

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

Item number: 8/2/20

20 Infantry Brigade

June - July 1945

WAR DIARY of INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.

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Army Form C.2118.
(Adap ed.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 31 MAY 45 To 30 JUN 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	1 Jun		During the morning a signals exercise was carried out within the bde gp on Bde A and B nets. Comn was opened with HQ Ship ROCKY MOUNT. Object of the exercise was to test the sig channels for the landing.	
	2 Jun		In the morning the Bde Comd attended a discussion on the ROCKY MOUNT, on the naval rehearsal held on 31 May.	
	3 Jun		Bde Comd and BM attended a press conference on HQ Ship ROCKY MOUNT. Bde Comd outlined the 20 Bde plan for OBOE SIX. Maj RANSOM came aboard USS SPENCER. All loading has now been completed.	
	4 Jun	1030 1130	Bde Comd went to LST 751 to visit Lt-Col GRACE. Lt-Gen MORSHEAD, Maj-Gen WOOTTEN, Admiral ROYAL and Brig WELLS visited Bde Comd on USS SPENCER. Convoy sailed from MOROTAI for BRUNEI BAY.	
	5 Jun) 6 Jun) 7 Jun) 8 Jun) 9 Jun)		The voyage was quite uneventful and calm seas were experienced throughout. During the night 9/10 Jun the task force moved into BRUNEI BAY without encountering any opposition. The uniformly happy relations between Australians and Americans that existed in USS SPENCER - and in all other vessels in which this bde was embarked - made the slow journey to the objective much pleasanter than it would otherwise have been. LSTs and LCIs in particular, were very crowded and had facilities for only a fraction of the men they carried. The officers and men did all in their power to make our people comfortable. The Comd gp in "SPENCER" were especially well cared for by Commander HINNANT USCG and his ship's company. We gained the impression that	

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To 30 JUN 45

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			<p>she was a "happy ship", disciplined and efficient. Something should be said, too, about Capt MANEES USN who commanded the Southern Attack Unit and flew his pennant in USS SPENCER. He and his staff were extremely co-operative in planning, during the voyage and in the assault stage itself. They were experienced officers who had taken part in several combined operations in the PHILIPPINES and some had seen service in the EUROPEAN theatre.</p>	
	10 Jun	0830	<p>Bde A and B and R/T links were established and working satisfactorily. Bde Comd and BM took up posn on the bridge of SPENCER with Capt MANEES to observe the progress of the landing. Combined Ground Post and Int Office was set up in a cabin under the bridge with LT comm with both the wireless room and bridge.</p>	
		0905	<p>SAC reported an airstrike on BRUNEI town appeared to have hit an ammunition dump. SAC continued to supply speedy and accurate information of dispositions of own troops and topographical information.</p>	
		0915	<p>Landings took place on GREEN and WHITE BEACHES without enemy opposition. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn first wave landed approximately 1000 yards further east than intended. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn first wave landed out of line and generally badly spaced. Some uncontrolled fire into the beachhead area from the LVTs resulted in the death of two of our troops.</p>	<p><i>The weather was calm clear and very hot.</i></p>
		1025	<p>The forward companies on each beachhead pushed rapidly inland although the going was found to be more difficult than anticipated. Heavy rain had fallen during the few days prior to the landing. Airforce were advised that no strikes were required at the moment in the immediate area. The aircraft were directed on LIMBANG, where a successful strike was put in. Unloading of one LST commenced on SAPO PT. Great difficulty was experienced from piles of logs and debris on the beach, necessitating considerable work by engrs to clear unloading points for the craft.</p>	

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		1055	2/13 Aust Inf Bn was ordered to land on GREEN BEACH and move into reserve behind 2/17 Aust Inf Bn in the FOOCHOW area. GREEN BEACH was found suitable for LSMS and the troop of tanks and bulldozer were landed. The troop of 75mm pack Hows and other stores for which flotation equipment had been prepared were landed without difficulty.	
		1200	By this time all beaches were secured, 2/17 Aust Inf Bn had captured COWIE RIDGE, 2/13 Aust Inf Bn had landed on GREEN BEACH and was moving into FOOCHOW area and 2/15 Aust Inf Bn was pushing rapidly along the NORTH and SOUTH coasts of MUARA ISLAND. No opposition of any kind had been encountered.	
		1300	Maj HILL (BM) with a portion of Bde HQ from USS SPENCER left by LCM to establish Bde HQ on YELLOW BEACH.	
		1400	Bde Comd and IO with remainder of Bde HQ Gp on USS SPENCER left for YELLOW BEACH. On the way the Bde Comd inspected the unloading progress on RED BEACH. Great difficulty was still being experienced in unloading owing to logs and debris and unloading was a little behind schedule. Bde Comd proceeded to YELLOW BEACH to Bde HQ, which was established at ref 633554. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn killed two Japs in the GEELONG area and captured one PW. Interrogation revealed that a small force of approx 70 Japs had been in the BROOKETON area but had commenced withdrawal WEST as our troops landed.	
		1535	L/T was established with 2/17 and 2/13 Aust Inf Bn HQs. LSMS were standing off YELLOW BEACH ready to commence unloading. A message was received from 9 Div that the C-in-C SWPA would visit the area on 11 Jun and Bde Comd was requested to meet the party at WHITE BEACH.	
		1600	Bde Comd went forward to 2/17 Aust Inf Bn HQ.	
		2000	By last light all initial objectives were secured and there was no contact with enemy. A considerable amount of stores and vehicles had been offloaded at YELLOW BEACH although the beach was found	

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		2330	generally unsuitable for LSMS. There was a long water gap and a number of vehicles were drowned, but pulled clear by tractor. There was no unloading carried out during the night. 002 was issued. One enemy 2½ ton veh with 8 Japs came from the direction of BRUNEI and drove into 2/17 Aust Inf Bn FDLs. 7 Japs were killed and one taken PW. There was no further action during the night. Last light dispositions traces appended.	
	11 Jun	0620 0915	Bde Comd left for RED BEACH to meet Gen MACARTHUR and party. Gen MACARTHUR, Lt-Gen MORSHEAD, Maj-Gen WOOTTEN and party arrived. The C-in-C's party landed unexpectedly on GREEN BEACH. Bde Comd came back from RED BEACH and the party moved by jeep up to 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. After a short inspection of the area the C-in-C party left by craft from GREEN BEACH.	
		0930	2/17 Aust Inf Bn forward troops continued to push forward <i>advance</i> along the road towards BRUNEI without encountering opposition. Troop of tanks allotted to 2/17 Aust Inf Bn could not proceed further than 587539 owing to weakness of culverts and state of road.	
		1015	An air strike was put in on Mt PISANG. Natives reported a small party of enemy in the area. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn sent patrols out to the PISANG area and took over the ground vacated by 2/17 Aust Inf Bn.	
		1130	2/15 Aust Inf Bn River Force came to YELLOW BEACH for rations and then proceeded towards BRUNEI River.	
		1400	Capt WORTHLEY (EM(L)) went forward to COWIE RIDGE to select a new position for Bde HQ. This was found at 610555 and movement commenced immediately.	
		1525	2/15 Aust Inf Bn River Force landed unopposed at 521398 and in subsequent exploitation to secure a beachhead no enemy were encountered.	
		1630	2/17 Aust Inf Bn forward troops were in light contact with enemy at 516472. Bde Comd went forward to 2/17 Aust Inf Bn HQ.	

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			Bde HQ was established in new position and was in WT comn with 2/15 and 2/17 Aust Inf Bns. Maj EASTICK OC 2/3 Aust Fd Coy reported that AUSTER strip at 633554 was completed.	
		2230	2/13 Aust Inf Bn carried out local patrols without contacting enemy. 003 was issued. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn reported that native infm suggests there are 80 Allied PW being held in the BRUNEI area.	
			During the night a destroyer put down accurate harrassing fire on Xrds 480456 in support of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. Otherwise there was no action during the night.	
	12 Jun	1030	<i>att from 3 Ops Report Team</i> Bde Comd, Capt WORTHLEY, and Capt BLACKBURN went forward to 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn continued the advance without contacting enemy.	
		1100	2/13 Aust Inf Bn completed concentration less one Coy and were prepared to move quickly as directed. One troops of guns despatched by LCM from RED BEACH joined 2/15 Aust Inf Bn River Force and by 1200 hrs were in action. Forward elements of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn made contact with small party of enemy at MASON. Naval bombardment was brought down and the enemy withdrew.	
		1155	Bde Comd advised the BM that there appeared definite evidence that there were Allied PW in the BRUNEI town area and to direct the 2/15 Aust Inf Bn River Force not to patrol SOUTH of 40 grid and not to send any troops into BRUNEI town.	
		1223	Bde Comd ordered that a patrol be sent from 2/13 Aust Inf Bn by MT to MASON thence by foot NORTH along the BERAKAS rd to the coast.	
		1335	BRUNEI airfield was captured but found to be US.	
		1500	An Auster from LABUAN landed on BROCKETON strip.	
		1730	2/17 Aust Inf Bn continued the adv towards BRUNEI, and after	

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			<p>several small engagements reached 496423, remaining in that position for the night in light contact with the enemy.</p> <p>1800 Bde Comd and party returned from 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. Col CAPERS US Army observer with 2/15 Aust Inf Bn joined the HQ.</p> <p>1840 004 was issued.</p> <p>2200 2/13 Aust Inf Bn patrol up the BERAKAS rd reached the coast and reported NMS.</p>	
			<p>Enemy were active during the night and used 81mm mortars against 2/17 Aust Inf Bn, killing two of our troops.</p> <p>Last light dispositions appended.</p>	
	13 Jun	0945	<p>Bde Comd and Col CAPERS went forward to 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. After an airstrike in sqs 4742 and 4841 at 1100 hrs 2/17 Aust Inf Bn again continued the advance on BRUNEI. It was later learned from PW interrogations that the airstrike forced the Japs to give up the defence of BRUNEI and they broke contact in a disorganised manner and moved EAST and SE into the hills around BRUNEI.</p>	
		1140	<p>GADONG FERRY area was secured without opposition. In the area 8 natives were found dead, chained to stakes and a number of others were released from chains in a shocking condition as a result of ill treatment and starvation.</p>	
		1227	<p>Bde Comd directed that 2/15 Aust Inf Bn River Force would send a gunboat up the river towards BRUNEI but could not engage any target WEST of the 49 grid.</p>	
			<p>Lt-Col DENSTON GI 9 Aust Div arrived at Bde with orders for the Bde Comd to nominate one bn gp for an amphibious operation against MIRI-LUTONG.</p>	
		1445	<p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn reported that BRUNEI town was captured and was clear of enemy except for small parties on the eastern edge of the town. Many mines had been clumsily laid by the Jap on the rd from the at strip to the town but these were easily located and caused no casualties.</p>	

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		1545	Bde Comd returned and conferred with Lt-Col DENSTON and Lt-Col COLVIN (CO 2/13 Aust Inf Bn) concerning the General's orders for a bn gp to capture MIRI. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn gp have been given the task and will plan directly under HQ 9 Aust Div but the bn will remain in the BROCKETON area until embarked.	
		1900	2/17 Aust Inf Bn reported the town area completely clear of Japs and that the CLIFFORD BRIDGE had been secured.	<i>by bold action on the part of few Japs and engineers.</i>
		2310	There was no action during the night. CO5 was issued.	
			A message was received at 0230 hrs 14 Jun ordering 20 Bde to supply a two coy res for the 2/13 Aust Inf Bn Gp op on MIRI. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn were therefore ordered to leave two coys in the BROCKETON area and move one coy and Bn HQ by LCM 14 Jul to join the River Force and move into BRUNEI. Last light dispositions appended.	
	<i>June?</i> 14 Jul	1000 1104 1400	Bde Comd held a staff conference and outlined the present situation. Capt MAIN (LOI) left for BRUNEI to lay out a new Bde HQ. The old British Residency will most likely be used. One troop of arty with one pl of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn moved across the BRUNEI RIVER and established a beachhead without opposition astride the LIMBANG RD. By last light two coys of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn less one pl were established in BRUNEI. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn carried out local patrols around the BRUNEI town area killing 17 Japs and taking 2 PW. The bn suffered only one casualty. Two tps of tks moved to BRUNEI airstrip. During the night several Japs infiltrated through the BRUNEI town area. Last light dispositions appended.	
	<i>June?</i> 15 Jul	0500	Message was received from 9 Aust Div that target date for LUTONG-MIRI op was 19 Jun.	

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To 30 JUN 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		0900 1030	<p>Bde Comd held a staff conference.</p> <p>Maj NEWCOMBE 2IC 2/15 Aust Inf Bn called to see Bde Comd. Maj NEWCOMBE will comd the two coys of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn being supplied as reserve for 2/13 Aust Inf Bn Gp.</p>	
			<p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn commenced the advance from BRUNEI to TUTONG along the main rd and by last light one coy was established at 387404. One Jap was seen and killed. Numerous 500 lb aerial bombs were found alongside the rd apparently for demolitions, but no attempt had been made to use them.</p> <p>A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn pl patrol SOUTH along the LIMBANG rd was ambushed by a party of Japs at 474370. Patrol withdrew and arty engaged the enemy. Our troops suffered 1 killed and two wounded. Bde HQ moved to BRUNEI and opened new HQ in the British Residency. Local patrolling was carried out by 2/17 Aust Inf Bn in the BRUNEI area without contact.</p>	
	16 Jun	0845	<p>Message from HQ 9 Aust Div that target date for MIRI op was 20 Jun. 2/17 Aust Inf Bn two coy advance continued along the TUTONG RD. Jeeps, sandbagged in front, were used most successfully to move the forward coy. The leading jeep contained a dvr, a spr and a brengunner with two gun numbers. The second, towing a trailer, contained a complete sec with its Bren gun. Remainder of the coy followed in Jeeps and 2½ ton vehs supplied by AASC.</p> <p>One pl of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn left BRUNEI by LCM supported by two LCM gunboats of 593 EB&S Regt to advance up the PANDARUAN River with a view to establishing a beachhead in the Bt TERUMI area to enable an advance on LIMBANG from the EAST.</p> <p>A Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn continued advance SOUTH along the LIMBANG RD reached 469364 without contact. The LIMBANG RD is impassable even to jeeps owing to swamp.</p>	

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		1355	Natives reported that SRD had captured UKONG and killed 16 Japs. Bde Comd left for 2/17 Aust Inf Bn HQ. The PANDARUAN RIVER Force was diverted to BROCKETON owing to instrs being received by the gunboats from their own HQ that they return to LABUAN. This, however, was found to be a mistake and was rectified later in the day. The Force set out once more and by last light reached the mouth of the PANDARUAN RIVER, where it remained for the night.	
		1750 1850	Bde Comd returned from 2/17 Aust Inf Bn 2/17 Aust Inf Bn forward coys occupied TUTONG without contact with enemy. Patrols were sent to the coast in the immediate area but reported NMS.	
		2000	A 2/13 Aust Inf Bn patrol in the BROCKETON area killed one Jap. Message received from 9 Div stating that the pl of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn on MUARA ISLAND can be withdrawn and that the Radar Sta would move to BRUNEI BLUFF.	
		2008	008 was issued. There was no activity during the night. Last light disposition traces appended.	
	17 Jun	0800	A reliable native reported to Bde HQ that approx 200 Japs had crossed the BRUNEI RIVER during the night to sq 5037. A 1000 hrs one tp of arty engaged the area and one pl of B Coy 2/2 Aust MG Bn from the high ground behind the British Residency also fired into the area. At 1200 hrs a pl of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn moved by LCM from BRUNEI to BERAMBANG ISLAND to investigate but found no Japs in the gen area 5037. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn pl raiding force which spent the night in LCM at mouth of the PANDARUAN landed unopposed near Bt TERUMI at 0930 hrs and patrolled forward towards LIMBANG for a short distance without making contact. A Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn continued the advance up the LIMBANG and	

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			reached 455325 without contact. At 0940 6 B25s bombed and strafed LIMBANG: 2/17 Aust Inf Bn sent a patrol from TUTONG to KUALA TUTONG. Pontoons were found for ferry crossing but the launch had been destroyed by the Japs. Natives reported that there was a launch in good working order at Kg ABANG.	
		1325	Sultan of BRUNEI accompanied by his wife ^{+ wife} arrived at the RESIDENCY <i>in canoes</i> to meet the Bde Comd. W/Comdr KAY acted as interpreter. The Sultan had been in hiding on LIMPAKU ISLAND for some weeks. The Bde Comd informed him that he might return to his palace but that the country would remain under military government until the Japs had been driven out. The sultan returned to a small house between the palace and BRUNEI town accompanied by his wives and staff. His palace had been slightly damaged by our air attacks. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn was still concentrating in BROOKETON area. The bn planning team, assisted by Maj RANSOM MLO, carried out all planning at LABUAN directly under HQ 9 Aust Div. A message was received from 9 Div stating that one bn gp may be required to capture SERIA by an amphibious op and that a bn planning team may be required at an early date to move to LABUAN. Bde was asked, however, to submit proposals for the capture of SERIA by overland ops.	
		2130	The Bde Comd discussed the situation with Lt-Col BROADBENT and it was decided that in view of all civilian reports that enemy had evacuated SERIA it would be possible for one coy to continue the advance by land from TUTONG. Immediate efforts were to be made to capture the TUTONG FERRY in working order and tpt vehs and stores across. Two coys 2/17 Aust Inf Bn would remain in the BRUNEI area as Bde res.	
		2200	Bde Comd held a conference attended by Lt-Col REFSHAUGE, Lt-Col JOHNSON, Maj ARBUTHNOT and Bde Staff offrs. Bde comd directed	

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE

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Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			that every effort must be made to release tpt of any kind and preferably jeeps and trailers for the move of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn SW to SERIA. Last light dispositions appended.	
	18 Jun	0945	The remainder of B Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn moved by LCM and joined the pl at Bt TERUMI on the PANDARUAN. This coy occupied LIMBANG without opposition by last light. A small party of enemy had withdrawn SOUTH. One Coy of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn crossed the TUTONG RIVER and commenced the advance SOUTH WEST along the coast towards SERIA. A patrol up the TUTONG RIVER found a launch in working order and this was put into service immediately with a civilian crew. The forward coy of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn saw 20 Japs in area 056229. Japs withdrew SOUTH without making contact. HQ 2/17 Aust Inf Bn moved to TUTONG and 4 pl remained at ABANG tr junc.	
		1220	A request was sent to HQ 9 Aust Div that the two coys of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn att to 2/13 Aust Inf Bn gp be returned immediately if not required at MIRI and that they be returned direct to BRUNEI in LCVP to save time and LCMS. A Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn received reports of a large concentration of enemy SOUTH of the LIMBANG RIVER in the MENGATAI area. Natives are becoming particularly co-operative in giving infm and bring in PW. They are rewarded with food by BBKAU. Last light dispositions appended.	
	19 Jun		2/15 Aust Inf Bn HQ with one sec of 25 prs moved by LCM up the LIMBANG RIVER to join B Coy at LIMBANG. Forward coy of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn reached the mouth of the LUMUT RIVER without making contact with enemy. Engrs completed work on an Auster strip at TUTONG. The BRUNEI strip is US owing to heavy rain night 18/19 Jun.	

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 31 MAY 45 To 30 JUN 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			<p>2/13 Aust Inf Bn gp completed loading during the day. Convoy will sail late^m afternoon and the landing is to take place at LUTONG on the morning of 20 Jun. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn gp is under direct comd HQ 9 Aust Div. During the day 9 PW were captured, 8 by natives in the LIMBANG area.</p> <p>2000 A native brought in a message from Sjt SANDERSON SRD UKONG stating that position of SRD party which had occupied UKONG was very precarious and that they could not hold out much longer. Sjt SANDERSON asked for a pl of inf to come to his assistance at UKONG at the earliest. He stated that the LIMBANG RIVER would be a safe route. SANDERSON requested an immediate airdrop of arms and amm. Bde Comd decided to send one pl of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn from LIMBANG by LCM to UKONG on 20 Jun. Last light dispositions appended.</p>	
	20 Jun		<p>Fwd coy of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn continued the advance towards SERIA and by last light had secured the BIRA RIVER bridge. Contact had been made with 12 Japs at 836105 and in a short engagement 9 Japs were killed and the remainder fled into the bush.</p> <p>2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol to UKONG by river reached the village and made contact with SRD party. It was found that the SRD message sent in on 19 Jun was considerably exaggerated and that native infm of Jap movements supplied to SRD had been mostly false.</p> <p>In the LIMBANG area local patrols made no contact but Dyaks brought in six fresh Jap heads. There is increasing evidence that Dyaks in all areas are intensifying their search for Jap heads. Numerous reports are coming in of Japs being killed singly and in small parties by Dyaks.</p> <p>1055 Bde Comd and BM(L) went forward to 2/17 Aust Inf Bn HQ at TUFONG. 1450 Six B25s bombed and strafed suspected Jap concentration areas in</p>	

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			<p>the Bt MALAU area SOUTH of the LIMBANG RIVER. A Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn reported that strike seemed accurate.</p> <p>A Sqn 2/9 Aust Armd Regt took over the protection of CLIFFORD BRIDGE from 2/17 Aust Inf Bn. 3 tks were put across the river by LCM to the WEST side as the bridge is considered too weak to carry inf tks.</p> <p>Total enemy cas known to date are 96 counted dead, 13 estimated killed and 30 PW.</p> <p>Last light dispositions trace appended.</p>	
			<p>Maj NICHOLLS (9 Aust Div Sigs) arrived to assist the Bde Sig Ofcr Capt WATSON in the organising and maintenance of the wide and difficult sig system throughout the Bde area. At present two bns are advancing in the widely diverging directions and there is the prospect of having to open comms with 2/13 Aust Inf Bn at LUTONG when this unit reverts to bde comd. The rapid advance to BRUNEI has strained the Sig Secs resources in men vehs and cable to the utmost but the adv of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn has tended to increase the strain. The speed of the op has been such that there has been little opportunity to build securely and maintain all lines. Reinforcement by dets of Div Sig would be welcome.</p>	
	21 Jun	1050	<p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn occupied SERIA without opposition. More than 30 oilwells were burning as a result of demolitions carried out from 10 Jun, onwards. The enemy attempted to destroy several bridges by burning but they were quickly made safe by engrs and put into operation for ME. Native reports indicated that the enemy - numbering 300/400 had withdrawn through BADAS to the LABI area.</p> <p>Bde Comd, accompanied by Maj EASTICK and Lt CHILDS left by launch for 2/15 Aust Inf Bn HQ at LIMBANG.</p>	

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			<p>News was received from HQ 9 Aust Div that 2/13 Aust Inf Bn gp had landed successfully at LUTONG.</p> <p>A Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn was withdrawn from the LIMBANG RD to BRUNEI and moved by LCM to LIMBANG. It was found unnecessary to continue the advance by river to LIMBANG over difficult terrain as LIMBANG was now securely held by our troops.</p>	
		1400	<p>A Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn was placed on two hrs notice to move to SERIA to join the remainder of the bn.</p>	
		1900	<p>Bde Comd and party returned. Lt WOOD SRD with two SRD NCOs some Dyaks and 17 Javanese coolies released from the Japs also arrived at BRUNEI by LCM from LIMBANG.</p> <p>Bde Comd instructed 2/17 Aust Inf Bn not to advance beyond SERIA except for local patrols until 2/15 Aust Inf Bn Coys return from LUTONG op and thus release the two coys of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn now in BRUNEI in bde res.</p>	
		1930	<p>A message was received from Div stating that it was intended that 2/13 Aust Inf Bn revert to comd 20 Bde when comd 20 Bde was in a posn to exercise effective control.</p>	
			<p>Bde Comd sent a signal to Div stating that he would be glad to resume comd 2/13 Aust Inf Bn but would prefer to wait until the comms system was on a sender basis. It was expected that comms would prove satisfactory within two days.</p> <p>Last light dispositions trace appended.</p>	
	22 Jun		<p>Two Coys of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn returned to BRUNEI by ^{LST + LCV} LCM from LUTONG.</p> <p>A Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn left BRUNEI for SERIA.</p> <p>Local patrols in all areas reported NMS.</p> <p>Several of the smaller fires at SERIA were extinguished by 3 Pl 2/3 Aust Fd Coy RAE.</p> <p>A message was sent to Div requesting that an expert be procured to</p>	

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(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 31 MAY 45 To 30 JUN 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			assist in putting out the oilfires. Owing to heavy rain the BRUNEI Auster Strip was US and the BRUNEI-BROOKETON RD impassable to jeeps. A message was sent to Div requesting that despatches be dropped by Courier plane at Bde HQ. Last light disposition traces appended.	
	23 Jun	1000	Bde Comd and IO left for 2/17 Aust Inf Bn HQ at SERIA. A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn pl patrol by LCM to BERAMBANG contacted a small party of Japs at 538389, killing two. Patrol was ordered to remain on the island overnight and carry out further patrolling. A Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn arrived at SERIA from BRUNEI.	
		1700	Bde Comd arrived at SERIA, conferred with Lt-Col BROADBENT and went forward to the forward coy along the KUALA BELAIT RD. A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn river patrol up the PANDARUAN RIVER reached 585172 NMS and went on towards BANGAR. Last light dispositions attached. Total cas to date were 120 counted dead, 13 estimated killed and 35 PW.	
	24 Jun		Forward Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn occupied KUALA BELAIT at 1030 hrs without opposition. Japs had withdrawn up the BELAIT RIVER to LABI. Before leaving they massacred approx 30 Indian PW of 2/15 PUNJAB Regt who had been held for some time as PW in KUALA BELAIT. The bodies of many were partly burned and the remainder completely burned when the japs destroyed the PW compound by fire. Bde Comd made a quick inspection of the town with a view to moving Bde HQ into the area. ESB gunboats were withdrawn from LIMBANG to LABUAN.	
		1445	Gen BLAMEY arrived at BRUNEI accompanied by Lt-Col DWYER and GOC 9 Aust Div and Brig ROGERS DMI.	

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(Adap ed.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 31 MAY 45 To 30 JUN 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		2100	<p>Bde Comd left SERIA at 1200 hrs but could not reach BRUNEI in time to see the C-in-C, who left BRUNEI approx 1530 hrs. C-in-C was received by Lt-Col R JOHNSTON CO 2/8 Aust Fd Regt who was senior offr in BRUNEI.</p> <p>Bde Comd held a conference with BM, BM(L), SC, IO to work out the composition of a Bde HQ for KUALA BELAIT. It was considered that an advanced Bde HQ would be established within a few days at KUALA BELAIT.</p> <p>Last light dispositions appended.</p>	
	25 Jun		<p>2/15 Aust Inf Bn River patrol returned from BANGAR without contacting enemy. During the day 2/15 Aust Inf Bn captured 7 PW five of whom incl one offr surrendered under a white flag near LIMBANG.</p> <p>Local patrols around the BRUNEI area were active. The Sqn Sec of 2/9 Aust Armd Regt Wksp sent out a patrol which killed one Jap. There were a number of isolated Japs around the BRUNEI area and natives would come in with the infm and their act as guides for our patrols.</p> <p>Total enemy case were to date, 122 counted dead, 16 estimated killed and 50 PW.</p> <p>4 Pl 2/17 Aust Inf Bn was relieved by a pl of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn at ABANG rd junc. 4 Pl moved to TUTONG and with the task of protecting the ferry and 2/64 Aust LAD which is near the ferry. BM(L) Capt WORTHLEY left for KUALA BELAIT with a recce party to establish a Advance Bde HQ.</p> <p>2/13 Aust Inf Bn requested that a patrol junction be effected between 2/13 Aust Inf Bn and 2/17 Aust Inf Bn patrols at BARAM PT. This was arranged.</p> <p>Lt-Col GRACE and Maj HILL (BM) went to LIMBANG.</p> <p>Last light dispositions traces appended.</p>	

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(Adap ed.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 31 MAY 45 To 30 JUN 45

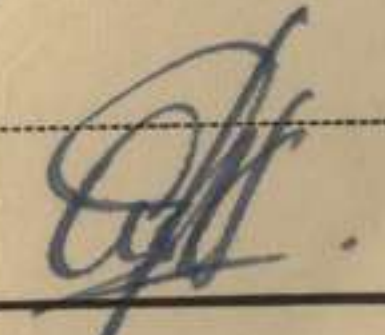
Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	26 Jun		Natives and PW reported that there were approx 100 Japs on LIMPAKU ISLAND and that many would surrender if given the opportunity.	
		A	2/17 Aust Inf Bn patrol from KUALA BELAIT made contact at BARAM PT with a 2/13 Aust Inf Bn patrol from LUTONG.	
		0800	Active patrolling continued in the LIMBANG and BRUNEI areas. A message was sent to Div stating that the Bde Comd was moving to KUALA BELAIT and that he suggested Bde assume comd of 2/13 Aust Inf Bn at 0700 hrs 28 Jun.	
		2125	HQ 9 Aust Div directed that 2/13 Aust Inf Bn would revert comd 20 Bde 270630 hrs. Last light dispositions traces appended.	
	27 Jun	0630	2/13 Aust Inf Bn gp came under comd 20 Bde. Enemy activity at SOUTH KNOLL in the MIRI area was shelled by arty and naval bombardment from one destroyer standing off MIRI. for naval support.	
		1345	A sec patrol of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn moved up the BELAIT RIVER to BALAI without contact. Patrol was assisted by native guides. In the BRUNEI area 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrols captured one PW but otherwise made no contact with enemy. Adv Bde HQ opened in a group of well preserved buildings at 479408 KUALA BELAIT. Adv Bde consisted of Bde Comd, BM, BM(L), SC(L) and the bulk of Bde HQ personnel. A small staff consisting of Capt TAIT WILLS (SC) and Lt CHILDS LO with a sec of the Gd pl and sets of sigs and cipher remained at BRUNEI and were known as Rear Bde HQ. It was considered necessary for the SC to remain at BRUNEI in view of the amount of resup still coming into that area and also to supervise the transfer of all stores and eqpt from YELLOW BEACH and BRUNEI. Maj SNELL Comd YELLOW BEACH moved to BRUNEI to take over local adm duties. Stores were moved in the first part by rd, but owing to the rain and poor state of the rd it	

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(Adapted.)

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 31 MAY 45 To 30 JUN 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			became necessary to employ LCMs from YELLOW BEACH to BRUNEI. Last light dispositions traces appended.	
	28 Jun		<p>A patrol of 58 Fd Bty in the BRUNEI area made contact with approx 20 enemy at 324344. Our patrol suffered 3 cas—one missing believed killed and two seriously wounded.</p> <p>A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn river patrol reached LABU without making contact.</p> <p>Men of 2/3 Aust Fd Coy established a pontoon ferry service over the BELAIT RIVER with FBE and outboard motors. The TUTONG RIVER ferry has not been entirely satisfactory owing to numerous breakdowns in eqpt due mainly to over work and little opportunity for maint. This ferry has been working throughout the hours of daylight and often far into the night since it was re-established. The old Chinese launch driver and his crew have worked cheerfully day and night in all weathers to maintain the flow of traffic across this broad and difficult river mouth. Two streams join here running into each other at right angles setting up fierce currents. When the tide is running out it is sometimes so strong that the ancient motor launch is unable to tow the ferry against it. The state of this ferry imposes a severe limitation on the activities of forward troops in the event of their meetings strong opposition.</p> <p>Fd Btys under comd 2/13 and 2/17 Aust Inf Bns reverted to comd 2/8 Aust Fd Regt and were placed in sp respective bns in present areas. Last light disposns appended.</p>	
	29 Jun		<p>2/13 Aust Inf Bn troops occupied SOUTH KNOLL and released 10 Indian PW left there by the Jap. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn now controls all the high ground overlooking MIRI and the ground to the SOUTH and SE. Japs were reported to have moved back along the RIAM RD and taken up defensive positions in the 3 MILE area.</p> <p>A Pl patrol of 2/15 Aust Inf Bn from BRUNEI moved out to assist</p>	

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Army Form C.21.8.
(Adapted.)

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 31 MAY 45 To 30 JUN 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	30 Jun		<p>58 Ed Bty patrol in area 324344. A river patrol reached LAWAS without contacting enemy.</p> <p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn established one pl at BALAI.</p> <p>One sec of engr with FBE established a ferry at the mouth of BARAM RIVER. The stream at this point is 800 yards wide and swift flowing.</p> <p>The beach at TUTONG and KUALA BELAIT was reported by airforce recce to be suitable for landing AUSTERS.</p> <p>A 2/17 Aust Inf Bn Sec patrol left BALAI for TERIAM by river with native guides.</p> <p>There was no contact with enemy in all sectors.</p> <p>Last light dispositions appended.</p> <p>Bde Comd accompanied by IO Capt MURRAY went to BRUNEI.</p>	

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Army Form C.2118
(Adapted.)

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

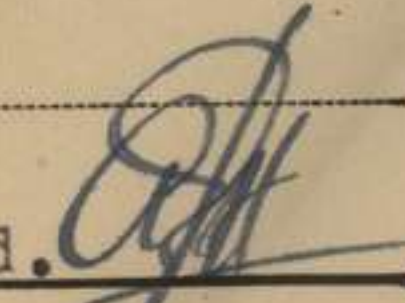
Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	1 Jul		<p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn River patrol reached TERIAM. Patrol saw six Japs but made no contact. A 2/17 Aust Inf Bn pl patrol from BADAS moved by tr to Bt PUAN without contacting enemy. Some bags of rice were found left by the Japs. These were distributed to needy civilians.</p> <p>TUTONG Auster Strip was reported serviceable. Airforce requested that at least one sec of AIF be allotted to protect the Auster and Airforce stores. One sec was supplied from 4 Pl 2/17 Aust Inf Bn at TUTONG.</p> <p>Bde Comd and Capt MURRAY arrived at Adv Bde from BRUNEI.</p>	
	2 Jul		<p>During the night 1/2 Jul there was considerable enemy activity on 2/13 Aust Inf Bn front at SOUTH KNOLL. Two Japs were found dead as a result of our booby traps.</p> <p>A request to HQ 9 Aust Div for Arty R in the MIRI area was granted. One Auster landed at LUTONG, picked up an offr of 2/8 Aust Fd Regt and a shoot was conducted on known enemy posns along the RIAM RD.</p>	
	3 Jul		<p>There was further enemy activity on 2/13 Aust Inf Bn front during night 2/3 Jul. Enemy staged small nuisance raid by creeping in close to our FDLs and throwing grenades. Their efforts were entirely unsuccessful and no penetration of our posns was made.</p> <p>A 2/13 Aust Inf Bn river patrol up the MIRI RIVER reached LONG LIPAK. No enemy were seen but at that place a dump of 270x81mm mortar bombs was found.</p> <p>2/15 Aust Inf Bn local patrols killed 16 Japs without suffering casualties.</p> <p>Two enemy aircraft bombed and strafed along the RIAM RD in the early hrs of the morning without causing any damage or cas.</p> <p>A request was sent to 9 Aust Div for permission to send one Tp of LAA to MIRI and also asking for breechblocks for 3.7 British AA guns</p>	

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Army Form C.211
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
		1035	<p>recaptured at MIRI. Bde Comd went to MIRI to visit 2/13 Aust Inf Bn area. A Dyak Chieftain with two of his bodyguard brought five escaped Dutch Indonesian PW in to TUTONG from Upper TUTONG RIVER 30 Jun. Four of the PW were sent to BRUNEI MDS and the remaining one with the Dyaks came to Bde HQ. The Bde Comd welcomed the Chief. There are 16 more escaped Dutch PW in the Lake BENUTAN area up the TUTONG RIVER. Efforts would ^{will} be made to bring them in.</p>	
	4 Jul		<p>A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol to LIMPAKU ISLAND killed a further 7 Japs. Total killed on LIMPAKU is now 20. Other patrols in the LIMBANG area made no contact with enemy. Four Japs were handed over by natives. A 2/17 Aust Inf Bn patrol SOUTH from Bt PUAN reached TANAJOR without contact. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn requested permission to send a patrol on vehs of approx one coy str with sp tps, down the RIAM RD. In view of the 9 Aust Div policy with ref to any further aggression mov to the SOUTH from MIRI Bde Comd would not agree to the above patrol. He agreed, however, to a recce patrol of not more than one pl str with jeeps and trailers and duration not more than 24 hrs. He ordered that patrol must not attack prepared enemy posns or become involved in a fight which would necessitate the assistance of other tps.</p>	
	5 Jul		<p>One U/I enemy aircraft dropped one bomb and made two strafing runs over MIRI before first light. No damage or cas were caused. 2/13 Aust Inf Bn pl patrol down the RIAM RD made contact with approx one coy of enemy in well prepared posns at 450787. The enemy attacked our patrol which was forced to withdraw, under cover of arty, mortar and MG fire. Our cas were one killed. It was estimated that 26 Japs were killed and several of their hy weapons destroyed.</p>	

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Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE

Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45

To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			<p>Infm was received from 2/15 Aust Inf Bn that Sjt SANDERSON SRD at UKONG was moving with Dyaks to BENUTAN to find the 16 Dutch PW still in the area. Many of them are reported to be sick.</p> <p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn released 3 more Indian PW in the LABI area. Total released by 2/17 Aust Inf Bn is 49.</p> <p>2/13 Aust Inf Bn requested an Auster for Arty R 6 Jul. Request was granted.</p> <p>Lt WATERHOUSE IO 2/17 Aust Inf Bn made a recce of LABI area by Auster.</p>	
	6 Jul		<p>2/15 Aust Inf Bn river patrols to TRUSAN, ANGGUN, BANGAR and UKONG reported NMS. A local patrol in the LIMBANG area killed one Jap.</p> <p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn patrols from TANAJOR and SIMPANG contacted each other and reported NMS. A further patrol reached Bt TELINGAN without contacting enemy.</p> <p>Suitable posns were found at SEMBURU for 25 prs and the posns are being cleared. One sec of 25 prs will be moved by craft to SEMBURU to cover 2/17 Aust Inf Bn patrols in the LABI area.</p> <p>Col ROLESTON and Lt-Col LOANE of BBKAU visited Bde Comd to discuss civil affairs in the Bde area.</p> <p>Last light disposns traces appended.</p>	
	7 Jul		<p>A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn river patrol from LIMBANG reached TADUMIN and reported NMS. Another patrol to Bt TERUMI surprised a party of approx 30 Japs. Our patrol immediately attacked and killed 29 Japs without suffering any cas. Returning to LIMBANG the same patrol killed a further two Japs. Natives handed in one PW.</p> <p>One sec of 25 prs was moved from KUALA BELAIT by craft to SEMBURU.</p> <p>Sjt SANDERSON SRD UKONG made contact with 16 Celebes released PW in the BENUTAN area and organised their mov to BRUNEI.</p> <p>Last light disposns traces appended.</p>	

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Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	8 Jul		<p>Patrols in all areas made no contact with enemy. One Indian PW was released in the LABI area. Total recovered Indian PW to date is 50. These have all been evacuated to LABUAN after receiving any medical attention required. Last light disposns traces appended.</p>	
	9 Jul		<p>Our patrols were active in all sectors but only contact with enemy was in LIMBANG area where one Jap was killed. One tp of Tks of A Sqn 2/9 Aust Armd Regt arrived at LUTONG from BRUNEI by LCT. A request was sent to 9 Aust Div for approval to send a patrol up the BARAM RIVER to BAKOENG - MARUDI area. Last light disposns traces appended.</p>	
	10 Jul		<p>A 2/13 Aust Inf Bn patrol along the RIAM RD recovered the body of the soldier who was killed in the patrol clash on 5 Jul. A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn river patrol to UKONG killed two Japs. Two Japs were handed over by natives to our tps at LIMBANG. A patrol of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn from MENDARAM reached RIDAN without contacting enemy. Maj CARTER SRD arrived at Bde from upper BARAM area with infm that a strong party of Japs had driven the SRD from MARUDI and requested that a force from this Bde be sent to retake and occupy MARUDI. His party had sunk one Jap canoe killing all its occupants. Brig WELLS BGS 1 Aust Corps, Brig BAXTER-COX Mil Sec and Maj MILLER DAMS arrived at Bde HQ by PT boat. A message was received from 9 Aust Div instructing that HMAS TIGERSNAKE and armed launch AM1477 must be stopped from entering BARAM RIVER and must return LABUAN forthwith. 9 Aust Div also advised that patrol to BAKOENG-MARUDI area was approved if it was considered it would assist in gaining control of the Bde area.</p>	

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Army Form C.2118.
(Adap ed.)

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	11 Jul	1000 1900	<p>Patrols in all sectors made no contact with enemy. One PW was handed in by natives to our tps at LIMBANG.</p> <p>Lt-Cols COLVIN and BROADBENT arrived at Bde HQ to meet Mil Sec. Maj TREBECK OC D Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn came to Bde to discuss with Maj CARTER the outline plan of a Coy force to move up the BARAM RIVER and retake MARUDI.</p> <p>Brig BAXTER-COX and Maj MILLER departed for BRUNEI.</p> <p>Last light disposns traces appended.</p> <p>HMAS TIGERSNAKE and AM1477 arrived at BARAM RIVER.</p>	
	12 Jul		<p>A pl patrol of 2/13 Aust Inf Bn down the RIAM RD contacted approx 20 Japs at 451782. Two enemy were killed and our patrol withdrew to engage the enemy with arty. Our own cas were one offr wounded.</p> <p>A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol to ABANG found no enemy. Patrol was ordered to proceed up the TUTONG RIVER by canoes to RAMBAI.</p> <p>Lt W. WYTT RANVR captain of HMAS TIGERSNAKE and Lt COX AIF captain of AM 1477 arrived at Bde. TIGERSNAKE is assisting SRD and AM1477 is a FELO craft. The are commanded and manned by a modern type of buccaneer and apparently are fighting in a secret war of their own.</p> <p>Capt STAKE SFCP offr at MIRI.</p> <p>Maj TRAINOR GII 9 Aust Div arrived at Bde with infm concerning the Bde Bay. MARUDI is outside the Bde Bay.</p> <p>Last light disposns appended. <i>Div</i></p>	
	13 Jul		<p>2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol reached RAMBAI and reported NMS. Patrol returned to ABANG.</p> <p>In the 2/13 Aust Inf Bn area one tp of arty was moved to PUJUT to cover any further patrols SOUTH from MIRI.</p> <p>Last light disposns traces appended.</p> <p>Lt-Col DAVIS ADOS 9 Aust Div arrived in the Bde Area.</p>	

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Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	14 Jul		<p>D Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn left KUALA BELAIT by LCMs for MARUDI. HMAS TIGERSNAKE joined the coy at KUALA BARAM. Armed launch AM1477 remained at KUALA BARAM to await the arrival of Maj CARTER who was expected to arrive by PT boat during the night. D Coy force was under comd Maj TREBECK. Maj CARTER SRD arrived 2100 hrs and moved to KUALA BARAM. AM1477 left at midnight and by first light 15 Jul joined D Coy force which had stopped for the night approx 15 miles upstream. Bde Comd and BGS went to BRUNEI. Maj TRAINOR and Maj HILL went to MIRI for the day. <i>to inspect 2/13 Brn area.</i> Last light disposns traces appended.</p>	
	15 Jul		<p>At 1445 hrs D Coy force landed unopposed at KUALA RIDAN. Landing was supported by rocket and 20mm fire and bombing and strafing by 12 Spitfires. A party of 40/50 Japs fled from the area as our troops landed. By last light MARUDI was occupied without opposition and the Aust flag hoisted. A pl of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn left MENDARAM for RIDAN. P₁ was to remain at RIDAN in order to link up by patrols with the Coy at MARUDI. Maj TRAINOR GII 9 Aust Div left for LABUAN. Lt-Col HEARNE, Mr MESSENGER and Mr MCKERIHAN of ACF arrived at Bde on a short visit.</p>	
	16 Jul		<p>A pl patrol left MARUDI for RIDAN to link with pl of A Coy 2/17 Aust Inf Bn at RIDAN. ACF officials left for BRUNEI. Brig SECOMBE DA&QMG/9 Aust Div arrived at Bde HQ to inspect harbour facilities for small ships in this area. They went on to MIRI the same day.</p>	<p>/ Landops and Lt-Col MORGAN AA&QMG</p>
	17 Jul		<p>2/17 Aust Inf Bn patrol from MARUDI made contact with approx 40 Japs about 1 mile SOUTH of RIDAN. Japs were aggressive and in good def posns.</p>	

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(Adapted.)

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Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			<p>In a short engagement our patrol suffered one killed and two wounded. Assisted by a Dyak carrying party the patrol returned with its wounded, to MARUDI in the dark. One Jap was captured near MARUDI.</p> <p>A pl of 2/17 Aust Inf Bn from MARUDI moved by LCM sp by HMAS TIGERSNAKE to BAKOENG and occupied the village without opposition. Capt WATSON Bde Sig Offr left for BRUNEI to supervise the laying of a line along the banks of the river to LIMBANG.</p> <p>Lt-Col MULLER CRE 9 Aust Div arrived at Bde.</p> <p>Last light disposns traces appended.</p> <p>Capt CONNOCK rep of Shell Oil Coy arrived at SERIA to inspect oilfields.</p>	
	18 Jul		<p>A 2/17 Aust Inf Bn sec patrol from RIDAN encountered approx 40 Japs on the outskirts of RIDAN village. The patrol attacked and killed 5 Japs without suffering cas.</p> <p>A request for an airstrike on enemy posns vicinity ARANG village on BAKOENG RIVER was granted by 9 Aust Div Strike to be carried out 19 Jul.</p> <p>Bde Comd returned from BRUNEI. It was decided that 2/15 Aust Inf Bn would, when the security of the BRUNEI area permitted, dispose its coys having one coy, BRUNEI, one coy LIMBANG with Bn HQ, one coy at BANGAR and one coy at LAWAS. The Bde Comd considered it necessary to station one coy at LAWAS to establish a patrol base and to give the civilian population some confidence that our tps were remaining in the area and not, as at present, paying an occasional patrol visit.</p> <p>A patrol from BAKOENG moved further up the river in LCM gunboat but was ambushed in the vicinity of ARANG village. The patrol suffered one killed. The gunboat silenced the enemy posns, and the patrol returned to BAKOENG.</p> <p>Last light disposns traces appended.</p>	

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Army Form C.2118.
(Adap ed.)

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Unit HQ 2 O AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
	19 Jul		Patrols in all areas made no contact with enemy. Eight Kittyhawks carried out a strike on Jap posns on BAKOENG RIVER. Results were not observed. Lt-Col MULLER, Lt-Col REFSHAUGE interviewed Bde Comd. In the afternoon Bde Comd visited 2/8 Aust Fd Regt.	
	20 Jul	2000	Permission was granted to 2/15 Aust Inf Bn to use 75mm guns of 58 Fd Bty in the BRUNEI area for any river patrols. However, guns were not allowed to be moved outside the div bdy. It was arranged that F tp 58 Fd Bty would move to LIMBANG as soon as craft became available. Bde Comd conferred with Lt-Col REFSHAUGE CO 2/8 Aust Fd Amb, Maj EASTICK OC 2/3 Aust Fd Coy and Capt MARSHALL of BBKAU concerning the adm of KUALA BELAIT town. Maj RANSOM was appointed to co-ordinate local adm. HMAS TIGERSNAKE arrived at KUALA BARAM from MARUDI and will return to LABUAN.	
	21 Jul		Patrols in all sectors made no contact with enemy. In the afternoon Bde Comd accompanied by Capt WORTHLEY (BM(L)) left for BRUNEI to meet Maj-Gen WCOTTEN who was expected to arrive 22 Jul. Last light disposns traces appended. Maj SOMMERVILLE and OCHILTREE arrived from 9 Aust Div. Maj OCHILTREE will remain in the area for approx one week to study Int methods at Bde and Bn levels.	
	22 Jul		A patrol from MARUDI contacted the standing patrol at RIDAN. The enemy previously contacted in this area had moved NORTH towards MENDARAM. Maj RANSOM MLO returned to HQ 9 Aust Div.	
	23 Jul		A party of 30/40 Japs was active between MENDARAM and RIDAN.	

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Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE

Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			They bypassed an ambush set by our tps near Bt TERAJA then headed NORTH following the high ground towards MENDARAM. A 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol moved by LCM from LAWAS to SIPIITANG. No enemy were seen. Last light disposns traces appended.	
	24 Jul		A 2/13 Aust Inf Bn patrol along the NIAH RD contacted a party of armed Dyaks sent in by SRD BELURU area for amm and clot hing. Otherwise nothing to report.	
	25 Jul		There was no contact with enemy during the day. One Jap PW was handed in by natives to our tps at LIMBANG. Last light disposns traces appended.	
	26 Jul		There was no contact with enemy. Maj-Gen STEELE (Engr-in-Chief), Lt-Col MULLER CRE 9 Aust Div, and Maj EASTICK OC 2/3 Aust Fd Coy visited Bde Comd and then went to MIRI. Capt DARLING Aust PWLO arrived from LABUAN to discuss infm already gathered on Allied PW formerly held by the Japs in the Bde area.	
	27 Jul		A Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn returned to LIMBANG from BANGAR. LT was established from SERIA to standing patrol at RIDAN. This was later extended to MARUDI. A 2/17 Aust Inf Bn sec patrol from BAKOENG with IBAN guides was ambushed near KUALA ARANG. Our cas were one killed and one wounded. One IBAN was also killed but 4 Japs were counted dead before our patrol withdrew to BAKOENG. Under cover of darkness a party of Japs commenced infiltration of our posns at BAKOENG. The str of the Jap force could not be estimated and as the only LCM in the area had to return to MARUDI with wounded, the patrol comd decided to withdraw from BAKOENG to KUALA BAKOENG.	

WAR DIARY ~~or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.~~ PAGE 10

Army Form C.2118.
(Adapted.)

(Erase heading not required.)

Unit HQ 20 AUST INF BDE Date and Time.—From 30 JUN 45 To 31 JUL 45

Place.	Date.	Hour.	Summary of Events and Information.	Remarks and references to Appendices, Diaries, &c.
			Permission was granted by 9 Aust Div for natives to use fishing boats off the coast at KUALA BELAIT during the night. Last light disposns traces appended.	
	28 Jul		Lt comms were established from B Coy 2/15 Aust Inf Bn at LAWAS to SRD party at TRUSAN. A sec patrol from LAWAS set out for MALAMAN and SINDUMIN. There was no contact with enemy during the day. Lt-Col WILTON (GSOI (SD) Adv LHQ) and Maj RIDLEY LOI 9 Aust Div arrived at Bde.	
	29 Jul		A Sec patrol moved by LCM to BAKOENG and found the village clear of Japs. Later in the day our tps reoccupied BAKOENG. Rear Admiral FYFE and Capt FELL RN of HMS BONAVENTURE submarine mother-ship visited BRUNEI. Bde Comd, Lt-Col WILTON and Maj RIDLEY went to MIRI.	
	30 Jul		At 0530 hrs one U/I Jap plane dropped two bombs and strafed BRUNEI town. At 0600 hrs one U/I Jap plane made two runs over MIRI dropping two bombs and strafing. Only damage was at BRUNEI where one house was destroyed and two civilians slightly wounded. 2/15 Aust Inf Bn patrol to MALAMAN returned to LAWAS. No enemy were seen. A patrol from BAKOENG recovered the body of the soldier killed near KUALA ARANG on 27 Jul. Lt-Col WILTON and Maj RIDLEY left for BRUNEI and LABUAN.	
	31 Jul		There was no contact with enemy during the day. Lt-Col LAMBERT Comd Sigs 9 Aust Div arrived at Bde on a visit of the area.	

Philip Hughes

Unit

PART D.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ON POSTED STRENGTH

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 20 / 6 / 1945 (Total to agree with Columns 4 and 7 of Part A.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank if Held.	Army Number.	Surname.	Initials.	Posting.	Whether present with Unit (insert Yes or No)	If not present with Unit, state how employed.	Date of Detachment.
LTJG	11355	WILSON	WV	OSD	YES		
LTJG	11350	WILL	W	OS	*		
CAPT	11317	WILSON	W	OS L	*		
CAPT	11306	WATTS	W	OS	*		
CAPT	11304	WATTS	W	OS L	*		
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
LT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	NO	DET TO 2/20 Dep Dep 12	17.5.45.
LT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	YES		
LT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
LT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
LT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	*		
LT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	NO	DET 2/28 IN	17.10.45.
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	NO	DET 2/28 IN	17.5.45.
CAPT	11300	WATTS	W	OS	NO	DET 2/27 IN	10.1.45.

PART E.—NOMINAL ROLL OF OFFICERS ATTACHED FROM OTHER UNITS.

Substantive Rank and Higher Temporary Rank, if Held.	Army Number.	Name and Initials.	Unit.	Date of Attachment.	Nature of Attachment.
CAPT	113000	WATTS R	42 Coy	12 Dec 4.5.45.	
CAPT	113100	WATTS W	42 Coy	9/16 Dep Dep 12 17.5.45.	
CAPT	113170	WATTS W	42 Coy	12 9 Dec 17.5.45.	

20 JUL 45
 Date of Despatch

Quentin R. ...
 Signature of Commander

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 26 / 6 / 1943.

Table with 15 columns: Details of Tradesmen (GROUP I, II, III), W.E., Posted Strength, Reints. Required. Rows include various trades like Ammunition Examiners, Surveyors, Engineers, etc.

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back. (b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided. (c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back. (d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required." (e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

Date of Despatch

Signature of Commander

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

At 0600 Hrs Saturday 16/6/1915
 OFFERS 10 O.R.'s + OFFERS 10 O.R.'s ATT. BY W.E.

16/6/15

Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.
PARTICULARS OF NCOS

UNIT	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.			RANK	WE	PS	W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED		
	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength	Deficient W.E.				Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Reinforce.
INT DUTIES				S SGT CPL	1 2	1 2			
CLERKS				WO II CPL	1 1	1 1			
TRANSPORT				SJT CPL	1 1	1 1			
GENERAL DUTIES				CPL	2	1		1	
CQMS				S SGT	1	1			
CSM				WO II	1	1			
SERVICES									
AAES				SJT	1	1			
AAAS				SJT	1	-			1
AAASC				CPL	1	1			
AALC				CPL	1	1			
AAMC				CPL	1	1			
AACG				CPL	1	2		1	
AAOC				SJT S SGT	1 -	- 1			1
TOTALS					18	17		2	3

DETAILS OF SURPLUS NCOS

ARMY N O	RANK	NAME	TRADE	MED CLASSIFICATION
NX150236	S SGT	GARDRELL J	AMN EXMN	Al (posted for duty Exmn)
NX126595	CPL	RYAN SW	COOK	Al

OTHER RANKS ON LEAVE & AWL

NIL RETURN

FIELD RETURN OF OFFICERS

Army Form W.3008
(Adapted) (Page 1)
(Revised Jan., 1943)

(Serial No.)

At 0600 Hrs. Saturday 23/6/1945 (Unit)

W.E. 11/3/4 OFFRS. 10 O.R's. 0 + OFFRS. - O.R's. - ATT. BY W.E.

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
W.E. EXCLUDING ATTACHED.				DETAIL.	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.								
Rein'fts Required.	Deficient W.E.	Surplus to W.E.	Posted Strength.		Arm or Corps.	Posted Strength.	Surplus to W.E.	Deficient W.E.	Rein'fts Required.				
			1	*									
				*									
	1	1	2	Lieut.-Colonels									
	1	1	20	Majors									
	1		3	Captains									
				Lieutenants									
				Quarter-masters									
				A.A.N.S. and A.A.M.W.S. Offrs.									
				Civilians Counting as Offrs.									
	3	3	10										
		DETAIL		A.I.F.	C.M.F.	A.W.A.S.	A.A.N.S.	A.A.M.W.S.	CIVIL.	R.A.N.	R.A.A.F.	**	TOTAL.
		A.		10									23
		E.(1)											
		E.(2)											

Analysis of Part A to be shown here by ALL units. Only units notified in para. 10 of instructions for compilation of form will complete Part E(1) & E(2).

* Insert detail of higher ranks as necessary.
** Personnel belonging to a category not provided for in the analysis will be shown in this Col. Particulars will be shown, e.g., 20 U.K. Forces; 10 N.Z. Forces.

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

OFFICERS JOINED DURING WEEK

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit From.	Date.	CAUSE.
1371155	CAPT	[Name]	[Unit]	2/26 Sep Dep 12 10, 5, 45.	

OFFICERS QUITTED DURING WEEK.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	Unit To.	Date.	CAUSE.
1370166	CAPT	[Name]	[Unit]	2/26 Sep Dep 12 10, 5, 45.	

PART C.—DESCRIPTION OF OFFICERS WHOSE RETURN TO (Unit) IS PARTICULARLY REQUESTED. / /194.

Army No.	Rank.	Name and Initials.	REMARKS (e.g., present whereabouts if known).

PART E. Detail of Present Strength and Reinforcements required as shown in Part A of Army Form W.3009 at 0600 Hours Saturday 23 / 6 / 1945.

Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I.	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP I. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP II. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.	Details of Tradesmen. GROUP III. (cont.)	W.E.	Posted Strength.	Reints. Required.
Ammunition Examiners				Surveyors, Engineering				Operating Room Assts.				G.F.O. Assistants			
Armament Artificer Fitter				Surveyors, E.A.A.				Operator, Keyboard				Hammermen			
Armament Artificer Fitter (Electrical)				Surveyors, Topographical				Operator, Line				Leather Stitchers			
Armament Artificer Fitter (M.V.)				Surveyors, Trigonometrical				Operator, Signal				Orderlies, Nursing			
Armament Artificer Fitter (A.F.V.)				Toolmakers				Operator, Switchboard				Orderlies, Nursing Mental			
Armament Artificer Instrument				Turners				Operator, Wireless				Plate Layers			
Armament Artificer Radio				Watchmakers				Opticians				Bangetakers			
Armament Artificer Signals				Welders				Painters				Riveters			
Armament Artificer Wireless								Panel Beaters				Enoughriders			
Artificer, Artillery								Photographer, Dry Plate				Saddlers			
Artificer, Engine								Predictor Numbers				Saddletree makers			
Blacksmiths								Printers				Shoemaker and Boot Repairer			
Bricklayers								Radlographers				Stevadores			
Computers								Biggers				Stokers, Staty. Engine			
Cooks, Hospital				GROUP II.				Sawyers				Storemen, Technical			
Coppersmiths				Armourers				Signallers				Tailors			
Dispensers				Axemen				Signwriters				Textile Refitters			
Draughtsmen				Bakers				Telescope Identfn. Numbers				Tinsmiths			
Draughtsmen (Architectural)				Qty. Comd's. Asst.				Well Borers				Vulcanizers			
Draughtsmen (Engineering)				Boilermakers				Wheelers				Wagon Erectors			
Draughtsmen (Mechanical)				Carpenters				Winchman				Whitesmiths			
Draughtsmen (Topographical)	2	2	-	Carpenters and Joiners				Wireman							
Electricians				Cooks	3	4	-	Woodturners							
Electricians (M.V.)				Dental Mechanics											
Electricians (Signals)				Driver-Mech. (Eng. and Med.)											
Fitters				Driver-Operator											
Fitters (Cycle)				Drainers											
Fitters (Electrical)				Electricians											
Fitters (Gun)				Electricians (Engineers)											
Fitters (Instrument)				Fire Control Operators				GROUP III.				DETAILS OF NON-TRADESMEN.			
Fitters (M.V.)				Gun Operator				Battery Surveyors							
Fitters, Railway Signal				Hatchman				Butchers							
Fitters, Signals				Height Taker				Clerks	4	4	-				
Grinder, Precision				Helio Operator				Clerks, Supply							
Mechanics, Instrument				Instrument Operator				Clerks, Technical							
Mechanics, Instrument (Signals)				Intelligence Duties	4	4	-	Coach Trimmers							
Mechanics, Instrument (Surgical)				Joiners				Concretors							
Mechanics, Radio				Lineman				Cooks							
Mechanics, Typewriter				Lineman, Signals				Dental Clerk Orderlies							
Mechanics, Wireless				Lithographers				Despatch Riders							
Millwrights				Machinists, Metal				Draughtsmen, Signals							
Operators, Excavator				Machinists, Wood				Drivers, H.T.							
Pattern Maker				Masons				Driver Mechanics							
Pharmacist				Masseurs				Driver Tyn. Plant							
Photographer, Wet Plate				Mechanics, M.T.				Engine Hands, I.G.							
Photewriter				Miners				Equipment Repairers							
Plumber				Moulders				Farriers							
Saw Doctors				Nurses, Trained				Fitters' Mates							
Surveyors				Observation Post Assts.				Gun Layers							
CARRIED FORWARD	2	2	-	CARRIED FORWARD	9	10	-	CARRIED FORWARD	13	14	-	Totals of columns marked * to agree with columns 4 and 7, and 1 and 10 of Part A. respectively.	66	65	NR

NOTES.—(a) If rank other than private is involved give details on back.
 (b) Authorised trades or specialists not included in list will be added as required in spaces provided.
 (c) Where A.W.A.S. and/or A.A.M.W.S. personnel are desired show details on back.
 (d) Where replacement not desired note accordingly on return by insertion of N.R. in col. "Reints. Required."
 (e) Where any request or notation is made on back of form, the words "See Back" should be written in one of the blank spaces on this page.

25 JUL 45
Date of Despatch

E. L. ...
Signature of Commander

FIELD RETURN OF OTHER RANKS

23 JUN

At 0800 Hrs. Saturday 23 June 1945
 W.E. [] O.R.'s [] O.R.'s [] ATT. BY W.E.

**Part A. Posted Strength, Surplus or Reinforcements Required.
 PARTICULARS OF NCOS**

UNIT	ATTACHED ALLOWED BY W.E.				RANK	WE	W.E. INCLUDING ATTACHED		
	PS	SURP	DEF	PS			SURP	DEF	
INT DUTIES					S Sjt	1			
					CPL	2			
CLERKS					WO II	1			
					CPL	1			
TRANSPORT					Sjt	1			
					CPL	1			
GENERAL DUTIES					CPL	2			1
CQ MS					S Sjt	1			
CSM					WO II	1			
SERVICES									
AAES					Sjt	1			
AAAS					Sjt	1			
AAASC					CPL	1			
AAALC					CPL	1			
AAAMC					CPL	1			
AAACC					CPL	1	2	1	
AAOC					Sjt	1			1
					S Sjt	-	1	1	
TOTALS						18	18	3	3

DETAILS OF SURPLUS NCOS

ARMY NO	RANK	NAME	TRADE	MED CLASSIFICATION
NX150236	S Sjt	GARTRELL J	AMN EXMN	A1 (posted for duty as Amn Exmn)
NX126595	CPL	RYAN SW	COOK	A1
NX91053	CPL	ROWLAND JL	AMENITIES	A1 (posted as Amenities Sjt)

OTHER RANKS ON LEAVE & AWL

NIL RETURN

Analysis of Enemy Activity

Brooketon Borneo area from 10 Jun 45



1. Strength, ~~Identifications and Dispositions~~ 10 Jun 45:

(W) Japanese strength in the Brooketon - Borneo area at the date of our landing was approx ⁸⁰⁰ 850. Comprising two depleted ~~armed~~ bus and miscellaneous ^{troops} ~~troops~~.

2. Identifications

(a) 366 IIB: One of the Indep Bns of 56 IMB, this unit was commanded by Maj SATO. It had been at TAWAO until ^{approx 22 Feb} ~~17 Feb~~ 45 when it ~~when~~, with other units of the IMB it commenced to move west across Borneo arriving in the Borneo area ~~at~~ during Apr 45. Strength of unit on 1 Dec 44 at TAWAO was 971 but by Feb it had been reduced to approx 350 ~~and~~ due mainly to sickness. ~~Of~~ ~~these~~ ~~only~~ 250 reached Borneo ~~and~~ these were reinforced ~~with~~ 50 civilians making strength ~~as at~~ 10 Jun approx 300. Strength at the time of our landing.

(b) 367 IIB: This bn of 56 IMB also participated in the westward march across Borneo arriving in Borneo

in Apr 45. It was ^{his death in the} ~~could~~ until ^{middle of} ~~month~~ 45 by May OKADA ^{after which its Co was captured} Strength of the unit at TAWAO in Dec 44 was 973 but at the date of our landing strength was probably within excess of

(c) Miscellaneous Units: These totalled in all approximately 350. Units identified are as follows:

140 26 IMB

KASHIO Tai - a naval unit ^{str} of 1000 + 2300 ^{or 1000}

NAGATA Tai (26 constab. unit) - str approx 45

111 Rupa Br (elements) - str not known

~~AKITO Tai (elements only)~~

67 Anchorage HQ

2 Anchorage Unit - comprising 5/6 soldiers + some ^{ed}

IKENO Tai

~~None~~ ^{NOT} of these units were organized or equipped as fighting troops and many are reported to have been unarmed. They included a number of civilians.

3. Dispositions 10 Jun 45

(a) 366 IIB: 3 Coy, str approx 45/50 were disposed in the Brooketon area. The balance of the unit were in dep posns in the KOMBANG PASANG Estate with ML pl. probably via CADONG ferry.

(b) 367 IIB: 3 Coy were at TUTONG and the balance were ^{come} on the high ground north of BRUNET Town ^{see} 503397 (BRUNET 1/5000 series)

(c) Elements Rupa Br: These plus other odd deta had been formed into a

guard unit and were stationed at the (64)
airstrip near BERAKUS Rd

(d) KASHIO ⁽³⁾ troop: These troops had been
~~at MUARA~~ at BROOKETON but
withdrew and joined the main
body of 366 IIB prior to our
landing

(e) Remaining troops: These were mainly
located in and around BRUNEI Town area.
Approx 50 troops, incl possibly medical
personnel and hospitalized troops were
probably in the LIMBANG area

4. Movement between 10 Jun and 13 Jun

3 Coy 366 IIB withdrew, apart from
small gpts at receptors, westwards
along the coast from BROOKETON
Peninsula.

3 Coy 367 IIB moved up ^{by Rd} from TUTONG
to BRUNEI and joined the remainder
of the Bn on 11 Jun

HQ 56 IMB withdrew by boat
to LIM BANG

367 IIB commenced, as early as night
10/11 Jun ~~to~~ to withdraw south. Some
moved by boat, and others
^{up the LIMBANG River} down the LIMBANG Rd. With this
pull moved many of the odd
dets who had been located in BRUNEI

366 IIB less 3 Coy and plus
~~odd dets~~ ~~as~~ KASHIO ~~troop~~, elements
of 3 Coy and odd dets ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~troop~~
~~before~~ ~~as~~ in a easterly direction overland

to village on the western bank of the BRUNEI
River Sq 5139 (Brunei census 425000)

5. Subsequent moves

(a) 3 Coy 366 IIB. This Coy evacuated west
along the coast past the end of the
BERAKUS Rd and then turning SW
to crossing the BRUNEI-TUTONG Rd
at rd bend 382408. They were
repacked ^{from post} ~~at~~ the end of BERAKUS Rd
by 20 Jan to have reached SENCOKONG
(371402) ^{by} 23 Jan, and, moving
parallel to the BANG Rd, to have
reached LEMUNIN by 24 Jan. They
were then repacked ^{at} ~~to~~ have moved
east towards BT MATHA ^{via BT BIDANG}.
No further info of them now
available.

(b) 366 IIB less 3 Coy. After many
East from KUMBANG PASANG Estate
to village Sq 5139 on the BRUNEI
River, the remnants of this unit
totalling approx 100 crossed the
river at night in native proa to
P ^{BERAMBANG} ~~LAKRAKU~~. The first reports of them
having reached the island was
on 19 Jan. By 25 Jan they appear
to have been seen on P. LAMPANG
It is certain that by 28 Jan ^{partially} the

(5)

whole party had vacated LIMPAKU Island. Some of them (40/50) ~~are~~ seem to have moved to RAN-CAU (S. 5032) and the remainder (20/30) to have escaped south on rafts to JAI JAI Island.

It seems to have been the intention of this party to have moved up the LIMBANG River and, even while they were on LIMPAKU, odd Japs were captured near LIMBANG who had escaped from LIMPAKU. After vacating LIMPAKU they still tried to move south through swampy country and it is considered that substantially the whole grp has now been wopped up.

It is considered that very few of 366 IIB moved EAST from LIMBANG with the ~~unit~~ and certainly, as a ~~unit~~ but the unit ceased to exist after 28 Jun.

(4) 367 IIB and odd det

(c) 142 56 IMB

After reaching LIMBANG this grp appear to have moved seaward in an easterly direction towards TRUSAN. They seem to have cleared LIMBANG by 17 Jun and to have reached TRUSAN by the 19th or 20th. From there they moved up ~~the~~ ^{the} TRUSAN

(6)

River to PA TENGOA when the
swung east into BNB

(A) 367 ITB and odd det. This

force, comprising up to 400
persons headed by various troops
to the TRUSAN River via SEBOLU.
Some moved via MENGATAI (where
they were repacked on 20 Jan) to MALAU
and from there swinging ~~to~~ SE to
BT SAGAN. Elements at least were in
this area on 23 Jan. From BT SAGAN
their route was via ANGGON S. BATU APOI
BT SUANG then to SEBOLU. The main
body appears to have arrived at BT SUANG about 30 Jan.
Another ~~group~~ group from this party
after reaching BT SAGAN moved to ANGGON
and then down the west bank of the
STEMBORONG to BIANC where
they moved east across a H &
S SELAPAN. They crossed the BATU
APOI at this point & then moved
up the SELAPAN and across to
SEBOLU.

Actually the routes east from the
LIMBANG area to SEBOLU do appear
to have been very numerous but the
main axis seems to have been as
described above.

From SEBOLU, which was
a concentration point for this area
such elements as 367 ITB and

(4)

- the accompanying detts as provided
in the area moved up the TRUSAN River,
as did HQ 56 IMB to the PA TENCOA area.
From there they swung east into
BNB and their subsequent mov &
intentions are not known to the HQ.

Enemy Activity

SERIA — K BELAIT area

A. General : Just tps reached the outskirts of SERIA on 20 Jun and entered the town on 21 Jun moving on immediately to K BELAIT ^{which was occupied on 22 Jun}. Both towns were occupied without ~~any~~ opposition the Japs having withdrawn previously. Infor obtained from released Indian PW suggests that fearing our immediate landing in this area the Japs actually evacuated K BELAIT on 11 Jun returning on 14 Jun, when the massacre took place, and then evacuating again before 20 Jun.

B. Identifications and Strengths : Only army tps identified in the area were elements of KEMPAI TAI and 307 Indek MT Coy (KAMIMURA Tai) — code designation NADA 1745. Both from native reports and from the WE of Indek MT Coys it seems that the total number of army tps from incl K TUTION C to incl K BELAIT was not more than 200. In addition there was a considerable number of natives (the majority probably oilfield employees) in the area. From an analysis of many reports it is thought that these totalled about 400 and that altogether there were not more than 600 Japs in the area.

C. Evacuation Routes : The primary concentration point for all Japs in this coastal area seems to have been LABI. Evacuation to this village was by 3 main routes: —
(1) From K BELAIT up the BELAIT River by craft to K BALAI thence up the DAMIT River to either SEMBURU or TERIAM. A track runs from SEMBURU to TERIAM and thence via SIMPANG to LABI.

(ii) From SERIA. Along rly line to BADAS, across suspension br and then along to Ma BTPUAN, TANAJOR, SIMPANG to LABI

(iii) From K TUTONG area. It is most likely from the evidence of abandoned trucks, that the route was by MT along the ABANG rd as far as possible, thence by tr to RAMBAI and the TUTONG River, then by tr across to the BELAIT River at CHOWAT and by tr Ma PANG SIONG to LABI

D. Subsequent Mov. It is considered that it was originally intended by Col AIKYO who commanded the whole area MIRI - K TUTONG to concentrate his whole force at MARUDI whence evacuation by tr and river to KUCHING could be put into operation.

according to SRD intention

It is possible that instead of MARUDI BELURU was to be the concentration point. In any event to implement this intention it was necessary to move the japs in the K BELAIT - TUTONG area through LABI to MARUDI (and possibly on to BELURU) to join the japs who had moved out from the MIRI - TUTONG area.

As a result of our adv on LABI, the japs fell back first to RAMPAYOH then to MENDARAHM. Early in Jul a recon of MARUDI was made and it seems that the japs, as a result, believed that MARUDI was held by us in strength. Many reports were received of parties of japs leaving RAMPAYOH for MARUDI and returning after reaching RIDAN. Subsequently SRD reported that the japs had made a recon of the RIDAN - LINEI A

(3)

This move appears to have proved satisfactory and the party moved from MENDARAM to RIDAN and south along the tr to LINEI. It is considered that the whole force is ^{now} concentrated vic LINEI

E. TIMINGS

As no contact was made with the Jap during his evacuation info on the move has been primarily based on native reports and statements by released Indian PW. For this reason the following timings cannot be regarded as exact.

Between 10 June and 20 June: Evacuation in strength

of coastal towns commenced (Many of the civilians probably moved to LABI earlier than this)

22 June:

Reports that work at LABI had commenced - several hundred reported

27 June:

Estimated apsts in LABI area 600. Reports that prior to this date evacuation of LABI to RAMPAYOH had begun.

29 June:

Concentration of Jap party at RAMPAYOH virtually complete. Many reports at this time indicated that the Japs intended to make a stand in the high ground near RAMPAYOH

3 July:

Bulk of force come at MENDARAM, with few elements down the tr towards MARUDI

8 July:

Patrol reported MENDARAM clear. Prior to this the Japs had receded the MARUDI tr and also the tr to RIDAN LINEI and by the 8 July it seems that at least elements of the force had moved through RIDAN down the LINEI tr.

10 July:

RIDAN clear. It seems certain that none of the Japs from this area moved into MARUDI and that the concentrated all LINEI

JAPANESE ADMINISTRATION OF KUALA BELAIT

DURING OCCUPATION 16 DEC 41 - 10 JUN 45

file

1. STRENGTH AND ACTION OF JAPS ON LANDING

On the 16 Dec 41 about 500 JAPS landed at K BELAIT and SERIA. Some 4 or 5 days later, a force of about 1000 passed through presumably on their way to BRUNEI - LABUAN etc. For about a fortnight there was constant troop movements, destination and strength unknown.

The landing party cut off wires (telephone), rounded up Mr TURNER (Assist Resident) and Mr FLEMICH (?) (Forest officer), broke open the locked Company houses, and generally damaged or destroyed furniture and helped themselves freely with provisions etc stored in the warehouses. They did not molest womenfolk except in one or two isolated instances. No hardships worth mentioning were inflicted on the civilians at the outset.

2. SUBSEQUENT CONTROL OF:-

(a) MILITARY: In the middle part of 1942 all the occupational forces were withdrawn and replaced by a Contingent of 200 soldiers of the KAMI MURA TAI. By way of explanation KAMI MURA TAI means "The Group or party under the control or direction of the individual named KAMI MURA". In the latter part of 1944, the strength was reduced to about 100 men.

(b) CIVIL: The administration of civil affairs was carried by one or two JAP offrs, assisted by the local staff. Policing work was done by the Malay Police, with a JAP Police offr in charge.

(c) FOOD: During the first year or so of their occupation the JAPS imported large quantities of rice, and rationed it to all the inhabitants - the Company employees getting a larger share than others. When shipping position became acute i.e. from Oct 1944 rice issues were made only to Oilfield employees the others being asked to grow their own food.

They commandeered the vegetable, fish and meat supplies from the very beginning with the result only a very scanty supply was left for the needs of the local population. The entire population was forced to grow Tapioca and Sweet Potatoes.

(d) OILS: The total amount of oil lifted during occupation was kept a Military Secret and information on this score must of a necessity be a guess. In the middle part of 1944 they pumped to LUTONG about 4/5000 tons a day, declining to nil in the first quarter of 1945.

(e) RUBBER: As far as our information goes no rubber was exported from this area.

(f) FARM PRODUCTS: Japs encouraged cultivation of paddy by allotting land to cultivators subsidising them with money and forced civilians to grow vegetables, sweet potatoes, tapioca etc etc., thereby making them to a certain extent self-sufficient.

(g) PROPAGANDA: Took the form of Flag March, frequent lectures by Chief Jap offrs, big posters announcing so called victories. The presentation of 1 lb of Salt to each employee to celebrate the great Naval Victory at TAIWAN gives some indication of the form their propaganda took.

(h) EDUCATION: Only JAP language was allowed to be taught in schools (no Malay, Chinese or English). Children were taught to sing JAPANESE songs. All men were asked to learn JAPANESE language. Night schools were opened in K BELAIT and SERIA for this purpose but attendance was very poor.

(i) SHIPPING: All shipping activities were confined to MIRI - LUTONG area. Ships called regularly and on certain occasions in large numbers during the year 1942/43. During 1944 shipping service dropped considerably and during 1945 it ceased to exist.

(j) PW'S AND CIVIL: (Military, European and Indian)

About 200 INDIAN PWS were brought from KUCHING in March 42 and used as a labour corps. As a result of very inhuman treatment many died of starvation and others succumbed to Beri-Beri and other diseases. No clothing was provided, they had perforce to wear gunny sacks and bags. For no reason they were thrashed and kicked during working hours. All the offrs of the INDIAN PWS were locked up in gaol in April 1945 and right up to end of May were taken daily to MP's Office morning and evening for thrashing. The Chief Officer died after 3 or 4 days after his release from jail. Rest of the offrs were taken along with AUSTRALIAN internees. 30 of the able-bodied PWS were taken to LABI a month before the Australian landing. Rest of PWS were murdered on or about 14 Jun 45 a few however managed to escape. A few PWS joined the Local Defence force. They escaped on 10th Jun when the oil wells were set on fire

(k) EUROPEANS: The Assistant Resident Mr TURNER and Forest Officer Mr FLEMING, were taken prisoner on the day the JAPS landed. They were made to walk on the road in heavy rain in their pygamas - later they were locked up in a club kitchen quarters. Subsequently they were sent to MIRI enroute to KUTCHING.

One Doctor Clerk, an AUSTRALIAN was brought from BUFFORD and worked for a few months in K BELAIT Govt Hospital. Then he was taken to KUCHING.

During 1945 about 40 AUSTRALIAN internees were brought and kept across the BELAIT river. Six or seven of them died in K BELAIT through natural causes it is beleived. They were subsequently taken away (during first week of Jun 1945) together with the INDIAN PWS offrs - destination unknown.

(l) CIVILIANS: Two civilians (Indian dresser named SAIWAI SINGH and Indian watchman named TARA SINGH) were murdered along with the other Indian PWS. Two Indians and one Chinese named BELWANT SINGH, GAKAL SINGH and CHONG FAH respectively were taken away by MPs.

The JAPS were looking for more local victims before they retreated to the interior but as the majority of them hid themselves they could not find many of them.

(m) PROSTITUTES: Mainly composed of imported JAP and TAIWAN (roughly 20). A few JAP old ladies (former residents) ran a "Cafe-Cum-Brothel" in K BELAIT with half a dozen Chinese and Dusun prostitutes. A few DYAK prostitutes were imported from SIBU.

(n) IMPORT AND EXPORT OF CIVILIAN LABOUR: All oilfield company employees sent away to SINGAPORE prior to the outbreak of the war were brought back.

A few hundred JAVANESE labourers were recruited from JAVA for oilfield work. No labourers were exported to other countries.

(o) ATROCITIES: The atrocities committed by the JAPS were many to enumerate in detail.

If one accidentally failed to salute a JAP he was generously slapped

If one was suspected of pro-allied sympathies he was brought before the MPs and tortured. Third degree methods were used to extract information respecting other sympathisers.

If one interested oneself in the progress of the war or showed any undue interest in JAP war news he was suspected and his movements were closely watched and he ere long found himself locked up in the MPs office where he underwent untold tortures.

If one accidentally picked up a leaflet dropped by Allied planes severest punishment was meted out not only to the person who picked it up but also to those who were unfortunately in the neighbourhood

The JAPS often forcibly took from local people gramaphones, records, watches, furniture etc., without any compensation. During the earlier part of this year they started confiscating pigs, fowls, vegetables, paddy etc., from the inhabitants.

If a vindictive person made a false report against another individual the MPs relying on his words alone torture the accused without questioning or trial.

The MPs were generally beastly crowd and any one who had the misfortune to fall into their hands underwent severest torture the like of which only heard of in Gestapo infested Countries of Europe. Their treatment of war prisoners was extremely cruel and their behaviour throughout the period of occupation was terribly brutal.

SUBJECT: OCCUPATION OF HOUSES - TOWN OF BRUNEI

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

AIN
A38/3734

5 Jul 45

9 Aust Div

1. Following the capture of the town of BRUNEI certain buildings, residences and grounds, both private and public property, were temporarily occupied by various units under comd this HQ.
2. As soon as military necessity permitted the premises were vacated.
3. Acknowledgements signed by the respective owners or by Y det BBCAU in respect of public buildings, are forwarded herewith for record. Duplicate acknowledgements are in possession of Y det BBCAU.

W. J. V. Wintley
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT :- ARREST OF CIVILIAN LO HING KOO? AND SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN.

NO. I PROVOST SEC.
ATT H.Q. 20 AUST INF BDE.
13 JUL 45

O.C.
NO. I PROVOST SECTION.,

I have to report that at about 0900 hrs 8 JUL 45, I was on duty at the Military Police Barracks, Kuala Belait.

2. A civilian who I now know to be Peter Poh entered the Orderly Room in a very excited state, and stated that he had seen, walking in the street, a civilian wearing a J.G. shirt, Khaki slacks, and a K.F. felt hat. He also stated that this person had, during the occupation of the Japanese, wore Jap uniform and acted as supervisor to building construction, often using violence.

3. Accompanied by Peter Poh, I immediately commenced a search for the a/m person, now known to be LO HING KOO, with a view to having him examined by the F.S.S. At 0930 hrs Koo was apprehended and escorted to the M.P. Barracks where he was searched.

4. Koo was wearing a J.G. shirt and Khaki slacks, also a K.F. felt hat which I recognised as Aust Army issue clothing. He had in his possession the following :-
(a) A haversack which contained a cloth bag in which was pre-war silver currency in five and ten cent pieces, amounting to approximately \$40.

(b) A large number of worthless Jap. \$5 & \$10 bills.

(c) A black covered note book containing :-

(i) The following names and addresses :-

VX134459 FRASER L 2 - 3
3 Pn., 2/3 Fd Coy R.A.E. Australia 60 3 Plt.

MR L FRASER
598 RATHDOWN ST. NTH CARLSON, VIC..

VX72322 SPR H HODGES.
2/3 Fd Coy., R.A.E.

H HODGES.
POST OFFICE. KORUMBURRA. VICTORIA.

SGT GEORGE LOWE.
2/12 FD AMBULANCE. MIRI

MR G LOWE.
22 KEMP ST. JUNEE. AUSTRALIA.

(ii) A number of names of civilians and places at which they had worked.

(iii) Permits from CAPT MONKS and CAPT MARSHALL., BBKAU. to move in Brunei and other areas recruiting labour.

(iv) An unsigned permit from 3 Pn., 2/3 Fd Coy. and several other documents of no significance.

5. The information elicited by questioning LO HING KOO was that he was employed in recruiting labour for construction work., and that the money had been given him for that purpose, but he later retracted his statement to that effect and said that the money had been given him by Les (referring to SPR FRASER) to change into local legal tender.

6. Koo was handed over to the F.S.S. for questioning in reference to the charges made against him by PETER POH and corroborated by other civilians who had also recognised, Koo. Acting under instructions, I continued the investigation regarding the addresses in the note book, and the money allegedly given to Koo by SPR FRASER.

7. I interviewed SPRS FRASER and HODGES, who made statements which were signed and are attached hereto. Both these personnel have stated that after seeing the permits signed by CAPT'S MONKS and MARSHALL they thought there would be no irregularities in giving Koo their names and addresses so that he may write to them at some later date, and Koo was, at the time, and by permission of W.C. Kay, moving with the 3 Pn 2/3 Fd Coy. I have not yet contacted Sgt Lowe, but it appears that his address was given for the same reason.

8. The money is at present being held by CAPT MARSHALL., B.B.C.A.U., KUALA BELAIT., the note book and contents are in the hands of the F.S.S. pending further investigations., and LO HING KOO is held in close custody by NO.1 PRO SEC., at the M.P. barracks, KUALA BELAIT.

NX23999 *D. Gray* L/SGT
NO.1 PRO SEC.

IN THE FIELD
13 JUL 45.

STATEMENT BY VX134459 SPR FRASER L., 3 PN 2/3 FD COV R.A.E

I am VX134459 SPR FRASER L, 3 PN 2/3 FD COY., and employed in the Unit as a cook.

Whilst in Brunei I met the person whom I now know as Lo Hing Koo. He frequented the Pn kitchen and his story was that he was working under instruction from B.B.C.A.U. employing labour for them.

On arrival in Brunei, the Pn camped near the Bank building. At no time did I remove any currency, ~~ex~~ notes or coins from the building or surrounding area.

Lo Hing moved to Seria with the Unit.

He had some money, Jap bills and Brunei coins., and said he was exchanging the bills for the coins. On various occasions he gave me numbers of these coins including or comprising five and ten cent pieces, and when it had amounted to about \$40 I told him to stop ~~bringing~~ bringing it as I did not want it.

About the 7 Jul, he said he would be going to Kuala Belait and that he would take the money and change it into local paper currency.

I would also state that I gave Lo Hing my address so that he could find the Unit after his return to Seria from Brunei. He also stated that he was taking labourers to Labuan and that he wanted to write to me at some future date..

THE ABOVE STATEMENT WAS MADE VOLUNTARILY. I HAVE READ IT OVER AND FOUND IT TO BE CORRECT.

VX134459.....*L.G. Fraser*.....SPR
3 PN 2/3 FD COV R.A.E

STATEMENT BY VX72322 SPR H HODGES. 3 PN 2/3 FD COV R.A.E

I am VX72322 SPR H HODGES, 3 Pn 2/3 Fd Coy., R.A.E, and am employed in the Unit as a cook.

I have read the statement made by Spr Fraser and corroborate same.

I would also state that my reason for writing my army address in the note book owned by Lo Hing, about the 21 Jun 45, was so that he could write to me., he said it was his wish to do so.

Whilst working at the Tutong Ferry, Lo Hing said he would be going to Brunei, so I wrote a note (Which I have seen in the possession of the M.P.) and gave it to Lo Hing to show to one of the Coy drivers if he wanted a lift. He said he knew the Unit sign and would recognise it.

VX72322.....*H. J. Hodges*.....SPR
3 PN 2/3 Fd Coy., R.A.E

det "B" Aust F S Section
13 Jul 45

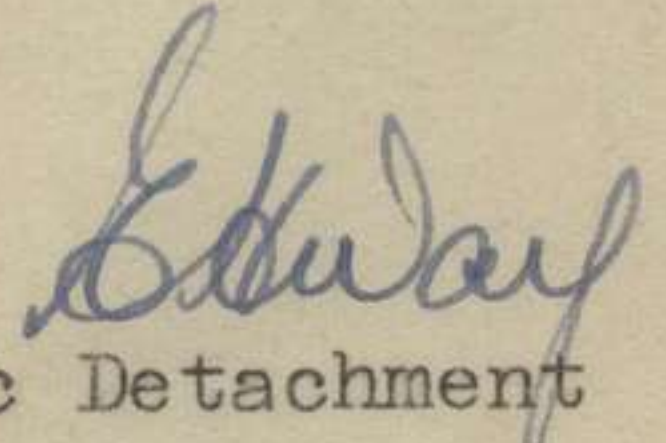
IO
20 Aust Inf Bde

Subject: SUSPECT LOO HING KOO

1. On 8 Jul 45 five chinese reported to MP that a Jap was in the area.
2. The MP apprehended this man and advised this det approx one hour later.
3. Among Koo's personal possessions was a notebook in which were the following names :
VX72322 Spr Hodges.H.
2/3 Fd Coy

VX134459
Fraser. L.
2/3 Fd Coy

Sjt George Lowe
2/12 Fd Ambulance
4. The names were no doubt given Koo in good faith as this man was employed by BBCAU Brunei and in the Seria / Belait area recruiting labour.
5. This is passed on for information and an indication that some tps are not observing Security Instr.


i/c Detachment W02

Subject: COLLABORATORS AND PERSONS IN CUSTODY

HQ 9 Aust Div
Ref *A9 38/1/1145*
17 Jul 45

20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref your A13/1042 of 14 Jul 45.
2. Dealing with para 7 of above memo:
 - (a) Offences committed prior to 10 Jun 45 may be tried by military courts convened by Bde Comds.
 - (b) The law in force at the time the alleged offence was committed i.e. an offence committed on 1 Jun 45 in Brunei would be dealt with by the law of Brunei as then existing. Similarly in the case of offences committed in other territories i.e. North Borneo, Sarawak and Labuan.
 - (c) This is covered in (b).
 - (d) In the case of a person such as Warrior being considered a security risk he should be held in custody, if necessary indefinitely.
3. In the case of offences committed prior to 10 Jun 45 it is considered that a Judge Advocate who is familiar with the law applicable should be appointed.

Lt-Col Maxwell-Hall of BBCAU would be a suitable officer and should be available.

Every assistance will be afforded by this HQ in obtaining suitable officers to sit on the courts if required.

4. At the present juncture before proceeding to try any particular case or series of cases it is desired that reference should be made to CCAO BBCAU (who it is anticipated will arrive in this area very shortly) through this HQ.

5. It is not desired that investigations should be delayed in any way. As far as possible cases should be prepared ready for trial.

6. Martial Law Proclamation 1945 is only applicable to such areas of British Borneo as are at any given time under the control of this Division.

Accordingly in the case of an offence committed at Miri after 10 Jun 45 but prior to occupation by 20 Aust Inf Bde the law applicable would be the existing law of Sarawak at that date.

18/7.
Seen by Lt Col Maxwell-Hall
BBCAU
approved

[Signature]
Lt-Col
CMA 9 Aust Div

Copy for Capt Barr

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS 20th BRIGADE
453rd CJE Detachment

Brunei
17 July 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

Subject: Report of Activities.

The following is a report of activities for this Detachment, attached to the 20th Brigade, for the period from 9th July to 16 July 1945:

2. Area Security:

a. Installations: Police and Kempei Tai records seized several weeks ago by this detachment are still be used as an accurate source of information against our growing suspect list and are of great assistance in securing leads for the investigations.

b. Suspects: The following persons have been interned during the period and were not previously reported.

1. Benang bin Dondang, P.C.148, from Limbang, Case No.453-71, accompanied a Japanese search party for American flyers, which resulted in the death of two Americans.

2. Chin Ah Hong, Chinese, from Tutong area. Case No.453-72, formerly food representative for the Japanese controlled Nunri Co., collected funds from the people for the "bomber fund", in support to the Japanese construction of air-fields.

d. Liaison: While securing information for his investigations, Special Agent Charon performed some worthwhile liaison work with the native Dayaks and Muruts in the Bangar, Temburong area last week. Between the 8th and 10th July, Charon secured information with reference to four cases of collaboration, as well as tactical information in the area already submitted.

3. Investigations: The following Case Reports have been completed during the period and will be forwarded at once:

1. Pengiran DAMIT bin Pengiran Omar Alli, Case No. 453-50; DAMIT was employed as Sgt.No 10, for the Japanese Military Police and was used for espionage work. Recommended that he be retained in the Brunei jail for trial.

2. Pengiran SAPIUDIN bin Pengiran Sulaiman, Case No. 453-52; nephew of DAMIT, Sgt. No.10, also spied for the Kempei Tai and was used as a driver and interpreter for a Japanese civilian doctor in the Brunei hospital. Recommended internment.

3. Hadji ASBULLAH bin Hadji Mohamed Daud, Case No. 453-53; a Malayan who admits that he spied for the Kempei for \$20.00 plus 2 gantangs of rice a month; one of the local Japanese spy network; recommended internment until trial.

4. SALLEH bin Duraman, Case No. 453-56, Kampong Santol, Brunei; another plain clothes spy for the Kempei Tai, who submitted information on at least two civilians, which brought death to one. Recommended internment until trial.

5. MAJID Bin Japar, Case No. 453-57, a Malayan who killed an American airman at Sungei Tumani, British North Borneo, on or about 18 February 1945. Jailed pending trial by military court.

6. SALLEH bin Daud, Case No. 453-68, former P.C.No.13; accompanied search party for American airmen. Recommended release from confinement pending his availability as a witness against MAJID, Case No. 453-57.

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b. Summaries of Information: A report of survey of the oilfields in the Miti-Lutong-Seria areas was submitted as requested by the 441st CIC Detachment, GHQ, AFPAC, APO500.

6. Administration:

a. Personnel: this office was advised of the arrival of Lt. Kordis at Headquarters on 16 July 1945.

b. Detached Posts: Special Agents Daly and Kenneally are now on DS at Miri. Special Agents Labberton and Schupek are on DS at Beaufort.

c. Equipment: This office sent a request to 441st CIC Detachment for some clothing shortages for the entire detachment.

Signal received that a 35 ft. boat would be available if desired. Signal sent from this office acknowledging the signal and requesting boat.

d. Re-deployment form for Special Agent Daly was completed and forwarded to 441st CIC Detachment.

G. W. F. Swenson

G. W. F. Swenson,
Captain, C.E.,
Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL

copy of signal

082215 I

From Adv 20 Bde

To. Y Det BBCAU.

W " " "

for information 20 Bde Rear Hd (for legal Offr)

AG. 689 (confidential) © To clarify position © No
Civ. or military officer of BBCAU or any other Unit
has any lawful civil powers as magistrates, District
officer or otherwise © This is so although particular
officers may have held such appointments before
war © Whole administration is now Military ~~and~~
with all authority derived from Jw Comd © BBCAU
officers will continue to supervise and direct
local services and public utilities such as
water & sanitation, as at present but will not
administer law or authorize civilians to do so ©
Bde Comd has been given authority to convene
Military courts similar to F&CIV. for trial of
civilians for offences against Proclamation or
Indian Penal Code © Such courts are being
convened as soon as practicable to dispose of
cases now ready for trial © further details
later. © .

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Ser. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
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ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator Rear HQ 20 Bde For Action	Date—Time of Origin 072200I	Office Date Stamp Message Instructions GR
TO Adv 20 Bde (w) For Information (INFO.)		

ORIGINATOR'S No.

AG167 restricted(-) ref 9 div AG963 intercepted this end (-) following infm may assist(-) twenty four persons in custody at BRUNAI (-) one for murder of american airman(-) one for assisting in capture ~~of~~ of five american airmen(-) one for supplying infm to Japanese resulting in re-capture and death of escaped european internee(-) two for maltreatment of prisoners(-) one for maltreatment of forced native labourers(-) thirteen for supplying infm to Japanese resulting in execution torture or imprisonment of other natives or asiatics(-) one for theft and selling opium (-) two for assisting enemy but no details available and investigations still proceeding(-) one about whom no infm is available as only recently arrived from outlying district and not been possible interrogate witnesses(-) one being released because doubtful if committed any known offence(-) short reports relating to fourteen of above being forwarded separately by hand MANTHEY (-) remainder will be forwarded when investigations completed

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means { except } Wireless	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands, this message must be sent IN CIPHER	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time</td> <td>System</td> <td>Op</td> </tr> <tr> <td>THI or TOR</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Cleared</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Time	System	Op	THI or TOR			Time Cleared		
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Signed Capt	Signed											

SUBJECT: COLLABORATORS AND CIVILIANS IN CUSTODY

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
A38/3723
6 Jul 45

Adv HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref this HQ A38/3723 of 3 Jul 45 and further to para 4 thereof.
2. A Summary of the Courts existing in BRUNEI before Jap occupation and the jurisdiction of such Courts is attached.
3. In accordance with Comd's directions, delivered by DLO 9 Aust Div, Bde Legal Ofcr visited LIMBANG and inspected certain SARAWAK Enactments relating to Courts and their jurisdiction. A Summary of the Courts is also attached.

E. L. Mead
Capt
SC 20 Aust Inf Bde

COURTS AND THEIR JURISDICTION

BRUNEI

Extracts from Enactment No 1 of 1908.

1. The Court of the Resident.

(a) Original Jurisdiction

- (i) Civil - jurisdiction in all suits matters and questions except that cannot dissolve or annul a marriage lawfully solemnised between Christians in the UK, Ireland or in any British Colony, Protectorate or Possession.
- (ii) Criminal - All offences and may award any punishment authorised by law provided that any sentence of death must be confirmed by High Commissioner.

(b) Appellate Jurisdiction

Power to hear and determine all appeals, civil or criminal, from decisions of lower courts.

2. Courts of Magistrates of First Class

(a) Original Jurisdiction

- (i) Civil - all suits where the amount in dispute or value of subject matter does not exceed 1000 dollars, together with power to grant Probate and L/A in respect of estates where gross value of estate does not exceed 2500 dollars.
- (ii) Criminal - all offences for which maximum term of imprisonment provided by law does not exceed 7 years or which are punishable with fine only.

Proviso - under Sec 12 this court may award following sentences only :-

Imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years
Fine not exceeding 1000 dollars
Whipping not exceeding 12 strokes.

(b) Appellate Jurisdiction

Power to hear and determine all appeals from decisions of inferior courts both in civil and criminal matters.

3. Courts of Magistrates of Second Class

(a) Original Jurisdiction

- (i) Civil - all suits where amount in dispute or value of subject matter does not exceed 100 dollars.
- (ii) Criminal - all offences for which maximum punishment provided by law does not exceed 3 years imprisonment or which are punishable by a fine only not exceeding 300 dollars.

Proviso - (Sec 12). This court may award only Imprisonment for terms not exceeding 14 days and Fine not exceeding 50 dollars.

(b) Appellate Jurisdiction

NIL.

4. Courts of Native Magistrates

- (a) Civil - all suits brought by or against Malays or other Asiatics in which amount in dispute or value of subject matter does not exceed 50 dollars.
- (b) Criminal - all cases in which maximum punishment provided by law does not exceed 3 months.

5. Courts of Kathis

These Courts have such powers in all matters concerning Mohammedan religion, marriage and divorce as may be defined in his "kuasa".

SARAWAK

Extracts from Order W C-7 1933.

1. The Courts for the administration of law in the State shall be as follows :-

1. The Supreme Court
2. Resident's Court or Courts of Magistrates of the First Class
3. District Courts or Courts of the Magistrates of the Second Class
4. Courts of Magistrates of the Third Class
5. Petty Courts or Courts of the Magistrates of the Fourth Class.

In their criminal jurisdiction the Courts of Magistrates are also known as Police Courts and in their civil jurisdiction as Courts of Small Cases.

In addition to the Courts set out above there shall be Courts to administer Mohammedan law and native customs, which shall be as constituted from time to time.

Supreme Court shall consist of the Chief Justice and some person or persons appointed to act on his behalf by His Highness the Rajah.

In exercise of their criminal jurisdiction the powers of the Court shall be as provided in the Code of Criminal procedure.

2. In the exercise of their Civil jurisdiction the powers of the Courts subject to any Statutory provisions for the time being in force shall be as follows :-

- (a) The Supreme Court shall have jurisdiction in every suit.
- (b) Courts of Magistrates shall have jurisdiction in every suit provided that the value in dispute does not exceed -

Magistrate First Class	-	unlimited
Magistrates Second Class	-	1000 dollars
Magistrates Third Class	-	200 dollars
Magistrates Fourth Class	-	50 dollars.

3. Appeal against any Judgment or order . Appeals are from :-

Court of Magistrate of 4th Class to District Court

Court of Magistrate 2nd and 3rd class to Resident's Court

Resident's Court to Supreme Court.

No appeal lies where value of subject matter is less than 5 dollars if appeal lies to District Court, 25 dollars if it lies to Resident's Court or 100 dollars if it lies to Supreme Court.

4. Extracts from Criminal Procedure Code. Order No C - 6 of 1932.

Courts of administration of Criminal Justice shall be

1. The Supreme Court
2. Residents' Court or Court of Magistrates of the First Class
3. District Courts or Court of Magistrates of the Second Class
4. Police Courts or Court of Magistrates of the Third Class

5. Petty Courts or Court of Magistrates Fourth Class.

Assistant Resident's Court Magistrates may also be appointed to exercise jurisdiction in Resident's Court.

Jurisdiction

Any offence under the Penal Code may be tried by :-

- (a) The Supreme Court
- (b) The Court of a Resident
- (c) Or by any other Court by which such offence is shown in the 8th column of the Second Schedule to be triable.

Provided that where an Assistant District Court Magistrate exercises jurisdiction no offence punishable by death or with imprisonment for 15 years shall be tried by such court.

Sentences

Supreme Court - any sentence authorized by law

Resident Magistrate - any sentence authorized but sentences of

- (a) death
- (b) imprisonment for more than 10 years
- (c) fine exceeding 3000 dollars
- (d) whipping

must be confirmed by Supreme Court.

District Courts

Imprisonment not exceeding 2 years
Fine not exceeding 500 dollars

Police Courts

Imprisonment not exceeding 6 months
Fine not exceeding 100 dollars

Petty Courts

Imprisonment not exceeding 2 months
Fine not exceeding 50 dollars

Note :- (a) The Second Schedule sets out in columns inter alia, offences, maximum punishments and courts by whom triable.

(b) All cases under the Code may be tried by a Resident's Court and when a lower court is mentioned (in column 8) it implies NCT that the Resident's Court has no jurisdiction but that the lower court has concurrent jurisdiction to try the case. Where the maximum punishment prescribed may be awarded by the lower court the case should ordinarily be tried by that court but where the maximum punishment is greater than that which the lower court may award it is a matter of discretion which court should try the case.

Appeals - against any judgment, sentence or order for any error of law or fact :-

The Court to which an appeal lies are :-

- (a) from a Petty Court to District Court
- (b) from a Police Court and District Court to Resident's Court
- (c) from Resident's Court to Supreme Court.

5. Native Courts - Order No C - 3 of 1940.

1. District Native Court
2. Native Officers' or Chief Court
3. The Headman's Court.

Constitution

District - Magistrate 2nd class, a native officer and two assessors.

Native Officers - Native officer and 2 assessors

Headman's - Headman and 2 assessors.

Jurisdiction

Cases of (a) breach of native law and custom in which all parties are native

(b) breach of native law or custom as to religion, ~~and~~ matrimonial and sexual matters - where one party is native

(c) Mohammedan

(d) and cases where amount in dispute does not exceed 50 dollars and all parties are native.

Sentences

District - Imprisonment not exceeding 2 years or fine 200 dollars

Native Officers' - Imprisonment not exceeding 2 months or fine 100 dollars

Headman's - Fine not exceeding amount authorized by Rajah.

Appeals - Appeals lie from

Headman's Court to Native Officers' Court

Native Officers' Court to District Native Court

District Native Court to Magistrate 1st class

Magistrate 1st class to Supreme Court.

SUBJECT: COLLABORATORS AND CIVILIANS IN CUSTODY

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
A38/3723.
3 Jul 45

Adv HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref Comd's memo to 9 Aust Div dated 2 Jul 45, under above heading.
2. The following action has been taken and information obtained, by Rear HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
 - (a) BBKAU (Y Det) has been instructed to furnish particulars in accordance with the attached sheet in respect of all persons held in custody. The particulars are in course of preparation by INCHI IBRAHIM, in conjunction with CIC.
 - (b) All persons in custody are held by BBKAU at BRUNEI - those in whom CIC are interested are handed to BBKAU to be held pending completion of investigations by CIC.
 - (c) According to Maj DITMAS there are no collaborators or civilians held at LIMBANG.
 - (d) There are 24 persons held in custody at BRUNEI. It is understood that four of these are held for purely civil offences and the remaining twenty are being investigated by CIC with assistance from BBKAU, for active co-operation with the enemy.
 - (e) On completion of investigation CIC will forward to Div, through official channels, a detailed report on each case, which will supplement or amplify the particulars now being obtained from BBKAU.
3. For information of Comd and in case their names are required by 9 Div for appointment as Magistrates at some future time, subtended is list of Magistrates appointed before Jap occupation, who, according to INCHI IBRAHIM are available to function as Magistrates :-

<u>District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>
BRUNEI and MUARA	Ibrahim bin Mohamed Jahfar	1st
" " "	Abdulrahim bin Andor	2nd
" " "	Pengiran Haji Mohamed Salleh	Chief Kathi (Mohamedan Court)
TEMBURONG	Pengiran Abubakar bin P.Omar	2nd
TUTONG	Pengiran Ahmed bin Pengiran Luba	2nd
BELAIT	Mohamed Taib bin Awang Besar	2nd ?
<u>Vth Division of SARAWAK</u>		
LIMBANG	Abang Mustapha b. Abang Haji Abdul Ghafer	2nd
"	Pengiran Bunyok b. Pengiran Dato Mohamed	3rd & Native Court Magistrate
LAWAS	Abang Haji Adenan b. Abang Haji Azhari	2nd
"	Bigar Anak Daboi	3rd & Native Court Magistrate
TRUSAN	Wan Mahdar bin Dato Tuanku Mohamed	3rd & Native Court Magistrate

There is one exception i.e. Mohamed Taib bin Awang Besar about whom INCHI IBRAHIM has no information.

4. Enactment No 1 of 1908 (BRUNEI) prescribes the jurisdiction of each Magistrate - details of same will be forwarded if required.

5. The position regarding collaborators and civilians held in SENA - BELAIT - MIRI is not know at Rear HQ. To enable a complete list to be forwarded to 9 Div in accordance with para 2(b) of the abovementioned memo, and if Bde Comd approves of the particulars being obtained from BBKAU, could the authorities in the SERIA - BELAIT - MIRI areas who are holding persons in custody be directed by Adv Bde to supply similar particulars in respect of such persons.

Capt
SC 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT: PRISONERS IN CUSTODY

1. Full name, previous place of residence and occupation (if any).
2. Place of birth.
3. If not a native of BORNEO, date of arrival.
4. Nationality or race, and nationality or race of parents if known.
5. Whether any charge has been preferred, if so nature of charge.
6. If charge has not been laid nature of intended charge.
7. Whether being held pending investigation.
8. Whether remanded for trial and if so by whom.
9. Date and place of alleged offence.
10. Name of informant or person preferring charge.
11. Details of existing evidence and names and addresses of witnesses.

Persons under Restraint

Major Dittmas, Capt Swenson & Inche
Abraham interviewed 3 July 45.

Instructions issued for particulars
of all persons in custody, as per
attached form, to be submitted as
early as possible. CIC to collaborate
with Inche & Abraham in preparation.

CB

SUBJECT:

PERSONS IN CUSTODY

1. Full name, previous place of residence and occupation (if any).
2. Place of Birth.
3. If not a native of BORNEO, date of arrival.
4. Nationality or race, and nationality or race of parents if known.
5. Whether any charge has been preferred, if so nature of charge.
6. If charge has not been laid nature of intended charge.
7. Whether being held pending investigation.
8. Whether remanded for trial and if so by whom.
9. Date and place of alleged offence.
10. Name of informant or person preferring charge.
11. Precis of existing evidence and names and addresses of witnesses.

Law in Brunei

Penal, Civil Code of Federated Malay States including Law of Evidence, Specific Relief and Contracts.

These laws were adopted by an Enactment of the Sultan in Council.

Enactments of Sultan in Council
1906 - 41.

All legislation had to be approved by the High Commissioner in Singapore.

British Resident was President of the Council.

Courts consisted of -

Court of Residents

Magistrate 1st class

" " 2nd class

Religious Court

Native Court

Magistrates were appointed by
Resident after consultation with
Sultan.

Ibrahim was 1st class magistrate
& is only one remaining.

He functioned under Japanese
rule but only in respect of minor
cases. He refused to deal with
more serious cases.

He was also -

(a) Secretary to Resident

(b) " " State Council

" " to collect or land

Revenue.

Other second class magistrates -

- all Malays - are here.

They are Taib. (Judicial
Others)

Bruneis are British Protected
Subjects.

Lobruans are British subjects
because Labuan is colony.

Second Class Magistrates - Bruner
List attached.

Adopted on Act.

No 2 of 1939

17 Apr 39.

Schedule

Sheep Relief Excise

The Criminal Procedure Code

" Civil Procedure Code.

The Gardens Excise

The Penal Code.

The Customs Excise

STATE OF BRUNEI

List of Magistrates

<u>District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>
Brunei & Muara	Ibrahim bin Mohamed Jahfar	1st
" <i>ADO</i>	Abdulrahman bin Andor	2nd
"	Pengiran Haji Mohamed Salleh	Chief Kathi (Mohamedan Court)
Temburong	Pengiran Abubakar bin P.Omar	2nd
Tutong	Pengiran Ahmad bin Pengiran Luba	2nd
Belait	Mohamed Taib bin Awang Besar	2nd ?

Vth Division of Sarawak

Limbang	Abang Mustapha b. Abang Haji Abdul Ghafar	2nd
"	Pengiran Bunyok b. Pengiran Dato Mohamed	3rd & Native Court Magistrate
Lawas	Abang Haji Adenan b. Abang Haji Azhari	2nd
"	Bigar Anak Daboi	3rd & Native Court Magistrate
Trusan	Wan Mahdar bin Dato Tuanku Mohamed	3rd & Native Court Magistrate

SUBJECT: COLLABORATORS AND CIVILIANS IN CUSTODY

Hq 20 Aust Inf Bde
A
1 Jul 45

Legal

9 Aust Div

Copy for info to Y Det BSCAU
CIC Det

1. At the present time there are at BRUNEI, SERIA - BELAIT and MIRI numbers of civilian residents (natives, Chinese and Indians) held in custody or under some form of restraint and described generally either as "collaborators" or "suspects".
2. (a) They have for the most part been apprehended by us on the information of BSCAU or the CIC officer here (Capt SWINSON).
(b) A nominal roll with short particulars is being prepared on the orders of this Hq and will be forwarded when complete.
3. They appear to fall into four classes :-
 - (a) Those who are alleged to have committed or to be likely to commit acts endangering the security of our forces.
 - (b) Those who are alleged to have given active aid to the enemy during his occupancy.
 - (c) Those who it is alleged either in aid of the enemy or for their own purposes committed criminal offences under civil law against other native civilians during the period of enemy occupation.
 - (d) Those who are alleged to have aided the enemy in connection with the custody and treatment and perhaps execution of allied PWs.
4. As to the first class (para 3(a) above) :-
 - (a) It seems these should be dealt with by some duly appointed military tribunal on some charge based on the "Military Administration British Borneo Proclamation No 2" issued by Major General WOOLLEN.
 - (b) BSCAU and CIC have been directed to prosecute their enquiries as expeditiously as possible to enable formal charges to be preferred. The Bde Legal Officer has been directed to assist them.
 - (c) The detained persons have been informed that they are being detained pending investigation.
5. As to the second class (para 3(b) above) :-
 - (a) The holding of these appears to be a matter of policy pending full investigation.
 - (b) (i) The activities which are being enquired into occurred before 10 June 45 and it seems are not therefore covered by the Military Administration North Borneo Proclamation No 2 unless para 6 adopting the Indian Penal Code has a retrospective operation.

- (b) (ii) Any trial it would seem would therefore have to be for some offence under the law of the States of SARAWAK or BRUNEI (see Proclamation No 1) presumably for something in the nature of treason or sedition.
 - (c) (i) In determining in what cases of this kind persons should be held for investigation, the CIC officer states he is guided by directions laid down by G General MACARTHUR (presumably in the first instance for the Philippines).
 - (ii) Under these directions a distinction is made between persons who acquiesced in the enemy occupation, followed their former avocation and derived no peculiar benefit from association with the enemy, and those who actively collaborated with the enemy and by so doing received advantages or a status which they would not otherwise have enjoyed.
 - (d) (i) But when investigations have been completed it seems that, either the persons will have to be released or some specific charge preferred or some order given by a competent authority for their further detention or other disposal.
 - (ii) "Collaboration" does not seem to be a sufficient description of an offence.
6. As to the third class (para 3(c) above) :-
- (a) As the acts alleged occurred before 10 June 45 it seems they also are not triable under the Military Proclamations.
 - (b) But presumably they can be tried by a duly appointed tribunal as criminal offences under the law of SARAWAK or of BRUNEI. (see Military Proclamation No 1).
7. As to the fourth class (para 3(d) above) :-
- (a) These seem really a special and more serious form of second class "active collaborator".
 - (b) It is proposed to hold them in strict custody; but it seems that their acts to be at present triable would have to amount to some specific offence under the law of SARAWAK or of BRUNEI.
8. (a) At the present time all persons apprehended in the BRUNEI-LIMBANG areas have been brought either before INCHI IBRAHIM, Magistrate First Class of the State of BRUNEI (appointed before the war) or before Major DITMAS BBKAU, Magistrate Second Class of SARAWAK (appointed before the war).
- (b) These officials have remanded them in custody pending the completion of investigations. A formal remand warrant has not been executed, but otherwise the matter has been dealt with in accordance with the procedure prevailing in the past.
 - (c) The position as to remands in SERIA - BELAIT and MIRI will be separately reported.
9. (a) As investigations are completed your HQ will be further advised.
10. (a) At the present time the channel of communication from BBKAU and CIC seems not clearly defined.

- (b) It is requested that if the Bde Comd has any responsibility in respect of persons detained by the BECAU or CIC detachments under his command this HQ may be kept informed of any actions and decisions affecting that responsibility.
- (c) No copies of any military proclamations have been sent to this HQ.

11.

- (a) It seems desirable that in this area the subordinate civil courts should function in respect of purely civil offences and claims as soon as possible. The necessary officials are available.
- (b) Recommendations concerning Magistrates and information generally on the administration of law in BRUNEI and SARAWAK are in separate correspondence forwarded herewith (our

*Occupied
acquiescence*

u

*Active
Co-operation*

STATE OF BRUNEI

The Emergency Regulations Enactment, 1939.

43. If any person does any act of such a nature as to be calculated to be prejudicial to the public safety or the defence of the State and not specifically provided for in these regulations, with the intention or for the purpose of assisting the enemy, he shall be deemed to be guilty of an offence against these regulations.

44. Every offence against regulations 16, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 43 shall be tried before the Court of the Resident and all other offences against any other regulation made under the Enactment may be tried either before the Court of the Resident or the Court of a Magistrate.

45. (1) Every person who is convicted before the Court of the Resident of an offence against any regulation made under the Enactment may be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to fourteen years or with fine or with both, provided that if it is found that the offence was committed with the intention of assisting the enemy the offender may be sentenced to death.

(2) Every person who is convicted by the Court of a Magistrate of any offence against any regulation made under the Enactment may be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months or with fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or with both, or to such lesser punishment as may be prescribed.

(Sd.) J. GRAHAM BLACK,
BRITISH RESIDENT,
BRUNEI.

4th September, 1939.

STATE OF BRUNEI

The Emergency Regulations Enactment, 1939.

43. If any person does any act of such a nature as to be calculated to be prejudicial to the public safety or the defence of the State and not specifically provided for in these regulations, with the intention or for the purpose of assisting the enemy, he shall be deemed to be guilty of an offence against these regulations.

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(2) Every person who is convicted by the Court of a Magistrate of any offence against any regulation made under the Enactment may be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to six months or with fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or with both, or to such lesser punishment as may be prescribed.

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(Sd.) J. GRAHAM BLACK,
BRITISH RESIDENT,
BRUNEI.
4th September, 1939.

4056.
JUL 1945

RESTRICTED
The Information given in this document is not to be communicated either directly or indirectly to the Press, or to any person not authorised to receive it.

Serial No.37
No.213

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES
ROUTINE ORDERS, PART I
by
Major-General G F Wootten
Commanding 9th Australian Division

HQ 9 Aust Div
4 Jul 45

GENERAL STAFF
NIL

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S AND QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S STAFF

213. MILITARY ADMINISTRATION OF BRITISH BORNEO

1. The following Proclamations were issued on 10 Jun 1945.
2. Formations etc will be responsible that copies of these Proclamations printed in both English and Malay are posted on prominent places in all areas of British Borneo occupied or to be occupied by 9th Australian Division. Copies of these Proclamations printed in both English and Malay are held for this purpose by Detachments of BBCAU attached to Formation etc H.

PROCLAMATION NO.1

" A Proclamation to proclaim Martial Law and to establish Military Administration.

WHEREAS by reason of military necessity and for the prevention and suppression of disorder and the maintenance of public safety it is necessary to place the territories of NORTH BORNEO, BRUNEI, LABUAN and SARAWAK, all islands and places forming part thereof and all BRITISH waters adjacent thereto (hereinafter called BRITISH BORNEO) under martial law as martial law is understood and administered in territories under His Majesty's jurisdiction and protection:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LESLIE JAMES MORSHEAD, Lieutenant-General General Officer Commanding First Australian Corps, by virtue of the authority vested in me by DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, General of the Army, Commander-in-Chief, South West Pacific, do hereby proclaim:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Proclamation of Martial Law | 1. Martial Law is hereby proclaimed throughout such areas of BRITISH BORNEO as are at any given time under the control of the Forces under my command, and shall be enforced only so long as it is considered to be necessary. |
| Assumption of powers and jurisdiction | 2. I hereby assume for myself and successors full judicial, legislative, executive and administrative powers and responsibilities and conclusive jurisdiction over all persons and property throughout such areas of BRITISH BORNEO as are at any given time under the control of the Forces under my command. |
| Delegation | 3. Subject always to any orders and directions which I may issue from time to time, I delegate to the officer for the time being commanding the Ninth Australian Division all the powers responsibilities and jurisdiction assumed by me, and such officer is hereby authorised to delegate such powers, responsibilities and jurisdiction as he may deem necessary to any officer under his command. |

Existing Laws
to be
respected

4. (1) Subject to the provisions of any Proclamation and in so far as military exigencies permit:-

(a) all laws and customs existing immediately prior to the Japanese occupation will be respected and such of the existing laws as the Chief Civil Affairs Officer considers it practicable from time to time to administer during the period of military administration will be administered;

(b) all rights and properties will be respected: Provided that rights and properties acquired during the Japanese occupation may be subject to investigation and to such action as justice requires.

(2) With regard to paragraph (a) of sub-section (1), the inhabitants of the said territories are advised to consult the nearest Civil Affairs Officer if in doubt as to whether any existing laws is being administered.

Revocation of
Japanese
Military
Administration
Proclamations
Short title

5. It is hereby declared that all Proclamations and legislative enactments of whatever kind issued by or under the authority of the Japanese Military Administration shall cease to have any effect.

6. This Proclamation may be cited as the Martial Law Proclamation, 1945.

Signed this tenth day of June 1945

L J MORSHEAD
LIEUTENANT-GENERAL
GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING FIRST AUSTRALIAN CORPS

PROCLAMATION NO. 2.

A proclamation to make provision for the safety of British and Allied Forces and for the maintenance of public order and safety.

I GEORGE FREDERICK WOOTEN, Major-General, General Officer Commanding Ninth Australian Division, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Lieutenant-General Sir Leslie J MORSHEAD General Officer Commanding First Australian Corps, do proclaim:-

Short title 1. This Proclamation may be cited as the General Offences Proclamation, 1945.

Interpretation 2. (a) In this Proclamation -

"Forces" include all personnel of the British and Allied Naval, Land and Air Forces and any person employed by, or in the service of, or who is a follower of, or who accompanies any part of, any such Forces :

"Person" includes all persons except members of the Forces, and persons who are entitled to be treated as prisoners of war under the International convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war of the

27th July 1929.

- (b) This Proclamation shall be enforced throughout such areas of British Borneo as are at any given time under the control of the Forces under my Command.

5. Offences which may be punished with death

- any person who -
- (a) bears arms against the Forces; or
 - (b) acts as an enemy spy or knowingly harbours or aids in any way an enemy spy; or
 - (c) communicates in any manner whatsoever with the enemy or with any person within territory under enemy control on any matter whatsoever with intent directly or indirectly to assist the enemy or to prejudice public safety or the efficient prosecution of the war; or
 - (d) wilfully misleads any troops of the Forces in the performance of their duties; or
 - (e) knowingly assists any member of the enemy armed forces to evade capture; or
 - (f) knowingly assists a prisoner of war to escape or knowingly harbours or conceals any escaped prisoner of war or gives any escaped prisoner of war any assistance with intent thereby to prevent, hinder or interfere with his apprehension; or
 - (g) destroys, damages, removes or tampers with any war material belonging to the Forces with intent thereby to interfere with military operations or to prejudice the safety of the Forces; or
 - (h) wilfully destroys, damages, interferes with or intercepts communication by mail, courier, telegraph, telephone, cable, radio or otherwise; or
 - (i) wilfully destroys, damages or interferes with transportation by rail, sea, air or otherwise; or
 - (j) wilfully commits any damage to any property whatsoever, either of a public or private nature; or
 - (k) incites any inhabitants to insurrection against military authority, or organises or promotes any public demonstration or assembly for such purpose; or
 - (l) without due authority signals by any device or in any manner whatsoever, or without similar authority permits his land or buildings to be used for signalling; or
 - (m) in an area which has been subjected to attack by the enemy or the Forces commits theft of any article from premises which have been damaged by war operations or vacated by reason of attack by the enemy or by the Forces or in consequence of any authorised directions given for the purpose of meeting or hindering any actual or apprehended attack by the enemy or of protecting persons and property from the dangers involved in any such attack; or
 - (n) in any area which has been subjected to attack by the enemy or the Forces, commits theft of any article which has been left exposed or unprotected as a consequence of war operations, or
 - (o) in any area which has been subjected to attack by the enemy or the Forces, enters any premises, damages any property, assaults any person, or is found with any offensive weapon or house-breaking instrument, with intent to commit any

seizable offence; or

- (p) with intent to help the enemy does or attempts or conspires with any other person to do any act which is designed or likely to give assistance to the naval, military or air operations of the enemy or to impede such operation of the Forces or to endanger the safety of the Forces

shall on conviction be punishable with death, or with rigorous imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years or with fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or with both such imprisonment and fine.

Offences punishable with imprisonment or fine

4. Any person who -

- (a) wilfully interferes with the operation of any public service, including water supply, electric light and power, gas, sanitation or similar services, or wilfully destroys, damages or tampers with any installations or any such services; or
- (b) without lawful authority enters or is found in any place or area designated as a forbidden place or area by the posting of a sign or the presence of sentries; or
- (c) steals any property of the Forces or of any member thereof the aggregate value of which exceeds one thousand dollars; or
- (d) offers a bribe to or intimidates any person acting under the authority of the Forces in order to induce him not to perform his duty; or
- (e) does any act calculated to cause a public disturbance or to lead to acts of violence; or
- (f) publishes, circulates, or has in his possession with intent to publish or circulate any printed or written matter which is in the interests of the enemy or which is hostile or detrimental to the Military Administration, the Forces or any of the Governments to which the Forces or part thereof belong; or
- (g) utters any speech or words hostile or detrimental to the Military Administration, the Forces or any of the Governments to which the Forces or part thereof belong; or
- (h) communicates to any other person or publishes information concerning the Forces which would or might be directly or indirectly useful to the enemy; or who receives such information and fails promptly to report the same to the nearest military authority

shall on conviction be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term not exceeding six years or with fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or with both such imprisonment and fine.

Other offences punishable with imprisonment or fine

5. Any person who -

- (a) does any act calculated falsely to suggest that he is acting under the authority of the Military Administration; or
- (b) impedes or interferes with the arrest or assists the escape of any person about to be arrested under the authority of the Military Administration; or

SUBJECT : ADMINISTRATION OF LAW IN OCCUPIED
AREAS OF BRUNEI AND SARAWAK

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
A38/4000
2 Jul 45

9 Aust Div

Copy to BBCAU

1. The following recommendations are made. All these, it is suggested, should ~~be enforced to~~ take effect subject to the Military Administration NORTH BORNEO Proclamation and the orders of the GOC 9 Aust Div and under the general supervision of BBCAU.
2. It is recommended that where the former officials and native magistrates are available and approved the subordinate village Courts of BRUNEI and SARAWAK be expressly directed to function as heretofore in the areas of our occupation for all criminal and civil cases currently arising among the civilian population since our occupancy and which do not in any way affect or involve any member of the forces either as party, witness or otherwise. For this purpose it is suggested that the magistrates be expressly confirmed by name in their office by GOC 9 Aust Div.
3.
 - (a) Ibrahim bin Mahomed Jahfar (commonly called Inchi Ibrahim) is in BRUNEI town and there performing various tasks of civil administration in conjunction with BBCAU.
 - (b) Before the war he held the offices of Secretary to the BRITISH Resident, Secretary to the State Council, Deputy Collector of Land Revenue and Magistrate First Class.
 - (c) His loyalty is unquestioned. He is an educated man and speaks English well.
4. He is in fact now exercising among civilians the office of Magistrate First Class by virtue of his former appointment. But it is recommended that he be formally confirmed in it by order of the GOC for the duration of the military occupation and subject to the limitations in para 1 and 2 above.
5.
 - (a) Maj DITMAS, BBCAU, who was formerly District Officer to LIMBANG in the State of SARAWAK, and a Magistrate Second Class of SARAWAK is now exercising his former office of Magistrate at LIMBANG.
 - (b) It is recommended that he be confirmed in that appointment in the same manner as suggested in para 4 above.
 - (c) It is further recommended that, as the political division between the States of SARAWAK and BRUNEI is at present inconvenient in the BRUNEI town and LIMBANG areas, Major DITMAS be, for the duration of the military occupation and subject to all the abovementioned limitations, authorised by the GOC to exercise the functions of a Magistrate First Class in the State of BRUNEI. He would then in BRUNEI have coordinate jurisdiction with Inchi Ibrahim.
6.
 - (a) The status of a magistrate described as Second Class in SARAWAK was greater than that of a magistrate of similar title in BRUNEI.
 - (b) All Second Class Magistrates of SARAWAK and some of the Third Class were BRITISH officers of the SARAWAK Civil Service.

- (c) In BRUNEI there were only two Magistrates First Class. One was an ENGLISHMAN, the Assistant British Resident stationed at BELAIT, now interned by the enemy. The other was Inchi Ibrahim stationed at BRUNEI town.

7. As there is now no one available who was formerly Magistrate First Class of SARAWAK, it is suggested that consideration may be given to promoting Major DITMAS to that jurisdiction during the military occupation.

8. It is recommended that wherever their officials are available, the Religious of MALAY courts in SARAWAK and BRUNEI which exercised jurisdiction in matters of Mahomedan religion, marriage and divorce be expressly directed to function as heretofore.

9. Separate recommendations will be made in respect of magisterial appointments in the SERIA-BELAIT area (which is in BRUNEI) and the LUTONG-MIRI area (SARAWAK) when the position in these centres has been further investigated.

10. For information, some notes on the legal system of SARAWAK and BRUNEI are given in the following paragraphs. Details can be given if required.

SARAWAK

11. Law

- (a) Native customs.
- (b) Legislation (called "Orders") made by the Rajah.
- (c) Common law of ENGLAND so far as not repugnant to above.
- (d) The criminal law was contained in the SARAWAK Criminal Code Orders. It is based on the INDIAN Criminal Code with certain modifications for local conditions.
- (e) INDIAN procedural and civil codes were used as guides, but were not strictly binding.
- (f) The authority for the above is the Law of SARAWAK Orders, one of the orders of the Rajah.

12. Courts

- (a) Supreme Court of SARAWAK.
- (b) Residents' Courts. There were Residents at LIMBANG and MIRI. Residents were First Class Magistrates.
- (c) Courts of Magistrates Second Class (Europeans).
- (d) Courts of Magistrates Third Class (some Europeans, most natives).
- (e) Courts of Magistrates Fourth Class (all natives). The status of a Court determined jurisdiction in respect

13. The status of a Court determined jurisdiction in respect of penalties which could be imposed and seriousness of cases which could be dealt with, etc.

14. Printed copies of the Orders of SARAWAK and other necessary books are held in the government office at LIMBANG which is functioning.

BRUNEI

15. LAW

- (a) Native custom.

- (b) Legislation (called "Enactments") of the Sultan in Council. The BRITISH Resident was President of the Council. The approval of the High Commissioner at SINGAPORE was required before the Enactments became effective. This system prevailed since 1906. The Enactments were printed. One set is in the government offices in BRUNEI town.
- (c) The most important of the Enactments was one which adopted as the law of BRUNEI a large part of the codified law of the FEDERATED MALAY STATES including the Penal and Civil Codes, the Law of Evidence, Specific Relief and Contract. This MALAY law forms the main body of law as administered by the Magistrates Courts of BRUNEI. Printed volumes of the Laws of the FEDERATED MALAY STATES as in force in Dec 1934 are held in BRUNEI town.
- (d) The Emergency Regulations Enactment 1933 gave power to make regulations. Typewritten copies of some regulations made under it are held.

16. Courts

- (a) The Court of the British Resident.
- (b) The Courts of the two Magistrates First Class (see para 6(c) above).
- (c) Courts of Second Class Magistrates and village courts (all natives).

17. The status of a court determined jurisdiction as in SARAWAK (see para 13 above).

POSITION OF BBCAU

- 18. (a) The BBCAU detachment in this area under Wing Commander KAY and his officers at LIMBANG, BELAIT and MIRI has done excellent work. The gratitude of the civilian population is sincere. The re-establishment in a large measure of the former system of local administration has proceeded rapidly and smoothly.
- (b) It is suggested, however, that some clarification and coordination may be desirable of their functions.

19. (a) While it is not desired that this HQ should be concerned with local civilian administration, the Bde Comd feels that while the area is under martial law and its administration is under the authority of the GOC, if he is in any way responsible that the GOC's policy is carried out, this HQ should be informed directly of any important acts the BBCAU detachment in the area is authorised or ordered to perform, especially where these may require the assistance of troops, e.g. guards and escorts or provost control.

20. The following paragraphs refer to some matters concerning administration of law on which greater coordination is suggested. A separate letter, our A38/4001 of 1 Jul 45, has been written concerning persons in custody.

21. (a) This HQ apparently received no copies of the Military Administration NORTH BORNEO Proclamations Nos 1 and 2. The Bde Comd only learnt of their existence by chance through BBCAU yesterday. It is not known when or where any have been posted in this area.

- (b) Copies of the Proclamations have not been posted in SERIA-BELAIT as the BBCAU officer there did not know of them. The position at LUTONG is not known at the time of writing.
22. (a) Certain Proclamations in ENGLISH, MALAY and CHINESE have been posted in BELAIT by the OC BBCAU detachment there. He has been most successful in his work of restoring the local administration and services in the SERIA-BELAIT area. He has furnished this HQ with copies of all his proclamations. They are addressed to the civil population and provide very well indeed for matters such as fishing, barter, currency, sanitation, wrongful removal or theft of property by civilians, curfew, etc. Most of their provisions are designed to meet purely local situations.
- (b) But in some respects they overlap the Military Administration NORTH BORNEO Proclamation No 2.
- (c) It seems desirable that any necessary by-laws ^{should} be published and applied throughout the occupied areas of BRUNEI and SARAWAK where they are of general application, and not be promulgated at the discretion of different officers at different centres.
- (d) This coordination can only be done by this HQ if the extent of the BBCAU authority to make by-laws is defined.
- (e) It is suggested that it may be desirable -
- (i) for this HQ to be informed of all proposed by-laws or general orders to civilians in this area before they are promulgated
- (ii) that the Bde Comd be authorised by the GOC to approve those which he thinks fit provided they have a purely local operation and create no penalties and are not inconsistent with existing law and the Military Administration Proclamations.

W. J. V. W. W. W.
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT: COLLABORATORS AND CIVILIANS IN CUSTODY

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
A38/3723
3 Jul 45

Adv HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

1. Ref Comd's memo to 9 Aust Div dated 2 Jul 45, under above heading.
2. The following action has been taken and information obtained, by Rear HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
 - (a) BBKAU (Y Det) has been instructed to furnish particulars in accordance with the attached sheet in respect of all persons held in custody. The particulars are in course of preparation by INCHI IBRAHIM, in conjunction with CIC.
 - (b) All persons in custody are held by BBKAU at BRUNEI - those in whom CIC are interested are handed to BBKAU to be held pending completion of investigations by CIC.
 - (c) According to Maj DITMAS there are no collaborators or civilians held at LIMBANG.
 - (d) There are 24 persons held in custody at BRUNEI. It is understood that four of these are held for purely civil offences and the remaining twenty are being investigated by CIC with assistance from BBKAU, for active co-operation with the enemy.
 - (e) On completion of investigation CIC will forward to Div, through official channels, a detailed report on each case, which will supplement or amplify the particulars now being obtained from BBKAU.
3. For information of Comd and in case their names are required by 9 Div for appointment as Magistrates at some future time, subtended is list of Magistrates appointed before Jap occupation, who, according to INCHI IBRAHIM are available to function as Magistrates :-

<u>District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>
BRUNEI and MUARA	Ibrahim bin Mohamed Jahfar	1st
" " "	Abdulrahim bin Andor	2nd
" " "	Pengiran Haji Mohamed Salleh	Chief Kathi (Mohamedan Court)
TEMBURONG	Pengiran Abubakar bin P.Omar	2nd
TUTONG	Pengiran Ahmed bin Pengiran Luba	2nd
BELAIT	Mohamed Taib bin Awang Besar	2nd ?
<u>Vth Division of SARAWAK</u>		
LIMBANG	Abang Mustapha b. Abang Haji Abdul Ghafar	2nd
"	Pengiran Bunyok b. Pengiran Dato Mohamed	3rd & Native Court Magistrate
LAWAS	Abang Haji Adenan b. Abang Haji Azhari	2nd
"	Bigar Anak Daboi	3rd & Native Court Magistrate
TRUSAN	Wan Mahdar bin Dato Tuanku Mohamed	3rd & Native Court Magistrate

There is one exception i.e. Mohamed Taib bin Awang Besar about whom INCHI IBRAHIM has no information.

4. Enactment No 1 of 1908 (BRUNEI) prescribes the Jurisdiction of each Magistrate - details of same will be forwarded if required.

5. The position regarding collaborators and civilians held in ~~SERIA~~ SERIA - BELAIT - MIRI is not know at Rear HQ. To enable a complete list to be forwarded to 9 Div in accordance with para 2(b) of the abovementioned memo, and if Bde Comd approves of the particulars being obtained from BBKAU, could the authorities in the SERIA - BELAIT - MIRI areas who are holding persons in custody be directed by Adv Bde to supply similar particulars in respect of such persons.

P. J. M. Capt
SC 20 Aust Inf Bde

SUBJECT:

PERSONS IN CUSTODY

1. Full name, previous place of residence and occupation (if any).
2. Place of birth.
3. If not a native of BORNEO, date of arrival.
4. Nationality or race, and nationality or race of parents if known.
5. Whether any charge has been preferred, if so nature of charge.
6. If charge has not been laid nature of intended charge.
7. Whether being held pending investigation.
8. Whether remanded for trial and if so by whom.
9. Date and place of alleged offence.
10. Name of informant or person preferring charge.
11. Precis of existing evidence and names and addresses of witnesses.

SUBJECT:

COLLABORATORS AND CIVILIANS IN CUSTODY

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

A 38/4001

2 Jul 45

9 Aust Div

Copy for infm to Y Det BBCAU
CIC Det

1. At the present time there are at BRUNBI, SERIA - BELAIT and MIRI numbers of civilian residents (natives, Chinese and Indians) held in custody or under some form of restraint and described generally either as "collaborators" or "suspects".
2. (a) They have for the most part been apprehended ~~by~~ on the information of BBCAU or the CIC officer here (Capt SWINSON).
(b) A nominal roll with short particulars is being prepared on the orders of this HQ and will be forwarded when complete.
3. They appear to fall into four classes :-
 - (a) Those who are alleged to have committed or to be likely to commit acts endangering the security of our forces.
 - (b) Those who are alleged to have given active aid to the enemy during his occupancy.
 - (c) Those who it is alleged either in aid of the enemy or for their own purposes, committed criminal offences under civil law against other native civilians during the period of enemy occupation.
 - (d) Those who are alleged, to have aided the enemy in connection with the custody and treatment and perhaps execution of allied PWS.
4. As to the first class (para 3(a) above) :-
 - (a) It seems these should be dealt with by some duly appointed military tribunal on some charge based on the "Military Administration British Borneo Proclamation No 2" issued by Major General WOOTTEN.
 - (b) BBCAU and CIC have been directed to prosecute their enquiries as expeditiously as possible to enable formal charges to be preferred. The Bde Legal Officer has been directed to assist them.
 - (c) The detained persons have been informed that they are being detained pending investigation.
5. As to the second class (para 3(b) above) :-
 - (a) The holding of these appears to be a matter of policy pending full investigation.
 - (b) (1) The activities which are being enquired into occurred before 10 June 45 and it seems are not therefore covered by the Military Administration North Borneo Proclamation No 2 unless para 6 adopting the Indian Penal Code has a retrospective operation.

- (b) (ii) Any trial it would seem would therefore have to be for some offence under the law of the States of SARAWAK or BRUNEI (see Proclamation No 1) presumably for something in the nature of treason or sedition.
- (c) (i) In determining in what cases of this kind persons should be held for investigation, the CIC officer states he is guided by directions laid down by G General MACARTHUR (presumably in the first instance for the Phillipines).
- (ii) Under these directions a distinction is made between persons who acquiesced in the enemy occupation, followed their former avocation and derived no peculiar benefit from association with the enemy, and those who actively collaborated with the enemy and by so doing received advantages or a status which they would not otherwise have enjoyed.
- (d) (i) But when investigations have been completed it seems that, either the persons will have to be released or some specific charge preferred or some order given by a competent authority for their further detention or other disposal.
- (ii) "Collaboration" does not seem to be a sufficient description of an offence.
6. As to the third class (para 3(c) above) :-
- (a) As the acts alleged occurred before 10 June 45 it seems they also are not triable under the Military Proclamations.
- (b) But presumably they can be tried by a duly appointed tribunal as criminal offences under the law of SARAWAK or of BRUNEI. (see Military Proclamation No 1).
7. As to the fourth class (para 3(d) above) :-
- (a) These seem really a special and more serious form of ^{the} second class "active collaborator".
- (b) It is proposed to hold them in strict custody; but it seems that their acts to be at present triable would have to amount to some specific offence under the law of SARAWAK or of BRUNEI.
8. (a) At the present time all persons apprehended in the BRUNEI-LIMBANG areas have been brought either before INCHI IBRAHIM, Magistrate First Class of the State of BRUNEI (appointed before the war) or before Major DITMAS BBCAU, Magistrate Second Class of SARAWAK (appointed before the war).
- (b) These officials have remanded them in custody pending the completion of investigations. A formal remand warrant has not been executed, but otherwise the matter has been dealt with in accordance with the procedure prevailing in the past.
- (c) The position as to remands in SERIA - BELAIT and MIRI will be separately reported.
9. (a) As investigations are completed your HQ will be further advised.
10. (a) At the present time the channel of communication from BBCAU and CIC seems not clearly defined.

(b) It is requested that if the Ede Comd has any responsibility in respect of persons detained by the BBCAU or CIC detachments under his command this HQ may be kept informed of any actions and decisions affecting that responsibility.

(c) No copies of any military proclamations have been sent to this HQ.

11.

(a) It seems desirable that in this area the subordinate civil courts should function in respect of purely civil offences and claims as soon as possible. The necessary officials are available.

(b) Recommendations concerning Magistrates and information generally on the administration of law in BRUNEI and SARAWAK are in separate correspondence forwarded herewith (our

W.J.V. Winderley

File

SUBJECT : BBKAU INSPECTION REPORT SERIA - KUALA BELAIT

HQ 20 Inf Bde
A14/4842
8 Dec 45

9 Div

1. The attention of this HQ has been drawn to an extract from a report by SO I Constabulary headed "Annexure C" (copy att).
2. It is NOT agreed, as stated in para (b) of the report, that the military police exercised at any time a detrimental influence on the Constabulary. No report or complaint of unsatisfactory conduct other than that mentioned below was received by this HQ when at KUALA BELAIT. NO instance was reported or is known in which military police interfered in "purely civil" matters. If any judgment of the conduct of the military police is to be based upon this paragraph it is desired that the allegation contained in it be made more specific.
3. The Constabulary at KUALA BELAIT while this HQ commanded the area was recruited from Malays who appeared to be irresponsible and ill-disciplined, as was indicated by an incident on the evening of the Chinese national day when Malay police who should have been preventing disturbances threw water over some of the lanterns being carried in the Chinese procession. Such conduct indicated that the Constabulary, though members of the military police had made every effort to train them in their duties, and responsibilities, were incapable of carrying out police functions. The opinion is hazarded that without such training they would have been worse.
4. The incident described in para (c) is described as "culminating" though no others are mentioned. The facts as stated are substantially correct; i.e. a search of native houses without advance notice was carried out by military police, and a quantity of AACS goods was seized. CAO KUALA BELAIT saw Adm Comd 20 Inf Bde and complained that these goods included some that he had sold to BBKAU native employees. It was pointed out to him by Adm Comd that he had been authorised to buy Canteen goods on the express undertaking given by him to SO 20 Inf Bde that such goods would NOT be resold or given to native employees. However, he was invited to submit a list of goods confiscated of which he alleged natives were properly in possession and an undertaking was given that they would be returned. This he declined to do. He requested that search warrants should be issued before any further searches were conducted and expressed himself as being satisfied about the whole incident when this was agreed to.
5. The author of the report under reference does NOT appear to be aware of the situation existing in KUALA BELAIT at all relevant times. The town was in military occupation and under military government, this HQ being responsible for the administration of civil affairs. The incident complained of, so far from being "purely civil" in character, involved an investigation into the improper possession of military stores. It is possible that in an area possessing a responsible and disciplined force of civil police the assistance of such force might have been invoked, though NOT necessarily; but in the incident under discussion CAO himself agreed that the intervention of the Malay police would have been most undesirable.

6.

6. Though his conduct of affairs properly within his sphere was competent, CAO KUALA BELAIT throughout the occupation of the town by AUSE Troops was unco-operative, resentful of the authority exercised over him by this HQ, and appeared to have NO knowledge of military administration though he was a member of an AMF unit. He was quick to jump at conclusions adverse to AUSE troops and reluctant to accept evidence that such conclusions were ill-founded. It is suggested that the report under reference was inspired by him. It furnishes an example of the anti-AUSTRALIAN and anti-military attitude which he consistently displayed while this HQ was at KUALA BELAIT.

Chace
Lt Col
Adm Comd 80 Inf Bde

ANNEXURE "C"

Extract from Inspection Report on KUALA BELAIT -
SERIA DISTRICT, 11-13 Nov 45, by SO II Constab-
ulary HQ.

7. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AMF PROVOST, CONSTABULARY AND PUBLIC

The Provost Unit of 20 Aust Inf Bde are occupying the Police Station, and are responsible for the safe custody of all Remand Prisoners.

(b) The conduct of the Military Police is reported to have been far from satisfactory. The originally helped to train, and assisted the Constabulary when the Force was in process of being re-instated, but for some time past they have exercised a very detrimental influence on the Constabulary in that they have interfered in purely civil matters, and shown complete disregard for Civil Police procedure.

(c) The culminating incident was a search by Military Police of the houses of local residents, including a number of respectable employees of the BBCAU of some social standing. The purpose of this raid was to confiscate any AA Canteen Service goods and AASC supplies found in their houses. Entry was effected by walking straight into the house without requesting permission to do so. The search was carried out in a most peremptory manner, and without consideration for the owner of his property. In some instances where tubes of tooth paste were found, and possession satisfactorily explained, the tubes were thrown on the floor and stamped underfoot.

(d) Quite naturally the CAO received a number of complaints regarding this incident. He had no prior knowledge of the intention to carry out this search. He at once went to the Officer Administering Command, 20 Aust Inf Bde (Lt Col Grace+) and laid a complaint, pointing out that no search warrants had been issued for this raid, and also that he had personally obtained from the Canteen Services a supply of goods for resale to BBCAU Staff, and that some of the goods confiscated by the Mil Police were the lawful property of those in whose possession they had been found.

(e) Capt Marshall, CAO also reported that one of the victims of this raid complained to the Mil Police that the treatment accorded them was worse than they had experienced at the hands of the JAP Mil Police, and when challenged to repeat this statement, he did so.

? Lt Col
SO I CONSTABULARY

INFORMATION COPIES

"X" Det, BBCAY LABUAN (Constab.)
CAO KUALA BELAIT (Constab)
BBCAU BRUNEI (Constab.)

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL REPORT

2/15 Aust Inf Bn
11 Jul 45

Ref: Cpl HENRY (SRD)

On 10 Jul I was in charge of the LIMBANG - UKONG patrol. I contacted W/Cond KAY and Maj DITMAS en route. They advised me that Cpl HENRY was at BUN BUN tracing down Jap collaborators and in order to see him before last light, it would be necessary for me to call at BUN BUN.

I contacted Cpl HENRY there and he was questioning 4 suspected collaborators. He brought his own party (approx 8 in all) and one collaborator on board whereupon we proceeded to DANAU where another suspected collaborator was taken on board.

The patrol moved to UKONG whereupon I took my men to a selected area and Cpl HENRY proceeded to his billets. I made arrangements to see him later. A short time later I was moving to the LCM, which was about 80 yards up stream from the bivouac area when I heard a shot. I turned around and saw that Cpl HENRY had shot the MALAY from BUN BUN. I had a few words to one of my NCOs then entered Cpl HENRY's hut. Death was instantaneous and by this time the DYAKS had removed the head from the body, which was being removed.

I asked him if he were justified taking such action, and he stated he was, that he was acting under instructions from Maj HARRISON, and that he would furnish a report the following day. I then told him how the practice of removing heads from such bodies was discouraged by all tps in this area. He said the natives under his command were in a different category. I impressed upon him that the incident involved one of the principles against which we were fighting, and it was necessary *to* maintain the high prestige of the British in BORNEO (A long conversation took place - above are only salient points.)

I ordered him under no circumstances to treat the other suspected collaborators likewise. I considered putting him under arrest but as he is rated highly and very well respected by the DYAKS I thought such action might have adverse results. He controls approx 100 DYAKS in UKONG besides many more at villages along the river.

The MALAY (LUKOP) in question, he stated, was known along the LIMBANG river for the help he had given the Japs over the past three months. I consider that the continuance of such an incident would ultimately have disastrous results and so have furnished this report. A report was furnished by Cpl HENRY to Maj HARRISON but I am unaware of the contents.

(sgd) AJ BRADSHAW Lt
OC 2 pl 2/15 Aust Inf Bn

NOTE. DYAKS referred to as IBANS in this area.

50

Type again.

Harland's signature

must be followed by

his description "11"
AIES att. ~~26~~ ~~HA~~

17 20 Aug 1916

if possible his

name & description

should be typed

below his signature

~~111~~ + Corps ~~HA~~

do not know Harland's
signature

SUBJECT:

OCCUPATION OF HOUSES - TOWN OF BRUNEI

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
A38/
2 Jul 45

9 Aust Div

1. Following the capture of the town of BRUNEI certain buildings, residences and grounds, both private and public property, ~~was~~ *were* temporarily occupied by various units under comd this HQ.
2. As soon as military necessity permitted the premises were vacated.
3. Acknowledgements, signed by the respective owners or by Y det BBKAU in respect of public buildings, are forwarded herewith ~~for information.~~ *Original* acknowledgements are in possession of Y det BBKAU.

Duplicate

for record

W. J. V. W. W. W. W. W.
Brig
Comd 20 Aust Inf Bde

606

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

PREMISES : G. Foot (Private Residence)

UNIT : 2/15 and 2nd Bn.

I was present on the 27th day of June 1945 when the above unit of the AMF vacated the abovementioned premises. The building and its grounds were occupied temporarily by the AMF during the period when BRUNEI was being cleared of the enemy. The premises had been left vacant by me before the arrival of AMF in BRUNEI.

I accept the assurance of the officer of the unit concerned that no avoidable damage has been done to the premises during the period of the AMF occupancy and I make no claim in respect of such occupancy.

Dated this 27 day of June 1945.

Signature of Owner George Foot

Signed for unit Warrant Officer

2/15 and 2nd Bn.

I am an interpreter. I explained to the abovenamed owner the meaning of this document before he signed it and I am satisfied that he fully understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of Interpreter _____

Date

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

PREMISES : RC School for Air Fwt.

UNIT : 2/8 Ja Regt.

I was present on the 29 day of June 1945 when the above unit of the AMF vacated the abovementioned premises. The building and its grounds were occupied temporarily by the AMF during the period when BRUNEI was being cleared of the enemy. The premises had been left vacant by me before the arrival of AMF in BRUNEI.

I accept the assurance of the officer of the unit concerned that no avoidable damage has been done to the premises during the period of the AMF occupancy and I make no claim in respect of such occupancy.

Dated this 29 day of June 1945.

Signature of Owner George Ford
for the RC School.
Signed for unit LA Rene Lt
2/8 Ja Regt.

I am an interpreter. I explained to the abovenamed owner the meaning of this document before he signed it and I am satisfied that he fully understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of Interpreter _____

Date

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

PREMISES : *Bobonai Shina*
UNIT : *AAGS*

I was present on the *26* day of *June* 1945 when the above unit of the AMF vacated the abovementioned premises. The building and its grounds were occupied temporarily by the AMF during the period when BRUNEI was being cleared of the enemy. The premises had been left vacant by me before the arrival of AMF in BRUNEI.

I accept the assurance of the officer of the unit concerned that no avoidable damage has been done to the premises during the period of the AMF occupancy and I make no claim in respect of such occupancy.

Dated this *26* day of *June* 1945.

Signature of Owner *(undecipherable)*

Signed for unit *RG Jones Lt.*

I am an interpreter. I explained to the abovenamed owner the meaning of this document before he signed it and I am satisfied that he fully understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of Interpreter *Papa Mahomes*

Date *26/6/45*

Wuhis *t wll* *Druck*
Lt

J Harland
J HARLAND Lt
AAES att HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

PREMISES : House 1448
UNIT : 2/1 Mee Egnat Coy

I was present on the 26 day of June, 1945 when the above unit of the AMF vacated the abovementioned premises. The building and its grounds were occupied temporarily by the AMF during the period when BRUNET was being cleared of the enemy. The premises had been left vacant by me before the arrival of AMF in BRUNET.

I accept the assurance of the officer of the unit concerned that no avoidable damage has been done to the premises during the period of the AMF occupancy and I make no claim in respect of such occupancy.

Dated this 26 day of June, 1945.

Signature of Owner Peyman Mahmood

signed for unit J Harland Lt

J. O. C.
J HARLAND Lt
AAES att HQ 20 Aust Inf
Bde

I am an interpreter. I explained to the abovenamed owner the meaning of this document before he signed it and I am satisfied that he fully understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of Interpreter _____

Date

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Premises : a Fin (Private house)
Unit : 79 Area HQ

I was present on the 26 day of June 1945 when the above unit of the AMF vacated the abovementioned premises. The building and its grounds were occupied temporarily by the AMF during the period when BUNSI was being cleared of the enemy. The premises had been left vacant by me before the arrival of AMF in BUNSI.

I accept the assurance of the officer of the unit concerned that no avoidable damage has been done to the premises during the period of the AMF occupancy and I make no claim in respect of such occupancy.

Dated this 26 day of June 1945.

Signature of owner Scorn Foot
signed for unit Agent for Suit for Kade
AC Brown W011
for 79 area and
Post
L Smith
Wg.

I am an interpreter. I explained to the abovenamed owner the meaning of this document before he signed it and I am satisfied that he fully understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of Interpreter _____
Date

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

PREMISES : PWD 85+86.

UNIT : 719 AA BA

I was present on the 28 day of June, 1945 when the above unit of the AMF vacated the abovementioned premises. The building and its grounds were occupied temporarily by the AMF during the period when BRUNSI was being cleared of the enemy. The premises had been left vacant by me before the arrival of AMF in BRUNSI.

I accept the assurance of the officer of the unit concerned that no avoidable damage has been done to the premises during the period of the AMF occupancy and I make no claim in respect of such occupancy.

Dated this 28 day of June, 1945.

Signature of Owner

Clifford May
In B B CAY.

Signed for unit

Arnold May.
In 719 BA AA

I am an interpreter. I explained to the abovenamed owner the meaning of this document before he signed it and I am satisfied that he fully understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of Interpreter _____

Date

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY PREMISES

PREMISES : 1391 Pwr.
1392 2/6 Jukka 67.
UNIT : 1393
1394 3 Buss 144

I was present on the 26 day of June, 1945 when the above unit of the AMF vacated the abovementioned premises. The building and its grounds were occupied temporarily by the AMF during the period when BRUNSI was being cleared of the enemy. The premises had been left vacant by me before the arrival of AMF in BRUNSI.

I accept the assurance of the officer of the unit concerned that no avoidable damage has been done to the premises during the period of the AMF occupancy and I make no claim in respect of such occupancy.

dated 26 day of June, 1945.

Signature of owner BREAY
W. Pollock M4

Signed for unit J Harland Lt
J HARLAND Lt
AAES att HQ 20 Aust
Inf Bde

I am an interpreter. I explained to the abovenamed owner the meaning of this document before he signed it and I am satisfied that he fully understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of Interpreter _____

Date

SUBJECT :- ARREST OF CIVILIAN LO HING KOO AND
SUBSEQUENT ACTION TAKEN.

A13/862
14 Jul 45

NO. I PROVOST SEC.,
14 Jul 45.

S/CA PT.,
20 AUST INF BDE HQ (ADV)

Herewith is report by L/SGT Gray
No. 1 Pro Sec., and statements by Sprs Fraser and Hodges
3 Pn., 2/3 Fd Coy., R.A.E.

Q. Anthony
O.C. NO. I PRO SEC. LIEUT

COPIES TO. B.B.C.A.U.
& F.S.S.

Di

23/7/45

List of persons kept in custody.

- ✓ 1. Pengiran Sepiudin Bin Pengiran Sulaiman ✓ - To Belait 297
- ✓ 2. Majit Bin Japar ✓ - To Belait 257
- ✓ 3. Haji Hasbollah Bin Haji Daud ✓ - To Belait 257
- ✓ 4. Said Bin Matali ✓ - To Belait 257
- ✓ 5. Jamal Bin Salam ✓ - to Belait 257
- ✓ 6. Salleh Bin Durahman ✓ to Belait 257
7. Pengiran Damit Bin Pengiran Omar Ali ✓
8. Pengiran Matjair Bin Pengiran Sambas ✓
- ✓ 9. Abdul Hamid Bin Hussein ✓ - To Belait 257 - Released on parole
- ✓ 10. Awangku Kulla Bin Pengiran Burut ✓ - To Belait 257.
11. Abdul Rahman Bin Ali Akbar ✓
12. Hassan Bin Jumat ✓
13. Abdul Karim Bin Fakirah ✓
14. Musa Bin Arsat ✓
15. Likup Bin Salam ✓
16. Matnor Bin Saman ✓
17. Pengiran Hidop Bin Pengiran Damit ✓
18. Ali Ahmat Bin Durahman ✓
19. Ong Heng Liong ✓
20. Yap Teck Hin ✓
21. Razali Bin Omar ✓
22. Salleh Bin Haji Masri ✓
23. I. Nadaraja ✓
24. Benang Bin Dundang ✓
25. Tan Hong Heng or Chen Ah Heng ✓
26. Matair Bin Karim X - (came from Tutong - apprehended 14/7/45)
27. Chia Lai Heng. ✓

Nama orang yang ada kena tahan di dalam jail.

- 1 Ruginan, Sapudin, Bin, Ruginan, Salauran
- 2 Majit Bin, Japar
- 3 Haji Hasbullah, Bin, Haji Daud
- 4 Said, Bin, Matiali
- 5 Jamal, Bin, Salam
- 6 Salleh, Bin, Duraman
- 7 Ruginan, Damit Bin, Ruginan, Marali
- 8 Ruginan, Matjair Bin, Ruginan, Sambas
- 9 Abdul, Hamid, Bin, Hussin
- 10 Mwangku, Kula, Bin, Ruginan, Buroh
- 11 Abdul, Rahman, Bin, Aliakbar
- 12 Hasan, Bin, Juraat
- 13 Abdul, Karim, Bin, Fekirah
- 14 Mura, Bin, Areat
- 15 Sikup, Bin, Salam
- 16 Maknor Bin, Saman
- 17 Ruginan, Hadap, Bin, Ruginan, Damit
- 18 Ali, Amat Bin, Duraman
- 19 Ong Heng Liong
- 20 Yap Teck, Hin
- 21 Razali Bin, Omar
- 22 Salleh, Bin, Haji Masri
- 23 I. Hadaraja
- 24 Beuang Bin, Dundang
- 25 Tan, Hong Heng
- 26 Matahir Bin, Karim
- 27 Chian, Lai, Heng

Laminated
23.7.40

Borneo.

23/7/45.

No	Name.	Investigated by.	Detained Report from CIC.	Short Report from BRCAU or CIC.	Still in Custody
1	Junes MIYAMOTO. KB ¹⁹⁸	CIC	Yes.	Yes. Detailed at Pro- No. CIC. 30/7 Completed by me: 30/7	Yes No
2	Said bin METALI. KB.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes. - to dw.	Yes
3	Jamal bin SALAM. KB.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes. - to dw.	Yes
4	S/mai, Abdul HAMID. KB.	CIC.	Yes.	Released on Parole incomplete.	Yes
5	X Hassan bin JUMAT.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes. - to dw.	Yes
6	X Penguan DAMIT bin Penguan OMAR ALLI.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes. - to dw.	Yes
7	Penguan SAKUDIN bin KB Penguan SULAIMAN.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes - to dw.	Yes.
8	Hadji ASBULLAH bin Hadji Mahomed DAUD. KB.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes. - to dw.	Yes
9	SALLEH bin DURAMAN. KB.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes. - to dw.	Yes
10	MASUD bin JAPAR. KB.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes - to dw.	Yes
11	SALLEH bin DAUD.	CIC. X	Yes.	Released on Parole No.	NO
12	X Penguan Mayair bin Penguan SAMBAST.	CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes - to dw.	Yes
13	Awanghu KULA, alias Awanghu Ahmed bin heqinan BURUT.	KB. CIC. ✓	Yes.	Yes - to dw.	Yes
14	X Ong Hong LEONG.	CIC. ✓	NO. Yes 27/7.	Yes.	Yes
15	Chan Lai HENG.	CIC. ✓	NO.	Yes - Completed incomplete, 30/7 to dw.	Yes
16	X Hequ Salleh bin Haji MASRI.	CIC. ✓	Yes NO 27/7.	Yes. 30/7 to dw.	Yes
17	Musa bin Haji ARSAD.	CIC. ✓	NO. Yes	Yes - to dw.	Yes
18	Lekuh bin SALAM.	CIC. ✓	NO. Yes	Yes - to dw.	Yes
19	Hafnour bin OSMAN.	CIC. ✓	NO. Yes	Yes - to dw.	Yes
20	Ali Ahmed bin Buratman	CIC. ✓	NO.	Yes - to dw.	Yes
21	Penguan HIDOP bin Penguan DAMIT.	CIC	NO. Yes.	Yes. 30/7 to dw.	Yes

Brunei - continued

No.	Name.	Investigation by.	Detailed Report from	Short Report from.	Still in Custody
<u>22</u>	BENANG bin Dondang.	CIC ✓	Yes 29/7. No	to be Released in handover to Tojw	Yes
<u>23</u>	Bhu ah Hong or Ten Hong Heng.	CIC ✓	No.	Completed 30/7.	Yes No
<u>24</u>	Abdul HARIM.	BBCAV. X.	No.	No.	Yes.
<u>25</u>	Yeh Teck HIN.	BBCAV. ✓	No.	Yes. Tojw.	Yes
<u>26</u>	Nadaraya	BBCAV. ✓	No.	Completed 30/7. Tojw.	Yes.
<u>27</u>	Abdul Rahman bin Alhaz bar	BBCAV. ✓	No.	Yes 30/7. Tojw. ✓	Yes
<u>28</u>	Razali bin Omar	BBCAV ✓	No.	Yes. Tojw.	Yes
29	Ah Kew	BBCAV ✓	No	Released by Maj. Dimes	No
<u>30</u>	Matan Bin Karim	BBCAV.	No.	Yes 29/7.	Yes

Short reports have been sent to DW. in respect of all the above named except :-

- 1 No 4 H. May. Abdul Hamid - released in handover.
- 2 No 11 Saleh bin Daud - " " "
- 3 No 22 Benang bin Dondang - to be released.
- 4 No 24 Abdul Hamid - no particulars received.

CB 347

Primer - 27/7/45.

Cases requiring attention.

Case No. & Name	Required.
Case No. 1. Miyamoto	- Short particulars to be prepared from CIC Report.
" No. 4. Abdul Hamid	- Complete short particulars from CIC detailed report.
" No 11. Salleh bin Daud	- Short particulars from CIC report.
" No. 15. Chan Kai Leng	- Complete short particulars.
" No 16. Moore	- Complete short particulars.
X No 21. Kudo	- Ascertain names of witnesses so as to complete short particulars & arrange for BBCAV to furnish <u>detailed</u> statements from witnesses
No 22. Benang	- Prepare short particulars from information supplied by CIC.
No 23. Chin ah Hong	- ditto ditto.
X No 24. Abdul Harim	- Ascertain from BBCAV why this man is being held, whether any attempt has been made to obtain witnesses or when they hope to get any information.
X No 25. Yeh Teck Hin.	- BBCAV to obtain <u>detailed</u> statements from witnesses.
X No 26. Vadaraya.	- BBCAV to obtain names of witnesses & <u>detailed</u> statements from them.
X No 27. Abdellrahman	- ditto ditto. —
X No 28. Razali.	- BBCAV to obtain <u>detailed</u> statements from witnesses.
X No 29. Ah Kaw	- Check with BBCAV that subject released by order of Maj. Detmar.

No 30. Mbatan bin Karim. - BB6AV to obtain detailed
statements from all witnesses
& to find out accused's place
of birth & if not a native of
Brunei, the date of his
arrival in the State.