

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

Item number: 8/2/20

20 Infantry Brigade
Appendices 1945, part 4 of 6

File: A7-1

COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS GROUP SIX
U. S. PACIFIC FLEET
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

by

1 June 1945

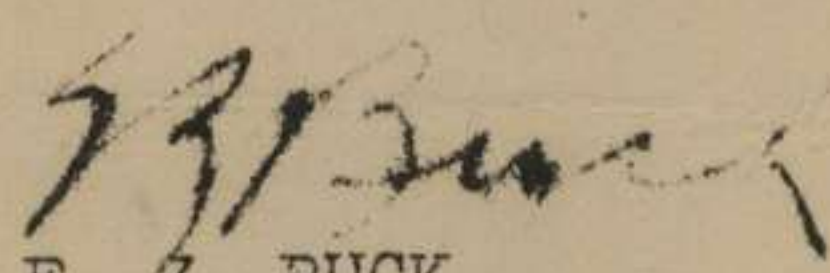
MEMORANDUM FOR: UNIT COMMANDERS AND STAFF OF TASK GROUP 78.1.

Subject: Press Conference.

1. A press conference will be held on board the U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT at 1400, 3 June 1945. Representatives of Australian and American Press will be in attendance. All Unit Commanders are invited to be present.

2. The following is the agenda for the conference:

0-5	Admiral Royal	-	Welcome and Introductory.
5-10	General Wootten	-	Army Plan.
10-20	Captain Hains	-	Overall Navy Plan.
20-30	Captain Manees	-	Green-White Plan - Navy.
30-40	Brig. Windyer	-	Green-White Plan - Army.
40-50	Captain Hudson	-	Brown Plan - Navy.
50-60	Brig. Porter	-	Brown Plan - Army.
60-65	Commander Decker	-	Overall Air Plan.
65-90		-	General Questions.


E. Z. BUCK,
Asst. Flag Secretary.

POINTS ON REHEARSAL OF 31 MAY 1945

3 June 1945

To: 2/13 Aust. Inf. Bn.
2/15 Aust. Inf. Bn.
2/17 Aust. Inf. Bn.

1. The following notes of interest to Commanders were mentioned at an interservice conference on the results of the rehearsal, held in U.S.S. ROCKY MOUNT on 2 June 1945:

EMBARKATION.

- (a) Embarkation of troops into some craft was not rapid enough. This should be improved if further dry runs can be held on board. It was due in part to the fact that many men were not using nets properly. When climbing nets, men will take hold of vertical ropes only. These are steadier than the horizontal rungs; thus the swaying of the net is reduced and the danger of a man treading on and injuring the hands of the man below him is eliminated.
- (b) Lines for lowering heavy equipment should be rigged using a hook or bight for rapid release in the craft. Avoid tying knots which might jam and cause delay.

GENERAL.

- (a) Both CTG 78.1 (Admiral ROYAL) and GOC 9th Australian Division stressed the importance of full orders being given to every soldier not only to his tasks ashore but as to his duties on board, his place and time of getting into his boat. Commanders will insure that every soldier is fully instructed in these matters.
- (b) Life belts will be either removed immediately prior to beaching and left in craft or left in piles on the beach well clear of the water to be collected by beachmasters. It is preferable that they be left in craft.
- (c) Commanders are reminded that in the event of failure or blockage of Army communications, they may use naval channels. Similarly, the Navy may use Army channels.
- (d) Troops will keep as low as possible in craft and LVT(4) at all times. However, it is appreciated that where there is a considerable time between embarkation and leaving the Line of Departure

it is essential to allow men to move in order to avoid cramp. After leaving the Line of Departure troops will remain under cover of the craft or LVT(4) until the craft beaches.

- (e) On Z-Day, Commanders will insure that their troops are ready for embarkation at the time required by the naval commander. There must be no delay due to men being absent from their stations or not fully equipped.

Philip

Maj.,
BM 20 Aust. Inf. Bde.

DUTIES OF OFFR IC BDE VISITORS AND OBSERVERS

1. An offr, taken from 20 Aust Inf Bde LOB personnel, will be att to Bde HQ as LO between the Bde Comd and visiting offrns and Press correspondents and others staying with the Bde.
2. The LO will attend to the gen welfare of all such offrns while they are att to the Bde and will arrange on their behalf:
 - (a) Appointments with Bde Comd and staff as circumstances require.
 - (b) Visits to units under comd, flanking or higher fmns.
 - (c) Tpt if available (with Tpt Offr).
 - (d) Canteen issues
 - (e) Messing and billeting and collection of mess fees.
 - (f) Batmen (where available).
3. All visiting offrns living at Bde HQ will be informed that the Comd Post, SC and Int Offices are not to be entered without permission of offr IC.
4. Within the limits defined by the BM the LO will keep visiting offrns fully informed of current ops, and will see that all routine orders and adm instrs are passed on to them.

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C. Hill

Maj.,
BM 20 Aust. Inf. Bde.

MESSAGE FORM

Register No. 500

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

FROM (A) 20 AUST INF BDE	Originator	Date—Time of Origin 11 2210J	Office Date Stamp
For Action 2/13 2/15 2/17 BNS A SQN 2/9 ARMD REGT 2/8 FD REGT 2/3 FD COY HQ 2/6 SUP DEP COY 2/8 FD AMB 2/118 ORD FD PK 2/118 BDE WKSP COND YELLOW BEACHHEAD COND BMB(2) TO (w) For Information (INFO.)			Message Instructions GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

0055 SECRET (-) 00 3 (-) 20 bde will continue adv on RUSTY 2/17 bn
leading (-) 2/17 bn starts NOT before 0930I hrs (-) bounds first
WASON second rd junc 470427 third spur 474417 to rd junc 469415
FERRY 465417 (-) 2/13 bn in res hold present posns area KAIRI (-)
2/15 bn no change (-) instrs for WARWICK det (-) NO patrolling WEST
of 50 grid (-) NO arty fire NORTH of 41 grid without ref to 2/17
bn (-) NO fire on area RUSTY after 1200 hrs without ref this HQ (-)
15 bty less one tp be prepared move YELLOW NOT before 0930 hrs (-)
2/3 fd coy tasks (-) NO change but special attention to bns and
culverts ROUTE 6 (-) adm NO change but separate instrs to 2/17 bn
(-) bde HQ remains present posn (-) all infm ack

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 IMMEDIATE	Time	System	Op
			THI or TOR		
Signed	Signed		Time Cleared		

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

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

FROM (A)	Originator 20 AUST INF BDE	Date—Time of Origin 122040I	Office Date Stamp
For Action 2/13 2/15 2/17 BNS A SQN 2/9 ARMD REGT 2/8 FD REGT 2/3 FD COY XXXXXX B COY 2/2 MG BN 2/6 SUP DEPOT COY 2/118 BDE WKSP COND YELLOW BEACHHEAD XXXX BMB(2)			Message Instructions GR
TO (w) For Information (INFO.)			

ORIGINATOR'S No.

GO 76(-) SECRET (-) 00 4 (-) 20 bde will continue adv capture RUSTY
and exploit to REBEL and vicinity rd junc 459385 (-) 2/17 bn will
lead adv (-) objectives ⁽⁻⁾ first (-) FERRY 465417 (-) second (-) RUSTY
(-) third ~~star~~ (-) CLIFFORD BRIDGE (-) start time ^{NOT before 1030I} ~~1030I~~ (-) 2/15 bn
will prepare to assume control rd RUSTY - WHIPPET after capture
RUSTY (-) further details separately (-) 2/13 bn holds present posn
(-) 2/3 fd coy will be prepared to sp crossing of REDBANK with FBE
(-) ack (-) all info

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 MAJ IMMEDIATE	Time	System	Op
			THI or TOR		
Signed	Signed		Time Cleared		

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

In 2
D43

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

Originator

Date—Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

9 DIV

122215i

WTD

For Action

TO

20 BDE

(W) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

QC 3271

~~SECRET~~ SECRET

your

QC 4

ab. 12.1500 @ 8.000

canned heat 60,000 salt

tablets being despatched by

courier 13 June @ Horn crabt

to offload as discussed WILLIAMS

TAITWILKS 12 June

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

122215i

Time System Op
THI or TOR

Time Cleared

Signed

Signed

To 1 Officer

13/6/43.

Hello boy...

The header of this letter tells
me about you & men who have
deserted the Japs.

Try and come to where I am &
if you know of any more Anti-Jap
soldiers let them know.

Try & get as much information of
Jap troop movements as possible -
defences and areas. Brunei, Kuching
& also Miri.

Information on prisoners —

Army — Australian

British

American

Phillipinos

Indian

Civilians

British

Male & female

Sgt

A2

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Ser. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM

Originator

Date—Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

(A)

20 AUST INF BDE

13 2310I

For Action

2/13 2/15 2/17 BNS A SQN 2/9 ARMD REGT 2/8 FD
REGT 2/3 FD COY B COY 2/2 MG BN 2/6 SUP DEPOT
COY 2/118 BDE WKSP COMD YELLOW BEACHHEAD SC
SIGS OFFR BMB(2)

TO

(w) For Information (INFO.)

Message Instructions

GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

G088 (-) SECRET (-) 00 5 (-) 20 bde gp will continue the adv (-)

2/15 bn gp lessone pl move by craft to RUSTY 14 jun pass through

2/17 bn FDL adv along rd RUSTY - TUTONG (-) 2/17 bn gp hold present p

posns vicinity RUSTY mop up area (-) 2/13 bn gp prepare for coastwise

op (-) LOR gp revert comd 0900I 14 jun (-) armour (-) tp in sp 2/17

bn reverts sqn comd 1200I 14 jun (-) one tp in sp 2/15 bn 1100I 14

jun in area RUSTY (-) arty (-) 16 bty and 15 bty less one tp in sp

2/15 bn (-) 58 bty in sp 2/17 bn (-) one tp 15 bty under comd 2/13

bn at date to be notified (-) engrs (-) sp adv construct AUSTER

strip PERTH (-) one pl under comd 2/13 bn at date to be notified

(-) B wxy 2 pl MG coy leaves comd 2/17 bn comes under comd 2/15 bn

area RUSTY 1100I 14 jun (-) adm (-) issued separately (-) main HQ

20 bde opens RUSTY 14 jun time to be notified (-) rear HQ remains

present posn ack all infm

X one pl 2/15 Bn remain ~~MAJ~~ BRICK protection radar

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

Signed

MAJ

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

IMMEDIATE

Time

System

Op

THI or TOR

Time Cleared

Signed

146A

PRO FORMA MESSAGE FORM

FROM 20 AUST INF BDE

142150I

TO 2/13 2/15 2/17 BNS A SQN 2/9 ARMD REGT 2/8 FD REGT 2/3 FD
COY B COY 2/2 MG BN 2/8 FD REGT 2/118 BDE ORD FD PK 2/118
BDE WKSPCOMD YELLOW BEACHHEAD SO BMB(2)

GO123 SECRET (-) 00 6 (-) 20 bde will continue exploitation (-) 2/17
bn (-) TASKS (-) one (-) mopping up on high ground EAST of route 5 (-)
two (-) exploit along GADONG rd (-) three (-) exploit along BRUNEI -
TUTONG rd (-) 2/15 bn less dets and with under comd 2 ESB gun boats
(-) TASKS (-) one (-) patrol LIMBANG rd (-) two (-) river exploitation
to any known areas enemy occupation limit of exploitation LIMBANG (-)
infrm of pos-sible enemy posns and navigability of rivers from BBCAU (-)
river recce will NOT be pressed against hy opposition (-) inter bn
bndy incl 2/15 bn line WHISTLE tr - IMANG river (-) arty (-) one
bty sp 2/15 bn one bty sp 2/17 bn (-) A tp 15 bty at BRUNEI on one
hrs notice to return to BROOKETON (-) engrs (-) one (-) clear and
improve rds in BRUNEI (-) two (-) repair br 475409 to enable tks at
present vicinity FERTH to move fwd to BRUNEI (-) three (-) prepare
suitable beaching areas for LCMs vicinity ADS 492386 and vicinity main
wharf 484394 (-) intercomn (-) bde HQ closes present posn 151500I and
reopens approx 492384 same time (-) ack all informed

If liable etc

signature Capt

IMMEDIATE to 2/13 2/15 2/17 bns
2/8 fd regt

IMPORTANT to remainder

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

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

FROM (A)	Originator 9 DIV	Date—Time of Origin	Office Date Stamp 14 JUN
For Action 20 INF BDE			
TO	(w) For Information (INFO.) 1t col COLVIN AQ	Message Instructions	GR

ORIGINATOR'S No.

GO411 (.) SECRET (.) forwarded herewith by LO is OOB for

2/13 aust inf bn gp (.) amphibious craft comprising 2 LST 3 LSM

4 LCT 1 LCM (medical) report 20 inf bde area 18 jun (.) embarkation

LST in stream off MUARA ISLAND others YELLOW BEACH (.) COLVIN brings

embarkation programme with him 16 jun (.) vehicles from LABUAN will arrive

waterproofed (.) ^{force} stores will be preloaded LABUAN (.)

all necessary preliminary arrangements will be made by units and sub

units now in BRUNEI area to meet embarkation date

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			THI or TOR		
Signed	Signed Howeville 1t col may		Time Cleared		

8 Sp 1400 hrs HQ 2/13
 Embankment rolls 6 copies

2/13 AUST INF BN OP COB

TOP SECRET

Scr (a)	Unit (b)	pers (c)	Vehs			Trlrs			Mech Equip			Guns			Total Guns & Vehs (p)	DW out of vehs (q)	Remarks (r)
			Jeep (d)	2 1/2 Ton (e)	Misc (f)	Jeep (g)	Water (h)	Comp ress (i)	Trac tors (j)	Boz ers (k)	Auto Pat- rol (l)	25 Pdr (m)	75 mm (n)	2 Pdr (o)			
1	INF 2/13 Aust Inf Bn	760	12			10								2	24	25	
2	2/13 Aust Inf Bn LCB	60															
3	2/15 Aust Inf Bn (2 Coys)	240															x subject to field confirmation
4	1 Pl 2/2 MG Bn	34	1			1									2		
5	ARTY 15 Bty 2/8 Aust Fd Regt	237	7	4		3	1		2			4	4		25	20	
6	SECP	8	1												1		
7	ENGRS Tac HQ 2/3 Aust Fd Coy	8	2			2									4		
8	1 Pl 2/3 Fd Coy	65	2	1	4(a)	2		1	1						11	10	(a) Tippers (2 with overhang)
9	11 Pl 2/16 Fd Coy (less one	50	1	1	2(b)	1			1						6		(b) Tippers
10	det 2/1 Mech Egmt Coy (sec)	10								2	1				3		
11	SIGS det 9 Aust Div Sigs	4	1			1									2		With 112 Set
12	det 20 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec	4															
13	det 3 Aust Engr Sig Sec	3	1			1									2		Units shown thus are at present in LABUAN area.
14	det Aust Cipher Sec	2															
15	ALSC det 2/26 Sup Dep Pl	12	1			1									2		
16	det 2/13 Tpt Pl (Lt)	4	2			2									4		
17	det 2/16 Tpt Pl (R)	8		4(c)											4		(c) Incl Water Truck
18	det 106 DUKW Coy	30			12										12		

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)	(o)	(p)	(q)	(r)
19	<u>MED</u> HQ 2/12 Aust Fd Amb \$	57	1	1	1	1	1								5	15	Units shown thus are at present in LABUAN area
20	B Coy 2/12 Aust Fd Amb	70	1			1									2		
<u>MISC UNITS</u>																	
21	det RAN Beach Cdo	10															
22	det Beach Gp	2															
23	Air Sp Party \$	7	2			1									3		
24	det BBCAU	2															
25	det 9 Aust Div Pro Coy	4															
26	det ATIS	1															
27	det B Aust FS Sec	1															
28	det 34 Aust FS Sec (EE)	1															
29	det 2/58 Aust LAD	9	1			1									2		
30	727 Amp Trac Bn \$	110			32 (d)										32		(d) LVT(L)
31	det CI Corps	1															
32	IO 9 Aust Div	2															
TOTALS		1816	36	11	52	28	2	1	4	2	1	4	4	2	146	70	
50	Disunloading Party for LSM 25 each Portals det det 7705 Div	2 2															EX LABUAN

stay

well

2

?

Lab

10

50 Unloading Party for LSM

25 each

Portal det
det 7005 Dump
det 2/12 Whep

by LABUAN

PROPOSED BASIC ONE OF TWO COY GP

To op independently

<u>ARMY UNIT</u>		<u>PERSON</u>	<u>VEHICLE</u>	
			<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
two rifle coys		240	2	2
one pl MMG		50	1	1
4 detls mortars		29	1	1
int		5		
sig		15	1	1
med		15		
adm	8 cooks 1 storeman 1 ration cpl	10		
HQ	3 offrs 5 batmen 3 clerks 5 gen duties 3 RP	18	1	1
TOTAL		365	6	6

To op under comd of another bn

two coys		240	2	2
4 detls mortars		29	1	1
coy sig		5		
SBs		5		
int		5		
adm (cooks)		5		
HQ	3 offrs 2 batmen 1 clerk	5	1	1
TOTAL		300	4	4

SECRET

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
14 Jun 45

PROPOSED COB - 2/15 AUST INF BN GP - ASLT SCALE

Serial	Unit	Pers	Vehs			Trlrs		Mach Eqp			Guns		Total Guns and Vehs	DW Out of Vehs	Remarks
			* Ton	2 1/2 Ton	Misc	* Ton	Water	Tractors	Dozers	Engs	25 pr	2 pr			
1	2/15 Aust Inf Bn ✓	760	12			10						2			
2	One tp 15 Bty ✓	67	2	1		2		2			4				
3	SFCP	8	1			1									
4	One pl 2/3 Fd Coy	64	8	6		8		1							
5	det 2/1 MG Coy	4							2						
6	det 20 Aust Inf Bde														
	Sig Sec	4													
7	one pl B Coy 2/2 MG Bn ✓	51	1			1									
8	det Sup Depot Fl	13	1			1									
9	det Lt Tpt Fl	8	4			4									2J and 2T under comd fd amb.
10	one coy 2/13 Fd Amb	70	1			1								3	Incl surgical team.
11	det 5 Beach Sig Sec	2													
12	det RAN Cdo O	10													
13	det 9 Div Pro Coy	4													
14	det HECAN	3													
15	B Aust FS Sec	1													
16	34 Aust FS Sec (EE) ✓	1													
17	ALP	3													
18	det ATIS	1													
Probable Additions -															
19	2/15 Aust Inf Bn LOB	60													
20	det 1 Aust Beach Gp	5													
			1117	25	7	35		5	2		4	2		5	

It has been recommended that Serial 2 be increased to one bty and Serial 11 to 5.

SECRET

HQ 80 Aust Inf Bde
13 Jun 45

2/13 Aust Inf Bde - 2/13 Aust Inf Bde - 2/13 Aust Inf Bde

Serial	Unit	Men	Vehs			Trks		Tech Equip			Guns		Total Guns and Vehs	In out of Vehs	Remarks
			3	2	Misc	3	Water	Trucks	Trucks	Trks	5	2			
1	2/13 Aust Inf Bn	760	12			10									
2	one tp 15 Dty	67	2	1		2		2			4	2			
3	BCP	8	1			1									
4	one pl 2/3 FA Coy	64	3	6		3		1							
5	det 2/1 HE Coy	4							2						
6	det 20 Aust Inf Bde Sig Sec	4													
7	one pl B Coy 2/3 HE Bn	31	1			1									
8	det Sup Dep FI	12	1			1									
9	det Lt Tpt FI	8	4			4									
10	one coy 2/12 FA Amb	70	1			1									
11	det 3 Beach Sig Sec	2												5	2 J and 2 T under cover for sub. incl surgical team.
12	det RAN Gdo G	10													
13	det 9 Div Pro Coy	4													
14	det HBCAU	3													
15	1 Aust FA Sec	1													
16	14 Aust FA Sec (HE)	1													
17	ALP	3													
18	det ATIS	1													
		1052	75	7		23		3	2		4	2		63	

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LT COL HAROLD H CAPERS, INF, USA
O-204559, GHQ, APO 500

HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde
14 Jun 45

Lt Col CAPERS reported to HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde at MOROTAI, sailed in LST 751 with 2/15 Aust Inf Bn, landed WHITE BEACH, MUARA ISLAND, BRUNEI with Assault Force in 3rd Wave, at approximately JIG Hour plus eight minutes, D-Day 10 June 1945. Lt Col CAPERS was with HQ 20 Aust Inf Bde from Z plus 1 to Z plus 4.

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

Subject: Report on Operation OBOE SIX
to 141000I.

2/118 Aust Bde Wksp,
Ref: ME12/43,
14 June 45.

C.E.M.E.,
9 Aust Div.

Copy to: 20 Aust Inf Bde. ✓

1. Unit Equipment.

The "Benjamin Carpenter" carrying our heavy vehicles failed to unload by 0830 hrs 3 June 45, when LST 667 pulled out. Substitute vehicles were therefore taken.

Arrangements were made by MLO (Major Ransome) to load our Wireless truck Z1 on an LSM, on which it arrived here.

2. Landing.

Landing plan was carried out as anticipated. Major Chapman, and Lieut. Anderson landed on Green Beach at H plus 15 minutes, and were in BROOKETOWN by 1330 hrs.

First landing craft with vehicles arrived Yellow Beach approximately 1400 hrs. Initially beach recovery facilities were inadequate, but 2/3 Fd Coy arrived about 1500 hrs, cleared beach exits, laid tracks, and assisted in recovery. Had it not been for engineer assistance in recovery, Yellow Beach would have been badly jammed. 2/118 Bde Wksp recovery vehicles planned for Yellow Beach did not land until 111000I approximately, having been held up on an LSM stranded on Red Beach by the tide.

3. Water Crossing.

Red Beach gave practically dry crossings throughout. Yellow Beach could get dry crossings only at low tide, which was late in the afternoon. Thus many vehicles were coming off in approximately 5 ft or more of water. There were therefore many drowned vehicles, particularly Jeeps. These were cleared by nightfall or shortly after each night, although condition of some of these vehicles was not good.

4. Dewaterproofing.

Owing to comparatively dry crossings on Red Beach, no difficulties were encountered. Vehicles were checked off and rechecked prior to re-embarkation.

On Yellow Beach, the late arrival of AEME personnel necessitated the two AEME officers there to do checking on the spot. Most vehicles could be covered on the beach itself, owing to slight hold up in clearing through beach exits.

5. Waterproofing Failures.

Most vehicle failures were due to water entering distributors and carburettors. A number of vehicles had water in sumps. In some cases on the LSTs rain water entered the distributor through the vents.

6. Equipment.

Elgin watches have given considerable trouble with broken balance staffs, e.g. 2/15 Bn had 15 such casualties on LSI "Kanimbla" during voyage. With the confined space and steel decks etc, it is not to be expected that a watch which is not robust will stand up to these conditions. To date, replacement certificates have been given for 30 watches.

Many compasses were damaged by salt water. These were probably worn on the belt when wading ashore.

Wireless sets are generally not in good condition. SCR 536 B sets are generally giving poor performance, troubles being due mainly to age. Switches, IF transformers, and faulty capacitor cups giving particular trouble. There are some mechanical troubles. Spare tubes for No. 46 sets are not available. One set is held up at present. For No. 22 sets, the IF 5G is unobtainable, and are required urgently. Signal has been sent to ADOS, on behalf of Fd Pk, covering them.

7. Recovery.

Extensive recovery work has been necessary. In area 5046 road is very bad, the sides of the narrow track being black mud, with a very thin crust. Sgt Horne has carried out excellent work in this area, including:

- (a) Matilda tank bogged down to turret on one side - ~~recovery~~
~~time~~
- (b) D8 Tractor with blade, down to top of tracks on one side -
~~recovery time~~

This unit has had to supplement crews of other recovery vehicles.

The second Diamond T wrecker of this unit would have been invaluable. It is recommended that this vehicle be given high priority in transit from Moratai.

8. ATME in Action.

On 13 June, at approximately 1100I hrs, a party of 2/64 LAD in GMC truck with Cfn Bruce of this wksp, as driver were stopped by natives. A Survey officer was nearby, and was able to supply an interpreter. From the information, the party under command of the Survey officer attacked and killed 3 Japs, including 1 Officer. Own casualties NIL. NIL enemy escaped.

Co. 2/118 Aust Bde Wksp. Major.

C.O. 2/118 Aust Bde Wksp.