowledge of the plan of action.

10. An enemy will be employed in all exercise where their employment will be of advantage.

11. Recognition - Ground to Air :

The current recognition signal is the letter "D" flashed to the aircraft by Aldis lamp, and GREEN smoke candles lit in succession to attract attention. This lamp signal and/or smoke signal is used to attract attention from the air :-

- (a) To the V ground strip put down by Bns to assist in the location of targets.
- (b) To identify our own tpt should they be accidentally attacked by our own aircraft.

*B. M. 20* Maj.

Distribution

Copy No.

B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

- 2/13 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/15 Aust Inf Bn
- 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.
- Comd
- S.C.
- War Diary
- File

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 8/9.



September

Duplicate

Appx C3

20 AUGUST 1918 GP- LOCATION STATEMENT  
at 0600 hrs 27 Sep 12.

20 AUGUST 1918 CASABA 1: 50,000.

UNIT, DIST. LOCATION.

"A" THE UNDER COMD.

1	20, 20 Aust Inf Bn.	43329020.
2	20 Sea Sig 9 Aust Div.	do.
3	1st "A" Coy HQ 20 Bn.	do.
4	10 Aust LAD.	43379020.
5	11 Aust A Td Coy.	43329020. 43329025
6	2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	43329015.
7	2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	43329020.
8	2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	43329018.
9	"B" Coy 2/2 Aust HQ Bn-less one pl.	43329025.
10	Det 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.	43329018.
11	Det 9 Aust Div Postal Unit.	43329021.

"B" THE HQ Bn.

12	2/13 Aust HQ Coy.	43329021.
13	12 Coy HQ.	43329020.
14	2/11 Aust HQ Amb.	43329024.
15	2 Sea Sig 2/2 Aust A HQ Workshop.	43329024.
16	"C" Det 9 Aust HQ HQ Coy.	do.

*H. J. Major Capt*  
20 AUGUST 1918

DESCRIPTION	COPY NO.		
2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	1.	Comd.	11
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	2.	Inf.	12
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	3.	SC.	13
11 Aust A Td Coy.	4.	Inf.	14
2/13 Aust HQ Coy.	5.	SC.	15
"B" Coy 2/2 Aust HQ Bn.	6.	INFO.	16
12 Coy HQ.	7.	LOG.	17-19
2/11 Aust HQ Amb.	8.	War Diary.	20-21
10 Aust LAD.	9.	File.	22-23
9 Aust Div.	10.		

I.12/21/223. .

SECRET.  
COPY NO. 20

20 AUST INF BDE GP- LOCATION STATEMENT  
as at 0600 hrs 25 Sep 42.

Ref Map: EL CASABA 1: 50,000.

Serial. Unit. Location.

"A" Tps Under Comd.

- |     |                                     |                    |
|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.  | HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde.                | 43329020.          |
| 2.  | "J" Sec Sigs 9 Aust Div.            | do.                |
| 3.  | 1 Pl "A" Coy HQ Gd Bn.              | do.                |
| 4.  | 58 Aust LAD.                        | 43379020.          |
| 5.  | 12 Aust A Tk Bty.                   | 43389024. 43439025 |
| 6.  | 2/13 Aust Inf Bn.                   | 43569018.          |
| 7.  | 2/15 Aust Inf Bn.                   | 43318986.          |
| 8.  | 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.                   | 43239018.          |
| 9.  | "B" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn-less one pl. | 43309025.          |
| 10. | Det 9 Aust Div Pro Coy.             | 43329018.          |
| 11. | Det 9 Aust Div Postal Unit.         | 43329021.          |

"B" Tps in Sp.

- |     |                                 |           |
|-----|---------------------------------|-----------|
| 12. | 2/13 Aust Fd Coy.               | 43519023. |
| 13. | 12 Coy AASC.                    | 43849020. |
| 14. | 2/11 Aust Fd Amb.               | 43339024. |
| 15. | 2 Res Sec 2/1 Aust A Fd Wkshop. | 45769064. |
| 16. | "J" Div Sec 1 Aust Ord Fd Pk.   | do.       |

*R. J. Nanger Capt*  
*for Maj.*  
EM, 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION :

	<u>Copy No.</u>	
2/13 Aust Inf Bn.	1.	Comd.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.	2.	EM.
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	3.	SC.
12 Aust A Tk Bty.	4.	IO.
2/13 Aust Fd Coy.	5.	TO.
"B" Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.	6.	BASCO.
12 Coy AASC.	7.	LOS.
2/11 Aust Fd Amb.	8.	War Diary.
58 Aust LAD.	9.	File.
9 Aust Div.	10.	
		11.
		12.
		13.
		14.
		15.
		16.
		17- 19.
		20- 21. ✓
		22- 23.



Septembers

Duplicates

Appx C 4

WD

I.19/32/194.

SECRET.  
Copy No. \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.43.

Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 2 Sep 1942.

1. GENERAL:

An attack by a strong raiding force, to the immediate north of West Pt 23,, met with considerable initial success. The enemy posn was in considerable depth; the penetration extended for about 1000 yds and enemy resistance was continued. Our tps fought with great determination and tenacity but encountered severe mortar, arty and SA fire from three sides. Our hold of the ground was judged insufficiently firm and the penetration not deep enough to commit the exploiting force, which was in readiness, to pass through. The raiding force was withdrawn under a smokescreen commencing at 0900 hrs. PWs captured were 1 Offr and 107 ORs, incl 6 wounded. The inf of the raiding force estimated to have killed more than 100 enemy. Very many others were killed by shell fire. EA were active during the day, there being two bombing raids. The night was unusually quiet. From West Pt 23 to the north there were frequent enemy flares. The only enemy working party seen or heard was in vicinity sq 873301. Automatic fire was exchanged with our patrol. S type A/P mines with pull igniter were discovered at 87273018.

2. ENEMY DISPOSNS AND IDENTIFICATIONS:

- (a) PWs captured were identified as from 3 Coy I Bn 382 IR and 11 Coy III Bn 382 IR. It would thus appear that the inter Bn bdy is in the vicinity of West Pt 23 872296.
- (b) One of the men who returned during night 1/2 Sep states definitely that he heard both ITALIAN and GERMAN voices when the enemy re-occupied.
- (c) A captured trace (undated) to be overlaid on 1:100,000 and signed by a Sjt of 6/IR 382 shows :-
  - (i) What appears to be a minefd running from 87062972 -  
87192977 - 87242970 - 87002940 - 86992938 - 87172919 -  
87272928 - 87352930 - 87382932 - 87442926 - 87342900.
  - (ii) An arrow pointing from 87192976 to an area marked C 8750-2976.
  - (iii) What appear to be four coy areas as follows -  
C 87502976.  
D 87592971.  
B 87672966.  
A 87662954.
  - (iv) Four areas (possibly coys) unnumbered as follows :-  
87252956  
87242943  
87332935  
87502922

3. ENEMY METHODS:

- (a) In addition to the minefd on the enemy wire in vicinity West Pt 23 there was at least one fd very well concealed and NOT marked outside the wire, and also an interior fd likewise concealed and NOT marked.

3. ENEMY METHODS (Contd):

(b) Enemy posns were sited in depth. PW stated that his coy had two coys fwd with the reserve coy 5 kilos behind.

4. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS.

Wire: 87283017 - single dannert.  
87273018 - single dannert with single barbed wire on long pickets neck high.

Mines: 87273018 - S type A/P with trip wire igniter system; mines 10 yds apart. Fine trip wire attached to short pickets midway between mines.  
87293012 - scattered minefd (those discovered were disarmed).

Gun Pit: 87263020 - newly dug emplacement - 18' diameter - camouflaged with fresh bushes; 5 slit trenches in vicinity.

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) PWs captured vicinity West Pt 23 state they had been on a patrol to our wire on night 31 Aug/1 Sep to investigate the reason for the extreme quiet. They were resting prior to making their report when our raid was put in.

(b) During late afternoon small gps enemy were seen moving amongst tks and vehs abandoned in West Pt 23 area.

(c) Considerable movement of men was observed in strongpost area 87453070 at 1700 hrs.

(d) Enemy was reported to be working at 87182975 (1730 hrs).

(e) MT movement was quiet all day on the SKYLINE TRACK until the usual increase about 1800 hrs.

(f) Arty:

Many hostile btys were identified during the intense <sup>enemy</sup>arty activity caused by our raid. The majority of these HBS were located in the central sector and could not be included in the Neutralisation Programme in the time available. On completion of the Programme nine bombardments were carried out by our meds up to 0800 hrs. From 0800 to 1018 hrs fewer shelling reports were received but at 1018 hrs activity broke out afresh and continued until 1530 hrs. Two further HBS were bombarded and the gp of HBS in 866298 were neutralised (CB Int Report 41). The shelling on our FDLs was on a reduced scale, about 115 rds falling.

6. AIR OPS:

Enemy air activity was on an increased scale. Two bombing raids occurred on area 877297. The first was at 1135 hrs by 8 ME109 and second at 1400 hrs by 3 ME109.  
1345 hrs - 6 ME109 at 500ft flying west breaking away from a dogfight.  
1355 hrs - 3 ME109 at 1000 ft flying west.

Our bombers are continuing to attack enemy concentrations of MT and tks to the south.

NOTE:- ITALIAN aircraft reported as crashed 31 Aug was directly hit three times by the Lt Pl of right fwd bn. Identification - CR42.

7. OWN GROUND OPS:

- (a) The zero hr for the raiding force was 0535, the arty concentrations falling at 0550 hrs. The initial contact surprised the enemy and our fwd tps attacked the first enemy posts immediately the arty lifted. During close contact fighting by casualties were inflicted. Over 100 PWs were quickly rounded up. The only enemy DF fire encountered was from mortars and was NOT heavy. Some army tks in sp passed through the gap at 0645 hrs. Exploitation by the inf continued for about 1000 yds before being held up. All objectives in the original plan were reached. Movement of the sp tks was restricted due to the concealed minefds. 7 tks were put out of action by minefds or shells, one tk was burnt out. By 0730 hrs the enemy fire was hy and increasing in intensity. Difficulty was experienced in bringing fwd our MT due to the concealed mines and difficulty in finding the gaps already made, the visibility being very limited due to smoke and dust. At 0750 it appeared as if a counter-attack was forming up from the SW. This was shelled and did NOT develop. The withdrawal was effected behind a smokescreen. The enemy continued to shell the ground for some time after our withdrawal. The first sign of re-occupation by the enemy was reported by an arty OP at 1125 hrs when parties were seen picking up wounded.
- (b) Patrols went to areas 87273018, 87282983, 87362976, 87523037 and sq 874301. Apart from a working party seen in last area and a subsequent exchange of fire with one of our patrols the night was quiet.
- (c) Arty: Our arty or mortar fire hit an enemy dump on Pt 25 (873302) and caused a loud explosion. An extensive fire programme was fired in conjunction with the raiding force. There was harassing fire on the coastal sector during the night.

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

DISTRIBUTION : AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.

W D

SECRET.

I.19/32/195.

Copy No. 22  
3 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.44.

Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 3 Sep 1942.

1. GENERAL:

Another quiet period during the night; no enemy were seen fwd of their FDLs.

Shelling against the CUTTING area was heavier than usual.

In the south our offensive air activity continues, directed mainly at MT.

There was little ground activity in the south during yesterday.

Latest reports indicate a slight westerly move by the GERMAN 15 Armd Div.

2. ENEMY METHODS:

Two stragglers from the raiding force of 1 Sep report having seen mines or boobytraps which looked like our ST grenade, att by string to bushes. They were sure that these objects were NOT ST grenades although they had that appearance.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:

(a) A.Tk Guns:

The following have been placed by air photographs :-

BG 87163020 - 3.8.42.

GM 87213020 - 14.8.42.

FU 87043015 - 23.7.42.

FT 87043009 - 14.8.42.

GN 87043002 - 14.8.42.

trench system extending 200 yds N & S of these co-ords.

QZ 86522952 - 26.8.42.

(b) Wire:

87312968 - single dannert running at 347° and 190°.

87283027 - single dannert with cattle fence 30 yds NW.

(c) Mines:

87282984 - several sangars surrounded by small fd of TELLER mines.

87423039 - marked by a furrow running NE-SW.

(d) Diggings:

87302968 - parallel to wire at 87312968, line of round pits nearby newly dug trench system spitlocked for extension.

87373012 - about 25 shallow pits recent construction.

(e) Guns:

86703012 - 4 Fd (?) engaged by arty.

86943054 - 2 Fd (?) engaged by arty.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

1400 hrs - seven enemy moved to vicinity 87282984 with a box like object. They withdrew on the approach of own patrol. No sign of the box could be seen.

Arty: Enemy shelling was heavier than usual and concentrated mainly on East Pt 24 and CUTTING areas. A total of 214 shells fell in this area - 41 shells fell in TELL EL EISA sta area.

HB "RM" registered the tarmac rd in sqs 879298 and 880297.



4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

HBs believed active :-

- KF 36993032 - 4 Fd.
- RM 36933055 - ?
- DJ 87513061 - 1/AA.
- RN 86643019 - ?
- LZ 36703078 - 2/149/28
- NL 86673026 - 3 Hy.

5. AIR OPS:

EA were active throughout the day, but little interest was shown in the Bde area. All EA seen appeared to be returning to their LGs from the battle area. The increased enemy air activity started with early fighter sweeps to AMIRIYA and southern sector followed by six STUKA raids and ME109 and MG202 patrols in battle area. At 1530 hrs on 2 Sep an intercept by our fighters claimed 6 JU87 destroyed, 1 JU87 probable, 11 JU87 damaged, also 2 ME109 damaged. Our bombers night 2/3 report having attacked best target ever in east end RAGIL and about 426873. 0805 hrs 3 Sep our bombers attacked 500 MET area 428865 and 0824 hrs MET between 430871 and 426867 were attacked.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

During HF tasks on Sector B cries could be heard from area 8709-2937 by one of our patrols.

HF tasks were fired from 2300 to 0300 :-

- 87193018.
- 87092987 to 87092985.
- 87192974 to 87212972.

Each target received 40 rds in short bursts at irregular intervals.

(b) Patrols:

(i) A deep patrol struck dannert wire at 87283027 with a cattle fence 30 yds further. Numerous voices indicated a number of enemy. An enemy sentry observed the patrol and withdrew into the post. Fire from Brens and TSMGs was directed onto the post and replied to by two spandaux. The patrol withdrew 100 yds and then returned.

(ii) Another patrol left a standing patrol of 1 Sjt and 6 with a phone in diggings at 87543038. The main patrol then investigated enemy minefd at 87423039. The patrol then laid up for an hour NMS or H. The standing patrol is remaining in area 87543038.

(iii) A recce patrol went to area 87443026 to gain knowledge of the ground. Sounds of a picket being driven in were heard followed immediately by an explosion; then absolute quiet.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Maj.

BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION: AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.

I.19/32/196.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.45.Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 4 Sep 1942.1. GENERAL:

Hy shelling was continued on East Pt 24 and CUTTING areas.

The movements of our patrols were hampered by enemy A/P minefds.

On the southern flank the enemy has withdrawn and his main concentration is now east of grid 430 and south of grid 870. The movement is in a westerly then a NW direction and is being covered by an A.Tk screen.

2. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS AND DISPOSNS:

Interrogation reports of PWS captured on night 30/31 Aug are at Appx "A".

3. ENEMY EQUIPMENT:

The following are brief details of ITALIAN 90/53 multi-purpose gun :-

MV 2755 f.p.s.  
Max horizontal range - 19000 yds.  
Max vertical range - 39,400 ft.  
Weight of shell - 22.2 lbs.  
(from C.B. Int Report No.42.)

4. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:(a) General:

At Appx "B" find report from an OP at 87383007 on the southern side of ridge from Trig 33 to 87243032.

(b) Strongpost: 87203017 - by double apron fence.

(c) Digging: 87122988 - 6 men engaged by arty whilst digging.

(d) OP: 87243027 - engaged by arty.

(e) Mines: French mine with trip wires and booby traps from 87243017 generally west and curving to the south at approx 87173022 from this pt (approx) fd consisted of EP mines. Gap vicinity 87143020.

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:(a) Arty:(1) General Note:

A list of characteristics and dimensions of enemy shells is being prepared, using fragments and duds received, and will shortly be issued to Regts. Further fragments of shells are required, particularly the following - GERMAN 105 MM Gun Med; 75mm Inf Gun. ITALIAN 77/28mm Gun; 105/28mm Gun. Frequently fragments sent to the C.B.O. stating time of arrival and area shelled have helped in the identification of the HB active and confirmation of the calibre. (from CB Int Report No.43).

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(a) Arty (Contd):

(ii) HBs believed active on Edo front :-

- PX 86613037 - 3/-/- night posn.
- LW 87373063 - 3 -/inf/75.
- PC 86953012 - 2/Fd or Inf.
- BJ 86813014 - 3/Fd.

(iii) The shelling between 1700 hrs and 1900 hrs was very heavy, 327 shells on area West Pt 24 and CUTTING. These consisted of 25 pr and 75mm. General area 87552973 was also shelled heavier than usual with 81 shells.

(b) Inf:

(i) During night 2/3 Sep a listening post at approx 8762-3022 heard sounds of movement; after challenging bursts of TSMG were fired. A patrol was about to be sent out from the Pl when a complaint was received from the coy on the left (NE corner sq 876301) that their ration party had been fired on. It was thought that the original sounds had been caused by this party. Subsequently a patrol at 87443026 heard sounds of a man groaning and obviously in pain moving across their rear. A carrier patrol during daylight found a cap and 3 mauser rifles with a big pool of blood to the south of the L.P.

(ii) At 0300 hrs an enemy patrol of approx 8 men halted one of our protection patrols, in GERMAN, near West Pt 24. Our patrol opened up with TSMG and three rifles. The TSMG jammed after one burst with separated case. The enemy replied with two spandaus and subsequently with a mortar; our patrol withdrew. A stronger patrol which went out immediately could find no trace of the enemy.

6. AIR OPS:

- 1240 hrs - 2 ME109 dropped 3 bombs at 87723001; no damage.
- 2230 hrs - Unidentified plane crashed well out into the sea in flames.

Our bombers yesterday maintained their shuttle service in the south concentrating on enemy MP. Some excellent targets were reported. Most targets were located in sqs 880250 and 420860.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

Harassing fire tasks between 1300 - 1530 hrs were a repetition of the arty fire tasks during "BULIMBA" :-

- 87212971.
- 87132973.
- 87122986.
- 87092991.

HF was also brought down on 87183020; 87443047; 87363045.

.....3.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Patrols:

- (i) A fighting patrol crossed enemy single dannert at 8728-3016, then single dannert with neck high trip wire and S type AP mines (previously reported) at 87253018. The patrol then ran along a previously unlocated fd of FRENCH mines with trip wires and A/P (? booby traps) mines. A gap was found approx 87143020. 50 yds further another single dannert and still another at 150 yds were crossed. At 250 yds a hy double apron fence was met 87203017. Whilst looking for a gap flares were fired. Being obviously under observation and finding no gap, the patrol withdrew by same route.
- (ii) A patrol investigated sangars and a large cave in area 87282924. NMS.
- (iii) A patrol struck B4 AP minefd at 87463043 (previously reported at 87483045). Sappers were of the opinion that it would take 2 hrs to clear a gap. A working party 75 yds in rear was fired on. An ambush was set with two men sniping as decoys. There was no enemy reaction.
- (iv) A fighting patrol to the PALMS area missed the previously reced landmark so returned. This patrol is to be repeated.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
for Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION : AS FOR " I " SUMMARY NO.9.

PWs were captured with 3 others at 375 2964 night of 28/29 Jul 42.

They had been laying mines and had lost their way. An Unteroffizier who was with them escaped.

All PWs had only been in AFRICA since the beginning of July having come from CRETA. Since arrival they had been engaged in laying mines mostly English, in the area between the sea and the pt where captured. One PW an Austrian anti German was extremely forthcoming and was interrogated in conjunction with Lt CA PBELL IO to CRE. The following information is based mostly on his statements.

Strength of Coy 100 - 120.

OC Coy Lieut ENDLER (now in hospital sick)

A/OC Coy 2nd Lieut WELINGER.

As far as PWs were aware 1 and 2 coys have not yet arrived in AFRICA, one referred to EN HQ as in AFRICA. OC 2 coy Lieut LAURNER. Several PWs had been recently transferred from 2 to 3 coy. Coy posn was given as between main rd and ry not far from ruined village and Mosque on slightly raised ground. PWs had had trg but no previous experience in mine laying. They were instructed in the use of English mines shortly after arrival in AFRICA by a 2nd Lieut SCHUMANN. Since about 8 Jul approx 2,000 German T - mines and 3,000 English Egyptian mines (Pk 4 Pk 3 and EP) have been laid. These mines had not been lifted elsewhere but came packed in boxes probably from TOBRUK. On the night of capture the party had laid some 50 - 60 mines in irregular formation.

Mines are now being laid in two ways :-

(a) In regular formation (for details of method of laying see Technical Report by Lieut CAMPBELL). These minefields are laid laterally and are marked by wire. They normally contain 500 - 600 mines.

(b) In irregular formation (Streueinsatz). These minefields are laid irregularly along compass bearings taken from maps in the regular minefields and contain about 100 mines. They are not marked by wire but are laid so that anyone in possession of the plan can negotiate them successfully by means of compass bearings.

These irregular minefields may be as far as 2,000 metres in front of the regular marked minefields. They are generally laid in staggered gaps.

The quality of all PWs intellectually was very low and morale about equally low. Nearly all made no attempt to maintain security but in most cases knew very little. A number of them had previously been in Labour Coy.

There is stated to be a bty of 12 Italian guns about 4 kilos to the north of the Coy posn. It is rumoured that the 4.3 Inf Bgt has arrived in AFRICA but none of the PWs had seen any men from it.

INTERROGATION REPORT

PREVIOUS - L/Cpl (Gefr) Ludwig JUNG, of 1 Sec, 1 Pl, Coy, 1 Bn 125 Inf Regt - P.P. No. 26183 B. 21 years old, has served with same Regt since 1940. Insecure, friendly, but very slow thinking and involved in statements. Arrived in Africa in July but was sick with mild dysentery for a fortnight this month and returned from DABA three days ago.

CAPTURE - PW was with a party of 25 men (drawn from 1 and 2 Pls) under Cpl HARBACH - acting 1 Pl Comd - which set off at about 0200 hrs on 31 Aug 42 to raid our lines and obtain PW for identification. Three saps from 220 Reg Bn were provided to make a lane through our wire. The party passed through the gap at about 0300 hrs and came under fire, which caused the party to scatter. PW found a slit trench, in which he remained in the hope of being able to get back to his lines the following night. His discomfort and the obvious vigilance on our side made him decide to surrender at about 1 00 hrs in area 75501.

UNIT - It is confirmed that the heavy armament of 4 Coy has been so divided as to make all four coys of 1 Bn equal in armament. At the same time, pls were exchanged between coys and PW was actually in 1 Coy as a machine-gunner until the change over took place. His old P.P. No was 26183 B and is now 26183 A.

PERSONALITIES - Lieut KATH was O.C. Coy when the Regt came out. When he was taken sick, 2/Lt WUNDER, 1/3 1 Pl, took over the Coy temporarily. When PW returned from DABA, he found that 2/Lt HARBACH was posted and a new Lieut was O.C. Coy. Another new Lieut was to take over 1 Pl in place of Cpl HARBACH. The remaining Pls were comd by Sgts, names not identified.

DISPOSITIONS - PW states that the positions occupied by his Coy are the same both night and day; there are no P.L.s which are occupied by night. Listening posts are put out ahead at night and some patrol firing is carried out. On the night of his return from DABA, PW was called on to go out on patrol with twelve men; their objective was to observe enemy movements and positions only and they returned without being intercepted. He thinks that this patrol provided the necessary info for the raid of the night 30/31 Aug 42 but feels that the recon was not thorough enough.

He believes that there are only two coys between the main rd and the ry, one on his left flank in the rear which has so far not been in action. He has seen men moving in the day time and estimates a coy strength. He has heard the fire of another post fwd on his left flank behind a rise and believes it to be a coy of 111 Bn on the other side of the main rd.

All tps must remain under cover all day and he has not been over either the main rd to the left or the ry to the right.

WATER - No drinking water is issued and the issue of salty washing water (on the theoretical scale of 20 litre Jerrican per 10 men every second day) suffices only for cleaning mess tins and for dental care.

MORALE - PW is of the very slow thinking kind and it is difficult to assess his morale. There seems, however, an element of doubt as to the impossibility of his escape during the action and under cover of darkness the following night, and he may have been quite willing to be taken by us.

INTERROGATION REPORT

TREATMENT. L/Cpls Othmar BRUECKNER and Karl ANSTADT, of 11 Coy, 11 Bn, 125 Inf Regt were both 31 years old and had about 2 years active service. BRUECKNER was with 30 Inf Regt in Russia until recently was elected to go to Africa on recovering from a leg wound received there. Both are intelligent, friendly, and inecure.

DISPOSITIONS. 9 Coy is on the coast with an Italian Coy on its right flank, and 17 and 19 Coys on the line down to the road. The 3 Coys are in echelon, with 9 and 11 Coys further forward than the Italian or 10 Coy. 12 Coy has been divided up between the other three Coys with a corresponding increase in strength and armament.

11 Coy has its three PIs laid out in triangular formation, with 1 PI on the right, 2 PI on the left, and 3 PI with all its weapons in the centre at the rear.

FDLs. FDLs have been constructed and 34-40 men are sent forward nightly to man them. These men serve as listening posts at the same time, and PT maintain that there are no men posted out further forward.

PATROLS. Patrolling by night was commenced about a fortnight ago with patrols of about 6 men strong. ANSTADT had been up to our wire on two occasions previously. About 3 days ago his patrol had an encounter with one of our patrols, which ambushed the German patrol from some wrecked vehicles. The Germans withdrew without loss.

STRENGTH. 11 Coy strength is estimated at 150.

PERSONNEL. Capt. SADDERS is now OC 11 Bn. Lieut WERNER is OC 11 Coy but is away at present. PI Commanders are: 1 PI, Lieut KUESTER, 2 PI Sjt-Maj (ofw) BENESH, and 3 PI, Sjt. FRIEDMANN.

CAPTURE. A patrol of 30 strong was sent forward to obtain PW for identification and information. 3 men from 229 Regt Bn (this Bn had not previously taken part in patrols) went forward to clear a gap in our wire and lift any mines. They were followed by 1 Section each from 1 and 2 PIs, and in the rear a light mortar section, a heavy mortar section and a MGB section from 3 PI. A M/T detachment with a pack wireless set was also with the patrol.

Cross-fire from MGs was encountered and the patrol was forced to withdraw. Cpl JOVY was killed; he was NCO i/c 3 PI HQ (Zugtruppfuehrer) and was acting NCO i/c 3 Section in place of a Col wounded in ambush about 3 days ago.

A prisoner of the two PW was wounded and, whilst dragging him away on a ground sheet, all three men were captured - in area 674302 at approx. 0250 hrs night 30/31 Aug 42.

WATER. There is an issue of one 20-litre can ster of salty water per 10 men every two days, but distribution is not fair and there is never enough to allow of proper washing.

MORALE. Morale is good but not high. Our arty fire has lost most of its terror but the troops feel annoyed that they should have to lie quiet all day and have no movement at all when their opposite numbers walk about freely.

TANKS. No tanks have been seen in the road-to-coast sector. PW have not been seen south of the road but understand that both 1 and 11 Bn of 125 Inf Regt hold the line there without any tank support.

TRANSPORT. 125 Inf Regt still has no transport available.

INTENTIONS. The rumour still goes round that Rommel has a plan for breaking through in the South, breaking our resistance, and advancing rapidly to Alexandria.

INTERROGATION REPORT

PREAMBLE PW is Pfc Waldemar LEY, of 2 Bn, 2 Pl, 3 Coy, 1 Bn, 3 Inf Regt. F.P. No. 03075. He is 19 years old, although born in STRZY in Poland, has been forced to assume German nationality, serve with the Compulsor Labour Service (Dec 41 to Feb 42), and join the German Army (Apr 42). Speaks German imperfectly, claims fluent Polish and Ukrainian, with working knowledge of Russian. Good type, rather shaken by experiences. Must be regarded as a deserter. Expresses willingness to join Free Polish Forces and says that his cousin (Wladislaw OSTIADLA) escaped after fall of Poland and is thought to be already serving.

MILITARY HISTORY. Trained with "3. Sch. Bz. Kpz 1/131" at NICHOLSBURG, transferred to "Vertilaskompanie 1" at AMARUSSION in Greece for further training, and moved later to PARANIRI near ATHENS to guard a big army petrol dump. Volunteers were called for, but only two OBE and PW were selected for service in AFRICA. Came over by air on 1 Aug 42, has only been in Africa 12 days.

UNIT. PW is rather vague about his Coy in some respects, partly on account of his short stay in Africa and partly through lack of interest and knowledge of German. The only personnel he can mention is 2/Lt MARTIN, who (he states) is of 3 Coy.

CAPTURE. His Coy was alerted during 30 Aug 42 and told that a raid was to be carried out during the night. Volunteers were called for without much response, so men were detailed off as required. PW attempted to evade notice but was chosen for his youth and because he is single.

The party is estimated at about 80 strong. PW is vague as to its composition but thinks it consisted of the whole of 3 Pl, three men per section from 1 and 2 Bns, and some men from 4 Pl. 4 Pl had recently received new armament (by and Mrs and Barbara) and supplied this new material in support, leaving the original equipment behind.

He was provided for about 13 km of gas distance and the remaining 2-3 km were covered at foot. The party came under fire and went to ground. PW, who had intended to desert, feigned dead beside a dead comrade and was left behind when the party withdrew. He remained quiet for an hour and had a difficult time when the Germans came forward again. He surrendered upon utter dawn. The raid was commenced at about 2000 hrs and PW thinks the first attack took place about 2200 hrs. Approximate date of capture is 27/8/42.

DISPOSITIONS. Although PW is liable to be rather inaccurate at times, he gives the following picture of the sector in which he was placed. The Germans, realising that the Italians are considered easy meat, put out a screen of Italians as the TIEB as bait. These Italians are to retreat left and right if attacked in force. Behind the forward Italian lines are minefields one km square and in the gaps separating them are strongpoints, manned alternately by Germans and Italians. The 3 Coy itself is laid out with three PIs (1, 2, 3 reading from R to L) in slightly staggered formation and the fourth (Heavy) PI is the rear. Behind the Coy lines are dug-in tanks, AA guns, and field guns. The number of tanks is considered to be fairly light, but only about 5 at a time have been seen moving about. PW puts them as Mark II and Mark III but cannot be sure, as they were some distance away.

This type of defence is considered to be the best for weakening the enemy in case of attack and also allows of an easy advance with it as if required.



(8)

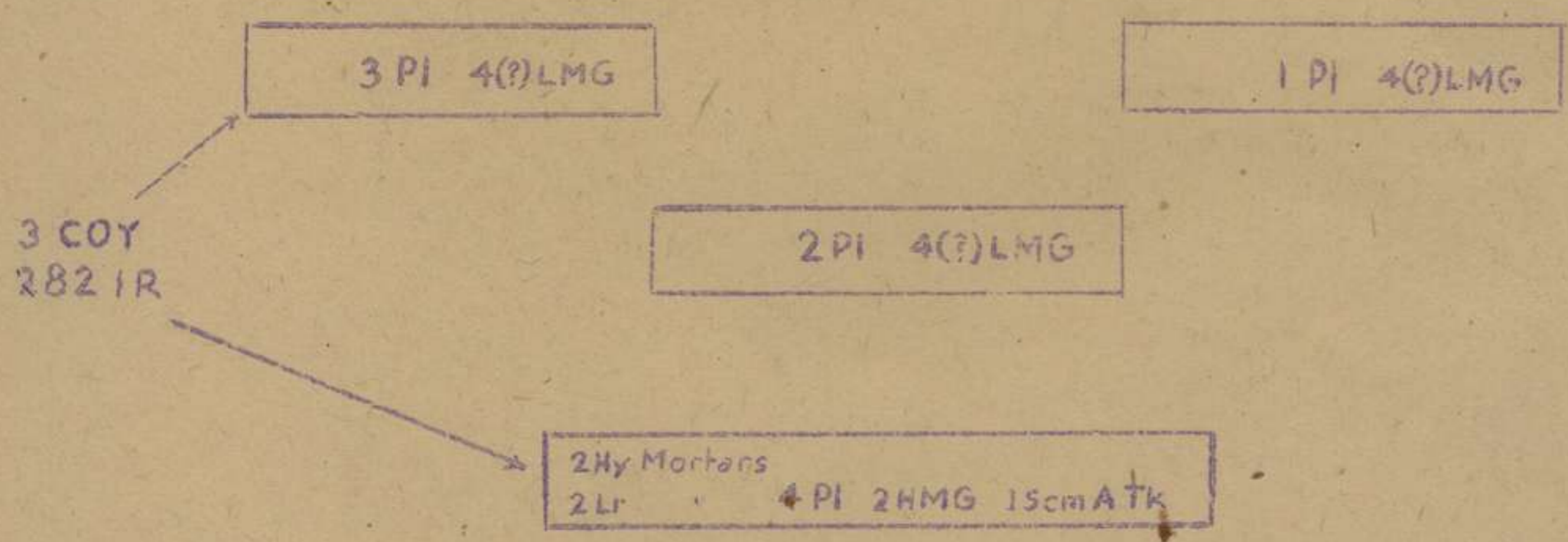
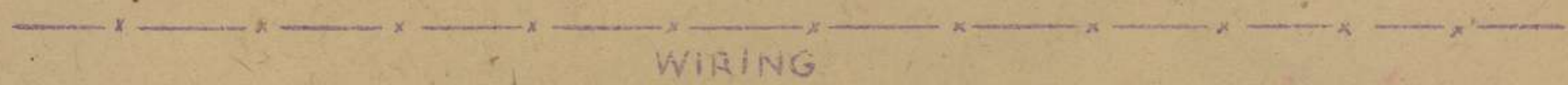
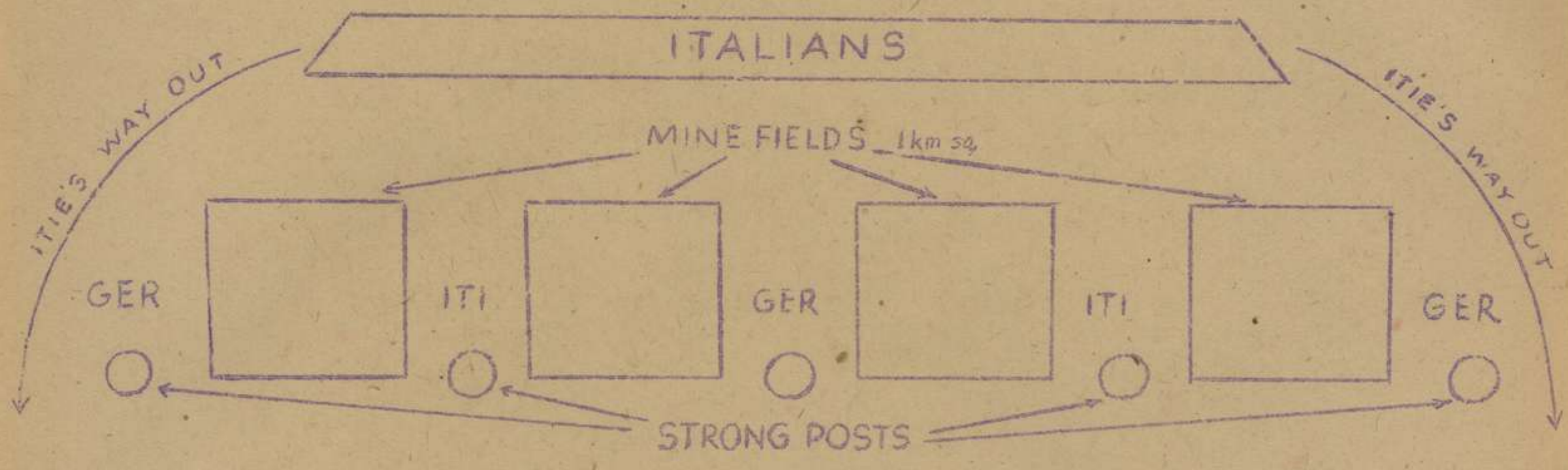
He has no idea of the front covered by his Coy but is certain that it is fairly long, as his Section covers nearly 100 meters and was well spaced out from the next.

PAROLEE, DIGGERS. Since his arrival, he has not been out on patrol and has only had to dig communication trenches occasionally at night.

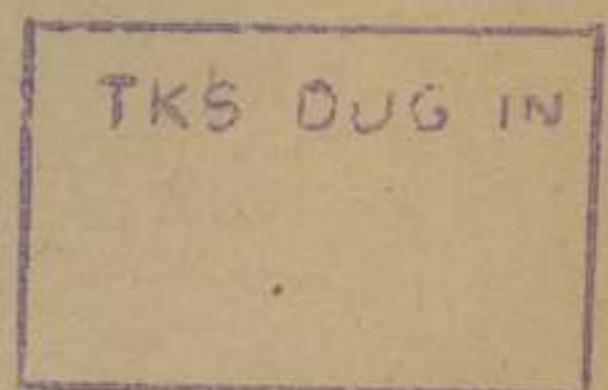
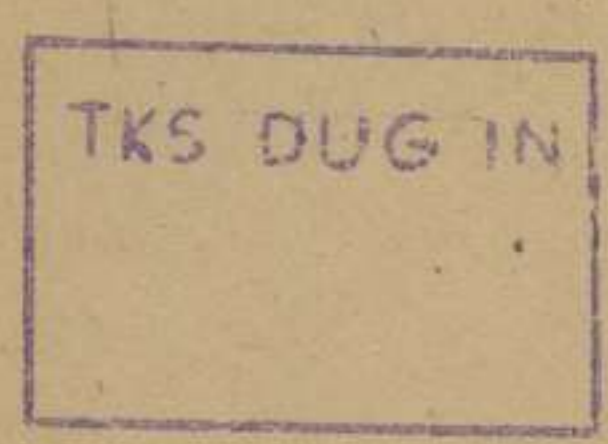
CASUALTIES / FLANKING UNIT No knowledge.

It would appear that the main German forces in this Sector are now well behind the forward wire.

ENEMY LAYOUT AS TOLD BY PW 382 IR CAPTURED 30/31 AUG



ARTY  
N° & CALIBRE (?)



WD

I.19/32/197.

SECRET.  
Copy No. 19.  
5 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.46.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 5 Sep 1942).

1. GENERAL:

There is little to report on the Bde front. The enemy's working parties are active in rear of his FDLs. Our patrols have difficulty in coming in close contact with the enemy due to strengthened wire and earthworks. Movement through enemy FDLs is becoming more difficult due to A/P mines.

In the south the enemy's withdrawal is being pressed from the north by inf and from the east by armd forces.

During the day 4 Sep three separate counter attacks on our adv inf posns were beaten off, GERMAN and ITALIAN prisoners being taken. GERMAN tk casualties on the morning of 4 Sep are reported as 86 definitely destroyed and 32 probables. The ITALIANS have also been badly handled.

DEIR EL PAGIL has been reported clear of the enemy, who is now thought to be west of 892 grid.

2. ENEMY METHODS:

At 87463043 there is a scooped furrow running approx SW-NE from which the spoil has been removed. This furrow is 30 yds to the east of a B.4 A/P minefd. This is laid as follows :-

5 short pickets running along the front of the fd, then a gap then 5 more short pickets. The B4 mines are attached to the 2nd and 4th pickets with trip wires to the 1st, 3rd and 5th pickets.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:

(a) Inf:

87013003 - inf in earthworks.

(b) Diggings:

86933005 - working party engaged by arty.

(c) OP:

87433018 - fired on by arty.

(d) Mines:

87302978 - mines seen by one member of a patrol, but NOT seen by patrol comd.

87302973 to

87282979 - Burnt-out tks and vehs indicate the eastern edge of concealed minefd.

87473042 - southwards for 400 yds single row B.4 A/P mines with trip wire. Patrol was unable to proceed further south due to arty programme.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Mortars:

2000 hrs enemy mortars ranged on RINGED CONTOUR 25 in sq 873302.

....2.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Inf:

Movement in enemy posns area 87283026 was observed up till 1000 hrs. Working parties were reported active south of the ry, ceasing abruptly at 0030 hrs.

(c) Arty:

Shelling on East Pt 24 was again high at 122 shells with 54 shells on the CUTTING area. The marked increase in shelling on the left fwd bn area is well illustrated :-

From 3 Aug to 26 Aug incl - 1212 shells.

" 27 Aug to 3 Sep incl - 4937 shells.

Since the new posn at 87582975 has been occupied it has been consistently shelled.

(d) Tks:

Corrigendum Summary No.42, para 6 (b) - West Pt 24 should read East Pt 24.

5. AIR OPS:

During the day a number of individual enemy fighters were seen flying west. At 1915 hrs a ME109F flew at about 500 ft east along the rd to above Trig 26, then west along the ridge. It carried what appeared to be a large, yellow, cigar-shaped object below the fuselage. The plane did not seem capable of carrying a bomb as large as this object.

The Air Force continues to bomb MT and tks to the south. The use of 4000 lb bombs is reported. Large glows to the south overnight indicate continued attention.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

Harassing fire was fired between 1225 - 1515 hrs on BULIMBA tasks B G & F :-

B area 87222972.

G area 87142986.

F area 87092993

CLOVERLEAF

87202918 - strongpost.

and again between 1729 to 1810 hrs :-

B area 87202971.

F area 87092990.

87433026 (spandau post).

No harassing fire was put down overnight.

Fire directed by an inf officer who laid up at 87423015 on 3 Sep fell effectively amongst earthworks and posns vicinity of 87413018.

(b) Patrols:

(i) Patrols to 87232998, 87282979 and 87302973 - NMS. Sounds of working parties were heard behind enemy FDLs. Many burnt out tks and vehs were found between the last two references.

...3...

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Patrols (Contd):

(ii) Another patrol moved to 87443026. The patrol went to ground and two sappers commenced to cut a gap through the enemy wire. A gap of 4 ft width had been cut by the two sappers when the patrol was challenged. Movement was seen to the rear of the patrol and, after a second challenge, two grenades fell about 4 yds fwd of the patrol. A spandau opened up wounding a sapper. Fire was exchanged and, having lost surprise and because of an enemy party in rear, the patrol pulled out NE. No further casualties were suffered.

(iii) A trailer was fired at 87423015 by which it was hoped to silhouette enemy posns to provide targets for SAA. The patrol moved in and out in rear of enemy posns but the desired effect was not achieved. After the patrol had returned, a protective patrol noticed what appeared to be 9 flash lights, and glowing pieces of trailer being kicked about.

*W. G. ...*  
for Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION : AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.

I.19/32/199.

SECRET.  
Copy No. 21.  
6 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.47.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 6 Sep 1942).

GENERAL:

The Bde front was quiet. Our patrols report increased vigilance on the part of the enemy. Enemy working parties remain active.

In the south there has been no major development. The main GERMAN Arm'd Forces and 90 Lt Div are in mined area about cross grids 880 and 260. It is reported that the morale of the GERMAN Arm'd Forces has been lowered by our constant air attacks.

Enemy bombed our fwd tps on RUWEISAT RIDGE by night.

At a maximum our tk losses amount to 50 tks, many of which are recoverable. This would amount to less than half the GERMAN losses.

2. ENEMY METHODS AND MORALE:

(a) A patrol to 87203018 reported increased enemy vigilance -

- (i) listening posts were apparent for the first time,
- (ii) fire was opened on fixed lines immediately the patrol was heard - there was no challenge,
- (iii) men encountered in two posts were standing to - probably as the result of a warning from the listening post. The warning was two low whistles in quick succession, repeated after 15 secs.
- (iv) picket driving working parties were operating quietly without the usual verbal noise. They appeared to work for 5 mins and wait for 5 mins. The change of habits may indicate an intra-unit relief.

(b) Enemy have been noticed to go to ground as soon as they hearing the firing of our arty, irrespective of where the shells are likely to land.

(c) MT have been observed to move cautiously in order to raise no dust.

ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS:

At 87453043 men were seen individually and in small parties. GERMAN voices were distinguished. In the same vicinity the ITALIAN word "AMICO" was distinctly heard.

DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSNS:

(a) Strongpost: 87263021.  
86912958 - engaged by arty.

(b) OP: 87112988.

(c) HBs: 86982955 - engaged by our arty.  
86972947 - " " " "  
87062957 - " " " "

(d) Wire: 87263018 - single dannert.  
87473041 - " " "

.3....

....2.

5. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

The centre of enemy arty activity appears to have moved further south, where his harassing fire has increased. He is still interested in the CUTTING area, though to a lesser degree. In the last two days only one shell on the right fwd bn. There were 111 shells in the vicinity of the CUTTING.

(b) Inf:

Increased inf movt is noticed south of the ry to West Pt 23. Where one or two men were seen previously, now gps of 7 or 8 can be seen.

(c) Working parties:

These were reported active in approx vicinities :-

- 87263021
- 87203017
- 87153025
- 87393054
- 87443044.

(d) MT Movement:

Considerable dust over the SKYLINE indicated likely by MT movt after 1000 hrs. The movement of the dust against the prevailing wind indicated northward movt.

(e) Tks:

1915 hrs - a large tk was seen moving north on SKYLINE track. It later turned west and disappeared.

6. AIR OPS:

Normal enemy air activity overhead. The ridge was again reced. A number of enemy fighters passed overhead NW returning to their LGS. Approx 20 fighter-bombers with spitfire cover passed overhead 1210 hrs heading east.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY:

(a) Arty:

Due to increased enemy movt our arty was able to fire on more observed targets than usual

HF tasks from 1357 - 1600 hrs -

- 87043005 - 87033010 - 87153020 - 87223036 - 87233037 -
- 87073039 - 87313031 - 87343030 - 87443047 - 87363045.

From 2130 hrs - 0400 hrs areas 87373028 and 87243036 were harassed as also rd junc 87213033. After 0400 hrs the CLOVERLEAF area and rd junc 87513042 received their share.

(b) Patrols:

(i) A daylight patrol of 3 offr as a preliminary recce to the subsequent night patrol reached within 600 yds of the enemy wire before any counter measures were taken. This consisted of an enemy party of 7 strong which moved out from 87153015 and endeavoured to outflank our party. Our patrol withdrew via Pt 17 (872300). Visibility was poor. A scattered minefd previously reported was accurately resected and placed at 87483002. It was unmarked and ran roughly north and south. All mines seen had previously been disarmed.

....3.

7. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY (Contd):

(b) Patrols (Contd):

(ii) The night patrol disturbed an enemy listening post at approx 87283017. The offr and NCO went fwd to recce and when within 60 yds of post at 87203018 a very slight noise was made by treading on a bush. Immediately and without challenging 4 automatics opened up on fixed lines - thought to be 2 spandaus and 2 light bredas. By the light from a flare fired from behind the post was seen to be very heavily wired with DA. The minefd of french mines reported in summary No.45 is marked with small notice boards marked "MINES".

(iii) Patrols also went to areas 87292978, 87212990, 8742-3019, NMS. Patrol at 87463043 encountered gps of enemy thought mixed GERMAN and ITALIAN.

*Col. J. J. ...*  
for Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION: AS FOR "I" SUMMARY NO.9.



I 3/15/200

SECRET

Copy No. 21

7 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 48.

Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 7 Sep 42.

1. GENERAL. Fire was exchanged between one of our patrols and an enemy post approx 87393020, there being no casualties among our tps. Another patrol was fired on at approx 87363027. Shelling was slightly increased on our fwd positions.

Enemy tps continue to show themselves more than previously.

In the south our Lt armd forces are harassing the enemy flanks and rear.

Preliminary report on interrogation of PWs captured on 1 Sep is att appx 'A'

2. Detailed Enemy Dispositions.

- (a) Inf 86933005 Wired post  
87082966 Occupied area  
87503045 Post
- (b) Wire 87152985 Single dannert running generally east-west. No mines located.  
87373025 Coil of dannert running westward.  
87353028(?) Gap in enemy wire.
- (c) Mines 87242986 One British Mk IV mine set, two small stacks nearby.
- Addendum Minefield given in summary No 47 as 87483002 should read 87283008.
- 87483043 French mines well concealed in hummocks of ground.
- (d) Mortars 87193057

3. Enemy Ground Activity -

- (a) Arty - Heavy concentrations fell on TEL EL EISA sta at .1140 hrs. There being 75 shells in 5 minutes. East pt 24 had 120 rounds for the day. Area of Trig 33 was also heavily shelled, 61 shells landing for the day. There were 412 shells in the Bde area. Between 0735 - 0830 hrs the enemy registered his own FDLs.

Areas registered

1. East edge of CLOVER LEAF
2. Beach at 87523043
3. Ring Contour 25.
4. 87453035

- (b) Inf Between 1920 - 1930 hrs about 30 men were reported assembled north of rd at 87133042 and a further 40 were engaged by our arty at 87023016.

(c) MT Movement. This was above normal, the majority of vehs moving NW. There were 60 MT between 1000 hrs and 1100 hrs. For the 8 hrs between 0800-1400 hrs and 1600 - 1800 hrs there were 61 vehs moving SE and 165 moving NE.

(d) Miscellaneous 1025 Arty op reported enemy vehs unsuccessfully attempting to lay smokescreen near SIDI RAHMAN. About 1900 hrs this was repeated and our arty op was neutralised by enemy arty. An inf op reported tp carrying MT and 4 trailers fitted with cranes moving NW on SKYLINE track.

4. Air Ops

Reduced air activity over this area. At 1607 and 1655 hrs a large twin engined high winged monoplane flew from the south, turned west over the CLOVER LEAF and disappeared behind the mosque as if landing.

At 1815 hrs a British plane was shot down in flames on bearing 240 degrees from east pt 24, approx 6000 yds out. A truck was seen to approach the wreckage and 10-12 men alight.

Constant air activity could be seen well to the SOUTH and 6 columns of smoke were noticed which appeared to be crashed planes.

5. Own Ground Activity

(a) Arty Harassing fire programme again contained four BULIMBA tasks.

1127 - 1621 hrs	(E)	87212971	(F)	87092991
	(C)	87162974		87373042
	(D)	87182978		87433045

2200 - 0400 hrs	87213019
	87092991
	87122986
	87162974

(b) Patrols

(i) A patrol investigated area of wire 87212985

No surrounding mines were located. One or two figures could be seen moving within the wire. Flares were put up at regular intervals by rear flanking posts.

(ii) A second patrol salvaged a truck at 87342978 without incident.

(iii) A patrol in behind FAIRBAIRNS post (87423018) was lit up by a bright explosion but which threw no shrapnell. The patrol was challenged in German and fired on by sub MGe. This was replied with TSMG and rifle fire. Fearing being attacked from the rear by an enemy patrol, the leader moved his men forward and past the post.

(iv) A patrol was fired on from both flanks at approx 87363027 and withdrew NE. Subsequently a gap in the enemy wire was located approx 87353028.

(v) Another patrol discovered a previously unlocated field of french mines at approx 87483043 and 150 yards through B IV A/P minefield.

NOTE - A survey has shown TELL EL EISA sta to be placed incorrectly on 1/50,000 sheet. Correct position of signal pole near sta is 876114299178.

*[Signature]*  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution as for 'I' Summary No. 9.

APPK TO 20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 48.

The following were interrogated on 1 Sep 42:-

111 Bn HQ 382 Inf Regt (F.P.No. 11480 A)

- (1) Obergefr. Ernest SCHEITHAUER. This NCO was in the Sigs sec of Bn HQ as a telephone operator. Also laid lines fwd to 4 coys of bn. Two single leads, one each laid on way out and back. Lateral and rear communications done by Regt1 HQ. Two pack transreceivers in W/T sec. A-11 sigs personnel came under Sgt FRITSCH. Lt-Col FRIESEN was OC 111 Bn for a short time but returned sick to Germany; Capt HEGEWALD is Acting OC 111 Bn at present.

11 Coy 111 Bn 382 Inf Regt (F.P. No 11480 D)

- |     |                          |   |                        |
|-----|--------------------------|---|------------------------|
| (2) | 2/Lt Fritz SCHWESTKA     | - | i/c 1 Pl.              |
| 3)  | A/CSM Gotthard LEONHARDT | - | Coy Orderly Room       |
| 4)  | Sgt-Maj Paul WEIDLICH    | - | i/c 2 Pl               |
| 5)  | Cpl Hnas KUNZELMANN      | - | i/c 1 Pl HQ            |
| 6)  | Cpl Andreas BOENIG       | - | i/c A Tk Gun Sec, 1 Pl |

All these PW are relatively insecure. SCHWESTKA, LEONHARDT and WEIDLICH have been passed back to 30 Corps for further interrogation, remainder to cage.

OC 11 Coy was Lieut KELLERMANN, killed in attack, 11 Coy was out fwd of 9 Coy (left flank) and 10 Coy (right flank) in a hedgehog posn (Igelstellung). The 3 Pls of 11 Coy were in a trefoil formation with 3 Pl in rear. The Coy was self-styled a suicide squad (Himmelfahrtkommando). SCHWESTKA and BOENIG have both been transferred recently from the Russian front. BOENIG was in charge of a 5 cm A Tk gun section with 1 Pl, talks freely.

3 Pl is reported by WEIDLICH to be under a 2/Lt HEUSER. All PW are rather confused by the suddenness of the attack and cannot estimate casualties inflicted on and PW taken from 11 Coy but all agree that 1 and 2 Pls must have suffered heavily. 3 Pl seems to have suffered less casualties. The whole Coy was in the line, no reserves known of. Coy had been receiving replacements chiefly from Russian front, ex sick and wounded. Tanks had not been seen but by arty concentrations were known to be in rear.

All PW had been pinned down to their posns through our arty fire and knew relatively little of rearward movements.

9 Coy, 111 Bn, 382 Inf Regt (F.P. No. 11480 B)

- 7) Gefr. Hans WEISER This NCO comes from 3 Pl (OC 2/Lt WEISER) and confirms that 11 and 10 Coys were on his right flank with 11 Coy well fwd. The 3 Pls of his Coy were also in trefoil formation. It is not sure what was on his left flank but thinks it was 11 Bn, 382 Inf Regt.

1 Coy, 1 Bn, 382 Inf Regt (P.F.No 09078 B)

- 8) Cpl Kurt SZIDEL -  
 9) L/Cpl Hans FISCHER - All 3 Pl  
 10) Pte Heinrich LAUMEIER -

These PW were out on a patrol under a Sgt VOIGTMANN i/c 3 Pl. The total strength was 16 men. This patrol was sent out to investigate reason for quietness of front during 31 Aug 42. Much MT and Carrier movement was noticed, and it was concluded that an attack was in progress of being prepared. The party returned quickly and was resting in the Coy FDLs, preparatory to reporting results, when arty fire pinned them down until surprised by our inf attack.

Later :-

- (11) Sgt Johannes VOIGTMANN. This NCO is a surly Saxon, very secure, but rather shaken on being confronted by his documents and information given by other PW. Apparently a reshuffle took place between 2 and 3 Pls, and 3 Pl has now one 3, 7, and one 5 em A Tk gun. 2/Lt NICKEL has 1 Pl, Sgt Stohr has 2 Pl, and 2/Lt GUNKOWSKI is CC Coy, according to other PW - this is unwillingly confirmed by VOIGTMANN.

Note :- PW FISCHER, who is insecure, served with 4 Coy, 171 Inf Regt in the central sector of the Eastern front last winter. He was a PW for an hour on one occasion but escaped, all other PWs were shot out of hand.

A-ADDITIONAL INFO

- a) L/Cpl FISCHER stated that he thought TRENTO Div was out of the line. The gossip from the man who came up with the ration lorry was that this Div was at rest 12 km behind the fwd line. He had not noticed any Italians about for some time.
- b) Against the above must be taken a sketch of Sgt VOIGTMANN showing 2 Pl, 1 Coys posn as at 16 Aug 42, in which Italian guns are shown on the left flank.
- c) Effects of all PW mentioned are att, including some papers of 2/Lt Fritz SCHWABER and a notebook of unknown origin - the papers and the notebooks were ~~thrown away~~ and had been recovered by the MSS.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 49.

(Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 8 Sep 42.)

1. GENERAL

Hostile shelling was on an unusually low scale.  
The enemy remains alert and his working parties continue to be active.

In the south the enemy is digging in along line 832262 to 885250 with strong points at 880259 and 882252 in the HIMEIMAT area.

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

Four ITALIANS were seen and an ITALIAN working party was heard in vicinity 87172985, thought to be behind the wire. It is not known if the ITALIANS are holding part of the front here or merely providing working parties.

3. DETAILED ENEMY POSITIONS.

<u>Inf.</u>	87473049 87023012 87123068	Defended position Men in diggings Men near Sangars.
<u>Wire</u>	87182934	Single dannert to the south, the wire runs NE - SW. To the north it seems generally N-S, wire forms a bay at 87182985 with 3 right angle bends.
<u>L.D.</u>	87192935 87383026	Freshly dug listening post unoccupied.  One man jumped up and ran at the approach of our patrol.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

(a) Arty This was on an unusually quiet scale there being only 22 rounds in the Bde area including 5 duds.

CUTTING	15	75 mm
87523006	7	75 mm

At 1825 hrs 4 guns on bearing 265-267 degrees from east pt 24 were reported firing on west pt 24.

(b) Mortars At 0824 and 0915 light flashes were seen, probably mortars firing on CAIRN and TRIG 22 areas. Bearing 216 degrees from west pt 24 and about 5000 yds.

(c) Working Parties.

87212982 (estimated by sound) thought GERMAN - hammering pickets and making scraping noises. The firing of a spandean from forward of this position, directed towards our patrol indicated a working party.

87172985 (estimated by sound) Much talk in ITALIAN, scraping sounds only.

87332972 (observed by patrol) Eleven men seen covering about 100 yards. Thought to be GERMAN. Sounds of driving pickets could be heard. Patrol covered by automatic about 87342967 Working parties were also active on enemy FDLs north.

(2)

and south of the road.

(d) Patrols

An enemy patrol of about 20 men was sighted moving in vicinity of sand dunes at rd and track junc 87513041; a further enemy patrol was sighted moving to the SE of this position. Subsequently one of our listening posts NW of Trig 33 reported seeing a similar sized patrol.

5. O'WN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty The following harassing fire tasks were carried out :

1200-1630 hrs.

86992969

87072962

87072959

87142976

87182979

87212974

An enemy standing patrol reported at 87523040 was engaged by our arty during the early hours of the morning.

(b) PATROLS

Patrol to enemy minefield 87283009 reported NMS/H. Patrol to enemy wire at 37182984 reported enemy working parties, no mines or booby traps reported by later patrols.

(ii) A patrol to 87342972 clearly heard a dog, A working party was seen covered by an automatic from the south.

(iii) Patrols along the ridge north and south of this road report working parties active and an occasional rifle shot.

(iv) A patrol to 87513041 reported a strong enemy patrol in occupation. This country had frequently been patrolled by us and used by our patrols to lie up in ambush. It appears that the enemy observing the patrol movement recently, was himself attempting an ambush. The area was subsequently engaged by arty and MG fire.

*Col. ...*  
Lieut. for Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution as for I Summary No 9.

19/32/202

SECRET  
COPY NO 20  
9 Sep 42

W.D

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 50

(Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 9 Sep 42)

1. GENERAL Patrolling north of the ry is becoming increasingly difficult and the enemy is ambushing our patrols.

There was an interchange of fire between one of our patrols and the enemy at close range in vicinity 87213025. Yells indicated that casualties had been inflicted whilst our patrol suffered some slight injuries.

Another patrol was fired on at 87393013.

There was some unusual movement of men seen debussing area 870302 at last light.

Shelling on the right fwd Bn was increased probably an effort to neutralise OP firing CB with our med arty.

In the south the enemy continues to dig in and strengthen his defences.

2. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS

Whilst withdrawing from an engagement at 87213025, one of our patrols reported hearing ITALIAN voices.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Wire - From 87343025 to 87343019 then SW towards ry line. Two DA with dannert between cattle fence 150 yds fwd of this wire.  
From 87343025 East there is dannert.  
From 87343025 West DA with isolated dannert.  
Pieces of tin hanging on wire.  
87393013 single dannert running west for 40 yds (may have turned right).

(b) Inf posns - 87293022 small triangular posts appears outpost for main post 87293022.  
87203017 Hy double DA fence with dannert. Post very extensive.  
87163016 Similarly wired to above.  
87203033 Much movement seen. Possible HQ.  
87083039 BLOCKHOUSE seen to be occupied.  
87022989 Tps seen in occupied area.  
87042966 Occupied area.  
87453045 Suspect defended area.

(c) Mines - 87263024 Teller minefd running NNE behind row of dannert. Far border of fd 150 yds from dannert marked by chest high wire on long pickets. Mines were found for a depth of 100 yds, but following 50 yds not examined. There was a further chest high of wire 100 yds in from the first.

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - There was an increase in enemy shelling particularly in the case of the right fwd Bn. Between 1100-1245 hrs about 200 rounds were fired on the west part of sq 876301, and may possibly have been searching for an OP. East pt 24 and CUTTING area was the target for over 200 shells.
- (b) MT Movt - 1510 hrs a large convoy was reported moving NW along along SKYLINE track and at 1940 hrs there was abnormal southward movement.
- (c) Inf - 1810 hrs at 276 degrees from 87630 30135 at 4000 yds could be seen a white flag with 4 smaller white flags on 275 and a further 5 scattered on 273 degrees. On 270 degrees 4000-5000 yds a truck pulled in at 1900 hrs and men debussed at the double. At 1905 3 more trucks arrived and men debussed and dispersed, a staff car drew up to the large flag and 6 men debussed. These dispersed at the double to one or other of the smaller flags and at the same time men could be seen crawling behind the enemy wire. A patrol to 87203012 shortly after dark reported no sign of the enemy. Arty report that tins have taken the place of flags by morning 8 sep.

5. Air Ops - 1900 hrs a JU 52 at 100 feet escorted/a ME 109 at 1000 feet, circled the sta area and flew back in the enemy lines. It made as if to land and having realised it had overshoot its mark, banked and returned. It was hit repeatedly by SA fire and at least once by 20 mm Breda. It was travelling very slowly with its starboard motor on fire.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Harassing fire carried out by our arty :-  
 1600 to 1800 hrs                   87152976  
   87233037  
   87363045  
 and from 2200- 0400 hrs           871303           rd junc  
   872303           ruins  
   87430-           CLOVER LEAF

(b) Patrols -

- (i) Areas 87203012, 87173000 and 87382961 were visited. The last patrol reported flares and spasmodic firing of automatics on the part of the enemy for no apparent reason, also sounds of digging in sq 872297. An enemy veh operating outside its own FDLs was sighted by the last patrol and unsuccessfully followed.
- (ii) A patrol comd moved fwd from his patrol was challenged in GERMAN at approx 87393013 from outside a dannert ware he was inspecting. He was fired on from 3 spandaus from direction of challenge and a 50 mm mortar from within the wire. Patrol comd withdrew successfully. Previous movement by the patrol for 150 yds had been by crawling.
- (iii) Another patrol moved from 87513009 to 87403010 to 87403011 to 87213025, then returned to 87513009 wire and a teller minefd crossed at 87263024. Between two chest high wires which are 100 yds apart at approx 87213025, the patrol struck a signal wire or trip wire. Working parties which had been heard working stopped immediately. The patrol was just turning NORTH when it was fired on from about 25 yds by 2 or 3 MGs, grenades and an 81 mm mortar. Fire was returned with 6 TSMGs and grenades. Our patrol had to withdraw due to casualties. The patrol leader himself becoming slightly wounded. Sounds from the enemy indicated that casualties had been inflicted. During the withdrawal ITALIAN voices were definitely heard.



20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 51.

(Based on information received up to 1000 hrs 10 Sep 42)

1. GENERAL.

A patrol fired on enemy working and covering patrols with unknown effect.

Enemy working parties were located fwd of their FDLs, a part on the coast being particularly strong was subsequently fired on by MMG and mortars.

An enemy patrol was sighted near our FDLs.

Shelling, air activity and enemy MT movement on SKYLINE track were reported normal.

Further fields of A/P mines have been located.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

- (a) Inf - 87022963 Tps and veh engaged by arty.  
87162964 GERMANS (called URQUHARTS POST)
- (b) Wire- 87133006 Single dannert.  
87523042 Dannert and trip wire has been extended  
50 yds south of rd.  
87363025 Gap in barbed wire coiled into dannert  
running NE-SW.  
87353031 Junc of wires running NE and NNW.  
87363052 Gap in wire.
- (c) Digging - 86733000 Weapon pit enlarged (AAPIU)  
87003003-86852995 New line of weapon pits,  
all with provisions for A/T weapons  
(AAPIU)  
87352966) Fresh diggings - narrow slit trenches  
87362965) and weapon pit.
- (d) Arty - 86773062 2 fd guns with split trail (AAPIU)  
86653041 4 suspected fd guns (AAPIU)  
86813015 4 fd gun positions, 3 occupied (AAPIU)  
86672979 4 fd gun positions previously reported  
now occupied (AAPIU)  
86702976 4 fd guns.
- (e) A Tk - 86882974 - 86872965. 4 hy A Tk guns (AAPIU)
- (f) WORKING PARTIES  
86913004 Engaged by arty  
87092970 Engaged by arty  
87252973 Engaged by arty  
87012963 Working party and veh  
area 87302968 Sounds of unloading tools from veh.  
87312963 Driving pickets, using picks.
- (g) Mines - 87222986 Er m IV mine with 2 stacks of mines  
previously reported. Mines have now all  
been laid. Scattered field runs generally  
N-S.  
87513035 Farrow running due north 1 yd west in  
field of B iv ITALIAN A/P mines  
two yds behind this is a  
series of fresh holes 9X4½ inches and  
4½ inches deep. About 50 yds further west  
was a double trip wire where an S mine  
with ZZ35 ignitor was located. Trip  
strings were attached to bushes, double trip  
wire and also to single trip wire which  
was fwd of B iv fd

- (h) Flags - A white flag at 87102979 had been noticed in that position 4 days ago.

### 3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Fire again seemed to be searching for OPs in vicinity of Trig 33 and vicinity 87623014. East pt 24 and CUTTING areas received their usual strafe totalling 137 shells.

A new fire task of the enemy is the flat north of pt 26 (87913001). Four 25 prs have been identified as taking part (NL 86683026). Most valuable infm has been provided by duds and shell fragments today, apart from the identification of 25 prs. HB, it has been found that the enemy is using . 106 fuses for 25 prs.

In the north there has been a slight shuffle of posns, but the strength has remained the same (CB 'I' report N 48 degrees).

- (b) Patrols - 2325 hrs a protective patrol reported an enemy patrol 10-20 men moving NE across coy front about 400 yds from FDLs at approximately 87532984. Contact was lost when the protective patrol came in to report and no further sign was seen by a fighting patrol which went out later. The adjacent coy saw no sign of the enemy patrol.

A patrol returning from enemy FDLs via derelict carriers 87513035 heard sound of hammering of pickets towards the coast. Men were seen all round and one seemed to spring from a carrier and run rapidly towards some others. Five of our patrol who became separated walked past a truck with enemy sitting on the mudguard. The enemy strength was estimated at approximately a coy. A fire was started when 60 rounds mortar and MMG were subsequently fired into this area.

- (c) Salvage MT - It was noticed at first light 9 Sep that the enemy had recovered a "BULIMBA" veh from 87192972.

### 4. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Harassing fire was on a more extensive scale, being from 1000 to 1600 hrs and 2200 to 0500 hrs. It fell on CLOVER LEAF and diggings in squares 870296 - 870297 - 870299 - 870300 - 871297 - 871298 - 871302 - 871304 - 871297 - 873303 - 874302 and defended localities in squares 871301 - 872301.

- (b) Patrols - A patrol to SW square 873396 reported activity of working parties - using picks and driving pickets, also unloading stores from a truck. This ground is in a depression and is probably a new minefd.

(ii) Another patrol went through the single dannert at 8718-2984 and lay up waiting for a party seen the previous night and taken for an ITALIAN wire party. GERMAN voices could be heard approx 87162984 and an ITALIAN working party to the West and slightly North was heard though not seen (this was also reported the previous night).

(iii) At approx 87343022 digging heard and a GERMAN voice. Our patrol crawled towards the noise which later stopped. A fire position was taken up and fire opened with five TSMGS in the direction of movement. This was replied to by MG and sub MG fire from the left front. This was again returned and our party moved in dead ground. 50 mm mortar fire fell within a hundred yards of our patrol which withdrew.

(iv) A patrol to the vicinity of RING CONTOUR 873302 reported sounds of working in that area and some useful infm about enemy wire.

(v) A patrol to 87513035 located enemy A/P mines. Closer investigation was hampered by groups of enemy on his flanks - 8 on the right and 12 on the left flank, moving round. An enemy sig wire running from posn of derelict carriers 8751-3035 was cut. About one coy of enemy were reported vicinity of carriers with work in progress between carriers and coast.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 52.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 11 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

The enemy is patrolling more actively with strong patrols and on two occasions our smaller patrols were forced to withdraw.

There was little movement on the Bde front, MT movement on the SKYLINE TRACK was less than usual. There was no air activity observed.

2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

On the Bde front the lay out of the enemy forces is considered to be as follows :-

From coast to line 87403022 to 87183030.

111 Bn 125 IR plus 1 coy Bers (probably on CLOVER LEAF)

From line 87403022 - 87183030 to incl ry 1 Bn 125 IR.

excl ry to 301 northing 2 Bn 125 IR.

301 northing 298 northing, Composite force of 1 Bn 382 IR and ITALIANS. Probably alternatively spaced.

298 to 295 northing, 111 Bn 382 IR.

295 northing south, 11 Bn 382 IR.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

Att appx A is a trace on 1/50,000, showing considered enemy dispositions.

- |                            |          |                                       |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| (a) <u>Inf</u>             | 86762989 | Weapon pits and vehs                  |
|                            | 87273014 | Suspect strongpost                    |
|                            | 87403052 | Suspect HQ                            |
|                            | 87233029 | Large dug-out with unusual movt.      |
| (b) <u>Wire</u>            | 87363029 | Single dannert running at 40 degrees. |
| (c) <u>Working parties</u> | 87262973 |                                       |
|                            | 87523044 | Pickets being driven in.              |

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Air photographs of 6 sep which cover most of the enemy gun area have shown little change in the enemy arty dispositions since 28 Aug, except for an increase of 22 fd guns in the northern sector. Two tps of widely dispersed guns thought to be either A Tk guns or fd guns in an A Tk role have appeared in the area 868304. The bulk of the medium arty remains in the central sector (between northings 287 and 293) where it can oppose any thrust for north or south. (Extract from CB Intelligence Summary No. 3.) HBS believed active on Bde front.  
RN 86643018 -  
NL 86683026 4 25 prs  
The shelling was slightly increased during the day, some air bursts being used vicinity TEL EL EISA sta. During the morning registration appeared to be carried out on the flat near the ry line.
- (b) Inf - OPO West Pt 24 reported that there seemed a larger number than usual of men about the FDLs during the morning.
- (c) Patrols - At 1245 hrs 6 men went to vicinity 87208989. They were engaged by our arty and a patrol sent out which failed to make contact. One man was later seen to be

carried in. The enemy party went out to investigate an explosion which had been caused by placing a time pencil in a stack of mines.

Further enemy patrols seen are reported in para 5 (b).

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - The harassing fire programme was continued during the day, but not overnight. Together with the CLOVER LEAF and RUIN areas H fell on diggings in the following squares:  
 874302 - 873303 - 870300 - 870299 - 871298 - 871297 -  
 871296 - 870296 - 870295 - 869295.

At 0915 hrs a white flag was seen to be put up on CLOVER LEAF. Two men were seen to be buried and 3 stretcher parties at work.

(b) Patrols -

(i) A patrol found a number of 44 gal drums at 87272998. 7 were full of oil. Otherwise there was nothing to report from the centre of the Bde area. To the south a patrol of 1 Offr and 4 moved from 87532972/movement was noticed and voices heard on the right. In an effort to move round the left bird whistles were heard from the left and were answered in a similar manner from further ahead of the patrol, in rear of the first whistle. A Breda LMG opened from the left and fired 4 bursts. Attempting to move round the right flank further movement was seen. On withdrawing 20-30 men were seen to follow, but ceased when one of our protective patrols fired. Subsequently a stronger standing patrol was sent forward but no further sign was seen of the enemy.

Comment. It would appear that the enemy is covering his FDLs by strong standing patrols. No working party was heard to the West of east pt 23 where they had been located on the previous two nights.

(ii) A patrol could hear working due north from 87433015 and also 20 men would be seen leaving FAIRBURN'S POST (87423017) and moving west. Patrol moved towards enemy party but lost them and could make no contact.

(iii) Another patrol lay up on trip wire at 87353033 whilst a recce party of two went fwd. This had gone only 15 yds when about 20 enemy were observed west of the patrol. As the recce party was returning to the main body, two rifle shots were fired by the enemy - hitting one man in the leg. The enemy then moved out of sight and was lost to view.

(iv) A standing patrol moved into area (87513035) where about a coy of enemy was/the previous night and found signs of this recent occupation. NMS.

*B. M. 20 Aust Inf Bde*  
 B. M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution As per Summary No. 9.

/ to 87422965. MT Movt was heard ahead on the line of advance. At 87532972

APPX TO 20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 52

Believed enemy dispositions as at 10 Sep 42.



I 19/32/205

SECRET  
COPY NO 19  
12 Sep 42

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 53.

(Based on info received up to 1000 hrs 12 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

The period was quiet with little activity. Shelling was well below normal and slight MF movt on the SKYLINE track was noticeable. Targets for observed shooting by our arty were unusually few.

Enemy night activity was slight.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Machine Gun 87122983

(b) Wire 87332963 single strand.

To the south this was new and on new pickets. To the north the wire is old and broken. The wire is much as is shown in overprint sq 873296 with a wire running west also.

(c) A closer study of the info from patrols around the coastal area shows

(a) B iv AP mines, probably run from 87483044 to 87433039 and possibly further on this line.

(b) A french minefd previously reported in this area is one row 8 yds apart and runs inside a fence of two strands barb wire on short pickets from 87473044 to 87473045 and probably further. This minefd would seem to isolate the LEG OF MUTTON FEATURE: 875304 from CLOVER LEAF 874304.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - There were only 50 shells in the Bde area, 12 of which were air-bursts.

(b) Fd Wks Our patrol reports indicate a considerable reduction in enemy working parties. One was reported well in the enemy FDLs between 301 and 302 northing grids and one in vicinity 87413041. Our patrol recce this latter area but the sounds had ceased and there were no further signs of the enemy. A later report indicates continued signs of working in vicinity of West Pt 23.

4. AIR OPS

In two raids yesterday EA were directed against our fd arty.

1235 hrs 14 JU87 covered by at least one ME 109 divedbombed area 88003000.

1847 hrs six ME 109 bombed slightly east of this area.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty The effect of our HF by night was reported by a patrol. Sounds of digging could be heard but the HF caused the work to be continually starting and stopping. HF 0800-1500 hrs

CLOVER LEAF; diggings in squares 874302  
871304 - 870300 - 870299 - 870298 -  
871298 - 870297 - 871297 and  
defended localities in 872301 -  
871301.

(2)

2100 to 0100 hrs :

CLOVER LEAF - track juncs 875304 - 872303 and diggings  
in 874302 - 871304.

(b) Patrols

- (i) A patrol reported a tight fence wire about two to three inches from the ground running through short iron and wooden stakes.  
It is not booby-trapped and appeared to have no significance except perhaps as a warning device from a listening post.
- (ii) Another patrol left at last light to areas 87352964 and 87312969 in an endeavour to ambush enemy patrol and working parties, operating recently in those vicinities. NMS
- (iii) Other patrols went to areas 87513036 87383029 and 87413016, and apart from sounds of a working party at the last reference and sounds of a picket being driven in on 7523046 there was nothing to report.

*W. J. ...*  
for Maj.

B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

DISTRIBUTION List per Summary No 9.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 54.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 13 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL. The period was normal with nothing of importance to report.
2. ENEMY DISPOSITIONS  
Flanking Bde reports that enemy AA fwd of their FDLs is from MGS only.
3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS
  - (a) Arty - 86713007 Suspect tp posn
  - (b) OP - 87402966 Suspect OP well sited, dug and camouflaged.
  - (c) Working Parties
    - 86963015 Engaged by arty
    - 86973013 Inf diggings / used
    - 87382962 Wheelbarrow and shovel being reported by patrol.
    - 87463046 Driving of pickets heard.
    - 87112999 Sounds of voices (unidentified) and digging.
  - (d) DIGGINGS
    - 87152999 Fresh diggings sited amongst tall bushes.
  - (e) Wire and Mines
    - 87132999 Single dannert 3 ft high good condition, Safety collars for mine fuses found in area indicates that mines may have been laid in wire.
    - 87133003 Taut barbed trip wire, on short iron pickets.
4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY
  - (a) Arty - Enemy arty was more active yesterday, there being over 420 shells. Carrier movement and a prominent kitchen are thought to be the cause of 121 shells being fired in the area 87773018. A Coy on east pt 24 reports continuous harassing fire from one gun which shelled every two or three minutes from 0815 to 1700 hrs. In this Coy there were 217 shells for the day. The enemy appeared to be using a new OP. Movt on left fwd bn FDLs is now shelled more than previously and small individual recce parties are coming in for some close and detailed attention.
  - (b) Inf - 1300 hrs 14 enemy moved from approx 87123000 to within 900 yards of West Pt 24, the latter part being through arty fire.



A foot patrol moved out and was engaged by the enemy with a Tk rifle and mortar. Fire was returned with automatics and the enemy withdrew.

5. AIR OPS

1130 Unidentified E A flew over area about 16000 feet. After a little AA fire the plane released its bombs out to sea.

Two large E A - one thought to be a JU 52 were seen to the west during the morning flying low in a northerly direction.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Observed targets of inf movement were engaged. These were not on a large scale. Harassing fire was continued during the day and night. From 1015-1715 hrs targets engaged were CLOVER LEAF and RUM also diggings in squares 375304 - 874302 - 873303 - 870300 - 870299 - 870298 - 871298 - 871297 - 871296 - 870296 - 869295 - and defended locality 871302. From 2200 to 0400 hrs defended locality 872301 and diggings in 872297 870296 873292 874292 and 873291 were harassed.

(b) Patrols -

(i) A small recce patrol with a strong covering force went to area east Pt 23. Spasmodic fire from what sounded like a Breda was kept up from approx 87382962.

Working parties were reported working east and SE of West Pt 23.

(ii) A patrol moved from 87613029 to 87473042 to 87463043 without striking any Biv mines or wire but finding the furrow which marks the minefd. This indicates either that the gap in B iv fd made on night 6/7 Sep has not been replaced or that the fd has been shifted.

(iii) A patrol to enemy wire at 87132999 observed slight enemy movt and heard working parties nearby. The ground here is bare and unfavourable for close recce.

(iv) A patrol to 87282977 located knocked out tks and vehs. Nine unprimed British Mk V mines were located alongside derelict British tk, but no minefd was located.

*G. J. ...*  
Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION list as Summary No 9.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 55.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 14 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL.

Ground activity was quiet and only 45 shells fell in the Bde area. Observed movement was less than usual and MY movement normal but mainly northwards.

Enemy bombing was considerably increased the targets being out of this Bde area.

An ITALIAN prisoner was captured by one of our night patrols.

2. ENEMY IDENTIFICATIONS

PW captured at 87182983 is from 3 Coy 1 Bn 62 IR. Although he was ill at the time he states that his Bn came into the line on the 1 Sep and relieved ITALIANS. His coy is fwd with GERMANS on either flank, 1 coy about 2 kilos behind with 2 coy to the right, 4 coy is still further in the rear and fwd of the guns.

3. ENEMY MORALE

PW states that his patrols go out 300 to 400 yds at most, depending on the courage of the patrol leader.

The PWs only regret was that his friend also on the patrol and busy firing a Breda was not captured also.

4. ENEMY METHODS

There is an independent daily pass word for GERMANS and ITALIANS. The PW himself did not know the GERMAN pass-word but his Sjt/Maj did.

For normal recognition it appears sufficient to say "Camarado Italiano".

5. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Inf - 87242953 suspect HQ.  
87363032 Strong post  
87263021 Inf post ( contains spandau)

(b) Wire - 87273017 Taut trip wire, previously reported. Wire passes through the eye of pickets and then into ground. In some places trip wire is connected to the dannert (3 ft high and in good condition). In other places there are leads from the trip wire into the ground. No booby-traps found. Base of leads not unearthed but thought to contain explosive with pull ignitor.

(2)

(c) Explosions

1250 hrs 335 and 210 degrees from West Pt 24, two explosions behind enemy lines.

0530 hrs. After our arty HF. Amn dump burning and many explosions 220 degrees from 87432997.

(d) Mines

87393037 B iv A/P minefd attached to iron and wooden pickets by cotton. Two rows deep, 10 ft between rows with mines 15 ft apart marked by sig cr trip wire 10 yds on enemy side. Field continues at least 100 yards either way.

87353032 Further B iv field probably continuation of previous one. Runs approx east-west.

6. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

Arty Shelling was unusually light there being only 45 shells in the Bde area, all falling on left fwd Bn area.

When the mortars of this Bn registered a DF task, the enemy successfully registered the same task with his arty. At 0530 hrs as the result of our Art HF, the enemy put down MG DF along his whole front and fired several shells and some mortars along his FDLs. Flash bearing 220 degrees from 87733004. In the vicinity of West Pt 23 four tracer were seen to be fired into the air at about half minute intervals. Possibly a recall signal for a patrol.

7. AIR OPS

There were four bombing raids during the day, the targets of which were outside this Bde area.

0833 hrs 3 E A dropped six bombs 83602945 no damage.

1045 hrs 9 JU 87s escorted by 10 to 12 ME 109 bombed area 881298 - level bombing. No damage or casualties.

1710 hrs approx. Raid in vicinity 888294.

1830 hrs At least 10 JU 87 with fighter cover bombed left Bde area. Our fighters pursued. Two parachutes were seen to open out well out from our positions, and one fighter appeared to be on fire. One of our air-craft crashed approx 87682955.

8. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - HFt arget numbers 2,5,9 11,20,22, 27, 30, 32, 34, 38, 42, 44 and 45 were fired between 1030 and 1630 hrs. From 0500 to 0530 hrs targets 15, 17, 27 and 29 were fired. As the result of this latter an amn dump was seen on fire.

(b) Patrols -  
(1) A patrol to 87273017 inspected a trip-wire previously mentioned. Flares went up 300 to 400 yds on either flank, MGs and 2 mortars opened up the latter firing one rd each.

(3)

- (ii) Another patrol found some roofless sangars at 87202983. Movt had previously been heard and this continued as patrol moved to 87192983. ITALIAN voices could be heard in direct front and GERMANS on about 235 degrees. Patrol commander moved fwd and later saw 13 men 150 yds south and moving east. On the patrol moving south in an attempt to make contact a dannert fence was met and the patrol challenged. This was repeated along the front. A grenade was thrown at the patrol which moved out NE. The enemy patrol had meantime deployed with left flank in sangars previously mentioned and right flank right across our patrols course

As our patrol moved fwd a man was seen in a trench and was captured. The enemy was firing on our patrol with three automatics from the sangars. This was returned with organised fire from Bren and TSMGs and after a short but hy engagement the enemy fire ceased and he withdrew in disorder. Shouts and cries were heard but it is not known what casualties were inflicted. We suffered no casualties. Whilst moving out the patrol was again challenged, the PW replied "ITALIANO" and the patrol was allowed to pass without question.

- (iii) A patrol also went to 87313017 - NMS.  
A patrol to SW of CLOVER LEAF brought back some useful infm about minefds.
- (iv) A patrol which moved to area 87543036 with the intention of lying up found the sig wire previously laid had been tapped in three places and bared for tapping in seven.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution as per Summary No. 9.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 56.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 15 Sep 42)

1. GENERAL - There is little ground activity to report. Enemy shelling was above normal with a hy concentration on area 877300. During the evening traffic SKYLINE track was well above normal, the majority of traffic going NW, some guns and tks were also seen moving North West.

In bad visibility on the morning of 15 Sep there was unusual veh movt on the Bde front consisting of 100 MT and what appeared to be 20 tks.

There is no change reported in the South.

Interrogation report of PW captured night 13/14 is appended.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

- (a) Inf - 87303033 recurrent movt indicates strong pt.  
87363032 Suspect strong post.  
87273031 Suspect strong post

- (b) Diggings  
87112985 New diggings

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Over the last five days enemy shelling has been alternately hy then very light. 14 Sep

10 Sep	330
11 Sep	50
12 Sep	420
13 Sep	35
14 Sep	480

Shelling on CUTTING and East 24 features was lighter but the area 877300 was heavily shelled with 234 rounds.

Flash bearing was taken from 8763030135 on to 6 guns. 274 degrees approx 6000 yds.

Of 44 rounds 25 pr which fell in area 87663018 the first eight were duds. Investigation revealed that the nose cap had not been removed.

- (b) Veh Movt - MT movt was normal up to 1500 hrs. From 1500 hrs to last light one observer reported 100 vehs per hr, 80 per cent of which moved NW. Another observer reported about 60 vehs per hr between 1400 and 1900 hrs with 90 per cent going NW. Nine guns were seen moving NW and at 1830 hrs 4 tks moved in the same direction.

0840 hrs 15 Sep on 284 degrees from 87592931 9 vehs thought to be mixed tks moved from N to S then turned East.

0926 hrs 280 degrees same MR. 50 vehs were reported near SKYLINE track.

0930 hrs Arty OP reported 100 MT and approx 20 tks on the SKYLINE track moving from West to East.

The visibility over this period was not good.

- (c) Inf Movt - 0900 hrs 14 Sep our arty engaged 40 men on track at 86833006.

0930 hrs 15 Sep arty OP reported an unusual amount of inf movt between ruins (872303) and RING feature 25 (873302).

(2)

4. Air Ops

1140 hrs 2 ME 109 flew towards arty posn, were deflected by Lt AA and dropped four bombs area 877300. Only damage was to DR M/C.

1740 hrs 2 JU 52 landed near SKYLINE track south of MOSQUE took off 1850 hrs.

1900 hrs German FIESELER STORCH flew low over enemy FDLs.

2100 hrs - 2140 hrs Plane was seen to fly from west with lights on. These were turned off after crossing our FDLs.

The plane flew up and down the coast occasionally switching lights on and off.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - HF targets fired as follows :

1100-1630 hrs Nos 3, 5, 9, 12, 16, 18, 23, 26, 28,  
35, 36, 38, 40

2100-0130 hrs Nos 1, 7, 13, 14.

(b) Patrols - Patrol went to 87553035, 87493027, 87183010, 87163005 with nothing to report except an extreme absence of sounds or signs of activity on the coastal sector.

Patrol to 87402964 reported spandau fire from approx 87362965 and 87362959, apparently firing at random. 3 men were also seen but these went to ground and apparently crawled away as could not be located.

*B. H. 20*

for Maj.  
B.H. 20

Interrogation of :

PASQUALE Randone  
 Private  
 3 Coy I Bn 62 Inf Regt TRENTO Div  
 Captured night 13 Sep 87182983

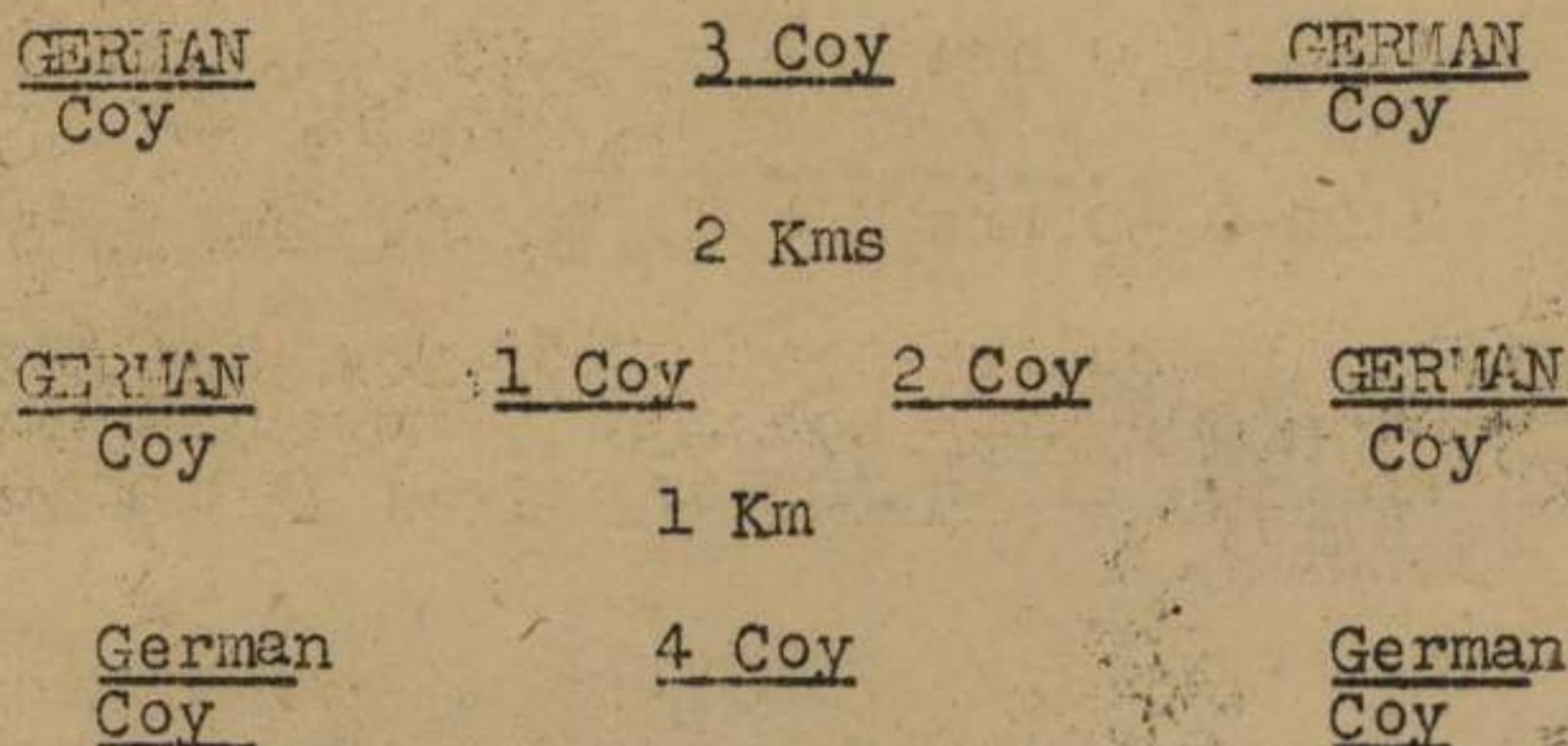
History. PW is 23 years of age. Was mobilised in Jun 1940, and left Italy for N Africa 13 Mar 41. Was first in 5 coy 2 Bn 62 IR and was transferred to 1 Bn 2 Apr 42. Has been in hospital at Barcia and rejoined his coy 1 Sep.

Personalities.

Owing to short time he has been with his Bn, PW could not give the names of OC Bn or Coy, as he states these have been changed recently.

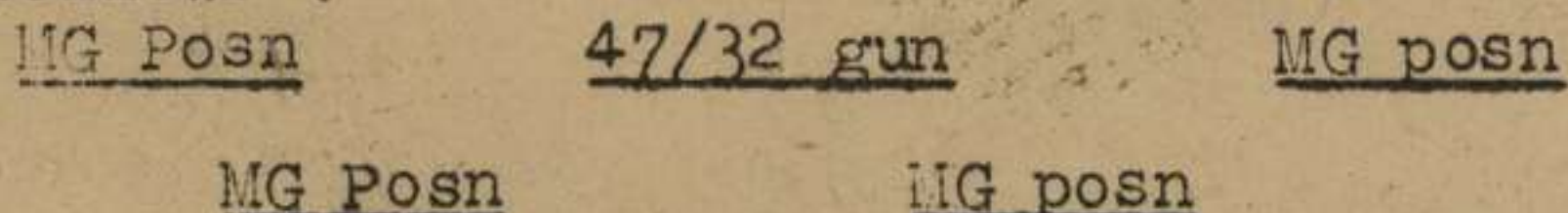
Unit.

PW states 1 Bn is up to strength with about 150 men per coy. 3 Coy is fwd with 1 and 2 coys about 2 km in rear, and 4 coy about 1 km in the rear of 1 and 2 coys. In the front line, coys are alternately ITALIAN and GERMAN, but 1 and 2 Coys are together to the rear of 3 Coy with again GERMAN Coys on right and left flanks thus :-



PW could not give identification of German Coys.

Disposition of 3 Coy of front line was 5 strongpoints (centri di fuoco) as follows :-



and there is no wire round the strongpoints.

PW had previously stated that his coy had four 47/32 guns but could only give the location of one, i.e. that in the central strongpoint. According to PW, the depth of the defence in this part of the line is about 3 kms with Italian arty in sp behind 4 Coy. States his Bn has been in present location at least a month.

Minefields. States there is a minefield about 100 metres in front of 3 Coy, about 10-11 metres wide and wired all round. Has no knowledge of any minefields in the rear.

Patrols and working parties. Says German and Italian patrols are sent out every night, usually from ten to fifteen men, but they operate quite independently. Is quite certain there are no recognition sigs other than a password, and is equally affirmative in saying there are no working parties.

Exchange of Personnel. PW says that all offrs and OR who have served two years continuously in North Africa are now being returned to Ital. This system started about a month ago, replacements being effected by tps sent from Italy.

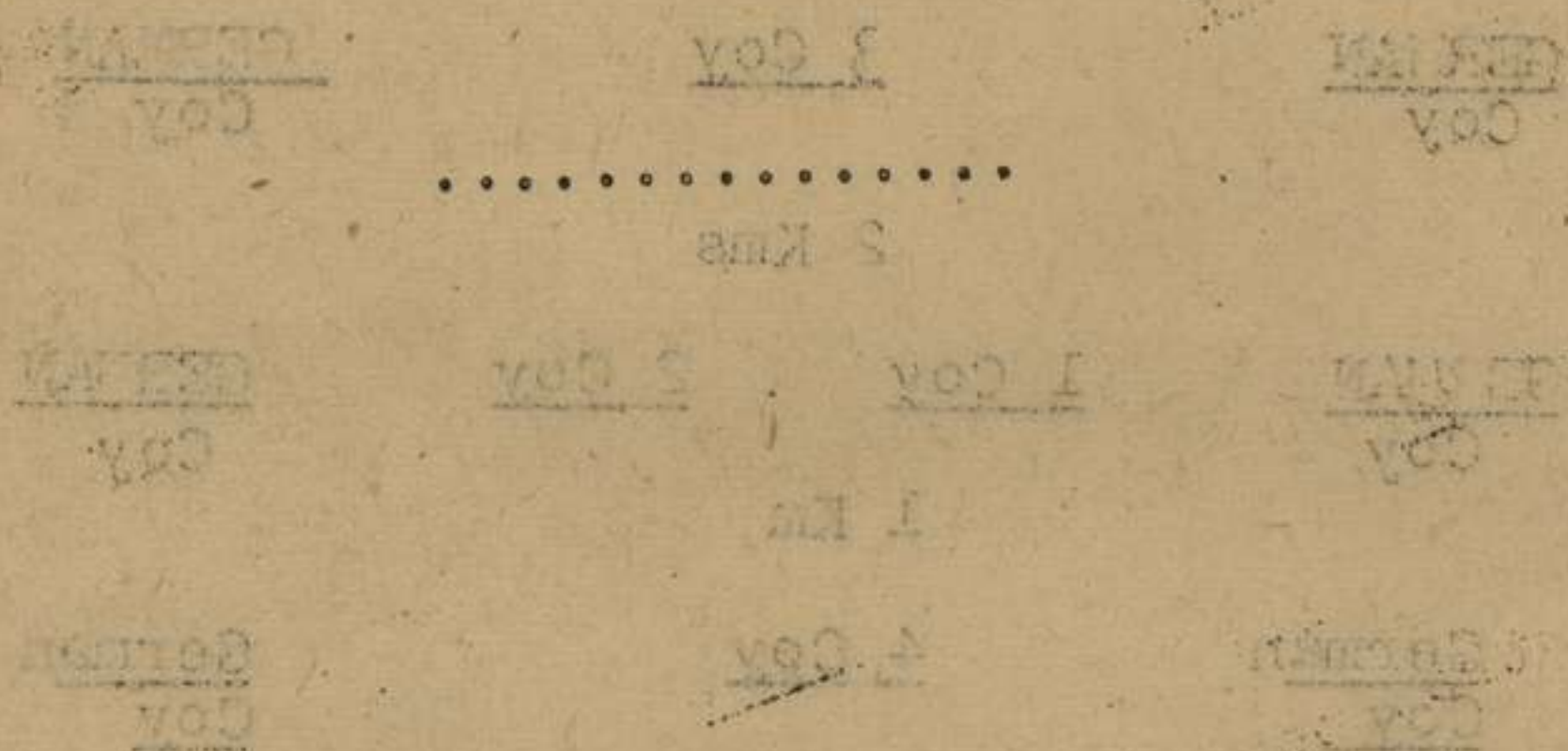
ROMMEL's Offensive. PW was aware that the offensive had started but states there has been no gossip or comment in his Bn as a result of its failure, nor has there been any talk of a resumption of the attack. He knew little of the "BULIMBA" attack, which apparently took place the night before he rejoined his coy, but thinks the attack must have been made on the German Coy on his Coy's left flank.

Arty Fire and RAF Bombings.

PW states our arty is "terrific" during the day, but everybody keeps well to ground and in consequence there have been very few casualties. Has not a very good opinion of the RAF and considers they bomb from too great a height, as they seem to have a tremendous respect for Axis AA fire. Considers the Italian Air Force very good.

Morale.

PW himself seemed very pleased to have been taken prisoner but says the morale among the Bn is generally good, and is greatly helped by the excellent German morale and the German indifference to arty fire.



.....

2 kms

GERMAN COY

1 COY

2 COY

GERMAN COY

1 COY

2 COY

.....

GERMAN COY

1 COY

2 COY

GERMAN COY

1 COY

2 COY

.....

GERMAN COY

1 COY

2 COY

GERMAN COY

1 COY

2 COY



20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 57.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 16 sep 42).

1. GENERAL

Enemy MT movt on SKYLINE track continued during the day, tks and guns being seen moving generally NW. The enemy continues to bomb targets in rear of this Bde area, enemy shelling in Bde area was again very light, no contact was made by our patrols.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Inf - 87183021 Defended locality  
87193036 inf posn or OP  
87473049 inf post  
87473048 inf post  
87323021 wire post occupied by GERMANS.

(b) mines and wire -

87273016

trip wire is fwd of main wire by three feet, trip wire cut in many places. Nine S mines found in 700 yds, spacing varying from 20 yds to 100 yds. Trip wire slack between longer gaps. Six mines BRITISH Mk iv found within 15 yards of wire - appeared laid at random. No mines found within 50 yds on enemy side of wire.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Another day of light shelling there being only 54 shells in Bde area.  
NOTE - Any air-burst fuses should be collected if possible for CBO.  
Air burst fuse on 14 Sep 42 was the GERMAN AZS/30FG indicating that PX PITS (866963037) must be used by 105/GH as well as by 25 pr guns.  
105/GH was the most recent occupant (Source CB I report No 55).

(b) Inf - There was unusually consistent movt of isolated personnel beneath ridge between RUIN (872303) and Pt 25 (873302) this continued throughout the day. Left flanking Bde reports that a standing patrol at 87852918 engaged an enemy party of about 50 strong which approached. At least 4 casualties were inflicted and one spandau has since been brought in.

(c) Vehs - There was considerable movt throughout the day along the SKYLINE track. Arty OP reports 200 vehs per hr moving along track during the morning, 160 NW and 40 SE. During the afternoon the average was 120 vehs per hr. Movt on morning 16 Sep was again normal at 20-25 per hr. The 15 tks and 50 MT reported by left fwd Bn to be in area 886297 to 866303 throughout yesterday had moved by first light 16 Sep.

4. Air OPs -

(a) Enemy raids were reported :-

- 0955 hrs 15 Sep - 3 ME 109 bombed 887294
- 1100 hrs - 2 EA bombed 888293 from high level.
- 1110 hrs - 12 EA bombed areas 438902 - 437899 - 430902 - 432903 no damage.
- 1250 hrs - 13 JU 87 escorted by 11 ME 109 bombed area 881294 light AA engaged and claimed 4 damaged. Four lots of bombs seen to be jettisoned out to sea.
- 0920 hrs 16 Sep - 1 EA dropped 6 bombs area 87553024 no damage.

(b) At 1305 hrs a dog fight could be seen well to the South, 9 planes were seen to crash incl one kittyhawk in our own lines, pilot safe. Of the eight seen to crash in enemy lines only one pilot was seen to bail out.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Together with opportunity targets of inf movt the arty engaged enemy MT, the range was too great however, for effective shooting. HF was put down on the following targets :-

- 1000-1700 hrs 2, 9, 15, 22, 24, 27, 29, 32, 33, 37,
- 2100-0200 hrs 22, 26, 27, 29, 33.

(b) Patrols -

(i) By the light of air enemy flare a wired post could be seen at 87323021 also wire at 87313020 Men could be seen digging and some appeared to be laying mines. A GERMAN could be heard reading the news and referred to STALINGRAD and the FUEHRER.

(ii) A patrol to 87403030 could find no trace of suspected enemy strongpoint.

(iii) A mixed sapper and Inf party which recce'd for mines from 87623029 to 87413039 to 87403038 to 87623029 found none.

Comment

It is expected that mines would have probably been found a further 100 - 200 yds on first leg.

(iv) From 87273016 the wire was examined for 350 yds either way. THOMPSONS POST 87203018 has at least a percentage of ITALIANS as their voices were quite clear.

(v) A patrol to 87302972 - 87302964 to investigate wire previously reported in this vicinity found none. Digging could be heard approx 87252966 ITALIAN voices could be heard vicinity WEST Pt 23.

*B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde*  
Maj.

Distribution List as Summary No 9. plus one copy for affiliated Bde

W.D.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 58.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 17 Sep 42.)

(d)

1. GENERAL

There was unusually hy enemy arty fire during the day, as usual the main target. was TEL EL EISA CUTTING area. The enemy continue to work at night in defences. Air activity was reduced.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

- (a) Inf - 36883056 Strongpost and suspect OP  
36873006 Gps 4 to 10 men  
86953071 Suspect OP  
87093006 Suspect strongpost. Wire and men seen.
- (b) Diggings  
87142997 New digging  
87112984 New digging.
- (c) Working parties  
Vicinity 87122995
- (d) Mines  
87213009 Fd of EP Mk 11 mines 140-320 degrees. mines 4 to 40 yds apart. Mines extend 400 yds on 320 degrees. Width approx 50 yds.
- (e) Wire  
87332971 Single dannert due north 60 yds then 350 degrees. In other direction dannert appeared and continued due south. No mines found.  
87283036 to 87243035 to 87273030 to 87283036 (A/P 57)
- (f) Road blocks  
87233032 Three trenches (A/P 359) 87203034 Trench dug at right angles across rd (A/P 58)  
87293028 Shallow trench dug across road at right angles. (A/P 58)

ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Artv - Shelling was very hy on left fwd bn. There being 490 shells in area TELL EL EISA and CUTTING. There were 600 shells for the day in the Bde area. 25 pr guns were responsible for the main shelling. The enemy appeared to be registering tasks with smoke. Two rounds being fired between sta and CUTTING and between 1730 and 1905 8 smoke shells fell in vicinity Trig 33. It was also reported that the enemy registered some of his own DF tasks with smoke.

(2)

(b) Inf Movt

0900 hrs 4 parties of up to 20 men each seen moving area 865304.

0800-1500 hrs men appeared and disappeared CLOVER LEAF area 87413041 to 87423042.

1900 hrs about 20 men seen area 872302.

(c) MT Movt

MT movt on SKYLINE track was slight during the day.

0810 hrs - 1130 hrs	Approx 10 vehs per hr
1500 hrs - 1730 hrs	movement increased to 35-40 vehs per hr.

At about 1100 hrs approx 200 MT and at least 15 tks could be seen stationary and dispersed in area 865298 to 865300.

At 1345 hrs there was a thinning out and the most reported during the afternoon was 70 MT and 10 tks. This was considerably reduced by first light 17 Sep.

4. AIR OPS

There was slight movt of isolated planes during the day but apart from the report at 0900 reported yesterday there was no hostile action.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Harassing fire was continued. There were few opportunity targets for the arty to engage.

(i) Patrols report continued enemy working parties. One to the immediate north of West Pt 23 being covered by a standing patrol 8 strong. A spandau fired from 87312964.

(ii) At 87413030 a party of GERMANS was seen unloading iron from a derelict truck. Our patrols opened fire putting the enemy to ground. There was no indication of casualties being inflicted.

(iii) A patrol at 87413015 heard movt to his rear on both flanks. In an endeavour to skirt the area further noises were heard. In an attempt to make contact the area was searched for 200 yds all round without success.

*B. M. 20*  
for Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution as Summary No. 57.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 59

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 18 Sep 42.)

1. GENERAL

Enemy shelling and MT movt were normal.  
Enemy working parties are reported more active south of the ry.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS(a) Arty - From AAPIU reports :

86782958 Two 4 gun fd posns previously unoccupied, now occupied (330)  
86723052 More accurate placing of posn previously reported 86683028. 3 fd guns (336)  
86502998 4 fd gun position now occupied (34).

(b) Inf - 87373019

Recently occupied diggings

87122985

New occupied diggings.

87003078

- 87153065 line of inf posns incl MG and A Tk posns. From A/P (347)

(c) Wire - 87312968

Small knoll single dannert running due SOUTH.

87312967

Gap in wire with track running E-W.

87243064

- 87303058 - 87273054 suspect wire from A/P (48)

(d) Working Parties -

86943003

By day

(e) Mines -

87223010

EP Mk ii freshly covered, in an area 500 sq yds. Spacing varied, no pattern.

86943007

to 86873000 (limit of cover)  
Suspect minefd from A/P (354)3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

## (a)

Arty -

Enemy arty fire was on a reduced scale 110 rounds falling in the Bde area. The CUTTING and TEL. EL EISA area received 42 rounds but a new target, area 87803009 had, 60 rounds.

## (b)

Inf Movt -

1930 hrs 20 men seen moving from sangar vicinity 87473046.

## (c)

MT Movt -

First light 17 Sep revealed that one enemy concentration had been reduced from 87 to 28. Movt on the track was normal all day except a convoy of 100 MT at 0945 hrs moving N-W. Ten vehs appeared to be towing guns and at 1200 hrs what appeared to be a further 6 guns were towed N-W. Movt on morning 18 Sep was also normal.

4. Air Ops -

1215 hrs 12 JU 87s with fighter cover 8 ME 109  
bombed 882298. No damage. Enemy planes used sirens.  
Our Lt AA claims two damaged.  
Other air activity was on a very slight scale.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - Between 1100-1600 hrs harassing fire was  
directed on targets 3, 5, 8, 11, 17, 21, 22,  
25, 30, 31, 32.  
Concentrations were also fired :  
1030 hrs 8741430265  
1045 hrs 8739130278

(b) Patrols-

- (i) Patrols to 87453042 and strong mobile protective  
patrols across right fwd bn front returned with  
NTR. Patrol to diggings at 87373019 found signs  
of recent occupation including freshly opened food  
tins.
- (ii) Patrols south of ry reported unusually strong  
working parties. In vicinity 87302960 it is  
estimated there were about two coys strong working  
over a frontage of 800 yds mainly driving pickets  
and wiring.
- (iii) A patrol to 87312968 heard a large working party  
in vicinity of West Pt 23 and from 87312965 it  
was estimated another large working party was  
operating in area 87302960. Empty mine boxes British  
Mk iv and v were found vicinity 87312968.
- (iv) A patrol from left flanking Bde fired on enemy  
listening post from 87432935. The patrol came under  
by MG and mortar fire when returning.
- (v) Another patrol on night 16/17 Sep located a  
spandau post approx 87382946 and what was thought  
to be a Breda or Fiat at 87372947.

*Col. G. J. Smith*  
for Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution list as Summary 57.

WD

I 19/32/215

SECRET  
COPY NO. 22  
19 Sep 42.

20 MUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 60.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 19 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

Enemy shelling was reduced and MT movt was normal.  
A patrol had an exchange of fire with an enemy post at 87333029 and casualties are thought to have been inflicted.

2. ENEMY METHOD

An observer reports that in recent enemy bombings, an air burst bomb is dropped over the target area as a preliminary.

3. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS.

- (a) Inf - 87193053 - Inf post - possible OP.  
87202956 - Approx only possible post.  
87322957 - Spandau  
87373029 - Inf post (1 spandau, 1 tommy, 6 rifles - GERMAN).  
87423044 - 12-15 men seen.
- (b) Wire - On eastern end CLOVER LEAF at least 5 rows single dannert can be seen running approx N-S.  
87342964 Gap in old single dannert fence.  
87333029 Single dannert on 285 degrees. DA fence 15 yds inside and parallel.  
Wire extended 70 yds to right NW then on 81 degrees for 20 yds then on 53 degrees. 30 yds to left or SE wire ran on 22 degrees for 120 yds. DA ended where dannert turned on 22 degrees.  
87323017 Triple dannert.  
87523043 Two rows angle iron pickets with dannert and barb between. Mines or booby traps located fwd of wire.
- (c) Mines - 87463012 Old German minefd previously known 5 Br Mk iv lifted and one Mk v set as booby trap.
- (d) Working Party  
87503046 Engaged by arty

4. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY.

- (a) arty - There was harassing fire on a slight scale, 75 shells in the Bde area. The CUTTING was neglected receiving no shells, and east 24 only 8.  
The enemy continues to shell actively one day and lightly the next. No reason can be seen other than amm supply.

NOTE - In conditions where flash bearings are scarce it is noteworthy that the majority of sound bearings pass within 3 degrees on either side of the HB active (CB. (I report No 58).

- (b) MT on SKYLINE track continues to be normal.  
At 1105 hrs a smoke producing veh laid a screen on SKYLINE track, which was effective for about 15 minutes. There was nothing unusual noticed either before or after.

5. Air Ops

0800 hrs our aircraft were seen to bomb dispersed MT on SKYLINE track. About 50 MT were observed.

6. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Opportunity targets consisted of inf movt, hostile arty and OPs. Harassing fire continued during the day. Targets 8, 11, 15, 19, 21, 26, 41, 46, 47 and 49 were engaged. In an endeavour to interfere with enemy working parties Nos 15, 16 and 17 were fired between 2300 and 0200 hrs. Work on EGG feature 8751304+ ceased when our HF fell in that area.

7 (b) Patrols

(i) An inf and sapper patrol to sq 373296 found no mines. A Working party driving pickets was heard at about 87292969 and low voices at approx 87322966, these were sporadic automatic fire to the S-W.

(ii) A patrol to 87222996 reported sound of shovels in use and of hammering pickets due west. An enemy patrol of unknown strength was heard to the patrols front.

(iii) Patrol to 87383029 was inspecting wire when challenged in German. Patrol went to ground and were immediately fired on. This fire was returned, the enemy used one spandau one sub MG and at least 6 rifles indicating probably a sec post. Noises from the enemy indicated that casualties were probably inflicted. Our patrol withdrew 100 yds and later continued its recce of enemy wire. We suffered no casualties.

Patrols to 87523043 and 87323017 returned with infm concerning enemy mines and wire. Working was heard also between rd and ry.

*G. L. ...*  
Lieut

for Maj.  
E.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

~~Distinction~~ List as Summary No 57.



20 AUGST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 61

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 20 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL -

quiet period with normal activity.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

- (a) Inf - 87112961 Men and truck  
87443045 Defended posn, Veh thought to be  
ambulance moved from this area to  
87453048  
87243037 2 men seen.
- (b) Wire - 87363031 single dannert 267 degs. Continues to west  
on 267 degs for at least 100 yds and to  
east for 75 yds thence on 80 degs.
- (c) Mines p  
87192996 One row 5 EP Mk ii mines running N-S  
covering 30 yds.

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY(a) Arty -

Enemy arty fire was again normal, there being little attention paid to FDLs. A concentration of 60 shells in 10 minutes on 87743007, being the main shelling. There were no shells in right fwd Bn area.

- (b) Inf. 1000 hrs what appeared to be a recce party at 86893082 was engaged by our arty.  
1830 hrs 2 groups of 10 men were observed working in area 868301. Other working parties were reported as in 4 (b) (ii).

- (c) MT Movt on SKYLINE track was normal except between 1100 hrs and 1200 hrs when 50 vehs were reported - about 25 each way.

- (d) Tks - One enemy lt tk moved into area 87423015 during the afternoon. It was engaged by arty and mortars but remained until after last light.

4. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty Harassing fire 1030-1730 hrs, targets Nos 3, 5, 8, 11, 15, 17, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29, 30, 32, 37, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45, from 2030 - 2400 hrs Nos 15, 16, 17, 19 and 22 were engaged. A night patrol reported that an enemy working party ceased work when HF fell in that area.  
HB "NL" was observed in the open about 400 yds in rear of dug position, after being engaged vehs were seen taking the guns away. These were also engaged (CB Int report No 59)

(b) Patrols

- (1) A tk hunting patrol to 87423015 to locate lt tks reported during the afternoon was unsuccessful. A patrol along the ry could find no trace of the triple dannert fence reported at 87323017 night 18/19 Sep.

(2)

Comment - The patrol 18/19 Sep was probably off bearing, being further north than reported.

(ii) Patrols went to 87363031, 87523042, 87243003, 87182996, 87302981 and ~~87292981~~.  
Enemy working parties were heard in vicinities 87333027, 87142996, 87283016 and 87182956.

(iii) Patrol to 87302981 observed a working party at 87262981 with a truck. The enemy were driving in long steel pickets. A patrol of 13 enemy was seen to take up a position SW of our patrol which crawled north to area of derelict AFVs.  
After moving back this area was engaged by enemy mortar and spandau fire and 6 white flares were fired in quick succession.

(iv) A patrol penetrated as far as 87232956 without any difficulty but heard a veh being unloaded about 600 yds further in. Sig wires were crossed at 87322956 and 87282956.

Comment - Unless this patrol managed to move unobserved between two posts which is unlikely with the present moon, the AAPIU overlay would appear incorrect in this area. On night 21/22 Aug a prisoner was captured from a LP at 87172953.

*Col. ...*  
Haj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

Distribution list as Summary No 57.

I 19/32/218

WD  
SECRET  
COPY NO 21  
21 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 62.

(Based on info received up to 1000 hrs 21 Sep 42).

1. GENERAL

Enemy shelling was at a record low level. Enemy working continues and one of his covering parties fired on our recce patrol. Another recce patrol was forced to withdraw by an enemy patrol 18 strong.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

- (a) Inf - 87463043      Inf posn  
                  86933020      Inf post
- (b) Mines 87513041      B iv mines found behind trip wire.
- (c) Wire 87513041      Trip wire on 100 degrees continues to rd then single dannert to coast.
- (d) Digging 87513041      Recent

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - Enemy shelling was the lowest yet reported there being only 9 shells in the Bde area.
- (b) Inf - An enemy patrol forward of West 23 forced the withdrawal of one of our patrols. see para 5 (b) (ii)
- (c) Working A working party was reported at 87183071 during the day. Work seems to be continuing north and south of Ring contour 25 (873302) and also vicinity West 23.
- (d) MT MOVT There was little movt on the SKYLINE track. Since the recent move of MT northwards, normal movt would appear to be about 15 per hr.

4. Air Ops

No activity.  
A Kittyhawk landed in the Bde area at 1730 hrs  
The pilot is safe.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

- (a) Arty - In addition to observed targets the following HF tasks were fired :
- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1530 - 1730 hrs | 2, 4, 9, 12, 16, 21, 24,                |
| 1500 - 1700 hrs | 25, 28, 31, 32, 33, 35, 37, 39, 42, 46. |
| 2300 - 0300 hrs | 10, 13, 14, 15 and 18.                  |

(b) Patrols

(i) Patrols to 87443030, 87483039, 872298 report NMS. Patrol to 87513041 observed three enemy and opened fire no results observed. This patrol obtained info about wire and minefeds.

(ii) A recce patrol 1 NCO and 5 reached 87302970. The barrel on West 23 could be seen about 500 yds on left front. A large GERMAN working party could be heard working vicinity West 23 on a wide front driving pickets fairly widely spaced, possibly marking a minefd.

Whilst observing from 87302970 a party of 18 enemy spaced 2 yds apart approached our patrol. When within 150 yds our patrol withdrew 100 yds and as the enemy continued to advance with 6 men moving round one flank, our party withdrew a further 200 yds after which the enemy was lost to view. The enemy could be seen in detail by the naked eye. Every man wore a great-coat and carried either a sub-machine gun or automatic of some kind, now rifles were seen.

(iii) A patrol to 87303017 observed a large enemy working party about 40 strong approx 87303023. Some of the enemy appeared to be unloading mines.

Enemy were heard to scramble up northern side of ry embankment and challenged patrol comd.

After firing tracer into the air the enemy fired on our patrol. Patrol withdrew and continued on recce. found

A patrol which moved north of ry and parallel to 87303019 at about 0400 hrs/no trace of the enemy, but reported the working and unloading of stores from a v-eh this finished at 0445 hrs

*M. J. Milson* M.J.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde

Distribution List as Summary 57.

I 19/32/221

SECRET  
COPY NO 13  
22 Sep 42.20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO 63.

(Based on info received up to 1000 hrs 22 Sep 42 ).

1. GENERAL

The period was again quiet with normal ground and air activity.

The enemy again actively patrolled area East Pt 23.

2. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty Enemy shelling was again light consisting of registration and harassing fire. There were 53 shells in the Bde area.

(b) Patrols For the second time in two nights an enemy patrol of 13 strong has been operating in vicinity of East Pt 23.

Comment - It would appear that the enemy is anxious to keep our patrols away from this area. Enemy working parties have been reported here for some time.

(c) Working Parties

Vicinity West Pt 23 together with sounds of truck being unloaded.

Sq 372301

Sq 368301 working parties unloading trucks.

Sq 374304 working on wire on CLOVER LEAF feature.

3. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty observed targets were few. HF was maintained during the day and night.

(b) Patrols

(i) As there was HF on the coastal sector the right fwd Bn sent out a screen of mobile protective patrols. Voices were heard vicinity FAIRBURNS post.

(ii) A patrol at 37453008 saw four men south of ry moving west. On moving fwd to 37423009 another party was seen south of the ry moving east. This is considered to be the relief of one of our protective patrols. A patrol which went out soon after from the CUTTING to Pt 17 reported NIS.

(iii) A patrol moved to 37352971 and on the way heard working and a truck unloading. The sound stopped as patrol moved out. After 45 minutes at 37352971 an enemy patrol 18 strong was seen going to ground 400 to 500 yds to the right. As our patrol moved in their direction the enemy passed within 400 yds across the front. Our patrol lay up for half an hour after which time 12 men were seen moving from the direction of our lines. The patrol comd considers that this was portion of the original 18 and that they had split in an endeavour to outflank and capture our party.

At no stage was the enemy party close enough to engage.

(c) Mortars

Our mortars 3 inch ranged on to target area near EGG feature.

81 mm mortars engaged OP on West Pt 23 and posts in area 37232972. Mines were seen to explode at 37232969.

*P. C. Lawrence*

B.M. 20 1950 Inf Bn

Distribution List as for Summary No 57.

of various and this message below is intended to show that our own troops have been working hard to clear the area.

to advance with the other units of the company and to clear the area of the enemy.

It was reported that the enemy had been seen in the area.

The enemy was seen in the area and it was reported that they were working hard to clear the area.

A report was received that the enemy had been seen in the area and it was reported that they were working hard to clear the area.

It was reported that the enemy had been seen in the area and it was reported that they were working hard to clear the area.

WD

19/32/222

SECRET 19  
COPY NO  
23 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO. 64.

(Based on infm received up to 1000 hrs 23 Sep 42.)

1. GENERAL

The period was again quiet. Patrol reports indicate reduced working activity on enemy front. Extensive blasting is reported on 25 contour which is believed to be enemy's main defence line.

2. DETAILED ENEMY DISPOSITIONS

(a) Following weapons were located when they opened fire at about 1830 hrs :-

- 37142987 - Post with at least 2 MGs and 1 Mortar
- 37132991 - Bren
- 87132985 - Breda LMG
- 37083011 - LMG
- 87182985 - MG
- 87042938 - 20 mm

(b) Square 368301 - 30 MT and 12 tents (1 bell type 11 MPIP type)

3. ENEMY GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Arty - West Pt 24 (373299) Pt 17 (372300) received close attention from the enemy arty, the enemy evidently suspecting an OP on Pt 17. 75 mm, 81mm guns and 81 mm mortars took part. The only damage was to the sig wire on TEL HQ BISA. In the Bde area there were 46 shells.

- Sta area 11
- East Pt 24 13
- Cutting 7
- Pt 23 (377300) 9
- Area 87683018 6

Photos and activity show that the GERMEN is digging alternative positions about 500 yds from his previous pits. Both after having been shelled and in anticipation of future bombard. In the last three days 5 tps of fa guns have been brought in north of the 300 grid line. These have all come into old pits and complete the batteries which were depleted by our shelling.

An air photo shows the devastating results of the shoot by mediums against "RD" on the 8 Sep. The M P I is right on the target. No 3 pit is utterly obliterated. No 2 is very badly knocked about and No 1 shows plenty of signs of bombard. (CB Intelligence report No 62).

(b) MT movt appeared normal during the day but when visibility improved during the evening 200 MT could be seen stationary on the SKYLINE between 229&302 northings.

4. Air Ops - At 1150 hrs an ME 109 conducted an extensive high level recce over Bde area.

5. OWN GROUND ACTIVITY

(a) Observed targets were few. HF was maintained during the day and night.

(b) Patrols

- (i) On the right fwd sector there were only protective patrols.
- (ii) Left fwd Bn sent patrols to 37332972 and 37192995 which returned with nothing to report except distant working parties.
- (iii) A late return from a protective patrol night 21/22 Sep reports the presence of a small party of 6 to 8 men presumably enemy which were digging in area 37453009 at 0300 hrs. Our patrol attempted to outflank party which withdrew along the ry line and escaped. The country at this point is perfectly open and is overlooked by our positions.

*Lawrence Lamb*  
MAJ



Septembe

Duplicates

appr D.



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

ROUTINE ORDERS No 71

by

Brigadier W. J. V. WINDEYER, DSO. ED.

Comd 20 AUST INF BDE

11 Sep 42

In the field

1. GROUND TO GROUND RECOGNITION SIGNALS - MT

Our MT carry blue flags for use as recognition signals when challenged. If challenged, MT show a blue flag held horizontally or vertically as notified from time to time.

The flag will NOT be flown except when answering or anticipating a challenge.

2. RESTRICTIONS UPON MOVEMENT OUT OF ARMY AREA

All ranks are forbidden to proceed on or east of the CAIRO - ALEXANDRIA Road unless in possession of a duty pass issued by their unit.

3. FE 'MB VEHICLES - PASSING ON RDS

All MT dra will be instructed to "make-way" for motor ambs at all times. It should be explained to dra that the ambs may be carrying wounded men who should be carried without delay and with the least possible discomfort to the next medical installation.

Vehicles meeting an Amb on a narrow rd should be driven well over to the side of the rd and if necessary should be driven off the rd and stopped until the amb has passed.

4. PUNISHMENTS BY COURT MARTIAL

The following punishments imposed by Courts Martial recently held in this area are published for information.

- (i) A private soldier convicted of stealing property belonging to person subject to military law £5 35 was sentenced to 120 days detention.
- (ii) A private soldier convicted of disobeying a lawful command was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment with hard labour and to be discharged with ignominy.
- (iii) A private soldier convicted of disobeying a lawful command was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment with hard labour and to be discharged.
- (iv) A lieutenant convicted of striking a soldier and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline (using obscene language to the soldier) was sentenced to be severely reprimanded and to lose 12 months seniority.
- (v) A private soldier convicted of one charge of desertion and two of AWL was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for 18 months and to be discharged.
- (vi) A private soldier convicted of three charges of AWL was sentenced to two years imprisonment with hard labour.
- (vii) A Staff Sergeant convicted of neglect to the prejudice of good order and military discipline (negligently leaving a military vehicle unattended in ALEXANDRIA) was sentenced to be severely reprimanded and to forfeit 20 days pay.
- (viii) A private soldier convicted of failing to appear at a

place of parade and disobeying a lawful command was sentenced to 90 days field punishment with forfeiture of pay for that period.

- (ix) A private soldier convicted of two offences of disobeying a lawful command given by his superior officer, was sentenced to 60 days field punishment and to forfeit all ordinary pay for a period of 60 days.
- (x) A private soldier convicted of two offences of obtaining rations by false pretences and of an offence of fraudulently misapplying rations, was sentenced to be imprisoned with hard labour for 23 months.

(To be repeated in unit orders)

5. FIELD CENSORSHIP - GREEN ENVELOPES

Attention is directed to the certificate on Green Envelopes, which the writer is required to sign, that the contents of the envelope refer to nothing but private and family matters. Reference to other matters, even though not otherwise censorable is not permitted.

6. REGIMENTAL GROUPING - ENTRIES IN PAYBOOKS AND ON IDENTITY DISCS

Reference to Aust Div RO No 529 dated 11 Sep 42. Nominal rolls are required to reach this HQ by 0900 hrs 15 Sep 42.

7. POWER VEHICLES - DISCIPLINE - CONTROL OF

Attention is drawn to 9 Aust Div RO No 526. In all cases the written authority for any such journey will be signed by a Staff Officer of this Bde.

Units will be limited to sending one veh per fortnight to ALMEIDA for regimental purchases.

Distribution as per List 4.

*[Signature]*  
Capt  
80 201 1081 Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE  
ROUTINE ORDER NO 72.

by

Brigadier W.J.V. WINDYER, DSO, ED.

COMD 20 AUST INF BDE

19 Sep 42.

In the Field

1. AMN HOLDINGS

Attention is drawn to 9 Aust Div R.O. 542.

Units will render certificates to reach this HQ by 1000 hrs 22 Sep 42.

2. DISCIPLINE

(a) The C in C. has noted that when driving in a car his flag is not being saluted.

(b) All Unit Commanders will warn their men that cars flying the authorised flags on the bonnet must be saluted.

(c) The flags flown by various Commanders are laid down in Middle East G.O. 495 of 42, as amended by G.O. 757 of 42, and must be made known to all Ranks.

3. MT TRAFFIC

"All MT traffic moving to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn coy areas will turn off MAIN road at respective coy sign posts.

There is NO through traffic via TEL EL BISA sta."

There has been increased shelling in the TEL EL BISA sta area probably due to dust raised by MT traffic and for this reason it is desired to avoid all unnecessary movement.

4. TELEGRAPH LINES

Telegraph poles, insulators and telephone lines whether in use or not, will on no account be removed or converted to uses other than those for which they were designed. This order will be repeated in unit orders and all ranks impressed with the necessity for maintaining signal equipment intact at all times.

5. METC DEIR SUNEID

The railway station at which students for M.E.T.C. should detrain is DEIR SUNEID, where M.T. is provided to meet trains.

6. PAYBOOKS - LOSS OF

(a) Attention is directed to AIF (ME) Orders 503 and 876 and in particular to para (b) of 503 which states :-

"Cases of loss occasioned by the negligence or carelessness of the soldier are to be severely dealt with as breaches of military discipline".

(b) Information received indicates that thieving of paybooks by pick-pockets in CAIRO and ALEXANDRIA is still prevalent.

(2)

(c) All ranks will be reminded that every soldier is responsible for the safe custody of his paybook, and that AIF (ME) Order 503(b) will be enforced in every case of loss of a paybook.

7. E.F.M. STANDARD TEXT

E.F.M. Standard Text No 141 reading :

"Sorry to tell you.....died" cannot be used by members of the AIF.

8. JERRICANS

Attention is drawn 9 Aust Div RO No 521.

Any further Jerricans found will be returned to PPs.

9. POLICE DOGS

Police dogs are now operating in the Middle East for the purpose of guarding dumps etc. These dogs consist of armentis, boxers and alsatians.

All members of HM Forces and civilians employed by HM Government, are warned not to touch or interfere with these dogs for the following reasons :-

(i) These dogs are in the charge of MILITARY POLICEMEN, and are trained to attack anyone other than their trainer.

(ii) It will interfere with the training and usefulness of the dogs.

10. RATION SCALE - CAPTURED GERMAN PROTECTED PERSONNEL

No issue of tobacco, cigarettes or matches will be made to captured GERMAN protected personnel.

*J. J. Young* Capt.  
S.C. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION LIST "C"

NOTICES.

Advice has been received that mails posted in the Middle East between 8 Jul 1942 and 17 Jul 1942 were received in Melbourne on 1 Sep 1942.

WD  
HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde.  
6 Sep 42.

Ref:

SECURITY - CONTROL OF ARABS.

Below are instns received from HQ EIGHTH Army regarding control of civilians :-

1. "The Egyptian Government has decreed that the line west of which Arabs will not be permitted to move will, in future, be the 49 easting grid.

The evacuation of Arabs now between 46 and 49 grids has commenced under order of the Western Desert LO. This evacuation which is being assisted by WD tpt was expected to be finished by 25 Aug 42. After the evacuation is completed, the only Arabs permitted to be west of the 49 grid will be certain Arabs exempted by the Western Desert LO, British Military Authorities and the Egyptian Authorities.

2. The object of the following security measures is to restrict the westward movements of Arabs, in order to prevent Arabs from reaching the enemy lines. Any movement of Arabs eastwards will not be restricted since Arabs coming from the direction of the enemy are likely to be in possession of valuable infm.

3. All Arabs who are permitted to remain west of the 49 grid line must be in possession of a pass to that effect. The issue of these passes will be the responsibility of the OC 263 FS Section. Every Arab should be in possession of an Egyptian Permit, which bears a photograph, and Arabs who cannot produce such a permit will not be issued with a pass. The penalty for being west of 49 grid without a pass will be 10 days imprisonment by the Egyptian Authorities."

4. All Arabs found in this area will be sent under escort to Bde HQ.

Maj.  
BM 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION:

2/13 Aust Inf Bn.  
2/15 Aust Inf Bn.  
2/17 Aust Inf Bn.  
2/7 Aust Fd Regt.  
9 Aust A.Tk Bty.  
2/13 Aust Fd Coy.  
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn.  
SC.  
TO.  
File.

7 Sep 42.

20 AUST INF BDE TRG INSTN NO. 20.MINELAYING AND MINELIFTING

1. The G.O.C. desires that all personnel throughout the Division be fully conversant with both British and enemy mines, so that they may in emergency be able to disarm and lift fields which they may unexpectedly meet when Sapper assistance is not available. It is required that each individual man be given at least four half-days of instructions during which period he will have been given the opportunity of actually disarming live mines.
2. 2/13 Aust Fd Coy RAE is to carry out this instruction within 20 Aust Inf Bde and Units are allotted to Sections as follows :-
  - Coy HQ ..... HQ, 20 Aust Inf Bde including Sig Sec, 58 L.A.D. and Pl 2/1 Gd Bn.
  - No 1 Sec..... 2/15 Bn, 7 Fd Regt including Sig Sec and 63 LAD.
  - No 2 Sec..... 2/13 Bn, 9 A/Tk Bty, B Coy and Pl A Coy 2 MG Bn.
  - No 3 Sec..... 2/17 Bn, 10 Lt AA Bty, HQ 4 Lt AA Regt including Sig Sec and Workshop Sec.
3. Each Sec will arrange direct with COs of units regarding times and places for instructions. In the case of Bde HQ. Lieut BURKITT will arrange with the Staff Captain.
4. Instructions will commence as soon as possible and will continue as the situation allows.
5. Each section should provide at least 12 competent instructors.
6. Proposed syllabus of training is attached.
7. Where practicable, the second period should be on the same day as the first period or on the next day and small units and HQ should make at least half their personnel available for instruction.

*Milson* Maj.  
B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde.

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1.
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2.
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3.
J Sec Sigs	4.
58 Aust LAD	5.
1 Pl. 2/1 HQ Gd Bn	6.
2/7 Fd Rgt, Sig Sec, 63 LAD	7.
9 Aust A Tk Bty	8.
10 Lt AA Bty	9.
HQ 4 Lt AA Regt, Sig sec, Wk/Shop Sec	10.
B coy and one Pl A Coy 2/2 MG Bn ...	11.
Comd	12.
S.C.	13.
File	14.
War Diary	15/16.

(2)

MINELAYING AND MINELIFTING  
SYLLABUS OF TRAINING  
FIRST HALF-DAY

1. EXPLOSIVES :- Low and high - Detonators - Flash Caps.
2. BRITISH MINES. (1) GS Mk 11 - (11) GS Mk 1V - (111) GS Mk V.  
(1V) E.P. Mk 11 - (V) E.P. Mk V - (VI) Hawkins (No 75 Gren)
3. G.S. Mk 11. (1) Description and identification.  
(2) Packing and carrying.  
(iii) Safety precautions and testing.  
(iv) Arming.  
(v) Laying  
(vi) Disarming and lifting  
(vii) Squad practice.
4. GS Mk 1V. As for GS Mk 11.
5. GS Mk V. As for GS Mk 11.
6. EP Mk 11. As for GS Mk 11.  
(NB. Arming and disarming of this mark will only be practiced with all gelignite removed).
7. EP Mk V As for GS Mk 11.

SECOND HALF DAY

3. MINEFIELDS. (Brief comment only)
  - (i) Planning- prevent passage or penetrations AFVs. Unit or formation plan NOT immediate protection, individual posts- Necessity cover by 3A fire and patrolling to prevent lifting.
  - (ii) Layout- Chess-board fashion- NOT side by side as impenetrable wall. Rather like barbed wire, plenty air gaps. Can see through them easily but not pass readily. Within limits, given same supply, greater the depth, better the obstacle, Normal maximum density, 1 mine per yd of front, in depth 50 yds to 100 yds. Estimated causes 90% casualty borne out by experience.
  - (iii) Patterns in minefields.
  - (iv) Necessary know where mines are laid.
    - (a) to avoid casualties to own vehicles.
    - (b) to facilitate subsequent removal.Hence careful setting out to plan, marking of fields, preparation and forwarding of records.
  - (v) Marking of our own fields - by Dannert, DAF or cattle fence and tin triangles.
  - (vi) Signs of enemy fields (NOT infalliable)- Dannert, cattle fence, trip wire, furrows in ground, disturbed earth surface, narrowing into gaps.
9. HAWKINS. (No 75 Grenade)
10. ENEMY MINES. At present British types (set first half day) most common, plus some french, Tellermine and Italian B2 may be encountered.
11. FRENCH
12. TELLER
13. B2
14. FURTHER PRACTICE - Disarming especially.

THIRD HALF-DAY

15. Recapitulation of mines already taught. Brief practice by squad.
16. BOOBY TRAPS. (i) Ignitors (11) Trips and switches (iii) Italian B4  
(iv) S Mines.
17. Squad lays section of minefield with live mines.

FOURTH HALF-DAY

18. CLEARING MINEFIELDS AND MARKING GAPS.
  - (1) Various means locating mines. (ii) Disarming and removing.
  - (iii) Marking gaps, by day and by night. (iv) Outline Eighth Army drill
19. Squad is exercised on clearing and marking gaps through live minefields of unknown pattern. (e.g. laid by another squad) finally clearing field completely.

GROUND PATROLS ETC

Notes on conference held at Bde HQ 1200 hrs 6 Sep 42, to discuss the best methods of maintaining pressure on the enemy in the present situation.

1. Posn at 1 Aug 42. The situation when this Bde came into the coastal sector was that the enemy was occupying hastily prepared posns, which he was busily engaged in extending and strengthening. Working parties were active each night all along the front, digging and wiring, and in many cases these working-parties were inadequately protected by covering dets.

2. In these conditions, the policy for offensive patrolling adopted was for fighting patrols of up to 15 men, after recce, to attack enemy working parties and hastily dug posts. The purpose being, to inflict casualties on the enemy, to maintain ascendancy over him by aggression, to hinder the preparation of his defensive line, and to take PW for identification and interrogation.

These patrols relied entirely on stealth and surprise, and sp fire of arty and MMGs was used solely for extrication.

3. The situation is now that the enemy is dug-in in strengthened localities usually protected by wire, and in some places by AP mines. He is noticeably more vigilant, maintains listening posts, and has recently begun to patrol himself. In the main, these enemy patrols seem to be intended as a counter to our own activity, they are sometimes strong in numbers (15/25) and well armed with automatics, and sometimes with 5 cm mortar. They have not been encountered closer than 2000 yards to our PDLs. On the other hand smaller enemy recce patrols have undoubtedly reached our wire on at least two occasions. Large scale raids attempted by the enemy on the night of the GERMAN move fwd in the south, were complete failures.

4. From the discussion. Points were decided at the conference :-

- (a) There is still scope for operations by heavily armed fighting patrols relying entirely on stealth and surprise, and using sp fire only for extrication. Such are being hampered in many places where wire, AP mines, and alert listening posts make surprise difficult to achieve.
- (b) It is still possible to engage the enemy posts from close outside his wire. This undoubtedly harasses him but in such fire fights, casualties are problematical, no PW can be taken, and less terror is inspired. Mortars would be effective but cannot be fired accurately at night, and their movement fwd is a difficulty.
- (c) In general, raids designed to penetrate organised enemy defended localities must in future be at a-bout one coy strength. Art, MMG and mortar support should take the form of a hy concentration on the strong pt selected, lifting to flanking localities during the attack and to cover the withdrawal. Surprise would NOT necessarily be lost, as the enemy is used to arty harassing fire at night and usually remains in slit trenches to avoid the concentrations.



- d) In such an op the probability of fairly considerable casualties must be accepted. This fact must in each case be weighed against results likely to be achieved; in these must be included not only the material damage actually inflicted on the enemy, but also the less tangible results, the morale ascendancy given by constant offensive ops on our part, and the effect on the enemy of perpetual insecurity. But costly raids especially if often repeated can have a damaging effect on our own morale unless the men taking part fully appreciate their value. Such raids should therefore only be done after consultation with Bde HQ.
- (e) The strong pts manned by ITALIANS should if possible, be located and chosen for attack. Not only is the fighting easier, but the flanks give less trouble, and it is thought important that the GERMANS should increasingly mistrust their allies and be compelled to take over greater sections of the line.
- (f) Counter Patrolling
- The present system of attempting to intercept or ambush enemy patrols by means of normal coy protective patrols fwd of our FDLs, ddep standing patrols at varying places to to 1500 yards out, and parties making sweeps of no mans land and lying up at intervals, should be continued. Interception has been rare so far, but the enemy's patrolling is meagre and irregular, and results might be achieved any night.
- (g) Carrier patrols with MMGs should operate in daylight on 2/17 Bn front now that Div Cav patrolling there has ceased.
- (h) The German method of assault detachments if of value for attacks on isolated strong posts but in the desert would have no special advantage over our methods against mutually supporting positions forming part of one continuous defensive line.
- (i) Arty harassing fire programmes should be flexible and arranged so as to support and assist patrol activities rather than an independent form of aggression. There should be no "no activity" nights. If possible arty harassing fire which can be seen to be falling off known enemy localities should be capable of correction by arty OPs.

*R. J. Hamer Capt*  
 for  
 B.M. 20 Aust Inf Bde. Maj.

DISTRIBUTION

2/13 Aust Inf Bn  
 2/15 Aust Inf Bn  
 2/17 Aust Inf Bn  
 2/7 Aust Fd Regt  
 2/13 Aust Fd Coy  
 9 Aust Div  
 War Diary (2)  
 File

11 Sep 42

20 AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY BDE ADM INSTRUCTION No 12

Copy No. 20

RESERVES

## GENERAL

1. This instruction is not intended to cancel any orders already issued on the subject of reserves, but is intended to summarise such orders, and where necessary supplement them.

## RATIONS

2. Emergency ration

- (a) The emergency ration must be in the possession of the individual at all times, and must actually be carried on the man when there is any possibility of his being cut off from his normal source of food.
- (b) Frequent inspections will be made to ensure that the ration is held intact.
- (c) A certificate of inspection will be rendered weekly to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs Monday.
- (d) Indents for shortages will be resubmitted.

3. Vehicle Ration

- (a) Three days vehicle rations will be carried intact on all vehicles.
- (b) Three days vehicle ration for the marching personnel of units will be held in B Ech areas, and, in the event of a move, will be loaded onto Tp Carrying Tpt provided.
- (c) Certificate of inspection will be rendered weekly to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs Monday.

4. Post Rations

- (a) Authority 9 Aust Div Q112/2/31 of 6 Aug 42 rations for two days are held in posts by units of the Bde for tps in FDLs.
- (b) This ration will be battle scale.
- (c) Rations will be securely boxed, and inspected at regular intervals.
- (d) A certificate of inspection will be rendered weekly to reach this HQ by 1800 hrs Monday.
- (e) Rations will be listed on the inventory of post stores and will be handed over on relief.
- (f) These rations are intended only for use in emergency, and if the normal system of supply breaks down. Any unit leaving the area will arrange through this HQ to return rations to a central dump.

## WATER

5. (a) The following reserves of water are held in the Bde area:
  - (i) One gal per man for tps in FDLs (see para 4(a)).
- (b) All water will be regularly inspected, and water in 2 gal containers should be turned over three times per week.

## P. O. L.

6. (a) Full tanks will be maintained in all vehs.
- (b) In addition a reserve of 100 miles per veh will be held.

- (c) An additional reserve of 1000 gals of petrol, with proportion of oil or lubricants, is held at Rear Bde HQ (ref 8805030045) for use in emergency.
- (d) Reserves will be maintained at full scale, leakers being used and replaced through normal channels.

AMN

- 7. (a) Reserve amn for Fd Regt, AA and A Tk will be dumped under regtl arrangements.
- (b) Res amn for inf bns and MG Coy, and including A Tk pls of inf bns, is held under Bde control at 8806530035.
- (c) This reserve is intended for use in extreme emergency, and will only be released on the orders of a Staff Officer.

ACK.

Time of signature. 1200

*John Young*  
 ..... Capt  
 SC 20 Aust Bde

<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Copy No</u>
2/13 Aust Inf Bn	1
2/15 Aust Inf Bn	2
2/17 Aust Inf Bn	3
2/7 Aust Fd Regt	4
9 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt	5
10 Bty 3 Aust A Tk Regt	6
10 Bty 4 Aust Lt AA Regt	7
B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn	8
2/13 Fd Coy RAE	9
Comd	10
BM	11
SC	12
TO	13
Sup O	141
Maj COPELAND	15
10 Coy AASC	16
2/8 Aust Fd Amb	17
File	18
WAR DIARY	19-20

OPERATIONS

"BULIMBA"  
1 SEP. 42

PRECIS OF PLAN

ARTY SUPPORT

INF. ATTACK  
SUCCESSFUL  
ENEMY SURPRISED

CO WOUNDED

LACKED CONFIDENCE

NO BREACH IN  
ENEMY LINE

COMMUNICATIONS

TANKS

GENERAL COMMENT

took place according to plan. See special "Bulimba" folder. (Reports and lessons learned)

Bn raid as immediate counter-stroke to enemy attack further south. To attack with 2/15Bn supported by tanks - make breach/in enemy line and mobile exploiting force to pass through & raid enemy lines of comm. to the south. Objective chosen, West Point 23. Highest part of small ridge overlooking desert for several thousand yds, though not under observation from Sidi Abd Rahman features. Initial attack supported by timed concentrations by RAA 9 Div.; flanking fire by MMG's of 2/2 MGEN Zero fixed at 0535 so as to reach enemy minefield just at first light. Sappers to accompany inf. and clear 3 gaps in field. Squadron of tanks to pass through immediately afterwards; soft-skinned vehicles later.

Up to time arty concentrations began no enemy fire and evidently taken by surprise. Infantry crossed minefield into enemy postn with little difficulty. Bn HQ established in enemy territory at 0630 hrs 150 yds inside enemy wire. But CO; Lt Col Ogle, badly wounded 0600 hrs and Maj. Grace, 2i/c had to be sent for to take comd. This during most critical phase of battle. Infantry waiting for tank support at 0715 hrs, but passage of tanks through gaps not very successful. Some crews lacked confidence, and their squadron leader was killed after he got his tank through - then 2i/c tanks also killed.

Mortar and reserve amn. vehicles got on to conceal -ed minefield (spur) and failed to get through before withdrawal ordered by 2i/c (0900) That occurred before 20 Bde message came for coys to hold on. Maj Grace had been told erroneously casualties heavy and mortar vehicles had been blown up. Penetration into enemy postn made was not really deep enough to be regarded as a breach in his line. Once enemy recovered from his surprise further progress by attack could only have been made by a new fire plan.

Many broke down - W/T sets worked better & are safer. Their action disappointing - contributed little to operation - seemed reluctant to carry out their role that of assisting to widen breach. Although operation did not achieve all its purpose it was solid

LOCATION

TEL EL EISA  
&  
SHAMMAMA

CASEY  
& C IN C.

NEW ZEALANDERS  
4 SEP. 42

USA Lt Col.  
8 SEP. 42

BRITISH TPS  
15 SEP. 42

Maj. Magno

Maj. Balfe  
9 SEP. 42

BRIG. WRIGLEY  
29 SEP. 42

NIGHT EXERCISES

SUMMARIES

TRACES

Tel el Eisa area until 22/23 Sep. then to El Shammama. Defended Locality A.

CEREMONIAL

Mr Casey visited Div. 3 SEP. 42  
C in C visits Div. and congratulates  
2/15 Bn. 5 Sep. 42.

ALLIED TROOPS

attacked southwards; reached grid 264  
& during day repulsed 4 Counter-attacks  
Enemy tanks strength becoming depleted.

called to look over Tel el Eisa area.

arrangements made to give personnel of  
154 Bde battle experience.

APPOINTMENT & COMUND

2 i/c 2/17 Bn to be T/Lt Col. CO of  
2/15 Bn.  
OC HQ Coy 2/17 Bn to be T/Lt Col CO  
of 2/32 Bn.

arrived to take over comd 20 Bde.

TRAINING

by Bns of Bde from 28 Sep. -continuing  
at end of month. App. C2.

INTELLIGENCE

For month. App. C4.

MAPS

of Bns' dispositions and fire plans.  
App. C6

ADD OPERATIONS

CASUALTIES

At least 100 enemy killed in close fighting besides those by arty and other arms. fought with great bravery. Casualties, ~~100~~ 11 Offrs, 147 O.R.'s.

AFTER  
WITHDRAWAL

2/15 Bn moved into postn El Alamein, 885295.

PATROL  
PROGRAMME 6 SEP.

Arranged for month. Enemy resent patrols and his working parties well-protected. Our patrols later strengthened. App. C.

BDE RELIEVED  
22/23 SEP.

by 26 Bde and moved back from Tel el Eisa area to el Shammama. Locality A. Op intrn. 22.

MESSAGES

on ops. App. C6.